

**West snubs U.N. telecom treaty**

U.S., others see threat to Web freedoms in nonbinding accord. — Business, 1D



**Winter beauty**

Blooming camellias splash the season with vivid colors. — HomeStyle, 1E

# Arkansas Democrat Gazette

ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

Copyright © 2012, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Inc.

Printed at Little Rock • December 15, 2012

ArkansasOnline.com

58 Pages • 10 Sections \$1.00

**In the news**

■ **Modupe Adunni Martin**, 29, who was caught on videotape throwing her crutches into a car and running to meet her boyfriend at a public park, where she took part in a sex act that doctors concluded she couldn't have done with an injured ankle, has been sentenced to nine months in jail in San Mateo County, Calif., for workers' compensation fraud.

■ **Michelle Obama**, accompanied by first dog Bo, read *A Visit From St. Nicholas* during a visit to Children's National Medical Center in Washington and told the children that she wouldn't reveal what she was giving President Barack Obama because if she said anything, it would be in "the papers tomorrow."

■ **David Redden**, an auctioneer and vice chairman for Sotheby's, said a piano seen in the film *Casablanca* sold for \$602,500, well below the auction house's pre-sale estimate of \$800,000 to \$1.2 million.

■ **Willie Singletary**, a Philadelphia traffic-court judge, has been removed from office by a judicial ethics panel for showing a female court clerk cell-phone photos of his genitals, although Singletary's lawyer said the judge resigned in February.

■ **Leonid Labo**, a circus trainer in Russia, told the *Komsomolskaya Pravda* daily that he gave two elephants vodka diluted in warm water to protect the pair from the Siberian cold after the elephants' trailer caught fire and the animals had to be put out in the cold until another truck arrived.

■ **Annette Morales-Rodriguez**, 34, a Milwaukee woman who confessed to police that she tried to steal a baby by killing Maritza Ramirez-Cruz, 23, and cutting out Ramirez-Cruz's full-term son, who also died, has been sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole.

■ **Elena Kagan**, the newest member of the Supreme Court, praised her colleague Antonin Scalia, saying he deserves a lot of credit for getting the high court to decide what laws mean by focusing on the words Congress used.

# 'Overwhelming grief'



AP/Newtown Bee/SHANNON HICKS

## Slayer of mom kills 26 at school

COMPILED BY DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEWTOWN, Conn. — A man killed his mother at her home and then opened fire Friday inside an elementary school, massacring 26 people, including 20 children, as youngsters cowered in fear with the sound of gunshots reverberating through the building and screams playing over the intercom.

The 20-year-old killer, carrying at least two handguns, committed suicide at the school, raising the day's death toll to 28, authorities said.

The rampage, coming less than two weeks before Christmas, was the nation's second-deadliest school shooting, exceeded only by the Virginia Tech massacre that left 33 people dead in 2007.

President Barack Obama was briefed on the shooting at 10:30 a.m., the White House said.

"We've endured too many of these tragedies in these past few years, and each time I learn the news, I react not as a president but as anyone else would as a parent and that was especially true today," Obama said Friday afternoon at the White House. "I know there's not a parent in America who doesn't feel the same overwhelming grief that I do.

"Our hearts are broken today," said Obama, who struggled to maintain his composure. He called for "meaningful action" to prevent such shootings.

Police shed no light on the motive for the attack. The gunman, Adam Lanza, was thought to suffer from a personality disorder and lived with his mother, said a law enforcement official who was briefed on the investigation but was not authorized to discuss it.

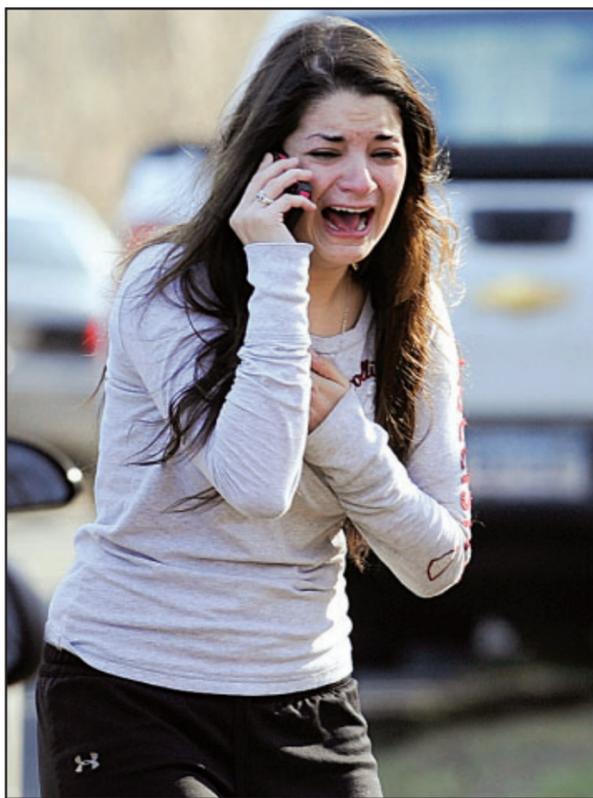
See **SHOOTING**, Page 8A

**PLUS** Scan the photo above or go to [arkansasonline.com/videos](http://arkansasonline.com/videos)

A Connecticut State Police trooper leads children out of Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., on Friday. The youngsters were told to close their eyes as they left.



AP/Newtown Bee/SHANNON HICKS



AP/JESSICA HILL

A woman (above) waits for news about her sister, a teacher at the Sandy Hook school. At left top, an officer rushes a group out of the school. At lower left, a woman talks with a state trooper.



AP/The Hour/ALEX VON KLEYDORFF

**PLUS**

This symbol indicates bonus content that you can view on your Apple or Android smart phone or iPad. Download the Plus Arkansas Democrat-Gazette app. Hold device over an image to activate video. Double tap the screen after video begins. Double tap again to end video.

**WEATHER**

**LITTLE ROCK**  
**Today** Balmly with scattered showers.  
**High** 66, south winds at 10 to 15 mph.  
**Tonight** Partly cloudy.  
**Low** 46.



**INDEX**

Arkansas	1B	Movies	6E
Business	1D	Police beat	3B
Classifieds	1G	Religion	4B
Comics	4E	Sports	1C
Crossword	4E	Stocks	3D
Deaths	2B	Television	2E
Editorials	8B	Voices	9B
HomeStyle	1E	Weather	6D

Home delivery **378-3456**  
 Outside Pulaski County **1-800-482-1121**



## Scrutinize treasury, panel says

Bond sales loss put at \$434,000

MICHAEL R. WICKLINE  
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

A legislative committee decided Friday to ask law enforcement agencies to review the state treasurer's office decisions that auditors say cost the state about \$434,000 because some bonds were sold before they had matured.

Deputy Legislative Auditor Jon Moore told the committee that the treasurer's office sold 30 bonds on advice from brokers without analyzing the merits of the sales, costing the state that much in earnings.

The committee voted to send the audit to the appropriate state and federal authorities after state Treasurer Martha Shoffner told lawmakers that her office "didn't consciously show preference" to a Russellville-based bond broker.

See **SHOFFNER**, Page 7A

## Ex-officer guilty in drug-escort case

Kalb is fifth lawman convicted in Delta Blues anti-drug operation

CHAD DAY  
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

A federal jury convicted former Helena-West Helena police Lt. Marlene Kalb of extortion and attempted drug trafficking Friday but acquitted her of two counts of money laundering.

Kalb, 49, showed little

emotion as U.S. District Judge James Moody read the jury's verdicts on each of her six charges, which accused her of twice escorting an FBI informant she thought was carrying a load of cocaine and accepting \$500 each time she had ensured his safe passage through the city limits.

After deliberating for more than five hours over two days, the jury of four men and eight women returned guilty verdicts on two counts of extortion under color of official right and two counts of attempting to possess cocaine with intent to distribute, closing out a week-long trial

at the federal courthouse in Little Rock.

Kalb hugged her defense attorneys and mouthed "I love y'all" to her mother and sister in the courtroom as she was taken into custody by U.S. marshals Friday morning.

Kalb, who faces up to 20

See **KALB**, Page 3A



AP/MANU BRABO

**PLUS**

Scan the photo or go to [arkansasonline.com/videos](http://arkansasonline.com/videos)

A Syrian rebel fires through a wall Friday during a battle with government forces in Tal Sheer.

## U.S. units going to Turkey to intercept Syria missiles

THOM SHANKER AND MICHAEL R. GORDON  
 THE NEW YORK TIMES

INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey — Defense Secretary Leon Panetta signed an official deployment order Friday to send 400 U.S. military personnel and two Patriot air defense batteries to Turkey as its cross-border tensions intensify with Syria.

Government forces in Syria have increasingly resorted to aerial attacks, including use of ballistic missiles, to fight a spreading insurgency.

The U.S. batteries will

be part of a broader push to strengthen Turkey's defenses that will include the deployment of four other Patriot batteries — two from Germany and two from the Netherlands. Each battery contains multiple rounds of guided missiles that can intercept and destroy other missiles and hostile aircraft flying at high speeds.

Panetta's deployment order, the result of NATO discussions last week, represents the most direct U.S. military action so far to help contain the Syrian conflict and

See **SYRIA**, Page 9A