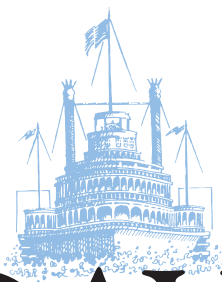


SUIT UP FOR THE SEASON

2008-09 fashion trends
STYLE 1E



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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2008

VOLUME 122, NUMBER 19 • STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO • www.steamboatpilot.com

DEALERS CONFIDENT

Car salesmen expect slow sales, not disaster

BUSINESS 1B



CDOT could delay US 40 repair

Brandon Gee
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The troubled economy, coupled with a Colorado Department of Transportation Commission decision to favor snow and ice removal ahead of pavement maintenance, could delay a major overhaul of U.S. Highway 40 in downtown Steamboat Springs.

The city of Steamboat Springs has been conducting and planning its own projects in anticipation of the concrete repaving of Lincoln Avenue. The project was scheduled for 2009, but CDOT officials said this week that the project could be delayed another year or more.

"It's possible it could be delayed," said David Eller, a CDOT Region 3 engineer. "Right now, our resurfacing program has been cut for our 2010 budget. We haven't met to figure out how we're going to make up those budget cuts."

CDOT's fiscal year 2010 budget begins in July 2009 and includes the Lincoln Avenue project. Routt County is in CDOT's Region 3. Eller said CDOT, which already was financially strapped, has not been immune to the troubles affecting the broader economy. Gas taxes are CDOT's main source of revenue, and people are driving less to save money.

"We've just experienced some real hits," Eller said. "We're not sure where we'll finally end up."

In Region 3, Eller said the surface treatment budget already has been reduced about \$5 million out of a \$19 million budget.

The city of Steamboat Springs 2009 capital projects budget large-

See **CDOT**, page 8A



JOHN F. RUSSELL/STAFF

David Fleeson and classmates Anna Nell and Natasha Curzon listen to a camp adviser during the city-run after-school program at the Igloo this week. The program will be moving to a new space inside Soda Creek Elementary School.

Outgrowing the Igloo

City after-school program set to move to Soda Creek

Zach Fridell
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Theo Hansen is ready for a little more running room.

Theo, 8, was one of 42 children in kindergarten through fifth grade who sat around the edge of the city building dubbed the Igloo on Wednesday afternoon, in preparation for a day of after-school activities through

Steamboat Springs' Parks, Open Space and Recreational Services Department. Packed shoulder-to-shoulder, the group had obviously outgrown its space in the facility near Howelsen Hill.

Luckily for Theo and others, the after-school program is set to move into new, spacious facilities in Soda Creek Elementary School at the beginning of December.

"I'm kind of excited that we

can actually have more room to play," Theo said. "We can run around more, so we can have more fun and do more activities."

The move to a new activity center is part of a \$250,000 deal between the city and the Steamboat Springs School District to engineer the creation of a dedicated after-school programming

See **After school**, page 10A

A historic honor



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Tyler Johnson, left, does work Friday alongside fifth-grade classmate Nick Pagliaro at Soda Creek Elementary School. Tyler took off his prosthetic legs, which he has had since an illness this past summer resulted in amputation.

Tyler Johnson to receive US flag flown in F-16 over Iraq

Tyler Johnson has a piece of history coming to him.

A U.S. Air Force squadron in Iraq heard about the 10-year-old's illness and subsequent amputations and wanted to respond. The squadron commander flew an American flag around Iraq, and the Routt County resident who started the movement will present it to Tyler when she returns.

Airman 1st Class Rebekah LaDue said her mother, Cindy LaDue, of Hayden, asked her to read about Tyler's illness and the community response. Rebekah LaDue told her mother she was too busy at first. But Cindy LaDue insisted she take the time.

Rebekah LaDue was glad she did.

"I'm just really proud of how the community's gotten together to help him," she said last week from Joint Base Balad in Iraq. "I've never seen anything

See **Tyler**, page 9A

SUNDAY FOCUS

STORY BY
BLYTHE TERRELL



CHUCK KENNEDY/MCT

Rahm Emanuel, Barack Obama's chief of staff, was the president-elect's first Cabinet appointment. Obama is moving quickly to fill other positions.

Obama fills his Cabinet quickly

Charles Babington and Liz Sidoti
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

Two main quarries are supplying the building blocks for President-elect Barack Obama's new administration.

Longtime, deeply loyal associates will dominate the White House inner sanctum. And veterans of Bill Clinton's presidency will hold vital jobs throughout the government, though a bit farther from the Oval Office.

The structure suggests Obama is confident enough to hand top posts to former rivals whose loyalty is not guaranteed, a strategy many presidents have avoided. But most of those on Obama's team who will have his ear every day will be old friends and experienced advisers who are seen as having no ambitions beyond his success.

Obama raised eyebrows this month when he tapped some of Clinton's closest allies for important jobs.

John Podesta, Clinton's former White House chief of staff, is heading the transition effort. Illinois Rep. Rahm Emanuel, a former top Clinton adviser, is Obama's chief of staff. Former Clinton appointees Eric Holder and Janet Napolitano appear in line for Cabinet posts.

See **Obama**, page 8A



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Oak Creek resident Carmen Strait checks out a purse with Steamboat Springs resident Janice Johner on Saturday at the Work of Human Hands Holiday Craft Bazaar held at Holy Name Catholic Church.

Craft fairs kick off holidays

Melinda Dudley
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The holiday season rapidly is descending on Steamboat Springs, as downtown's trademark pine garlands went up over Lincoln Avenue on Saturday. But with Thanksgiving only days away and just more than a month until Christmas, not everyone is ready for the purported most wonderful time of the year.

Franni Jenkins said while she

is ready to kick off the holidays with a tryptophan-induced haze at Routt County United Way's annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, she's still wondering where the rest of the year went.

"I was making plans to see someone in a week, and I looked at the calendar and went — that's December!" Jenkins said Saturday, manning the cash drawer at Holy Name Catholic Church's 11th annual Work of Human Hands Holiday Craft Bazaar.

Some of the Yampa Valley's earliest — and socially conscious — holiday shoppers perused fair trade arts and crafts from 29 developing countries Saturday. Proceeds will go to artisans in the developing world through SERRV International, the organization that provides the crafts.

Products that were highlighted include Chilean jewelry, constructed out of recycled-paper beads; Haitian metal

See **Holidays**, page 9A

PAGE DESIGNED BY NICOLE MILLER



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OUTSIDE

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VIEWPOINTS

LAST WEEK: Does City Council need to revise its inclusionary zoning and linkage ordinances in the wake of sluggish sales at FirstTracks? **Results/5A**

THIS WEEK: Do you plan to do all of your holiday shopping locally this year?

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