GO CAR CAMPING

Trip makes for great weekend excursion





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One hurt in crash at Azteca

Woman taken to hospital after car strikes building

Melinda Dudley

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A Georgia woman was injured Saturday afternoon when she was struck by a car while sitting outside Azteca Taqueria on Ninth Street.

An elderly man driving a Honda Pilot with New Mexico plates jumped the curb as he was pulling into a diagonal parking space at about 2:45 p.m., plowing into the woman and the Azteca building, Steamboat Springs police Officer Stuart Hutton said at the scene.

Crushed flowerpots and broken sidewalk posts roping off mangled outdoor tables littered the sidewalk on Ninth Street. No one else was injured.

The injured woman was transported via ambulance to Yampa Valley Medical Center.

The woman, who was eating at Azteca with family, had moved to another table to make a cell phone call, said her aunt, who did not wish to be named. The injured woman was struck by the front right side of the vehicle, she said.

See **Crash**, page 12A

Katrina memorial delayed

John Moreno Gonzales

NEW ORLEANS

Between acres of aboveground tombs that are this marshy city's way to inter the dead, there is a strip of land that is an empty tribute to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Unknown to most in town, including the relatives of those who died in the storm, it is the chosen site for a memorial to an estimated 1,600 fatalities and will serve as the resting place for 85 bodies that remain unclaimed nearly three years after the disaster. During a second-anniversary ceremony, Mayor Ray Nagin shed a tear, gave \$1 million in taxpayer money to the project, and delegated management to a city coroner intent on a monument that would double as a warning to be better prepared for the next hurricane.

This is an example of the dead helping the living," said New Orleans Parish Coroner Frank Minyard. "The underprivileged African-American community suffered worst in this storm, and we have to make sure for the next storm that it doesn't happen

See Memorial, page 12A



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Balloons fill the sky Saturday during the Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association's 28th annual Hot Air Balloon Rodeo.

By land and sky

Rainbow Weekend thrills thousands with art, Balloon Rodeo

Melinda Dudley PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

For Steamboat Springs native Michelle Wilkie, Art in the Park is a family must-have during a summer return to the Yampa Valley.

Wilkie, her children in tow, picked up two photographic prints of the historic More Barn

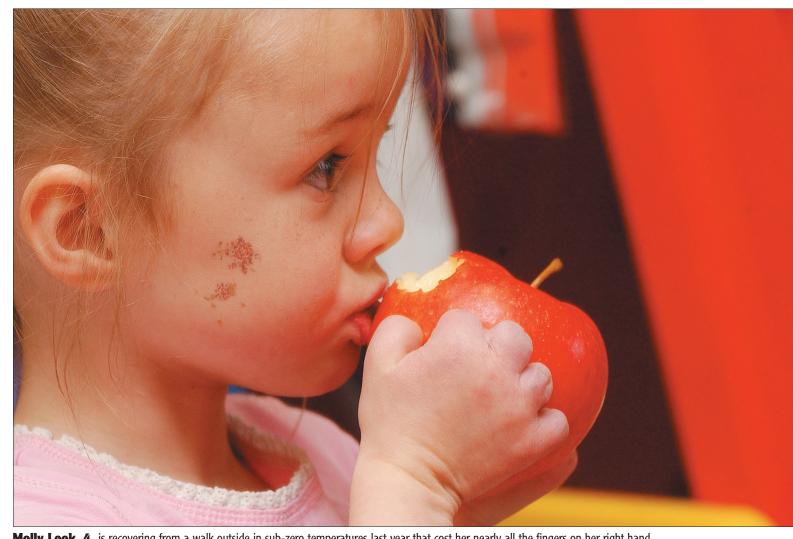
at Saturday's art festival, which continues today at West Lincoln Park. She wanted to memorialize the familiar sight before further development at the new Barn Village at Steamboat neighborhood changes the surrounding landscape.

"I remember driving past it all the time when I was a little girl," said Wilkie, who now ranches on the Eastern Plains near Limon.

"This is home."

The Steamboat Springs Art Council, which organizes Art in the Park, was expecting about 10,000 people to attend the event. Indeed, seats in the shade were hard to come by Saturday, as thousands perused everything including fine artwork, sculpture, artisan jewelry and hand-painted

See **Rainbow**, page 14A



Molly Look, 4. is recovering from a walk outside in sub-zero temperatures last year that cost her nearly all the fingers on her right hand.

Molly on the mend

ince Jan. 17, 2007, every day of Molly Look's life has been about accomplishments, big and small. With snow still covering the playground at the Child Development Center in Steamboat Springs early this spring, Molly could be found, as is typical, playing on a swing dressed in her snow

clothes, without gloves. "Look," Molly, now 4, shouted while pumping her legs to soar as high as she could. "I can hold on with my hands." Peggy Frias, Molly's occupational ther**SUNDAY FOCUS**

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MATT STENSLAND

apist, smiled at Molly from the sidewalk. "It surprised herself how she could hold on," Frias said. "She likes doing stuff for herself, and always has, and now is just learning to do it with what she has to work with.

See **Molly Look**, page 10A

A look at Molly

July 6: In the first installment of a two-part series. the Steamboat Pilot & Today described what happened to Molly Look of North Routt on Jan. 17, 2007, when Molly, then 3 years old, walked outside of her family's house in sub-zero temperatures to visit her pet bunny.

Today: The story of Molly's recovery and ongoing therapy, as she copes with injuries including the loss of nearly all the fingers on her right hand.

For video, see www.steamboatpilot.com

Super grandmothers and life lessons

Students share stories of older role models in essay contest

Margaret Hair PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

After they shared personal stories and memories of older people who have impacted their lives, four Steamboat Springs students received heartfelt gratitude from their elderly audience.

Those who had been eating lunch Friday at the Steamboat Springs Community Center filed up to the students, thanking them for their appreciation life," Wharton said.

for older role models and for sharing their thoughts.

"I just like writing. I just enjoyed it because I got a chance to write, and we didn't get to do much writing in school this year," said rising Steamboat Springs Middle School seventh-grader Ben Wharton, who wrote about his outdoor-sports-loving grand-

and that's a big part of my life, so he's been important to my

The essay contest encouraged local middle and high school students to submit pieces of 500 to 2,000 words acknowledging a positive older role model. The contest was meant to celebrate Older Americans Month in May, said event organizer and Aging Well Routt County Senior Outreach Coordinator Teresa Wright.

"The goal simply was just to "He taught me how to ski, get kids to write about someone who was a positive older

See **Seniors**, page 12A



JOHN F. RUSSELL/STAFF Steamboat Springs High School student Mirko Erspamer reads an essay about his grandfather as part of an essay contest Friday.

Wall trial to begin **Monday**

Witnesses named for court proceeding

Brandon Gee

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The jury trial of Sheriff Gary Wall begins Monday at the Routt County Justice Center, and Wall himself is on a list of potential witnesses who could defend the county's top law enforcement officer against charges that he drove drunk nine months ago.

Steamboat Springs attorney Ron Smith, Wall's lawyer, specifically named 30 witnesses who may be called during the threeday trial, which begins with jury selection at 8:30 a.m. Monday.

Smith's Rule 16 Disclosure also lists the nature of Wall's defense as "general denial." With some overlap with Smith's list, the prosecution's Rule 16 Disclosure names 24 potential witnesses. Special prosecutors Karen Romeo and Anne Francis of Eagle County are prosecuting the case.

Smith's witnesses are Wall; Lauren and Bill Hamil: Linda and David Cullen; Win and Elaine Dermody; Steamboat Springs City Clerk Julie Jordan; Ren and Heather Martyn; Cam Boyd; Lisa and Tom Douglas; former Steamboat Springs City Councilman Paul Strong; Rachael Shiebler; Jeffrey Dean Johnson; Eric and Kathy Steinberg; Diane Townes; Routt County Sheriff's Office deputies Lance Eldridge and Mark Mackey; former City Council President Susan Dellinger; Pres Plumb; Kris Dodd; Betse Grassby; Sandy Evans Hall, executive vice president of the Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association; former Sheriff's Office Deputy Elise Andres; Andres' husband, Jim Hinton; Wall's wife, Jenny Wilson; and Timothy Rison.

David Cullen is a friend of Wall's who attended the Oct. 27, 2007, Chamber centennial celebration at Sidney Peak Ranch. Wall was returning home from

See **Wall**, page 14A

PAGE DESIGNED BY CHRISTOPHER WOYTKO



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VIEWPOINTS

LAST WEEK: Should the city expand its urban growth boundary to enable development of a neighborhood on the north side of Emerald Mountain? Results/5A

THIS WEEK: Is increasing recreational use damaging the Yampa River and its

DELIVERY PROBLEM?

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