

Cyberattack's aftermath
Businesses, agencies worldwide struggle to recover. — International, 6A



All-Star blasts off
Rockets pick up Paul in deal that sends ex-Hog Beverley to L.A. — Sports, 1C

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In the news

■ **Pope Francis**, speaking during his weekly catechism lesson at the Vatican, repudiated the idea that suicide bombers can be considered "martyrs," saying true martyrs don't harm others but rather are meek, honest and persecuted for their faith as true children of God.

■ **Andy Mitchell** of Rockwall, Texas, after giving Justin Korva a lift as the 20-year-old was walking 3 miles to work, got with his friends to set up a secret donation box at an area restaurant that raised enough money to buy Korva a used car as well as a year's insurance, a \$500 gas card and two years of oil changes.

■ **Courtney Johnson**, a Fort Worth Police Department officer accused of shooting and wounding a mentally impaired man who was holding a barbecue fork as he walked in Johnson's neighborhood in 2015, has been fired after his related aggravated-assault trial ended in a hung jury.

■ **Anthony Piercy**, a Missouri state trooper, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor boating violation in the 2014 death of a 20-year-old man he had arrested and handcuffed, who fell from Piercy's patrol boat and drowned in the Lake of the Ozarks.

■ **Cindy Richmond** said she had to send her mother home for some bigger clothes and diapers after Richmond's son, Colin, was born at a hospital in Lexington, S.C., emerging at 14.4 pounds, too big for his newborn outfits.

■ **Robbin Jetial**, 23, was sentenced to life in prison after he was convicted of using a firearm and bolt cutters to rob people at three Waffle House restaurants in suburban Atlanta over a 24-hour period.

■ **Kirk Sudduth**, a Mississippi Transportation Department road crew supervisor, joked that "a dead cat" would smell better than rotten fish as workers Tuesday cleaned up a stinky, slimy pile of catfish parts that spilled from a truck onto a highway near Columbus.

■ **Alice Evans**, 61, of Marathon, Fla., faces a felony animal-cruelty count after telling sheriff's deputies that she strangled her 12-year-old Chihuahua named Big John with his collar and buried him in her backyard because she was tired of the dog biting her.

■ **Monalisa Perez**, 19, of Halsted, Minn., who wanted to make a YouTube video of herself shooting a book, is charged with second-degree manslaughter after the bullet killed her boyfriend, who was holding the book against his chest for her to hit from what she said was a foot away.

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK
Today Partly sunny, chance of showers and thunderstorms.
High 90, south winds at 5 to 10 mph.
Tonight Clouds increasing.
Low 75.



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AP/SUSAN WALSH

President Donald Trump, who met Wednesday at the White House with the 2016 World Series champion Chicago Cubs, promised "a great, great surprise" on the health care bill.

Health-bill redo dash aims for better rating

COMPILED BY
DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF
FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is aiming to send a revised version of his health care bill to the Congressional Budget Office by as soon as Friday, according to Capitol Hill aides and lobbyists.

That comes as President Donald Trump promised

HOUSE PANELS reject Trump cuts to farm, food aid and water programs. Page 7A.

STATE PROTESTERS arrested at Cotton's D.C. office. Page 1B.

a surprise on the matter, though he did not specify what.

"Health care is working along very well. ... We're go-

ing to have a big surprise," Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday. "We have a great health-care package."

Trump offered no details, only reiterating, "We're going to have a great, great surprise."

Billions of dollars in U.S. health spending are at stake for hospitals, insurers and

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Special to the Democrat-Gazette

The Ten Commandments monument lies in pieces beside its base Wednesday morning at the state Capitol. Backers said a replacement monument is already on order.

Ten Commandments broken

Display up at Capitol just 1 day, hit by car, now rubble

EMMA PETTIT
ARKANSAS ONLINE
AND BRIAN FANNEY
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Less than 24 hours after being installed on the state Capitol grounds, a 6-foot-tall Ten Commandments monument was toppled Wednesday when a 32-year-old Arkansas man drove a vehicle

into it, according to police reports.

Chris Powell, a spokesman with the secretary of state's office, said he was called early Wednesday and told that a man had driven a vehicle through the monument. That driver — identified in an arrest report as Michael Tate Reed of Van

Buren — was arrested by Capitol Police shortly after, Powell said. Reed apparently streamed the destruction live on Facebook, officials said.

Reed was previously accused of destroying a Ten Commandments monument in Oklahoma, according to news reports.

See **MONUMENT**, Page 8A

U.S. sets policy for enforcement of entry limits

Arrivals from six countries require 'close' ties to U.S.

COMPILED BY
DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF
FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's administration has set new criteria for visa applicants from six mainly Muslim nations and for all refugees that require a "close" family or business tie to the United States. The move comes after the Supreme Court partially restored Trump's executive order that was widely criticized as a ban on Muslims.

Visas that have already been approved will not be revoked, but instructions issued by the State Department say that new applicants from Syria, Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Iran and Yemen must prove a relationship with a parent, spouse, child, adult son or daughter, son-in-law,

UPDATE
Watch for more today at
arkansasonline.com

daughter-in-law or sibling already in the United States to be eligible.

The same requirement, with some exceptions, holds for would-be refugees from all nations who are still awaiting approval for admission to the U.S.

Grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, fiancées and other extended family members are not considered to be close relationships, according to the guidelines that were issued in a cable sent to all U.S. embassies.
See **ENTRY**, Page 3A

Suits target 3 cities' panhandling curbs

Speech rights infringed, ACLU says

DOUG THOMPSON
NWA DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The American Civil Liberties Union is suing Rogers, Fort Smith and Hot Springs because they enforce their anti-panhandling ordinances, a spokesman for the group said Wednesday.

The state ACLU chapter filed the suits Tuesday, court records confirm. A suit against Fort Smith and Rogers was filed in U.S. District Court in Fayetteville. The suit against Hot Springs was filed separately in U.S. District Court there.

The group also plans to challenge a state anti-loitering law set to take effect Aug. 1, said spokesman Holly Dickson of Little Rock. Each of the challenged ordinances and the state law violate the free speech rights in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, she said.

Two Fort Smith ordinances are challenged in the suit that includes the city. The first is a Feb. 21, 2017, ordinance "which severely restricts panhandling within the city limits" by making it

See **PANHANDLE**, Page 3A

Metroplan amends plan to nail down a wider I-30

NOEL OMAN
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The Metroplan board of directors voted on Wednesday to amend its long-range transportation plan to include language better describing the scope of the \$631.7 million project to remake the Interstate 30 corridor through downtown Little Rock and North Little Rock.

The vote to add the phrase "capacity improvements" to the plan's description of the project, to reflect that the work is more than just a reconstruction of the section of highway and will include major widening, capped a series of meetings dating from April that served as a platform for the project's opponents and proponents

to continue their debate over the merits of the project.

The amendment to the plan, called Imagine Central Arkansas, was necessary under Federal Highway Administration regulations for federal money to be spent on the project. Without it, the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department would have to spend the money set aside for the project elsewhere.

It came as the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department awaited responses from its request for qualifications for contractors interested in competing to build the project, which stretches 6.7 miles from Interstate 530 in Little Rock to

See **I-30**, Page 5A

Strange days in Venezuela



AP/ARIANA CUBILLOS

A Venezuelan demonstrator stands near a burning barricade Wednesday in Caracas as protests continued after a helicopter attack on two government buildings that launched a manhunt for the man officials said was responsible. Opposition leaders raised questions about the attack, suggesting it might be a government-staged hoax.

Article, 6A