

Tearful kin visit flood site

LANGLEY, Ark. — Grieving relatives toured the campground yesterday where 19 people died in a flash flood, unable to escape the steep terrain in darkness.

Rescue workers helped the families find their loved ones' campsites where they gathered heart-breaking mementos, including baby pictures and a child's blanket.

"It's just overwhelming for them. It looks like a war zone here," said church pastor Graig Cowart said of the Albert Pike Recreation Area, within Ouachita National Forest.

As the search went from one of rescue to recovery, 19 people had been confirmed killed in the pre-dawn Friday flood beside the Little Missouri River. Searchers recovered one body yesterday in a debris pile, police said, and one person remained missing. **AP**

A.C. cops gun down pit bull

ATLANTIC CITY — Atlantic City police fatally shot a pit bull that tried to attack some children and went after an animal control officer.

Officers went to the Uptown Complex park after receiving reports about two pit bulls chasing children on Friday night. Police tried unsuccessfully to leash the dogs, and one soon ran off.

When the animal control officer arrived and tried to restrain the remaining pit bull, the dog charged but the officer avoided it.

It then charged cops, who fired multiple shots, killing the dog. The animal's owner was not identified and the other dog was not found.

The Associated Press

CBGB licensing hits rock-bottom

THE COMPANY that bought the right to market the name of the legendary downtown rock club CBGB has filed for bankruptcy.

In its punk heyday, CBGB hosted acts such as the Ramones, the Talking Heads, Patti Smith and Blondie.

The venue closed in 2006, but investors bought its name and intellectual property rights in 2008, hoping to revive the brand by selling T-shirts and other memorabilia.

CBGB Holdings LLC filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in Manhattan on Friday, listing debts of up to \$10 million.

The Associated Press

'It made me sick' when he testified against dad

Nod father's boy a nightmare: wife



DENYCE FRANZESE KNEW her husband was a skunk, but she was shocked to discover he's a mob rat, too.

The California woman last saw John Franzese Jr. nearly four years ago, when he vanished from their home and devastated their family.

The ruined West Coast clan is now matched by his flesh and blood in New York, torn apart by his decision to take the stand last week against his dad — reputed Colombo underboss John (Sonny) Franzese Sr.

"When I heard he was testifying against his father, it made me sick," she said. "I absolutely feel terrible for Sonny."

John Jr., 50, has offered vague explanations for his decision to become an FBI informant against his 93-year-old father — a first in the annals of organized crime.

He claimed that flipping on the Colombos was intended to keep his dad out of jail. The longtime drug addict also said he was trying "to make up for what I had done in my life."

Denyce, also 50, says he's a stone liar — and a pure loser. "John is the son who 'couldn't,'" she said. "He was born with a crown on his head, He was the favorite, but his big brother (Michael) was the popular one and the good-looking one."

She continued: "John was never a gangster, he's a wanna-be. John is lazy, he doesn't want to work."

John's adult life is a series of cut-and-runs. He was spoiled rotten as a kid in Roslyn, L.I., spending wads of money on clothes and driving a new car every year.

While Michael Franzese became a made man in the Colombo family, rising to the rank of capo before quitting the mob life, John remained his father's errand boy.

His drug use made John untrustworthy among members of the crime family.

John abandoned Long Island in 2001 to seek help for his drug habit at Odessa, a Los Angeles rehab center where Denyce served as director.

They fell in love, and were married in 2004. After he split, Denyce — who once dated Marlon Brando's troubled son Christian — said she never heard a word about John until his appearance in Brooklyn Federal Court.

"He walked out on me Sept. 17, 2006, and never came back," she recounted. "It was like the old story where the guy goes out to get cigarettes."

"He left me destitute and he broke a little boy's heart," she said, referring to her then 12-year-old son by another marriage.

John may be a mob nobody, but he's his father's son. He once showed his wife a copy of the mob tome, "Murder Machine," stuffed with newspaper clippings about his father's legendary exploits.

Sonny, while never convicted of murder, was caught on tape bragging about multiple gangland killings and opining on the art of murder and body disposal.

"I can't personally say if [Sonny's] a murderer," Denyce said. "I know my father-in-law as 'Dad.' He told my son to call him grandpa. To me, he's a big old teddy bear."

After John bolted, Denyce said she lost her apartment. She recalls spending many nights sleeping in her car or on friend's couches while her husband pocketed \$50,000 from his FBI handler.

"I was a damn good wife," she said. "I would love to show up in that courtroom and say to him, 'Remember me?'"

With Michael Daly

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Denyce Smith-Franzese, the wife of mob turncoat John Franzese Jr., says he walked out on her nearly four years ago. Franzese walks with his dad, John (Sonny) Franzese Sr. (far left).