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SPORTS, 1D

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Butler residents search for closure a year after rally shooting

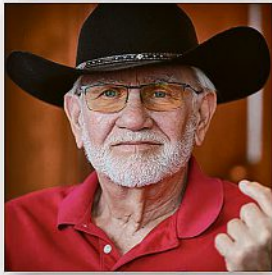


‘IT SHOULD HAVE NEVER HAPPENED’

Matthew Rink USA TODAY NETWORK

BUTLER, Pa. —

When Amy Smith thinks back to July 13, she’s met with conflicting feelings. “It feels like an eternity ago, but it feels like yesterday at the same time,” Smith said. It’s been one year since 20-year-old Thomas Crooks, the man identified by the FBI, climbed the roof of American Glass Research and fired eight rounds from 150 yards away at then-presidential candidate Donald Trump. He was just minutes into a campaign speech to more than 15,000 rally-goers at the Butler Farm Show grounds. Corey Comperatore, a 50-year-old husband, father and volunteer firefighter from Sarver, was killed and three others wounded, including Trump, who miraculously escaped the ensuing chaos with a minor ear injury. Smith is one of several family members who operate Brenckle’s Farms and Greenhouses, which is across the street from the American Glass Research property. Smith and family members joined hundreds of other spectators on the AGR property to peer through a chain-link fence into the Farm Show grounds where Trump spoke. It didn’t feel safe. “There was a vibe,” Smith said. “I was shocked we were even allowed over there,” added



“The people around Corey, they saw him get shot. He died on top of his family trying to save them. Two other guys got shot. The bullets were zinging over our heads. There were young kids, young people there who had never seen violence in their life.”

Jim Hulings
Butler County Republican Party chairman



“The conversations have gone on, but the attitude is that this whole thing’s getting whitewashed, that there’s more to it and we don’t know it. Without the transparency, people are going to jump to that conclusion.”

Chester “Chet” Jack
Butler County Republican Party state committee member

TOP: An electronic billboard in Butler County flashes a benefit concert announcement on June 18 in memory of Corey Comperatore, who was killed July 13, 2024, while attending the Donald Trump campaign rally at the Butler Farm Show grounds. PHOTOS BY GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

ABBOTSFORD

Police arrest woman in connection with shots fired at car

Karen Madden
Marshfield News-Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

ABBOTSFORD – Police arrested a woman during the early morning hours of July 6 after a report July 5 of someone shooting at a vehicle. At 2:35 p.m. July 5, a caller reported an incident that had happened several hours earlier. The person said a woman shot a firearm at a vehicle, according to a news release from the Colby-Abbotsford Police Department. No one was injured in the shooting, which happened on Seventh Street in the city of Abbotsford. The incident started with an initial conflict at a tavern in Colby concerning previous relationships. The suspect left the tavern and went to a home on Seventh Street in Abbotsford, according to the news release. The victim, along with other occupants of a vehicle, drove to the residence to try to confront the suspect. Occupants of the house warned the people in the car to leave because the suspect was upset and had a gun, according to the news release. The suspect then came out of the home with the gun. The vehicle left and the suspect shot at it in the street as they were leaving, according to the news release.

The Colby-Abbotsford Police Department collected evidence at the scene and used the Flock license plate readers to track the suspect’s vehicle. At 1:55 a.m. July 6, the department received notification of the location of the suspect’s vehicle. Detectives found the vehicle and attempted to stop it, but the suspect did not immediately stop, according to the news release. Colby-Abbotsford police conducted a high-risk traffic stop and were able to arrest the suspect without incident, according to the news release. After questioning her at the police department, officers took the woman to the Marathon County Jail. The woman is expected to make her initial appearance July 11. Contact Karen Madden at kmadden@gannett.com. Follow her on Twitter at [@KMadden715](https://twitter.com/KMadden715), Instagram at [@kmadden715](https://www.instagram.com/kmadden715) or Facebook at [facebook.com/karen.madden.33](https://www.facebook.com/karen.madden.33).

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