

Legislature approves tax promise for Nike

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Obama: Catching pot users isn't a 'top priority'

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Saturday's fact

The EPA says it will set new limits for airborne particles known as soot | B5

75 cents

{ www.gazettetimes.com }

December 15, 2012

Gunman Kills 20 Children, 6 Adults At Connecticut School

School tragedy, heroes



SHANNON HICKS | NEWTON BEE

Connecticut State Police lead a line of children from the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., on Friday after a shooting at the school.

Actions by school staff reduce death toll

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

SEE SHOOTING | A6



CAROLYN KASTER | ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama wipes his eye as he talks about the Connecticut elementary school shooting Friday in the White House briefing room in Washington.

See the story on page A8

Inside

- A5: Shooting revives gun debate
- A8: Tearful Obama calls for action after shooting
- A8: Shooting suspect was honors student
- B5: How it happened: A routine day, then shots
- B5: Errors highlight tension between speed, accuracy
- B5: Shooting news elicits horror, sympathy from world

Local district officials met Friday, plan to meet Monday to discuss student safety

By RAJU WOODWARD
CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

In wake of Friday's deadly elementary school shooting in Connecticut, local school district leaders said they plan to review their safety and security protocols.

Friday's tragedy killed 28 people, including the lone gunman and 20 children who were students at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. The massacre happened just three days after an Oregon gunman opened fire at a Clackamas mall, killing two people and taking his own life.

Corvallis Schools Superintendent Erin Prince issued a statement Friday morning that the district's leadership team and building administrators would meet after school to review current procedures and institute additional precautions.

LOCAL VIGIL PLANNED FOR TONIGHT

First Christian Church has organized a public prayer vigil tonight in response to this week's shootings in Portland and Connecticut. It is scheduled for 7 p.m. in front of the church at 602 S.W. Madison Ave. Candles will be provided.

SEE LOCAL | A6

No prison in fatal distracted driving crash

By BENNETT HALL
CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

A couple who pleaded guilty to various charges in connection with a distracted driving crash that killed a motorcyclist were sentenced to three years' probation on Friday in Benton County Circuit Court, but

they remained in custody awaiting possible deportation.

Veronica Avila Diaz, 28, and her husband, Jose Antonio Cejas Gutierrez, 31, have been in jail since Oct. 11 on charges stemming from a Sept. 30 collision that took the life of a 72-

year-old Eugene man, Kenneth Douglas Carroll.

The wreck occurred on Highway 99W north of Monroe. Avila Diaz, who had little driving experience and no license, was behind the wheel of the couple's Ford Windstar van, with her husband in

the passenger's seat and their three children riding with them.

According to the account presented in court, she was distracted by Cejas Gutierrez, who was photographing his wife with his camera phone as she drove south toward Monroe.

She started to drift off the road and then overcorrected, veering into oncoming traffic. The van struck Carroll's motorcycle, killing him. A third vehicle, with three people inside, swerved off the road to avoid the wreck.



Cejas Gutierrez
Probation



Avila Diaz
Probation

SEE DISTRACTED DRIVING | A7



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150th year, No. 350
3 sections, 26 pages
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WEATHER BEAVER SAYS:

This weekend should see plenty of windy, rainy conditions. Temperatures should remain cool, with today's high topping out at 43 and the low dipping into the upper 30s.

For details, see A5.



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