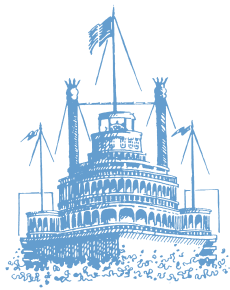


SATURDAY

JANUARY 31, 2009

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO

VOL. 21, No. 27



STEAMBOAT TODAY

ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

FREE

www.steamboatpilot.com

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

John Salazar visits area

Congressman discusses impact of federal dollars on Northwest Colorado

Page 3

SPORTS



Sailors fly by Kadets

Page 21



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Slopeside Grill patrons soak up the sun Friday afternoon at the base of Steamboat Ski Area. The ski area had an 8 percent share of Colorado skier days during the 2007-08 season, according to a recently completed Yampa Valley Partners Economic Indicators report.

Taking a valleywide view

Community Indicators information backs visible trends across region

Blythe Terrell
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Scott Ford says he's never met a chart he didn't like.

Ford has had plenty of chances to test that informational romance theory while poring through data about Routt, Moffat and Rio Blanco counties for Yampa Valley Partners' Community Indicators Project. The annual

report, which appears in a magazine in Sunday's *Steamboat Pilot & Today*, includes sections on economic, environmental, civic and social indicators. Ford, a consultant who collected much of the data, sat down recently to discuss the economic trends.

A big one, he said, is the residential lifestyle economy. People are migrating to Routt County and often aren't dependent on the local economy for

their livelihood, Ford said.

"That migration is probably going to be one of the more significant economic drivers for us as we move into the future, so it was important to quantify it," he said. "Like most things in the economy, nothing is independent. They're always highly related. This residential lifestyle economy has emerged because we're a beautiful place to live, but we've also created a lot of

cultural things that people can enjoy."

For the first time, Ford was able to measure that in-migration this year. He could see new Routt residents' former locations and income, as long as more than 10 tax returns were filed from the person's previous county.

Routt County tends to see an influx of people during recessions.

See **Indicators**, page 13

Corrections

Jim Burrow's name was misspelled in a story on page 12 of Friday's *Steamboat Today*.

Strawberry Park Elementary School co-principal Michele Miller was mis-identified in a photo on page 11 of Friday's *Steamboat Today*.

Blues musician Mississippi John Hurt's name was misspelled in a transcribed interview with Boulder singer "Fatman" Banner on page 5 of Friday's *4 Points* arts and entertainment section.

Anita Dinello is the owner and operator of Rocky Mountain Peddler in Torian Plum Plaza. A photo caption on the front page of Monday's *Steamboat Today* incorrectly identified someone else as the owner of the shop.

INDEX

Briefs	10	Horoscope	28
Business	14	Lotto	10
Classifieds	29	Nation	16
Comics	27	Sports	21
Crossword	27	ViewPoints	8
Happenings	7	Weather	20

SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

New snow — Mid-mountain*	2 in.	Total snow†	244 in.
New snow — Summit	2 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	74 in.	Lifts open	16/18
Base — Summit	85 in.	Conditions	Powder/packed powder

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 21 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org

Wake up with Steamboat's only live morning show!

steamboat TODAY

7-9AM DAILY ON CHANNEL 18