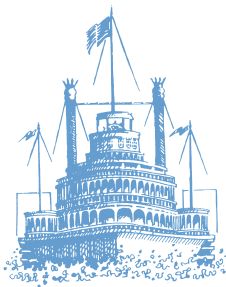


FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 6, 2009

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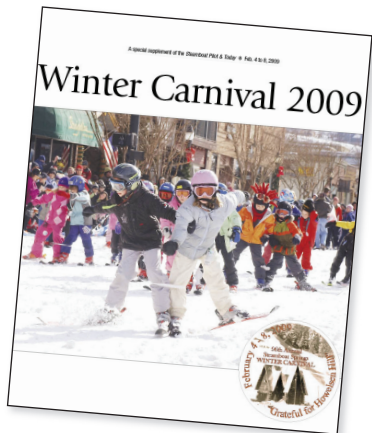
STEAMBOAT TODAY

ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

FREE



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Car fees to increase

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Jumping at Howelsen

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Snow carvings



Steamboat Springs High School junior Audrey Alessi helps senior River Loughran with packing snow onto their Christmas tree snow sculpture on Lincoln Avenue on Thursday. Building the snow sculptures along Lincoln Avenue is one of many longtime Winter Carnival traditions. See story on page 4.

MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Itching for a solution

Bedbugs, unsatisfied manager among Iron Horse Inn challenges

Brandon Gee
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The city's purchase of the Iron Horse Inn initially was praised as an astute move to lead by example and secure affordable housing for city employees and other local workers.

City officials now privately joke that the best solution might be to empty the building and burn it down.

A reoccurring bedbug problem is among the headaches the city faces at the former motel in the 300 block of South Lincoln Avenue. MR Realty, a division of Resort Group, has told the

city it wants out of its contract to manage the facility and began moving its employees out this week, according to city officials. The Iron Horse Inn was mostly deserted Thursday except for a few city employees and workers removing snow and ice from pathways — and a sign from Resort Group telling

its employees to take their towels with them when they leave.

Interim City Manager Wendy DuBord said that the property management firm sent a letter signaling they no longer wish to manage the property. DuBord said the city oppos-

See **Iron Horse**, page 17

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SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

New snow — Mid-mountain*	0 in.	Total snow†	250 in.
New snow — Summit	0 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	62 in.	Lifts open	16/18
Base — Summit	74 in.	Conditions	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