

term memory, Jim Carey said. He doesn't remember anything about the attack, he said.

According to police, the assault took place in Carey's apartment, but he was able to get himself down to the lobby before being found.

Police said Carey's cellphone was missing but that his wallet had not been taken, as reported in other media outlets. Police had not made any arrests as of Wednesday but said the investigation was continuing.

"It seems he got into an argument with someone that he knows, it got physical and he sustained some injuries and went to the hospital," NYPD Sgt. Lee Jones said.

Carey is a Nanticoke native who got his first job at WNAK "not so much because of his talent but rather because he agreed to also cut the grass," according to his profile on 1010 WINS' website.

He got a part-time job with WBRE while attending King's College and became the news director at WILK Radio in his 20s, the profile says.

He became anchor of an hour-long evening newscast for WARM Radio and was the morning anchor for Magic 93 FM before moving on to anchoring jobs in Philadelphia, according to the site.

Carey went to New York in 1996 and joined 1010 WINS in 2000, his profile says. He currently anchors afternoon newscasts during the weekday commute.

"Brian has a long way to go but he is making remarkable progress and we expect that he will make a full recovery," said Ben Mevorach, 1010 WINS director of news and programming, in an email. "He is aware of all of the love and support that has been pouring in from around the country. He was deeply moved and deeply grateful. It has lifted his spirits immeasurably."

Brian Carey's profile says he anchors news nationwide on ABC Radio. He is the recipient of several awards, including the Achievement in Radio award for best news anchor in New York City in 2005 and the Associated Press Award for best regularly scheduled newscast.

King's College in 2006 gave him an award for outstanding professional achievement, the profile says.

Jim Carey said his brother's colleagues at CBS have been supportive, the police have been very good and hospital workers have been like an "all-star team."

"We have so many calls and well-wishers," Jim Carey said. "He's getting great care and we've had a lot of support, so we're encouraged. There's a silver lining in every cloud, I guess."

9/12/2013



911 Memorial service at Luzerne County Community College's Walk of Honor at the Regional Public Safety Training Center in Nanticoke.

9/11/2013

|Father tells of bullying's deadly toll

GNA students hear about tragic consequences of physical, online taunting

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Speaking before hundreds of Greater Nanticoke Area students in eighth through 12th grades, John Halligan emotionally told the story of his son, Ryan, who committed suicide in 2003 at the age of 13.

He detailed the story of physical and cyber-bullying his son went through that ultimately led to him taking his own life.

"I can't fix everything with a speech," said Halligan, a nationally touring speaker. "But my hope is I can help at least one of you."

Despite a few problems with the sound system, Halligan's message seemingly came through loud and clear to the students. Many asked questions after the presentation and several remained to have one-on-one teary conversations with him.

Halligan and his wife, Kelly, have a website — ryansstory.org — and they personally respond to emails to try to help wherever they can.

"This community, this school, has lost a few kids in recent years," Halligan said after his presentation. "A lot of the students are having a difficult time finding their way through the experience of losing a friend. They asked me for advice on how to move on after the loss of somebody."

Halligan will be in Luzerne County for three weeks speaking to students in all its school districts and to parents groups. The former IBM worker from New York has dedicated his life to trying to eradicate bullying and to prevent suicide, especially among young people.

Personal story shared

Standing alone on stage, Halligan relates Ryan's story as pictures of his son and family flash on a screen behind him. Halligan then tells the story of his son's tragic journey that began in the fifth grade and ended at the start of eighth grade.

Halligan talks about the his son's innocence — his autism, his awkwardness, his failure in athletics and his struggle to fit in with “the cool kids.” The hour-long presentation takes viewers through the family's attempts to resolve the conflicts in Ryan's life, the guilt that followed his death and the forgiveness of those who directly impacted Ryan and influenced his decision to end his life. Beginning with the frantic phone call Halligan received from his wife informing him that Ryan committed suicide to struggling to answer the question, “Why?” Halligan painted a clear picture of his son. There was the difficulty in accepting what had happened and the self-blame for not being able to do whatever it would have taken to prevent it. Among their considerations: self-defense lessons, possible home-schooling, counseling, confrontation and computer safeguards. Halligan said one his son's supposed friends proved to be untrue — she led Ryan to believe she cared about him as a friend, when in reality she was talking behind his back. When she called Ryan “a loser” in front of her friends, Ryan was distraught, Halligan said.

Internet rumor

That and an untrue rumor Ryan was gay that spread like wildfire in school, and on the Internet, eventually pushed Ryan to his unfortunate end. “There is no greater pain than that of a parent who has lost a child,” Halligan said. “All of you are loved beyond belief. Don't ever believe for a second that you don't matter.”

Halligan said there are no perfect families; that there are people in everybody's life who truly care. “Ryan's death was the result of a disease called depression,” Halligan said.

After Ryan's death, the boy who was the main bully was still spreading untruths about his son, Halligan said. He went to the boy's home and sat with him and his parents. “I looked at him and told him he had no idea the amount of pain he had brought into my son's life,” Halligan said. “I told him there is no do-over here; my son is gone forever.”

Halligan said he hasn't spoken to the bully since that day and he just wants to tell Ryan's story to as many people as he can with the hope that some will listen and change their ways or their intentions. “Don't be a bystander,” he said. “Be an up-stander. This is not about throwing punches; it's about throwing words. Be a friend.”

Halligan said he and his wife still struggle with Ryan's death, as do their two other children: Megan, now 27, and Conor, who is in the 11th grade. Halligan, who has spoken at hundreds of high schools across the U.S., said telling Ryan's story takes its toll on him. “By the end of the school year, I'm physically and emotionally exhausted,” he said. “Sometimes I wonder how much longer I can do this.”

For now, his mission to prevent further family and community tragedies continues. “These are all good kids,” he said. “They just need to have the courage to talk to somebody.”

9/9/2013

Messages blowin' in the wind

Banner towing a high-flying art for family

Pilot Joe Scrobola banked over the Susquehanna River, turning back toward the airport. “See those two posts? We're going to have to get right between them,” he crackled over his headset. He tossed a grappling hook from the cockpit and started a steep descent toward the grassy field, only to shoot skyward after passing over the posts. A gentle tug on the 1995 Husky aircraft let him know his first attempt at catching a banner advertisement from its docking posts succeeded. “We got it,” he said with an air of satisfaction.

Valley Aviation at the Wyoming Valley Airport offers aerial advertising, towing banners with messages up to 50 characters long. They charge \$350 per hour with discounts for longer flights. They also fly graphic banners on request. The Scrobolas make running the county-owned airport a family affair. Just about everyone prepping for Saturday's banner flight had the same last name.

Assembling the banner took four young pilots about 25 minutes. They fly a lot of personal messages, happy-birthday wishes, congratulatory messages for college graduates and an occasional marriage proposal. Dorothy Scrobola, who is known around the tarmac as “Gram,” said one such customer was successful in winning his bride. Advertisers crow over the exclusive advertising avenue's response, said Jim Scrobola, the airport's caretaker. Luzerne Bank noted a rise in new customers in the days after they flew a banner past Mohegan Sun Casino's Party on the Patio, Jim said.

Commercial pilot **Ed Topper of Nanticoke** got the Scrobola's banner-towing enterprise off the ground. Topper earned his pilot's license towing ads along the Jersey Shore and got to know the business. He taught the Scrobolas how to set up the banners, what kind of plane was best for pulling them and, most important, how to catch them with a grappling hook.

He was always friends with the Scrobola family and now he offers guidance for Valley Aviation's aerial advertising. “We started the operation last June and it really took off,” Topper said. “No pun intended.”

9/6/2013

Mascaro awarded Nanticoke trash collection contract

Ryan Klubeck - Citizens Voice

Council members approved the city's new refuse and recycling contract Wednesday, awarding it to J.P. Mascaro & Sons. The family-owned waste management company was one of two firms to submit bids for the contract. Mascaro served as Nanticoke's previous trash collector, and the new contract will allow it to stay on from 2014 to 2016. The contract also includes a two-year renewal option.