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The state/region in brief

Article Text:

Man killed in fire

in Ozark is ID'd

The man who was killed in a mobile home fire early Sunday morning in Ozark has been identified, according to an Ozark Police Department news release.

Larry Baker, 51, was seen running into the structure by the first Ozark police officer responding to the fire, which was reported about 12:07 a.m., Ozark Police Chief Cory Tedford said in the release.

The fire prevented officers from entering the home at 709 N. 12th St., Tedford said. When they arrived, Ozark firefighters found Baker lying on the floor and unresponsive.

After Baker was taken from the home, he was pronounced dead by Franklin County Coroner Shelby Floyd, the release stated.

Investigators are looking into the cause of the fire and no foul play is suspected, according to Ozark police.

- ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Woman loses legs; sister cited

LONOKE - A Carlisle woman was released on bond Tuesday after being charged with first-degree domestic battery in an incident that caused doctors to amputate both her sister's legs, according to Lonoke County jail records.

Cheryl Marie Kelly, 22, was released on \$10,000 bond after her first appearance in Lonoke County District Court on Tuesday, according to the Lonoke County prosecuting attorney's office records.

Kelly and her sister, whose name was not released, were fighting late Saturday night with a male relative at a home on Arkansas 381 in Carlisle, according to a Lonoke County sheriff's office report. Deputies responded to a 911 call about 12:30 a.m. Sunday for a domestic disturbance with injuries.

Kelly's 35-year-old sister was taken to an area hospital after she was run over by a car, and both of her legs were later amputated, according to sheriff's office reports.

Sheriff's office spokesman James Kulesa said Kelly told deputies that she did not mean to run over her sister with the car but was instead trying to scare the male relative.

An arraignment date in Lonoke County Circuit Court had not been set as of late Tuesday.

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Teacher arrested for gun at school

A Jacksonville High School English teacher was arrested and suspended with pay after police said one of her students stole a handgun from her purse.

Officers had responded to the school Tuesday morning for a fight when they were told that students in Jennifer Ellen Paul's classroom had witnessed another student take a handgun from

Paul's purse, said April Kiser, a spokesman for the Jacksonville Police Department.

Paul told police that she has a concealed carry permit but "forgot to take the gun out of her purse" before coming to school, an arrest report said.

Officers arrested the student and recovered the gun. The student was charged with theft and minor in possession of a handgun on school property and turned over to the Juvenile Justice Center, Kiser said in a news release.

The student was not identified in the report because he is a juvenile.

Paul, 55, was arrested and charged with possession of a handgun on school property.

Deborah Roush, a spokesman for the Pulaski County Special School District, said Paul was suspended with pay pending a district investigation.

Roush said she didn't have information about Paul's history with the district or what grade she taught at the high school.

- ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Greenbrier man gets new trial date

LONOKE - A new trial date was set Tuesday for David Derreberry, a Greenbrier man charged with capital murder in the April shooting death of a Cabot pawnshop owner.

A hearing scheduled for Tuesday in Lonoke County Circuit Court was canceled, and a judge set a pre-trial hearing date for March 19 and a trial start date for July 16.

Lonoke County Prosecuting Attorney Chuck Graham said the judge scheduled two weeks for the trial. Prosecutors plan to seek the death penalty.

David Derreberry, 38, and his wife, Jaclyn Derreberry, 32, were arrested several days after the body of Billy Joe Pipkin, 60, was found inside KBC Pawn by fire crews responding to an April 4 blaze.

Graham previously offered Derreberry a plea deal of life in prison without parole, but Derreberry turned down the offer.

Jaclyn Derreberry pleaded guilty in September to hindering apprehension or prosecution, theft by receiving, theft by receiving a firearm and criminal use or laundering of proceeds from stolen items. Under the plea deal, she was sentenced to 20 years in prison with six years of the sentence suspended.

Shortly after his arrest, David Derreberry stopped several television news cameras to plead for leniency for his wife by telling them that he had robbed and killed Pipkin.

Pipkin was killed on the 34th anniversary of the death of his father, Beebe police officer Abe Pipkin, who was killed after interrupting a drugstore robbery. The older Pipkin's murder went unsolved for 25 years, and was closed in 2002 with the arrest and conviction of Gary Evans.

- ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Man, 66, killed;

teens arrested

TULSA - Tulsa police said they arrested three teenagers after a 66-yearold man was shot and killed during an apparent home invasion.

The Tulsa World reported that the teenagers range in age from 16 to 19. Police said William Zachary was shot in the face after a group of people wearing ski masks and hooded sweatshirts broke into his east Tulsa home Monday night.

The teenagers' names were not released.

Investigators believe the group had scouted the house and spotted valuable items inside. It's unclear whether anything was stolen, police said.

- THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Caption:

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/BENJAMIN KRAIN

Bus to class Ricky Harris (left) and Dustin Mettler ride the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's free shuttle bus, the Trojan Trolley, from a parking lot to campus Tuesday.

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