

**School district missteps**

Troubled legislators ask for annual audit of Pulaski County Special. — Arkansas, 1B



**Football in flux**

Nebraska officially in Big Ten; Boise State heading to Mountain West. — Sports, 1C

# Arkansas Democrat Gazette

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**In the news**

■ **Ben Fishel**, a spokesman for Rep. Anthony Weiner, said a goat poked its horn into the New York Democrat's hand during a Capitol Hill news conference held to protest federal mohair subsidies, adding that the congressman "gave a little blood to help end some of the red ink around the mohair program."

■ **Christopher Hoffman**, 32, was sentenced in Pittsburgh to six years in prison for robbing a bank while wearing a woman's wig and clothes the day after he escaped from a halfway house where he was finishing up a sentence for five bank robberies.

■ **Brian Hines**, 38, a Michigan plumber who helped his wife, Andrea, deliver their son, Daniel Michael Lee Hines, on the bathroom floor of their Oakland County home, said they didn't rush to the hospital when the contractions started because their first child took hours to arrive, a mistake that quickly became evident when Daniel was born in just seven minutes.

■ **Joshua Walters**, 21, a Wisconsin inmate, was sentenced to 27 months in prison for helping his cellmate, Adam Peterson, hang himself.

■ **President Barack Obama** met with small-business owners at the White House and urged Congress to approve legislation the administration says would spur more than \$20 billion in lending to small businesses, eliminate capital-gains taxes on small-business investments and provide tax breaks for startups.

■ **Gov. Charlie Crist**, a Florida independent, vetoed a bill that would have required women seeking abortions in their first trimesters to get ultrasound exams and pay for them.

■ **J. Anthony Movshon** and **William T. Newsome**, both American neuroscientists, have been awarded the Champalimaud Foundation's annual Vision Award, worth \$1.3 million, for their work in understanding how humans see, the Portuguese scientific foundation said.

■ **Julius Juma Murray**, 52, a Philadelphia-area case-worker, was sentenced to 11 years for fraud and obstruction in the death of Danial Kelly, a 14-year-old with cerebral palsy who starved to death after Murray routinely skipped visits to her home.

■ **Michelle Obama** told graduates of The Academies at Anacostia, located in a poor section of Washington, D.C., that they are an inspiration to her and the president, adding: "We are expecting big things from you in the years to come."

**WEATHER**

**LITTLE ROCK Today** Partly sunny, hot and humid.  
**High** 94, light southwest winds.  
**Tonight** Clear to partly cloudy.  
**Low** 75.

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# River sweeps away lives



**Family members wait** Friday in Lodi for news of loved ones after the Little Missouri River swelled and a flash flood slammed the Albert Pike Recreation Area about 13 miles away.



**Randall Wade**, 16, of Ashdown talks about how he and others in his family escaped their motor home in the flooding.



**Camping vehicles** lie tossed by floodwaters at the Albert Pike Recreation Area along the Little Missouri River.

## Nightfall interrupts searchers

GINNY LAROE AND AMY UPSHAW  
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

**LANGLEY** — While relatives and friends of missing campers prayed that the floodwaters at a southwest Arkansas campground Friday hadn't taken their loved ones, families of 16 others found dead were already grieving.

Many relatives of the missing held a nervous vigil Friday at the Pilgrim's Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Lodi, about 13 miles from the Albert Pike Recreation Area at the southern edge of the Ouachita National Forest.

At nightfall, as many as 20 people hadn't been found.

Among the dead were at least three children, said Arkansas State Police Lt. Glenn Sligh, whose team of special agents was in charge of identifying bodies and notifying families.

Later, he said that he'd lost count.

About 100 people were at the Albert Pike campgrounds, but officials had few specifics because all the registration information had washed away in the flood, said C.J. Norvell, a spokesman for Ouachita National Forest. The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management set up an information phone line — (888) 683-2336 — for anyone needing to report or obtain information about missing loved ones.

Late Friday night only one of the dead had been publicly identified. Spring Hill School Superintendent Dickie Williams said geometry teacher Deb McMaster died.

Bodies still unidentified lay in body bags along the bank of the Little Missouri River until they could be moved to a temporary See **FLOOD**, Page 6A

## Kyrgyz mobs turn streets red

Ethnic Uzbeks target in 2 cities

DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE PRESS SERVICES

**BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan** — Mobs of armed men torched Uzbek neighborhoods in Kyrgyzstan on Friday in ethnic clashes that officials said left at least 45 people dead and 637 wounded in a Central Asian nation that hosts U.S. and Russian military bases.

The rioting in Osh, the country's second-largest city, is the heaviest violence since former President Kurmanbek Bakiyev was toppled in a bloody uprising in April and fled the country. The unrest also spread to the capital, Bishkek, where armed mobs clashed with police and volunteer militiamen, according to witnesses.

The conflict pits ethnic Kyrgyz against minority See **RIOTING**, Page 10A

## DEATH IN A SANCTUARY

# Heart was stilled in beloved church

Victim, 80, recalled as friend to all

CATHY FRYE  
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

**HAMLIN** — The tiny country church, with its white steeple and copper cross, boasts only a dozen elderly worshippers.

Every so often, its members have discussed merging with another congregation, but such talk never goes anywhere. No one wants to see Central United Methodist Church become yet another piece of small-town history, not when so many of these parishioners' parents founded it.

For years, Lillian Wilson, an efficient and bustling 80-year-old with an engaging sense of humor, maintained

the steady pulse of this rural Cross County congregation. Many described her as the heart of the church.

Miss Lillian, or Lill, as most called her, had spent her childhood Sundays singing hymns in the beloved sanctuary. She walked down the familiar aisle as a young bride. Celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary there. And when her husband died, she placed a stone memorial beside the church's walkway.

On Sunday morning, Lillian was murdered in the sanctuary, beaten with a 2-foot, 20-pound brass cross that normally rests on the See **CHURCH**, Page 12A



Lillian Wilson



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/RICK McFARLAND

**Lillian Wilson** was found beaten to death Sunday under a pew inside Hamlin's Central United Methodist Church, where she had worshipped since she was a child.

"I've asked myself the question: 'Why?' I just haven't come up with the answer yet."

PASTOR DIXON PLATT