

No Bills For Some Colo. Shooting Victims

BY COLLEEN SLEVIN AND KRISTEN WYATT
Associated Press

DENVER — Three hospitals taking care of people wounded in the Colorado theater shooting said Wednesday they will limit or completely wipe out medical bills for the victims.

Some victims, many of them young, are uninsured and face mounting hospital bills.

Children's Hospital Colorado announced it would use donations and its charity care fund to cover the medical expenses of the uninsured. For those who do have insurance, the hospital says it will waive all co-pays for shooting victims it is treating.

"We are committed to supporting these families as they heal," according to a statement from the hospital, which treated six shooting victims.

HealthOne, which owns the Medical Center of Aurora and Swedish Medical Center, also says it will limit or eliminate charges based on the individual circumstances of the patients. Those hospitals have treated 22 shooting victims.

There was no immediate word on what the other two hospitals would do.

The victims, however, still face a long recovery ahead and the associated medical costs — without health insurance. And HealthOne cautioned that its policy may not apply to all doctors working in its hospitals.

Members of the public, along with Warner Bros., the studio that released the Batman movie "The Dark Knight Rises," have contributed nearly \$2 million to help victims pay their bills. One family is raising money on its own online.

There's no exact count of how many of the victims have no health insurance. But statistics suggest many of them might not be covered.

Nearly one in three Coloradans, or about 1.5 million, either have no health insurance or have coverage that is inadequate, according to a 2011 report by The Colorado Trust, a health care advocacy group.

The highest uninsured rate was among adults between 18 and 34.

And many of those injured in the shootings are in that age group.

State officials said they are not sure whether any of the victims qualify for emergency Medicaid assistance available to needy patients. Victims could also get financial assistance from a state program that helps people hurt during crimes.

Among the uninsured victims of the movie-theater attack is a 23-year-old aspiring comic, Caleb Medley, who is in critical condition with a head wound and whose wife, Katie, gave birth to their first child, Hugo, on Tuesday.

His family and friends said they have set a goal of raising \$500,000 to cover his hospital bills and other expenses and were nearly halfway there on Wednesday.



MARK BOSTER/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT
Family and friends leave Pathways Church in Denver, Colorado, after honoring the life of shooting victim Gordon Ware Cowden during a private memorial on Wednesday, July 25, 2012. Cowden was one of 12 killed during the shooting rampage at the Century 16 theater in Aurora, Colorado.

Memorials Begin For Those Lost In Killings

DENVER (AP) — A dad who took his teenage children to the new Batman movie and was killed when a gunman opened fire on the theater was mourned Wednesday, the first memorial service for a victim of the shootings.

Fifty-one-year-old Gordon Cowden was the oldest of the 12 people killed in the massacre at the "Dark Knight Rises." His teenage children escaped unharmed.

Cowden lived in Aurora, the Denver suburb where the theater is located. A family statement described him as a "true Texas gentleman" who loved the outdoors and owned his own business.

"A quick-witted world traveler with a keen sense of humor, he will be remembered for his devotion to his children and for always trying his best to do the right thing, no matter the obstacle," his family said.

Carrying flowers and passing a large portrait of Cowden, about 150 mourners gathered for the memorial at a Denver church. Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper paused at the photo before entering the church.

The memorial was also attended by Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan and Aurora Police Chief Dan Oates.

Later this week, families of other victims planned to say their final goodbyes.

Syria Rushes Reinforcements To Its Largest City

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian troops rushed dozens of tanks and reinforcements Wednesday toward Aleppo, the country's strategically vital commercial capital, in a bid to crush a rebel advance that has spread to wide swaths of the sprawling city.

As five days of fighting in Aleppo intensified, and with rumors swirling of a final showdown in that city, neighboring Turkey tightened its borders but said refugees will be allowed through.

"We are expecting a big attack on Aleppo," Mohammed Saeed, an

activist based in Aleppo, told The Associated Press. "People are worried they might face random shelling while fleeing."

The rebels have made stunning advances over the past week, but the battle for control of Syria, a geographic and political linchpin at the heart of the Middle East, is far from over. And the potential for wider, regional unrest is great.

Syria's foreign minister warned that his country will act immediately if it discovers Islamic militants such as Lebanon's Hezbollah are raiding Syria's

chemical or biological weapons stocks.

"For us, that's a casus belli, a red line," Avigdor Lieberman told Israel Radio.

Israeli officials have reported a run on gas masks. Demand has almost doubled in the past few days, to 4,200 requests on Tuesday from a years-old average of about 2,200, said Merav Lapidot, a spokeswoman for the Israeli postal service, which distributes the masks.

On Monday, Syria threatened to unleash its chemical and bio-

logical weapons if it faces a foreign attack.

The White House said Wednesday that the Syrian government's assault on Aleppo with tanks and fixed-wing aircraft illustrates what it called "the depth of depravity" by Assad's regime.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said the administration has seen "credible" reports about the regime's use of military hardware in Aleppo. Carney said Assad was using its forces to "perpetrate heinous violence" against the city's civilian population.

Senate OKs Democratic Tax-Cut Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats pushed a yearlong extension of tax cuts for all but the highest-earning Americans through the Senate on Wednesday, giving Democrats a significant political victory on a measure that is fated to go no further in Congress.

Senators approved the Democratic bill by a near party-line 51-48 vote, with Vice President Joe Biden presiding over the chamber in case his vote was needed to break a tie. Minutes earlier, lawmakers voted 54-45 to kill a rival Republican package that would have included the best-off in the tax reductions.

The \$250 billion Democratic measure would extend tax cuts in 2013 for millions of Americans that otherwise would expire in January. But it would deny those reductions to individuals making over \$200,000 yearly and couples earning at least \$250,000.

Passage of the Democratic measure put the Senate on record as backing a bill that closely follows the tax-cutting vision of President Barack Obama. It averted what would have been a significant embarrassment for Democrats and Obama, who has made tax fairness — meaning tax increases on the rich — an overarching theme of his re-election campaign.

The vote also serves as a counterpoint to the GOP-run House, which next week will approve tax cuts nearly identical to the \$405 billion Republican plan the Senate rejected Wednesday.

Obama Defends Himself Over Business Remark

WASHINGTON (AP) — Relentless GOP criticism of a 12-day-old remark about business owners has taken a campaign toll on President Barack Obama, forcing him to defend himself and giving Republican Mitt Romney a break from steady attacks.

The development has delighted Republicans, who were eager to shift the campaign focus from Romney's tax returns, overseas assets and Bain Capital record.

Acknowledging that the Republican's criticisms were hitting a mark, Obama's team rolled out two new TV ads this week in which he employed for the first time what many Democrats consider a powerful tool: the president talking directly into the camera and countering GOP claims.

"Those ads taking my words about small business out of context — they're flat-out wrong," Obama says in the newest ad.

Democrats say the "direct to camera" format plays to the president's strength, and they don't think Romney can match it. But like any strategy deployed 15 weeks before Election Day, it might lose some of its impact over time.

Leader Kim Jong Un's Mystery Woman Is Wife

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea ended weeks of speculation Wednesday by confirming that the mystery woman beside young leader Kim Jong Un at recent public events is indeed his wife, "comrade Ri Sol Ju."

The news was buried in a state TV report about Kim's tour of a new amusement park, delivered casually by a newscaster who gave no details about Ri, including how long she and Kim have been married.

Kim, who inherited rule of North Korea from his father, Kim Jong Il, seven months ago, has been seen with Ri at a concert, a kindergarten visit and other events recently, but state media did not mention her before now, fueling widespread speculation about her identity.

Analysts said the announcement was a calculated move by Kim and his advisers as they forge the image of the 20-something leader who took power following the December death of Kim Jong Il.

"Kim Jong Un is breaking with his father's secrecy-shrouded leadership," said Lim Eul-chul, a North Korea expert at South Korea's Kyungnam University. "The revelation of his wife is a sign that Kim wants to show a more open leadership."

Ride's Obituary Ignites Debate On Coming Out

NEW YORK (AP) — Pioneering astronaut Sally Ride, who relished privacy as much as she did adventure, chose an appropriately discreet manner of coming out.

At the end of an obituary that she co-wrote with her partner, Tam O'Shaughnessy, they disclosed to the world their relationship of 27 years. That was it.

As details trickled out after Ride's death on Monday, it became clear that a circle of family, friends and co-workers had long known of the same-sex relationship and embraced it. For many millions of others, who admired Ride as the first American woman in space, it was a revelation — and it sparked a spirited discussion about privacy vs. public candor in regard to sexual orientation.

Some commentators, such as prominent gay blogger Andrew Sullivan of the *Daily Beast*, second-guessed Ride's decision to opt for privacy.

"She had a chance to expand people's horizons and young lesbians' hope and self-esteem, and she chose not to," he wrote. "She was the absent heroine."

OBITUARIES

Karen Boulter

Karen "Carrie" Boulter passed away in her sleep January 1, 2012.

She was born April 6, 1913 in Nibe, Jutland, Denmark to Soren and Emma (Olesen) Sorensen. At age one year she immigrated to the United States on the King Edward VIII ship with her parents, settling in rural Viborg, South Dakota where she lived until her marriage to Leonard Christensen in 1931.



Boulter

After leaving the farm they moved to Sioux Falls where she worked in Retail. After her divorce she married Alfred Snyder in 1944, moving with him to Pittsburgh PA. She continued to work in retail and also became an apartment manager. In 1950 they returned to So. Dak. where they became owners of a café in Wakonda. Returning to Pittsburgh a year later they became property managers again in Pittsburgh and later in Yankton SD until their retirement.

A few years after Mr. Snyder's death Karen moved to California where she met and married Bliss Boulter. Her active life continued as she traveled, lived in Kansas for awhile and worked as a clerk at Knott's Berry Farm after "retirement." In 2004 she moved to Loveland Colorado.

Karen's youth was spent helping with her parent's farm and learning to fish, play accordion and banjo and becoming a seamstress, cook and baker. She was an ardent RVer and camper, fisherman, dancer and musician, bingo and card player, crafter and choir singer always ready for a new adventure. She was a long time member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 791 and served as Secretary/Treasurer for the Navy Mothers.

She is survived by her son Merlyn J. "Chris" Christensen (Bev) of Hudson NH, daughter Doris "Tootie"

Helwig of Loveland CO, Stepchildren Karen (Don) Pullen of Florida, Daryl (Shirley) Boulter and Dan (Janet) Boulter of Michigan, and Bonnie (Steve) Bryan of Mississippi, 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, 10 great-great-grandchildren, nephews Darrell Sundleaf (Martha June), Dennis Sundleaf of Yankton SD, and Terry Sorensen (Judy) of Emmetsburg IA, and niece Judy Brunsvig (Larry) of Madison SD.

She is preceded in death by her parents, sons Robert E. Christensen and Leon Burton Christensen, brother Chester Sorensen and his wife Phyllis, sister Helga Sundleaf and her husband Bill, grandson Robert E. Christensen Jr. and great-grandchildren Stephanie Eiler and Shaun Rogers.

Carrie will be remembered always for her willingness to "work hard" whenever the need arose and for her sweet smile and twinkling blue eyes.

A second Memorial Service will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 305 W. 25th St. Yankton SD on Saturday July 28 at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch at the VFW Hall Post 791, 209 Cedar St. Yankton SD.

Interment will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery in Irene SD. Friends and family are welcome to attend all events.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the VFW Women's Auxiliary Post 791 and Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
July 26, 2012

George Thomas

George A. Thomas, age 50 of Santee passed away on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at his home surrounded by his family. Funeral services will be 1 p.m., Saturday, July 28, 2012 at the Oyate Oyanke Community Center, Santee, NE with Ron Thomas, Rick Thomas, and Rev. Patricia White Horse-Carda as officiates. Burial will be in the Congregational Cemetery in Santee. Visitations will begin Thurs-

day, July 26, 2012 at the Oyate Oyanke Community Center and will continue until the time of the service on Saturday. Services will be held each evening at 8 p.m. at the Oyate Oyanke Community Center. Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton is in charge of the arrangements.

Glen Danielson

Glen N. Danielson, 88 of Vermillion, SD, passed away Tuesday July 24, 2012 at Sanford Vermillion Hospital.

Glen was born November 23, 1923 to J. Godfrey and Beda (Norman) Danielson. He married Catherine O'Connor in 1949 and they began an adventure in living and working, all around the United States culminating in the starting and owning Alkota Manufacturing, of Alcester and American Made Cleaners, Inc. of Beresford.

Glen is survived by his wife, Catherine; his sons, Dan and Bruce of Sioux Falls; his daughters, Jean (Louis) Cowherd of Rapid City, Carol Iverson of Omaha, NE, Sharon (Jeff) Kidder Scottsdale, AZ, Kay (Mark) Hall of Lincoln, NE, and Terese



Danielson

Danielson of Sioux Falls; his son-in-law, Kenn Sorlie of Sioux Falls; 14 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Annette Sorlie; his brother, Dean; and sisters, Doris Swanson and Helen Jensen.

Services will be held at 7 p.m., Saturday, July 28, 2012, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion, SD, with visitation and video tribute to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion is entrusted with the arrangements.

Condolences may be posted online to www.koberfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
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Lois Frickey

Lois Caroline Frickey, 88, of Atchison, KS passed away Monday, July 23, 2012 at Medicalodge in Atchison, KS after a courageous battle against Alzheimer's Disease.

Funeral service will be held at United Methodist Church in Vermillion on Saturday, July 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Visitation will begin one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church. Burial will be in Bluff View Cemetery in Vermillion.

Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion, is in charge of arrangements.

Adella Wold

Funeral services for Adella W. Wold, 100, of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, July 30 at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland with Pastor Marlyn Kuper officiating. Interment will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home on Monday. Adella passed away on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at Landmann-Jungman Memorial Hospital in Scotland. Online

condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

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