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SPORTS, 1B

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Saturday, December 15, 2012

Rampage stuns nation

GEORGIA REACTION

ATLANTA — Flags in Georgia will fly at half-staff to mourn the victims of the deadly school shooting in Connecticut.

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal signed an order Friday requiring that U.S. and state flags be lowered at state buildings and grounds until sunset Tuesday.

Deal says the residents of Georgia share the grief of the family and friends of those who were killed and injured in Newtown, Conn.

Authorities are also taking extra precautions at schools in the metro Atlanta area in the wake of the shooting.

— Associated Press

LOCAL REACTION

What you're saying on Twitter:

- The only comfort I can find from this tragic shooting is knowing that without a doubt all those children are walking with Jesus now @RachelWehausen (Rachel Wehausen, Aiken)

What you're saying on augustachronicle.com:

- When I see events like this, part of me believes the world just may end in a week. The other part of me thinks maybe it would be for the better. — David Parker

EXPRESS YOUR THOUGHTS at augustachronicle.com.

MORE COVERAGE

Get the latest updates on the Newtown shooting, find more related stories and see dozens of photos at augustachronicle.com.



A woman comforts a young girl during a vigil for victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting in Newtown, Conn. Questions surrounded the shooter's motives and his relationship with the school.



State police lead pupils from the school after the shooting. A custodian ran through the halls of the school warning about the armed man.

Site of attack



Friday's shooting occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., a prosperous New England community of about 27,000 people 60 miles northeast of New York City.

Source: ESRI

20 children among dead in massacre

By John Christoffersen
Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. — First, he killed his mother.

Nancy Lanza's body was found later at their home in Newtown — after the carnage at Sandy Hook Elementary School, after a quiet New England town was scarred forever by unthinkable tragedy.

Nobody knows why 20-year-old Adam Lanza killed his mother, then went to the school and killed 20 children and six adults. The killer, carrying at least two handguns, committed suicide at the school.

The rampage was the nation's second-deadliest school shooting, exceeded only by the Virginia Tech massacre that claimed 33 lives in 2007.

"Our hearts are broken today," a tearful President Obama, struggling to maintain his composure, said at the White House. He called for "meaningful action" to prevent such shootings.

Police shed no light on the motive for the attack. The gunman, Adam Lanza, was believed to suffer from a personality disorder and lived with his mother, said a law enforcement official who was briefed on the investigation but was not authorized to discuss it.

Police told youngsters at the kindergarten-through-fourth-grade school to close their eyes as they were led from the building so that they wouldn't see the blood and broken glass.

Law enforcement officials speaking on condition of anonymity said he drove to school in his mother's car with

See SHOOTING on PAGE 8A

MORE ON THE SHOOTING

► President calls for action/8A

EMPTY STOCKING FUND

An Augusta woman suffered complications while in the hospital giving birth to a daughter. She is not financially able to do much for her child and would appreciate any help in having something for Christmas.

"I thank Jesus that I came through it all," she wrote. "I can see again ... but I'm not financially able to provide and can barely pay my bills."

The *Augusta Chronicle* Empty Stocking Fund has helped such people for 82 years. Last year, the charity raised more than \$104,000 that helped children and families across the region.

Donations are tax-deductible. To contribute:

- Mail donations to *The Augusta Chronicle's* Empty Stocking Fund, P.O. Box 1928, Augusta, GA 30903-1928.
- Drop off donations at the cashier's office at *The Chronicle* News Building, 725 Broad St., weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.; and at the Columbia County Bureau, Publix shopping center, 4272 Washington Road, Suite 3B, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- Donate online at augustachronicle.com/emptystocking.

— From staff reports

MORE ON THE CHARITY

► List of donors/1C

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DEATHS

- Mr. Alvin W. Allen Statesboro, Ga.
- Mr. David M. Brown North Augusta
- Mr. Robert T. Donovan Grovetown
- Mrs. Belle Hood Conway, S.C.
- Mr. Jesse Lee Jester Waynesboro, Ga.
- Mr. Len Jones Sr. Harlem
- Ms. Carrie Little Augusta
- Mrs. Mildred McDonald Wadley, Ga.
- Mrs. Helen P. Moore Thomson
- Mr. Nelson Norris Thomson
- Mr. Gregory A. Phillips Augusta
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- Mrs. Martha E. Taylor Augusta
- Mrs. Bernice C. Tindall Augusta
- Mrs. Elizabeth Wheeler Hephzibah
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WEATHER

Partly sunny
High: 64 Low: 54
Weather, 6D

INSIDE TODAY

Obama discusses marijuana stance

SEATTLE — The feds could relax enforcement of marijuana laws in Washington and Colorado, President Obama said.

NATION, 3A

New baseball stadium rumored in N. Augusta

By Susan McCord
Staff Writer

North Augusta officials say they'll disclose Wednesday the details of "Project Jackson," a proposed major, multiuse riverfront project widely rumored to include a new stadium for the Augusta GreenJackets.

North Augusta City Administrator Todd Glover said the announcement comes in response to rampant speculation and concern about a project that some residents believe is up for final approval at Monday's North Augusta City Council meeting.

A third reading of a land development agreement that provides for an extended timeline in the event Project Jackson comes to fruition does go before the council Monday, but the measure will require public approval before advancing, with details of that process and a timeline to be released Wednesday, Glover said.

"There will be opportunities for public input, but there will not be a referendum," he said. "We're putting

the details out, saying, 'Here are the details, and if you don't like it, that's OK.'"

Neither Glover, Mayor Lark Jones, City Councilman Arthur Shealy nor Hammond's Ferry developer Turner Simkins would deny that Project Jackson involves a facility suitable for minor league baseball, of the type that GreenJackets' owner Ripken Baseball has long sought to replace Lake Olmstead Stadium in Augusta.

See PROJECT on PAGE 8A

Students hit by pellet guns

By Bianca Cain Johnson
Staff Writer

Three Westside High School students were injured when two men shot pellet guns at them Friday, but the students did not require medical attention.

The incident occurred shortly after noon, and school officials locked the school down for the remainder of the day.

According to a news release, students were playing football on the practice field at 12:15 p.m. during their lunch period when

they were hit. Students chased the two black men, one wearing a camouflage hoodie and the other a silver hoodie, through the woods behind the practice field before losing them near the Fountain Head apartment complex. Officers searched the apartments but didn't find the men.

Richmond County schools Public Safety is investigating the incident.

The pellets did minor damage to the windshields of two faculty vehicles.

Reach Bianca Cain Johnson at (706) 823-3486 or bianca.johnson@augustachronicle.com.

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