

Kerrville Daily Times

Hill Country

Tuesday, December 31, 1991 5A

Austin police still puzzled by murder of 4 girls at store

Parents angry, lawmen frustrated by lack of evidence and suspects

AUSTIN (AP) — It has been more than three weeks since four teenage Austin girls were found murdered in a yogurt store, but police say they still have no suspects.

"I'm feeling some anger now and want to see the S.O.B.s caught," said Bob Ayers, the father of one of the victims.

"We need those around them (the murderers) to report them to the police for questioning so that we can get the stuff out of their minds," said Frank Strick, the father of two other victims.

On Dec. 6, police responded to a fire at an 11-11 Believe It's Yogurt shop. They found the four bodies tied to the back of the store. Police believe the fire was started to cover up the murders.

"I'm very angry there's inside evidence," Lt. Andrew Waters said Monday. "It's getting very frustrating. We've run through every tip of the phone tips we've had. The information has dried up and we haven't got us anything."

The FBI's behavioral science experts are compiling a profile of possible suspects and the Texas Department of Public Safety already has developed a profile. The Las Cruces, N.M., police department, which has been trying to solve a similar case since Feb. 1990, also contacted the Austin police.

As part of their own research, police have researched recent parades with a history of attempting to hide crimes with fires. But Waters said, none of the efforts have yet led to any suspects.

"We've questioned a lot of people and taken statements from a lot of people but nothing firm has developed," Waters said. "We're still hopeful that the right information could come in at any time."

"We feel that at this point there's a bond to be somebody who's heard something about it, at least second-hand. Those kinds of things can't be kept quiet. It's got to be almost inevitable."

If a person provides information through Crime Stoppers, they are eligible for up to \$7,000 in reward money.

The yogurt shop is offering \$25,000 for information leading to an arrest and indictment, and Crime Stoppers adds its standard \$1,000 for the same information. A group of local businesses have gathered an additional \$10,000 as an arrest and conviction in the crime.

The land that the store burned because it was feared people were withholding information very important. The store was destroyed, said Sgt. George Vanderhulst. "We need to know it."

"The matter how insignificant they think it is, we need to know it," Vanderhulst said. "It just might be the vital link we need."

Waters said it is not unusual for a case to drag out before the physical information comes out.



Fair queen pageant

The eighth Annual Kerr County Fair Queen scholarship pageant will be held Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Dieter Chapel Auditorium in row, Heather Robertson, Amanda Sebor, Tiffany Baird, Autumn

Fairwater and Janice Medford. Not pictured is Elizabeth Ann Koch. The current queen is pictured in second row. They are from left, Jennifer Bradford, duchess; Rene Curtis, queen; and Brandi Jones, duchess.

Crimes against women, children group forming

On Dec. 7, a white male, 6 feet 6 inches tall, came out of the back at the Comfort tennis courts and removed his clothing, exposing himself to two young girls who were playing tennis. He was last seen driving an old, scratched up, white pickup truck with a "hoodache" rack.

Concerned members of the community are forming a "Crimes Against Women and Children" group and are holding a meeting Thursday, Jan. 9, 7 p.m., at the Community Center. Topics such as self-defense, crime prevention and the correct way to report a crime will be discussed. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

The Comfort Chamber of Commerce's newly formed Economic Development/Marketing Committee will meet Thursday, Jan. 16, at the Community Center.

The committee has completed a survey which will be taken to local businesses for their input and recommendations concerning tourism and development of the area. Those who wish to complete a survey or participate in any way are asked to contact Shirley Friesenbahn at 992-2654.

The Comfort Public Library is seeking contributions to its Endowment Fund. Money contributed to this fund is an investment in the library's future. The principal remains intact, while the interest is used in the yearly operating budget, thereby ensuring the consistent stability of the library.

Contributions to the endowment fund or membership in the Friends of the Library organization represent support and confidence in the Comfort Public Library. For further information, contact Library Director Lois Therrell at 992-2396.

Call or come by the Kerr County AGCS Office, 426 Water Street 106, Kerrville, TX 78028, 512/906-4911.

If you have any questions, please call or come by the Kerr County AGCS Office, 426 Water Street 106, Kerrville, TX 78028, 512/906-4911.

Hill Country Today

Police report

Family violence KERRVILLE — A woman reported to police Monday that her 40-year-old son had threatened to burn her in the 2300 block of Travis.

Thief KERRVILLE — Cash snatching \$127 was reported stolen from a car in the 300 block of East Street Monday.

Ring stolen KERRVILLE — A 5000 ring was reported stolen from the 100 block of Sutherland Monday.

Harassing phone calls KERRVILLE — Residents in the 500 block of Tivy and the 300 block of West Crest reported Monday they had been receiving harassing phone calls.

Scanner stolen KERRVILLE — Police reported Monday a hand-held scanner valued at \$99 was stolen from the 1100 block of Justice Highway.

Wallet stolen KERRVILLE — A wallet containing approximately \$200 was reported stolen from the 300 block of Water Monday.

Money orders stolen KERRVILLE — A money order valued at \$19.50 was reported stolen from a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Meadowview Monday.

Hill, who died Monday at his residence, was pending at Grimes Funeral Chapel in Kerrville.

idents of Kerrville since 1967, formerly residing in Hillcock. He was a retired merchant seaman.

Survivors include four sisters, Pat Barton and Mildred Lampo, both of Diamond Bar, Calif.; and Bonnie Thomas and Peggy Davis, both of Los Angeles, Calif.

Grimes Funeral Chapel in Kerrville is in charge of arrangements.

Other survivors include five daughters, Alvin, Mary Lou, Ruby and Ruby Ella Tschurt, both of Lakshill; Lana Lee, daughter of Ashburn, Kan.; Georgia Mae Leitch of Commerce and Laina Mae Bernatchez of San Antonio; two sons, Earl Lich of Lakshill; 19 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Betty Jean Beattie.

Funerals were to be held Monday, Jan. 7, at noon at Grimes Funeral Chapel in Kerrville. Burial will be in the Lakshill Memorial Park in San Antonio.

Memorials may be made to the Lakshill EMS. Grimes Funeral Chapel in Bandera was in charge of arrangements.

Grille, who died Monday at a Kerrville hospital, are pending at Kerrville Funeral Home.

NOTICE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1991, REINHOLT TV SERVICE WILL BE KNOWN AS REINHOLT ANTENNA SERVICE. WE WILL NO LONGER REPAIR TELEVISION SETS. PHONE # 512-257-8911

Bobbie Burrow COMFORT CORRESPONDENT

Wool, mohair producers may file for incentive payments

KERRVILLE — Effusive with the 1991 marketing year, wool and mohair producers who file for incentive payments are subject to payment limitations and payment eligibility from program rules, according to Mrs. Mary Lee, County Executive Director of the local Agricultural Substitution and Conservation Service office.

Wool and mohair sales documents for the 1988 marketing year must be filed by today. Under the new procedure, sales documents for 1989, 1990 and 1991 must be filed by March 2, 1992.

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A Thought For The Week By John M. Grimes

What each of us thinks, and what each of us does, has an effect on the lives of others. We may think we have little or no influence, but we do, and we usually underestimate this. Each life we touch changes because of us. Many of the lives we touch throughout our existence will neither benefit or be harmed because of us. But, again, we have more power than we think we do and most of the time we never know how we influence the lives of others for the better.

Grimes Funeral Chapels MRS. ALVIN M. GRIMES KERRVILLE, TEXAS 78028