THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2009 STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO VOL. 21, NO. 43



ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



Fox wins Hazie award

LIFT-UP food banks rewarded with \$25,000 Ski & Resort Corp. grant

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STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

DA takes Lopez case

Oldham: Material to be reviewed; charges could take several weeks

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All eyes on the mat

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Routt County Motor Vehicle Deputy Clerk Mae King grabs a license plate for a customer Wednesday at the Routt County Courthouse. As part of a plan to boost revenues and reduce expenses, Routt County Clerk and Recorder Kay Weinland is recommending fee increases in the Motor Vehicle Department.

County could raise fees

Facing projected \$1.3M shortfall, officials review revenues, expenditures

Brandon Gee PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Major fee increases, a crackdown on motor vehicle registrations and a mail only election in 2009 are possible under a plan outlined by Routt County Clerk and Recorder Kay Weinland.

Weinland presented her plan

for boosting revenues and lessening expenses to the Routt County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday. While Weinland's proposals are some of the first, all county department leaders have been asked to submit such plans as county government looks at a projected \$1.3 million shortfall in its 2009 budget. Revenues in 2008 were \$1.4 million less than the county budgeted for.

"I really seriously want to talk about a mail-ballot election in '09," said Weinland, who provided estimates showing such a move could save tens of thousands of dollars in costs such as election judges, overtime and printing.

Weinland said allowing mailin, early and Election Day voting is like running three separate elections.

"With a mail-ballot election, we're basically conducting one election," she said.

Weinland said the substantial amount of money the county has spent on electronic voting machines would not be wasted because they still would be used in partisan elections every two vears.

See **Budget**, back page

	SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT	Is your business	
Briefs	Steamboat Ski Area		
Business14 Record10	New snow — Mid-mountain* 6 in. Total snow _t 286 in.	struggling	
Classifieds25 Scoreboard22	New snow — Summit 9 in. Trails open 165/165	with the	
Comics	Base — Mid-mountain 70 in. Lifts open 16/18 Base — Summit 88 in. Conditions Powder	basics of	<u>A.</u>
Crossword 23 ViewPoints 8			
Happenings7 Weather18	*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 FARS PASS, call 511 or visit; www.cotrin.org	web design?	