

MESARD 2013 SEARCH REPORT

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SUMMARY:

Searches called out on: 33*

Hours in response: 3139

Miles in response: 33,793

ALL SEARCHES ARE IN MAINE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Month	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Callouts*	1	1	0	1	3	2	10	8	1	1	2	3

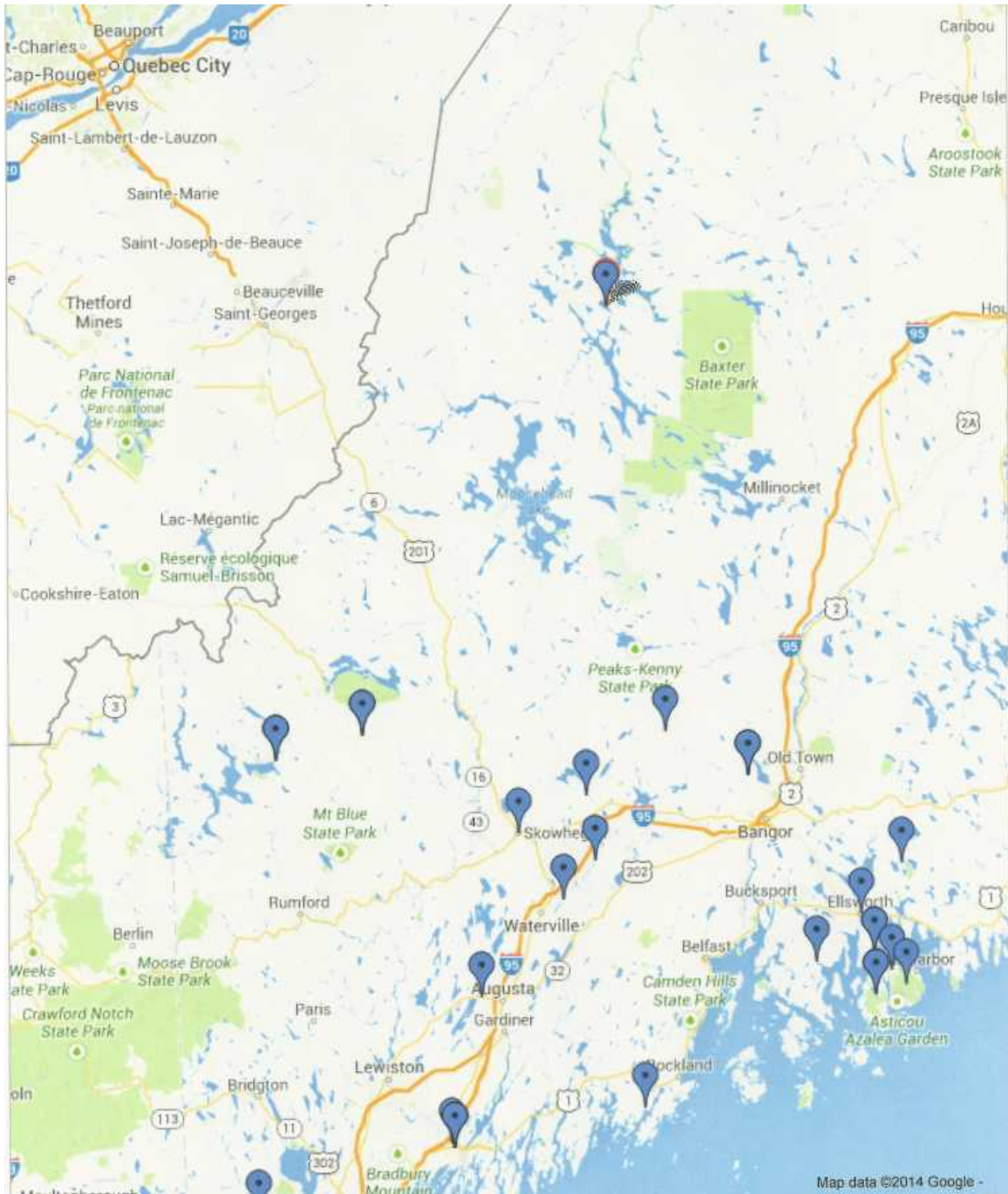
*Multiple days counted for Appalachian Trail (Largay), Glenburn (Cable), Umbazookus Lake (Poulin) searches.

Time of Day	0600-0900	0900-1200	1200-1500	1500-1800	1800-2100	2100-2400	2400-0300	0300-0600	Pre - Planned
Callouts	2	0	0	2	3	2	3	3	6

Subject types	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Callouts	C	D		F/W	S, LE/W, C, D	S,S	LE, F/W, H, H, H	C, D, S	H		H, LE, H	

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

SEARCH LOCATIONS 2013



SEARCH LOCATIONS 2013

DATE: 26 JAN 13 LOCATION: **Trenton**

CALL OUT TIME: 1738

VICTIM: 7 year old male lost with snow covered ground and winds.

Wardens called while in route to scene.

OUTCOME: Child found prior to anyone deploying and returned home safe and sound.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 1 hour/0 miles

DATE: 20 FEB 13 LOCATION: **Brunswick**

CALL OUT TIME: 2000

VICTIM: 90 year old female lost from a nursing home during cold night and not wearing any outdoor clothing. Request from Brunswick Police Department for K9 assistance, Warden Service notified.

OUTCOME: Subject was found inside the facility sleeping in the wrong room as dog teams arrived.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 5 hours/41 miles

DATE: 20 APR 13 LOCATION: **Long Pond, Acadia National Park**

CALL OUT TIME: 0700

VICTIM: 2 Male fishermen aged 66 and 38, shoreline and water search of lake.

OUTCOME: Subject's boat was capsized and bodies were found by Warden Service divers near the boat.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 59 hours/1092 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 15 MAY 13 LOCATION: **Rangeley**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: 3 snowmobilers ages 41, 40 and 43 went into open water and sank the night of New Year's Eve. Weather and ice conditions precluded

searching earlier. Request was for MESARD boat and water search certified dogs.

OUTCOME: Bodies were recovered by Warden Service divers.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 6 hours/0 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 17, 19 MAY 13 LOCATION: **Glenburn**

CALL OUT TIME: preplanned

VICTIM: 15 year old female, Nichole Cable. Subject was reported to have left her home with a man she met on internet.

OUTCOME: Subject found deceased by **Retired Maine Warden Service K9**

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 392 hours/4495 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 26 MAY 13 LOCATION: **Topsham**

CALL OUT TIME: 0131

VICTIM: 14 year old female mentally challenged, last seen in her front yard with large wooded area around her home.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 3 hours/0 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 27 MAY 13 LOCATION: **Limington**

CALL OUT TIME: 2100

VICTIM: 73 year old male with dementia last seen in his front yard at 1600.

OUTCOME: Subject spent night in the woods and walked out on his own to an awaiting TV news crew.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 84 hours/1329 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 4, 5 JUN 13 LOCATION: **Ellsworth**

CALL OUT TIME: 1534

VICTIM: 53 year old female, despondent and not seen for several days.

Search went well into the night.

OUTCOME: As searchers were returning to the command post the next morning the subject walked out on a main road on her own and was spotted by a Warden on his way to the command post.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 67 hours/1347 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 7 JUN 13 LOCATION: **Cushing**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: 31 year old male missing for several days

OUTCOME: Subject found deceased by **MESARD team Michele Fleury and K9 Nya**.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 86 hours/1555 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 9 JUL 13 LOCATION: **Eastbrook**

CALL OUT TIME: 1840

VICTIM: 24 year old male subject fled from Law Enforcement into woods behind his house.

OUTCOME: Subject located deceased in small pond by **State Police K9 team** prior to anyone deploying.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 3 hours/0 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 16 JUL 13 LOCATION: **Hartland**

CALL OUT TIME: 0600

VICTIM: 66 year old male fisherman last seen leaving for lake.

OUTCOME: Subject found deceased by Warden Service dive team.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 60 hours/654 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 17 JUL 13 LOCATION: **Mount Desert Island**

CALL OUT TIME: 1748

VICTIM: 66 year old male summer resident from North Carolina went for walk and did not return.

OUTCOME: Subject was located prior to any teams deploying

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 1 hour/ 0 miles

DATE: 25, 26 27, 28, 29 30 JUL; 3, 4, 9, 10, 14, 22 AUG; 12 OCT

LOCATION: **Appalachian Trail (Sugarloaf/Rangeley)**

CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned

VICTIM: 66 year old female AT through hiker, Gerry Largay did not make planned rendezvous with husband.

OUTCOME: **Search is ongoing, suspended until the snow clears.**

Investigation has continued to reduce size of search area from approximately 25 square miles to more manageable search areas. Progress clearing areas has been slow as the search for Gerry has been hampered by the difficult terrain of the area, which is marked by crags, rocky stream beds, steep drop offs and thick undergrowth and blow downs. Teams have deployed 13 days in particularly rugged and treacherous terrain so far without finding Gerry and will return in the spring to continue. Most members responded for multiple days.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 1698 hours/14,763 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 27 JUL 13 LOCATION: **Mount Desert Island**

CALL OUT TIME: 2240

VICTIM: 81 year old female from London, England last seen returning from walk by lake to her cabin in late afternoon.

OUTCOME: Subject found safe and sound by Warden Service boat just as MESARD K9 team was headed into her.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 25 hours/269 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 3 AUG 13 LOCATION: **Garland**

CALL OUT TIME: 1845

VICTIM: 5 and 7 year old females last seen at 1630.

OUTCOME: Subjects and the 3 dogs that were with them found safe and sound at 1945 by **State Police K9 Team** after a 1 mile track.

VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 3 hours/32 miles

**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 12 AUG 13 LOCATION: **Blue Hill**
CALL OUT TIME: 0044
VICTIM: 83 year old female with dementia.
OUTCOME: Subject found safe and sound in someone's driveway 0.5 miles from home by Maine Warden Service.
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 23 hours/464 miles
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 27 AUG 13 LOCATION: **Skowhegan**
CALL OUT TIME: 0830
VICTIM: 40 year old male missing since 2200. Last seen leaving his apartment on his way to his mother's but never arrived.
OUTCOME: Subject found deceased by **State Police K9 team.**
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 26 hours/466 miles
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 27 SEP 13 LOCATION: **Benton**
CALL OUT TIME: 0318
VICTIM: 86 year old male last seen between 1400 and 1800
OUTCOME: Subject found unresponsive but alive by **MESARD team Deb Palman and K9 Quinn.**
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 157 hours/1840 miles
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 7 NOV 13 LOCATION: **Burnham**
CALL OUT TIME: 0139
VICTIM: 62 year old male with heart problems last seen at 1630 going out to hunt and did not return.
OUTCOME: Subject walked out of woods on own safe and sound the next morning.
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 156 hours/340 miles

DATE: 17 NOV 13 LOCATION: **Manchester**
CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned
VICTIM: Human Remains Detection (HRD) dogs requested to locate remaining parts of skeletal remains found by hunters the week prior.
OUTCOME: Some bones were found
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 36 hours/698 miles
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

DATE: 2, 3, 13 DEC 13 LOCATION: **Umbazookus Lake, T6R13**
CALL OUT TIME: Preplanned
VICTIM: 68 year old male, Canadian railroad enthusiast searching for early 20th century railroad souvenirs. Area was snow covered with 3-5 inches of snow with heavy snow storm expected 14/15 DEC.
OUTCOME: : **Search is ongoing, suspended until the snow clears.**
VOLUNTEER HOURS/MILES: 253 hours/4409 miles
**** SEE ARTICLE AT END OF REPORT ****

Mount Desert Island, search for Seal Cove man



Bill Trotter

Response personnel stand by a boat ramp at the north end of Long Pond on Mount Desert Island as darkness falls Thursday evening. Searchers found a body and were searching for another one.

By [Bill Trotter](#), BDN Staff

MOUNT DESERT, Maine — Searchers recovered the body of a Massachusetts man and were looking for a Tremont resident after a boat carrying the pair capsized Thursday afternoon in Long Pond on Mount Desert Island. The body of Richard Weimer of Charlton, Mass., 66, was found Thursday, according to the Maine Warden Service. Searchers were looking for Corey Farley, 38, of Seal Cove. The 12-foot aluminum boat was reported to have overturned around 1 p.m. in a cove on the west side of the pond, according to Sgt. David Craven of the Maine Warden Service. Weimer was not wearing a personal flotation device, Craven said. The two men were fishing. Craven said municipal emergency response personnel on MDI were assisting with the search, which is expected to be postponed at dark before resuming Friday morning. A warden service plane, Coast Guard personnel and members of MDI Search & Rescue also were assisting with the search, he said. Warden service divers also were on scene Thursday evening but had not yet been deployed into the water, he said, because of the large area being searched in the pond. For the time being, searchers were using side-scan sonar instead, he said. Craven said he did not know the temperature of the water on the pond, but estimated the last of its winter ice melted away two

weeks ago. “It’s cold enough to bring on hypothermia pretty quick,” the warden said. Weather conditions may have contributed to the incident, Craven said. “It was very windy,” the warden said.

Bodies of two snowmobilers found in Rangeley Lake



By Ryan McLaughlin, BDN Staff

Maine Warden Service
Troy R. Bennett | BDN

Game wardens search Rangeley Lake for two missing snowmobiles on Wednesday morning. The bodies of Kenneth Henderson, 40, of China and John Spencer, 41, of Litchfield were recovered from 60 feet of water. Open water steams at sunrise on Rangeley Lake just before members of the Maine Warden Service resume their search for three missing snowmobilers Thursday, Jan. 3.

RANGELEY, Maine — The bodies of two snowmobilers missing since New Year’s Eve were found in Rangeley Lake on Wednesday morning. John Spencer, 41, of Litchfield and Kenneth Henderson, 40, of China were found in 60 feet of water, according to Doug Rafferty, spokesman for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. [The body of Glenn Henderson, 43, of Sabattus was found Friday.](#) Sonar technology was used to find the men’s bodies, according to Rafferty. Windy conditions and a large search area — approximately 2 1/2 miles were covered — made for a difficult search, the spokesman said. Maine Warden Service divers recovered the bodies of Spencer and Kenneth Henderson at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday. The discovery of the bodies concludes a lengthy search effort nearly six months after [the three men went missing during a New Year’s Eve snowmobile ride](#) and their sleds were found in Rangeley Lake. [Search operations had ceased in February because of ice on the lake](#) and had [resumed earlier this month](#). The bodies of Kenneth Henderson and Spencer were turned over to Wiles Funeral Home in Farmington.

GLENBURN SEARCH FOR MISSING TEEN

By Dawn Gagnon and Nok-Noi Ricker, BDN Staff



Nichole Cable

Carter F. McCall | BDN

OLD TOWN, Maine — Authorities were in the woods near the Stillwater River in Old Town on Tuesday morning at the site where the body of Nichole Cable is believed to have been found. Maine State Police and other law enforcement personnel were gathered near the intersection of Routes 43 and 16 and were seen putting up yellow crime scene tape about 9:30 a.m. A state police spokesman confirmed the activity at the scene was related to the discovery of the body Monday night. A black minivan was seen entering the barricaded area and leaving minutes later. Authorities believe but have not confirmed that the body found Monday is that of Cable, who disappeared from her Glenburn home last week. They're still processing the scene," Mark Belserene, a spokesman for the state medical examiner's office, said Tuesday morning. "The plan is to do the autopsy today, if possible." In a news release issued late Monday, Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Department of Public Safety, said a body was found by the Maine Warden Service and that the state medical examiner's office would make a positive identification on Tuesday. The remains were found about 9:30 p.m. and the site was secured for the night. The recovery of the remains began at daylight Tuesday. The parents of the girl were told of the development by members of the Penobscot County Sheriff's Department and Maine State Police. Jason Wiley, who is married to Cable's mother, Kristine, answered his door on Tuesday morning and said an investigator was going to arrive shortly to give them an update. He declined to comment until after speaking with the investigator. Shortly before 11 a.m., two unmarked state police vehicles arrived at the house. Cable was a student at Old Town High School and grief counseling has been set up for her fellow students, a school secretary said Tuesday morning. Additional information will be released at a news conference at 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday at the Sheriff's Department in Bangor, according to McCausland. Police said earlier Monday they were following leads developed from [Sunday's massive search for the 15-year-old girl](#), who [was last seen on Mother's Day](#). More than 500 people took part in Sunday's search in Glenburn, Hudson and West Old Town, including law enforcement officials and volunteers. In addition to the ground searches coordinated by the Maine Warden Service, police conducted two informational roadblocks between 8 p.m. Sunday and 1 a.m. Monday in the areas of Route 221 in Hudson and Route 43 in West Old Town, Chief Deputy Troy Morton of the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office said in an update Monday evening. More than 100 motorists passed through the road checks, providing more than 25 new pieces of information for investigators to pursue, he said. Morton said that on Monday a Maine Forest Service helicopter was brought in to search the Hudson and Old Town areas and that K-9 teams from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Maine Warden Service conducted several more ground searches. "We're doing follow-up investigations," Morton said Monday shortly after leaving the command center set up at the historic Penobscot County courthouse. "Different officers, with different specialties, are being sent out to do different [assignments]." Nichole Cable was last seen at her home on Spruce Lane on the evening of May 12, and her parents think she was taken by someone using a false Facebook profile, according to the family's Facebook page, [Bring Nichole Cable Home](#). Morton, who estimates there are between 40 and 70 officers working on the investigation, said several Facebook rumors have surfaced about the case but said he didn't want to comment on any of them. He said officers working on the case are focusing on legitimate leads. "Our people are working really hard," Morton said. There are seven residences on Spruce Lane in Glenburn, which is a private road. A poster bearing a picture of Nichole's face and the word "Missing" marks the roadway's entrance. It is hung on plywood painted white. Words of love and calls to come home safe, left in black magic marker by friends, loved ones and strangers, stand out against the light paint. The man who lives next door to Cable and her parents said Monday he has three sons living at his house and is concerned for their safety. "I won't let them play outside," he said, pointing to his yard, which abuts the Wileys' property. The public is asked to call the Penobscot County Sheriff's Department at 947-4585 if they have any information about the case.

Missing Topsham girl found in woods



The Times Record

MALLORY BOISSEVAIN

TOPSHAM Police say a 14-year-old Topsham girl spent seven hours lost in the woods near her home before being located early Sunday. Sagadahoc County police issued an automated “reverse 911” call at midnight Saturday alerting local residents to be on the lookout for Mallory Boissevain, 14, who was last seen on Sunward Lane off Ward Road at around 7 p.m. Saturday. She was described as 5 feet tall, 140 pounds with brown hair and blue eyes, wearing tan jeans, a gray sweatshirt, householders and leather boots. “She is a 14-year-old girl with a mindset of an 8-year-old child. When last seen she was looking for frogs,” the automated call said. Topsham police say Boissevain was located in the woods near her home at approximately 1:55 a.m. Sunday and returned home, where she was to be medically evaluated. Once she realized she was lost, she created a shelter for herself and waited several hours for police and game wardens to find her, according to her mother. Mallory was “very cold, wet and tired” but physically fine, her mother told WMTW-TV.

LIMINGTON, Maine —A 73-year-old Limington, Maine, man who had been missing for more than 14 hours was found Tuesday morning after he walked up to a crew from Portland TV station WMTW. Robert McDonough approached reporter Norm Karkos shortly after 6:30 a.m. after Karkos delivered a live update. McDonough began speaking with Karkos and identified himself as Robert

McDonough. The WMTW crew, including videographer Rob Benica and satellite truck operator Keith Kettelhut, immediately notified the Maine Warden Service. Game wardens spent the night searching for McDonough, who was reported missing around 4 p.m. Monday. Karkos had been providing live reports from Gammon Road, where McDonough lives, throughout the morning. Wardens said McDonough suffers from dementia. Karkos said McDonough appeared to be in good condition, although he said he did spot some blood on McDonough's hand.



by Keith Kettelhut

Missing Lubec woman found safe in Ellsworth



Maine Warden Service

Janet Rier of Lubec talks to game wardens after she was found safely in Ellsworth Wednesday morning.

By Ryan McLaughlin, BDN Staff

Posted June 05, 2013, at 9:54 a.m.

ELLSWORTH, Maine — A missing Lubec woman was found early Wednesday morning in Ellsworth. Janet Rier, 56, who was reported missing Tuesday afternoon, was located near Route 179 at 7 a.m., according to Cpl. John MacDonald of the Maine Warden Service. Rier was in good condition when game

wardens found her, MacDonald said. She stated to game wardens she had been camping in the woods. Rier has been staying with her sister in Fletchers Landing Township and had last been seen on Sunday afternoon before she was reported missing Tuesday, according to MacDonald. Rier has been staying at the residence since last December. Game wardens advise the public to remind family members of their location when going into the woods or going camping, MacDonald said.

Authorities find body presumed to be of Cushing man missing for two weeks

By Stephen Betts, BDN Staff



Knox County Sheriff's Office
Kevin Crute

CUSHING, Maine — The body of [a 31-year-old Cushing man missing for more than two weeks](#) was found Friday morning. The body, presumed to be Kevin Stone Crute's, was found in woods off Route 97, according to a news release issued by the Knox County Sheriff's Office. A Maine Search and Rescue K-9 team found Crute's body shortly before 10 a.m. The body was found about a half mile in the woods from his home, said Knox County Chief Deputy Tim Carroll. A positive identification and a cause of death will be determined by the Maine Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. An autopsy is expected to be done over the weekend. Investigators initially searched around Crute's house and then expanded the search area with additional resources from the Maine Warden Service and the Maine Search and Rescue Team. A search warrant for Crute's

cellphone records helped in determining his last location, according to Carroll. Crute was last seen shortly after noon on May 21 when he was dropped off at his home after shopping at Ande's Variety in Warren. Crute's parents reported him missing May 25. No one had reported any contact with Crute since then, which family and friends say is out of character. Family members told police he would call or be in contact with them by social media daily. More than 80 people have been interviewed and those interviews are leading to more people being contacted, according to Carroll. The Maine State Police's Major Crimes Unit was at Crute's home in Cushing for two days after the investigation into his disappearance began but nothing has been found to indicate Crute's whereabouts. The sheriff's department is working with state police, the Maine Warden Service and Maine Marine Patrol on the investigation. Crute's family offered a \$10,000 reward Thursday for anyone providing information leading to his whereabouts.

EASTBROOK, Maine (NEWS CENTER) - State Police and the Maine Warden Service have recovered a man's body from a pond near a home in Eastbrook. They say the death of George Francis is a suspected drowning, but the official cause of death is pending additional tests by the State Medical Examiner's Office. Francis disappeared from his home at 138 Silver Hill Farm Road, Friday night and his family reported him missing on Monday. Wardens and a State Police dog located the body Monday evening.

Harmony man who drowned in Great Moose Lake was Vietnam vet, 'kind and wonderful'

By [Doug Harlow dharlow@centralmaine.com](mailto: Doug Harlow dharlow@centralmaine.com) Staff Writer

HARTLAND -- William Witt had just finished cutting 6.5 cords of wood Sunday when he told his wife he was going fishing.



William Witt

Contributed photo

He told Holly Witt he'd be back at "dark-thirty." "I said, 'OK, have fun. I love you,' and that's the last time I saw him," she said Tuesday. Maine Warden Service divers recovered the body of missing fisherman William Witt Tuesday afternoon in Great Moose Lake. Witt, 66, of Harmony, had not been seen since he went out fishing Sunday night. His body was found at about 12:45 p.m. Tuesday, in 8 feet of water in the area where his boat was spotted Sunday going in circles on the lake, according to Warden Service spokesman Doug Rafferty. The search had concentrated in an area of the lake about a mile west of the boat landing off Great Moose Drive in Hartland. Witt was alone in the boat and was not wearing a life vest, Rafferty said. His body will be taken to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner in Augusta for an autopsy to determine the cause of death. Rafferty said Witt had health problems in the past, and that may have contributed to his falling into the lake. Holly Witt said her husband was a U.S. Marine who was

wounded at the Battle of Khe Sanh in Vietnam in 1968 and suffered from exposure to the wartime chemical Agent Orange. He was from North Attleboro, Mass., where he ran an auto body shop. He moved to North Road in Harmony in 2001. The couple met on Match.com and were married in 2005. "He was a very kind and wonderful person," she said. "He did not make friends easily, but once he did you were a life-long friend. He was a man of a lot of love." William Witt loved to ride his Harley Davidson motorcycle and had restored a 1965 Pontiac GTO, which was his pride and joy, his wife said. He was a member and officer of the Cambridge Masonic Lodge. Witt said her husband had three grown children from a previous marriage, and she also has three grown children from a previous marriage. She said he received a good bill of health from doctors at VA Maine Healthcare Systems-Togus during a recent visit. The support, phone calls and emails from the Harmony community she has received since Sunday have been tremendous. "They've only known me a few years," she said. She moved to Harmony from Lewiston in 2005, when she married William. "It's just like I'm a member of the Harmony family." Rafferty said 16 game wardens and five or six members of Maine Search and Rescue conducted the search Tuesday. Wardens also sent an airplane over the lake Tuesday morning, but it was turned back because of poor visibility. Great Moose Lake is off state Route 43, east of Athens. The boat landing is about three miles from the state road. The lake also has access from Harmony.

Search continues for missing AT hiker Geraldine Largay

By Jesse Scardina jscardina@centralmaine.com Staff Writer



George Largay and his wife, Geraldine, at the Ramsey Cascades in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which straddles the borders of Tennessee and North Carolina. Geraldine Largay has been missing since July from a portion of the Appalachian Trail between Route 4 near Rangeley and Route 27 in Wyman Township.

Contributed photo via Facebook

A couple of dozen people plan to continue looking for missing Appalachian Trail hiker Geraldine Largay with the aid of search dogs in the coming weeks. Largay, 66, from Tennessee, was reported missing July 24 while hiking the Appalachian Trail from West Virginia to Maine. After a week of extensive searching, the Maine Warden Service scaled back the search but left the investigation open and welcomed any new leads. “We will continue to search as long as we can reasonably believe that we can find something,” Cpl. John MacDonald said on Thursday, adding that any chance at closure for Largay’s family and friends is worth the search. “It still hasn’t been too long, and if there is the likelihood that we can find something, we will search. That’s what we do.” While no new leads were reported, according to MacDonald, the search will pick up in a couple of weeks with about 25 searchers and some search dogs. The warden service also has put up posters at popular trails and hunting locations in the area, showing a photo of Largay and details about her and her disappearance. “Every case is different, and we’re certainly not closing this one,” MacDonald said. “As time goes on, we’ll continue searching, weather and schedule permitting.” The news of Largay’s disappearance has spread among hikers who continue to call or email wardens, MacDonald said. “The hiking community is tightly knit, so I get the feeling that word about Largay has spread,” MacDonald said. “Many hikers are more diligent, looking for anything that could help while they’re hiking.” MacDonald said dozens of them have called with potential tips, some of which

have been helpful, while others prove to be fruitless. “We’ve talked to people claiming to see (Largay), and it wasn’t her,” MacDonald said. Largay’s last confirmed sighting, according to the warden service, was on July 22, when an unidentified female hiker took a picture of her at Poplar Ridge lean-to. MacDonald said the female hiker provided useful information that helped narrow Largay’s potential whereabouts, but he would not say anymore about the woman. He also said the warden service has contacted hiker Trevor Pike, whose father wrote in a blog that Pike had interacted with Largay, but he wouldn’t comment further. He said the information is kept confidential because of the ongoing missing-person investigation, which is typical during a search for a missing hiker. MacDonald also would not comment about the tip the warden service received about a hiker who reportedly stayed with Largay at the Spaulding Mountain lean-to the night before she was reported missing. “We’re not naming who the caller is, because the information that she provided may have been interpreted incorrectly,” he said. MacDonald said in a previous email that the warden service knows Largay didn’t spend the night at the Spaulding lean-to before she disappeared. The posters have been placed throughout the region where Largay was hiking. “Hunting season is coming up, and we want to get word out to those who haven’t heard about it yet,” MacDonald said. When Largay was reported missing, she was a day overdue for a meeting with her husband, George Largay, who had communicated with her throughout the trip via text messages and met her periodically to replenish her supplies. George Largay was planning to meet his wife July 23 in Wyman Township for supplies, but after a day passed with no sign of his wife, he reported her absence. MacDonald said Largay’s husband waited a day because the poor weather and the trail’s rough terrain prompted him to give her more time to show up. Largay started her hike in April, 950 miles south in West Virginia and was about 200 miles from the Appalachian Trail’s northern end, Mount Katahdin’s Baxter Peak, when she disappeared. The warden service said 98 percent of people reported missing are found within 48 hours. George Largay told the Tennessean newspaper in August that his family isn’t giving up hope but is moving on. Plans for a memorial service for his wife are set for Oct. 12 outside Atlanta, where the couple lived for many years, according to McNeely Pigott & Fox Public Relations. Largay has been a client of the firm for 15 years for business purposes, according to the company.

Missing woman, 81, found on Mount Desert Island

By Alex Barber, BDN Staff



Janet Post

Maine Warden Service

MOUNT DESERT ISLAND, Maine — An 81-year-old English woman who went [missing on Saturday afternoon](#) was found Sunday morning, according to a Maine Warden Service spokesman. Janet Post was found alive and well approximately a half mile from where she was last seen on Saturday at 5:45 p.m. She was located by wardens using watercraft at about 10 a.m. Sunday. “She stated she inadvertently got off the footpath back to her summer residence,” said Cpl. John MacDonald of the Maine Warden Service. “From that point, she made her way to the top of a ridge. She then spent the night in the woods and made her way to the shoreline [Sunday] morning.” Post did not require medical attention, he said. The Maine Warden Service was assisted by the Mount Desert Island Search and Rescue Team and Acadia National Park Rangers. Sunday’s search consisted of eight game wardens, two warden K9 teams, fixed wing aircraft and watercraft. Two male cousins of Post’s walked together with the 81-year-old on the one-third mile footpath from their summer home on Beech Hill Road in Mount Desert. The path leads to the shore of Long Pond. At approximately 5:45 p.m. Saturday, Post was last seen walking back toward her home on a wooden path by herself. About five to seven minutes later, the two cousins also returned back to the home, but Post was not there, according to MacDonald.

Missing Garland girls found after 90-minute search

By Dawn Gagnon, BDN Staff

GARLAND, Maine — After an hour-and-a-half long search in Garland, two girls reported missing from a local residence were found on a local trail. The girls were 5 years old and 7 years old, a Penobscot Regional Communications Center dispatcher said. They were reported missing from 12 Line Road Lane about 6 p.m. Saturday and had been missing for about an hour at that point. They were found by a state police trooper about 7:30 p.m., the dispatcher confirmed. Deputies from the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office and a state game warden helped look for the children, he said.

Missing Blue Hill woman found safely



83 year old Jane Guinness subject of search this morning in Blue Hill area. Photo credit-Maine Warden Service

Written by Jennifer Osborn

BLUE HILL — A Falls Bridge Road resident who has Alzheimer's disease and went missing overnight was found safe Monday morning in a driveway a half-mile from her home, the Maine Warden Service reported. The woman, who is 83, left her home around 8 p.m. Sunday. A game warden found the woman in the driveway around 7:15 Monday morning. "She wasn't able to say what she had done," said Sgt. Alan Gillis of the Maine Warden Service. The Maine State Police, the Maine Marine Patrol, Blue Hill Harbormaster Denny Robertson and members of Maine Search and Rescue Dogs from Searsport searched for the woman last night. The woman was in good condition this morning and didn't require any medical treatment, Gillis said.

No foul play suspected in death of missing Skowhegan man

The body of Vaughn Giggey III, 40, was found about noon Tuesday near Redington-Fairview General Hospital.

By [Doug Harlow dharlow@centralmaine.com](mailto:dharlow@centralmaine.com) Staff Writer



Lt. Kevin Adams, foreground, of the Maine Warden Service, state police Trooper Shawn Porter and search dog Myka emerge from the woods near Skowhegan's Reddington-Fairveiw General Hospital on Fairview Avenue shortly after finding the body of Vaughn Giggey III on Tuesday.

Morning Sentinel photo by Michael G. Seamans

SKOWHEGAN — The body of a Main Street man missing since late last week was found Tuesday in a small stream in rugged woods about a quarter mile from his home. The body of Vaughn Giggey III, 40, was found about noon near Redington-Fairview General Hospital by Maine State Trooper Shawn Porter and his search dog, Myka, according to Lt. Kevin Adam of the Maine Warden Service. He said the death does not look suspicious, but did not comment on a possible cause. Giggey was found in a wooded area in Currier Brook between Main Street and Fairview Avenue near the hospital's helicopter pad. The area between Giggey's apartment and his mother's home on Chamberlain Street where he was reportedly headed Friday night is rural residential, with marsh and bog land interspersed with woods and houses. The area where the body was found is in a sharp ravine carved by the brook and thick with bushes and thorns. "It's not a hospitable area," Adam said. The body was identified based on Giggey's

description, his size, clothing and proximity to his home, but official identification will be made by the Office of Chief Medical Examiner, Adam said. Skowhegan police Detective Ronnie Blodgett said he would attend Wednesday's autopsy in Augusta. He would not comment on whether police found a weapon or any kind of a note with the body. Family members gathered Tuesday afternoon outside the Chamberlain Street home of Giggey's mother Rosanne Dubay. A brother, Arthur Giggey, 35, said Vaughn did not have a flashlight in the dark or even his cellphone for light and may have lost his way in the thick underbrush. "He fell, more than likely, unconscious and they found him in a body of water," he said. Family members said Giggey was not drinking alcohol, but had smoked marijuana Friday night, which they said made him paranoid. They said he may have tried to walk through the woods to avoid contact with people. Giggey reportedly left his apartment about 10 p.m. Friday to walk to his mother's house. That's the last time he was heard from. "He was our best friend, our brother," another brother, Kyle Wyman, who turned 20 on Tuesday, said. "He was always there for us when he wanted to lend a hand or if I needed any help with money, rides, anything. Anything he could do to help, he was always there." Family members did not go to the scene to identify the body, Blodgett said. Tracking dogs from the Maine Warden Service and Maine State Police had spent Tuesday morning searching for Giggey. A Warden Service airplane and members of Maine Search and Rescue Dogs also were sent to the area. "This is one of those cases where you have a guy who left the house and hasn't been seen since," Adam said before Giggey was found. "Sometimes they just don't make sense until we get to the end." He said three search dogs, three game wardens and a state trooper began the search about 9 a.m. Tuesday. "To me, I'm glad that we at least found him," Adam said. "I'm not happy at the ending of it, but to have somebody that's missing, for the family, is worse than not knowing what happened to their loved one."

By Ryan McLaughlin and John Holyoke, BDN Staff

BENTON, Maine — An elderly Benton man who had been missing since Wednesday was found alive on Friday morning, according to officials. Arthur Wakeman, 86, of Benton, was located at 9:30 a.m. by a MASAR K9 search unit about 30 feet from a snowmobile trail, according to Cpl. John MacDonald of the Maine Warden Service. Wakeman was found by MASAR President Deborah Palman and her K9, Quinn, about 1.25 miles from his residence, MacDonald said. Wakeman had been reported missing Wednesday after leaving his home. When Palman located Wakeman, he was alive but in bad shape and was transported by ambulance to Inland Hospital in Waterville. His condition wasn't immediately available. Game wardens had received two credible sightings of Wakeman on Wednesday, with witnesses stating they had possibly seen him in the areas of Hanscom Road and East Benton Road, MacDonald explained. After search activities Thursday yielded no clues, approximately 22 MASAR volunteers, 16 game wardens, 30 fire and rescue personnel and state police fanned out Friday morning in attempt to find Wakeman, and the search had a happy ending when Palman discovered him.



Maine Warden Service
Arthur Wakeman



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Deb Palman

Skeletal remains found in Maine likely those of Virginia man, Paul Tolbert, 33, was attending a drug rehabilitation program in Winthrop when he disappeared.

Kennebec Journal

MANCHESTER — The skeletal remains found in Manchester over the weekend have been tentatively identified as those of a Virginia man who had been attending a drug rehabilitation program in Winthrop last year, when he disappeared.



[click image to enlarge](#)

EXCAVATION: Kennebec County Sheriff's Major Ryan Reardon, right, carries evidence collection tools as State Police Detective Terry James, center, lugs a metal detector while State Police Detective Sgt. Jason Richards carries hand tools into the woods of Manchester on Saturday afternoon to excavate skeletal remains discovered by hunters earlier in the day. The Sheriff's Department was called just after 8 a.m. when a deer hunter encountered the bones half a mile up a dirt logging road from the Puddledock Road, according to Reardon.

Staff file photo by Andy Molloy

The remains are believed to be those of Paul Tolbert, 33, of Radford, Va., according to Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety. Police contacted Tolbert's parents on Monday. They have agreed to provide DNA samples to help the state medical examiner's office make an official identification, McCausland said. Tolbert was in Maine attending a drug rehabilitation program in Winthrop when his family last spoke to him in January of this year, McCausland said. The family had not reported him missing. McCausland said there is no indication of foul play in Tolbert's death. Hunters found the human skeletal remains around 8 a.m. Saturday about 200 yards off Puddledock Road. Investigators estimated the remains had been there more than a year. Authorities were unable to immediately identify whether the remains were those of a male or female. The focus of the probe turned to Virginia after police found a Virginia driver's license with the body. Chief Deputy Ryan

Reardon of the Kennebec County Sheriff's Office said the case officially remains an active investigation until authorities can definitively determine that the remains are those of Tolbert. Once that confirmation has occurred, the remains will be turned over to the family, Reardon said. "I'm glad there is some closure for them," he said.

Resumed search effort fails to turn up missing Quebec man



Courtesy of Maine Warden Service

Maine Warden Service Mobile Command Vehicle, searchers, and Incident Command planners at the scene of the search for Renald Poulin, 69, of Quebec.

By Dawn Gagnon, BDN Staff

BANGOR, Maine — Despite a [renewed search effort](#) led Friday by the Maine Warden Service, dozens of searchers found no signs of a [67-year-old Canadian man](#) who has been missing for more than two weeks, Cpl. John MacDonald said in a statement Friday evening.

MacDonald said last month that wardens believe Renald Poulin, a Saint Come, Quebec, resident who was in the area to explore abandoned tram rail systems, may have encountered a problem in the Umbazooksus Dam area as early as Tuesday, Nov. 26, when he crossed the border. On Friday, MacDonald said the search has been suspended until temperatures rise and the snow has melted. [Snow has hampered the search for Poulin since game wardens began looking for him](#) on Saturday, Nov. 30. [Wardens came across his green 2002 Kia Sedona near Umbazooksus Dam during an unrelated search](#) for two missing hunters from Millinocket, who were found shortly thereafter, MacDonald said earlier. The primary search area was Township 6 Range 13, located in Piscataquis County, and included both the western and southwestern shores of Umbazooksus Lake, Umbazooksus Stream and significant portions of the once-

used tram railway system believed to be Poulin's destination. MacDonald said Friday the ice that has formed on Umbazooksus Lake, nearby small bogs and other wet areas has made the effort to locate Poulin especially difficult. "Weather conditions will need to improve significantly before further searching can occur," he said. Search teams were out all day Friday, conducting a combination of grid, hasty and K-9 team searches, he said. Temperatures remained around 10 degrees and snow fell during the morning hours, MacDonald said. Searchers covered new areas and some previously searched areas were covered again. Participating in the effort were 22 state game wardens, 18 members of the Maine Association of Search and Rescue, or MESAR, as well as four rangers from the Maine Forest Service and members of the Civil Air Patrol, MacDonald said. Search teams associated with MASAR included Lincoln Search and Rescue, Lincoln County Search and Rescue, Wilderness Search and Rescue, Waldo County Search and Rescue, Franklin County Search and Rescue and the Maine Association of Search and Rescue Dogs, MacDonald said. Game wardens are asking anyone who may have seen Poulin's vehicle parked at the Umbazooksus Dam between Nov. 26 and Nov. 30 to call the Public Safety Dispatch Center in Houlton at 800-924-2261.