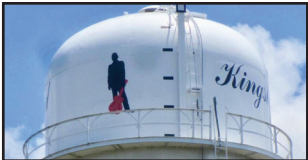


Cold opener

LSU Coach Kelly opens SEC media days, talks first-game struggles. — Sports, 1C



Man in Black

Meander through Arkansas to visit home, birthplace of Johnny Cash. — Style, 1E

Arkansas Democrat Gazette

ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

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In the news

■ **Janelle Stelson**, a Pennsylvania Democrat who lost to Republican U.S. Rep. Scott Perry by barely a percentage point in 2024, will run again in the right-leaning congressional district in 2026 with the support of Gov. Josh Shapiro.

■ **Christoph Stoll**, a defense lawyer for Johannes M., 40, a German doctor accused of murdering 15 of his patients under palliative care, said his client will not make a statement to the court for the time being as his trial begins in Berlin.

■ **Sean McCann**, 53, a Michigan Democratic state senator who has launched a bid for the U.S. House, said he's running because Washington politicians are too focused on special interests and giving tax breaks to billionaires.

■ **Hun Manet**, prime minister of Cambodia, said Monday his country will implement military conscription starting next year, in an announcement that coincides with persistent border tensions with Thailand.

■ **Manny Diaz**, a former Republican state lawmaker and ally of Gov. Ron DeSantis, is taking the helm of one of Florida's public universities as the interim president of the University of West Florida in Pensacola.

■ **Jens Ahland**, a customs office spokesman in Cologne, Germany, said officials were tipped off by a "noticeable smell" that led to the discovery of roughly 1,500 young tamarulas inside plastic containers hidden in chocolate spongecake boxes shipped from Vietnam, adding that the "extraordinary seizure" was one that "saddens us to see what some people do to animals purely for profit."

■ **Moses Dirks**, an Un-angam Tunuu expert, said he recommended Kaxchim Chiganaa to replace Nazi Creek and Kaxchim Qayaa to replace Nip Hill, because the new names incorporate "gizzard," the Aleut name for Little Kiska Island where the creek and hill are located.

■ **Karen Bass**, mayor of Los Angeles, said, "These results aren't just data points — they represent thousands of human beings who are now inside, and neighborhoods that are beginning to heal," as a survey showed a decline in homelessness in the city for the second year in a row.

■ **David Slater**, 64, a retired Army officer who worked as a civilian for the Air Force, has pleaded guilty to conspiring to transmit classified information about Russia's war with Ukraine on a foreign online dating platform.

Vive La France



Cadets from the elite engineering school Polytechnique march on the Champs-Elysees avenue during the Bastille Day parade Monday in Paris. (AP/Christophe Ena)

Trump discusses actions for Russia-Ukraine war

CHRIS MEGERIAN AND ILLIA NOVIKOV
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Monday threatened Russia with steep tariffs and announced a rejuvenated pipeline for American weapons to reach Ukraine, hardening his stance toward Moscow after months of frustration about unsuccessful negotiations for ending the war.

The latest steps reflect an evolving approach from the Republican president, who promised to swiftly resolve the war started by Russian President Vladimir Putin when he invaded Ukraine three years ago. Trump once focused his criticism on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, whom he described as unwilling to

compromise, but more recently has expressed growing irritation toward Putin. "My conversations with him are very pleasant, and then the missiles go off at night," Trump said. He complained that "it just keeps going on and on and on." Trump said he would implement "severe tariffs" unless a peace deal is reached

See **RUSSIA**, Page 3A

Education razing gets court consent

Decision clears way for 1,400 layoffs

COMPILED BY DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF FROM WIRE REPORTS
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court is allowing President Donald Trump to put his plan to dismantle the Education Department back on track — and to go through with laying off nearly 1,400 employees.

With the three liberal justices in dissent, the court on Monday paused an order from U.S. District Judge Myong Joun in Boston, who issued a preliminary injunction reversing the layoffs and calling into question the broader plan. The layoffs "will likely cripple the department," Joun wrote. A federal appeals court refused to put the order on hold while the administration appealed.

20 STATES file suit over frozen education funding. Page 4A.

The high court action enables the administration to resume work on winding

See **EDUCATION**, Page 6A

Fire consumes facility



Michael Pimentel (center), a resident at the Gabriel House assisted living facility in Fall River, Mass., receives assistance from an emergency medical worker (right) outside a temporary shelter Monday in Fall River, after a fire that started late Sunday in the care home killed 9 and injured 30. (AP Photo/Steven Senne)

Article, 4A

Senate to weigh pullback of funds

\$9.4B for public media, aid eyed

KEVIN FREKING
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans will test the popularity of Department of Government Efficiency spending cuts this week by aiming to pass President Donald Trump's request to claw back \$9.4 billion in public media and foreign aid spending.

Senate Democrats are trying to kill the measure but need a few Republicans uncomfortable with the president's effort to join them.

Trump's Republican administration is employing a rarely used tool that allows the president to transmit a request to cancel previously approved funding authority. The request triggers a 45-day clock under which the funds are frozen. If Congress fails to act within that period, then the spending stands. That clock expires Friday.

The House has already approved Trump's request on a mostly party line 214-212 vote. The Senate has little time to spare to beat the deadline for the president's signature. Another House vote will be needed if senators amend the legislation, adding more uncertainty to the outcome.

See **SENATE**, Page 6A

31 killed in Gaza as fuel shortages put services at risk

WAFAA SHURAF, FATMA KHALED AND SALLY ABOU ALJOUD
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip — Israeli strikes across the Gaza Strip overnight killed at least 31 people, according to local hospitals, as U.N. agencies warned Monday that critical fuel shortages put hospitals and other critical infrastructure at risk.

The latest attacks came after U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held two days of talks last week that ended with no sign of a breakthrough in negotiations over a ceasefire and hostage release.

Twelve people were killed by strikes in southern Gaza, including three who were waiting at an aid dis-



Palestinians struggle to get donated food at a community kitchen in Gaza City, northern Gaza Strip, on Monday. (AP/Jehad Alshrafi)

See **GAZA**, Page 5A

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK
Today Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.
High 93.
Tonight Mostly clear.
Low 74,
southwest winds at 5 mph.



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