

Lancaster New Era (PA)

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Man kills self in standoff

Author: LANCASTER NEW ERA

Article Text:

A police standoff with an 87-year-old Manheim man Tuesday night ended when the man shot himself to death, according to police.

State police evacuated about 10 homes in a Rapho Township mobile home park after a trooper responding to a domestic disturbance heard a gunshot inside a home shortly after 9 p.m.

Police forced their way into the home at Lot 96 in the Ridgewood Mobile Home Park, Breneman Road.

They discovered that Charles David Doerrer, 87, of 96 Ridgewood Manor, had died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to his chest, according to police.

Doerrer's apparent suicide would be the 17th in the county so far in 2004, according to coroner statistics.

Thirty-four people committed suicide here in 2003, 36 in 2002.

Residents from evacuated homes sought refuge in their vehicles or went to other homes in the park.

Police from Mount Joy Borough, Northwest Regional, Columbia Borough, Susquehanna Regional, Manheim Borough, Penn Township and West Hempfield Township assisted Ephrata state troopers during the incident.

Traffic was blocked on Breneman Road, which is near the intersection of Routes 283 and 772.

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