



“Our hearts are broken today” / President Obama



SHANNON HICKS / NEWTOWN BEE

Children at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., are escorted through a parking lot, hands on each other's shoulders. Police told youngsters at the kindergarten-through-fourth-grade school to close their eyes as they were led from the building so they wouldn't see the blood and broken glass after Friday's shooting rampage.

'SHEER TERROR' IN A PLACID TOWN

Rampage at Connecticut elementary school leaves 26 dead, including 20 children. Shooter, 20, also kills his mother, who taught there, and himself. Outraged nation grieves.

WIRE REPORTS

A gunman's brutal act in Newtown, Conn., shattered a sunny December morning, forever changing the lives of many families and inducing an international avalanche of horrified grief, anger and compassion.

Twenty of the victims were children, most of them believed to be in one kindergarten class. Even the simplest statement — “Children were among the dead” — had the deep power to bring anguish to people around the country.

President Obama grew uncharacteristically tearful as he spoke of the victims, including “children — beautiful, little kids between the ages of 5 and 10 years old,” and “teachers — men and women who devoted their lives to help their children achieve their dreams.” He spoke, too, of the surviving children, whose innocence had been torn away.

For Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, the massacre — one of the



JESSICA HILL / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A distraught woman desperately seeks news about her sister, a teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary. “Evil visited this community today,” said Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy.

Debate over gun control erupts anew

By Sari Horwitz and Peter Finn
THE WASHINGTON POST

The 20-year-old gunman who opened fire in a Connecticut elementary school Friday morning carried the kind of semiautomatic weapons that have become the bloody hallmark of the American gun massacre — and perpetual exhibits in the cyclical and never-resolved debate about gun control that follows every similar killing spree.

The killing of 20 children in their school prompted fresh and sometimes anguished calls to toughen the country's gun laws. But the history of previous shootings suggests that the hard politics of the issue always trumps the grief of the moment.

“As we mourn, we must sound a call for our leaders to stand up and do what is right,” said Capt. Mark Kelly, the husband of former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., who was seriously wounded in a mass shooting in Tucson in 2011 that killed six and wounded 13. “This time our response must consist

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See GUN CONTROL, A4



OBAMA SHEDS TEARS FOR VICTIMS

Victims were “beautiful, little kids between 5 and 10 years old. They had their entire lives ahead of them — birthdays, graduations, weddings, kids of their own.” / A23



PRINCIPAL LOVED HER SCHOOL

Dawn Hochsprung was proud of Sandy Hook Elementary and readily connected with its young students, observers say. / A23

On StarNet: For interactive presentations on gun control and the Connecticut school shooting, go to azstarnet.com/multimedia. See video about the shooting at azstarnet.com/video

IT'S A BIG DAY FOR ARIZONA FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL

All you need to know about Arizona vs. Nevada in the New Mexico Bowl, and the men's basketball team's matchup with the Gators. **Page B1**

WINTERHAVEN GLOWS, PLUS A PARADE DOWNTOWN

Tonight is all about holiday lights. Winterhaven's Festival of Light begins, and there's the Downtown Parade of Lights. **Pages A2, A8**

TWO MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS MAY BE DELAYED OR CUT

A predicted drop in revenues puts improvements to interchanges on Ina Road and at Ajo-Interstate 19 in jeopardy. **Page A2**

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