

North Korea Launches Rocket

The world is uneasy as North Korea launches a rocket that may have put a satellite into orbit around the Earth.



Women Senators Now Number 20

The U.S. Senate achieves a new record: 20 female senators in office, 16 Democrats and four Republicans. The new total beats the previous record by four.



Mortgage Sweet Mortgage

Homebuyers benefit from favorable lending rates as the slow economy keeps home mortgage interest rates as low as 2.94 percent.



Benghazi Attack Kills Ambassador

Armed attackers kill Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and six other Americans at the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.



BP Agrees to Settlement

Shortly before the second anniversary of the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, BP reaches a settlement with thousands of businesses and individuals hurt by the spill.



Terrified Theatergoers

In Aurora, CO, actor Christian Bale and his wife Sandra Blazic visit the memorial that was created for the victims of the mass shooting that occurred during a midnight screening of *The Dark Knight Rises*.



Felix Baumgartner Takes a Leap

Skydiver Felix Baumgartner breaks a world record by jumping from a space capsule almost 24 miles above ground.



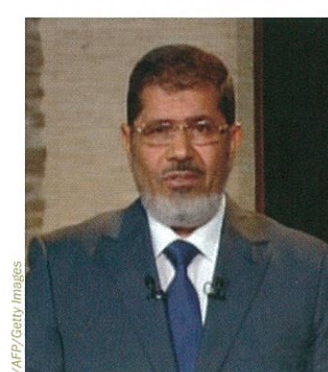
Chicago Teachers Strike

After the Chicago Teachers Union fails to reach an agreement with the city, more than 26,000 teachers and staff walk off the job.



Congress Teeters on Fiscal Cliff

To postpone \$109 billion in federal budget cuts, Congress passes a compromise bill that raises taxes on the nation's wealthiest.



Morsi Becomes Egypt's President

Egypt holds a democratic presidential election, and conservative Muslim candidate Mohamed Morsi is declared the winner.



Dragon Capsule Concludes Mission

With the safe return of the SpaceX Dragon capsule, NASA successfully completes its first commercial supply mission to the International Space Station.



Hurricane Sandy Hits New York

Hurricane Sandy hits New York, flooding transit tunnels and prompting President Obama to sign an emergency declaration for the entire state.



New Jersey Battles Hurricane Sandy

The Jersey Shore copes with widespread flooding, power outages and property damage resulting from Hurricane Sandy.



Malala Is Teenager of the Year

Malala Yousafzai, the 15-year-old Pakistani schoolgirl shot by the Taliban because she campaigned for the education of girls, is named Teenager of the Year by *The Muslim Times*.



Sandy Hook Elementary Students Return to Class

Three weeks after the Sandy Hook tragedy, classes are relocated to the former Chalk Hill Middle School in nearby Monroe, CT. "Our collective strength and resilience will serve as an example to the rest of the world," tweeted the principal from Newtown High School.



Junk Food Junkies Mourn Twinkies

The troubled Hostess Brands, Inc. shuts down operations, signaling a probable end for the once-popular Twinkies snack cake.



UN Aid for Syrian Refugees

The United Nations launches a \$1.5 billion aid effort to bring food, clothing, shelter and medical supplies to Syrians fleeing more than two years of war.