

## Nigerians Fear More Attacks After Carnage

MADALLA, Nigeria (AP) — Women returned to clean the blood from St. Theresa Catholic Church on Monday and one man wept uncontrollably amid its debris as a Nigerian Christian association demanded protection for its churches.

At least 35 people died at St. Theresa and dozens more were wounded as radical Muslim militants launched coordinated attacks across Africa's most populous nation within hours of one another. Four more people were killed in other violence blamed on the group known as Boko Haram.

Crowds gathered among the burned-out cars in the church's dirt parking lot Monday, angry over the attack and fearful that the group will target more of their places of worship.

It was the second year in a row that the extremists seeking to install Islamic Shariah law across the country of 160 million staged such attacks. Last year, a series of bombings on Christmas Eve killed 32 people in Nigeria.

Rev. Father Christopher Jataudarde told The Associated Press that Sunday's blast happened as church officials gave parishioners white powder as part of a tradition celebrating the birth of Christ. Some already had left the church at the time of the bombing, causing the massive casualties.

## Fla. Helicopter Crash Kills Mayo Clinic Surgeon

PALATKA, Fla. (AP) — A heart surgeon from a Mayo Clinic in Florida flying across the northern corner of the state to retrieve a heart for transplant was killed Monday when his helicopter crashed, officials said.

The helicopter departed the clinic in Jacksonville around 5:45 a.m. but never arrived at the Gainesville hospital, Shands at University of Florida, about 60 miles southwest, said Kathy Barbour, a spokeswoman for Mayo, which is based in Rochester, Minn.

Heart surgeon Dr. Luis Bonilla, procurement technician David Hines and the pilot were killed.

They were on their way to pick up a heart for a patient at the Jacksonville hospital, Clinic spokesman Carl Oestreich told The Associated Press. He said he didn't know whether the heart could still be used in a transplant or what would happen to the patient who had been scheduled to receive it.

The helicopter went down about 12 miles northeast of Palatka, said Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen. The town is about 40 miles east of Gainesville and about 45 miles south of Jacksonville.

## Arab League Monitors Head To Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — The Arab League sent monitors to Syria Monday even though President Bashar Assad's regime has only intensified its crackdown on dissent in the week since agreeing to the Arab plan to stop the bloodshed.

Activists say government forces have killed several hundred civilians in the past week. At least 23 more deaths were reported Monday from intense shelling in the center of the country, just hours before the first 60 monitors were to arrive. The opposition says thousands of government troops have been besieging the Baba Amr district of in the central city of Homs for days and the government is preparing a massive assault on the area.

France expressed strong concerns about the continued deterioration of the situation in Homs. Foreign Ministry spokesman Bernard Valero demanded Syrian authorities allow the Arab League observers immediate access to the city.

"The repression and unprecedented violence committed by the Damascus regime must cease and everything must be done to stop the drama going on behind closed doors in the city of Homs," the French statement said.

## Sadrists Call For New Elections In Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — The political party loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr called Monday for the dissolution of Iraq's parliament and new elections in another move that could escalate the country's growing sectarian crisis.

The anti-American Sadrist bloc is a partner in the Shiite-dominated government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. Bahaa al-Aaraji, the head of the Sadrists' bloc in parliament, said the elections are needed because of instability in the country and problems that threaten Iraq's sovereignty.

"The political partners cannot find solutions for the problems that threaten to divide Iraq," he said.

Iraq plunged into a new sectarian crisis last week, just days after the last American troops withdrew at the end of a nearly nine-year war.

The new political crisis has been accompanied by a new wave of attacks on the Iraqi capital by suspected Sunni insurgents linked to al-Qaida. A suicide bomber set off a car bomb Monday at a checkpoint leading to the Interior Ministry, killing seven people and injuring 32, officials said. Police and hospital officials said the bomber struck during morning rush hour, hitting one of many security barriers set up around the ministry's building.

## DECISION 2012

# Iowa Showdown Looms

## Battlefield Unclear As Caucuses Approach

BY DAVID ESPO AND THOMAS BEAUMONT  
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — An Iowa caucus campaign that has cycled through several Republican presidential front-runners entered its final week Monday, as unpredictable as the day conservatives began competing to emerge as Mitt Romney's chief rival.

Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, released a new television commercial for the state in which he cited a "moral imperative for America to stop spending more money than we take in. It's killing jobs," he said.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry countered with an advertisement that said four of his rivals combined — none of them Romney — have served 63 years in Congress, "leaving us with debt, earmarks and bailouts."

Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, who has invested more time in Iowa than any other contender, countered that "most Americans now believe that a little bit of experience going into a job like president is probably a good thing."

Santorum was the only presidential candidate in the state during the day.

That changes Tuesday, with bus tours planned by Perry, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann, all eager to energize their existing supporters and attract new ones.

Texas Rep. Ron Paul arrives Wednesday. Recent polls suggest he is peaking as caucus day approaches, a rise that has him tied with Romney or even ahead, and drawing more scrutiny for his views.

The result figures to be a short but intense stretch of campaigning through small towns and even smaller towns, the sort of one-on-one politicking that has largely vanished in the electronic age.

Failing that, it will pay tribute to the types of cuisine that prosper in early 21st century America.

The Perry bus will belly up to Doughy Joey's in Waterloo and to the Fainting Goat in Waverly, an establishment whose website says "After 10 p.m., we are the type of place your mothers warned you about." Perry also will visit a vineyard and winery in Carroll.

Bachmann will make an early-winter stop at a Dairy Queen, as well as Pizza Ranch establishments in Harlan, Red Oak and Atlantic, three localities with a combined population of 17,282.

It's not all about the food, though.

Perry has a stop arranged at the Glenn Miller Museum in Clarinda, population 5,301, where the great bandleader was born.

The Texas governor also has a distinction that none of his rivals can boast, a town that



Romney



Paul

shares his name. Thus, Perry will visit Perry.

There were signs of strategic shifts as candidates struggled to stand out in advance of the straw poll next week that inaugurates the round of primaries and caucuses that will pick a nominee to oppose President Barack Obama next fall.

Perry's new ad shows images of Gingrich, Paul, Santorum and Bachmann as it criticizes Congress and renews the governor's call for halving lawmakers' pay and time spent in Washington.

Despite the commercial's implication, Gingrich and Santorum were out of Congress when the multibillion-dollar financial bailouts of 2008 occurred. Paul and Bachmann voted against the legislation.

Still, the approach taken suggests the Texas governor is more concerned with outpacing Paul, Bachmann, Santorum and Gingrich on caucus night that he is in defeating Romney.

The former Massachusetts governor, making his second try for the White House, has a well-funded and well-organized campaign nationally and in Iowa, as well as allies who are spending heavily on television advertisements through an independent organization known as a super PAC.

While others have periodically risen to challenge him, Romney has kept his support from seriously eroding in the polls, consistently remaining near the top.

## Texas Police Say Man In Santa Claus Suit Killed Six Relatives

BY DANNY ROBBINS  
Associated Press

GRAPEVINE, Texas — Police in a quiet Fort Worth suburb worked Monday to piece together a family history after a man dressed in a Santa Claus suit apparently shot six relatives and himself on Christmas.

Grapevine police spokesman Sgt. Robert Eberling said the shooter showed up in the costume shortly before gunfire erupted and that the family appeared to have been opening Christmas presents. Police responding to a 911 call found four females and three males dead. They also found two handguns.

"We think he was just inside there celebrating Christmas with the rest of them and decided for whatever reason that's how he's going to end things," Eberling told The Associated Press.

Investigators worked through Sunday night and into Monday morning, meticulously searching the apartment where the bodies were found, along with vehicles parked outside. Police said they believe the victims were related, though some were visiting and didn't live in the apartment.

Eberling said investigators were assembling a "family history," and that the apartment was leased to a woman and her two children, one age 15 and the other either 19 or 20. He would not give other specifics.

"We're getting a clearer picture, but we're not ready to go on the record with anything until we find out from the medical examiner absolute confirmation of identities and the manner of death," Eberling said.

Autopsies of the shooter and the victims were

being done Monday by the Tarrant County medical examiner, but it would probably be Tuesday before their identities were released, he said.

Roger Metcalf, a spokesman for the medical examiner's office, said the victims have been tentatively identified, but the office couldn't confirm the names because the state driver's license fingerprint database wasn't available on the holiday.

"In addition, we need to locate next of kin before information can be released, and our investigators are working on that as well," Metcalf wrote in an email to the AP.

Late Sunday evening, police intently searched a sport utility vehicle parked outside the apartment. The vehicle is registered to a man who listed his residence as a home two miles away in the neighboring suburb of Colleyville.

Thomas Ehrlich, who lives near the home in Colleyville, told the AP he heard from neighbors that police went to the house Sunday. He said he believed the man and woman who once lived there were estranged.

Records show the couple had financial problems and that their home, most recently valued on the county tax rolls at \$336,200, had been sold in 2010 at a foreclosure auction — although it appeared the man was still living there.

"I actually saw him out doing yard work just last weekend," Ehrlich said.

Spa manager Leah Langford said she became concerned when the man's wife didn't show up for work Monday at the business where she had been employed for four years. Langford said she got no response when she called the woman's cell phone, nor could she learn anything when she went to the Colleyville home and the Grapevine apartment.

## Online Shopping Jumps 16.4% On Christmas Day

NEW YORK (AP) — A growing number of shoppers apparently need only the briefest of breaks before diving back in, especially if they can log in to shop.

IBM found that online shopping jumped 16.4 percent on Christmas Day over last year, and the dollar amount of those purchases that were made using mobile devices leaped 172.9 percent.

IBM tracks shopping at more than 500 websites other than Amazon.com, which is the largest. It found a huge increase in the number of shoppers making their purchases with iPhones, iPads and Android-powered mobile devices.

In fact, nearly 7 percent of all online purchases were made using iPads, just 18 months after the tablet computers were released by Apple Inc., said John Squire, chief strategy officer for IBM's Smarter Commerce unit.

The online uptick was continuing on Monday. As of 3 p.m. Eastern time, shopping was up 10 percent over Dec. 26, 2010. And the expectation was that the pace of buying would increase as the day wore on and consumers clicked on sales at various retailers.

Squire said consumers were chasing sales on both Sunday and Monday. The data did not show what portion of purchases was made using gift cards.

## OBITUARIES

### Alma Simonsen

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Alma Mae Simonsen, 85, of Sioux City passed away on Saturday, December 24, 2011 at a Sioux City Hospital.

Per Alma's wishes her body will be cremated and the family will be having a memorial service on Thursday, December 29, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ with Rev. Dan Lozer officiating.

There will be a visitation on Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. at Meyer Brothers Colonial Chapel. Burial of her remains will be in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Meyer Brothers Colonial Chapel.

Alma was born March 24, 1926 in Sioux City, IA to Howard and Elsie (Laroche) Fouts. She graduated from Central High School in



Simonsen

June 1944. She was united in marriage to Lester P. Simonsen on July 3, 1947 in Elk Point, SD.

She was an elevator operator for 16 years at Davidson, Orpheum & Francis Bldgs, radio operator for WNAJ, SC studios. She also worked for Mitchell Hair Salon, Knit Nook, Lisa Ann's Hallmark and Bush Cleaners.

She was a member of Mayflower UCC since 1954, serving on Diaconate Board, VBS Superintendent, Women's Fellowship, Christian Ed. She served as Smith School PTA Pres. & PTA Secretary.

She is survived by daughter, Starr Lynne Welch (Jerry), Elk Point SD, Son, Dexter P. Simonsen (Carolyn), Irene, SD. Grandchildren: Denelle (Tim) Bratcher, Murfreesboro, TN, Steven Finken, Sioux City, IA, Damon (Angela) Finken, Elk Point, SD, Kirk Jonas, Tom (Mike) Jonas, Clay Simonsen, Shane (Brandie) Simonsen, all of Yankton, SD, Melissa (Alan) Taggart, Gayville, SD. 11 great-grandchildren. Brother, Mikel Owen, Sioux City, IA. Special

Cousins, Lillian Owens & Barbara Harbeck. Very Special Friends, Paul & Jeanette Johnson.

She was preceded in death by Husband, parents, sister Hazel James, brothers Elmer Fouts and Fred Jones, & son-in-law Lou Brunetti.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
December 27, 2011

### Ann Glanzer

FREEMAN — Ann Glanzer, 94 of Freeman died Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, at Oakview Terrace.

Ann Mandel married Eli D Glanzer in 1941. Eli died in 1993.

Survivors include her daughters Sharon (Dewayne) Hiebner of Hampton NB and Ellen Peder-son of Yankton Six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Sisters Irene Ahlheim, Rachel Regier and Kathryn Tieszen.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 10:30 at the Hutterthal Mennonite Church of

rural Freeman with burial in the church cemetery.

Visitation will begin at 4:00 Tuesday at the Walter Funeral Home with the family present from 7:00 to 8:00.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
December 27, 2011

### Antonette Lange

NORFOLK, Neb. — Antonette G. Lange, 78, of Norfolk, Neb., and formerly of Hartington, Neb., died Monday, Dec. 26, 2011, at Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Hartington, with the Rev. Timothy Lange and Deacon Mike Stratman officiating. Burial will be in the St. Michael's Cemetery, Hartington.

Visitation is 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, with a Vigil Service at 7 p.m., at Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services on Thursday at the church.

To send online condolences, visit  
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

### Bernice Nissen

SIOUX FALLS — Bernice A. Nissen, 95, of Sioux Falls died Monday, Dec. 26, 2011, at the Good Samaritan Society, Sioux Falls.

Arrangements are pending with the Hansen Funeral Home, Irene.

### Margaret Quintal

VERMILLION — Margaret Quintal of Vermillion died Sunday, Dec. 25, 2011, at her home in Vermillion.

Arrangements are pending with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

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## Avoid the Holiday Buzz

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**SD National Guard CounterDrug Poster Contest**  
Awards Ceremony December 27<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm at the Boys & Girls Club

**Middle School DANCE**  
YMS Gym • Gr. 6-8 • \$2  
Friday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> • 7-10pm

Chaperoned by Parents For a Safe Prom; concessions provided.

**FREE FAMILY Movie Night**  
Middle School Lecture Hall  
Friday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> • 6:30-10pm

**Gnomeo & Juliet**  
The Muppets Christmas Carol  
Refreshments! Door Prizes!

**FREE Ice Skating**  
Alcoa Arena  
Sat. Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> • 6-9pm

Entire Family Welcome!  
Courtesy of the City of Yankton

**FREE SWIM & GYM & Family Board Games**  
Summit Center  
Thursday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>  
1-4pm

**Community Wide Event**  
Judi's Fitness & Dance Studio  
recitals and activities from the SD National Guard CounterDrug

**Thursday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> • 6-9pm**  
National Guard Armory  
Refreshments Provided

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