

**Venezuelans turn to U.S.**

Economy in tailspin, more people now seek asylum, aid. — National, 4A



**Creatures of habit**

Opossums are plentiful, productive and really odd. — Style, 1E

# Arkansas Democrat Gazette

ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

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**In the news**

■ **Jeff Sessions**, the U.S. attorney general, said “nobody has a sense of humor anymore” after he drew backlash for seeming to dismiss the state of Hawaii as merely “an island in the Pacific” from which a judge “can issue an order that stops the president from what appears to be clearly his statutory and constitutional power” — in this case Donald Trump and his immigration ban.

■ **Rodrigo Duterte**, the Philippine president, said he could be “50 times” more brutal than the Muslim militants who stage beheadings and that he could even “eat” the extremists if captured alive.

■ **Kuki Gallmann**, the conservationist and Italian-born author known for her book *I Dreamed of Africa*, was shot in the stomach at her Kenyan ranch and airlifted for treatment after herders invaded in search of pasture to save their animals from drought, authorities said.

■ **Maryann Sternisha** said her husband, George, was finally able to fulfill his mother's wish of laying to rest the remains of his uncle, an Illinois sailor who died during the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

■ **Algenon Marbley**, a federal judge in Ohio, warned ex-treasure hunter Tommy Thompson that he could face another contempt-of-court charge if he doesn't reveal the location of 500 missing coins, which are valued at up to \$4 million and were minted from gold from the S.S. Central America, which sank in an 1857 hurricane.

■ **Brandon Blackstone**, 35, a Marine from North Texas, was sentenced to nearly two years in prison for receiving veterans benefits, including a house, by fraudulently claiming that he had been injured by an anti-tank mine in Iraq, court records show.

■ **Daniel Fitzpatrick**, a Belfast, Maine, police officer, had to lure two miniature goats into his squad car after he found the escapees, which eventually were picked up by their owner's daughter, snacking on cat food in a woman's garage.

■ **Monica Evans** of Bernards, N.J., is one of several residents who said they will miss their town's 600-year-old white oak tree — which town officials say was a picnic site for George Washington and has since served as a backdrop for thousands of photos — that will be cut down.

■ **Jordan Patch**, a 200 owner in Harpursville, N.Y., said money from ventures related to the live-streamed pregnancy and birth of a calf by April the giraffe would go toward the park, conservation efforts and a fund for children with unexpected medical bills.

**WEATHER**

**LITTLE ROCK**  
 Today Sunny.  
 High 77.  
 Northwest winds 5 mph.  
 Tonight Clear.  
 Low 52. South winds 5 mph.



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AP/FRANK AUGSTEIN

**Supporters of far-right leader** and French presidential candidate Marine Le Pen celebrate after exit-poll results of the first round of voting are announced at election day headquarters Sunday in Henin-Beaumont, northern France.

## French presidential race down to Macron, Le Pen

COMPILED BY  
 DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF  
 FROM WIRE REPORTS  
 PARIS — Centrist Emmanuel Macron and far-right populist Marine Le Pen advanced Sunday to a runoff in France's presidential election, shutting out the nation's two main political parties and setting up a showdown over France's participation in

the European Union. French politicians on the left and right immediately urged voters to block Le Pen's path to power in the May 7 runoff, saying her nationalist anti-EU and anti-immigration politics would spell disaster for France. “Extremism can only bring unhappiness and division to France,” defeated con-

servative candidate Francois Fillon said. “As such, there is no other choice than to vote against the extreme right.” The runoff sets up a battle between Macron's optimistic vision of a tolerant France and a united Europe with open borders, and Le Pen's “French-first” platform that calls for closed borders, See **FRANCE**, Page 3A

## Budget chief touts tax plan as outline

Mulvaney: Ideas set, but no bill ready

COMPILED BY  
 DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF  
 FROM WIRE REPORTS  
 WASHINGTON — The White House this week will offer “specific governing principles” for its tax plan along with indications of what new rates would be, but a complete proposal probably won't be ready until June, President Donald Trump's budget director said Sunday. Trump on Saturday promised news about his tax plan this Wednesday, tweeting

that a “big tax reform and tax reduction will be announced,” capitalizing some of the words for emphasis. “I don't think anybody expects us to roll out bill language on Wednesday. In fact, we don't want to do that,” Mick Mulvaney, director of the Office of Management and Budget, said on *Fox News Sunday*. “What you're going to see on Wednesday for the first time is, here's what our principles are, here are some

See **TAX**, Page 2A

## Celebrating birth of Rome



AP/ANDREW MEDICHINI

Ancient Roman enthusiasts parade Sunday near the Colosseum, Circus Maximus and the Roman Forum to celebrate the birth of Rome. Legend says Rome was founded by Romulus on April 21, 753 B.C., in an area surrounded by seven hills.

## Israeli marks Holocaust, tells of lessons learned

Netanyahu issues warning to enemies, criticizes world response to mass killings

IAN DEITCH  
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
 JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday warned enemies against testing his country, in remarks opening Israel's annual memorial day for the 6 million Jews systematically killed by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during World War II.

Speaking at the main ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, Netanyahu said the lesson of the Holocaust is that “we must be able to defend ourselves by ourselves against all threats and any enemy.” He said that lesson guides him “every morning and every evening.”

Netanyahu said Israel has transformed itself into a strong nation with one of the “strongest defensive forces in the world,” and he warned that “those that See **HOLOCAUST**, Page 2A



AP/ODED BALILTY

**People visit** Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem on Sunday for Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Day.

## Arkansas set for new round of executions

Official says Jones, Williams moved near death chamber

JOHN MORITZ  
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE  
 Fellow death-penalty states watching Arkansas' try for an unprecedented number of lethal injections can take a tip from the results so far, legal scholars said.

Carrying out any number of death sentences under court scrutiny is not a simple task.

A dizzying number of legal appeals have succeeded in halting half of Arkansas' planned eight-man execution schedule, though the state plans this week to go ahead with at least three more lethal injections, starting tonight.

After a federal judge on Friday declined to offer stays for Jack Jones Jr. and Marcel Williams, who are set to die at the Cummins prison unit tonight, their attorneys said they intended to appeal.

In preparation for their executions, both Williams and Jones have been moved to holding cells next to the death chamber at Cummins, a prisons spokesman said.

Arkansas' first execution in more than 11 years was completed at 11:56 p.m. Thursday, four minutes before Ledell Lee's death warrant expired. Three other executions set for last week were stayed.

Arkansas had planned to carry out double executions

**CALIFORNIANS** debate death-penalty status. Page 4A.

**EXECUTIONS** set tone for year's peace march. Page 1B.

last Monday and Thursday. With stays and appeals mounting, the attorney general's office both evenings pursued one execution and allowed the second death warrant to expire.

In an interview Friday, Attorney General Leslie Rutledge said it was not her intention to settle for one execution today.

“In those particular cases, we did not have the opportunity to appeal up to the Supreme Court,” Rutledge said of the cases last week. “If there are rulings we can appeal to the Supreme Court, we will certainly do so.”

Rutledge said there are a “couple dozen attorneys” in her office working on the cases surrounding the executions.

Legal battles surrounding executions routinely stretch into the final hour, death-penalty experts told the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, and often result in last-minute stays.

“A scheduled execution always precipitates the defense attorneys throwing everything they can at every See **EXECUTIONS**, Page 6A

## LR man wrongly accused

Posts brand him a slaying suspect

SCOTT CARROLL  
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE  
 Greg Holmes' cousin called and warned him that his phone was about to “blow up.”

It was about 9 p.m. on Dec. 22 and news had broken that authorities had arrested a man in the fatal shooting of 3-year-old Acen King in Little Rock. The U.S. Marshals Service, which had helped Little Rock police make the arrest, identified the suspect only as “Greg Holmes.”

The agency did not provide a photo of the man, or his age, race or home address. Little Rock police did not immediately comment on the arrest.

As his cousin predicted, Greg Holmes' phone started ringing off the hook. Friends, family members and co-workers wanted to know how Holmes, a 42-year-old car salesman known for surprising people with homemade pies, could be accused of killing a toddler.

They weren't the only ones who wanted to know more.

That night, in the absence of other identifying information, numerous Facebook users searched “Greg Holmes” on the social networking website. Several found the Little Rock car salesman's profile and shared it alongside news reports. One person posted his phone number.

“Is this the same Greg See **HOLMES**, Page 3A

