

NEWS 2 MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016

Man dies in Bangor quarry

The 20-year-old N.J. resident had been swimming in abandoned slate quarry.

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Of The Morning Call

A 20-year-old New Jersey man was pronounced dead Sunday afternoon at a popular and dangerous Bangor quarry, according to Northampton County Coroner Zachary Lysek.

The Howell, N.J., man was swimming at the abandoned slate quarry with seven other young people on Sunday, Lysek said. The

coroner is not releasing the man's name until all of his family have been notified.

Authorities were summoned to the Seven Slopes of Slate quarry, off North Main Street and behind the CVS Pharmacy, just before 3 p.m. for reports of a water rescue. Lysek said the New Jersey man went under the surface and never emerged. His body was recovered by rescue personnel, Lysek said.

The Seven Slopes of Slate quarry has long attracted swimmers and thrill-seekers — some from far out of the Lehigh Valley — because of its translucent water and 100-foot high cliffs.

But what lies beneath the surface can injure or kill.

Discarded machinery and equipment pose underwater dangers as does the shocking change in temperature, which can unexpectedly disable a swimmer with cramps.

Pennsylvania State Police hit trespassers of abandoned Lehigh Valley quarries with \$300 penalties and tend to step up patrols in the summer to keep people out of harm's way.

Last year two people died swimming in the Eastern Industries quarry in Lower Mount Bethel Township, where police say they cited 80 trespassers. Authorities say about 40 people received citations for sneaking into quarries in the Bangor area last year.

2016 Jul 20-year-old killed in abandoned quarry

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