

Teen pleads in party case

Staff Report

CHERRY VALLEY — One of seven teenagers charged with providing alcoholic beverages to a minor two weeks ago after a 17-year-old girl fell off a cliff, pleaded guilty to the charges in town of Cherry Valley Court.

Robert Park, 19, of Cherry Valley pleaded guilty to unlawfully dealing with a child before Town Justice John Guan Wednesday night.

Cooperstown High School Senior Constance Layman remained in serious condition at Bassett Hospital Thursday, where she has been since the June 1 mishap. Miss Layman wandered away from the campfire near O'Neil Road in Cherry Valley where the party was taking place and fell from a 75-foot cliff.

Clearing the record

A story in the July 26 edition of the Daily Star identified Mrs. Wanda Laymon as the mother of Connie Laymon, 18, who fell from a cliff in Cherry Valley on May 31. She is instead the girl's stepmother.

The marching band identified in photo information on page three of the July 30 edition of The Daily Star incorrectly identified the band as being from Richfield Springs. The band is from Milford.

Teen in fall to begin therapy

By CLAUDE ROSE

Cooperstown News Bureau

COOPERSTOWN — Connie Laymon, 18, paralyzed after falling 75 feet from a cliff near Cherry Valley on May 31, has been transferred from Bassett Hospital here to Sunnyview Hospital and Rehabilitation Center in Schenectady for therapy.

Her mother, Mrs. Wanda Laymon, of Index, said that Connie "is in good spirits and doing fine" despite the prognosis of doctors here that "there is no hope that she will walk again."

"But she's not giving up hope," Mrs. Laymon said. "She's determined to go on with her life and to eventually be on her own."

"She just went to Sunnyview on Monday, and on Tuesday, she ate by herself. She can't use her fingers much yet, but they'll train her to do that."

Connie is expected to remain at Sunnyview for four to six months, Mrs. Laymon said.

She was a senior at Cooperstown Central, and a BOCES student in Milford, when the accident happened during a party about 11:30 p.m. Police said the girl may have slipped in the darkness and fallen over the cliff.

"People from the school came to her hospital room at Bassett at graduation time and presented her with her diploma," Mrs. Laymon said. "It was very nice. She appreciated it."

"She's really come down to accepting her accident, and has made up her mind to go on with her life," Mrs. Laymon said.

"Visiting hours are 1-3 every day, and if anyone wants to drop her a card, her address is Room 293, Sunnyview Hospital, 1270 Belmont Avenue, Schenectady, N.Y. 12308."

Milk tank