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Missing Q&A

The News-Leader

Hard-core drug use not a factor in case, investigator says

By Chris Bentley

Springfield Police Capt. Tony Glenn answers News-Leader readers' questions about the investigation into the disappearance last month of Sherrill Levitt, Suzie Streeter and Stacy McCall.

Caller: The reward should be for finding the bodies. If the women are dead now, not just for finding who did it. That would get more people helping the search. Also, I'd like to know if there's any truth that the Streeter girl owed \$40,000 on cocaine just for her senior year alone.

Caller: I just talked to a young lady who is the same generation as Suzie Streeter and Stacy McCall. In fact she went to Kickapoo High School. I believe, and she said absolutely that the well-known fact is that Suzie Streeter was heavy into drugs. In fact, she said 'crazy' with drugs. The police deny this. I just called the police department and the policeman told me the same thing, and I know they're trying to keep that calmed down. But I think that if they went to the '80, '20, '21-year-olds and got on a level where some of them would open up, that they might find out this same information.

Glenn: That reward is for any information that leads to a solution.

On the next point, while we have discovered some evidence of the Streeter girl being a recreational or experimental user, we have developed no information of her being a hard-core drug user. And anyone who owed \$40,000 for one year would be considered a major user.

Caller: I haven't heard much about the map and note for police that were left weeks ago in a newspaper stand. Have they checked under the apartment complex and around it and everything like that? Also, I heard rumors that one of Streeter's boyfriends had been missing, too. Is that true?

Glenn: Yes, the area described in that map and note has been fully checked and released as not being a location where the three women were or are.

News-Leader: Other people have said the note's comment, 'Use race of gas man checking for leaks,' may have suggested how they got the women out of the house in the first place.

Glenn: That was one of the considerations and is a plausible consideration. Obviously it could have been that.

It could have been a policeman or



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— Police Capt. Tony Glenn

a fireman or any authority figure, or anyone indicating to these ladies that an emergency situation existed and they needed to exit the house immediately. There are a multitude of uses that could have been used to lure the women to remove themselves from the home.

N.L. Is it true a boyfriend is missing, too?

Glenn: Not that I am aware of. I cannot say beyond a shadow of a doubt that we have interviewed every person that ever dated Suzie Streeter during her lifetime. I am convinced that we have located and interviewed the male persons in her life during the last couple of years.

Caller: How about bringing in a psychic and giving them a piece of their clothing to read their scent? If they're real, I'll work. I'm sure it would.

Glenn: Different psychics work in different manners. As of this time, we have not tried this gentleman's suggestion.

Caller: I was struck by the article in the paper on the psychic who kept getting a picture of a big 'A' and a field and railroad tracks. I wonder, have the police checked the attics and the basements right in the area near Levitt's house or along some of the houses' attics along the railroad tracks in their neighborhood?

Glenn: We have not made a physical search of every home in the area. We have requested each of those residents check their own homes for us and let us know of anything they may find out of the ordinary.

Caller: On Suzie Streeter, I have heard the rumors that she used to date a guy who would go up to the graves and take gold teeth out of people and sell them and pawn them.

N.L. Police have verified this before, but say they have substantially

If the residents of the county and city that have tall weeds on their property, number one it would give the individual that was actually cutting the weeds a lot easier access to check his property. Plus, if it became necessary for us to conduct an area search, it would make that search much easier.

Caller: I am puzzled as to why they haven't used bloodhounds to check the scent of these two women's clothing and where at least when they left the home where they would have entered a vehicle or where this trail did end.

Glenn: This was an idea that was taken into strong consideration at the very initial opening of this investigation. However, checking into the use of these animals, it was found that based on the sheer number of people that had been in and out of the home and across the property, it was not felt that they could be effective.

Caller: I have an idea about what happened to those three women. It's possible that they might have been taken out of state west, a place like Las Vegas, and they were put into a house of bad repute.

Glenn: That is the reason that we put out a nationwide broadcast in regards to the situation. Flurs have been sent nationwide, photographs of these ladies, in that we felt that if they are in a place, in or out of state, anywhere, the wider spread we can publish the fact of their disappearance, the more apt we are to develop leads that will assist us in finding them.

Caller: A young person has told me there are rumors that Sherrill Levitt's daughter did not get along with her and that she and Stacy McCall went to

ruled out this former boyfriend as a suspect. Correct?

Glenn: That is correct. I think you've got the full story on that.

Caller: I heard down at the High on the Hog Bar that the Galloping Geese had something to do with it. Galloping Goose Motorcycle Club.

Glenn: The Galloping Goose Motorcycle Club is a viable club within our community and do have an established clubhouse here.

This motorcycle club did participate in a ride over the Fourth of July weekend, where members of their organization from throughout the country were invited to participate. However, we have no knowledge at this time or information that would lead us to believe their organization as a whole were actively involved in the disappearance of these three women.

N.L. Did any of them know any of the women?

Glenn: No.

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the Army recruiting station on the day before graduation and asked if they could join the Army the day after graduation.

Glenn: This was a rumor that was circulated early on in the investigation, and it is one that we checked. We found that no, they were not identified as being anyone that had been in the recruiting stations and actively seeking permission to sign up.

Caller: You always seem to see the pictures of the three women as in a photo studio. Why not see some real-life, you know, top-to-bottom pictures of these people so you know how they're shaped, what they actually look like in real life, and not print up studio photos?

N.L. The paper has contacted some of Sherrill Levitt's friends and asked if they had snapshots. Some of them said, 'Well, we had some but we gave them to police.' Others said, 'We have some but they're not good, or we don't want to release them.'

Glenn: It is so easy to alter your appearance that the release of full-body photographs we did not feel would really assist us nor the public. We felt the close-ups of the actual face, which is the hardest area to alter, is the image that the public needed to concentrate on.

Stacy McCall is a prime example. At the time of her disappearance, she had waist-length hair. How easy it would be to cut that to shoulder-length, totally altering an appearance if you were only concentrating on the length of the hair.

Caller: Do I, does this taxpayer have to pay for this, for all of them doing all this, for searching and everything? Do we have to have taxes on that?

Glenn: Certainly. Every taxpayer in this community is helping to support the search and investigation into the disappearance of these ladies. It's the price of living in a democracy.

Caller: These three women have been painted as such exemplary people that if someone knew of something bad in their pasts, they might be hesitant to call in since they have been painted as three such perfect people. I do think something needs to be brought out that they are not No. 1 types, because someone might sit back and say, 'I know something, but inasmuch as they are not this type, I will just keep my mouth shut.' You are painting them as too perfect, and they

are not. I know they are not.

Caller: I just wanted to say that I really appreciated that article you put in the paper to dispel the horrible rumors about these women. I don't know anything about these people, but I've been hearing lots of things and it really bothers me to know that when people disappear that they would talk this way about them, with no founded reason.

N.L. Obviously, we're getting both sides here. Do you feel the image of the women as portrayed in the public may affect what kind of information people may call in to tell police?

Glenn: We're getting calls in regards to the same rumors that are circulating within the community. Basically, the information that we are releasing back to the public is after we have checked into these rumors and found them to be not substantiated in any manner. We are trying to release a true, accurate picture of the lives and lifestyles of these women.

Caller: I know these missing women are on the minds of everybody. I was just wondering if that had any connection to do with this girl that was abducted from a telephone booth a year or so ago. Is there any connection there?

Glenn: Our department early on in this investigation worked with the FBI in regards to not only the lady mentioned by this reader, but two other females who have been abducted in surrounding counties in the past year or so. It is felt that their disappearance in no way is associated with the disappearance of our three ladies.

Caller: I want this to stay anonymous, but I talked to Stacy before she disappeared. It was the day before the graduation and I just was wondering about what I can do. I want to know.

Glenn: People who know Stacy, or people who are just wanting to assist us, number one, they can volunteer to help us search areas. We have search teams on a daily basis working out of the department. Also, they can report anything to us that they hear said or they see in the community that they feel may help us. And probably, they could assist by distributing posters and fliers, or making a contribution to the standing reward fund.

All of those things would assist the victims themselves or members of their families, who are also hurting.

Q&A with Detective

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