

LOCAL NEWS

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Discovery raises fear for missing woman

■ A mother thinks her daughter has been tortured or even killed.

By GEORGE DOUGHERTY

HUDSON — Mildred Young's daughter had been missing for nearly a week when her voice, loud and tense, came over the answering machine. "Help — let me out."

been enough to keep Young, 59, up until late at night, soothing her nerves with cable TV movies. They don't help much. Young is certain her daughter, a 40-year-old woman with a habit of fraying stockings and a diagnosis of mental illness, has been abducted. Beyond that, Young said, one of two things has happened to her. "She is in trouble. Big trouble," Young said, wiping her eyes with a paper towel. "They're probably torturing her."

Angus was reported missing April 10. Good Friday. Her sister went out for a doctor's appointment and came back to find Angus was gone, according to the Sheriff's Office. Later that day, the bartender at the Hay Loft tavern on Little Road and State Road 52 reported seeing Angus. "He cut her off because she was walking in circles," said Young. "To my

knowledge, that was the last anyone saw her, except for the one who took her." Her finger, with the nail painted red, was found Thursday by a Hudson resident. The man's girlfriend had seen a finger in the same spot Wednesday night as she walked to work along U.S. 19, Powers said. "She saw it and thought it was fake, or some kind of joke," Powers said. But her boyfriend looked the next day and found the finger. He called the Sheriff's Office, and detectives made a tentative match between the finger and prints taken when Angus was arrested. The Sheriff's Office is asking anyone with information about Angus to call Detective J. Bousquet at (813) 847-6878, ext. 747.



Dawn Angus, 40, who is reportedly it has been missing since April 10. A piece of her middle finger was found on U.S. 19 in Pasco County.

BRIEFLY

Fall through termite tent seriously injures worker

TAMPA — A pest control worker was in critical condition Friday, a day after falling 20 feet while putting up a fumigation tent at Webb Middle School, sheriff's deputies said. Christopher Dye, 21, an employee of Hester Termite and Pest Control, was adjusting the tent at the northeast corner of the school about 9 a.m. Thursday when co-workers told deputies they heard a scream.

2 men charged in cab robbery, carjacking

ST. PETERSBURG — A pair of 21-year-old men have been charged in the January robbing of a cab driver and a March carjacking. Abbott Lee Adams, 635 11th Ave. S., and Calvin Evans, 1101 11th Ave. S., were charged Thursday with armed robbery and armed carjacking. Police say Adams and Evans robbed a Blue Star cablie the night of Jan. 19 at 12th Avenue S. and 25th Street. The driver was left in the face and shoulder.

Police say man took cab to rob grocery stores

ST. PETERSBURG — The second time wasn't the charm for Joshua Judd. The 18-year-old transient was charged with two counts of armed robbery early Friday after police said he took a ride in a taxi to a grocery store for the second time in less than 24 hours. In the first incident, police said Judd took a cab Thursday afternoon to K&A N. Kerry at 2134 34th St. N. and told the driver he was going to get money for cab fare. The suspicious driver ran him hand a clerk a note. The note demanded cash and implied Judd had a gun, police said. The clerk handed Judd money, but the cab was refused to give Judd a ride.

2 men arrested, marijuana seized from 'grow house'

TAMPA — Hillsborough sheriff's deputies arrested two men they say were operating a "grow house" with 500,000 worth of marijuana plants ranging in size from 2 to 6 feet tall. Stephen William Grit, 35, and Darren Anthony Wilkes, 35, were charged Thursday with cultivation and possession of marijuana. Grit also is charged with armed trafficking in cocaine and possession of cocaine. Deputies said they found the plants, along with 30 grams of cocaine, grow lights and related equipment, a Roger handgun, 5 pounds of dried marijuana and money after searching Grit's home at 10306 Brimblewood Drive in Citrus Park.

Man charged with killing ex-wife in Hawaii in '75

LARGO — A 75-year-old man was charged Friday in the 1975 murder of his ex-wife in Hawaii. William Edwin Scheiblen of 1105 Melba Court was arrested on a murder warrant issued by the Honolulu Police Department. He's accused of following his ex-wife Catherine Scheiblen from California to Hawaii in May 1975 and shooting her in the head. The 35-year-old woman was found dead in her Walkall motel room. Her ex-husband survived a gunshot wound to the head, said Honolulu police spokeswoman Jean Motoyama. Police found a suicide note in the room. Scheiblen was transferred to a California hospital after the shooting and wasn't expected to survive, Motoyama said. Police only recently learned he was still alive. Scheiblen is in the Pinellas County Jail.

For art's sake



Mary Murdy of Dallas sets up her tent for the 22nd Annual Mainland Arts Festival, which opens today at North Straub Park in St. Petersburg. The festival, which features music and artists' exhibits, will run 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

What a weekend

Here's a quick look at some of the things going on this weekend around Tampa Bay. For more complete schedules, refer to Friday's Weekend section.

Mainland Arts Festival This premier arts event runs 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at North Straub Park, Beach Drive and Fifth Avenue NE along St. Petersburg's downtown waterfront. It's free. Artists from the 28 states, their entertainment, here's today's schedule: 1 p.m. Doctor Rock 2 p.m. American Stage in the Park 2:30 p.m. Frank Foy and the Council Fishes 4 p.m. The Women's Blues Review

The X Games The ESPN X Games T-shirt, t-shirt for the X Games in San Diego, will end at 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today and Sunday on The Pier approach on the downtown St. Petersburg waterfront. The ESPN X Games, an interactive sports and music event, will be held alongside the X Games, setting enthusiasts to not a direct course with beach camps and exhibits. Beach Games, Fat, T-shirt, the X Games and Ali's New Wall will play at various times.

MacDill Air Show MacDill officials suggest that visitors from Tampa

use the Boulevard-Bowling, MacDill Avenue and Manhattan Avenue areas and that out-of-town visitors take Interstate 75, the Crossbow Expressway or Grand Boulevard to the 24th Main Highway gate. Bring lawn chairs and sunscreen. Leave behind the cooler, glass containers, alcoholic beverages and pets. Today's highlights: 8 a.m. — Guts open 9:30 a.m. — U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team opening ceremony 9:55 a.m. — U.S. Special Operations Command high altitude, low opening parachute jump 10:25 a.m. — Joint Communications Support Element static parachute jump 12:50 p.m. — F-16 Eagle demonstration 1:05 p.m. — Helo take by F-16, F-15, F-16 Fighting Falcon 1:25 p.m. — Red Storm Stearman Squadron demonstration 2:25 p.m. — U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team full show 3:30 p.m. — Thunderbirds air show

Free county concert County music show features a free concert today at Largo Central Park. Musicians will perform on the Starline Stage at 6 p.m., with local country artist David Lee Martin opening at 8:30 p.m. Shows begin at 8 p.m. at the southeast corner of East Bay Drive and Seminole Boulevard. No alcohol, video cameras or pets allowed.

Ousted mayor's appeal rejected

■ The two men who both claim to be mayor of Belair-Shore say they are ready to let the voters settle the matter.

By AMELIA DAVIS

BELAIR-SHORE — Jerry Prescott, one of two men who claim to be mayor, moved step closer to securing his position Friday. A court in Lakeland threw out an appeal by the town's other mayor, George Jrotka. Jrotka had asked the appeals court to shut down a lower court order. The lower court ordered Belair-Shore commissioners to schedule a meeting last November at which Jrotka was ousted from office. Also, in his appeal, Jrotka had asked the court to determine whether he or Prescott should be mayor. The appeals court declined to make that ruling. Another Prescott son Jrotka had seen a copy of the dismissed appeal Friday afternoon. After a reporter read it to him over the telephone, Prescott said it appeared that the court's decision solidified his claim to the mayor's post.

Family files suit over reburial of woman

■ Kerry Morphy's family questions whether mementos, or even her remains, survived a transfer between Sylvan Abbey cemeteries.

By STEPHAN MOHLGREN

CLEARWATER resident Kerry Morphy drowned in October 1996, but family created her remains to Sylvan Abbey Memorial Park and Sunset Front Road. It was a beautiful spot, she had always said, and she wanted to be buried there. Morphy, who sold crystals from a booth in Pinellas Square Mall, was a spiritual person, her family said. They picked out a crypt near a stained-glass window at the cemetery's new mausoleum, which was still under construction. Because that crypt wasn't ready, Morphy was temporarily interred in another crypt in the cemetery's new mausoleum, which was still under construction.

members, photographs of friends and family, antique T-shirt cards, a pewee crucifix, a purple silk prayer cloth, healing stones and a flower letter from his family. They never took time to switch it. They switched her and left everything else to burn in the casket," said Kerry's sister, Deanna Morphy. "When I first found out about it, my legs shook and I totally collapsed." "We've not even seen her remains are there," Robert Knapke, spokesman for Sylvan Abbey Enterprises Inc., which owns the cemetery, declined to comment Friday. Problems with the transfer came to light when a former cemetery employee who had witnessed the burning came forward with details, Deanna Morphy said. She refused to identify the employee. This employee saw the old casket dug open during the burning and "a lot of personal stuff fell into the fire," said Clearwater attorney Tom Cary, who represents the family. The suit asks damages for "harmful interference with a dead body." Deanna Morphy, her mother, and brother, John Morphy, have suffered severe mental pain, the suit says. Deanna Morphy, 28, who said she was the user's best friend, said she dreamed about the casket's trip across Tampa Bay the night it happened. "Kerry came to me in a dream," she said. "I saw her going across a causeway. That's what makes this so all unbelievable."

Matthew Norris, her fiancé, confirms that Deanna and her mother kept discussing the meaning of the dream months before the disgruntled employee came forward. "I thought they were crazy talking about this," Norris said. "It was saying, 'This is too far out. You are much too involved.'"

Mr. Baseball preaches dome geography lesson

■ A Pinellas commissioner mails letters, maps and compasses to newspapers to make it clear: The Devil Rays play in St. Petersburg.

By JOE NEWMAN

A few editors at the nation's largest newspapers will open their mail this week and probably see one of two communications about St. Petersburg. 1) It's the name of Tropicana Field, 2) It's the name of a serious identity crisis.



Pinellas County Commissioner Bob Stewart preaches the Devil Rays on Opening Day March 31 at Tropicana Field. That's in St. Petersburg, he has informed newspaper editors.

What stirred Stewart in the snail St. Petersburg got during the opening week of the Major League Baseball season. It is known about the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in "near Tampa, Fla." and the New York Times had a photo caption that read "opened opening day in 'Tampa.'" USA Today ran a map that placed Tropicana Field somewhere near the intersection of Interstate 75 and Interstate 4. The television networks made similar gaffes. "Hopefully, they'll get it right next time," said Stewart, a former St. Petersburg City Council member. "The thing

we're into is geographical accuracy — this is not to play down or ignore all of the Devil Rays regional identity."

W. T. Daniel, spokesman for the county's Convention and Visitors Bureau, says he still gets calls from baseball writers who were surprised that the Devil Rays play in St. Petersburg. "The comment I get is, 'Well, it's called Tampa Bay, why don't they play in Tampa Bay?'" Daniel said. "What I tell them is, 'They play in Tampa Bay, they'd better believe Tampa Bay.' It's a body of water."