

# Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

SATURDAY, December 15, 2012

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 146, No. 350 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

# 'OUR HEARTS ARE BROKEN TODAY'

## SCHOOL SHOOTING IN CONNECTICUT LEAVES 26 DEAD, INCLUDING 20 CHILDREN



AP PHOTO

A young girl cries following a shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., in which a gunman entered the school on Friday morning and killed at least 26 people.

### ASSOCIATED PRESS

**A** NEWTOWN, Conn. man killed his mother at home and then opened fire Friday inside the elementary school where she taught, massacring 26 people, including 20 children, as youngsters covered in corners and closets and trembled helplessly to the sound of shots reverberating through the building. The 20-year-old killer, carrying two handguns, committed suicide at the school, bringing the death toll to 28,

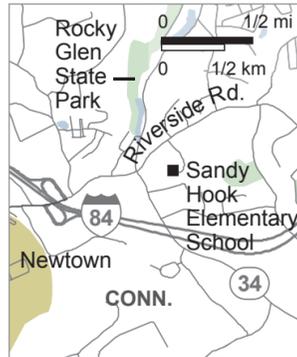
authorities said. Police shed no light on the motive for the attack on two classrooms. The gunman was believed to suffer from a personality disorder and lived with his mother, said a law enforcement official who was briefed on the investigation but was not authorized to discuss it.

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 left 33 people dead in 2007.

Please see **SHOOTING**, Page 5A



**MORE COVERAGE**  
• Take a look back at previous shooting in schools and around the world, **12A**



**ONLINE**  
• See photo galleries showing the aftermath at Sandy Hook Elementary School

## Following tragedy, local schools reflect on their own security

BY CHRIS WALSH  
cwalsh@aikenstandard.com

The tragedy on Friday struck many across the nation and led to, as in the past, many in public education to reflect on the events and what is being done to try and best prepare should such an event ever happen at a local level. "It's a tragedy; my heart just breaks," Aiken County

Public School District Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Everitt said. "We think about safety every day and do our best to keep our students and faculty safe."

At both the state and local levels, there are policies and procedures in place to best prepare for a number of emergencies.

Please see **SCHOOLS**, Page 14A

Children's Place seeks 'angels' to help youth  
**Local News, 2A**

### AREA DEATHS

- David Brown**, North Augusta
  - Frank Price**, Aiken
  - Frances Williams**, Jonesboro, Ga.
  - Kenneth Duane Knapp**, Aiken
  - Robert C. Hochel**, Aiken
  - Patricia Willis Price**, Aiken
  - Margaret Anderson**, Aiken
- Deaths and Funerals, 6A**

## Armed robber at-large holds up two gas stations

BY TEDDY KULMALA  
kulmala@aikenstandard.com

Authorities are investigating two armed robberies that happened within minutes of each other on Thursday night, and they said the same man is responsible for both robberies.

The first robbery happened around 9:30 p.m. at the Four Seasons convenience store on Storm Branch Road in Beech Island, according to a report by the Aiken County Sheriff's Office. A store employee told officers she

and another employee were closing the store when a white man wearing a blue Atlanta Braves hoodie, black gloves and a black ski mask entered the store.

The man reportedly had a handgun and made both female employees get behind the counter. He then made one employee empty the cash drawer into a purple Crown Royal bag.

The robber told the employees to stay behind the counter then fled on foot down Storm Branch Road toward North Augusta.

The second robbery happened at 9:50 p.m. at the Wawa Express on Jefferson Davis Highway in North Augusta, according to reports.

The victim told officers a man wearing a dark blue Braves hoodie, black pants, black and white shoes, a ski mask and gloves entered the store, pointed a gun at him and demanded "all the money," according to the report. The robber then fled the store with an unknown amount of money. He left in an unknown direction of travel.

### Want to help?

Anyone with information about this crime is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (800) 922-9709 or CrimeStoppers of the Midlands at (888) CRIME-SC. Callers can remain anonymous and will be eligible for a cash reward between \$50 and \$1,000.



Partly cloudy.  
High 61. Low 50.  
Complete 5-day

### CONTACT US

General offices.....648-2311  
Newsroom.....644-2401

### INDEX

Calendar.....5C	Living On The Go.....1C
Classifieds.....1D	Lottery.....3A
Crossword.....4C	Movies.....5C
Comics.....3C	Sports.....1B
Dear Abby.....4C	Television.....2C
Horoscope.....4C	World News.....13A



# HEALTHY U Calendar

LOOK FOR IT IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPER!

Read this month's Healthy U Calendar for details on hearing aid consumer education, support groups, and more!



AS10-890753