

MESARD 2012 SEARCH REPORT

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SUMMARY:

Searches called out on: 31

Hours in response: 1,263 Miles in response: 18,599

ALL SEARCHES ARE IN MAINE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

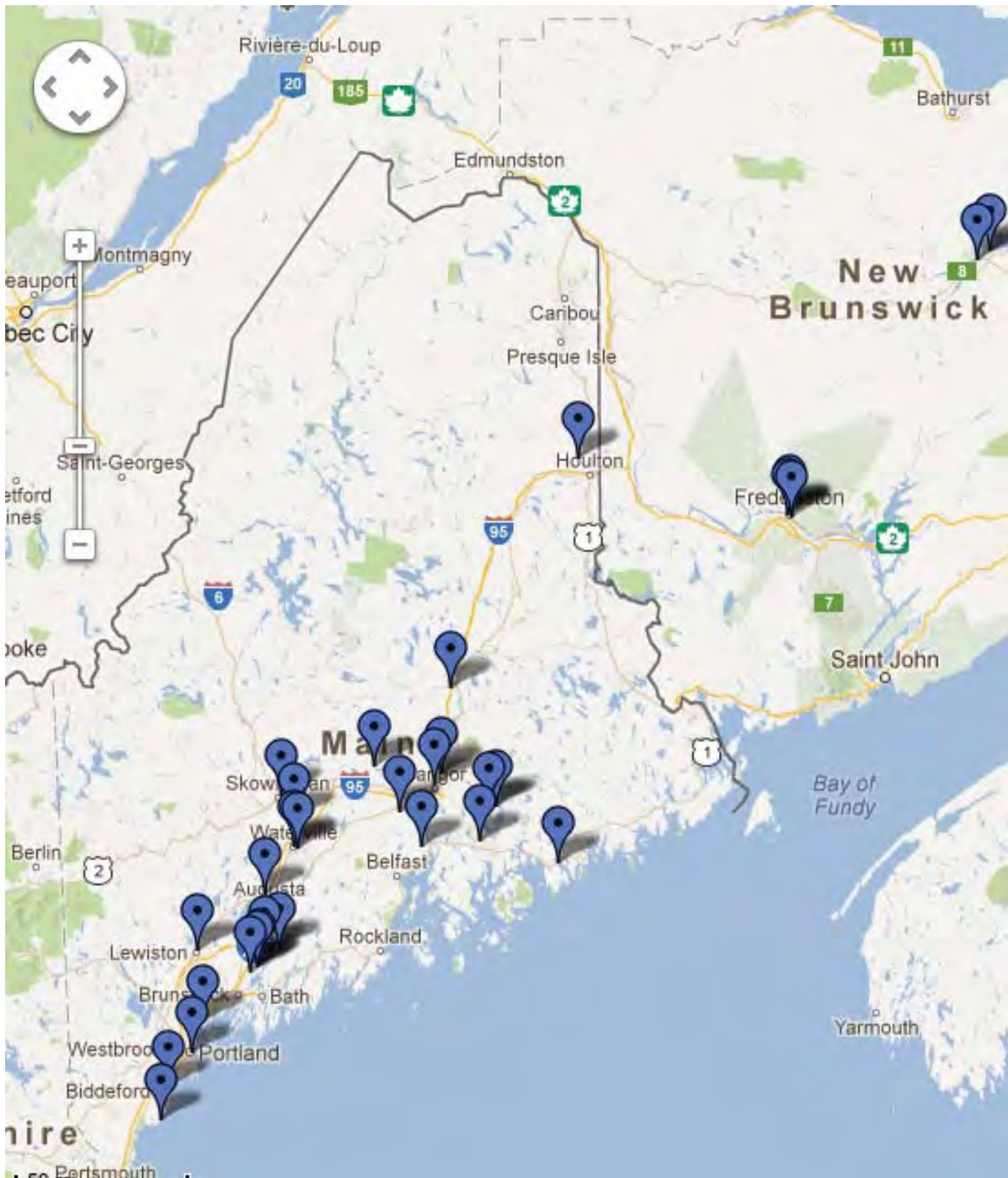
| Month | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Callouts | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 |

| | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|----------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Callouts | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 5 |

| Time of Day | 0600-0900 | 0900-1200 | 1200-1500 | 1500-1800 | 1800-2100 | 2100-2400 | 2400-0300 | 0300-0600 | Pre - Planned |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Callouts | - | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | - | - | 1 | 15 |

| Subject types | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|---------------|-----|-----|------------|--------------|-----------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|
| Callouts | S | E,M | C,D C,M | C,S, LE,O | LE,W,W C,W,W | E | W,D | M,LE W,LE LE,C C | LE,M G | - | - | W,C |

Suicide/despondent, Runaway, Water, Dementia/wanderer, Hiker, Child, Cold Case, Autistic, Hiker, G hunter, M homicide, Fisherman, LE Law Enforcement support, Evidence, Other



SEARCH LOCATIONS 2012

DATE: 24 JAN 12 LOCATION: **Richmond**

CALL OUT TIME: 1800

VICTIM: Search requested for 35 year old male despondent in support of Sagadahoc County Sheriff and Warden Service. Subject left house after argument and went into woods and family believed subject had potential to harm himself.

OUTCOME: Subject walked out during information gathering portion of investigation and prior to deployment of any dog teams. Subject transported by Richmond Police to MidCoast Hospital for observation.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Dave Hudson, Jim Bridge, and Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 5.5/157

DATE: 18 FEB 12 LOCATION: **Bowdoinham**

CALL OUT TIME: 1113

VICTIM: Dave Hudson requested assistance for Sagadahoc Sherriff in searching for evidence from an assault incident that happened several weeks before. He thought that some of the snow may have melted to facilitate the search. Spencer Fuller and Deb Palman with evidence search K-9s travelled to the scene. After some time trying to locate the exact place to search, a Sagadahoc Deputy arrived and pointed out the areas. There was still a great deal of snow in the area. They marked the route of travel of the suspects with tape and recorded it on GPS for use when the snow melted. The search situation was really better suited for a grid search team than a dog search. Follow up with a ground search in the spring was recommended.

OUTCOME: The search was followed up in the spring with a ground search team gridding both sides of the road supported by MESARD. (See 5 APR search)

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Debbie Palman, Dave Hudson, and Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 6/70

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 29 FEB 12 LOCATION: **Newburgh**

CALL OUT TIME: pre planned

VICTIM: 31 year old male, Florida Fireman, who had disappeared and was alleged to have been shot during a drug related altercation.

OUTCOME: Subject's body was found by **Maine Warden K9 Team Norm Lewis and his Labrador Retriever Clyde.**

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Paul Magoon, Jim Bridge, Michele Fleury, Spencer Fuller, Beth Swartz, Deb Palman, Dan Pelletier.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 39/795

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 15 Mar 12 LOCATION: **Dresden**

CALL OUT TIME: 0530

VICTIM: 12 year old boy missing since afternoon of 14 MAR. Did not return home after school but had been seen walking around town. Boy was reported to have had difficulties in school that day.

OUTCOME: Subject found safe and sound after having crossed the Eastern River and spending the night on the opposite side from PLS.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller, Michele Fleury, Jim Bridge, Roger David, Nancy Troubh, Cindy Atwood, Deb Palman, Jay Holweger, Diane Neff

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 71.5/726

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 21 March, 1, 2, 7, 14, 16 April 12 LOCATION: **Waterville**

CALL OUT TIME: preplanned (Multiple deployments)

VICTIM: 20 month old Female, Ayla Reynolds missing from home since DEC 2011.

OUTCOME: Subject remains missing.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman, Roger David, Paul Magoon, Nancy Troubh, Cindy Atwood, Kelly Pontbriand, Leslie Howe, Michele Fleury, Jim Bridge, Diane Neff, Jennifer Fisk, Sarah Robinson, Troy Morey, Irene Morey, Jay Holweger, Chip Wadsworth, Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 304/3228

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 22 Mar 12 LOCATION: **Mariaville**

CALL OUT TIME: 1857

VICTIM: 65 year old male disoriented and lost. Individual had been searched for previously in past years.

OUTCOME: Deborah Palman arrived on scene and using a scent article from the subject, she and her K9 partner, Quinn, started a track at the residence, went about ¼ mile away from the residence and found the subject's vest. They continued on the track while officers searched areas near the vest, calling the subject's name. Deb and Quinn went another 1/5 mile and found the subject's shoe. The dog team was continuing on a complex track (many circles and back tracks) back towards the residence when the searching officers finally got a verbal response from the subject in a swampy area about 100 yards off the road on the opposite side of the road from where the vest was found. The subject was wearing only jeans and one sock when he was found.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Debbie Palman, Sarah Robinson, Troy Morey, Irene Morey, Sean Hall, Chip Wadsworth, Jim Bridge

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 16/449

DATE: 31 March 12 LOCATION: **Gouldsboro**

CALL OUT TIME: 1800

VICTIM: Three children from Gouldsboro reported late returning home. Girl 9, Boys 10 & 12. While Duty Officer was on the phone with Warden Service and State Police the children were located.

OUTCOME: Children found shortly after callout

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Leslie Howe (Duty Officer)

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 0.25/0

DATE: 5 Apr 12 LOCATION: **Bowdoinham**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Grid search support provided to Sagadahoc County Sherriff for evidence search in follow up to 18 FEB search.

OUTCOME: With snow gone, searching became easier and provided grid search manpower/leadership starting at location of home intrusion and found critical evidence in support of the investigation. Non-dog search support.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Jim Bridge, Dave Hudson

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 8/62

DATE: 21 Apr 12 LOCATION: **Kenduskeag Stream**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Rescue and medical support to the Kenduskeag Canoe race

OUTCOME: Provided streamside rescue and medical support. The water was so low this year that no rescues were necessary.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Jim Bridge

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 13.5/215

DATE: 24 Apr 12 LOCATION: **Howland**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: 24 year old male from Freeport was at "Chickenfest," (a large unsanctioned concert/party held by UMO students every year) as a member of one of the bands. That night, the subject and friends either could not park near the site or were lost and parked on the next road to the west, over a mile away and bushwhacked to the party. At some point the subject left his friends at the party, and he was not seen again. He was dressed in blue jeans and sweatshirt and it rained Saturday night through Monday. It was also below freezing for the two nights.

OUTCOME: Maine Warden K9 team Norm Lewis and his Labrador Retriever, Clyde found the deceased victim around 10:30 on April 24th approximately 400 yards from the PLS. Subject died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman, Jim Bridge, Dan Pelletier, Roger David

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 30.5/448

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 28 APR 12 LOCATION: **Otis**

CALL OUT TIME: 1906

VICTIM: 8 year old boy with Downs Syndrome

OUTCOME: Found by local fire depart as call out was sent, full team call out but no one left home.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller (Duty Officer only)

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 0.2/0

DATE: 5 May 12 LOCATION: **Stetson**

CALL OUT TIME: 1200

VICTIM: The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner requested the support of a cadaver dog. Fiddlehead hunters had found partial human remains, mostly skeletal, and detectives had searched the area and could not find the rest of the remains. Two cadaver teams were dispatched to support the search.

OUTCOME: Planned out search with the medical examiner and State Police detectives and within 45 minutes of starting search **MESARD K9 team Michele Fleury and her Dutch Shepherd, Nya**, located the missing remains.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller, Michele Fleury

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 11/330

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 9 May 12 LOCATION: **Prospect**

CALL OUT TIME: 1943

VICTIM: 8-year-old male, fishing with his father along Hawes Stream. The two became separated sometime Wednesday evening. Game wardens used canoes to search the stream and fire department members searched along the bank.

OUTCOME: **MESARD K9 team Leslie Howe and her Dutch Shepard Eron located subject** on the south side of the stream in a very remote area about 1:30 a.m. As the stream was too deep to cross, and the K-9 team was on the north side of the river they kept in voice contact with him until Wardens and Prospect firefighters arrived to transport the boy out of the woods. The missing boy was examined by medical personnel and reunited with his family.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Troy Morey, Irene Morey, Jay Holweger, Kelly Pontbriand, Paul Magoon, Spencer Fuller, Jim Bridge, Roger David, Leslie Howe, Sarah Robinson

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 69.25/1223

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 14 May 12 LOCATION: **Fairfield**

CALL OUT TIME: 1100

VICTIM: 62 year old female crashed car off route 201 bridge into Martin Stream approximately 2035 on May 12th.

OUTCOME: Divers and aircraft searched entire inlet with no success on Sunday. Water is 18-20 feet deep with poor visibility. MESARD deployed its water search boat and two water search K9 teams who also covered the entire inlet area and turned up nothing. The body was found several miles downstream at the Kennebec River's Shawmut Dam on May 17th.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller, Jay Holweger

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 17.5/296

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 21 May 12 LOCATION: **Portland**
CALL OUT TIME: preplanned
VICTIM: 31 year old male, of Cambridge, Mass went missing in downtown Portland during a night of celebration with friends in the Old Port area.
OUTCOME: Dive teams worked Sunday and Monday morning and requested water search dog support to check the nearby wharfs before they secured for the day. The MESARD water search boat and two water search K9 teams were deployed and assisted in search with a third team in route when the body was found by police divers and recovered.
RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller, Jay Holweger, Michele Fleury
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 27/449
SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: May 27, 2012 LOCATION: **Bowdoinham**
CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned
VICTIM: Missing canoeist had been canoeing with family and went overboard. Subject never surfaced and was not wearing a Personal Floatation Device (PFD).
OUTCOME: Marine Patrol and State Police divers found and recovered subject prior to departure of any members.
RESPONDING MEMBERS: Jay Holweger
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 0.25/0
SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 22 Jun 12 LOCATION: **Bangor**
CALL OUT TIME: 1600
VICTIM: Evidence search for wallet
OUTCOME: Received a call that a disabled vet with an artificial leg, had walked along a path to a local department store and lost his wallet somewhere between the store and the path. Two MESARD evidence dogs responded and were deployed to search along the path, areas of woods, and long grass, etc. where someone might have thrown the wallet or IDs out of sight if they took the cash. Wallet was not found.
RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 4/75

DATE: 17 July 12 LOCATION: **Waterville**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Ayla Reynolds (continuation of 21 MAR and early APR searches)

OUTCOME: Deployed water search dogs from boat with no success.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman, Spencer Fuller, Michele Fleury, Dave Hudson.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 42 hours/496 miles

DATE: 17 Jul 12 LOCATION: **Skowhegan**

CALL OUT TIME: 1500

VICTIM: 84 year old man who had been reported missing on July 16th,

OUTCOME: Warden Service requested tracking dogs only. Dave and Spencer were on the way home from the Waterville search and diverted to the search area. Subject was found by Warden 150 yards from his house in a small patch of woods.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller, Dave Hudson

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 5 hours/195 miles

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 5 Aug 12 LOCATION: **Fredericton, NB**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Cold case looking for body of missing kayaker, Jim Vanderfluit

OUTCOME: Teams worked area around where dogs had alerted the previous year. Dogs indicated in several areas around where they had before. Team alternately dug in the area and used dogs with no results. Spencer went to the scene of another drowning upstream (see next entry).

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman, Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 33 hours/ 831 miles

DATE: 5 Aug 12 LOCATION: **Nashwaak River, NB**

CALL OUT TIME: 11:30

VICTIM: The 35-year-old male victim had been camping with his wife and children on the river right bank. Reportedly the victim had gone into the river to assist his young children when he went under.

OUTCOME: Team had their 1st primary alert just downstream of the campsite on shore and then another on the river left in the deep channel abreast of the campsite 20ft off the left shore. The divers went back in the water and found the victim abreast of the 1st shore indication and 20 feet off the bank on river left in line with the boat indications.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 5 hours/5 miles

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 10 Aug 11 LOCATION: **Augusta**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Continuation of search for the body of homicide victim Christiana Fesmire.

OUTCOME: Nothing of note was found.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Jim Bridge, Deb Palman, Leslie Howe, Spencer Fuller, Paul Magoon

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 56 hours/756 miles

DATE: 14 Aug 12 LOCATION: **Miramichi, NB**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Law Enforcement support

OUTCOME: Provided HRD K9 support

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Leslie Howe, Michele Fleury, Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 160 hours/1650 miles

DATE: 24 AUG 12 LOCATION: **Fredricton, NB**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Cold case looking for body of missing kayaker, Jim Vanderfluit

OUTCOME: Assisted with dig of bank where dogs indicated strongly in 2011, weakly in 2012. Backhoe dug up large portions of the bank, checked the hole and tailings with the dogs frequently. Nothing found, no good indications in area following dig. Worked shorelines and islands with the help of YSSAR canoe persons for transportation. Nothing found that related to the victim.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 18 hours/320 miles

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 25 AUG 12 LOCATION: **Yarmouth**

CALL OUT TIME: 1200

VICTIM: 17 year old Autistic boy

OUTCOME: Subject walked 12 miles on the railroad tracks before he was found

RESPONDING MEMBERS: None

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 1 hour for duty officer/0 miles

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 25 AUG 12 LOCATION: **Old Orchard Beach**

CALL OUT TIME: 1750

VICTIM: 14 year old girl with emotional problems ran away into large patch of woods.

OUTCOME: Subject walked out when Duty Officer was on the phone with the requesting officer.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman (Duty Officer only)

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 0.25 hours/0 miles

DATE: 16 SEP 12 LOCATION: **Miramichi, NB**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: Law Enforcement support

OUTCOME: Provided HRD K9 support

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Michele Fleury, Spencer Fuller

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 110 hours/1650 miles

DATE: 28 SEP 12 LOCATION: **Lewiston/Greene**
CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned
VICTIM: Continuation of search for body of homicide victim Christiana Fesmire.
OUTCOME: No findings pertinent to the case
RESPONDING MEMBERS: Kelly Pontbriand, Sarah Robinson, Deb Palman, Roger David, Jay Holweger, Michele Fleury, Leslie Howe
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 140.5 hours/1473 miles

DATE: 7 OCT 12 LOCATION: **Hammond Plantation**
CALL OUT TIME: 1125
VICTIM: 77 year old male bird hunter with early dementia
OUTCOME: Deb, K9 Quinn and Jim were tracking along a logging road in the direction of where he was found when subject was found by other searchers coming from the other direction.
RESPONDING MEMBERS: Deb Palman, Jim Bridge, Leslie Howe, Kelly Pontbriand, Sarah Robinson
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 52 hours/1908 miles
SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 24 DEC 12 LOCATION: **Cape Porpoise**
CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned
VICTIM: 2 males, aged 21 and 23 missing for several days after leaving a party.
OUTCOME: Deployed two dog team to grid small coastal islands. Clothing had been found on one of them. Dogs had several alerts (head cast towards the deep water channel). Subjects were not located and search was later suspended.
RESPONDING MEMBERS: Spencer Fuller and Jay Holweger
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 17 hours/397 miles
SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

DATE: 27 DEC 12 LOCATION: **Ellsworth**

CALL OUT TIME: 1804

VICTIM: Two 9 year old twins (one male one female) playing in back of house wandered off and became lost in area east of Branch Pond near home in the midst of a nor'easter with deep blowing snow.

OUTCOME: 10 Dog teams were in route within 30 minutes. Subjects found and safe before first team arrived. Both children were scared and treated for mild hypothermia on the scene and reunited with their family.

RESPONDING MEMBERS: Debbie Palman, Jay Holweger, Paul Magoon, Jim Bridge, Sean Hall, Leslie Howe, Irene Morey, Troy Morey, Kelly Pontbriand, Jennifer Fisk, Sarah Robinson

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 5.8 hours/109 miles

SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BELOW

SEARCH RELATED NEWS ARTICLES



BOWDOINHAM, Maine (NEWS CENTER) -- Two men from Massachusetts are under arrest, charged in connection with a home invasion that happened on Saturday in Bowdoinham.

The Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Office says the home invasion happened Saturday afternoon at a home on Carding Machine Road.

Investigators say Jorge Santiago, 30, and Miguel Rodriguez, 29, entered the home and demanded cash, marijuana and other drugs. One suspect allegedly held a razor to the resident's throat before fleeing with the money and drugs. The victim was able to make it to a neighbor's house and called for help.

Deputies say they followed the footprints in the fresh snow and tracked the men into the woods where they were arrested.

Santiago and Rodriguez, who are both from Lawrence, Massachusetts, are being held at the Two Bridges Jail on \$10,000 bail.

Police find body in search for missing Florida firefighter



Kevin Bennett | BDN

Maine State Police cars and game warden trucks line the side of Dahlia Farm Road in Newburgh during the search for the body of Jerry Perdomo.



Jerry Perdomo



Daniel Porter

NEWBURGH, Maine — Police searching for missing Florida firefighter Jerry Perdomo discovered a body in woods off the Dahlia Farm Road in Newburgh, the Maine State Police said Wednesday. The body has not been identified.

The body was found about 9:30 a.m. Wednesday on property that is owned by relatives of murder suspect Daniel Porter, 24, of Bangor. [Porter was arrested Tuesday for the murder of Perdomo](#), 31, after police found blood drops and skull fragments in a Jackson home rented by Porter's father, according to a state police report released Wednesday.

The body, which was concealed, was found by a Maine game warden and his dog about half a mile from the Dahlia Farm Road, near the Monroe town line, according to Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety.

The body was transported to the state medical examiner's office in Augusta for identification and autopsy, McCausland said.

A state police affidavit filed Wednesday in Waldo County Superior Court said Porter told police that Perdomo was dead and that he knew where the body and the gun used to kill him were, but refused to give that information to police. Porter's father apparently also knew the location of the body and gun, but would not say, the affidavit stated.

Police have said the case is a drug-related homicide. Porter told police that he owed Perdomo \$3,000, the affidavit said. The two both went

to the Jackson home on Feb. 16 and played pool when an argument broke out.

Porter said that “Perdomo began making threatening statements toward Daniel and his family,” the police report states.

It’s unclear where Perdomo went after the fight, but when Porter’s girlfriend showed up around 9 p.m. that same night, Perdomo and his car were gone.

In the Jackson home, “crime scene technicians found evidence of blood droplets, spatter, what appears to be a piece of skull or bone and evidence of a broken window. There were new carpets on the floor covering an area that tested presumptive positive for blood,” said the affidavit, filed Wednesday by state police Detective Darryl Peary.

When police tested the blood against Perdomo’s father’s DNA for comparison, the samples were consistent with belonging to a father and offspring, the report states. Perdomo does have a brother, police wrote, but the brother told police he had never been to Maine.

When police searched the home, they also found a broken window with lead or metal pieces embedded in the window sill.

Police said previously they believed that Porter was one of the last people to have had contact with Perdomo — a firefighter and emergency medical technician for the Seminole County Fire Department in Florida— who went missing Feb. 16. His rental car was found abandoned at the Bangor Walmart the next day.

The two men had a tempestuous relationship, according to the affidavit.

Both Porter and Perdomo complained to the Penobscot County Sheriff’s Office about the other in January. Perdomo told police that “he observed Porter with a machine gun and that Porter threatened to shoot him and put him through a wood chipper. Porter stated that Perdomo threatened to cut his hands off and kill him,” Peary wrote.

Around that same time, Porter filed a complaint with the sheriff's office that Perdomo had been throwing rocks through a window of his Newburgh home.

At the scene in Newburgh on Wednesday, Perdomo's brother-in-law Chris Lerch of Florida told firefighters that he appreciated their efforts.

"What people don't see is how much it means to us that you're here," he said.

"We're a big family," a Bangor firefighter said in response.

Newburgh resident Wendy Kennedy, who lives just up the hill from where the body was found, came outside to see what was happening with all the police Wednesday morning.

She said her husband called her about the police down the hill while she was working overnight at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast.

"I had no idea it was this close to home," Kennedy said.

She said her family and neighbors "kind of keep to themselves" in the rural village.

But she said she knows Porter's girlfriend, Cheyanne Nowak, 25.

"I worked with Cheyanne" at the hospital, Kennedy said. "It was a few years ago, before she had her kid. She worked in the kitchen. She was a good kid — very talkative, very friendly."

Kennedy said she never met Porter.

Porter's first court appearance is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday in Belfast.

For more information as this story develops keep checking bangordailynews.com

* * * * *

Dresden boy found alive, in smelt shack

Searchers in a Marine Patrol boat found Micah Thomas, conscious, a little hypothermic, but otherwise OK, in a smelt shack on or beside the Eastern River this afternoon.

The Associated Press

DRESDEN —A 12-year-old boy missing since Wednesday afternoon has been located, alive, this afternoon.



[click image to enlarge](#)



Micah Thomas

Andy Molloy/Staff Photographer

Marine Patrol Officer Donaldson Boord carries 12-year-old Micah Thomas from a boat this afternoon on the Eastern River in Dresden to an ambulance after searchers discovered the boy in a smelt shack.

Searchers in a Marine Patrol boat found Micah Thomas, conscious, a little hypothermic, but otherwise OK, in a smelt shack on the west side of the Eastern River this afternoon.

Sgt. Mark Warren of the Maine Warden Service said Thomas was taken by boat to the east side of the river, where he was briefly reunited with his parents, and then transported by emergency responders to be treated for exposure.

"He was cold and wet, but he's in good condition," Warren said.

The circumstances of Thomas' disappearance aren't yet known because the boy hasn't been interviewed, Warren added.

Warden service Lt. Kevin Adams said he had grown concerned about the case, because it had gone on so long without the boy being found.

Dozens of rescuers had searched today for Thomas, who had been missing since getting off the school bus Wednesday afternoon.

He got off the bus around 3 p.m., at the intersection of Eagle Lodge Lane and Route 127, according to authorities. He was last seen an hour later on East Pittston Road, a dead-end road a few miles from where he was dropped off.

About 50 rescuers, including civilian search teams and local and state government responders, focused much of their search around East Pittston Road and Blinn Hill Road. The search included water, air and land.

Pickup trucks belonging to the Maine Warden Service and Maine Forest Service gathered at the Pine Grove Cemetery on Blinn Hill Road to scour the woods in the area. Warden and ranger trucks, as well as vehicles belonging to citizen volunteers, were parked along logging roads and turnoffs throughout the town.

Rescuers carried global positioning systems to track the areas they searched. That information was fed into computers at a command center at Pownalborough Hall adjacent to the fire station on Route 197.

The information was transmitted to a computer onboard a Maine Forest Service helicopter to ensure full coverage of the search area, said Ranger Lt. Jeff Currier.

Steve Lavoie, principal at Hall-Dale Middle School where Thomas is a seventh-grade honors student and cross-country runner, earlier said he had talked to the boy's parents who were involved in the search effort.

"I've talked to them about the situation in general and how we can be of support," Lavoie said.

WATERVILLE CONTINUATION OF AYL REYNOLDS SEARCH



WATERVILLE, Maine — Police said Thursday that it is highly unlikely missing toddler Ayla Reynolds will be found alive but said the investigation and search will continue.

“We th

ink it is highly unlikely Ayla Reynolds will be found alive,” Maine Department of Public Safety Spokesman Stephen McCausland said at a Thursday afternoon press conference. “Nothing points in that direction.”

Ayla’s parents were notified Thursday for the first time that police believe it is unlikely she is still alive. Officials met Tuesday morning to review the case and made the determination, McCausland said.

Ayla’s mother, Trista Reynolds, was thankful for the information, McCausland said. Ayla’s father was more reserved.

“His reaction was no reaction,” McCausland said.

Upon hearing that news on television Thursday afternoon, Ayla’s mother, Trista Reynolds, as well as her parents and brother, erupted with emotion in Reynolds’ Portland apartment.

“I think my worst nightmare has come true,” Trista Reynolds said through tears. “I think what hurts the most is that I don’t even know where she’s at. I couldn’t, even if I wanted to, give her the most proper burial. I couldn’t even do that if I wanted to, because somebody has got her body somewhere, and nobody can tell me where.”

Trista Reynolds and her father, Ron Reynolds, renewed calls for the baby's father, Justin DiPietro, from whose custody Ayla went missing in December, to tell police more about the night she disappeared. Police have said they believe DiPietro and his sister and girlfriend who were home that night know more than they're telling investigators.

"Justin DiPietro is a coward and no father," Trista Reynolds said. "A father would not allow this to happen to his child. A father would say something, would speak for his child. If he loved Ayla in any way, any way at all, he would speak for her. He would say what happened. He wouldn't be the coward that he is right now."

Ron Reynolds said DiPietro needs to find "the guts to get in my face and tell me where my granddaughter is."

"We need closure for this family," Ron Reynolds said. "We need to know where Ayla is, we need to bring her home, we need to let the authorities do their investigation, we need to have closure, and people need to pay."

McCausland refused to elaborate on any new information in the case, saying that police have not charged anybody and that police continue to analyze objects found in several searches.

A group of local businesses that had set [a \\$30,000 reward](#) for information in the Ayla case also announced Thursday that the reward would expire June 30. McCausland said the end of that reward is not connected with any developments in the case.

McCausland continued to urge Ayla's father, Justin DiPietro, to be more forthcoming with police.

"We think that he or the two others inside that home ... may have more information that they just haven't told us," McCausland said.

McCausland would not say whether DiPietro, or anyone else, is or is not considered a suspect in Ayla's disappearance. But McCausland did say that DiPietro is free to leave town. The investigation, which has gone on for more than five months and ranks as the largest missing-person probe in state history, has now garnered 1,127 leads, but those leads are now coming more slowly. He said a core of detectives from the Maine State Police remain assigned to the case.

“This case will remain open and active until we find her. Period,” said McCausland.

Ayla was 20 months old when she was reported missing on Dec. 17, 2011, by her father, Justin DiPietro, who said he and others at his home on Violette Avenue in Waterville [discovered her gone that morning](#). Before that day, Ayla had lived primarily with her mother, Trista Reynolds of Portland, but was staying with her father because Reynolds had checked herself into a hospital to deal with substance abuse problems.

In January, investigators said they had ruled out the possibility that Ayla was abducted and said three adults who were in the home that night — DiPietro, his girlfriend Courtney Roberts and his sister, Alisha DiPietro — were [not being forthcoming with investigators](#) about what happened.

Maine Department of Public Safety spokesman Stephen McCausland has said throughout the investigation that no one has been ruled out as a suspect in the toddler’s disappearance. Though much of the police probe has been conducted in secrecy, there have been several public searches in the Waterville area, including dive teams [inspecting the Kennebec River and Messalonskee Stream](#). Last month, investigators said they had [discovered some items](#) near the Hathaway Creative Center in Waterville — which had been the site of searches in previous months — that could be related to Ayla’s disappearance, but they would not say what the items were and have not discussed them since.

Also in January, investigators revealed that [blood found in the basement of the DiPietro household belonged to Ayla](#), though they would not say how much blood was found or what it told them about her disappearance, if anything. McCausland has said that evidence in the case — including the blood and other items taken from the DiPietro home and elsewhere — is being analyzed by forensics experts at the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory in Augusta. McCausland has repeatedly declined to discuss the evidence in detail.

Early in the investigation, police conducted polygraph tests on DiPietro and Trista Reynolds. Though police have not discussed the results of those tests, DiPietro [has said that he told the truth](#) — that Ayla had been abducted. Reynolds told the Bangor Daily News in January that she was [unable to](#)

[complete the test](#) because of what she described as a medical condition.

The case has attracted [intense media attention in Maine and across the country](#), and several [vigils and public events](#) held on behalf of Ayla have had strong attendance. The case has also boiled over in other ways, including [objects that were thrown through windows in the DiPietro household](#) in February and [an assault, also in February, involving Lance DiPietro](#), who is Ayla's uncle.

Trista Reynolds, in an interview with the Bangor Daily News in January, said Ayla was [just beginning to form words](#) when she disappeared and was constantly trying to be the center of attention with her playful antics and outgoing personality.

"I used to tell her she was going to be mommy's star, but this isn't how I wanted her to become a star," said Trista. "She's got to come home. I can't imagine the rest of my life without her."

CORRECTION:

This article has been updated to clarify that police have refused to say whether anybody is or is not a suspect. Because of an editor's error, an earlier version of this article stated that police said DiPietro is not a suspect.

Police confirm blood found in toddler's father's home is Ayla's

* * * * *

Police: Freeport man shot himself at Chickenfest in Howland

By Nok-Noi Ricker, BDN Staff

Posted April 26, 2012, at 1:59 p.m.



Facebook photo
Dean Levasseur

HOWLAND, Maine — The guitar player who went missing after attending Chickenfest last weekend took his own life, officials said Thursday.

Dean Levasseur, 24, a member of the fusion-reggae band Roots, Rhythm & Dub for the last two years, hiked with his fellow band mates for 21½ miles through the woods off the Lagrange Road to get to Saturday's party — hosted every spring by University of Maine students at different, secret locations.

“We followed the music,” Josh Hunnefeld, the band's bass player and Levasseur's friend of four years said on Tuesday, as he prepared to search the woods around where the party was held for his friend. “We dropped off our gear behind the stage” and never saw him again.

Levasseur's body was found just a few hundred yards west of the stage on Wednesday morning.

“Dean Levasseur died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head,” Stephen McCausland, Maine Department of Public Safety spokesman, said in a Thursday afternoon statement. “A handgun Levasseur had purchased earlier in the month was found with his body.”

The band played at Kingman's bar in Old Town on Friday night, said

University of Maine student Hugh Valaitis of Waldoboro, a drummer for the band. He was one of the 150 or so family members, friends and volunteers who showed up to search for Levasseur on Tuesday and Wednesday.

About an hour after arriving at Chickenfest, Levasseur's bandmates took the stage and called for Dean to come play his guitar, but he never showed.

"We thought he'd recognize the music and coming running, but he didn't," said Hunnefeld, a UMaine student.

Penobscot County Sheriff's Department officers found the annual secret drinking and music party off Lagrange Road on Saturday night and called state police for assistance. Sheriff's deputies covered the area until 4 a.m., when state police took over coverage, Maine State Police Trooper Thomas Fiske said.

Once discovered, police stopped people from going up the dirt road into the woods party but could do nothing to break up the gathering that attracted 200 to 400 college-age people, since it was on private logging company land and the property owner had not requested they be removed, Fiske explained.

To get around the law, attendees, including Levasseur and his pals, "ended up parking elsewhere and hiking through the woods to get there," the trooper said.

Robert Dana, University of Maine vice president for student affairs and dean of students, said Chickenfest is "sort of a counter-culture independently derived and independently delivered sort of hootenanny in the woods."

The off-campus gathering was started by UMaine students 12 to 15 years ago, he said, but he's not sure UMaine students continue to host it.

"I'm not a 100 percent sure it is students from our campus anymore," Dana said. "I'm told now that it's sort of a statewide" event.

"It could involve UMaine students, but it could involve others as well," the dean of students said. "I've never been to Chickenfest" but was told attendees "include older adults, high schoolers and people from other

colleges and universities.”

Chickenfest “is usually held in a different area of northern Penobscot County, so law enforcement can’t find the location, (although we do every year),” the [Maine State Police website](#) said.

In recent years, Chickenfest has been held in LaGrange, Argyle and just outside Greenfield, Fiske said.

Dana said there would be trouble for any UMaine students linked to the “completely unregulated” woods party.

“If any University of Maine students were found responsible for hosting the unsanctioned and dangerous party we would take action at the university,” the dean said.

After Chickenfest ended, state police learned from Freeport police that Levasseur was missing. The Maine Warden Service searched the area on Monday with a search and rescue canine but the torrential downpour prevented the animal from picking up any human scent, warden Sgt. Ronald Dunham said.

Levasseur sent a text message at around 1:30 a.m. and that was the last message he ever made, the sergeant said.

State Police detectives believe Levasseur likely shot himself shortly afterward.

Body of man missing for months found in

Stetson woods, police say

By [Nok-Noi Ricker](#), BDN Staff

Posted May 07, 2012, at 11:23 a.m.

View [Stetson, Maine](#) in a larger map

STETSON, Maine — The body of a man missing for several months was discovered Saturday and Maine State Police are investigating, Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety, said

Monday.

“I believe the man had been missing for several months,” he said, referring all calls to state police Lt. Wesley D. Hussey.

The man’s body was discovered at around 10 a.m., a dispatcher for the Orono state police barracks said.

A resident in town said the body was found on Merrill Road and that police dogs were at the scene on Sunday.

Watch bangordailynews.com for updates

* * * * *

Bucksport boy found after getting separated from dad while fishing in remote area

Posted May 10, 2012, at 10:22 a.m.

Bangor Daily News

PROSPECT, Maine — An 8-year-old boy was located at 1 a.m. Thursday in a remote area of Prospect after being separated from his father during a fishing trip Wednesday afternoon.

Adam Bennoch of Bucksport was found, examined by medical personnel and reunited with his family after a search that included members of the Maine Warden Service, Waldo County Sheriff’s Office, Prospect Fire Department, volunteer search organizations and search dogs.

The warden service was notified about the missing boy by Waldo County Sheriff’s Office about 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

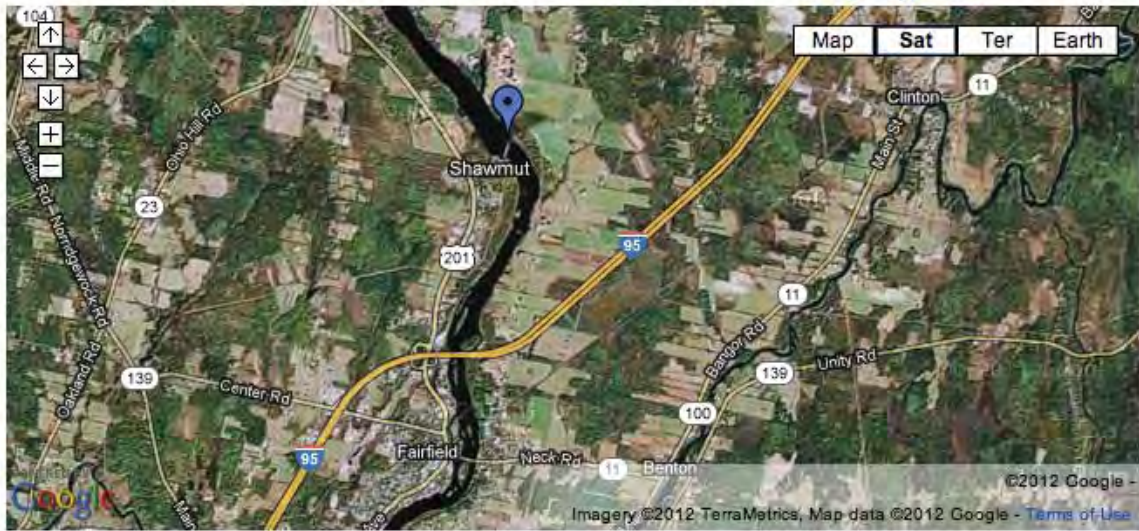
Adam Bennoch had been fishing with his father Jeremy Bennoch, when they became separated from each other while fishing, according to a press release from the warden service.

After Jeremy Bennoch parked their vehicle at the intersection of Route 1A and Hawes Stream, the two fished south of Route 1A for some time and then headed to the north side, following the stream to the west. Later in the evening the two became separated.

The father immediately began searching and could not find his son, so he notified his wife. Both the Waldo County Sheriff's Office and the warden service were notified. The warden service called Maine Search and Rescue volunteers as well as Maine Search and Rescue Dogs. Game wardens used canoes to search the stream and fire department members searched along the stream bank on foot.

At about 1:30 a.m., **MESARD K-9 team Leslie Howe and her Dutch Shepherd Eron, found Adam** on the south side of Hawes Stream in a remote area. The K-9 team was on the north side of the river and kept in voice contact with him until wardens and Prospect firefighters arrived to transport the boy out of the woods. Adam Bennoch was examined by medical personnel and was reunited with his family.

"Fortunately the weather, although wet, brought temperatures that were mild," Game Warden Lt. Kevin Adam. "In addition, the quick response by MASAR volunteers, local game wardens, and local fire department members, along with the ability to deploy them into remote areas accurately with GPS units made for a quick rescue of Adam Bennoch."



View Shawmut Dam in a larger map

[View Shawmut Dam in a larger map](#)

May 17

Crash victim's body found at Shawmut Dam in Fairfield

Skowhegan woman had crashed into Martin Stream Saturday

FAIRFIELD — The body of a 62-year-old woman from Skowhegan whose car crashed into Martin Stream on Saturday night was found early this morning at the Shawmut Dam.

A dam operator found Cora Marley's body about 7 a.m. at the dam, said Fairfield police Chief John Emery.

The dam is approximately 3.7 miles from where Martin Stream flows into the Kennebec River.

Marley's body was removed by personnel from the Maine Warden Service, Maine State and Fairfield police and rescue departments, Emery said.

Her body was transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the chief said.

Chief Emery said searchers who combed the 20-foot-deep stream Saturday night, Sunday and Tuesday believed her body had likely floated into the

Kennebec River.

Marley was driving from Waterville to Skowhegan when the single-car crash happened at 8:35 p.m. Saturday near the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences on the Good Will-Hinckley campus.

A couple from Canada traveling north behind Marley on U.S. Route 201 told police that Marley's Pontiac Vibe was operating erratically before it launched off an embankment beside the small bridge and soared more than 60 feet over the stream, then struck an abutment on the opposite embankment and went into the water. Beth Staples — 861-9252 bstaples@centralmaine.com

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May 23

Promising life cut short: Student's body is found

Police find no signs of foul play after an expectant father at Harvard ends up in the water while partying in the Old Port.

By David Hench dhench@mainetoday.com Staff Writer

PORTLAND — Family members, friends and Harvard classmates are mourning the death of Nathan Bihlmaier, whose body was recovered from Portland Harbor on Tuesday, 2 days after he disappeared during a night in the Old Port.



PHOTO BY LOUIS LEE/ALAMY PHOTOGRAPHY

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHY BY NATHAN STONE

click image to enlarge

Gordon Chibroski/Staff Photographer

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Maine Today Photo Store

An autopsy by the state medical examiner is anticipated today, but police say they have no reason to suspect anything criminal in the death of Bihlmaier, 31, an expectant father who was scheduled to graduate from Harvard Business School on Thursday.

Bihlmaier and two friends from Harvard came to the Old Port on Saturday to celebrate their pending graduation. The staff at Ri Ra Irish Pub told Bihlmaier to leave at 11:20 p.m. because he had had too much to drink, at which point he got separated from his friends, said Police Chief Michael Sauschuck.

The friends and Bihlmaier exchanged cellphone calls but could not find each other. Bihlmaier, a native of Kansas who was unfamiliar with Portland, told them he was in front of a building resembling a state capitol. Police surmise that was the U.S. Customs House, an ornate gray building on Commercial Street.

Bihlmaier told his friends he was OK. Their last phone conversation was at 12:15 a.m.

Cellphone location information shows the last known location of Bihlmaier's phone to be in the area of the Maine State Pier at 12:54 a.m. Sunday. At that point, his cellphone went dead. Police do not know if its battery ran out or it got submerged. The dean of Harvard Business School, Nithin Nohria, came to Portland on Tuesday to offer support to Bihlmaier's family. "It's a tragic moment for our community. We're a tight-knit school,"

he said at a news conference alongside Ri Ra.

“Nathan was an outstanding member of our community,” he said. “He was highly regarded by his friends as a gregarious person.” Nohria said graduation from Harvard Business School is a dream for many individuals and their families, and should be a time of joy, but Thursday’s celebration will be tinged with sadness.

Staff members representing U.S. Sen. **Olympia Snowe**, R-Maine, and U.S. Rep. **Chellie Pingree**, D-1st District, attended Tuesday’s news conference, after following the search for Bihlmaier closely. Snowe was asked to be a point of contact for information by former Sens. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and Judd Gregg, R-N.H., who have sons who were close friends of Bihlmaier and attended Harvard Business School. Harrison Frist is scheduled to graduate Thursday in Bihlmaier’s class. Pingree also was asked to monitor the search. Her stepdaughter Carolyn Tisch Sussman will graduate from the business school Thursday, and Pingree plans to attend.

Sussman, whose father, S. Donald Sussman, is the majority share owner of The Portland Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram, knew Bihlmaier, although they were not close, said a spokesman for Pingree’s office. Sauschuck said the magnitude and intensity of the search were not related to Bihlmaier’s connections. “Whenever we have a missing-persons case, no matter what the circumstances are, we try to get to the bottom of the situation as quickly as we can, both for the individual and for the family involved,” Sauschuck said.

Eighteen officers from Portland, South Portland and the Maine State Police, wearing scuba gear, dove in the murky water around the piers and pilings of Portland’s waterfront, searching the debris-strewn bottom. Police dragged a side-scan sonar apparatus to get a picture of the harbor bottom to help focus the search. Maine Search and Rescue used dogs that can detect the smells given off by a body under water.

Ultimately, a state police diver searching in a grid pattern made the discovery at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday in deep water off Custom House Wharf. Police identified Bihlmaier by his clothing – a black V-neck sweater, blue pants and a gray T-shirt – which witnesses and security cameras confirmed

he was wearing when he was last seen early Sunday morning in the Old Port.

Sauschuck said it would be nice if a bar followed up after telling someone to leave for being too intoxicated, to make sure they have a way to get home or have friends who can look after them. He said the employees of Ri Ra do not appear to have committed any infractions, though police will continue to investigate the circumstances leading to Bihlmaier's death. Police plan to review video taken from businesses in the area to try to determine how Bihlmaier got into the water. So far, the only video they have seen that shows him is one from Ri Ra, Sauschuck said.

On Sunday afternoon, police found one of Bihlmaier's tan Rainbow flip-flops in the water alongside Maine Wharf, just west of the Maine State Pier.

Bihlmaier's wife, Nancy Ho Bihlmaier, his parents, Steve and Cheryl Bihlmaier, and more than a dozen classmates from Harvard Business School came to Portland as the search began. Bihlmaier's mother told the Boston Herald that he had planned to surprise his parents at the graduation with news that Nancy is pregnant.

Brian Kenny, a spokesman for Harvard Business School who has spoken for the family during the ordeal, said, "I think we were all holding out hope he was alive." Friends declined comment.

Sauschuck said Bihlmaier's death does not suggest that Portland is a dangerous place. "The city of Portland is an incredibly safe place to live," he said. "Things do happen in the Old Port, as they do anywhere else."

Staff Writer David Hench can be contacted at 791-6327 or at: dhench@pressherald.com



Posted: 9:27 AM

Updated: 6:50 PM

Body of missing Portland man recovered from Cathance River

From staff reports

UPDATE – The body of 32-year-old Santana Dubon of Portland was recovered around 4:30 this afternoon by members of the Maine State Police dive team.



Staff photo by Joe Phelan

Divers in the water talk to other searchers on boats this morning on the Cathance River in Bowdoinham as they try to find for Santana Dubon, 32, of Portland. He was in a canoe with two family members when the canoe capsized around 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening, according to Sgt. Daniel White of the marine patrol. The two others made it to shore safely, but Dubon has not been found.

People on the Route 24 bridge watch as one of the search boats returns to Philip Maily Waterfront Park in Bowdoinham as the search for Santana Dubon, 32, of Portland continues this morning.

Sgt. Daniel White of the Maine Marine Patrol said it appears that Dubon drowned after his canoe capsized on the Cathance River in Bowdoinham.

His body was found just upstream from the town landing where he and his wife, and another relative set out Saturday – they were in one canoe – for an afternoon of fishing and relaxation, White said.

Dubon was not wearing a life jacket.

The search for Dubon started last night and resumed today.

BOWDOINHAM — The Maine Marine Patrol and state police divers searched the Cathance River on Saturday night and today for a canoeist who disappeared while boating with two family members.

Santana Dubon, 32, of Portland, could not be found after the canoe capsized around 7:30 p.m. Saturday, said Sgt. Daniel White of the marine patrol.

Emergency crews, including a Coast Guard helicopter from Massachusetts, searched until midnight and began looking again at daybreak this morning. While they also searched along the shore, efforts today were focused on the river about 400 yards south of the Route 24 bridge. Divers were hampered by murky water that prevented them from seeing underwater more than about a foot in front to them, White said.

“We are searching in a particular area of interest, which may or may not result in something,” he said. “The visibility is hampering what the divers can see.”

Overhead, a marine patrol float plane circled for hours, replacing the helicopter.

White declined to say whether Dubon was wearing a life preserver and he did not want to disclose other details while the accident is under investigation.

The Cathance is a tidal, U-shaped river that flows into Merrymeeting Bay on one end, and from Bradley Pond in Topsham on the other.

A large group of kayakers launched today from the boat landing for a guided tour upriver while the search was under way downriver. More than a dozen state police and local fire and rescue crews used Philip Mailly Waterfront Park as home base.

Dubon’s family members gathered at a picnic table under a tree in the park, periodically walking to the bridge to watch the search. They declined to speak to a reporter while the search was under way.

Those familiar with the boat launch said it is a popular boating, kayaking and canoeing spot. There are rocks under the bridge, particularly at low tide, which can pose a hazard to boaters.

Missing 84-year-old Skowhegan man found alive



Courtesy of the Maine Warden Service

Maine Game Wardens found Charles Frances Carney, 84, in Skowhegan, Maine, Tuesday, July 17, 2012, a day after he went missing from his nearby home. Skowhegan ambulance was called and Carney was taken to Readington Fairview Hospital in Skowhegan.

By Alex Barber, BDN Staff

SKOWHEGAN, Maine — An 84-year-old local man who had been reported missing on Monday morning was found alive on Tuesday afternoon, according to Maine game wardens.

Charles Frances Carney went missing from a Middle Road residence between 7 and 10 a.m. Monday, said Cpl. John MacDonald in a statement.

“People taking care of him at the residence looked for him [and] could not find him,” said MacDonald in the release. “Mr. Carney lives at the residence with another older male, and both are being taken care of by non-relatives.”

The Maine Warden Service dispatched two game wardens, who learned that Carney is known to walk around the outside of the residence.

“They stated he always walks in the yard and uses a cane,” said MacDonald.

The nearby wooded areas were searched, and at approximately 4:45 p.m., Carney was found about 150 yards from the residence by Warden Tom McKenney.

He “noticed some disturbed vegetation across the road from the residence,” said MacDonald. “He soon located Mr. Carney face down in the dirt in a small patch of woods.”

Carney was taken to Redington-Fairview Hospital in Skowhegan. MacDonald did not indicate his condition.

Fredericton family abandons search for body of missing kayaker

Jim Vanderfluit, 50,

last seen in October 2009

CBC News Posted: Aug 24, 2012 12:52 PM AT Last Updated: Aug 24, 2012 7:28 PM AT

The family of a Fredericton-area kayaker who went missing nearly three years ago unsuccessfully excavated along the riverbed Friday in hopes of finding his body.

Jim Vanderfluit, 50, was last seen the morning of Oct. 8, 2009.

He was heading to his dock, located on the bank of the Nashwaak River, near where it flows into the St. John River, to take his kayak in for the winter and deal with a log jammed against the dock.

An exhaustive air, water and ground search at the time failed to locate him.

Vanderfluit's family hired a firm to continue the search and on Friday, they were using human remains detector dogs and an excavator to try to find him — and to find closure.

But the search turned up empty.



Jim Vanderfluit, 50, was last seen heading to the Nashwaak River. (Courtesy of Vanderfluit family)

His family says it was likely their last chance to find any trace of him.

"This is probably our last big effort, this dig," his niece, Carolyn Flanagan, told CBC News. "The dogs indicate there's human remains there, or the smell, or he was there.

"If we don't find anything today, I don't know what else we'll ... what other step ... maybe we didn't look beyond that. I guess we'll take it one step at a time."

The family has already had Vanderfluit legally declared dead. But they haven't been able to hold a funeral for him because they have no remains to bury.

When Vanderfluit went missing, police had said that the current on the Nashwaak River was running swiftly and it was possible he was swept away, perhaps even carried out into the St. John River.

The Maine-based company hired by his family believes Vanderfluit's body was swept away to an area that later collapsed.

The dogs detected signs that could have come from Vanderfluit on a bend in the river, downstream from his home, said Deborah Palman, a retired forensic expert from Maine and trainer of human remains detection dogs.

Heavy equipment dug up the bank and Vanderfluit's family was sorting through bucket loads of clay, looking for any sign of the missing kayaker.

"If the body washed out of the bank, the only thing left there might be some hair or something very small like that. If we can find that, that'll be a big help. You know, that'll be a piece of the remains," Palman said.

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Fredericton Police Identify Male in Nashwaak River Incident

On August 5th, 2012 the Fredericton Telecommunications Centre received a 911 call of two persons in distress in the Nashwaak River.

Once on scene, members of the Fredericton Police and Fire Departments were able to guide a 14 year old male safely to shore. Members of the Fredericton Police and Fredericton Fire Marine Units, Fredericton Police Dive Team and York and Sunbury Search and Rescue Team continued to search the banks and water of the Nashwaak River for much of the day in search of an adult male. At approximately 1700hrs, the body of an adult male was recovered from the water of the Nashwaak River. That male has been identified as 35 year old Joseph Michael Aubrey Duguay.

The investigation surrounding the death and the incident in general continues however, foul play is not suspected. An autopsy was conducted on August 6th, 2012 and police await the results of that autopsy.

Missing boy found; may have walked from Yarmouth to Portland

From staff reports, Portland Press Herald

A 17-year old boy with autism who apparently walked on railroad tracks from Yarmouth to Portland was found Saturday afternoon by Portland police. Riley Paul was located at East End beach, following a search by police officers and game wardens. He was reported missing early Saturday morning from his Yarmouth home. After receiving reports of a boy walking

on the tracks, the Maine Warden Service called Portland Police and asked them to look in the area, according to Sgt. John Nueslein. Two Portland bicycle officers spotted Paul and notified his parents. The family met police at Maine Medical Center, where Paul was taken to be checked.

Hammond Plantation



Ranger 975 Maine State Forest Service making a pass over search area

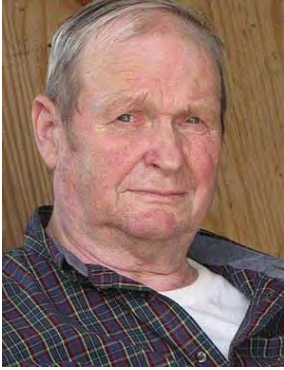
Posted: 2:31 PM

Updated: 9:16 PM

Missing bird hunter found safe in Houlton area

By *Leslie Bridgers* lbridgers@pressherald.com Staff Writer

A 77-year-old bird hunter reported missing by his son on Saturday night was found safe in the woods in Aroostook County's Hammond Township early Sunday evening by a family who went looking for him.



Select images available for purchase in the Maine Today Photo Store

Ralph Bubar "was in relatively good shape" when Marty Fitzpatrick of Littleton helped him out of the woods around 5:30 p.m. Sunday, according to a press release from the Maine Warden Service.

Spokeswoman Caroline Hailey did not know whether Bubar was injured or why he had been out in the woods for more than 24 hours. She said he needed assistance walking and was taken by ambulance to Houlton Regional Hospital for evaluation. She did not know if he needed medical treatment.

Hailey did not believe that Bubar knew Fitzpatrick or his family, who went looking for the hunter from Linneus after reading a news story that he was missing.

When Bubar did not return home Saturday, his son went looking for him in areas he hunts and found his Ford Ranger with the key in the cupholder in Hammond Township, near Houlton.

Four wardens and two dogs searched for him through the night Saturday and were joined by seven more wardens and two search planes on Sunday. A Maine Forest service helicopter, members of the Linneus Fire department, Maine Search and Rescue Dogs and

about 50 volunteers also helped with the search.

Bubar was found when the Fitzpatrick family yelled for him from the end of a dirt road and he responded. He was more than 1.5 miles from where his pickup truck was parked.

Search for missing students turns up clothing on island

By Gillian Graham ggraham@mainetoday.com Staff Writer

Searchers are now focusing on a small island just off the coast of Kennebunkport in their effort to find two men missing since last week.



[click image to enlarge](#)

Zachary Wells, left, and Prescott Wright have been missing from Kennebunkport since Wednesday.

Courtesy photo

Search goes on for boat-building students

Select images available for purchase in the [Maine Today Photo Store](#)

The discovery of clothing on one of the small islands just off shore has authorities pursuing the possibility that the two men were kayaking or boating.

Authorities are now focusing on Trott Island, bringing in air boats to search the shoreline and trained dogs to help search the island's heavily wooded interior.

They have already searched nearby Goat Island. Both islands are easily visible from the Cape Porpoise pier, which is near the home where the men were last seen.

"There is some indication they were boating," said Maine Warden Service Sgt. Tim Spahr.

Spahr, who was using a kayak to search sand bars and ledges just offshore, said he did not know whether the two men may have been in kayaks or a larger boat.

Some articles of clothing were found on one of the islands, although Spahr did not say which one.

The investigation is being led by the Kennebunkport Police Department and Maine Marine Patrol, and the agencies did not provide anymore details about the possibility that the men were boating.



MESARD K9 Team during search



Missing children in Ellsworth found after search

Posted Dec. 27, 2012, at 6:30 p.m.

Last modified Dec. 27, 2012, at 7:06 p.m.

ELLSWORTH, Maine — Two children reported missing from a Branch Pond Road home early Thursday evening were reportedly found an hour later in a joint search conducted by officers with the local police and fire departments, the Maine Warden Service and Maine State Police.

Ellsworth Fire Chief Richard Tupper confirmed that the two children reported missing from a house off Branch Pond Road had been found.

Tupper said earlier that fire department personnel assisted with the search somewhere off Branch Pond Road. “We sent eight people in an engine and a rescue unit with thermal imaging cameras to assist police K-9 units.”

Few other details were available early Thursday night. Initial reports indicated that officials used a search dog to track footprints in the snow near the home, which is near Branch Lake.

The Ellsworth Police Department’s page on Facebook posted the following message at 6:15 p.m.:

“People are asking if help is needed for the search for the children, from the supervisor on scene there are multiple agencies and they do not need assistance at this point. Thank you for your offers and we will let you know if we need more help.”

BDN reporter Bill Trotter contributed to this story. Check back later for updates.