

NEWTOWN SCHOOL SHOOTING

Massacre of innocents

20 CHILDREN, 7 ADULTS KILLED / 2ND-DEADLIEST SHOOTING IN U.S.



AGREES LATIF REUTERS

The families of victims grieve near Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, where a gunman opened fire on children and staff Friday, killing at least 26 people, including 20 children.

Killer began by shooting his mother Adam Lanza ended spree with suicide

BY QUANNAH LEONARD, RICK HARRISON, ALEC JOHNSON AND CHRIS GARDNER
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

NEWTOWN — Police told children to close their eyes, then led them from Sandy Hook Elementary School on Friday, hoping to shield them from the carnage.

The second-deadliest school shooting in the nation's history will certainly burn a permanent scar in the minds of those who survived and the families of the 20 children and seven adults killed by a gunman less than two weeks before Christmas.

The killer, identified as 20-

Details are starting to emerge about Adam Lanza, the suspected shooter who authorities say killed more than two dozen people, **Page 4A**.

year-old 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.

Adam Lanza is believed to have killed his mother, Nancy Lanza, at their home at 36 Yogananda St. in this town of about 27,000 people. He then used two handguns to shoot

up two classrooms at the school where she worked before turning a gun on himself. Altogether, 28 people, including the killer, died in the onslaught, authorities said. The 2007 Virginia Tech massacre left 33 people dead.

"This is Newtown," said Msgr. Robert Weiss, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church on Church Hill Road. "This is a town where families choose to live because it is safe. We are left wondering. We are left confused."

At one point, a law enforcement official mistakenly

See **SCAR**, **Page 8A**



CONTRIBUTED

Sandy Hook Elementary Principal Dawn Hochsprung — a Woodbury resident, Naugatuck native and former Region 14 administrator — died in Friday's attack. 'She was an advocate for children, so it does not surprise me she would be on the front line in something like this,' Region 14 school board member Maryanne Van Akin said.

Naugatuck native remembered for being a 'perfect principal'

BY KEVIN LITTEN
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Dawn Hochsprung, the principal killed Friday in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, was a dynamic administrator whose passion for children and community made her the "perfect principal," said Region 14 Board of Education Chairman George Bauer.

Hochsprung, a 47-year-old Naugatuck native who was living in Woodbury, was an elementary school principal in Region 14 for six years before she was hired at Sandy Hook Elementary in 2010.

Reports on Friday indicated the shooter entered the school's front office, and that someone

thought to turn on the intercom to alert the school to imminent danger. It may never be known whether it was Hochsprung who flipped the intercom switch, but those who knew her said she would have done anything to safeguard her school.

"She was sweet, very protective of her family, and there's no doubt in my mind that she was protecting her staff and students," said Nicky Titley, who lived next door to Hochsprung in Naugatuck, before Hochsprung was named a principal in Region 14.

Hochsprung joined Region 14 as principal of Bethlehem Elementary School in 2004 and

See **PRINCIPAL**, **Page 8A**

MORE INSIDE

THE REACTION

- Friday's tragedy left residents of Newtown asking why this happened, **Page 4A**.
- Gov. Malloy, President Obama speak of the 'evil' that hit the town, **Page 4A**.

TALKING TO KIDS

- School districts in the state, including Torrington, took extra security steps, **Page 5A**.
- Joe Palladino's take on sports, sorrow and how children are affected, **Page 1C**.

WORST SHOOTINGS

- Police have one mission in mind: save lives, **Page 4A**.
- A look at some of the worst U.S. shootings, **Page 4A**.

AT REP-AM.COM



Watch videos from the day, which include the state police news conference and comments from Gov. Dannel P. Malloy and President Barack Obama.

- Watch a video report from Friday night's memorial at St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church.
- Listen to audio from the 911 call.
- View photos from the day by visiting rep-am.com/multimedia/gallery.



High **39**
Low **26**

Morning sun turns into afternoon clouds; Chance for snow late tonight. **Page 8D**

- Accent **8D**
- Annie's Mailbox **5B**
- Business **8C**
- Classified **1D**
- Comics **6C**
- Crossword **6B**
- Editorials **6A**
- Horoscope **5B**
- Jumble **6B**
- Lottery **2A**
- Movie theaters **5B**
- Obituaries **xB**
- People **5B**
- Public record **2A**
- Stocks **7C**
- Sudoku **6B**
- Television **6B**
- Wheels **1D**

OPINION OF THE DAY: "A modest increase in tax rates for the wealthy will have little, if any, negative impact on job creation and do nothing to hinder economic growth. Rich people don't create jobs. Demand creates jobs."

— Michael Tooke, Winsted
READ THE FULL LETTER ON **PAGE 6A**

WEB EXTRAS

TODAY AT REP-AM.COM

- NEWTOWN SHOOTING** Watch video reports and see more photos from Friday's shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary.
- HOLIDAY ON TV** Look in the revolving Spotlight feature for a link that takes you to a list of holiday-related shows on television.

Area schools cancel games

Both the Naugatuck Valley and Berkshire leagues canceled Friday's games after the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown. Some schools have delayed contests and practices next week. **PAGE 8D**

Cat burglar takes deal

A Winsted man admitted in court Friday to slipping into homes nearby and in surrounding towns. Greg Moulthrop faces nine years in prison for his actions, which included escaping from police. **PAGE 1B**

No charges for golfer

Prosecutors won't pursue charges against champion golfer Rudolph Hermstadt, who police say attacked his former friend caddie at Waterbury's East Mountain Golf Course in July. **PAGE 1B**



32 pages. © 2012 Republican-American
Established 1881, Waterbury, Connecticut
All rights reserved

Read today's editions online at www.rep-am.com