

The ALPENHORN News

BRINGING OUR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES TOGETHER SINCE 1985

CEDARPINES PARK • VALLEY OF ENCHANTMENT • CRESTLINE • TWIN PEAKS • RIMFOREST • AQUA FRIA • BLUE JAY • DEER LODGE PARK • LAKE ARROWHEAD • CEDAR GLEN • SKY FOREST • RUNNING SPRINGS • ARROWBEAR • GREEN VAL

Tue, 06 Dec, 2011

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Cedarpines Park skeletal remains identified

Chuck Wyatt

Staff Writer

On October 8, two hunters discovered a badly decomposed body on a US Forest Service Road in Bailey Canyon, near the Monument Peaks area of Cedarpines Park.

At that time, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Sergeant Bill Hope of the Twin Peaks Station told *The Alpenhorn News* that not much was known about the victim or the cause of death. Hope said the body was "real decomposed" and had suffered a lot of "animal activity" and that the animals had scattered body parts around the area.

To complicate matters further, due to the elements and animal activity, even a clothing, or partial clothing description, could not be determined at that time.

Hope said they were not able to determine how long the victim may have been on the mountain, but an opinion was forwarded that the body had probably been there for some "weeks or months," but not as long as a year or more.

On a follow up contact on November 30, *The Alpenhorn News* was told that the body had been identified as Frederick (no middle name) McCormick, 56, last known address in Philadelphia.

Lieutenant Rick Ells of the Twin Peaks Sheriff's Station told *The Alpenhorn News* that McCormick had a history of mental problems and had checked out of a mental hospital on August 13, 2010, telling the staff that he was going to a hospital in the Los Angeles area.

From that date until October 8, 2011, nothing is known about McCormick's activities.

Ells said from evidence found in the area of Bailey Canyon, McCormick had made a dugout home in the hills and was believed to have died at his campsite.

At the time of his death, McCormick appeared to have been wearing hospital scrubs with the number 5400 stenciled on them. Ells said 5400 is the designation of the mental health ward at Redlands Community Hospital.

Coroner's Department spokesperson Sandy Fatland told *The Alpenhorn News* that the Redlands Community Hospital staff have been searching their files, but have no information on McCormick, adding that if he actually had been at Redlands Community Hospital, he may have been under a different name, or he may have just obtained the clothing during the past year.

Fatland said McCormick's identification was determined through the use of the CAL ID computer fingerprint system. Investigators had been able to reconstruct a small portion of the tissue on one finger and were able to obtain a fingerprint.

An autopsy was performed and the cause of death has not yet been determined, but there was no indication that the death was anything other than from natural causes at this time.

Fatland said that at this time, McCormick's next of kin have not been located or notified. If McCormick chose to come to California because he had relatives is not known.

Fatland confirmed the name as Frederick McCormick, adding that McCormick also was known as Richard.

The San Bernardino County Coroner's Office is asking anyone with information regarding Frederick (Richard) McCormick, or having any knowledge of his next of kin, or his activities while living in the Cedarpines Park area, to contact their office at (909) 387-2978

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GUEST BOOK



Guest Book

This week's poll

Are you tired of corruption in our local government?

- Yes!
- No!
- I'm tired of reading about corruption in our government!
- We spend too much resources and money on this subject!
- I'm tired of voting in a representative that forgets his/her job!
- I don't think there is corruption in our local government, it is a media driven myth!
- Corruption in government, no way!

vote

Lake Arrowhead, CA, US

12.06.2011 6:24 PM PST

Qwikcast.com

Wed 12/07	Thu 12/08	Fri 12/09	Sat 12/10	Sun 12/11
Clear 55°F / 29°F	Clear 52° / 36°	Partly Cloudy 53° / 32°	Partly Cloudy 52° / 31°	Light Rain 47° / 33°

Currently	KRAL	Detailed Forecast
Clear 54°F 5:53 PM	Apparent 54°F Dewpoint 6°F Humidity 15% Wind NE/3 mph Visibility 10 mi Barometer 30.26 in	Almanac Sunrise 6:41 Sunset 4:38 Yest_High_Temp. 61°F Yest_Low_Temp. 37°F Yest_High_Hum. 60% Yest_Low_Hum. 9%

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