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New York State
Police are
investigating a
collision between a
motor vehicle and a
pedestrian that has
claimed the life of a
North Norwich
woman.

Authorities say 30year-old Megan Mikalunas was standing in the road on State Highway 80 near Rexford Falls, wearing dark clothing, when she was hit by a vehicle driven by an Oneida man at around quarter after 6 Monday evening, December 5. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Sunset was at 4:33 p.m. December 5.

The driver immediately stopped and notified authorities.

State Police say Troopers received a call at 6:14 p.m. December 5 about an accident on State Highway 80 in the Town of Sherburne.

Investigators say they had determined the motor vehicle driven by 57-year-old Robert W. Allen of Oneida, New York had been traveling west on the State Highway when his vehicle collided with a person standing in the roadway.

Troopers say the driver immediately stopped and flagged down another vehicle in order to dial 911 emergency communications dispatchers to report the collision.

Members of the Sherburne Emergency Medical Services and the New York State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation responded to the scene. The State Police did not say how long the section of the state highway at the accident scene had to be closed for the initial portion of the investigation.

The driver of the motor vehicle was not reported to have suffered any injury in the incident.

State Route 80 is also know as West or East State Street, depending on which side of Intersection of North/South Main Street you're on. The portion of Route 80 west of Main Street is known to many in the Southern Tier as the road where the Rogers Environmental Education Center is located.

The news release from the State Police seems to indicate the accident scene was on the East State Street portion of the road, east of Sherburne.



Legislation (S.3897/A.8936-A) Provides Funding for "Complete Streets" Projects Inclusive of a Holistic Approach to Street Design

Legislation (S.3959-B/A.7822-C) Adds Board Seats to NFTA, RGRTA, CDTA, and Central New York Regional Airport Authority Dedicated to a Transit Dependent Individual

Governor Kathy Hochul today signed a legislative package supporting pedestrians, bikers and transit riders across New York State. These new laws will increase Department of Transportation support for municipal "complete streets" projects, and require regional transportation boards have voting seats for transit dependent individuals.

"Whether you're on the sidewalk, in the bike lane or riding the bus, you deserve a high-quality trip that gets you safely to your destination," **Governor Hochul said.** "Transportation is all about connections: bringing people closer to their jobs, their homes, and the people they love. I'm proud to sign two new laws that will make our streets safer and our communities more connected."

Legislation (S.3897/A.8936-A) provides increased funding for "Complete Streets" projects, which incorporate a holistic approach to street design. A Complete Street is a roadway planned and designed to consider the safe, convenient access and mobility of roadway users of all ages and abilities. This includes pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, and motorists; it includes children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Complete Street designs contribute to a cleaner, greener, transportation system. This bill increases the state share of funding for municipalities incorporating Complete Street features. Under the new legislation, the state's contribution to the non-federally funded portion of Complete Street projects will increase to 87.5 percent, which will help municipalities to implement these street designs.

State Senator Timothy Kennedy said, "With the signing of these two pieces of legislation, New York is making it clear that we are prioritizing alternative forms of transportation and those who depend on it. From providing a designated seat on the boards of upstate transit authorities for transit-dependent riders, to ensuring that our roadways are safe and inclusive for all users, regardless of age, ability, and mode of transportation, these bills show that we can have a safer and more collaborative transportation infrastructure in New York State. Thank you to my Assembly colleagues who sponsored these bills and to the advocates who never gave up or lost sight of their goal."

Assemblymember Patricia Fahy said, "With pedestrian deaths in the United States hitting a 40-year high as noted by the Governor's Highway Safety Administration, New Yorkers are at continued risk of injury or death due to traffic violence on our roads today more than ever before. I sincerely thank Governor Hochul for signing the Complete Streets Funding bill

(A.8936/S.3897), which will serve to protect more pedestrians and cyclists by increasing state funding for local complete street projects like sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts and other pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, undoubtedly saving lives and making streets more user-friendly for all. This law will empower local governments to pursue more of these projects by reducing their cost burden and increasing the state's share of funding for these projects. If our goal is to build strong, multi-modal walkable communities while reducing transportation-sector emissions, complete street design is a proven component for achieving that objective. I commend Senate sponsor Tim Kennedy, the hundreds of advocates like Families for Safe Streets, Transportation Alternatives, families affected by traffic violence, Assemblymember Donna Lupardo and Congressman Joe Morelle who originally sponsored the Assembly bill and now leads the effort in Congress, and more for getting this bill over the finish line and protecting more New Yorkers on our roads."

Legislation (S.3959-B/A.7822-C) will require the non-voting transit dependent representative be moved into a voting position on various transportation authorities' boards. Upstate and Western New York regional transit authorities provide critical services to tens of millions of riders every year. These services include bikeshares, buses, and paratransit, and annually cover hundreds of thousands of miles in service. This new legislation provides a critical voice to riders who permanently rely on these services, and will improve governance within these authorities.

Assemblymember Jonathan D. Rivera said, "In a region like ours, in which transportation is mostly focused on personal car ownership, it is imperative that we craft long-term solutions for those who remain unable to drive. Many of the decisions regarding the rerouting and terminating of bus services, and the increasing of rates, have been made without input or representation from those directly affected. This bill will give a voice to the disabled community by allowing them a direct say in all matters related to our region's public transportation progress. I want to thank Sen. Kennedy for his years of advocacy in pushing to get this bill to the table."

Transportation Alternatives Advocacy & Organizing Senior Director Elizabeth Adams said, "The Complete Streets Funding bill empowers cities and towns across the state to invest in safe streets infrastructure that is proven to keep everyone on our roads safe.

Traffic violence is preventable and this legislation gives communities another tool to combat

this public health crisis. We're grateful to Governor Hochul for her leadership in signing this bill, along with Senator Kennedy, Assemblymember Fahy, and all of the bill sponsors for working together to enact this important legislation. We look forward to our continued partnership into the next session to take additional action to stop traffic violence."

Families for Safe Streets Co-founder Amy Cohen said, "Losing a loved one to traffic violence is a pain no family should have to experience. After losing my son Sammy to a crash, I fought for vital, life-saving street safety upgrades. I am heartened to see new funding become available for cities and towns to build safe streets thanks to the Complete Streets Funding Bill. This law will undoubtedly save lives and prevent more families from experiencing the unimaginable loss of losing a child. Thank you to Governor Hochul, Senator Kennedy, Assemblymember Fahy, and all of the elected officials who made this legislation a reality."



8th grader killed in hit-and-run, driver charged after crashing truck next day

By Matthew Benninger

Published: Jan. 2, 2023 at 10:24 AM EST Updated: 23 hours ago

COLESVILLE (WBNG) -- The Broome County Sheriff's Office announced it charged Bradley A. Law, 34, of Harpursville in connection to a fatal hit and run that occurred on New Year's Day.

Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar said Law was taken into custody after responding to a report of a vehicle crash into a ditch on Bevier Street in Binghamton Monday around 5:30 a.m.

Akshar said the pickup truck in the crash matched the description of the truck in the fatal hit-and-run that occurred in the area of 1180 State Route 7 in the Town of Colesville just the day before.

Brennan Loveless, 13, of Sanitaria Springs, was riding his bicycle when he was struck by Law's truck around 5:30 p.m. From striking Loveless, the truck sustained damage to the headlight, grill, bumper and fender area.

Akshar said the public played a critical role in helping deputies find Law. He noted that photos and videos from Ring-like cameras were used.

Law will be charged with criminally negligent homicide and leaving the scene of a fatal motor vehicle accident. Both charges are felonies.

Meanwhile, the Harpursville Central School District sent a note out to families regarding Loveless's death.

"It is with deep regret that I write to inform you that one of our 8th-grade students, Brennan Loveless, was struck by a motor vehicle last night and has passed away," Superintendant Michael Rullo said. "We extend our most sincere condolences to his family. Our thoughts and our hearts go out to the family and friends of this student as his passing is grieved."

Monday was just Akshar's <u>second day on the job</u> after being elected into the position in November 2022. Akshar took over for retired Broome County Sheriff David Harder, who served for 58 years.

Akshar was previously a New York State Senator in the 52nd District but also has experience in law enforcement.

LOCAL

Man charged with negligent homicide in Colesville hit-and-run that killed teen

Tom Passmore

Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin - January 3, 2023

A 34-year-old Harpursville resident was charged with criminally negligent homicide and leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident on Monday following the death of a Sanitaria Springs teenager.

Broome County Sheriff's deputies responded to a hit-and-run crash involving a bicyclist at approximately 5:45 p.m. Sunday on Route 7 near Hancock Road in the Town of Colesville. The Sheriff's office said Brennan Loveless, 13, was sent to UHS Wilson Medical Center in Johnson City and then to Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse, where was pronounced dead.

After an investigation, police said a pick-up truck traveling east struck Loveless and drove away from the scene. "The Broome County Sheriff's Office solicited help from the community to help find the driver, which eventually led to the arrest Monday of Bradley A. Law, 34, of Harpursville.

The sheriff's office posted a video of the pick-up truck on its <u>Facebook page</u>.

At approximately 5:30 a.m. Monday, a driver called the sheriff's office to report a motor vehicle crash on Bevier Street in the Town of Kirkwood. The driver said he swerved into a

ditch to avoid striking a deer. Police determined the vehicle was involved in the death of Loveless, and charged Law with the two felonies.



Truck strikes pedestrian in Binghamton

By WBNG Staff

Published: Jan. 3, 2023 at 10:13 AM EST

BINGHAMTON (WBNG) -- A person was hit by a vehicle in Binghamton Tuesday morning.

According to Broome County dispatchers, around 10 a.m., a truck struck a pedestrian on the corner of State and Lewis streets. That's near Berger's Ski & Snowboard shop.

The Binghamton police and fire departments responded to the incident.

Broome County dispatchers were not able to comment on additional details.

This is a developing story. Stay with 12 News for more information.

Press and Sun-Bulletin | Page B04

Thursday, 5 January 2023

Electric skates, AI for birds on display at CES

3,000 companies gear up for Thursday 's opening

Adriana Morga, Haleluya Hadero and Cara Rubinsky

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS – Tech companies of all sizes are showing off their latest products at CES, formerly known as the Consumer Electronics Show.

The show is getting back to normal after going completely virtual in 2021 and seeing a significant drop in 2022 attendance because of the pandemic.

On Tuesday night, the show kicked off with media previews from just some of the 3,000 companies signed up to attend. CES officially opens Thursday.

Smart feeder IDs birds

Bird Buddy showed off a smart bird feeder that takes snapshots of feathered friends as they fly in to eat some treats. The startup says its AI technology can recognize more than 1,000 species of birds, allowing users to share through a mobile app what kind of birds they're feeding.

"We try to kind of gamify the collection so it's a really fun game that you can play," said Kyle Buzzard, the company's co-founder and chief hardware officer.

The company says it started shipping its bird feeders in September and has already sold all 100,000 in its inventory. The price for the basic feeder is \$199.

Electric skates

Journalists had fun zipping around the exhibit hall on remote-controlled, electric inline skates from French startup AtmosGear. The battery lasts for 20 miles, said founder Mohamed Soliman, who hopes people will see them as a viable way to commute, like electric bikes or scooters.

"My goal is for everyone to go skating again because it's so much fun," Soliman said.



A waist bag holds the battery and cables connected to the skates. They also can be used as regular skates when they need to be charged or skaters want to travel under their own power. The \$500 skates are available for preorder.

Digital temporary tattoos

A handheld device from South Korean company Prinker lets you quickly and easily apply temporary tattoos.

The device uses cosmetic-grade ink with a library of thousands of designs or the option to make your own with the company's app. After picking a tattoo, you just wave the device over wherever you want it applied. The tattoos are waterproof but wash off with soap.

The flagship model is \$279, and a smaller model is \$229. Ink cartridges good for 1,000 tattoos are \$119.

Helping find your way

Japan-based Loovic has created a device designed to solve the challenges of those who have difficulty navigating while they walk.

The device worn around the neck employs sounds and vibrations to guide users to destinations, enabling them to look at what's around rather than focusing on a phone's map app.

Loovic co-founder and CEO Toru Yamanaka said he was inspired to create the device for his son, who has a cognitive impairment making it difficult for him to navigate.

The prototype device is not yet available to the public.