



CHANCE OF RAIN

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Full weather report / B12



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WEEKEND

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MediaNews Group NEWSPAPER

SATURDAY, 12/15/12 baydailynews.com ATHERTON EAST PALO ALTO LOS ALTOS LOS ALTOS HILLS MENLO PARK MOUNTAIN VIEW PALO ALTO PORTOLA VALLEY REDWOOD CITY SAN CARLOS STANFORD WOODSIDE

Unthinkable terror



Shannon Hicks / Newtown Bee

Gunman slays 26 at Conn. grade school after killing his mother; commits suicide

BY JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. — A man killed his mother at their home and then opened fire Friday inside an elementary school, massacring 26 people, including 20 children, as youngsters cowered in fear to the sound of gunshots reverberating through the building and screams echoing over the intercom.

The 20-year-old killer, carrying at least two handguns, committed suicide at the school, bringing the death toll to 28, authorities said.

The rampage, coming less than two weeks before Christmas, 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 Barack Obama, struggling to maintain his composure, said at the White House. He called for "meaningful action" to prevent such shootings, saying, "As a country, we have been through this too many

times." 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.

Panicked parents looking for their children raced to Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, a prosperous New

INSIDE

Sports world reacts to Conn. school shooting, SPORTS, PAGE A1

SHOOTING, page A5



Adrees Latif / Reuters

ABOVE: The families of victims grieve near Sandy Hook Elementary School, where a gunman opened fire on schoolchildren and staff in Newtown, Conn., on Friday. TOP: Connecticut State Police lead a line of children from the school on Friday.

INSIDE TODAY

Downtown Palo Alto plaza gets a facelift

Officials on Friday marked completion of a \$150,000 upgrade at Cogswell Plaza, which includes new landscaping, pathways, lighting and a seating area

LOCAL, PAGE A2

Toxic cleanup spoils affordable housing plan

Portola Valley ditches a land purchase deal for below-market-rate homes after learning the property owners have yet to finish a hazardous materials cleanup

LOCAL, PAGE A2

Genre-defying music

Guitarist Charlie Hunter and drummer Scott Amendola team up for great shows

FUSION, PAGE B6

3 killed in median crash on I-280

SUV collided with stalled sedan in Redwood City; criminal charges being sought

BY ERIC KURHI Bay Area News Group

Three people were killed in a crash on Interstate 280 just north of the Edgewood Road offramp Friday afternoon when an SUV careened into their stalled sedan, according to the California Highway Patrol.

CHP Officer Art Montiel said a tan Lexus sedan with four people inside pulled off the road next to the center median in the northbound lanes

about 3:10 p.m., apparently due to mechanical problems. While they were stopped, a black Volkswagen Tiguan SUV "for unknown reasons swerved into the center divide and collided with the Lexus."

Three people who had been in the Lexus were pronounced dead at the scene: a 48-year-old woman, a 21-year-old woman and a 28-year-old man. The fourth occupant, a 56-year-old man, was taken to a hospital with moderate-to-major injuries. Montiel said at

least one was inside the car at the time of the crash.

The 82-year-old man who was behind the wheel of the Volkswagen was transported to a hospital with minor injuries and "criminal charges are being sought," Montiel said.

He said those charges include felony vehicular manslaughter, and officers plan to arrest him upon his release from the hospital.

Montiel said it does not appear that

CRASH, page A4

Palo Alto may hire pollster for infrastructure bid

BY JASON GREEN Daily News Staff Writer

Palo Alto could move one step closer Monday to placing a measure on the 2014 ballot to help fund a variety of needed infrastructure projects.

The city council is expected to approve a \$90,000 contract with Fair-

bank, Maslin, Metz and Associates, or FM3, to conduct public opinion research. The item will appear on the consent calendar, a section of the agenda that is generally approved without much or any discussion.

"FM3 has extensive knowledge in public opinion research and a proven track record providing services on

successful ballot measures," city staff wrote in a report to council members.

Indeed, the firm handled public opinion research for the city's successful library bond measure in 2008.

City staff is proposing to use the city's budget stabilization reserve to cover the cost of the contract.

POLLSTER, page A4



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