

Crime logs

FAIRFIELD

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9

4:35 a.m. — Assault w/a deadly weapon, 1300 block PHOENIX

5:04 a.m. — Assault w/a deadly weapon, 1200 block B. GALE WILSON

8:34 a.m. — Reckless driving, MARIGOLD/ATLANTIC

9:12 a.m. — Indecent exposure, 2200 block SILVER FOX

10:48 a.m. — Forgery, 1300 block TRAVIS

11:59 a.m. — Missing juvenile, 700 block OAKBROOK

12:47 p.m. — Residential burglary, 1200 block 1ST

3:44 p.m. — Forgery, FFPD

4:54 p.m. — Battery, FFPD

6:48 p.m. — Assault w/a deadly weapon, 2600 block CAMROSE

6:49 p.m. — Assault w/a deadly weapon, 2600 block CAMROSE

9:04 p.m. — Domestic violence, 1300 block CROWLEY

9:18 p.m. — Missing person, 1400 block CROWLEY

11:38 p.m. — Assault w/a deadly weapon, N. TEXAS/E. TRAVIS

HELP STOP CRIME

If you have any information on any crime or criminal, Solano Crime Stoppers Inc. wants your help. Solano Crime Stoppers Inc. will pay up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest. All tips are anonymous and confidential.

We need your help!
Please call 644-7867.

11:38 p.m. — Assault w/a deadly weapon, N. TEXAS/CIRCLE

SUISUN CITY

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9

11:03 a.m. — Vandalism, 200 block RAILROAD

12:09 p.m. — Vandalism, 900 block ANDERSON

12:21 p.m. — Juvenile runaway, 600 block WOODLARK

3:58 p.m. — Juvenile runaway, 1300 block WORLEY

7:50 p.m. — Reckless driving, WALTERS/PETERSEN

10:49 p.m. — Gunshots, PINTAIL/SUNSET

Peace: Speaking of war

From Page One

the world stage," Obama nevertheless turned his Nobel moment into an unapologetic defense of armed intervention in times of self defense or moral necessity. The hawkish message was an inevitable nod to the controversy defining his selection: an American president, lauded for peace just as he escalates the long, costly war in Afghanistan.

It was a jarring moment when Obama, in the midst of the ceremony, said of his troops in Afghanistan: "Some will kill. Some will be killed."

He lauded Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., preachers of nonviolent action. But he added, "A nonviolent movement could not have halted Hitler's armies. Negotiations cannot convince al-Qaida's leaders to lay down their arms."

"To say that force is sometimes necessary is not a call to cynicism, it is a recognition of history."

The president laid out circumstances in which war is justified -- in self-defense, to come to the aid of an invaded nation, on humanitarian grounds such as when civilians are slaughtered by their own government.

At the same time, he also stressed a need to fight war according to "rules of conduct" that reject torture, the murder of innocents and other atrocities.

"We lose ourselves when we compromise the very ideals that we fight to defend," he said. "And we honor those ideals by upholding them not when it's easy, but when it is hard."

He emphasized a need to exhaust alternatives to violence, including worldwide sanctions with teeth to confront nations such as Iran or North Korea that defy international demands. He pushed himself away from George W. Bush in defending diplomatic outreach that engages even enemies. He defined peace as civil rights, free speech and economic opportunity, not just the absence of conflict.

"Let us reach for the world that ought to be," Obama said. "We can understand that there will be war, and still strive for peace."

Back in the U.S., presidential historians and foreign policy specialists saw the speech as underscoring Obama's revamping of America's stance -- away

from confrontation and toward cooperation and negotiation when possible, and military action when unavoidable.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was President Jimmy Carter's national security adviser, said Obama had presented "a very broadly stated case that we cannot in all circumstances avoid war." But he said he would have liked to have heard "some greater clarification of how he will pursue the broad objectives he has articulated."

Obama showed "a sense of daring" in talking about war as he was honored as a man of peace, said John Baick, professor of history at Western New England College in Springfield, Mass. "He bared his soul, said we were going to have to kill, have to send soldiers to die, we hope we're doing the right thing," Baick said.

The centerpiece of Obama's swift trip to Europe, the speech doubled the length of his inaugural address. Appearing tired here, Obama had worked all the way through the night on the flight to Norway, an aide said.

Such is the weight of the prize. Suddenly and forever, Obama is in the company of King, Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama.

He drew laughter from his hosts when he acknowledged "the considerable controversy that your generous decision has generated."

"My accomplishments are slight," Obama said, by comparison to such "giants of history." In addition to other Nobel winners, he said the unrecognized masses who fight for peace are "far more deserving."

Obama's wife, first lady Michelle Obama, listened to her husband's words and showed tears by the end. The president was accompanied by a small crew of family, friends and advisers.

Politically, the White House was careful not to play up Obama's big award, what with so many families hurting economically at home and more troops heading off to war. Quite a few Norwegians were said to be miffed that he stayed but a day, not the usual three, and skipped a number of traditional events.

Obama will return to Europe next week to speak at the international conference on climate change.

Retirements: Hoping to avoid more layoffs

From Page One

part of the city's efforts to balance its budget without laying off more employees.

"We are trying to resolve this budget crisis without more layoffs," Augustine said.

Vice Mayor Curtis Hunt said the early retirements of some higher-paid employ-

ees kept Vacaville from having to lay off a much larger number of employees at a time when they couldn't afford to lose their jobs.

The council will look at finances early in 2010 and decide on what else has to be done.

"It will affect people in some way, but I do not see a lot of services being cut,"

Augustine said.

Councilwoman Dilenna Harris said reorganizing some city departments is an option. Hunt talked of trying to further improve how efficiently the city does business.

Hunt said the council may have to look at service cuts, "examining what is nice to have and what is ab-

solutely essential to have." Harris said one of those essentials is public safety.

No matter what, Hunt said, "we will not get into a position of deficit spending." "We have a good city," Harris said. "We will pull together and do what we can."

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Bomber: Massive airlift saved many Berliners

From Page One

Now-retired, Col. Halvorsen was the keynote speaker at the event where representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany and the City of Berlin presented the museum with the exhibit.

Halvorsen, who used small handkerchief parachutes to drop candy to children in Berlin during the blockade, is a legend with both the airlift community and Berliners.

In October, 2008, the Travis Air Museum was one of the first locations that hosted the exhibit on its tour of the United States to honor those who took part in the massive airlift that saved Berlin from the Russians 60 years ago.

"We were looking for a proper place where it could be permanently displayed," said Heinz-Gerd Reese, who represented the Mayor of Berlin and is head of the Berlin Airlift Gratitude

Foundation.

Travis was picked because of the museum and because the 60th Air Mobility Wing's predecessor had provided some of the planes and aircrews for the airlift.

"It is an excellent way to show the friendship between our two countries," Museum Director Terry Juran said.

In 1946, a war-shattered Berlin was divided into American, British, French and Russian zones of occupation and surrounded by the Soviet occupation zone that later became East Germany.

Increasing Soviet pressure to force the western Allies out of Berlin culminated in the decision in June 1948 to completely blockade the city and starve them out.

"(Soviet leader Josef) Stalin wanted West Germany, and West Berlin was in the way," Halvorsen said.

Stalin underestimated the western Allies' ability to

supply by air alone a city of 2 million people through one of the worst winters in recent times.

The western Allies fought back with an around-the-clock airlift of food and supplies that lasted until September 1949, well after the Soviets threw in the towel and ended their blockade in May 1949.

The Candy Bomber legend was born when Halvorsen walked to the fence around the airfield in Berlin where he landed and spotted German children playing in the rubble.

Halvorsen handed them two sticks of gum, which they split into several small pieces to share.

He then promised the kids he would be back with more candy when he next flew to Berlin.

"That small decision changed my life," Halvorsen said.

When the kids asked how they would recognize him

among the large number of aircraft, Halvorsen said he would waggle his plane's wings.

Before his next flight, Halvorsen tied small bags of candy to parachutes he made out of handkerchiefs and tossed them out of his plane to the waiting children below.

The idea caught the attention of not only other pilots, but of the rest of the Air Force, which started what was called Operation Little Vittles that ended up dropping 21 tons of candy to Berlin children.

"They will never forget what you have done," Reese said of Halvorsen and the legion of American, British and French fliers who supplied Berlin and saved it from the Soviets.

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Dunnell: Aviary for peafowl 'out of the picture'

From Page One

away with long-standing plans for an aviary to house the flock of peacocks and peahens that live there.

The aviary "is out of the picture at this point," project manager Fred Beiner said.

Instead, the birds will be left outdoors and the size of the flock will be reduced. In a recent report to the City Council, Beiner recommended that all but five to 10 of the birds be adopted out.

"There will be less of an impact on the community," Beiner said. "There are still those that consider the peafowl a nuisance, so we

can diminish that and still keep the flavor of the original property."

On any given day, visitors can easily hear the noise produced by the flock of about 50 peacocks and peahens and 50 or so resident wild turkeys. Descendants of a single pair of peafowl owned by Dunnell in the 1950s, the birds have long been synonymous with the property.

"I am tickled to know the birds are going to be free," said Teri Lamb, a longtime volunteer on the peafowl research committee who lives adjacent to the property. "They are so much a part of the tapestry of the neighborhood."

With the exception of a Girl Scouts building, the land is basically in the same unimproved state it has always been.

The plans call for the large home on the site to be fixed up and used as a neighborhood center with rental meeting space. It will get a new roof, new siding and new windows.

Additional improvements, such as an outdoor plaza, could be built in the future if grant money is secured, Beiner said.

It has been a roller-coaster ride trying to get any work completed. In 2004, a plan was ready, and a report stated the estimated \$2 million budget was "cur-

rently available."

But by the time an architect was brought on board, construction costs had climbed and the city decided to scale back the project. By the time the project had been scaled back, the economy had begun to tank, and the City Council voted to spend the money elsewhere.

However, in November 2008, the city sold a parcel of land on Hilborn Road for about \$400,000. Officials agreed to use the money for a project to benefit the neighborhood.

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Seeding: Expensive

From Page One

creasingly turned to cloud seeding in an attempt to wring more rain and snow from the sky.

But the efforts are threatened by budget cuts in states struggling to begin an economic recovery and by critics who insist the technique is unproven and might pose a threat to the environment.

"When there is a drought in a particular country, they start looking at alternative sources of freshwater, and cloudy air is one source," said Duncan Axisa, a scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., who supports expanding cloud-seeding research.

Government agencies and utilities from California to North Dakota spend an estimated \$15 million a year on cloud seeding, and the number of projects has jumped by nearly a third in the last decade.

But spending in the United States is far lower than in many other countries. China spends an estimated \$100 million a year on cloud-seeding efforts that include using anti-aircraft guns and rocket launchers to blast the sky with silver iodide.

"What's going on in the U.S. is tiny," said Arlen Huggins, an associate research scientist at the Desert Research Institute in Reno, Nev. "There's more being done outside the U.S. than here."

Other countries conduct-

ing cloud-seeding research include Australia, France, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Venezuela.

In the U.S., utilities that run hydroelectric dams are among the most active cloud seeders. They say it is a cost-effective way to increase limited water supplies by 10 percent or more. Cloud seeding is also used in Texas and the Midwest to make hail smaller, reducing crop damage.

Lack of federal funding has not stopped dozens of other cloud-seeding projects run by public agencies and private enterprise.

In 2008, 63 projects in nine states were reported to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association. That's up from 48 a decade ago.

California officials estimate that cloud seeding throughout the Sierra Nevada could produce another 300,000 to 400,000 acre-feet of water annually. An acre-foot is about enough water to supply a typical household for a year.

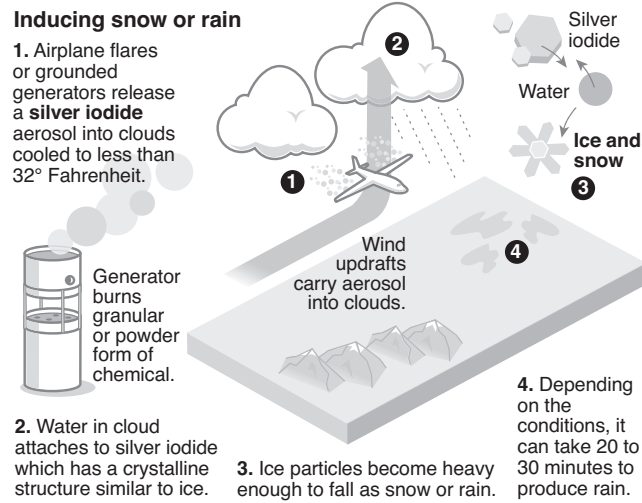
And proponents say cloud seeding is far cheaper than building a new dam or running ocean water through a desalination plant.

But finding money for the projects in a rough economy is a challenge. Oklahoma, Texas and Nevada have cut money for cloud-seeding projects, so many advocates of cloud seeding are now seeking federal funding, which was halted 14 years ago.

If the government fun-

Value of cloud seeding questioned

Despite decades of cloud seeding by local agencies to try to fight drought conditions, research on its effectiveness is inconclusive.



ducting research, "we think we can pile up the evidence that the seeding we're doing is having a pronounced, profound effect," said Texas state meteorologist George Bomar.

The request for federal help has also renewed a debate about the effectiveness of cloud seeding.

The National Research Council in 2003 found there was no convincing evidence to prove the technique works, but the panel's scientists acknowledged the potential and encouraged more study.

Scientists say weather conditions must be right for cloud seeding to work. In the Sierra Nevada, if passing storm clouds are cold enough, a meteorologist in San Francisco uses a radio signal to turn on PG&E's mountaintop cloud seeder. The invisible silver iodide vapor is carried by the wind into the clouds, and it can

begin to snow within 15 to 30 minutes.

Clouds can also be seeded by airplanes equipped to release the vapor.

Questions have been raised about the environmental effects, including whether the silver iodide solution used to stimulate snow harms water supplies. Silver iodide is a salt that does not dissolve in water.

It's a concern for some residents of a rural Northern California county where PG&E plans to install seven, 20-foot-tall generators for cloud seeding.

"We trust natural systems to regulate our atmosphere themselves," said Angelina Cook, who sits on the board of directors of the nonprofit McCloud Watershed Council in Siskiyou County. "We feel like tampering with meteorology results in more damaging consequences than the benefits derived."

California Lottery

Fantasy 5/Thursday

Numbers picked 1, 9, 21, 25, 27
Match all five for top prize. Match at least three for other prizes.

Daily 3/Thursday

Afternoon numbers picked 6, 5, 0
Night numbers picked 2, 8, 7
Match three in order for top prize; combinations for other prizes.

Daily 4/Thursday

Numbers picked 4, 2, 4, 9
Match four in order for top prize; combinations for other prizes.

Daily Derby/Thursday

1st place 10, Solid Gold
2nd place 5, California Classic
3rd place 4, Big Ben
Race time 1:45.51
Match winners and time for top prize. Match either for other prizes.

On the Web: www.calottery.com