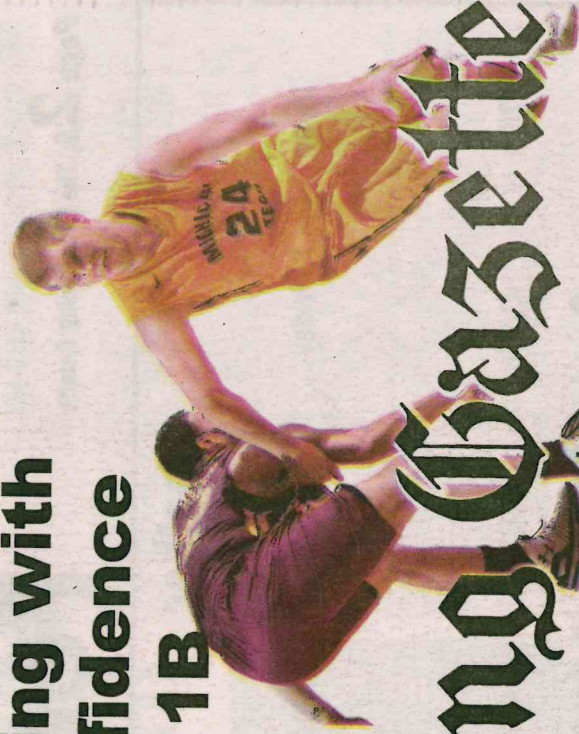


Inside



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1B



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Thursday, December 3, 2015

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James Quigg/The Victor Valley Daily Press via AP  
Authorities prepare to search an area near a church on Wednesday, following a shooting that killed multiple people at a social services center for the disabled in San Bernardino, Calif.

## 14 dead in Calif. mass shooting

By AMANDA LEE MYERS and JUSTIN PRITCHARD  
Associated Press

**SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.** — Authorities on Thursday were trying to learn why a couple left behind their infant daughter and carried out a shooting rampage that left 14 people dead and seriously wounded more than a dozen others in one of the nation's worst mass shootings.

The pair were killed in a shootout with police hours after they carried out their precision assault. The possible motive for the attack included workplace violence or terrorism.

Wednesday's shooting happened at a social services center for the disabled where the suspect's colleagues with the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health were renting space for a celebration. It was the nation's deadliest mass shooting since the attack at a school in

See SHOOTING Page 10A

By DAN ROBLEE  
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HOUGHTON

Calculus and chemistry exams aside, it hasn't been an easy semester for minorities and others in the Michigan Technological University community.

First there were students in blackface at a Halloween party, and a

story about sexual assault in a satirical student publication that many found far from funny. There were some less-than-civil discussions about those topics, often in an anonymous realm of social media.

Then came an online threat to "shoot all black people," allegedly posted on social media by since-

suspended Tech student Matthew Schultz, and protests — peaceful by all accounts — that the disturbing the peace charge levied against Schultz is too lenient. As horrific as it was, many student leaders agree the threat also began to bring the campus community together

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## Silence, discussion address Tech issues



Dan Roblee/Daily Mining Gazette  
Michigan Tech students, faculty and staff, including university President Glenn Mroz, silently protest what they feel are too-lenient charges against a student who allegedly posted a threat to "shoot all black people" on a social media app.

## Houghton purchases Public Works pickups

By GARRETT NEESE

[gneeese@mininggazette.com](mailto:gneeese@mininggazette.com)

HOUGHTON — The Houghton Department of Public Works will have two additional pickup trucks.

The City Council approved the purchase of two trucks for \$40,946 plus title work at Wednesday's council meeting. The city will purchase a 2008 Chevrolet 2500 HD from Sayer's Auto for \$27,523 and a 2004 model from Keweenaw Automotive for \$13,423.

Initially, the city had budgeted \$40,000 this year for a new truck. As an alternative, the city approached six local dealerships for used trucks fitting a list of criteria including a model year between 2007 and 2010, a three-quarter ton chassis and four-wheel drive.

"We actually came up with two available pickups, which would allow us to rotate out one one-ton vehicle, which is a very heavy-duty vehicle, that we have now," said City Manager Eric Waara. The one-ton vehicle would then be used to pull the city's patching equipment. A three-quarter-ton plow truck would be given to the water department.

The city's master mechanic concluded the vehicles were sound after driving and inspecting them.

## SHOOTING/14 dead in California rampage

Continued from Page 1A

Newtown, Connecticut, three years ago that left 26 children and adults dead.

San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan identified one dead suspect as Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, the other as Tashfeen Malik, 27, his wife or fiancée. Burguan said Farook was born in the United States; the chief said he did not know Malik's background.

The attackers invaded the Inland Regional Center about 60 miles east of Los Angeles around 11 a.m., opening fire in a conference area where county health officials were having an employee banquet, said Marybeth Feild, president and CEO of the nonprofit center.

"They came prepared to do what they did, as if they were on a mission," Burguan said.

Farook attended the event before leaving — and returning to kill.

Co-worker Patrick Baccari said he was sitting at the same table as Farook, who suddenly disappeared, leaving his coat on his chair. Baccari said when the shooting started, he sought refuge in a bathroom and suffered minor wounds from shrapnel slicing through the wall.

Baccari described Farook as reserved and said he showed no signs of unusual behavior. Earlier this year he traveled to Saudi Arabia and returned with a wife, later growing a beard, Baccari said.

The FBI is investigating several possible motives, including workplace violence and terrorism, according to David Bowdich, assistant director of the bureau's Los Angeles office. He did not elaborate.

Farook was a restaurant inspector for the health department, according to public records. Police chief Burguan said he had been a county employee for five years.

The couple dropped off their 6-month-old daughter with relatives Wednesday morning, saying they had a doctor's appointment, Hussam Ayloush, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, said after talking with family. Farhan Khan, who is married to Farook's sister, told reporters he last spoke to his brother-in-law about a week ago. He said he was in shock, condemned the violence, and had "absolutely no idea why he would do this."

About four hours after

Continued from Page 1A in solidarity with minority students.

On Wednesday, Tech took a calculated step towards healing and a more inclusive environment with a panel discussion at Fisher Hall that focused on the semester's troubling events, along with ways to increase daily dialogue and understanding between students from all backgrounds and perspectives.

The panel featured a variety of student, staff and faculty leaders, and offered opportunities for the more than 100 audience members on hand to share their feelings. Many sported T-shirts reading "My life is not a joke," — referring to suggestions the alleged threat was a joke — and others wore shirts handed out at the event that read "We are one," referring to solidarity among the campus community.

"This is a start, but it's not the end," said panel

moderator Emerald Gary, who will be graduating later this month but still made the time to spearhead organization of the event. "I think it went great tonight."

The takeaway that everyone seemed to agree on, she said, was that better relations depended on students' improved understanding of each others' perspectives, and on engaging each other to build that understanding.

"We each have a responsibility to teach everyone else and a responsibility to learn," she said.

One topic of discussion was how panelists and audience members felt about the incidents above.

Nathan Shaiyen, an undergraduate panel member from Nigeria, said he wasn't originally too offended by the racially-themed Halloween party. That party reportedly included students wearing Confederate-flag capes and Syrian refugee costumes, as well as white students in black-

face makeup, traditionally used by white comedy entertainers who lampooned blacks and perpetuated stereotypes. Shaiyen understood why black students who unsuspiciously walked into the party were offended, though, and it bothered him more the more he thought about it.

"I felt with the history of blackface, people ought to know things like that should not be done," he said.

Panelist Chelsea Mikkola is president of the graduate student government. She's white, but said she was still hurt by the social media threat against the black community.

"It affected me by the way it affected my friends," she said. "They said they had to leave work immediately. They were going to get home because they were worried for their children. For anyone to instill that fear in a member of the Michigan Tech community, that's just wrong."

"If we keep sweeping them under the carpet," he said, "they'll never get better."

## OPEC likely won't move to boost oil price amid infighting

By GEORGE JAHN

VIENNA (AP) — Cheap oil that could get even cheaper: That's the challenge OPEC ministers face as they try to cut their losses at a time when supply is outstripping demand.

But their hands appear tied.

Ahead of their meeting Friday, there is recognition that the 12-member Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries will be unable to nudge up prices, at least in the short term.

Non-OPEC countries like Russia and the U.S. continue to challenge OPEC for customers. And within the cartel, Iran and Iraq want to start pumping more, even though regional rival Saudi Arabia appears unwilling to play along by reducing its own output.

The Saudis and other OPEC states are looking to maintain their market share at a time when low prices are already cutting into their revenues.

The upshot is the meeting will likely decide to maintain the official OPEC level of 30 million barrels a day, urge members to cut back on overproduction and hope for better times next year. That means oil could get even cheaper.

Iran's comeback is tied to the looming end of sanctions imposed over its nuclear program. Embargoes on Iranian oil are to be lifted over the next few months once a nuclear deal it signed with six world powers goes into force.

will be accommodated within OPEC's formal ceiling of 30 million barrels a day.

Arriving for the meeting Friday, Iranian oil minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh said Iran is ready to discuss a ceiling for its production — but only after his country makes a "full return to the market."

But Iran's hopes of a cutback from others for now are unlikely to be fulfilled. Ahead of Friday's meeting, OPEC already was churning out well over than 31 million barrels a day and OPEC members are likely to continue producing more than their share as they push to compensate for

low prices by increasing output.

Some of those extra barrels will likely come from Iraq. The world's fastest-growing source of crude this year, it was pumping more than 4 million barrels a day last month and was responsible for last month's biggest monthly rise in output among all OPEC countries.

These trends mean that the pressure is on Saudi Arabia, which accounts for about a third of OPEC's output, to cut back.

Saudi opposition to a cut in OPEC output a year ago was calculated to put higher-cost outside competitors — such as

U.S. shale oil producers — out of business, in the hope that would eventually lead to a drop in supply and a rebound in prices. That strategy clearly hasn't worked, with benchmark U.S. crude's value falling by more than 40 percent over the past year and now hovering around the \$40 mark per barrel.

But the Saudis appear in no mood to act unilaterally.

Analysts at Energy Aspects say the kingdom is "only likely to cut once it can influence the market again" — a scenario that is unlikely before the second half of next year considering present plentiful supply.

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