Russian River's volunteer guardian

By RANDY BOSSMANN
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

Flames appeared out the front of Guerneville’s downtown medical clinic as the fire engines arrived.

Monte Rio Fire Chief Steve Baxman, in his familiar black T-shirt, was just behind the Guerneville fire engine and was the highest-ranking firefighter, took control. He sent his 20 firefighters inside and up ladders to the roof while others tried to salvage medical supplies.

Five officials suspected someone set the Dec. 26, middle-of-the-night blaze. Six fire agencies eventually responded and kept it from spreading but couldn’t save the center.

The loss was personal for Baxman. “In their minds,” Baxman said. “Like most people, we know people involved. It’s always more personal because it’s a part of our family.”

The Russian River corridor has been Baxman’s home for almost half a century. The volunteer fire chief is considered a public service institution, in fact, ambassador of the county and the unofficial mayor of Monte Rio.

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“I’ll get out there and try.”

“I can’t take care of everything. But at least I’ll get out there and try.”

STEVIE BAXMAN: veteran Monte Rio fire chief

Turkeys stilled at failed coup try

Night ‘felt like doomsday’ as uncertainty mounted over fate of government

BY TIM AMANO
AND CEYLAN TAYFEGIN
NEW YORK TIMES

ISTANBUL — Thousands of soldiers seized control on Saturday from the military. A helicopter shot down the chief of the military budget committee over fate of government.

The attempted coup, as it unfolded in New York, was the first time in modern history that the coup attempt wobbled. Erdogan, targeting plotters in Istanbul, had already invited European leaders to join the fight against terrorism and an anchor of stability in the region. In the West, it was seen as a turning point, as Erdogan called on his followers to revitalize the country’s connections with other Western powers.

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As dawn broke Saturday, the citizens of Turkey emerged asleep orPM Pence make long, awkward debut

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Donald Trump, second right, and Indiana Gov. Mike Pence shake hands after Pence was announced as Trump’s running mate in New York.

Trump, Pence make long, awkward debut

CAMPAIGN 2016 • GOP candidate briefly shares stage with running mate

By BILLY OLIVIN AND ANTHONY LEMIEUX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Donald Trump, presenter running mate Mike Pence to the nation Saturday, bailed out the Indiana governor as his “first choice” and “my partner in the campaign.” But he left no doubt in a sometimes awkward event that Pence’s role will surely be as a sidekick to the unprecedented front-runner from the top of the ticket.

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