

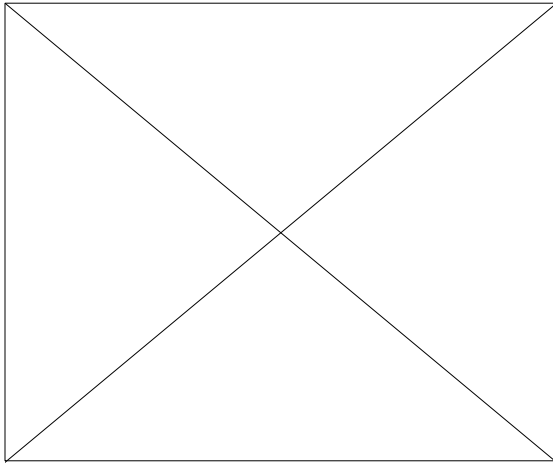
Shooting leaves one man dead



By The Record Herald

Mercersburg shooting map

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By Lauren McLane
The Record Herald
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Mercersburg, Pa. -

One man was killed and one injured in a shooting around 7:30 this morning on Blue Spring Road in Montgomery Township.

The two men involved were neighbors, Bryan Kendall, 40, of 9397 Blue Spring Road and Don Berkebile, who is reportedly in his 80s, of 9399 Blue Spring Road.

Authorities would not give a name for the man who was killed. However, Kendall reportedly was in surgery late this morning.

Pennsylvania State Police Trooper Karl Schmidhamer confirmed that "state police are investigating a homicide that occurred following an incident at 7:30 a.m."

Schmidhamer said the shooting occurred on an access road between the two Blue Spring Road properties. Kendall was shot first by a handgun loaded with birdshot, he said, and state police have recovered the gun. Schmidhamer said a struggle ensued between the two men after Kendall was shot, and Kendall called 911 from his cell phone.

According to Schmidhamer, "there was an ongoing property dispute" but what triggered this morning's shooting is unknown.

Kendall was taken by helicopter at 8:21 a.m. with unknown injuries to a trauma unit in Altoona and was reported to be in surgery this morning.

His wife, Susan Grove, was seen leaving the scene of the shooting at 10 a.m.

County Coroner Jeff Conner arrived at 8:30 a.m. Conner was closely followed by Chief Deputy Coroner Ted Reed and Deputy Coroner Ken Peiffer.

Conner said the deceased is male and was pronounced dead at 8:36 a.m., but declined to give a name or additional information. An autopsy is scheduled for tomorrow morning in Allentown.

Jessica Pensinger, who has lived nearby at 9413 Blue Spring Road for 22 years, said this morning she believed that Kendall and Berkebile were fighting over land one of them owned.

An unidentified friend of Grove's was overheard telling state police this morning there has been an "ongoing boundary dispute."

Grove has "lived here her whole life," Pensinger said, as her parents owned the land at 9399 Blue Spring Road and gave it to Grove and Kendall upon their marriage.

Berkebile moved to the neighborhood a few years ago, Pensinger said.

Greencastle's Medic 203 and the MMP&W Fire Co. also responded to the shooting.



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