

### Calif. Sen. Boxer Won't Seek 5th Term

WASHINGTON (AP) — California Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer, a tenacious liberal whose election to the Senate in 1992 heralded a new era for women at the upper reaches of political power, announced Thursday she will not seek re-election to a new term next year.

Boxer's retirement sets off a free-for-all among a new generation of California Democrats, who have had few offices to aspire to while Boxer and Sen. Dianne Feinstein had a lock on the state's U.S. Senate seats.

A staunch supporter of abortion rights, gun control and environmental protections, Boxer has said she is most proud of the vote that she cast against the war in Iraq.

The 74-year-old Boxer made the announcement in a mock video news conference with her grandson, Zach Rodham, acting as reporter. "I am never going to retire. The work is too important. But I will not be running for the Senate in 2016," Boxer said.

### S.C. Weighs New Look At Gay Marriage

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court has quietly engineered a dramatic increase in the number of states that allow gay and lesbian couples to wed. That increase also has raised the chances the justices soon will settle the legal debate.

Some justices expressed reluctance about deciding the issue when more than half the country prohibited same-sex unions. With Florida joining in this week, 36 states allow them, nearly twice as many as just three months ago.

The growth hasn't come from an outpouring of public support expressed in voting booths or state legislatures, but from the high court's surprising refusal last October to review lower court rulings in favor of same-sex marriages or to block them from taking effect.

The justices now face a situation in which just 14 states prohibit such unions, a number that may give comfort to a court that does not like to be too far ahead of the country. Three earlier seminal rulings that outlawed state-backed discrimination — in education, on interracial marriage and in criminal prohibitions against gay sex — were issued when a similar number of states still had the discriminatory laws on their books.

"There's no question that they knew what they were doing in October. They knew the implications of what they were doing," said Roberta Kaplan, the lawyer who represented New Yorker Edie Windsor in her successful Supreme Court challenge in 2013 to part of the federal anti-gay marriage law, the Defense of Marriage Act.

### U.S. Bids Boston For 2024 Olympics

BOSTON (AP) — The USOC picked Boston on Thursday as its bid city for the 2024 Summer Games. The city will be presented to the International Olympic Committee for a vote in 2017. Rome also is in the bidding, along with Hamburg or Berlin, Germany. France and Hungary also are considering bids.

Boston's bid enlists the area's 100 colleges and universities — and their existing and envisioned athletic facilities — as potential hosts for Olympic venues. The city lacks a main Olympic stadium and would probably build a temporary one.

The group No Boston Olympics held a rally on the Boston Common Thursday night. It says an Olympics would take resources away from more important priorities.

### Family Stuck In Minivan Towed 16 Miles

GRAYLING, Mich. (AP) — A couple called 911 during a storm and described how they were trapped in their minivan as it was dragged 16 miles along Interstate 75 in northern Michigan after it became lodged beneath the rear of a tractor-trailer.

The *Grand Rapids Press* posted about three minutes of a call Matthew and Pamela Menz made early Wednesday to Roscommon County's 911.

The couple and their two adult children were in the minivan when Matthew Menz struck the rear of the semi-truck during white-out conditions about 2 a.m. Wednesday.

"We ran into the back of a semi-truck and he's not stopping", and our car is embedded underneath of it," Pamela Menz told the 911 operator.

The family was unable to give their exact location for deputies trying to find the truck.

"We shouldn't be hard to find," said Matthew Menz, who became more concerned when it appeared the truck was picking up speed.

"If the van breaks out from underneath him, I don't have any control of this thing," Matthew Menz said. "Wherever your officers are I'd appreciate if they get in front of him and stop him."

Police say the truck driver was unaware that the minivan was lodged beneath it.

Sheriff's deputies from Crawford County eventually spotted the truck and minivan on northbound I-75 south of Grayling. The truck driver stopped when police approached and pulled into a rest area, unaware of what was happening behind him.

# French Police Detain Nine In Massive Hunt For Two Suspects

BY ELAINE GANLEY AND JAMEY KEATEN  
Associated Press

PARIS — Police SWAT teams backed by helicopters tracked two heavily armed brothers with al-Qaida sympathies suspected in the news-room massacre of a satirical French weekly that spoofed Islam, honing in Thursday on a region north of Paris as the nation mourned the dozen slain.

Authorities fear a second strike by the suspects, who U.S. counterterrorism officials said were both on the U.S. no-fly list, and distributed their portraits with the notice "armed and dangerous." More than 88,000 security forces were deployed on the streets of France.

They also extended France's maximum terror alert from Paris to the northern Picardie region, focusing on several towns that might be possible safe havens for the two suspects — Cherif Kouachi, 32, and Said Kouachi, 34.

Both men were on the U.S. no-fly list, a senior U.S. counterterrorism official said Thursday. Another U.S. official said the elder Kouachi had traveled to Yemen, although it was unclear whether he there to work with extremist groups like al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, which is based there. Witnesses said the attackers claimed allegiance to al-Qaida in Yemen during the bloody attack Wednesday.

A third suspect, Mourad Hamyd, 18, surrendered at a police station Wednesday evening after hearing his name linked to the attacks. His relationship to the Kouachi brothers was unclear.

The worst spasm of terror violence in more than a half-century stunned the nation. The lights of the Eiffel Tower went out Thursday night in a tribute to the dead from the elegant iron lady that symbolizes France to the world. At noon, the Paris Metro came to a standstill and a crowd fell silent near the Notre Dame Cathedral.

French President Francois Hollande — joined by residents, tourists and Muslim leaders — called for tolerance after the country's worst terrorist attack in decades.

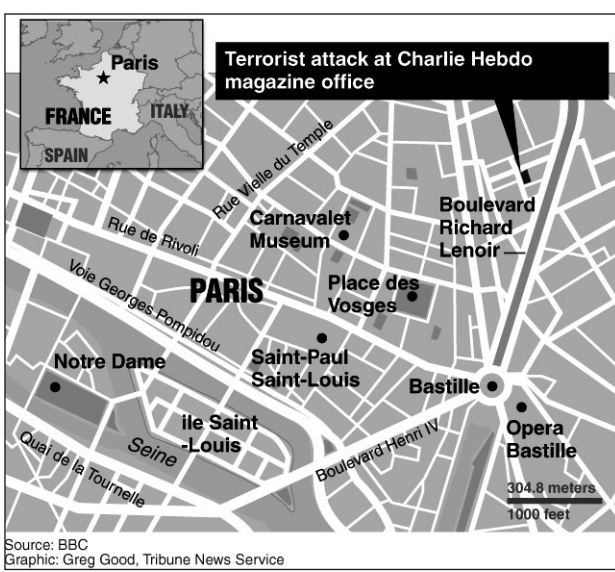
"France has been struck directly in the heart of its capital, in a place where the spirit of liberty — and thus of resistance — breathed freely," Hollande said.

Nine people, members of the brothers' entourage, have been detained for questioning in several regions. In all, 90 people, many of them witnesses to the grisly assault on the satirical weekly *Charlie Hebdo*, were questioned for information on the attackers, Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said in a statement.

The minister confirmed reports the men were identified



OLIVIER DOULIERY/ABACA PRESS/TNS  
A banner written in French that reads 'We Are Charlie Hebdo' hangs across the fence at the French Embassy over a flower memorial on Jan. 8, 2015, in Washington, D.C., in response to the attack on satirical French magazine *Charlie Hebdo* by three gunmen yesterday that took the lives of 12 people.



Source: BBC  
Graphic: Greg Good, Tribune News Service

by an ID left in an abandoned getaway car, a slip that contrasted with the seeming professionalism of the attack.

Eight journalists, two police officers, a maintenance worker and a visitor were killed in the attack and 11 people were wounded, four of them critically. The publication had long drawn threats for its depictions of Islam, although it also satirized other religions and political figures.

*Charlie Hebdo* had caricatured the Prophet Muhammad, and a caricature of Islamic State's leader was the last tweet sent out by the irreverent newspaper, minutes before the attack. Its feed has since gone silent.

*Charlie Hebdo* planned a special edition next week, housed in the offices of another paper.

"The paper will continue because they haven't won," Patrick Pelloux, a *Charlie Hebdo* columnist said tearfully to iTele TV.

Editor Stephane Charbonnier, known as Charb, who was among those slain, "symbolized secularism ... the combat against fundamentalism," his companion, Jeannette Bougrab, said on BFM-TV.

"He was ready to die for his ideas," she said.

Witnesses to the massacre have said the attackers claimed allegiance to al-Qaida in Yemen. On videos they were hearing saying they were avenging the prophet, one witness, Cedric Le Bechec, wrote on Facebook that the attackers yelled, "Tell the media that it's al-Qaida in Yemen," as they were fleeing.

Jarring France further, two mosques in France were fire-bombed and a police officer

killed in Montrouge, on the southern edge of Paris. Cazeneuve told reporters that "at this stage" there was no known link between the killing and Wednesday's attack on *Charlie Hebdo*.

Police searched apartment in Reims, in the Champagne region, where the interior minister said Said Kouachi lived, with technicians gathering samples.

The hunt moved further north after a report that two men resembling the suspects robbed a gas station in Villers-Cotterets early Thursday. The focus then enlarged to Crepey-en-Valois, where heavily armed security forces with air cover and a giant black rapid intervention truck moved through rural streets and among old stone buildings.

One French police official, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing, said the suspects were linked to a Yemeni terrorist network.

The governor of a southern province in Yemen told The Associated Press on Thursday that four French citizens had been deported from Yemen in the last four months. Gov. Ahmed Abdullah al-Majidi said he didn't have their names and there was no confirmed link between those deportations and the *Charlie Hebdo* attack.

Authorities around Europe have warned of the threat posed by the return of Western jihadis trained in warfare. France counts at least 1,200 citizens in the war zone, headed there, returned or dead, and officials have said France is a preferred target. Both the Islamic State group and al-Qaida have issued threats to France — home to Western Europe's largest Muslim population.

France is taking part in airstrikes in Iraq in a bid to defeat the Islamic State group, intervened to rout out al-Qaida extremists from northern Mali, a former French colony.

The French suspect in a deadly 2014 attack on a Jewish museum in Belgium had returned from fighting with extremists in Syria; and the man who rampaged in southern France in 2012, killing three soldiers and four people at a Jewish school in Toulouse, received paramilitary training in Pakistan.

A journalist who took refuge on the building roof during the attack said that when he went into *Charlie Hebdo*'s offices he was confronted with life and death.

"On the one side the living and the other the dead," Edouard Perin told iTele. The dead and dying, he said, were on the left.

# GOP Led Congress Moves Veto-Bait Bills Including XL Pipeline

BY ALAN FRAM  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In command and ready for a fight, defiant Republicans ignored two White House veto threats and advanced bills in Congress Thursday curbing President Barack Obama's cherished health care overhaul and forcing construction on a proposed oil pipeline. The top House Democrat predicted her party would uphold both vetoes.

On the new Congress' third day of work, a Senate committee approved a measure dismantling Obama's ability to block the Keystone XL oil pipeline, which has become a flashpoint pitting the GOP's jobs agenda against Democrats' environmental concerns. The Senate planned to begin debate next week and passage there seemed likely, while the House was poised to approve its version Friday.

Meanwhile, the House approved legislation narrowing the definition of full-time workers who must be offered employer-provided health care from those working 30 hours weekly to a 40-hour minimum. The vote was a mostly party-line 252-172 — short of the 290 needed, assuming all members voted, for the two-thirds majority required to override a veto.

On both bills, GOP leaders would face uphill fights mustering the two-thirds House and Senate majorities needed to override vetoes. But both measures had some support from Democrats, and Republicans could use them to portray themselves

as championing bipartisan legislation, only to be thwarted by Obama and his Democratic allies.

"Given the chance to start with a burst of bipartisan productivity, the president turned his back on the American people's priorities," House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, told reporters Thursday, adding, "We were taking our oath of office when they were issuing veto threats. Come on."

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Democrats would sustain Obama's vetoes on both bills and said it was Republicans who have blocked progress.

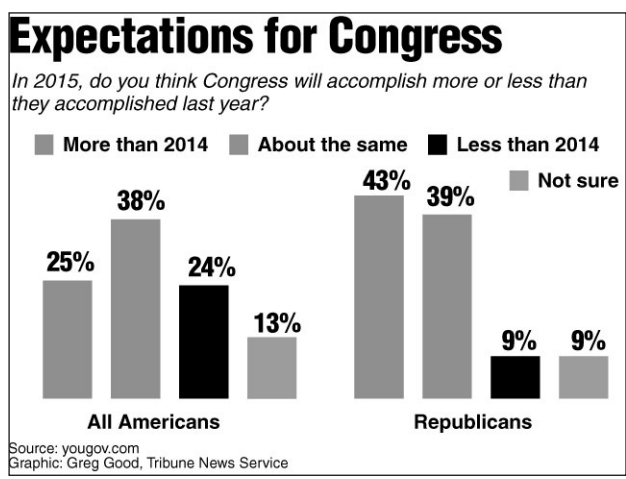
"The president has always extended the hand of friendship. Some say too much," she told reporters.

She said Democrats would uphold a promised Obama veto on a third measure rolling back some regulations on the financial industry enacted after the 2008 economic crash. That bill fell short in the House this week but is expected to pass on a re-vote next week.

Obama's 2010 health care law, a perennial GOP target, is phasing in a requirement that companies with more than 50 full-time workers offer health care coverage or face penalty payments to the government.

Backed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other business groups, Republicans say defining full-time employees as those working at least 30 hours is pressuring firms to save money by cutting workers' hours and diminishing the number of full-time jobs.

House Republicans say boosting the standard to 40



hours would protect those workers and named their bill the "Save American Workers Act." They cite a study by the conservative Hoover Institution saying that 2.6 million workers are at risk of having their hours reduced by the 30-hour minimum, including disproportionately high numbers of female, low-income, younger and less-educated workers.

"You say you care about low-income workers, about working women and small businesses?" House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., taunted Obama. "Show

it and sign this bill."

The White House and Democrats, with support from labor and liberal groups, mock the measure as the latest attempt by Republicans to scuttle Obama's health care law. The House has voted more than 50 times to repeal or roll back parts of that law since Republicans took control of the chamber in 2011.

Democrats say changing the full-time threshold from 30 to 40 hours would make fewer workers eligible for employer-provided health coverage and put more of them at

risk of losing that coverage from companies looking to cut costs. That's because of sheer numbers: While just under 10 percent of employees were working 30 to 34 hours weekly, 41 percent were working 40 hours alone, according to November 2014 figures from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"I'm still trying to figure out what they're trying to do to save American workers from Good health care?" said Rep. Gerald Connolly, D-Va., mocking the GOP's name for the bill.

Twelve Democrats joined all 240 voting Republicans in voting for the bill.

The measure's fate is less clear in the Senate, where majority Republicans will need at least six Democratic votes to get the 60 needed to overcome Democratic delaying tactics. Senate GOP leaders have not said when the bill will be debated.

At the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, lawmakers voted 13-9 Thursday to approve the Keystone pipeline. Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia was the only Democrat backing the measure, which

would clear the way for a \$5.4 billion project to carry oil produced from Canada to Gulf Coast refineries.

Republicans call the pipeline a job creator, but Democrats say it would worsen the threat of global warming.

In another clash, Republicans planned a House vote next week on blocking Obama's changes in immigration policy that will shield many immigrants from deportation who are in the country illegally.

Republicans want to use funding legislation required by late February for the Department of Homeland Security as leverage in that struggle. But it's unclear if there will be enough Democratic support for Senate approval, and the measure could well face a veto threat.

In one burst of bipartisan cooperation, Congress approved legislation Thursday renewing the federal program that props up the private market for insurance against terrorist attacks. The Senate approved the bill 93-4, a day after easy House passage of the legislation.

**Thank You**

Thank you to the Doctors and staff of St. Michaels hospital and to Dr. Kampshoff and Dr. Mickelson and staff of Avera Sacred Heart Hospital for their excellent care during and after surgery. To all my family, relatives and friends for the prayers, cards, flowers and visits. All was greatly appreciated.

~Ione Karolevitz

**Thank You**

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, balloons, gifts & birthday wishes on my 95th birthday. It was an honor to be remembered by so many!

**Bless you,**  
**Mary Buckman**