

LOVELY NOTES
Music a keystone
for Erie couple
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2012 · No. 350 · LONGMONT, COLORADO

'Our hearts are broken'

Massacre leaves nation in shock

THE HARTFORD COURANT

NEWTOWN, Conn. — A lone gunman with a mind for destruction turned the idyllic Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown into a scene of horrific chaos and carnage Friday morning, killing 20 children and six adults, including the school's principal, in the worst shooting at a primary school in U.S. history.

The shooter also killed himself inside the school, authorities said, and his mother was later found dead at her home 2 miles away.

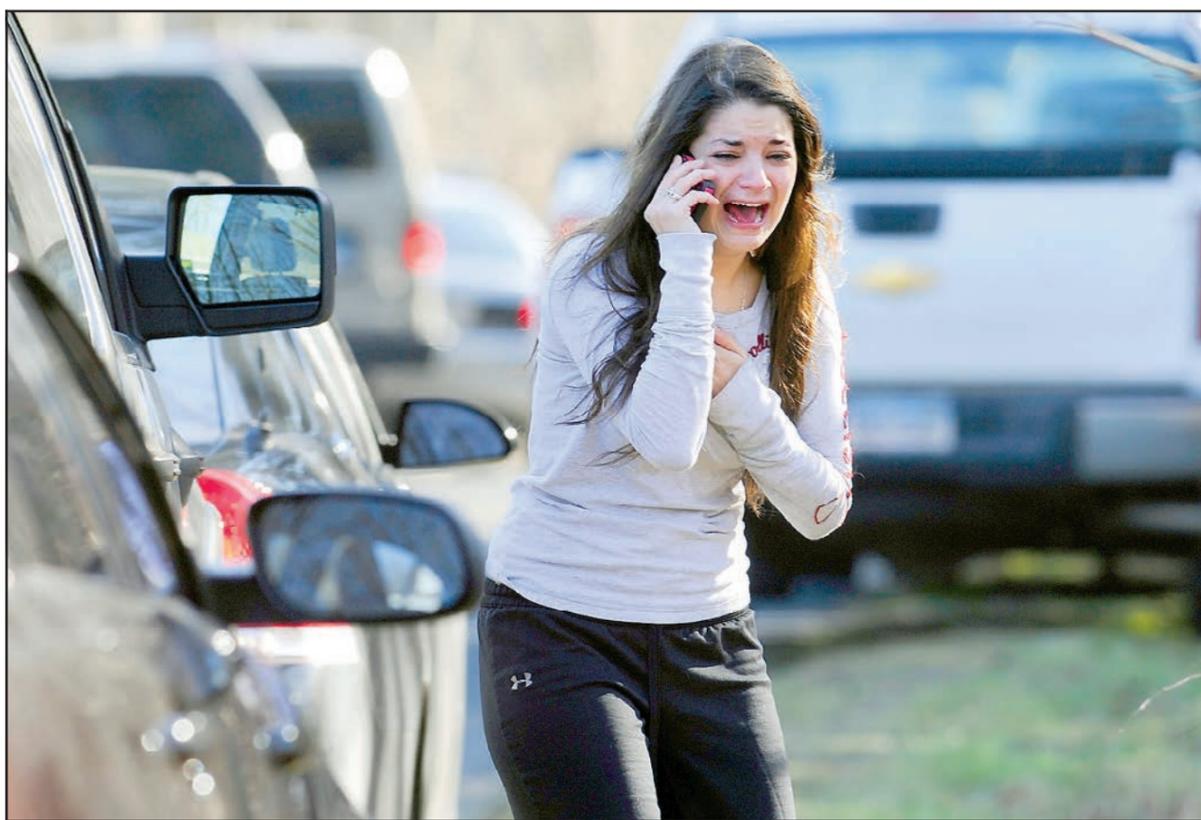
The shootings took place in two first-grade classrooms around 9:30 a.m., sources said, and one witness said she believed as many as 100 rounds had been fired. All of the adults and 18 of the children were pronounced dead at the school. Two more students died at a hospital. A single victim was injured but not killed.

State police sources identified the shooter as 20-year-old Adam Lanza. When he was found — dead in a hallway of a self-inflicted gunshot wound — he was carrying his brother Ryan Lanza's identification, which initially led to confusion about his identity, police said.

Adam Lanza was dressed in black fatigues and had brought three weapons to the school, police sources said: a Glock and a Sig Sauer, both pistols, and a .223-caliber rifle.

Principal Dawn Hochsprung, 47, was among those killed.

"She died protecting the



Associated Press

A woman waits to hear about her sister, a teacher, following a shooting Friday at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. Twenty children and six adults, including the school's principal, were killed.

Inside

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- Gun control a tough topic for Colo. lawmakers. Page A10

children that she adored so much. It's just incredibly shocking," said Gerald Stomski, first selectman in Woodbury, where Hochsprung lived. Hochsprung had been the principal in the Bethlehem and Woodbury school district before taking the job in Newtown two years ago.

Police have not confirmed the identities of the other victims, but they are believed to include a school psychologist and at least one teacher. Sandy Hook has more than 600 students from kindergarten through fourth grade.

As news of the massacre spread through the typically



Associated Press

Parents leave a staging area after being reunited with their children Friday in Newtown, Conn.

quiet Fairfield County town, panicked parents clogged roads as they streamed to the school in search of their

young sons and daughters. Police evacuated the children to a nearby firehouse, and tearful parents were led

into the building. Most came out relieved, clutching and

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Tragedy revives debate over guns

By THOMAS PEIPERT
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LITTLETON — A lone police cruiser outside Columbine High School was the only outward reaction Friday to an even deadlier attack at a Connecticut elementary school.

But in a state that was rocked by the 1999 Columbine school massacre and the Aurora movie theater shooting less than six months ago, Friday's shootings renewed debate over why mass shootings keep occurring and whether gun control can stop them.

"Until we get our acts together and stop making these ... weapons available, this is going to keep happening," said an angry Tom Teves, whose son Alex was killed in the theater shooting last July in Aurora.

Teves was choked up as he answered a reporter's call Friday. A work associate of his lives in Newtown, Conn., where a gunman killed 26 people, including 20 children, at Sandy Hook Elementary. The connection chilled and angered him.

The 20-year-old killer, identified by a law enforcement official as Adam Lanza, carried out the attack with two handguns. A .223-caliber rifle was found in the back of a car.

The shooting has once again stoked the never-ending debate over gun-control laws.

This week, Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper generated a storm of debate after declaring that it was time to start talking about

Please see **DEBATE**, page A9

COLORADO OIL/GAS DRILLING

Boulder County calls on Legislature to address concerns

By JOHN FRYAR
 LONGMONT TIMES-CALL

BOULDER — When the Colorado Legislature convenes in January, Boulder County will support proposals for state laws that recognize, preserve and expand local governments' authority to regulate the oil and gas industry's land-use

activities.

That's one of the policy priorities the Board of County Commissioners will be pursuing during the Colorado General Assembly's 2013 session.

State laws should be amended to clarify that any state regulations relating to oil and gas development should be regarded to be "minimum standards," according to Boulder County commissioners'

legislative agenda.

Under that approach, counties and municipalities could modify or strengthen the state's oil and gas regulations "to address local concerns and conditions," Boulder

County's commissioners have stated.

Such laws are among a multitude of measures Boulder County intends to pursue during next year's session, under the 2013 state legislative agenda that Commissioners Cindy Domenico,

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