

Was CIA spy, Snowden says

Fugitive tells NBC he worked undercover for U.S. agencies. — National, 4A



Return of the blues

West Memphis college to revive Delta station KWEM. — Arkansas, 1B

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In the news

■ **Jerry Brown**, the Democratic governor of California and onetime presidential primary opponent of Bill Clinton, told *The Washington Post* that he's ready to support Hillary Rodham Clinton if she seeks the presidency in 2016 and added: "She has this if she wants."

■ **Ali Alghasimehr**, an Iranian prosecutor, denied reports that an Iranian judge had ordered Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg to appear in court to answer complaints that say Facebook-owned applications Instagram and Whatsapp violate privacy.

■ **Molly Schuyler**, a 5-foot-7, 125-pound Nebraska mother and competitive eater, set a record at the Big Texan Steak Ranch in Amarillo, Texas, finishing a 4½-pound steak in 4 minutes and 58 seconds and then polishing off a second 4½-pound slab of beef in 9 minutes and 59 seconds.

■ **Brian McBride**, an Attleboro, Mass., middle-school guidance counselor, was charged with having sex with a 14-year-old student and ordered held with bail set at \$30,000.

■ **Arthur Morgan III**, who tossed his 2-year-old daughter, Tierra Morgan-Glover, into a creek while she was strapped into her car seat in November 2011, was sentenced in New Jersey to spend the rest of his life in prison and apologized in court, not for the murder, but to the child's mother, Imani Benton, for the breakdown of their relationship.

■ **Terry Strecker**, a 66-year-old Georgia man who became tired while swimming about 100 yards offshore of St. Pete Beach, Fla., was helped to shore by New Yorker James DiFrancesco, likely saving Strecker's life, officials said.

■ **Jorge Rodriguez**, a 56-year-old cement pourer, is suing Fort Worth for wrongfully tearing down a house he planned to fix up and sell, marking the third time in a year the city is accused of mistakenly tearing down a home.

■ **Anthony Batts**, Baltimore's police commissioner, went to the assistance of three detectives struggling with an armed man and put his own gun to the suspect's head, punched him and caused him to release his weapon, according to an account in court records.

■ **Heidi Conner**, a suburban Chicago woman, is grateful her family is safe with only minor injuries after a 200-pound deer leapt from an overpass, landing on their minivan as it traveled along an Illinois interstate, which totaled the vehicle and killed the deer.



Woosley Baldrige

Reviews of 2 execs at lottery vex them

Director, auditor to talk with panel

MICHAEL R. WICKLINE
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The Arkansas Lottery Commission plans to review its performance evaluations with lottery Director Bishop Woosley and Internal Auditor Matt Brown next Wednesday, after Woosley and Brown raised questions about the commission's evaluations of them last week, lottery records show.

Commission Chairman John Campbell of Hot Springs had suggested that Woosley and Brown meet with each of the commissioners after he presented the commission's evaluations to the two employees May 21, but a few commissioners declined to meet alone with either man about the evaluations, lottery officials said.

Campbell declined to comment May 21 after the commission met for about an hour and a half in a private session to conduct evaluations of Woosley and Brown. He announced that the commission took no action during the private session. Campbell could not be reached for comment by telephone Wednesday.

Commissioner Julie Baldrige of Little Rock said Wednesday that the commissioners regret running out of time last week, so they were unable to meet with Woosley and Campbell about their performance.

See **LOTTERY**, Page 3A

No rush to war, Obama says

He stresses nonmilitary alternatives

COMPILED BY
DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF
FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama called Wednesday for a foreign policy that downplays military intervention in favor of diplomacy and international partnerships, defending his approach as better suited to a world grappling with global threats of terror. "This is American leadership. This is American strength," Obama said of efforts to work with Europe to isolate Russia for its intervention in Ukraine and to persuade Iran to abandon its nuclear pursuit. He acknowledged that neither crisis has yet been resolved but argued there's an opportunity to resolve them peacefully.

In a speech before graduating cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., after President Barack Obama's commencement address extolling "American strength" through military restraint.

TOP GENERAL
in Afghanistan lauds Obama troop plans. Page 8A.



AP/SUSAN WALSH

Graduates celebrate Wednesday at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., after President Barack Obama's commencement address extolling "American strength" through military restraint.

No paddle, plenty of water



AP/The Daily Advertiser/LESLIE WESTBROOK

Kaitlyn Baker makes her way through flooded streets Wednesday in Carencro in southeastern Louisiana after a storm system dumped 9 inches of rain on the area. A tornado hit at Garyville, La., damaging a refinery cooling tower, authorities said.

Outsider named LR police chief

Kentuckian hired, city says

SPENCER WILLEMS
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The next chief of police for Little Rock will come from Kentucky.

Little Rock City Manager Bruce Moore announced Wednesday that Kenton Buckner, the assistant police chief of the Louisville Metro Police Department, will succeed Chief Stuart Thomas.

Buckner, 45, has been an assistant chief in Louisville for three years, where he headed the support services bureau.

His hiring culminates Lit-

tle Rock's chief search, which started with 59 applicants in mid-April and was whittled to three finalists by last week.

Buckner said Wednesday that he looks forward to starting with the department.

"I was very impressed with the police facilities. I was extra impressed with the command

See **CHIEF**, Page 3A

In 2nd deal of month, Simmons to buy Missouri bank

DAVID SMITH
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Simmons First National Corp. continued its rapid pace of bank acquisitions Wednesday, agreeing to buy Liberty Bancshares of Springfield, Mo., the second deal this month for the Pine Bluff bank and the fourth in eight months.

When all the purchases close, Simmons will be the second-largest bank based in Arkansas, with about \$78 billion in assets, behind only Arvest Bank of Fayetteville, which has \$14.5 billion in assets.

In September, Simmons bought Metropolitan National Bank of Little Rock,

which had about \$1 billion in assets, out of bankruptcy for \$53.6 million. In March, it announced the purchase of Delta Trust & Bank of Little Rock, with about \$430 million in assets, for \$66 million.

On May 6, Simmons said it would buy Community First Bancshares of Union City, Tenn., which had \$1.9 billion

in assets, for \$243 million in stock.

Wednesday's announcement came only three weeks after the Community First announcement. Liberty, with \$1.1 billion in assets, has 23 branches in southwest Missouri, is the 10th-largest bank in the state and the top Small Business Administration

lender in Missouri. Simmons agreed to pay \$206.9 million in stock for Liberty, based on Tuesday's closing price for Simmons. The deal should close in the fall this year.

Simmons shares closed at \$40.32 Wednesday, down 30 cents in trading on the Nasdaq exchange.

See **SIMMONS**, Page 7A

Esteemed poet, writer, great soul Angelou dies

As child, she called Arkansas home

JEANNIE ROBERTS
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Maya Angelou — a world-renowned poet and author who called Arkansas her childhood home — died Wednesday at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C. She was 86.

Although an official cause of death was not released, Angelou had canceled several recently scheduled appearances because of poor health. In April, she called off a sold-out appearance at the Fayetteville Public Library because an "unexpected ailment put me in the hospital."

In an apologetic letter to her "Arkansas family and friends," Angelou wrote that she "will be getting better and the time will come when I can receive another invitation from my state and

you will recognize me for I shall be the tall Black lady smiling."

Born Marguerite Ann Johnson on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis, Angelou bore many titles in her lifetime — poet, actress, calypso dancer, author, madam, strip-club performer, film and television director, singer, mother, streetcar conductor, educator and civil-rights activist.

In her life, Angelou befriended U.S. presidents and civil-rights leaders, including Malcolm X, Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King Jr. She was appointed to presidential committees by Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, and was awarded the Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama.

In 1993, Angelou became



AP/REED SAXON

Maya Angelou speaks during a 2005 interview in Santa Monica, Calif. Her book chronicling a tumultuous childhood spent mostly in Stamps helped propel her to worldwide renown.

VA report confirms devious list

COMPILED BY
DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF
FROM WIRE REPORTS

The inspector general for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reported Wednesday that at least 1,700 veterans at the agency's medical center in Phoenix were not registered on the proper waiting list to see doctors, meaning veterans "continue to be at risk of being forgotten or lost" in the convoluted scheduling process.

All the while, the hospital falsely reported waiting times that suggested delays were minimal, the report said.

The report prompted several Republicans including Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Rep. Rick

See **VETERANS**, Page 5A

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK
Today Scattered showers and thunderstorms.
High 79, light east winds.
Tonight Mostly cloudy.
Low 68.



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