



PS Diver Monthly 93

Volume 7 * Issue 93

March 2012

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PSD FATALITY

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CONTINUING ED.**

Greetings,

Recently there was an ethnic/political satire joke posted on our discussion group. The joke itself was a rehash of an older joke that just had some current references.

It was not intended to be offensive or even offer political commentary. It was something that was intended to be funny. I, and most of the group, would be lying if we said we did not see some humor in the post.

The problem though, and the reason for this issues editorial, is that it was not appropriate for our group. I am not saying I am a prude or even a censure. I do however believe that a discussion group as large as ours is no longer private. That being the case, I feel a responsibility to maintain a higher degree of professionalism on the group than I would in a more private setting. There are things we may say in a small group that we would not be willing to repeat from a podium in a sold out auditorium.

Our discussion group is an open but moderated forum. Our Moderators do not censure postings as a general rule but do keep out advertisements, spam and flame posts. I rarely refuse to allow a post through. The joke went through by accident and under normal circumstances would not have made it through.

There is a need for us as a community to maintain a minimal level of professionalism when we are in public. This I believe is one of our biggest responsibilities. We deal with a missing person's friends and family members at the worst times in their lives.

In our classes we teach teams to maintain a physical separation from family. We do that for a number of reasons. I do not believe a family should see us bring out their loved one in a recovery bag and do my best to see that they are distracted or separated during that part of the recovery. I do not want their memories to include that nightmare and will protect them from it when I can.

Body recovery is stressful no matter how many times you have done it. It is stressful as a fire fighter, EMS, or LE when we have to deal with a fatality. But we accept that stress. At the time, we often deal with it by cutting up, joking around and the occasionally use of dark humor.

Hearing us joke around, not knowing that it is a response to stress, is not helpful to the family's situation. We know that and, for the most part, we do maintain a separation from the public when we are working a recovery operation. But there are occasions where we are within earshot of those who will not appreciate dark humor.

We often say we do the job because we want to give closure to the family. Do we really mean that? Are we truly being empathetic with them and their loss? If we are sincere, we are trying to help reduce their pain and grief as much as possible.

Our level of professionalism should be above reproach at all times but especially when we are in view of the public.

Dive Safe,

Mark Phillips
Editor / Publisher
PSDiver Monthly
www.PSDiver.com

If you would like to discuss this topic or any other, join our discussion group:
[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

Special To PSDiver

EPA's Use of Online Contaminated Water Dive Planning Tools

By Sean Sheldrake, Alan Humphrey, and Rob Pedersen, USEPA

Polluted waters are a concern for all types of professional divers including those in public safety. Potential pollution exposure led the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to upgrade protective measures for its dive teams conducting work in harbors and other areas, such as keeping the diver completely dry—and other upgrades to personal protective equipment (PPE), requiring 40 hour HAZWOPER initial training and annual refreshers, decontamination, medical monitoring, and immunizations. Unlike some EPA divers conducting sampling, most divers do not seek out contaminated water dive sites. However, as pollution becomes an ever-increasing problem, public safety divers should also know how to identify and assess polluted waters. There are several online tools available

for planning a polluted water dive or ensuring the dive you are planning is not a likely polluted water dive.

In waters near metropolitan areas, bacteria in the water column can be a problem from a variety of sources, including pet waste and sewage overflows. [EPA's Beach Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Program \(BEACH\)](#) provides regular bacterial counts at popular marine and Great Lakes recreational sites. Information on sewer discharge location, overflow frequency and publicly available bacteria count information can be a valuable dive planning tool on whether to dive, or when to upgrade PPE and other measures.



EPA Divemaster Chad Schulze preparing an EPA diver in a superlite 37 mated to a Viking drysuit. Photo by Sean Sheldrake, USEPA.

In addition, chemical and biological contaminant trends in the water column are available through [NOAA's Mussel Watch Program](#) in many harbor areas. Mussels accumulate contaminants from the water column that can be at concentrations too low to see at one particular point and time, or spike to high concentrations on such an irregular basis that they are hard to sample, but nevertheless become part of diver exposure at a site. Outfalls, which are places where drains or sewers empty into a body of water, can also discharge a variety of harmful chemicals to the dive site.

EPA's [Envirofacts](#) database presents outfall location and data that can be of use in planning for worst-case water quality at a particular dive site. You can also obtain a list of chemically impaired water bodies from [EPA's 303d list](#). This list very likely includes a river or lake in your diving area that is known to have chronically elevated levels of contaminants in the water column. Even use of up-to-date navigation charts can provide some level of outfall information. Internet searches on [fish](#) and [shellfish](#) advisories may also help identify polluted waters. While fish advisories can apprise a dive team of a variety of contaminants in the water column and sediment, shellfish closures can do the same—but also typically provide pinpointed information about repeated high coliform bacteria counts in a particular area.

It is important to note many [Superfund Sites](#) in various stages of cleanup are near or include bodies of water, which typically must be treated as polluted water dives by EPA divers. Most Superfund sites have some online chemical data available for the water column and/or sediment. Sites undergoing other types of cleanup, such as [RCRA corrective action](#) may also be nearby, which can present exposure issues for divers as well.

If specific chemical contaminants are known or suspected on a site, a hazard analysis should be included in the dive plan to address potential exposure pathways and identify specific equipment or procedures necessary to minimize risk factors. Several online chemical data bases, such as [EPA Integrated Risk Information System \(IRIS\)](#), [NOAA CAMEO Chemicals Database of Hazardous Materials](#), [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards](#) or [CDC Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry](#), contain useful

information on chemical properties and chemical hazards to human health.

EPA often uses protective gear and protocols when diving known or suspected contaminated areas (e.g., hazardous waste sites, urban areas, ports/harbors, sites with fish or shellfish consumption advisories, or sites with a high number or close proximity of outfalls) rather than relying on real-time water analyses as levels can change with the turn of a valve or after a heavy rain event. To safely dive in chemically or biologically polluted water, divers must receive proper training to recognize and mitigate hazards. Online tools will help divers assess what contaminants may be present at the dive site, what effect these contaminants may have on the diver or the diver's equipment, and what equipment and decontamination procedures may be necessary to protect the diver. Many persistent chemicals present in sediments (PCBs, metals, and heavy oils), which pose potential hazards to divers, cannot be analyzed on a real-time basis.

For more information on polluted water diving available from EPA:

- [EPA scientific diving publications](#)
- [EPA safety and standard operating procedures for polluted water diving](#)
- [Online planning resources](#)

Disclaimer: This paper is an illustration of steps that dive units can take to avoid or minimize polluted water exposure and is not the official view of the USEPA. Mention of any specific brand or model instrument or material, or protocol does not constitute endorsement by the USEPA.

Immersion Pulmonary Edema

By Brian Harper

Pulmonary edema is an abnormal leakage of fluid from the bloodstream into the alveoli, the microscopic air sacs in the lungs. It is most often the result of heart failure or other cardiac problems. Sometimes, however, pulmonary edema is observed in swimmers and divers when no underlying medical cause is apparent. This condition, immersion pulmonary edema (IPE), presents as a rapid onset of shortness of breath, cough and sometimes blood-tinged, frothy sputum. Because the fluid builds up in the air-containing spaces of the lungs and interrupts gas exchange, IPE resembles drowning. The important difference is that the obstructing fluid comes from within the body rather than from inhalation of surrounding water.

The **DAN Medical Information Department** receives a few calls each month in which divers report symptoms suggestive of IPE. Anyone who experiences sudden shortness of breath or persistent cough while diving should abort the dive in as safe a manner as possible and breathe 100 percent oxygen on the surface. Further diving should be postponed until a physician can be consulted. Although IPE often resolves quickly once a diver has exited the water, respiratory distress in the diving environment can be extremely dangerous.

To learn more about why IPE occurs, under what circumstances someone who experienced IPE can return to diving, and what about the condition is still a mystery, visit www.AlertDiver.com/IPE.

NEWS

Newberg dive crew pulls man from sinking vehicle

http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/02/newberg_dive_crew_pulls_man_fr.html

February 25, 2012 By [Kelly House, The Oregonian](#)

A [Newberg Fire Department](#) dive team pulled an uncooperative man from a vehicle that veered off the road in a wetland area on Saturday afternoon.

Crews responded at about 2 p.m. to [North Valley Road in rural Yamhill County](#) after a resident called to report a vehicle that had left the road and plunged into the 5-foot-deep wetland.

The caller, who owns a boat, had tried to rescue the adult male driver of the silver Jeep Grand Cherokee, but the driver resisted his assistance, Newberg Fire Department spokesman Gert Zoutendijk said.

Responding crews found the man acting irrationally inside the vehicle, which was submerged up to the windows.



Courtesy of Newberg Fire Department
Newberg Fire Department divers rescue a man from the water after the man drove his Jeep into a wetland Saturday in rural Yamhill County.

When they attempted to rescue him from the water, he resisted. "He didn't seem suicidal, but possibly impaired of some sort ... or maybe hypothermic," Zoutendijk said.

Crews managed to get the man to shore in a floating basket before he was flown by a Life Flight helicopter to a Portland's [Oregon Health & Science University Hospital](http://www.oregon.gov/health/OSU/OSU_Hospital.html).

Man dies after jump into Calumet River from Skyway

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-man-jumps-into-calumet-river-from-skyway-20120222.0,7036158.story>

February 22, 2012 Staff report



A rescue diver jumps from a helicopter into the Calumet River after a person reportedly jumped from the Skyway Bridge near 98th Street. (Devlin Brown, for the Tribune / February 22, 2012)

A man who jumped into the Calumet River from the Skyway Bridge this evening has died from his injuries,

officials said.

[Chicago Fire Department](http://www.chicagofire.com/) divers rescued the man who was taken in "very critical condition" to [Northwestern Memorial Hospital](http://www.northwestern.edu/hospital/), said fire media spokesman Joe Roccasalva. He was later pronounced dead, according to a spokesman for the Cook County medical examiner's office.

Initial information indicates police were called to Interstate 90 at the Calumet River about 5 p.m. and the man jumped into the river at that location, said News Affairs Officer Veejay Zala.

Slidell Police Divers Search For Murder Weapon

<http://www.abc26.com/news/local/wgno-news-slidell-police-divers-search-for-murder-weapon,0,899458.story?track=rss>

March 6, 2012 Darian Trotter WGNO News

SLIDELL, LA.— Homicide detectives in Slidell are following leads they hope will help them recover a murder weapon.

Dive teams are searching the bayou in Heritage Park; near the home of a woman who was stabbed to death late last month



Divers with the Slidell Police Department spent a good part of the day searching the chilly waters of the bayou at Heritage Park.

Their goal is to find a murder weapon and other evidence in the case of Stacey King.

In murky water, it won't be easy. "The visibility down there is only a couple of inches so they're painstakingly going inch by inch at the bottom of the bayou trying to locate the knife," Slidell's Assistant Police Chief Kevin Foltz said.

32-year King was stabbed to death two weeks ago inside her apartment on Bayou Lane.

Investigators have charged three suspects with killing her, then setting her apartment on fire to cover their tracks.

"There's enough evidence we believe to convict them," Foltz said. "That will be up to a judge and a jury; of course have the weapon, the murder weapon is always good to have."

"We're hoping to clear the whole area in question. We've got two areas cleared today and we've got two more possibly three more in the next couple of days," Dive Team Leader, Mark Michaud said.

Divers methodically searched the bottom of the bayou by hand; carefully marking the targeted area.

They covered every inch twice, vertically and horizontally.

WGNO News Reporter Darian Trotter asked, "If it's out there, how confident are you guys that you'll find it? We'll find it, we'll find it." Michaud replied.

"We're finding enough things on the bottom, coke cans,

Dixie cups, and such," Michaud explained. "I felt a lot of potato chip bags, things like that. We're finding a lot of things like that down there and most of those are smaller than what the knife would be so."

"If it's there I have no doubt we'll find it," Michaud said.

Divers will resume their search early Wednesday morning.

Police dog used in search for Suzanne Pilley found 'positive indications' of human remains

<http://local.stv.tv/edinburgh/news/299959-police-dog-used-in-search-for-suzanne-pilley-found-positive-indications-of-human-remains/>

6 March 2012 17:30 GMT

PC Simone Thompson told the murder trial Buster had previously found a body in nine feet of water. A police dog searching for missing bookkeeper Suzanne Pilley gave "positive indications" of a smell of decomposing remains or blood in her office, a court heard.

PC Simone Thompson, 44, told the High Court in Edinburgh that a Springer Spaniel called Buster was used in a search of Ms Pilley's workplace at Infrastructure Management Limited (IML) in the city's Thistle Street, Edinburgh, in May 2010.

The animal, which was on loan from South Yorkshire Police, was trained to smell for decomposing human remains and blood.

PC Thompson said the dog gave "positive indications" of a smell of decomposing human remains or blood in the office during the search.

The police officer was giving evidence on the 12th day of the trial of Ms Pilley's former boyfriend, David Gilroy, 49, who denies killing her.

PC Thompson, who works for South Yorkshire Police, told prosecution lawyer Alex Prentice QC that Buster previously helped officers recover the body of a woman. The dog handler said she was standing by the side of a river when Buster barked to tell her that he could smell decomposing human flesh in the water. Police divers were then called into search the waters and they found the corpse of the woman concerned.

PC Thompson said: "She was in nine feet of water. She had drowned."

The court also heard how on Sunday May 9, PC Thompson, a colleague and Buster were asked by Lothian and Borders Police to search parts of the office complex which housed IML at Thistle Street.

PC Thompson said that during the search, Buster gave a number of "positive indications" to her that he could smell decomposing human remains at the complex. David Gilroy denies murdering Ms Pilley at Thistle Street, Edinburgh or at another location in Scotland by "means unknown" on May 4, 2010.

Suzanne has never been traced nor has her body been recovered.

Gilroy, from Edinburgh, has also pleaded not guilty to four other charges which allege he committed a series of criminal acts across Scotland between August 2009 and June 2010.

The trial before Lord Bracadale continues on Wednesday.

Headless torso IS EastEnders star Gemma McCluskie

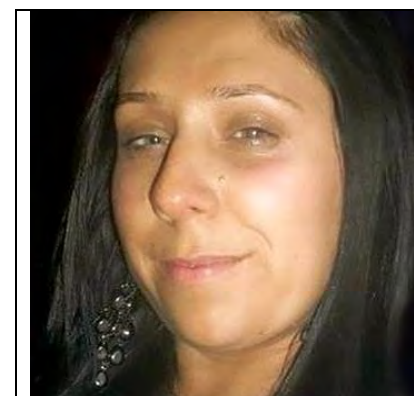
<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4181928/Headless-torso-IS-EastEnders-star-Gemma-McCluskie.html>

Police ID body as they hold brother

09th March 2012 By ANTHONY FRANCE

EASTENDERS actress Gemma McCluskie told pals she was "terrified of a man" weeks before a headless torso feared to be hers was found.

A former school pal of missing star Gemma - who played Kerry Skinner in the BBC soap - said: "It's shocking. Gemma was so beautiful - but she was terrified of this man."



**Vanished ... TV actress
Gemma McCluskie**

Neighbours reported hearing a loud row at the family home where Gemma lived before she vanished last week. Police divers pulled the headless body, also missing its hands and legs, from Regent's Canal a few miles from the flat in Bethnal Green, East London, on Tuesday.

Another life-long friend said Gemma, 29, would have "fought for her life" against an attacker.

The woman pal said: "She was feisty and bubbly, like her character on EastEnders. Gemma is not the sort of girl who would have wandered off." She added Gemma had spent all her time looking after her very sick mum Pauline, 56.

The friend said: "She and Pauline were more like sisters than mother and daughter."

Cops were last night still quizzing Gemma's brother Tony, 35. Police cannot formally identify the body until they get forensic confirmation.

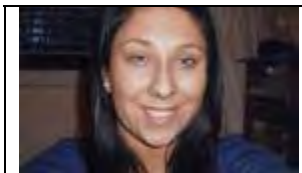
Police appeal for more information in hunt for killer of *EastEnders* star Gemma McCluskie

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/mar/11/ukcrime-eastenders>
10 March 2012 Tom Morgan [The Observer](#)

Police review CCTV footage of Gemma McCluskie at hospital opening before her torso was found in the Regent's Canal in London

Former *EastEnders* stars have joined detectives in appealing for information after the death of Gemma McCluskie, the soap star whose dismembered body was found in London's Regent's Canal. Her 35-year-old brother, Tony, remains in police custody for questioning.

Officers are reviewing CCTV footage of the actress attending the opening of the new £650m Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, east London, last Thursday. Detective Superintendent Fiona Mallon, who is leading the Scotland Yard investigation, said: "It is important that we piece together Gemma's movements from Wednesday, 29



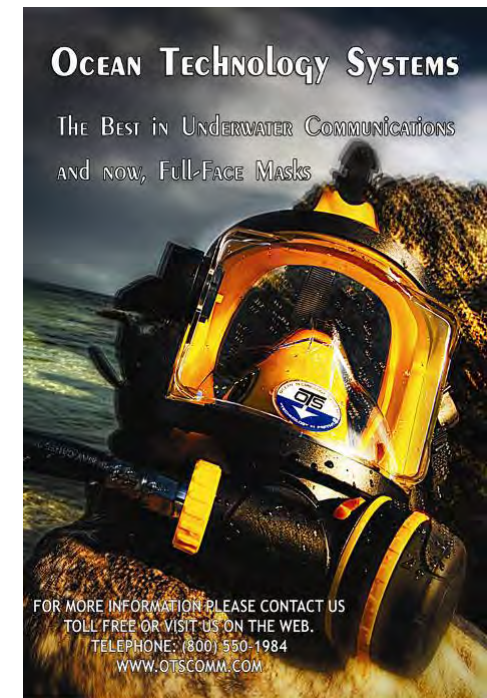
Gemma McCluskie's headless body was found in the Regent's Canal.
Photograph: Metropolitan Police/PA

February, until the discovery in Regent's Canal in Hackney on Tuesday.

"We also urge anyone with any significant information about this case to contact us as soon as possible. In particular, we would like to hear from anyone who may have seen any suspicious activity around her home address in Pelter Street in Bethnal Green."

The 29-year-old, who played Kerry Skinner in the soap, was reported missing to police two days after her disappearance. Her torso was found when a member of the public reported a suspicious object floating close to Hackney's Broadway Market. Police divers are still searching for her remaining body parts. The actress was pictured at the hospital event wearing a yellow long-sleeved blouse with a round neck and navy-blue leggings. She was also carrying a two-tone Louis Vuitton bag with beige handles. Her BlackBerry mobile phone, which had a white case, has not been recovered.

The former *EastEnders* co-stars Natalie Cassidy and Brooke Kinsella both appealed on Twitter for help in finding her.



Brother of Ex-EastEnders star Gemma McCluskie's charged with her murder

<http://www.metro.co.uk/news/892749-brother-of-ex-eastenders-star-gemma-mccluskies-charged-with-her-murder>

10th March, 2012 By METRO WEB REPORTER

Tony McCluskie has been charged with the murder of his sister, the former EastEnders actress Gemma McCluskie, after her headless body was found in a London canal.

Mr McCluskie, 35, was arrested on Wednesday, the day after her torso was discovered in Regent's Canal close to Broadway Market in Hackney.

Metropolitan Police announced on Saturday evening that he had been charged with her murder between February 29th and March 6th 2012. He will appear before Thames Magistrates' Court on Monday.

Police divers are continuing the search for Ms McCluskie's missing body parts. The 29-year-old actress went missing last week and her disappearance prompted appeals from a number of her former co-stars on the BBC One soap opera.

Martine McCutcheon, Brooke Kinsella and Natalie Cassidy were among those to use Twitter and other social networking sites to ask the public for help in the search. Ms McCluskie played Kerry Skinner for 30 episodes of the show in 2001.

Now legs are discovered in canal where EastEnders actress' headless torso was found

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2117852/Gemma-McCluskie-murder-Legs-canal-EastEnders-actress-headless-torso-discovered.html>

21 March 2012 By [Emma Reynolds](#)

Police divers are still continuing the grim task of searching the canal for more body parts after discovering her arm on Monday

Police have revealed they may have found more body parts belonging to the EastEnders actress whose headless torso was found floating in a canal earlier this month.

The legs was spotted in the water today by police divers, two weeks after 29-year-old Gemma McCluskie's mutilated body was recovered close to Hackney's famous Broadway Market, in East London.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said: 'The Marine Support Unit recovered the legs from the canal on the Broadway Market stretch where Miss McCluskie's body was found.

'We are awaiting further tests to determine the identity of limbs, but we believe it belongs to Gemma McCluskie.' They also confirmed police divers are still continuing the grim task of searching the canal for more body parts after discovering her arm on Monday.



Killed: Gemma McCluskie was murdered and her body left in Regent's Canal in London

The actress was last seen returning to her home in Hackney, which she shared with her brother Tony, who now stands accused of killing his sister.

Her dismembered body was found after she had been missing for a week after attending the opening of the new £650million Royal London Hospital in nearby Whitechapel on March 1.

Mr McCluskie, who had been helping with the search, was arrested after officers raided the East London home the pair shared with their mother.

Friends had launched extensive searches across East London and former EastEnders co-stars Natalie Cassidy, Martine McCutcheon and Brooke Kinsella appealed on Twitter for help.

Tony McCluskie, 35, was remanded in custody after he appeared at the Old Bailey by video-link from Brixton Prison last week.

No bail application was made. A plea and case management hearing was set for June 18.

Miss McCluskie, who played Kerry Skinner in the BBC soap



A police diver searches for Gemma's remaining body parts following the grim discovery of her torso

builder brother.

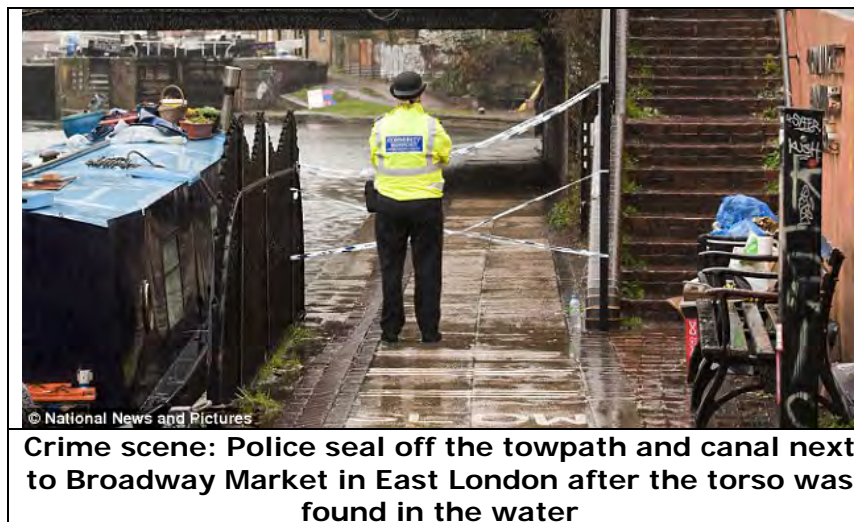
Her body was found when a member of the public reported a suspicious object floating close to Hackney's famous Broadway Market near her home.

Nearby: The discovery was made close to Miss McCluskie's maisonette.

A distinctive tattoo led detectives to believe the body might be that of the former soap star.

Officers reviewed CCTV footage of her attending disappearance on Thursday, February 29.

The actress was pictured at the event wearing a yellow long-sleeved blouse with a



Crime scene: Police seal off the towpath and canal next to Broadway Market in East London after the torso was found in the water



PSDiver – A Textbook for Public Safety Diving
By Mark Phillips
\$30.00

~ An introduction to Public Safety Diving and Underwater Crime Scene Investigation
[Click here to order](#)

round neck, and navy-blue leggings. She was also carrying a two-toned Louis Vuitton bag with beige handles.

The McCluskie family's £280,000 maisonette in Hackney was sealed off and searched by forensics officers. They also towed away the family's 2009 VW Polo overnight for tests.

Margaret O'Carroll, who lives two doors away, said news of the body being found could 'kill' Miss McCluskie's mother, Pauline, who is currently in hospital suffering from a tumour.

She said the 56-year-old had been ill for several years and walked with the aid of sticks.

'I don't know what Pauline would do without Gemma,' she added.

'Gemma used to take her mum everywhere in her car. The whole family are quite pleasant. 'She lived here with her mum and her brother Tony.'

She was in hospital before Gemma's disappearance and neighbours fear the recent revelations will have an even greater impact on her health. A neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: 'Their mother is very sick with



Final moments: Miss McCluskie attends a hospital opening ceremony last week just before her disappearance The ex-TV actress looked relaxed and at ease as she took photos at the East London event

brain cancer. She is in and out of hospital but was back in when Gemma disappeared.

'I can't think what this will do to her, it is absolutely sad, so surreal it is happening.'

Neighbour of 20 years John, who did not wish to reveal his full name, described Miss McCluskie as a 'happy-go-lucky girl' who had never boasted about her TV past.

More than 100 people, including Miss McCluskie's second brother Danny, took part in the high-profile search for the popular young woman.

Two bouquets were left close to where the body was found. One note read: 'Gemma, we will miss you always.'



'I always loved you': Gemma's former boyfriend has left a tribute to the actress

Wiltshire firefighters warn proposed cuts will do irreparable damage to service

http://www.thisiswiltshire.co.uk/news/9599327.Wiltshire_firefighters_warn_proposed_cuts_will_do_irreparable_damage_to_service/

19th March 2012 in [News](#)

Wiltshire firefighters warn proposed cuts will do irreparable damage to service. Wiltshire Fire crews say they are deeply concerned over the impact of £1.8 million of cuts on the local fire service, which would do irreparable damage.

The cuts have been put out to public consultation before being considered by the fire authority.

The Fire Brigades Union is warning the cuts would mean a reduction in frontline fire fighters and appliances being spread more thinly across the county. The attack is across the service and affects all duty systems.

The key concerns are over:

- ❖ Cuts to 'on call' retained firefighters which could see the loss of one in three full time equivalent posts. Many are also concerned the contractual changes being demanded mean they are being asked to choose between their main employment, their families and their 'on call' fire service work for their communities;
- ❖ Plans to cut 30 whole time firefighter posts, one in six frontline posts;



- ❖ Cutting the number of aerial appliances (for use in buildings over three floors where fire engine ladders can't reach) from two to one would mean longer journey times before the only appliance could reach an incident. This would compromise public and firefighter safety;
- ❖ Removal of four emergency tenders used at road traffic incidents and building collapses and which carry enhanced medical equipment for use in specialist rescues where a member of the public may be suffering spinal injury;
- ❖ Halving the rope and water rescue team from 10 firefighters to five. The rope rescue team is used at buildings with difficult access, high rise cranes, on slopes outdoors or for rescues of people trapped where access is difficult such as a well or a hole. The water rescue team for water rescues or during flooding. This would affect the crew's ability to carry out rescues and achieve their objectives;
- ❖ The creation of 96-hour shifts for firefighters, when they will be based at their fire station and unable to leave, except for emergencies. They will be granted visiting rights for families. This is based on a system used in the Victorian age.

Brent Thorley, FBU brigade secretary said: "There is anger and concern among the firefighters in Wiltshire about the cuts proposed by senior managers.

"The cuts would see the loss of one in six whole-time station-based firefighters in Wiltshire leaving us with only 140 to provide around-the-clock emergency response. "We're a small and efficient fire service and these cuts would leave us spread too thinly to guarantee an immediate response to emergencies.

"Our concern is the loss of frontline crews to the communities we serve, with fire service personnel and appliances thinly spread across the county.

"There would be much greater pressure on retained crews, who are also facing cuts, to fill the gaps. Our retained crews are aware they get limited training time in their current roles never mind having more responsibilities added.

"We rely very heavily on our retained fire crews who are now being asked to sign new contracts which make more demands on their availability. They feel they are being asked to decide between their main employment and the fire service they provide in their communities. Under these plans they will also be paid an hourly rate well below that of whole time firefighters.

"The loss of an aerial platform will leave us with only one for the whole county. This will inevitably mean it will take longer to get to incidents where it can be crucial for firefighter and public safety.

"We see no case for the removal of all four emergency tenders and halving our water and rope rescue team. These are all used at a range of emergencies and we fear losing specialist equipment, skills and personnel.

"The introduction of 96-hour shifts is a move back to Victorian days. It would confine those crews to being away from family for long periods of time and the long shifts could be very demanding. It would devastate the whole time service and would have a detrimental effect on their family lives.

"Like the fire service we want to see a first class service for the people of Wiltshire. We do not think these proposals are the right way of delivering the service the public pays for, expects and demands.

"We have written to the Chief and urged him to reconsider these proposals, also informing him of the anger and concern amongst the fire crews."

Hero honoured half a century after rescue

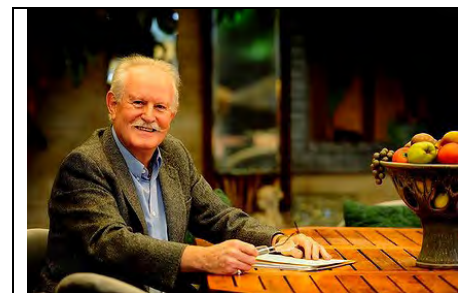
<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/hero-honoured-half-a-century-after-rescue-20120318-1ve2u.html>

March 19, 2012 Natasha Rudra

It was more than 50 years ago, but David Nolan still remembers the sound of three frightened young boys trapped by fast-flowing waters in a Port Pirie mangrove swamp.

On that night in 1961, Mr Nolan and his friends - "a group of young Turks in a car," he reckons - had stopped their car on the side of the road at about 10.30pm when they heard small voices crying out for help.

It was three boys who'd gone out fishing earlier in the day and been caught in the tide.



David Nolan of Holder will receive a bravery award for rescuing three boys from swampland 50 years ago.
Photo: Melissa Adams

"They were absolutely terrified, they'd had nothing to eat or drink since lunchtime and I suspect they were at the end of their tether," he said. "They were on the last remaining bit of high ground, clinging to a little stubby mangrove."

The then-16-year-old David didn't hesitate. "I don't remember thinking there was ever any choice, it was obvious that they had to be brought back and I don't think there was any great deliberation at all.

"The kids were out there and they were frightened and lost," he said.

Mr Nolan was described as a weak swimmer but he plunged into the water, swimming through two creeks to reach the boys.

He made three return trips, telling the boys to cling tight to him in the mud and rising waters as he ferried them back one at a time to safety.

Mr Nolan was hailed in the local paper as a hero but got on with his life in South Australia, marrying a few years later, joining the military and in the 1970s moving to Canberra, where he worked as an intelligence officer.



He retired in 1999 and has been enjoying life in the southern suburb of Holder with the company of his wife Di and their children and five grandchildren.

The story might have remained a memory except that a friend of Mr Nolan's, David Hewett-Lacon, heard about it and resolved to nominate him for a bravery award.

But it was knocked back because the Australian Bravery Decorations Council had a policy of not recognising civilian acts of bravery before 1975, when the old honours scheme was abolished. Mr Hewett-Lacon, an ex-policeman who had been decorated for saving 30 people from a Queensland hotel fire, fought to have the policy overturned - and in January last year he won.

Mr Nolan's 51-year-old act of heroism has been rewarded with a Commendation for Brave Conduct and he has paved the way for other Australians to be recognised for courageous behaviour that would otherwise be forgotten. They include a group of fellow Canberrans, led by the Reverend William Morris, who tried unsuccessfully to save



a drowning Ghanaian man in the Murrumbidgee River at Pine Island in 1974.

And that's not even the end of the story. When the issue received media attention both nationally and in the local Port Pirie newspaper, one of the boys whom Mr Nolan rescued on that night in 1961 came forward. Max Coleman, who was 10 at the time, contacted Mr Hewett-Lacon and was then put in touch with Mr Nolan. The older man was delighted.

"For me, the satisfying thing is that he's well and happily married, he is a successful businessman and he's living a very happy and very fulfilled life. So we chat on the phone about every month now and later this year I'm going to make a trip over and see him," he said.

Daring overnight water rescue saves life of homeless man

http://www.necn.com/03/21/12/Daring-overnight-water-rescue-saves-life/landing_nation.html?blockID=674222&feedID=4207

Mar 21, 2012 **VIDEO ON SITE**

(NECN/KXAS: Kevin Cokely) - Rising floodwaters caught a homeless Texas man in a creek leading to a daring rescue by three Dallas police officers.

The rescue was caught on police dashcam.

The water was still rising before midnight when someone heard a man yelling for help and called 911.

Within minutes, three Dallas police officers arrived and captured the high water rescue on their patrol cars dash camera.

"He didn't want to leave from where he was at because he didn't feel comfortable," said Officer Kyle Throll.

They heard his pleas for help and shouted in response, telling the man to continue calling out until they found him.

"Holler out at us. He would just say 'help me'. .. Or he would say 'I'm here,'" said Officer Brandon Rickman.

Spotting him, two of the officers plunged into four feet of water leaving other rescue crews behind.

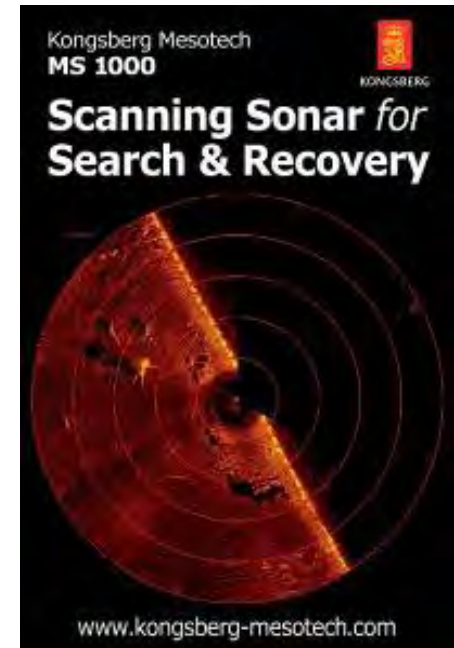
Using sticks for balance, they carefully made their way toward the man, clinging to a tree.

"Once we saw him... We didn't know how long he'd been out there in the first place," said Officer Nicholas Smith.

They finally emerged from the darkness with 38-year-old David Pope and brought him to waiting paramedics.

"We just happened to be there and saw him and took action," said Rickman.

At the northeast substation where they



work, fellow officers are proud of them.

"Day in and day out, they do a great job but when something like this happens they're really able to go above and beyond and true blue hero stuff," said Sgt. Alejandro Coss, "and it reminds us all why we got into this line of work."

Dramatic high water rescue for woman, 3 foster kids

<http://www.kvue.com/news/Dramatic-high-water-rescue-for-woman-and-three-children-in-foster-care-143726886.html>

March 21, 2012 by JADE MINGUS / KVUE NEWS and photojournalist JOHN FISHER



WILLIAMSON COUNTY, Texas -- A woman and three children in foster care were trapped on top of a SUV after furious flood waters swept their vehicle off the road near the Burnet-Williamson County line.

The woman called 911 and frantically asked for help. "My car is filling with water," said the woman. "My car is floating, and I don't know where I am."



The woman tried to drive through a low water crossing when flood waters pushed her Chevy Trailblazer half a mile down the creek.

A 911 dispatcher tried to find the woman's location using a cell phone signal. Florence firefighters and the Williamson County swift water rescue team had a difficult time finding the vehicle. It was 1:30 a.m. Tuesday in the dark when emergency crews tried to find them.

"It was pretty difficult getting around because of the sheer volume of the rain," said Florence Fire Chief Robert Shelton. "The terrain in and around the creek really made it a difficult rescue."

The CPS worker had three foster kids in her car ages five, seven, and 10.

"I'm seriously scared I'm going to die right now, and I have three foster kids in my car," said the woman in the 911 call.

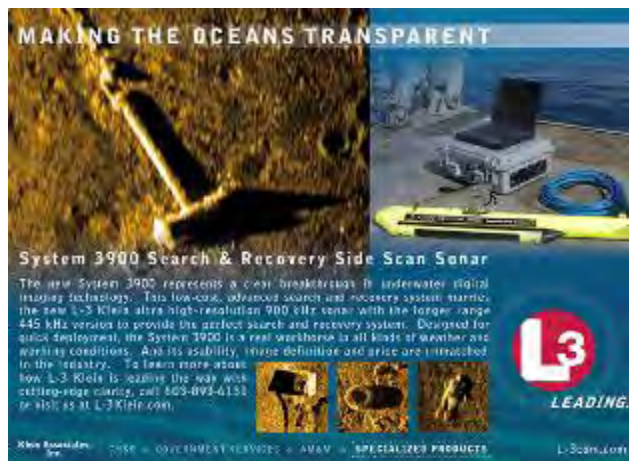
The vehicle stopped floating downstream when it got stuck in trees near Geraldine Booth's backyard. The woman and three children climbed on top of the Trailblazer and waited for help.

"Somebody was very lucky. Somebody was watching over that woman and those kids," said Booth.

Emergency workers pulled the woman and three kids to safety. They were all checked out at a hospital and no one was hurt.

"It could have been four deaths, easy, because the way that water was going," said Booth.

A CPS spokesperson said the state is very concerned with the woman and three children's emotional well being.



Emergency crews say there were no barricades on the road when the woman's vehicle was swept away. However, there are signs warning drivers of low water crossings.

Multiple drowning tragedy in Port Elizabeth

<http://www.nsri.org.za/2012/03/multiple-drowning-tragedy-in-port-elizabeth/>

25. Mar, 2012



Blue Water Bay after the tragedy

A SA Air Force 15 Squadron – Charlie Flight helicopter, carrying two Port Elizabeth NSRI rescue swimmers, has joined Blue Water Bay LSC lifeguards, a Police Dive Unit and a Police K-9 search dog unit since first light in an ongoing search operation for five members of the local Motherwell Rugby Football Club who went missing after being swept out to sea yesterday at Blue Water Bay Beach.

Twenty one people were swept out sea by rip-currents in one incident at around midday on Sunday 25th March. Most of the 21 people swept out were members of the local Motherwell Rugby Football Club reportedly cooling

down after a rugby practice while preparing for an SA Rugby Union Easter tournament in Cape Town.

Of the 21 people swept out to sea 3 youngsters were not members of the Motherwell Rugby Football Club.

The 5 missing men are presumed to have drowned.

Seven Blue Water Bay Life Saving Club lifeguards, five who were on duty at the beach at the time and two who had run to the scene from their duty post further down the coast, have been commended for rescuing 15 people in this incident. Some of the lifeguards rescued up to three casualties at a time.

A 16th person rescued from the water was declared dead on-scene and an extensive search has so far revealed no sign of the remaining 5 missing men.

Original story below:

Ian Gray, NSRI Port Elizabeth station commander, said: "On Sunday 25 March at 12h10, NSRI Port Elizabeth crew were activated following reports from EC Government Health: EMS of a multiple drowning incident in progress at Blue Water Bay beach, between Swartkops River and Coega harbour, Port Elizabeth.

"NSRI launched 3 of our sea rescue craft and our sea rescue vehicle responded by road.

"Blue Water Bay lifeguards, Coastal Rescue, WC Government Health: EMS, an EMS helicopter, the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipal Beach Managers Office and the SA Police Force responded.

"On arrival on-scene it was estimated that at least 21 people had been swept out to sea by rip-currents. Most of those swept out to sea are believed to be members of the local Motherwell Rugby Club.

"One person, recovered from the surf by Blue Water Bay LSC lifeguards, has been declared dead. Five people remain missing and they are presumed to have drowned.

"An extensive search, by three NSRI sea rescue craft, a Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Beach Managers office rescue rubber-duck and rescue jet-ski, a Blue Water Bay LSC rescue rubber-duck, the EMS helicopter, and Blue Water Bay LSC lifeguards free swimming has revealed no sign of the 5 missing men, all believed to be aged in their early 20's and all 5 missing are believed to be members of the Motherwell Rugby Club."

Fernando Cain, of The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Beach Managers office, said that of the (up to) 15 people rescued, a few were youngsters not associated with The Motherwell Rugby Club and the remaining rescued, including the one deceased, were all members of The Motherwell Rugby Club.

Seven Blue Water Bay Life Saving Club lifeguards, five who were at the beach at the time of the incident, and two who had run to the scene from their duty post further along the coast, had swum after the 21 people swept out to sea by rip-currents. Some of the lifeguards had rescued up to 3 people at a time. Of the 15 people rescued alive, none were required to go to hospital although some were treated for shock and near drowning symptoms on the beach by paramedics.

The deceased body has been handed into the care of the Forensic Pathology Services.

Police have opened an inquest docket.

Lifeguards and Police remain on-scene continuing with an ongoing search for the 5 missing men and a Police Dive Unit will continue the search tomorrow with a Police K-9 dog unit.

The beach was closed to swimming at 14h00 by the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Beach Managers Office.

Very strong rip currents prevail at the beach.

It is believed that all 21 people swept out to sea were caught in strong rip currents."



Fire crews make water rescue

<http://www.connectmidmissouri.com/news/story.aspx?id=732712#.T4s61nkgfT4>

03.21.2012 by [Mark Slavit](#)

SOUTHERN BOONE COUNTY, MO. -- A Southern Boone County woman escaped with her life after flash flood waters swept her SUV from her driveway.

The accident happened just after midnight on Wednesday morning just south of the Columbia Regional Airport and west of Highway 63.





A woman drove her Suburban into a small creek after flood waters forced her off her driveway. At one point, the woman was waist deep in the water. Southern Boone County Firefighters damaged their rescue boat during the first rescue attempt. Firefighters used a Columbia Fire Department rubber boat to carry the woman to safety.

Southern Boone County Fire Protection District Fire Chief Roger Jaeger said, "The water had receded enough at that point that we could launch it from near the low water crossing. At that point, it took less than five minutes to get over to her and get the lifejacket on her and back to the point where

we could get her out."

The rescued woman had mild hypothermia and was treated at the scene. It took more than 50 emergency workers to complete the 3 hour rescue. Some of the firefighters were upstream checking for floating debris. Dozens of large logs were floating through the area of the rescue.

Jaeger said, "We had to have people downstream to throw ropes in case we had somebody fall out of a boat. We had 6 people doing that downstream."

The woman had a bumper sticker on her Suburban with just one word, PRAY. Jaeger said, "She did a lot of praying out there. I think that made a big difference."


Southern Boone Firefighters want to remind everyone to turn around and not drown when approaching flood waters over the road.

All of the rain we're having caused a dangerous situation in Mid-Missouri earlier Wednesday morning.

A woman and her SUV were swept into a creek in Southern Boone County.

It happened in the 1000 block of South Highway 63, near the Columbia Regional Airport just after midnight.

The Columbia Fire Department told us the



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woman was swept off of a private driveway into a creek.

It took rescuers almost three hours to get the woman out safely.

We'll have more details as they become available.

Yorkshire police underwater search teams could merge

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-17459334

21 March 2012

The number of police divers across Yorkshire could be halved as police chiefs seek a region-wide merger.

The Yorkshire and Humberside Joint Police Authorities Committee is due to discuss plans on Thursday to reduce the number of divers from 28 to 10.

A report by the region's chief constables proposes the merger of West and South Yorkshire and Humberside's underwater search units into one base.

[The report](#) said the merger would enable savings of about £400,000.



Currently the three forces spend £1,125,628 per annum, with 28 divers dedicated to the marine and underwater search units.

Under the proposals, the projected new unit based in the Humberside Police area would cost £719,083, making a 36% saving.

If the proposal is given the go-ahead 18 staff will be released back to the forces.

North Yorkshire Police, which has a contract to use West Yorkshire Police divers, will not be part of the regional merger but will retain the contracted service.

The Yorkshire plan follows the example of the North West forces who work as one team covering the area from Wales to the Solway Firth

DA: Testimony will nail Trotto in 1994 Worcester case - Alleged victim never found

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20120322/NEWS/103229874/-1/NEWS04>

March 22, 2012 By Lee Hammel TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF



Mr. Trotto

WORCESTER — The district attorney's office has a witness who says Matteo Trotto confessed to him that he killed Kevin Harkins, First Assistant District Attorney Daniel J. Bennett said yesterday in Worcester Superior Court.

Mr. Bennett made that statement during Mr. Trotto's arraignment before Judge

Janet Kenton-Walker. Mr. Trotto was indicted by a grand jury Tuesday, 18 years after he allegedly lured Mr. Harkins from Suney's Pub, 216B Chandler St., on Feb. 15, 1994. Mr. Harkins was never again seen and his body has not been located. He was declared dead in Worcester Probate and Family Court in 2008.

Yesterday, Mr. Trotto pleaded not guilty to the murder charge. "I'm innocent of that," Mr. Trotto said, his hands cuffed in front of him. His case was continued to April 6.

Mr. Trotto is serving a 23- to 26-year sentence in Norfolk state prison, having been convicted in 1999 of trafficking in cocaine and other drug

and weapons charges. In 1998, he was identified in federal court by Detective Robert Couture as a "possible suspect" in the Feb. 3, 1992, fatal stabbing of John E. Volungis Jr., as well as the killing of Mr. Harkins.

There have been no arrests in the Volungis case.

Mr. Trotto, 46, is the third defendant to be indicted and plead not guilty to murder in the past five weeks in the Harkins case. Codefendants Elias Samia, 45, of 78 Arlington St., and John R. Fredette, 49, of Woodcock Avenue, Saco, Maine, are being held without bail.

According to Mr. Bennett, Mr. Harkins was supplied with money and free drugs by Mr. Trotto but reneged on an agreement to testify falsely to help Mr. Fredette escape a conviction in a drug case. Within two days, Mr. Trotto summoned Mr. Harkins from Suney's and was seen by witnesses forcing Mr. Harkins into a car outside, the prosecutor said.

Mr. Fredette, who had been sentenced to 4 to 6 years on the drug charges, was given four days to report to prison.

"The commonwealth has evidence from different sources



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that while the car was being driven around with Mr. Samia, Mr. Fredette, and Mr. Trotto, Mr. Harkins was shot to death," Mr. Bennett said. Later, after Mr. Trotto had been dropped off, Millbury police stopped the car and found Mr. Samia and Mr. Fredette covered with blood — more than was consistent with their story that they had been in a bar fight, he said.

Police found that there had been no fight at the bar where they claimed they were injured, Mr. Bennett said. Subsequently Mr. Samia surrendered the car's plates and Mr. Trotto ordered someone to cut up the car, he said.

The prosecution has "confirmed the different places where the (car) parts are," the assistant district attorney said.

Previously, former police Lt. Timothy J. O'Connor said that state police identified a passenger-side front car door, a car roof and other car parts that Worcester Fire Department divers recovered from Curtis Pond in 2005 as belonging to a black 1985 Chevy Impala such as Mr. Samia was driving when Millbury police stopped him.

Mr. Trotto is no stranger to violence. Some eight months after Mr. Harkins disappeared he was shot three times at the College Square Gym. Eugene A. "Gino" Rida Jr. of Worcester and Leo M. "Chipper" Boffoli of Holden pleaded guilty to that.

Federal prosecutors said that killing Mr. Trotto was part of a plan by Mr. Rida to put fear into other drug dealers, whom he planned to shake down as the mafia was doing

in the Boston area. However, Mr. Trotto said in his 1999 cocaine trafficking trial that it was the Worcester vice squad that had set up the hit.

Yesterday, Worcester lawyer Louis P. Aloise represented Mr. Trotto during the arraignment. Joseph A. Franco, a West Springfield lawyer, was appointed by the court to represent him after that.

District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. credited Detective Sgt. Mark J. Sawyer and Detectives William T. Donovan and Daniel F. Sullivan and Massachusetts State Police Maj. Rick McKeon, Detective Lt. Mike Farley and Detective Sgt. Michael Sampson with a "relentless investigation" that kept the case alive.

Mr. O'Connor sat with Mr. Harkins' family yesterday, who were among 46 police, Harkins family and friends, and reporters in the courtroom. Mr. O'Connor, one of the original investigators in the case, declined to comment.

Water rescue injures one

http://lancasteronline.com/article/local/612961_Water-rescue-injures-one.html

Mar 26, 2012 22:51 By JENNIFER TODD Staff Writer

One firefighter was injured and a rescue boat severely damaged Monday as crews battled rough waters and high winds while retrieving three stranded boaters from the Susquehanna River.



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Events began to unfold at 10:15 a.m. when fire units from Blue Rock Fire Rescue and Columbia were dispatched to the area of an island off Blue Rock Road for a report of a boat in distress.

According to Blue Rock Fire Rescue Commissioner Duane Hagelgans, three men were stuck on a vessel that had run out of gas.

"They managed to get (the boat) to the York County side but were trapped against a sheer rock wall," Hagelgans said.

He said crews battled four-foot-high waves to reach the craft and safely got the men to the York County shore.

For rescuers, the task was far from over.

As crews prepared to bring the first of three boats ashore, Hagelgans said, "the wind whipped up" and threw the vessel against the dock.

A large wave swamped the craft, which held two firefighters. One suffered minor injuries. The other was unharmed. He said the boat, which belongs to Blue Rock, sustained severe damage but should be repairable.



"Needless to say, we were forced to take a whole different approach in bringing in the other boats," Hagelgans said.

He said crews brought in the boats slow at first, downstream of the dock, so if waves took the vessel it wouldn't slam into dock. When the boats got close enough, firefighters used ropes to bring them in the rest of the way.

"These boats aren't designed to handle the weather that was out there today," Hagelgans said. "Some of our people out on the river said they've never been in a boat when it's been this rough."

Rescuers handled the challenge.

"They did a phenomenal job and took a beating in the process," he said.

Hagelgans didn't know where the boaters were from but said they had launched their vessel from the Lancaster County side of the river.

Crews were not able to retrieve their boat because the craft had taken on too much water, according to Hagelgans. It remained secured at the cliff face Monday night.



'I put my hands in the washer and felt his little body. The worst day of my life': Mother's anguish over death of toddler who drowned in washing machine

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2124256/Every-time-I-wake-I-think-nightmare-Parents-anguish-death-toddler-drowned-washing-machine.html>

3 April 2012 By [Daily Mail Reporter](#)

- 21-month-old Ollie Hebb drowned at family home after accident with washer
- Mother Tiffany relives the panic-stricken moments she fought to save him
- Only two children died in washing machines between 2005 and 2009

A heartbroken mother has relived the horrific moment she dragged her 21 month old son out of the family washing machine before he later died in her arms.



Grief: Tiffany Hebb, pictured with her brother, made the appalling discovery at her home on March 23

Ollie Hebb was helping mother Tiffany on laundry day, climbing atop a bin so he could toss clothes into a top-loading washer.

Mrs Hebb sat down to read a magazine, but then noticed Ollie was missing. 'I walked around through my whole house calling his name and couldn't find him anywhere,' she told KSL-TV.

'And then I put my hands in the washer and felt his little body. The worst day of my life.'

She told the Deseret News: 'I couldn't get him out of the washer; he was stuck.'

'So I pulled his head above the water, and he had no heartbeat, no pulse. He wasn't breathing.'

After getting help from a neighbour to pull him out, Ollie's heart restarted nearly an hour later. He was put on life support for 24 hours before the family decided to let him go on March 24.

'We just held him, cuddling him for his last moments of life,' Hebb told the paper. 'Six hours later, he took his last breath and passed away'.

His mother, recently moved to Oregon from Utah, says she never thought the washing machine would be a danger to her child and is telling her story to make parents aware of the danger.

The Consumer Products Safety Commission, a federal agency, says such deaths are rare — two children under the age of five died in washing machines between 2005 and 2009, according to a recent report.



Tragic: Ollie Hebb died before his second birthday when he became stuck in the family washing machine



Danger: Ollie's parents are using his death as a chance to remind others of the perils of household appliances

Tiffany and Chris Hebb will probably not face charges, according Michael Rouches, spokesman for police in Hillsboro, Oregon.

'Detectives don't believe that this was an intentional crime or that anyone stuck the baby in the washer,' Mr Rouches said on Monday.

'We have the DA's office look into it, just to make sure there wasn't a degree of negligence.'

Memorial: Ollie's father Chris described the agony of waking up and remembering his son is gone

Mr Rouches said detectives couldn't find other cases when toddlers drowned under similar circumstances.

'She was 30 feet away in the living room, reading a magazine,' he said. 'It wasn't like the mother had this kid unattended at the time.'

The 2011 report says two children under the age of 5 died in washing machines between 2005 and 2009.

During that time, 350 children died in bathtubs, and 77 drowned in something else, such as a decorative water feature, a cooler or



a septic tank.

Ollie when his parents decided to take him off life support after 24 hours. His organs were donated, to give other children a chance of life.

The couple had recently moved from Orem, Utah to the Portland suburb where Mr Hebb had found a job. The boy was buried over the weekend in Utah.

'Every night when I go to sleep, I start feeling sick,' Mr Hebb told the Deseret News.

'Every time I wake up, I think this is a nightmare and then realise it's real. You hear a baby crying in the night from a neighbour's house. You wake up, hoping it's your little boy, and then realise he's not there.'

Body of barista, 18, found in Alaska lake two months after abduction from coffee shop

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2124306/Samantha-Koenig-abduction-Body-coffee-shop-barista-Alaska-lake.html>

3 April 2012 By [Associated Press](#)



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The body of an 18-year-old barista has been found in a lake, more than two months after she was abducted from the coffee stand where she worked in Anchorage, Alaska.

After hours of searching Monday, police divers found Samantha Koenig's remains in Matanuska Lake, 39 miles north of the spot where she was last seen being kidnapped by an armed man.

Detectives believe her killer targeted the teen at random. She has no known connections to the suspect -- who is in police custody on unrelated charges.



Found: Police say Samantha Koenig's body was discovered in Matanuska Lake, about 37 miles north of Anchorage, Alaska, where she disappeared

Police said they believe the Anchorage woman died within hours of her abduction. They would not say how she was killed.

'Investigators further believe the person responsible for Samantha's death acted alone, and we are confident that we have that person in custody,' Anchorage Police Chief Mark Mew said.

Israel Keyes, 34, a self-employed carpenter, is the only man named as a 'person of interest' in the case.

He is currently being held on fraud charges after he allegedly used a man's stolen debit card to make purchases and withdrawal cash so he could flee to Texas.

He was arraigned March 27 in federal court in Anchorage on a fraud charge, shortly after being returned from Texas, where he was arrested, and pleaded not guilty.

'We are working closely with the US Attorney's Office, and charges for Samantha's kidnapping and murder will be forthcoming,' Mew said. Local and federal investigators are seeking witnesses who may know something about the movements of Keyes' white three-quarter ton Chevrolet pickup, which was seized after Keyes' arrest in Texas.

'We would like to reiterate our request for information relative to the movement of the white pickup truck,' FBI Special Agent in Anchorage Mary Rook said at Monday's news conference

'Specifically, we want to hear from anyone who may have seen the truck in the vicinity of Matanuska Lake,' she said.



Arrested: Israel Keyes, 34, is in police custody on unrelated charges and is the sole person of interest in the Koenig case

Investigators earlier said they're looking for people who may have seen the truck in late January and early February near the midtown Anchorage coffee shack where Samantha Koenig worked as a barista and other locations.

The truck was equipped with green tool boxes that run the length of the box on each side. It also was photographed with a rack over the box, but the truck may have been driven without it, investigators said.

FBI agent Darrin Jones last week said the rack may have been off of the vehicle at the time of the incident.

Keyes likely would have needed help moving the rack on or off the truck, and investigators would like to speak to anyone who may have assisted him.

Police divers find bride's wedding ring in Murray River after two-day search

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/breaking-news/police-divers-find-brides-wedding-ring-in-murray-river-after-two-day-search/story-fn3dxity-1226318948094>

April 04, 2012 From: AAP

POLICE divers in South Australia have pulled off a needle in a haystack exercise, finding a new bride's wedding ring which was dropped into the murky waters of the River Murray.

Tori and Saxton Brown had their wedding ceremony on a jetty at Berri, in South Australia's Riverland, two weeks ago but the bride went without her ring after the priest accidentally dropped it into the river.

A police spokesman said divers were in the area last weekend on a training exercise and after hearing of the incident decided to try to find the missing ring.

It took two days but eventually they were successful, returning it to the bride this week.

Divers recover 2 bodies from sunken debris after fire at marina in Washington state

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/divers-recover-2-bodies-from-sunken-debris-after-fire-at-marina-in-washington-state/2012/04/05/gIQAPf2xxS_story.html

By Associated Press, Published: April 5

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — Divers recovered two bodies Thursday from sunken debris from a fire that burned boats and a boathouse at a marina in Washington state.

The two have not been officially identified, but police said the families of Jim Langei, 43, and Sterling Taylor, 33, have been notified. The two lived aboard a 42-foot boat that burned and sank in Friday's fire at the Squalicum Harbor.

The Bellingham Fire Department says two people have not been accounted for after the fire.

They owned





(The Bellingham Herald, Russ Kendall / Associated Press) - Multiple boats were destroyed after a fire broke out Friday morning, March 30, 2012, in a boathouse on the East G dock at Squalicum Harbor in Bellingham, Wash

the America's Cup coffee shop near the marina. Police said a 911 call from the boat indicated the two were trapped. Their boat was one of as many as 10 boats destroyed in the fire.

Witnesses reported hearing fuel tank explosions as a black cloud drifted over downtown Bellingham, which

is about 80 miles north of Seattle.

The fire was difficult to fight because of its size, and crews didn't have a fire boat, Fire Department Assistant Chief Roger Christensen said at the time. The city decommissioned an old fire boat last year and didn't have the money to replace it.

It took nearly a week to recover the bodies because the roof of the boathouse had collapsed on the boats. High winds delayed a barge with a crane needed to remove debris.

Divers started rigging debris for the crane Wednesday and removed the roof debris.

Officials expect the investigation into the cause of the fire and cleanup work will take several weeks.

Officials are unsure how many boats were in the boathouse at the time. They haven't estimated the property loss in dollars. The vessels were high-end fiberglass pleasure boats about 40 feet in length.

Fire fighters conduct water rescue training

<http://www.greenwich-post.com/online/daily-featured/local-news/99977-fire-fighters-conduct-water-rescue-training-.html>



About 90 career fire fighters from the Greenwich Fire Department conducted water rescue training last month at the Boys & Girls Club. Keith Millette, head trainer with the Greenwich Fire Department, is a first responder who learned to swim at the facility.

This type of training is unique to the department because it allows rescue workers to train in extreme temperatures

they can control. In two-hour sessions, firemen learned special life saving techniques, new life preserving equipment outside of the harsh and unpredictable conditions of the natural bodies of water that they traditionally train in, and strengthened their own comfort with swimming.

Calif. Firefighters Rescue Teen Who Nearly Drowned

http://www.firehouse.com/news/10689102/calif-firefighters-rescue-teen-who-nearly-drowned?utm_source=Email

April 5, 2012 By John Scheibe Ventura County Star (California)

What began as a dare among friends ended Wednesday night with the near drowning of a 19-year-old at the Ventura Pier.

What began as a dare among friends ended Wednesday night with the near drowning of a 19-year-old at the Ventura Pier.

Authorities said the youth had jumped into the ocean on the north end of the pier after telling his friends he could swim to shore from there.

But once in the water, the youth experienced severe distress, authorities said, and struggled to stay above water.

A rescue swimmer from the Ventura City Fire Department jumped into the water to rescue the teen. 'The rescue swimmer was able to clip the victim into a rescue buoy,' said an official with the Fire Department.

The youth was so weakened and cold that he was unable to assist with his own rescue, officials said. A Ventura

Harbor Patrol boat went to the scene, and the teen was put on board before being transported to Ventura County Medical Center. Once there, he was treated for exhaustion and possible hypothermia.

The teen told rescuers that he became exhausted and cold once in the water and yelled for help from bystanders on the pier, who then called 911. Wednesday's near drowning came almost a year after another 25-year-old man disappeared under the waves after jumping off the Port Hueneme Pier. Rescuers were unable to find him the night he went into the water. His body was recovered a week later. His death was ruled an accidental drowning.

Water rescue made easier for Missoula firefighters

<http://www.kpax.com/news/water-rescue-made-easier-for-missoula-firefighters/>

Apr 6, 2012 5:29 PM by Irina Cates (KPAX News)

VIDEOS ON SITE



MISSOULA - The Missoula Fire Department averages 6 to

10 river rescues a year and firefighters say the new water craft equipment will make their job easier.

The Missoula Fire Department didn't have much time to break in its new personal water craft, before firefighters had to put them to use Friday morning.

"We were putting on the decals and finishing up the new Rescue Water Craft and we got a call that a dog was stuck on an island just downstream of Reserve Street," said Troy Ult, Missoula Fire Department Captain.

About 80 firefighters will have to be trained on the new equipment and the fire chief says the water craft will help rescuers be more efficient.

"These machines are a lot more highly capable, more maneuverable, they're going to be able to get to place that the jet boat was not capable of doing," says Jason Diehl, Missoula Fire Department Chief.

"The boat was a single craft and we were able to go one direction in the river. This way we can go two directions, if the case may be, or we can stay together and loading the patient is way easier with these," added Ult.

"You have an operator, a driver of the water craft and then a rescuer that either rides on the back of the water craft, or on the board itself. And when they retrieve a victim they just slide person in the water up onto the board and get them to shore," Diehl said.

Firefighters will be able to use the water

craft on the river, despite the restrictions for motorized use."We're not recreational use. We are cognizant of that and we want the public to be aware that we're going to be out there," said Diehl.

Diehl says the new water craft are more cost effective and they don't require as much maintenance as their old jet boat. They also have headlights, so firefighters can use them at night. The fire department expects to start its training next week.

Schools unite to lift WW2 children from watery grave

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2012/04/13/us-germany-poland-idINBRE83COL320120413>

Apr 13, 2012 By Madeline Chambers (Reuters)

BERLIN - One March day in the last weeks of World War Two, more than 70 German children squeezed into a plane designed for 14 hoping to be flown to safety from the advancing Soviet tanks in north-eastern Nazi Germany.

Minutes after takeoff the plane dived into an icy lake, killing everyone on board. Nearly 70 years later, former war foes Germany and Poland are joining forces to try to raise the wreck from Resko Przymorskie in western Poland.

"The idea that whenever I went to the lake, I was walking by an open grave with so many children made me

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uneasy. To me, what we are doing is a natural thing," Zdzislaw Matusiewicz, mayor of the Polish town of Trzebiatow, told Reuters. "Children are innocent in war -- that applies to German as well as Polish children."

The Polish mayor is working with Germany's War Graves Commission to retrieve the remains of the mostly unidentified children and four crew from what is known in German as Kamper See and bury them in a nearby war cemetery.

Barely any of the children's identities are known but since the project began, some people have come forward, hoping to obtain details about family members who went missing without trace in the chaotic last months of the war.

The water in the lake, close to the Baltic Sea, may have dissolved the bodies but some experts say that mud may have protected the plane and some DNA evidence could be intact.

"This is a very big project. It is technically difficult and a real challenge," said Wolfram Althoff, the Grave Commission's special representative for the project.



File photo of Poland's Prime Minister Donald Tusk (L) speaking to the newly elected Germany's President Joachim Gauck, on his first foreign visit, during their meeting in Warsaw, March 27, 2012.

**Credit:
Reuters/Kacper Pempel/Files**

Both sides say the project is an important symbol of how far Poles and Germans have come in putting behind them a Nazi occupation which left 6 million Poles dead, many of them in mass civilian executions or extermination camps such as Auschwitz.

Schools on both sides of the border are raising funds to help foot a bill for raising the wreck which officials say could reach as much as 150,000 euros, if it proves possible at all.

On March 5, a group of German school children took part in an anniversary ceremony on the lakeside and schools have also launched an appeal for possible relatives of the victims to come forward. "It is a one-off, nothing like it has happened before. The fact that a Polish mayor initiated this makes it a project that should be supported," Althoff said.

The end of Communism has allowed the German War Graves Commission to re-intern hundreds of thousands of war dead from eastern Europe in the last two decades.

BETTER NEIGHBOURS

The neighbors have been drawn closer together by Poland's accession to the European Union and strong economic ties which have seen tens of thousands find work in Germany.

Tensions still flare sometimes, however, particularly over a group lobbying for the rights of Germans expelled from territory which became Polish after the war, who wield considerable influence in Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative bloc.

The head of Germany's Arnold Zweig Europe School in Pasewalk said attending an anniversary ceremony at the lakeside last month was a live lesson in German-Polish history for his pupils.

"We wanted children involved because they are the people who have least to do with war," said headmaster Norbert Haack. "We want to show that we Germans stand together with Poles, although - and we made this clear - the war was started by Germans."

Germany evacuated hundreds of thousands of civilians, many of them children put in refugee camps, westwards from the area around the wreck in early 1945 in hurried efforts to save lives from Red Army soldiers taking revenge for SS atrocities.

It is unclear if a Soviet tank brought down the plane or if it crashed simply because it was so overloaded.

The Dornier 24 plane was a flying boat, designed to rescue shipwrecked people but by the end of the war, Germany used it to transport refugees, including many from the area around what is today's German-Polish border, said Althoff. "The pilots flying the planes knew they were too heavy. Each time they took off, they hoped they'd make it," he said.

Only about two months before the tragedy at the lake, a Soviet submarine sank Germany's Wilhelm Gustloff ship in the Baltic Sea, killing around 9,000 civilian evacuees, six times as many as the number that drowned on the Titanic.

Until 2001, any investigation at the lake was impossible as the area was a closed Polish military zone. Divers in

2009 found debris in the marshy lake and specialist photography has shown the wreckage is strewn across a large area. Researchers at a local paper have revealed one mother died with five daughters on the plane and investigators hope possible relatives will get in touch when they hear of the project.

A small black shoe and a piece of wreckage of the plane in a local museum are the only material reminders of the tragedy. "It was very sad. We wanted to think about the children and their fate and we want to bring Germany and Poland closer together," said 15-year-old Dominik Wollenzien, a pupil who attended the ceremony in March.

PSD FATALITY

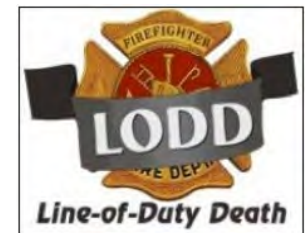
WISCONSIN FIRE CAPTAIN DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL EMERGENCY

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/>

Sunday, April 8, 2012

We regret to advise you that Captain John (Jack) Colbert of the Birchwood Fire Department died in the Line of Duty from an apparent heart attack on Friday, April 6th, 2012. Captain Colbert responded to the Birchwood firehouse for a drowning rescue call. Captain Colbert was at the station until he felt ill, he went home, and he passed away at home.

Captain Colbert has been a member of the fire department since 1973 and was 60 years old. Appleyard Home for Funerals in Rice Lake is in charge of arrangements; Visitation is tomorrow, Monday 4/9 from 4pm to 9pm. The funeral is Tuesday 4/10 at Trinity



Lutheran Church in Birchwood. Our condolences to all affected. RIP

Wisconsin Firefighter Dies After Responding, Assisting

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/10689854/wisconsin-firefighter-dies-after-responding-assisting>

Birchwood Fire Capt. Jack Colbert was manning communications for a water rescue incident when he fell ill.

April 9, 2012 Firehouse.com News II.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday for a Wisconsin firefighter who died at home Friday after becoming ill at the fire station while handling communications.

Birchwood Fire Dept. Capt. John "Jack" Colbert, 60, responded to the station for a drowning, and manned the radio until he fell ill. He went home, and died of a cause yet to be determined. Colbert had been with the fire department since 1973.



Visitation will be held from 4-9 p.m. Monday at Appleyard Home for Funerals in Rice Lake. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Birchwood.

[COLBERT, John "Jack" - Mr. Birchwood \(March 29, 1952 - April 6, 2012\)](#)

To date, 23 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2012. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online at [U.S. Fire Administration \(USFA\) Fatality Notices page](#).

FOUND ON THE WEB

Homeland Security burden shifting to cities, counties

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20120408/NEWS01/304080050/Homeland-Security-burden-shifting-cities-counties?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

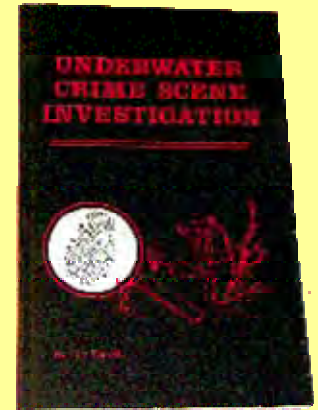
As anti-terrorism grants dwindle, local governments asked to step up
Apr. 8, 2012

Federal anti-terrorism grants have given Tennessee cities and counties emergency response equipment that, a decade ago, they couldn't have tried to buy in their dreams.

But they didn't have to. The money was real: \$192 million given to Tennessee by the Department of Homeland Security, in the name of fighting terrorism, which paid for remote-controlled bomb-handling robots; special equipment for collapsed building rescues; high-tech surveillance cameras; all sorts of boots, masks and body armor; and food for police dogs. There was even a training seminar about how to apply for more money.

It's all been part of a revolution in emergency management that has played out over the past

"Underwater Crime Scene Investigation" By Eric Tackett



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decade, a monumental shifting of the financial burden for keeping Americans safe from cities and counties to the federal government. But now, as concerns about runaway spending take precedence, there's talk of shifting it back.

For the rest of the article, [click HERE](#)

FOUND ON THE WEB

Investigating the Underwater Crime Scene

<http://www.csitechblog.com/>

Underwater Crime Scene Investigation

By: Don Penven, Technical Support Group

Most crime scene investigations are conducted using primarily land-based procedures. But the earth's surface is 70% water, which requires a thorough understanding of underwater investigation techniques for a successful outcome.

While the underwater environment offers significant challenges, the techniques employed still follow the basic crime scene protocols such as protection of the crime scene, interviewing witnesses and victims and maintaining the chain of collected evidence custody.

The single, most important point stressed in much of the available literature emphasizes the need to consider all underwater incidents involving



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a death be treated as a homicide (until ruled otherwise), and to proceed accordingly in collecting and preserving any possible physical evidence.

Only slight similarities exist in the methods and techniques employed in an underwater search compared with a land-based investigation. The purpose of land and water investigations is to locate and collect evidence that will stand on its own during a courtroom presentation.

Either type of investigation is conducted by trained specialists whose purpose is to be certain that nothing in the scene is disturbed until the investigation is complete. Here, any similarity between land and underwater crime scenes ends because the underwater scene requires significantly different equipment, practices and procedures.

Those charged with underwater crime scene investigation (UCSI) must acquire the same basic skills required for any crime scene, but added to this is the need to be thoroughly trained in the proper and safe use of diving equipment. And as is the case with any crime scene, the investigator must possess a high level of skill in underwater photography.

Maintaining crime scene security offers many challenges.

The UCSI doesn't just surround the scene with yellow barrier tape. The investigator must keep in mind that this is not a "salvage operation," as was

often how some underwater scenes were handled in the past.

In today's world underwater assignments are much more sophisticated, employing specialized equipment coupled with high-tech methods akin to those used in underwater archeology. The precise location of every single artifact at the site is mapped and all evidence recovered is carefully preserved. Thanks to refinements in evidence collection techniques and innovative tools, the evidence can be preserved intact—making it usable for introduction during a criminal trial.

A major problem facing investigators has been estimating the time of death. A body that has spent several days submerged further complicates this finding. Decomposition of a submerged body occurs rather rapidly due to environmental factors such as the presence of marine life, bacteria of many varieties and varying temperatures. These factors combine to confound the investigator at the scene in making it nearly impossible to determine if death was accidental or intentional. It may take weeks or months to arrive at a determination after recovering the body and post mortem examinations are completed.

A factor that influences the determination of a final outcome is the interference of marine life. Crabs and other sea creatures tend to make circular patterns while consuming flesh, which may falsely portray foul play. Marine life can destroy any evidence that may have been

left with the body. Most often the body parts consumed first are the eyelids, lips and ears.

According to Gemma Dickson, a forensic biologist from New Zealand, "Unless a body is witnessed entering the water, there is no reliable method for determining the length of time that a body has been submerged"


What has been recently discovered, however, is that bacteria (*Phychromonas*) first begin to colonize decomposing bodies in the frigid temperatures associated with many free standing, natural bodies of water. It is specific genera in the Bacteroidales order, only colonized

after 10 days of submersion, and it can accommodate many different water environments. This bacterium thrives on the fecal matter associated with a decomposing body.

This new discovery could transform the field of general science, forensic and law

enforcement studies and how bacteria interact with decomposing bodies. The same researchers in Australia are continuing their research using submerged pig heads and letting them decompose on their own in the water to study these bacteria.

All living creatures, including bacteria, excrete waste into the environment causing noxious odors that are specific to each bacterium. In the case where bacteria are feeding on a corpse, the surrounding soil or water can hold valuable information, so obviously samples must be collected.



The long-awaited text from Mark Atherton.

Echoes and Images, The Encyclopedia of Side-Scan and Scanning Sonar Operations is the how-to guide for side-scan and scanning sonar operations.

For more information or to purchase your own copy, go to <http://echoesandimages.com/>

Although bacteria prefer an oxygen-enriched environment, they have also been known to survive in anaerobic conditions. Research has found that psychrophilic bacterium was isolated from a cold current off the Monbetsu coast of the Okhotsk Sea in Hokkaido, Japan. The time and seasons of the year seem to have little effect on their growth because of the nourishing environment of the water.

Just as maggots recovered from a rotting corpse can give a good approximation of the time of death, so may microscopic organisms tell the investigator what happened. As in the case with blowfly larvae, maggots, and the pupae stage, growth cycles can give valuable information. Perhaps it will not be long before bacteria will be telling the same story.

The point here is that the scuba-diving investigator should collect soil samples from around and under a submerged corpse, and to collect water samples adjacent from the corpse.

It is also recommended that items collected from underwater be packaged in the water in which it was found. This will reduce the chance of environmental deterioration that may be caused by removing items from the water.

Some basic tools needed by UCSIs will include: magnetometer or underwater metal detector, recovery magnet, hand trowel, sifting screens, underwater lighting equipment, waterproof camera and a variety of evidence containers.

This forensic tool of studying bacterial life cycles can also help aid those interested in identifying the body and giving surviving loved ones closure.

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<http://writersforensicsblog.wordpress.com/2010/12/09/bacteria-and-time-of-death-a-new-forensic-tool/>
April 4, 2011

Kade, Asher: "Underwater Crime Scene Investigation,"
<http://www.environmentalgraffiti.com/biology/news-breaking-news-bacteria-tells-time-death-submerged-bodies> ,
April 4, 2011

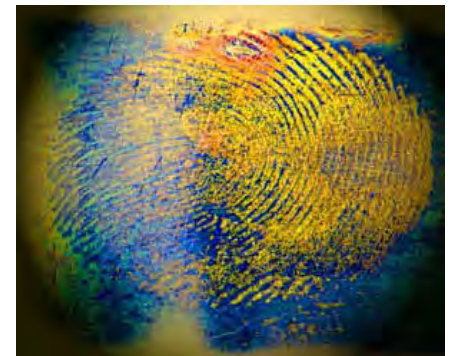
FOUND ON THE WEB

Polymerisation reveals hidden fingerprints

http://www.rsc.org/Publishing/ChemTech/Volume/2010/11/polymerisation_reveals.asp
15 October 2010

Fingerprints leave their mark on surfaces that remain even if they are washed off allowing them to be detected using disulphur dinitride, claim UK scientists.

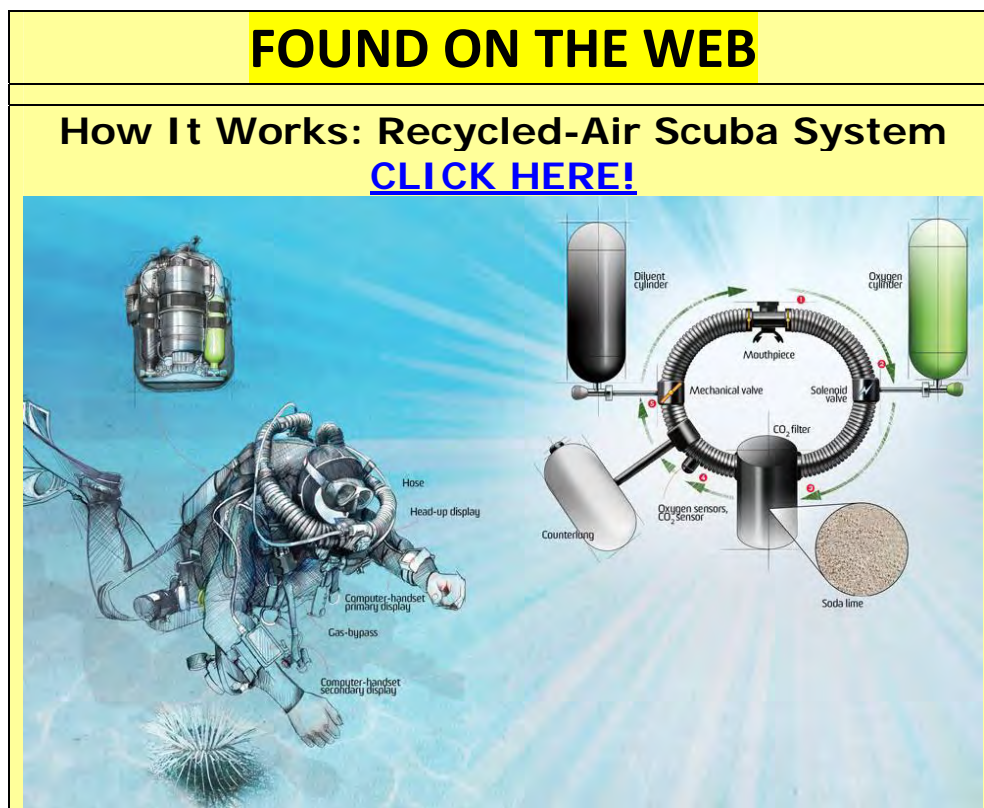
Fingerprint analysis of crime scenes has become a powerful weapon in the forensic scientist's arsenal. The ridges present on the tips of the fingers are unique to a person. By comparison of impressions left in materials - typically flat, regular surfaces, such as glass - to a sample taken from a suspect it is possible to identify the owner of the fingerprints.



It could be possible to identify fingerprints been washed from surfaces that have

But there are occasions where fingerprints are not easily viewable or are fragmented. Here, latent fingerprinting - where obscured fingerprints are enhanced - can be used to identify an individual. In 2008, Paul Kelly and co-workers at Loughborough University noticed that the strained four-membered ring system S_2N_2 quickly polymerises to $(SN)_x$ in the presence of fingerprints. Detecting this polymer produces a visual image of the fingerprint. Now they have shown that this polymerisation still occurs when the chemicals in the fingerprint that were thought to trigger it are 'washed off' the surface, which could occur by simple wiping or an explosive blast. The polymerisation is triggered by an effect brought about by interaction of the chemicals with the surface before they are removed.

'As long as the print has been on the surface long enough to bring this about before washing off - and this only has to be hours or less - this signature will be present and we can image it,' explains Kelly. He goes on to say that the key to this process is that it is 'based on the



interaction of S_2N_2 vapour with the surface'. The crucial point is that a vapour can reach areas of a surface that are not accessible to solids and liquids, such as the crumpled remains of an explosive device, he adds.

John Plater, an expert in the enhancement of latent fingerprints at the University of Aberdeen in the UK sees promise in the system: 'developing latent fingerprints on metal surfaces is difficult and a vapour phase method may offer added sensitivity to existing methods.'

Kelly is keen to stress that this research is still in its infancy and the team is working on further research to develop the method so that it could be used in forensics.

Jon Watson

Link to journal article

[Polymerisation of \$S_2N_2\$ to \$\(SN\)_x\$ as a tool for the rapid imaging of fingerprints removed from metal surfaces](#)

Stephen M. Bleay, Paul F. Kelly and Roberto S. P. King, *J. Mater. Chem.*, 2010, **20**, 10100
DOI: [10.1039/c0jm02724c](https://doi.org/10.1039/c0jm02724c)

Also of interest:

[Exposing explosive fingerprints](#)

[Fingerprints recovered from wiped metal](#)

<http://www.scuba-doc.com>



Diving Medicine Online

[Ernest Campbell, MD, FACS](#)

Comprehensive information about diving and undersea medicine for the non-medical diver, the non-diving physician and the specialist

Pulmonary Edema of Diving

<http://www.scuba-doc.com/puledem.htm>

What is pulmonary edema?

Pulmonary edema is the sudden filling of the lungs with fluid, generally thought of as being caused by a failure of the left side of the heart to pump properly.

What is the cause?

Pulmonary edema, characterized by cough, shortness of breath, and hemoptysis, has been observed in both divers and surface swimmers. This is a relatively rare condition whose etiology is uncertain, but would appear to be related to immersion. Divers may dive for many years before first experiencing symptoms; thereafter, they may experience recurring episodes interspersed with periods of normal diving.

Characterization of an attack!

Symptoms may begin on the bottom, during ascent, or shortly after ascent -chest pain being notable in it's absence, which helps to eliminate chokes as a diagnostic possibility. Chest examination reveals rales, and chest radiographs show the classic pattern of pulmonary edema. Significant decrease in arterial O₂ may be present. Symptoms and signs usually resolve spontaneously over 24 hours.

Precipitating causes

Episodes appear to be precipitated by factors that increase cardiac preload and afterload, including immersion in water (particularly cold water), heavy exercise, negative pressure breathing, and pre-dive fluid overload.

What To Do

- Get the diver out of the water
Elevate the head in the sitting position
- Provide 100 % oxygen, mask if possible
- Rotate tourniquets, if a qualified person is available.
- Get the diver to an emergency facility as soon as possible.

Return to diving?

If a medical workup fails to reveal any intrinsic heart or lung disease - the problem may not reoccur with future diving. Examine the risk factors noted above and act accordingly.

EVENTS*



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Diving in CONTAMINATED WATER is a vast and complex topic. DUI's program is based on our 49 years of industry experience keeping divers protected in some of the

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DUI's Dive Ops program is conducted as part of the annual DUI Drysuit Demo Tour. The workshop gives Dive Teams access to equipment and training to keep them safer, tips on grant writing, the ability to network with other teams, as well as the opportunity to TEST DIVE the equipment.

May 4	Gloucester, MA	Stage Fort Park
May 18	Bethlehem, PA	Dutch Springs
Aug 10	Mukilteo, WA	Lighthouse Park
Sept 7	Ottawa, OH	Gilboa Quarry
Sept 21	Metropolis, IL	Mermet Springs
Oct 19	Rawlings, VA	Lake Rawlings
Nov 2	Chiefland, FL	Manatee Springs
Nov 9	Terrell, TX	Clear Springs Scuba Park

April 30 - May 3 [Offshore Technology Conference*](#)
Houston, TX , USA

May 4 [Catalina Chamber Day/Evening 2011, CA, USA](#)

May 5 thru May 6 [25th Annual Scuba Show, Long Beach, CA, USA](#)

May 7, 2012 - May 11, 2012

California State Division of the IAI Annual Training Conference

This organization is a not-for-profit, professional association dedicated to the application of the forensic sciences in the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice communities as well as the private sector. Our goal is to promote the sharing and dissemination of information and knowledge and encourage members to openly discuss all aspects of their profession with their peers and others seeking knowledge and skill.

San Diego, CA www.csdiainet

May 7, 2012 - May 11, 2012

CA Association of Criminalists Spring Seminar

The California Association of Criminalists (CAC) represents an array of forensic science specialties. They include criminalists, document examiners, serologists, toxicologists, chemists, molecular biologists, firearm & toolmark examiners and educators. CAC members are involved in national forensic science organizations such as SWGDAM, SWGMAT, ASCLD, ASCLD-LAB, ASTM E-30, DAB, ABC and AAFS. CAC membership provides an opportunity to be involved in the professional activities that affect one's career, the profession of criminalistics and the criminal justice system.

Bakersfield, CA www.cacnews.org

May 8, 2012 - May 11, 2012

Canadian Society of Forensic Science 2012 Conference

The Canadian Society of Forensic Science (CSFS) is a non-profit professional organization incorporated to

maintain professional standards, and to promote the study and enhance the stature of forensic science. It is organized into sections representing diverse areas of forensic examination: Anthropology, Medical, Odontology, Biology, Chemistry, Documents, Engineering, Firearms, and Toxicology.

Vancouver, BC, Canada www.csfs.ca

May 11, 2012

NJAFS Annual Seminar

The New Jersey Association of Forensic Scientists' primary goal is to bring people together & foster communication between forensic scientists & their laboratories. In order to help achieve this goal, they hold an annual seminar to bring scientists together and provide an educational environment that is conducive to the spread of information.

Atlantic City, NJ www.njafs.org

May 12-13

Northern Ca Dive & Travel Expo, Santa Clara, CA
[Dive and travel expo](#)

May 14, 2012 - May 18, 2012

MAAFS Annual Meeting

The mission of MAAFS is to encourage the exchange and dissemination of ideas and information within the fields of recognized forensic sciences through improving contacts between persons and laboratories engaged in the forensic sciences; to stimulate research and the development of new and/or improved techniques; and, to promote high standards of performance and facilitate professional acknowledgment of persons working in recognized forensic science disciplines.

Ellicott City, MD www.maafs.org

May 15 – 17 [Clean Pacific 2012](#)

Long Beach, CA, USA

May 18-20 [Rebreather Forum 3, Orlando, FL](#)
[Rebreather Forum 3](#)

May 21, 2012 - May 23, 2012

Oklahoma Division of the IAI 2012 Conference

We are a diverse group of forensic and investigative practitioners that are always eager to learn new techniques or exchange new ideas. Every year we organize a conference for investigative and forensic practitioners in Oklahoma and beyond to come together and provide training and networking opportunities.

Edmond, OK www.theokiai.org

May 21 – 24 [Oceans 2012 MTS/IEEE YEOSU](#)

Yeousa, Republic of Korea

May 22 – 24 [Seawork 2012](#)

Southampton, UK

May 30 – June 3 Texas Division of the IAI Annual Educational Conference

The Texas Division of the IAI works to associate persons in the state of Texas, who are actively engaged in the profession of forensic identification, crime scene investigation, scientific examination, and preservation of physical evidence in an organized body, so that the profession in all of its branches may be standardized and effectively and scientifically practiced.

Galveston, TX www.tdiai.org

May 29 – 31 [UDT Europe](#)

Alicante , Spain www.udt-global.com

June 12, 2012 - June 14, 2012

LA-IAI 67th Annual Educational Conference

The goal of the annual conference is to provide reasonably priced training in current techniques and practices over a broad spectrum of fingerprint and forensic fields. The Conference lasts three days and will be held at the wonderful Clarion Hotel located in Shreveport, Louisiana. Training will cover a wide range of investigative and fingerprint topics led by leading experts in the state. Each participant by the end of the conference will be awarded a certificate of attendance for 24 hours of training credit.

Shreveport, LA www.lai.ai.org

June 14, 2012 - June 16, 2012

46th International Conference of the Audio Engineering Society

Audio Forensics: Recording, Recovery, Analysis, and Interpretation

The AES 46th International Conference is dedicated to exploring advances in the field of Audio Forensics by providing a platform for research related to the forensic application of speech/signal processing, acoustical analyses, audio authentication, and the examination of methodologies and best practices. A special focus will be made on the practice of audio forensics as a whole of its parts: the recording, recovery, analysis, and interpretation of audio evidence.

Denver, CO

www.aes.org/conferences/46

June 17, 2012 - June 22, 2012

IHIA Annual Symposium

The mission is to provide active support to law enforcement death professionals through leadership, training, networking, and provision of resources and

expertise to resolve cases.

New Orleans, LA www.ihia.org

June 18, 2012 - June 20, 2012

NIJ 2012 Conference

For more than a decade, NIJ's annual conference has brought together criminal justice scholars, policymakers, and practitioners at the local, state, and federal levels to share the most recent findings from research and technology.

Arlington, VA www.nij.gov/events

June 28, 2012 - June 29, 2012

AFDAA Summer Meeting

The Association of Forensic DNA Analysts and Administrators (AFDAA) is a nonprofit organization composed of professionals engaged in the forensic aspects of DNA analysis for the judicial system. Members include forensic DNA analysts, supervisors, and administrators. AFDAA provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among forensic DNA scientists to keep current on the methods, techniques, and procedures presently used in the field of forensic science, to promote the dissemination of information on research and developments of new techniques within the field, discuss the latest legislative issues concerning DNA analysis, network with other DNA crime laboratories and personnel, obtain formal training and attend guest lectures, and share and troubleshoot forensic DNA data and/or issues.

San Antonio, TX www.afdaa.org

June 30, 2012 - July 6, 2012

SOFT

The Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc. is an organization composed of practicing forensic toxicologists and those interested in the discipline for the purpose of

promoting and developing forensic toxicology. Through its annual meetings, the Society provides a forum for the exchange of information and ideas among toxicology professionals in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

Boston, MA www.soft-tox.org

July 9, 2012 - July 13, 2012

Inter/Micro: 63rd Annual Applied Microscopy Conference

Inter/Micro is an internationally recognized conference that attracts the world's top light and electron microscopists. Inter/Micro is held every year in Chicago and is sponsored and hosted by McCrone Research Institute.

Chicago, IL www.mcri.org

July 22, 2012 - July 28, 2012

IAI International Educational Conference

Education is one of the IAI's primary missions. The IAI strives to be the main professional association for those engaged in forensic identification, investigation, and scientific examination of physical evidence. At the Annual IAI International Educational Conference world-renowned professionals present the most current scientific educational sessions, utilizing the most efficient methodologies and technical products and advances in the identification field. The Conference offers general sessions, poster presentations, hands-on workshops, field trips, and vendor exhibits.

Phoenix, AZ www.theiai.org

September 12, 2012 - September 14, 2012

Ohio Identification Officers Division Annual Conference

The Ohio Identification Officers Association strives to be a professional association for those engaged in

investigation, forensic identification, and scientific examination of physical evidence.

Cincinnati, OH www.oioa.org

September 17, 2012 - September 20, 2012

Canadian Identification Society 2012 Conference

Each year, the Canadian Identification Society provides a venue which brings together persons who are employed, studying, or otherwise actively involved in the field of forensic identification. The Annual Educational CIS Conference is hosted, in partnership with the Society, by a police department or some other agency or professional group with a direct involvement and vested interest in the field of forensic identification.

Calgary, Alberta, Canada www.cis-sci.ca

September 18, 2012 - September 21, 2012

AFQAM Annual Training Conference

The Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM) promotes standardized practices and professionalism in quality assurance management for the forensic community.

Minneapolis, MN www.afqam.org

September 23, 2012 - September 28, 2012

MAFS Fall Meeting

The purpose of MAFS is to encourage the exchange of ideas and information within the forensic sciences by improving contacts between people and laboratories engaged in forensic science. MAFS supports and stimulates research and development of new and/or improved techniques, and works to promote the improvement of professional expertise of persons working in the field of forensic science through education, scientific seminars, and research grants.

Milwaukee, WI www.mafs.net

September 23, 2012 - September 28, 2012

NWAFS 2012 Meeting

The Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists is a nonprofit organization that was formed to encourage the dissemination of information within the fields of forensic science and discuss problems of common interest, to foster friendship and cooperation among forensic scientists and to stimulate research and development of new techniques within the field.

Missoula, MT www.nwafs.org

September 23 & 24 – [Colorado Dive Show](#)
Denver, Colorado.

September 25? **Dive In Festival, Harleyville, PA**
<http://www.diveinfest.com>

September 29, 2012 - October 3, 2012

IACP Annual Conference

The International Association of Chiefs of Police has long had a reputation for providing top-notch education on the most pressing law enforcement topics. With renowned keynote speakers, forums and technical workshops, and the largest exhibit hall of products and services for the law enforcement community, this must attend event should be on your calendar.

San Diego, CA www.theiacp.org

September 30, 2012 - October 4, 2012

SAFS Annual Fall Meeting

The objectives of the Southern Association of Forensic Scientist are to encourage dissemination of information within the field of forensic sciences and to discuss problems of common interest; to stimulate research and development of new techniques within the field; to

promote the use of standardized methodology and presentation of conclusions; to encourage compilation of statistical data of value in the field; to assist in maintaining a high level of professional competence among practicing forensic scientists; to foster friendship and cooperation among forensic scientists, and to lend assistance to colleges and universities in the development of forensic science and related curricula and to law enforcement planning agencies.

Pensacola, FL www.southernforensic.org

October 1, 2012 - October 3, 2012

WCMEA Fall Conference

The Wisconsin Coroners and Medical Examiners Association aims to establish and promote standardized professional practice among coroners, medical examiners, and their staff as set forth by accepted operational guidelines.

Madison, WI www.wcmea.com

October 5, 2012 - October 10, 2012

NAME Annual Meeting

The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore on the Inner Harbor. Dr. David Fowler is the Program Chairperson and he is planning on a very rich educational experience for all NAME members. Additional scientific sessions will be held on Sunday, including a field trip (with CME) to the new Baltimore Medical Examiner facility.

Baltimore, MD www.thename.org

October 10, 2012 - October 12, 2012

MN IAI Educational Conference

The 2012 MN IAI conference will highlight a presentation by two individuals that worked on the Scott Peterson/Laci Peterson case; Christine Funk, a criminal defense

attorney, will be giving a presentation on how she prepares to cross examine witnesses; and nationally renowned latent print examiners, Glenn Langenburg and John Vanderkolk, will be discussing statistical models and the philosophy associated with the comparative sciences, respectively.

Duluth, MN www.mniai.org

October 19-21 Divescapes, Edmonton, Alberta
[Alberta Underwater Council - News & Events - 2012 Divescapes Conference & Exhibition](#)

October 15-18, 2012 - October 18, 2012

23rd International Symposium on Human Identification

For more than 20 years the annual human identification symposium has been a place to learn, share, and network with colleagues in the field of DNA forensics.

Nashville, TN www.ishi22.com

October 21, 2012 - October 25, 2012

FD IAI Annual Forensic Training Conference

The Florida Division of the International Association for Identification is a non-profit professional association for forensic scientists, crime scene technicians, evidence technicians, latent print examiners, and all other law enforcement employees who are interested in the scientific investigation of crime.

St Petersburg, FL www.fdiai.org

October 22, 2012 - October 26, 2012

SWAFS 2012 Conference

The Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS) is a not for profit association of persons actively engaged in the profession of scientific examination of physical evidence in an organized body so that the

profession in all of its disciplines may be effectively and scientifically practiced.

Scottsdale, AZ www.swafs.us

October 22, 2012 - October 26, 2012

SWAFS 2012 Conference

The Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS) is a not for profit association of persons actively engaged in the profession of scientific examination of physical evidence in an organized body so that the profession in all of its disciplines may be effectively and scientifically practiced.

Scottsdale, AZ www.swafs.us

November 5, 2012 - November 9, 2012

California Association of Criminalists Fall Seminar

The California Association of Criminalists works to foster an exchange of ideas and information within the field of criminalistics and promote wide recognition of the practice of criminalistics as an important phase of jurisprudence.

San Jose, CA www.cacnews.org

November 12, 2012 - November 17, 2012

NEAFS Annual Meeting

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists, Inc. (NEAFS) is a professional organization for people employed within the forensic sciences. Our goals are to exchange ideas and information within the field of forensic science and to foster friendship and cooperation among the various laboratory personnel. We also aim to stimulate increased implementation of existing techniques, along with research and development of new techniques within the field, and to encourage financial

support for these efforts.

Saratoga Springs, NY www.neafs.org

November 14-17 DEMA, Las Vegas, NV

<http://www.demashow.com>

November 14, 2012 - November 17, 2012

NED IAI Educational Conference

Founded as a regional division of the International Association for Identification (IAI), the NEDIAI is a professional organization of law enforcement officers, identification specialists, forensic scientists, crime scene investigators and students, all of whom share a desire to pursue knowledge and excellence in the scientific endeavor of criminal identification.

Nashua, NH www.nediai.org

November 28, 2012 - November 30, 2012

Forensics@NIST 2012

This three-day symposium will showcase cutting edge forensic science research being performed at NIST. Attendees will learn how NIST's world-class laboratories and staff support many forensic science disciplines. See how material scientists, metrologists, analytical chemists, biological scientists, computer scientists, and forensic science practitioners work together to address the challenges facing the forensic science community and where NIST is going next.

January 15-17, 2013 **Underwater Intervention 2013**

<http://www.underwaterintervention.com/>

New Orleans, LA

August 25, 2013 - August 28, 2013

20th International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety Conference

T2013 will present a global forum at which all those involved in road safety research, policy, education, enforcement and injury prevention, particularly from the fields of drugs and alcohol, can meet with researchers, academics and professionals to discuss and present on the latest work being undertaken in the field.

Brisbane, Australia www.t2013.com

If you have an event to share, send the information to: PSDiverMonthly@aol.com

SPONSOR NEWS

L-3 Klein

L-3 Klein recently attended and presented the Klein HydroChart Uncertainty Propagation Model at the Shallow Water 2012 Conference in New Zealand. For those who could not attend the show, attached is an electronic version of the poster with descriptive information that was displayed at the show. L-3 Klein has now taken the final step in the process and is now completing, with Caris, the CUBE configuration to support automated post processing of HydroChart data.

The L-3 Klein HydroChart System is an ideal tool for conducting IHO Survey's in ports, harbors and inland waterways. The Klein HydroChart is now commercially available, as an off-the shelf shallow water survey system. If further technical information is required please feel free to call us at (603) 893-6131 or log onto our web site at www.L-3Klein.com.

Continuing Education

PSDM-CE-93

- 1) Potential pollution problems has prompted EPA to make the follow change to diving.
 - a. Air/Gas mixture
 - b. Latex gloves under dry gloves
 - c. Keeping the diver completely dry
 - d. Increased intermediate pressure
 - e. All of the above

- 2) If specific chemical contaminants are known or suspected on a site, a hazard analysis should be included in the dive plan to address potential exposure pathways and identify specific equipment or procedures necessary to minimize risk factors.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 3) What is Pulmonary Edema?
 - a. Lack of oxygen exchange
 - b. Lung burst
 - c. Blood in the lungs
 - d. Sudden filling of lungs with fluid

- 4) Finger prints csn be found even after the item has been submerged.
 - a. True
 - b. False



- 5) A governmental agency that provides online pollution hazard information is:
 - a. DENR
 - b. EPA
 - c. EPP
 - d. DWQ

- 6) Pulmonary Edema can be caused by:
 - a. High 1st stage air pressure
 - b. High oxygen percentage in air mixture
 - c. Over hydration prior to dive
 - d. Rapid breathing
 - e. Glacoma

- 7) Evidence collected underwater should be packaged in:
 - a. 5 gal paint cans
 - b. 1 gallon coffee cans
 - c. Plastic bags
 - d. Glass containers
 - e. Any of the above but packaged underwater.

- 8) A vehicle may be swept from a roadway by as little as _____ of water
 - a. 1 inch
 - b. 4 inches
 - c. 6 inches
 - d. All of the above.

- 9) A child may drown in a washing machine.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 10) A major problem facing investigators has been estimating the time of death when

dealing with submerged victim.

- a. True
- b. False

11) To safely dive in chemically or biologically polluted water, divers must receive proper training to recognize and mitigate hazards.

- a. True
- b. False

12) Consolidating dive teams could help teams experiencing financial shortfalls.

- a. True
- b. False

13) Environmental protective gear is PPE

- a. True
- b. False

14) A wetsuit provides protection against decompression fluids.

- a. True
- b. False

15) We should conduct decontamination procedures after every dive.

- a. True
- b. False

16) Superfund Sites have been cleaned and are now just monitored.

- a. True
- b. False

Team Discussion:

1. *Review your team's references to ensure it contains contaminated water diving articles, references and new on-line EPA guides.*
2. *Review your team's policy of post dive medical examinations. Ensure it includes any post dive symptoms or signs of breathing problems.*
3. *If your team is not a base Law Enforcement team develop conversations with a local LE group pertaining to crime scene needs underwater.*
4. Evaluate or create an annual skills review that includes a predetermined fitness level.
5. Considering that contaminants are going to accumulate in the sediment layer and your team dives in and disrupts the sediment layer, discuss how suitable your environmental protection is.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Chemical spill information can be obtained by calling 1-800-424-9300.

DAN Medical Information Line at 1-919-684-2948

DAN operates a 24-hour **emergency hotline** (1-919-684-9111) to help divers in need of medical emergency assistance for diving or non-diving incidents.

PSDiver Monthly

These training agencies have recognized PSDiver Monthly as a valued addition to their programs and Continuing Education requirements.

Public Safety Diving

Association(PSDA) recognizes and approves the PSDiver CE program. Each month's Q&A program credits 1 CEU for renewal up to a maximum of 3 CEUs from this source for each year's renewal.



ERDI Recognizes and supports the PSDiver Monthly CE Program. Contact your ERDI Instructor for details.

Life Saving Resources

Lifesaving Resources advocates the need for Public Safety and Rescue personnel to be trained in Water and Ice Rescue and recognizes the PSDiver Monthly CE Program for continuing education training and credits.



Lifeguard Systems – TEAM LGS

We welcome all training agencies and organizations to participate. For details, email <mailto:PSDiverMonthly@aol.com>

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Here is a video worth watching!

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=WK2LpUoqX6A&vq=medium

PSDM 93 CE Answers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
C	A	D	A	B	C	E	B	A	A	A	A
13	14	15	16								
A	B	A	B								
