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Four people indicted in Cattaraugus County

LITTLE VALLEY -- A Cattaraugus County grand jury indicted four people Thursday, including a Franklinville man facing multiple sex charges. District Attorney Edward M. Sharkey said all four will be arraigned Sept. 6.

Christopher M. Stewart, 27, of South Main Street, was indicted on three counts each of incest, third-degree rape and endangering the welfare of a child, stemming from incidents last September and November in the Town of Franklinville.

Nicole Karl-Lebrenz, 32, of Salamanca, was indicted on charges of second-degree assault, obstructing governmental administration, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. She is accused of using physical force March 10 in Salamanca to prevent a police officer from making an arrest.

Robert P. Shaffer Jr., 21, of Salamanca, was indicted on charges of driving while intoxicated, driving without a license, resisting arrest, fourth-degree criminal mischief, disorderly conduct and leaving the scene of a March 10 accident in Salamanca.

Allan L. Roos, 44, of West Valley, was indicted on a charge of driving while intoxicated March 9 on Route 240 in Ashford.

Verdict acquits man of shooting informant

Marcus J. Andrews was cleared Thursday of trying to kill a police informant in a case his lawyer said shows the dark side of using drug criminals to fight crime.

The weeklong trial before State Supreme Court Justice Russell P. Buscaglia ended with a jury finding Andrews, 30, of Kosciuszko Street, not guilty of second-degree attempted murder, assault and weapons charges in the shooting of Andre Brown.

Brown, 32, had identified Andrews on Monday as his assailant.

But Brown is awaiting sentencing in October in U.S. District Court in his own drug case.

Paul Gordon Dell, Andrews' attorney, said the acquittal illustrates "the dangers of government informants."

In his closing argument, he had claimed that Brown's work as a drug informant helped cut his impending federal prison time and that Brown "does not know who" shot him in the back as he was getting out of a car near East Ferry and Kilhoffer streets about 10:30 p.m. last Nov. 20.

Prosecutors declined comment after the verdict.

Andrews will remain jailed for several weeks until he completes a parole violation hearing in an earlier Buffalo crime.

Because of four prior felony convictions, he would have received a mandatory life term as an "incorrigible" criminal if he had been convicted of shooting Brown.