



## Police looking into feud

By ROSCOE BARNES III Staff writer  
MERCERSBURG - Pennsylvania State Police, Chambersburg, are still investigating the Monday dispute in Mercersburg that left a man dead and another wounded.

Trooper Franklin M. Hershey Jr. said Wednesday he was conducting interviews and that additional information would be released later. He said no charges had been filed in the case.

Bryan E. Kendall, 40, of Mercersburg, was shot in the incident at 7:35 a.m., at 9399 Blue Spring Road, Montgomery Township, according to a police report. Kendall told Public Opinion that he was shot by his neighbor, Donald Herbert Berkebile, 81, of 9399 Blue Spring Road, Mercersburg, during an argument about a property line.

Kendall said Berkebile had accused him of driving onto his property. During the argument, Berkebile pulled a pistol from a holster under his shirt and shot him in the chest, according to Kendall.

Kendall said he played dead and later jumped Berkebile and subdued him. While Berkebile appeared to be unconscious, Kendall said he called 911. Berkebile, however, was dead when authorities responded.

Kendall was flown to Altoona Regional Hospital. On Wednesday afternoon, he was listed in fair

condition, according to a hospital spokeswoman.

Kendall is represented by Waynesboro attorney Steve Kulla.

Following an autopsy, Franklin County Coroner Jeffrey R. Conner said Tuesday Berkebile's death was caused by "blunt force trauma to the head and neck." He said in a press release that the death was a homicide, which he described as "death at the hands of another person."

Kendall's attorney has said his client acted in self-defense.

Berkebile was a retired carriage curator from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. While at the Smithsonian, he authored the Smithsonian Collection of Automobiles and Motorcycles in 1968 and Carriage Terminology: An Historical Dictionary in 1978.

Kendall operated his own landscaping business, according to one of his neighbors.

He is listed as a Pennsylvania hydroseeding contractor at the Web site: <http://www.hydroseedingexperts.com/Pennsylvania.htm>

At the time of the dispute, he said he was going to work. Police said the two men "had been involved in ongoing disputes."

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