KARTEN, BENJAMIN RAFI

PJB 10-27-04

KARTEN, Benjamin Rafi

October 25, 2004. Residence: 4 Lister Dr., Barrington. Devoted son of Clifford Karten and Vicki Norris-Karten of Barrington. Loving brother of Max Karten of Barrington. Cherished grandson of Jerry and Bernice (Berson) Karten-Cohen of Cranston, Alice (Jacobson) Norris-Kraulos of Delray Beach, Fla. and the late Reeve Karten and Phillip Norris. Dear step-grandson of Andrew Kraulos of Delray Beach. Adored nephew of Tante Karen Karten of Warwick and Martha's Vineyard, Gary Norris of Deland, Fla. Funeral service Thursday at 1:00 p.m. in TEMPLE HABONIM, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Rhode Island Breast Cancer Coalition, 2 Coventry Shoppers Park, Coventry, R.I., 02816. Shiva will be observed at his late residence Thursday 7-9, Friday 2-4, Saturday 8-10 p.m. Arrangements by SHALOM MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 1100 New London Ave., Cranston.

OBITUARIES

(Continued on next page)

Barrington

BENJAMIN RAFI KARTEN, 22, of 4 Lister Drive, a college senior, died Monday when he was struck by a train at the station in Stamford, Conn.

Born in Providence, a son of Clifford Karten and Vicki Norris-Karten of Barrington, he was a lifelong resident of Barrington.

He was a 2001 graduate of The Dublin School in New Hampshire, where he had played on the basketball and lacrosse teams.

Mr. Karten was in his senior year at Johnson & Wales University.

He was a member of Temple Habonim.

Besides his parents, he leaves a brother, Max Karten of Barrington; his paternal grandparents, Jerry and Bernice (Berson) Karten-Cohen of Cranston; his maternal grandmother and stepgrandfather, Alice Norris-Kraulos and Andrew Kraulos, both of Delray Beach, Fla.; an aunt, Karen Karten of Warwick and also of Martha's Vineyard, Mass.; and an uncle, Gary Norris of Deland, Fla.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. in Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd. Burial will follow in Forest Chapel Cemetery, Nyatt Road.

Benjamin Karten 10-27-04

News Channel 10

J&W Student Killed At Stamford Train Station

Victim Was Underneath Platform

STAMFORD, Conn. -- Police are investigating the death of a 22-year-old Rhode Island man who was struck by a Metro-North train in Stamford.

Metropolitan Transportation Authority police said the man was apparently hiding underneath a platform just before a New Haven-bound train pulled into the station Monday night.

Police could not say whether the man had committed suicide by running onto the track. Police have identified the man but have not released his name. The man was a student at Johnson & Wales University.

Police found a credit card and a set of Mercedes car keys in the man's pockets.

They found the man's car in a commuter parking lot on Richmond Hill Avenue after trying the keys on every Mercedes there and in the train station parking garage, Kelly said.

The car, a white Mercedes-Benz E 320, appeared brand new and had temporary dealer's plates.

Police found several personal documents in the car, but Rizzitelli said there was no suicide note.

The accident shut down Track 2 for the rest of the night. The other tracks remained in use.

Passengers traveling to stops between Stamford and New Haven waited for the next local train after the incident.

"We're just shocked," said Laurie Fortunado, 19, of Danbury, who was aboard the train. Fortunado and two friends said they did not hear or feel anything during the collision.

They said they heard a crew member frantically announce that there was a "trespasser" on the tracks just seconds before the train stopped.

Police draped a yellow tarp over the man's body and taped off stairways that led down to the platform near the body.

MTA employees and passers-by crowded the glass corridor that runs over the tracks and watched as about a dozen officers combed the area for evidence.

They watched officers shine flashlights underneath the train and briefly unwrap the tarp to snap photographs of the body.

"This is a terrible first for me," said an Amtrak employee who was not involved in the incident but works at the station.

Metro-North Railroad spokeswoman Marjorie Anders said employees on the train were taken off duty after the incident and offered post-traumatic counseling.

Rizzitelli said the engineer was the only eyewitness to come forward so far. He said the investigation would likely continue for several days.

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