

# Bracing For The ‘Frankenstorm’

## Hurricane Sandy Transforms Into Powerful Hybrid Storm

BY SETH BORENSTEIN  
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — When Hurricane Sandy becomes a hybrid weather monster some call “Frankenstorm” it will smack the East Coast harder and wider than last year’s damaging Irene, forecasters said Friday.

The brunt of the weather mayhem will be concentrated where the hurricane comes ashore early Tuesday, but there will be hundreds of miles of steady, strong and damaging winds and rain for the entire Eastern region for several days, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The hurricane has killed at least 20 people in the Caribbean, and just left the Bahamas. It is expected to move north, just off the Eastern Seaboard.

As of Friday morning, federal forecasters were looking closer at the Delaware shore as the spot it will turn inland and merge with a wintry storm front. But there is a lot of room for error in the forecast and the storm could turn into shore closer to New York and New Jersey and bring the worst weather there.

Wherever Sandy comes ashore will get 10 inches of rain and extreme storm surges, Louis Uccellini,

NOAA’s environmental prediction director, said in a Friday news conference. Other areas not directly on Sandy’s entry path will still get 4 to 8 inches of rain, maybe more, he said. Up to 2 feet of snow should fall on West Virginia, with lighter snow in parts of Ohio and Pennsylvania, regardless of where Sandy first hits.

A wide swath of the East, measuring several hundreds of miles, will get persistent gale-force winds in the 50 mph area, with some areas closer to storm landfall getting closer to 70 mph, said James Franklin, forecast chief for the National Hurricane Center.

“It’s going to be a long-lasting event, two to three days of impact for a lot of people,” Franklin said. “Wind damage, widespread power outages, heavy rainfall, inland flooding and somebody is going to get a significant surge event.”

That storm surge will only be magnified by the full moon this weekend to make it a “dangerous period,” Uccellini said.

Last year’s Hurricane Irene was a minimal hurricane that caused widespread damage as it moved north along the coast after making landfall in North Carolina. With catastrophic inland flooding in New Jersey, Massachusetts and Ver-

mont, federal officials say Irene caused \$15.8 billion in damage.

Sandy is “looking like a very serious storm that could be historic,” said Jeff Masters, meteorology director of the forecasting service Weather Underground. “Mother Nature is not saying, ‘Trick or treat.’ It’s just going to give tricks.”

Government forecasters said there is a 90 percent chance — up from 60 percent two days earlier — that the East will get pounded.

Utilities are lining up out-of-state work crews and canceling employees’ days off to deal with expected power outages. From county disaster chiefs to the federal government, emergency officials are warning the public to be prepared. And President Barack Obama was briefed aboard Air Force One.

Boat owners were yanking their vessels out of the water Friday at the Southside Marina in Point Pleasant Beach, N.J., about 60 miles south of New York City.

“We’re taking them out as fast as we can,” said marina employee Jim Martin.

Atlantic City’s casinos made contingency plans in case they have to close, as they did for three days last year when Tropical Storm Irene approached.

Eastern states that saw outages

that lasted for days after last year’s freak Halloween snowstorm and Hurricane Irene are already pressuring power companies to be more ready this time.

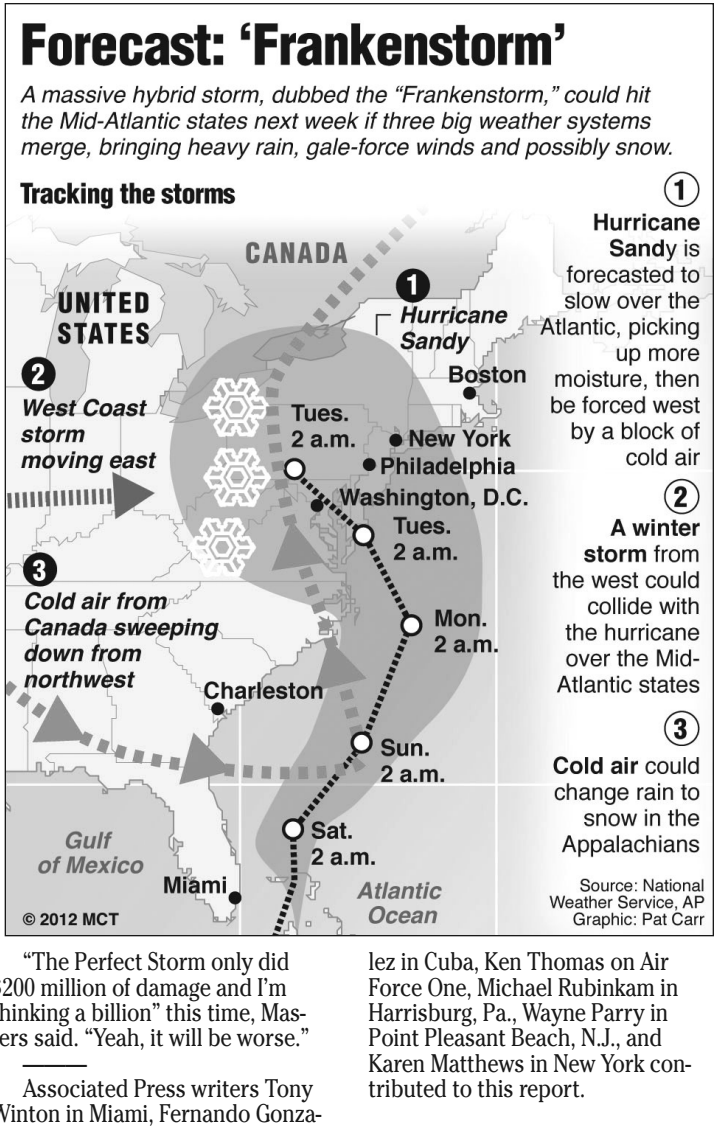
Asked if he expected utilities to be more prepared, Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick responded: “They’d better be.”

Jersey Central Power & Light, which was criticized for its response to Irene, notified employees to be ready for extended shifts. In Pennsylvania, PPL Corp. spokesman Michael Wood said, “We’re in a much better place this year.”

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Thursday said the city was striking a tone of calm preparedness.

“What we are doing is we are taking the kind of precautions you should expect us to do, and I don’t think anyone should panic,” Bloomberg said. The city has opened an emergency situation room and activated its coastal storm plan.

Some have compared the tempest to the so-called Perfect Storm that struck off the coast of New England in 1991, but that one hit a less populated area. Nor is this one like last year’s Halloween storm, which was merely an early snowfall.



# Moeller

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about publicity around the case in the Sioux Falls area. Jurors were shown evidence that O’Connell had been raped, stabbed in the chest and back, slashed across her throat and shoulder, and sodomized.

Susan Kirkvold was the regional editor for the Press & Dakotan and covered the trial. Now an attorney in Manchester, N.H., she still recalls the many long hours put into reporting on the case.

“I was so impressed with the attorneys, judge, law enforcement and other reporters and photographers I worked with,” she said. “I was impressed with how hard they worked to do everything right.”

The case was every parent’s nightmare, Kirkvold noted — a little girl leaves home and doesn’t come back.

“What I admire is the legal process that resolves these cases in a way that gives everyone a chance to have their say and present all the evidence to the best of their ability,” she said. “It helps people move on with their lives to the extent that is possible.”

Ultimately, the state Supreme Court overturned the conviction in 1996, ruling that improper evidence was used in the trial.

However, a second trial held in Rapid City in 1997 convicted Moeller a second time and he was again sentenced to die. That sentence has been upheld by the state Supreme Court despite appeal.

Jones said she has followed



P&D ARCHIVE PHOTO: VALERIE HOEPPNER  
Marcel Kathol, a Yankton County juror during the trial of Donald Moeller, speaks to reporters outside the Yankton County Courthouse and Safety Center on Sept. 3, 1992, shortly after the death penalty was announced.

the case closely in the years since the trial. She also visited the locales where the crime occurred to get a better sense of what happened.

Whenever she sees a child walking alone at an intersection — just as O’Connell had been doing when she was kidnapped — Jones takes notice.

“I think what haunts me is that moment (O’Connell) realized (Moeller) meant her harm,” Jones said. “You’re a child out in a secluded wooded area. There is no one to help you.”

Marcel Kathol also served on the jury. However, he said he has mostly put the trial behind him.

One effect it had was that it made him keep a closer eye on his three girls as they grew up. Kathol and his wife tried to arrange their schedules so they could look after their children as much as possible and not depend on baby-sitters.

“I tell people every day, ‘Take care of your kids. You were given these kids, so protect them and be there for them,’” he said.

O’Connell didn’t have that

care in her life, according to Kathol.

“I have one statement to make about all of this: Yeah, Moeller did it. But the mother (Tina Curl) should have taken some responsibility for all this,” he said. “We heard a lot of stuff about how Becky wandered from trailer to trailer looking for someone to hang out with or food. For a girl that young, that mother should have always known where she was. For some reason, that girl had free reign to go wherever she wanted. To me, that mother

should take some responsibility. To me, she was a bad mom. I feel real bad for that kid because she came up in the wrong family.”

When deciding to sentence Moeller to the death penalty, Jones said she felt as if the jury was providing something she may not have had during her life.

“I don’t feel that anyone who sat on that jury found in favor of the death penalty in an ‘eye for an eye’ or revenge frame of mind,” she stated. “I truly don’t think that factored in to the decision. I think we felt that we were there for her. She was 9 years old and kind of fended for herself. She was maybe more grown up than many 9 year olds. We felt we were looking out for her.”

Kathol said he hopes Moeller’s execution will deter future crimes.

“I just hope whoever is thinking about doing something crazy like this — maybe this will stop some of it,” he stated.

Jones said the Yankton County and Rapid City juries were just following the law.

“(Moeller) has to deal with the consequences of what he did,” she stated. “Our laws say that if you do this type of crime, this is what can happen.”

But the focus now should not be on the crime, Jones added.

“Obviously we can rail against what he did and be incensed by the fact he took a child’s life in the manner that he did, but that’s not going to bring Becky back,” she said. “If that passion could be turned toward something positive to help other children, that would be the best thing we could do for Becky.”

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](https://twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage)

# 12 Names Added To Victim List In Shooting

DENVER (AP) — Prosecutors have added 12 names to the list of people allegedly targeted by the suspect in the Colorado theater shootings, according to documents made public Friday.

James Eagan Holmes originally was charged with 142 counts including murder and attempted murder, alleging he killed 12 people and injured at least 58 in the July 20 shootings.

In September and October, prosecutors filed 24 more counts of attempted murder against Holmes. The names of the alleged victims were redacted from court documents, so the number of additional alleged victims was unknown until Friday.

Holmes, 24, is accused of opening fire in a crowded movie theater in the Denver suburb of Aurora during a midnight showing of the latest Batman movie. He is being held without bail. He hasn’t entered a plea.

The newly released documents didn’t say whether any of the 12 additional people were injured. Prosecutors declined to comment.

One of the 12, Corbin Dates, told The Associated Press in July he was so close to the gunman that spent cartridges were falling on him.

# Manager

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wife’s family also lives in this region.

“I look at the City of Yankton as a professional change in my duties and responsibilities,” he stated. “It’s a larger community with a larger budget.”

Gering has a population of 8,500, according to the 2010 Census.

“As a manager, I bring a boatload of experiences,” Danielzuk said. “I have a lot of incentives to come here and give the community some wonderful experiences and be a part of growing the community in the direction it wants to grow. I can do that very well.”

Cook said he enjoys this part of the country, having been a city manager and administrator in Idaho and Wyoming for the past 30 years.

“I’m very interested in Yankton,” he stated. “It’s a beautiful community. It’s very diversified.”

Yankton has a City Commission that wants to move the community forward, Cook believes.

“Being able to sustain that momentum that has already been created and continue to do that fits well within my skill set,” he said.

Colvin has been the assistant city manager in Vermillion for about six years. He was the city administrator of Bloomfield, Neb., prior to that.

“Since I have been (in Vermillion), I have worked on a lot of different improvement projects,” Colvin said.

“It looks like there is a lot going on with (Yankton),” he continued. “There are a lot of differ-

ent projects that make it a really challenging and interesting place to work.”

Once the interviews conclude today, commissioners will deliberate and decide if they want to offer the position to any of the candidates.

Mayor Nancy Wenande has said she would like a new city manager to be in place by the beginning of next year.

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Dear Editor,

So much attention has been given to trivial issues regarding what a candidate will support if elected, while hardly any has been given to the platforms of the various parties. These are perhaps the most significant indicators since the candidate, if elected, will generally conform to the party platform.

When you read the Republican platform, the theme is traditional values, and there is a chapter entitled “Restoration of a Constitutional Government”.

The Democratic party platform, on the other hand, contains some very controversial planks. One plank supports a women’s right to choose to have an abortion “regardless of ability to pay”. Another plank supports marriage equality for same-sex couples.

Please read the party platforms before voting - they are readily available on the web and can be accessed via [www.gop.com/2012-republican-platform\\_home/](http://www.gop.com/2012-republican-platform_home/) [www.democrats.org/democratic-national-platform](http://www.democrats.org/democratic-national-platform)

Please be sure you support candidates who endorse your values.

Sincerely,  
**Bruce H. Brazelton**

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## Job Opening

City of Wagner is accepting applications for:

### Full & Part Time Police Officer

**Requirements:** High school diploma. Certification preferred, but not required.  
**Closing Date:** Applications will be taken until 5 p.m. on October 31, 2012

Applications available at: City Finance Office, P.O. Box 40, 60 Main Ave. SE, Wagner, SD 57380.  
For more information call 605-384-3741. Equal Opportunity Employer

**AM 1450**

## MORNING COFFEE

**WEEKDAYS 7:40 AM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY**

*Yankton's Home Team!*

# ★Decorate a Tree

## ...Help a Family in Need!

Please help us make this holiday season a little brighter for some families in need.

### 2 Ways You Can Help Out:

1. Sponsor and decorate a artificial christmas tree and coordinating gift box for food donations
2. Vote for your favorite tree by placing one non-perishable food item in the gift box located by that tree

Trees will be on display at the Yankton Mall with voting November 12th-December 10th. Trees will be picked up by the families in need and food delivered to our local food pantry Dec. 13th-15th.

**Tree Registration Due: November 7th**  
Call the mall office 665-5999 or Rita's Purse-O-Nalities 260-8362

**Tree Setup/Decorate Tree: November 10th-11th**  
Please check in at Rita's Purse-O-Nalities or the Yankton Mall before setting up.

**Grand Prize For Best Decorated Tree is an \$100 Yankton Mall Gift Card** Winner will be announced December 12th

Brought to you by the **Press & Dakotan & the Yankton Mall**

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