



# DAILY PRESS

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## GOP unveils budget plan



**TOUTING THE PLAN:** House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., touts his 2012 federal budget during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday.

Slashes \$5 trillion more during coming decade, restructures Medicare, Medicaid

BY ANDREW TAYLOR  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON • House Republicans set up a politically defining clash over the size and priorities of government Tuesday, unveiling a budget plan that calls for both unprecedented spending cuts and a fundamental restructuring of taxpayer-financed health care for the elderly and the poor.

The plan would slash federal spending by \$5 trillion or more over the coming decade. It would leave Social Security untouched but shift more of the risk from rising medical costs from the government to future Medicare beneficiaries. It also calls for sharp cuts to Medicaid health care for the poor and disabled and to food aid for the poor.

SEE BUDGET • PAGE 7

MORE ON PAGE 7



**OBAMA SCOLDS CONGRESS:** Urges members to sort out differences to avert shutdown.

**ROLLBACK:** Congress votes to repeal small part of health law.

## Second-grader dies after seizure at Sixth Street Prep

BY NATASHA LINDSTROM  
STAFF WRITER

VICTORVILLE • A Sixth Street Prep second-grade girl died Tuesday after reportedly having a seizure on her way back to her classroom after lunch, according to school officials.

The girl was walking in a line of students after eating lunch when she started to pass out and a proctor caught her at the school in Old Town Victorville, Victor Elementary School District Superintendent Dale Marsden said. Two teachers administered CPR until paramedics arrived and took the girl to Victor Valley Community Hospital, he said.

Sixth Street Prep staff accompanied the girl to the hospital, where she was reportedly revived for a short time. Medical workers were readying a helicopter to take her to Loma Linda University Medical Center but she died before she could get there, according to Marsden.

There were initial false reports that a student had choked on a hot dog and was recovering at an area hospital.

The girl's family could not be reached for comment late Tuesday.

It was unknown if she had prior medical conditions.

"It's just a tragic, tragic event and our hearts and prayers go out to the family," Marsden said.

Staff writer Brooke Edwards contributed to this report.

## MAN GUNNED DOWN



**CONSOLING:** Samantha Wilson rests in her mother's arms Tuesday morning as she talks about the murder of her fiancé, Melvin Chambers. Chambers was shot Monday night while changing the family's laundry in their apartment's laundry room.

## Shot inside apartment complex laundry room

BY DON HOLLAND  
EDITOR

APPLE VALLEY • A 30-year-old man was shot in the head and killed at an apartment complex Monday night, San Bernardino County Sheriff's officials said.

After a 10:18 p.m. call to sheriff's dispatch, deputies found Melvin Chambers suffer-

ing from a gunshot wound as he lay in the laundry room of an apartment complex in the 16000 block of Rancherias Road, an area known as Felony Flats.

"My baby just went to go check the laundry, and some-



body got him," said Chambers' distraught girlfriend, Samantha Wilson.

"Somebody got him. I heard the 'pow' and I called the police. I called the police. There was nothin' I



**VICTIM:** A photo of Melvin Chambers with his fiancée Samantha Wilson.

SEE SHOOTING • PAGE 6

## Murder trial begins

Defendant accused of breaking into couple's home, killing husband after walking out of hospital

BY TOMOYA SHIMURA  
STAFF WRITER

VICTORVILLE • A couple awoke to the sound of breaking glass from downstairs in their Kemper Campbell Ranch apartment. Alice Sauls said her husband, Joel Anesi, told her to call 911 before he ran downstairs. Upset and terrified, she couldn't



**DEFENDANT:** Melvin Cannon listens to testimony of the victim's widow during his murder trial Monday.

dial the phone, Sauls testified Tuesday, recalling the early morning of Oct. 4, 2003.

Anesi soon came back into the bedroom, followed by a slender, young man wearing blue medical scrubs.

"You're gonna have to calm down ma'am," the stranger told Sauls, according to her testimony. "You're gonna have to have my baby."

SEE TRIAL • PAGE 5

## County supervisors set stage for union showdown

County spokesman: Layoffs likely

BY NATASHA LINDSTROM  
STAFF WRITER

SAN BERNARDINO • The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved compensation cuts to high-ranking county employees on Tuesday — in hopes the move will encourage union

employees to swallow similar concessions.

Meanwhile, county spokesman David Wert said that whether or not the unions agree to the same cuts, layoffs and other deep cuts within county government appear imminent amid a \$122.5 million budget shortfall through 2014-15.

"Layoffs are likely to occur

SEE SHOWDOWN • PAGE 6

## Poll links pessimistic outlook to world events and gas prices

BY LIZ SIDOTI  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON • Quick: What do these things have in common? Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi. The Japanese earthquake and tsunami. Wall Street volatility. A cranky, even angry American populace.

Answer: They all have some-

thing to do with gasoline. No matter what happens in the world today, just about everything points back to fuel and the tricky politics that emerge when prices spike.

Is it any wonder, then, that a recent Associated Press-GfK

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## FINDER

HIGH DESERT



Fire break program to help hold off wildfires

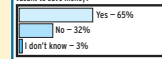
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Online poll results

Should the city of Victorville immediately fill seven deputy positions which have been left vacant to save money?



101 total votes Source: VVDailyPress.com  
Check out this week's poll question at www.VVDailyPress.com

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Page edited by Mike Lamb

# TRIAL: Attorney says Cannon suffers from mental illness

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The intruder approached Sauls and struck her in the head with an object in his hand, Sauls said. She went downstairs to get help after the man went out to the balcony, Sauls testified. Later Auest came downstairs with blood dripping from his head.

The couple was airlifted to Loma Linda University Medical Center where Auest died three days later from blunt force trauma to the head. The prosecution began presenting its witnesses Tuesday in the trial of Melvin Douglas Cannon, accused of murdering 55-year-old Auest — a crime that shook the tranquil Victorville ranch community more than seven

years ago. The 23-year-old is also charged with the attempted murder of Sauls, burglary and other allegations.

Both victims were teachers for the Hesperia Unified School District, according to family friends who asked in 2003 that their names be withheld. Before the incident, Cannon had walked away from the psychiatric evaluation unit at Victor Valley Community Hospital, just up the hill from the ranch.

Cannon, tall and lean with a shaved head, appeared in Victorville Superior Court wearing a clean black-striped suit. His attorney, Winston McKesson, told the jury in his opening statement that the defendant was a religious person who suf-

fered from mental illness. If Cannon is convicted, the jurors will have to decide whether or not he was insane at the time of the alleged offense because he pleaded not guilty for reason of insanity.

The day before the incident, McKesson said Cannon was on a Greyhound bus from San Francisco when he started hearing voices. When the bus was in the High Desert, the defendant created a disturbance and jumped out of a window.

He got into a 7-Eleven in Hesperia and poured a vanilla milk shake on his head before he was arrested, McKesson said. San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputies took him to Victor Valley Jail, but then transported him

to VVCH for a psychiatric evaluation, officials said. Not being watched or restrained, Cannon walked out of the hospital's back door, McKesson said. Cannon followed the voices' instruction to "seek shelter" as he entered the nearby apartment, and Cannon "unfortunately kills Mr. Auest and wounds a young

lady," McKesson told the jury. Cannon jumped from the balcony of the apartment and ran into the desert, Evan Winter, the victims' neighbor, testified. But deputies found Cannon hiding in nearby bushes and took him into custody peacefully, officials said.

Ranch is one of the High Desert's most scenic and historical spots, where the likes of John Wayne, Clark Gable, the Marx Brothers and Greer Garson have made movies or visited.

Tomoya Shimura may be reached at (760) 955-5368 or tshimura@VVDailyPress.com.

## College student wounded in freeway shooting

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
SAN DIEGO • A 21-year-old college student is recovering after she was shot on a San Diego County freeway while driving to school.

The University of San Diego student, who was not identified, was driving in the fast lane on state Route 163 Tuesday when she felt pain in her side. The woman called her mother who dialed 911.

She continued driving to the campus and met with paramedics who discovered a gunshot wound to her rib cage. She underwent surgery and is expected to survive.

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