

WILLIAMSPORT SUN-GAZETTE

BREAKING NEWS

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Man drowns in Susquehanna River near Williamsport Saturday



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City police, paramedics and firefighters responded to the Hepburn Street dam about 3:20 p.m. when a man jumped into the river. His body was pulled from the water about 20 minutes later east of the dam. He was later pronounced dead in the emergency room at UPMC Williamsport. PHILIP HOLMES/Sun-Gazette

After jumping off a diversion wall on the city side of the Hepburn Street dam on Saturday afternoon, a Williamsport area man drowned in the Susquehanna River, according to Lycoming County Coroner Charles E. Kiessling Jr.

A witness called 911 after seeing the man jump into the river from a concrete abutment diversion wall about 3:20 p.m., investigators were told. Kiessling released the man's identity on Sunday afternoon as Tyler M. Lance, 37.

Lance had been seen "on the east side of the Hepburn Street dam walking around prior to jumping into the river for an unknown reason," Kiessling said.

City police and firefighters were dispatched to the dam, and two boats – one from the city and the other from South Williamsport – were soon placed in the river at the Greenv boat launch, just west of Canfields Lane

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a Geisinger Life Flight helicopter, Regional Airport in Montoursville's body face down, just west of the city shoreline.



A Williamsport area man drowned in Susquehanna River on Saturday afternoon after jumping off this concrete abutment diversion wall at the Hepburn Street dam, where a city police officer is seen standing in this photo, which was taken soon after emergency responders were called to the scene. PHILIP HOLMES/Sun-Gazette

The helicopter crew hovered over the location until the fire boats reached Lance, pulled him out of the water and loaded him on to the city fire boat.

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began performing
the boat quickly returned to the
ctim was rushed by ambulance to

UPMC Williamsport, where efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. Lance was pronounced dead at 4:22 p.m., Kiessling said.

The drowning occurred on the same afternoon that the body of 10-year-old Claue Schreffler-Algofera, of South Williamsport, was recovered from the river in Northumberland County.

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