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Details emerge on found skull

Remains on Reservoir St. belonged to black woman who had craniotomy
BY MELISSA MCKEON MMCKEON@HOLDENLANDMARK.COM

HOLDEN — The state Office of the Medical Examiner has determined that the skull found off Reservoir Street on April 3 belongs to a black female 25 to 45 years old, according to Worcester District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr.

The skull belongs to a person who had undergone a craniotomy, that is, the removal of a bone flap from the skull, to treat a brain aneurism, Early's office reported. Investigators have determined that the operation was performed sometime between 2003 and 2010.

The skull was found by a jogger on Saturday, April 3.

No other parts of the individual's body have yet been identified. Police are examining other non-specified articles found in the vicinity where the skull was found, about a tenth of a mile from the corner of Reservoir Street and Stone House Hill Road.

Those articles were found by a team of 30, composed of state police, Holden Police Central Mass. Search and Rescue, and city of Worcester Reservoir and DPW personnel, who combed the area last week.

Police would not comment last week on whether the skull showed signs of injury. State police with cadaver-sniffing dogs searched the area around the find on April 4. Subsequent searches did not include canines. The April 8 search contingent was the largest so far.



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Reservoir Street was closed for part of the day on April 8, for safety reasons, due to the number of vehicles involved in the search, Holden Police Chief George Sherrill said.

“Anyone who has knowledge of a missing person who would have had similar characteristics, should contact the Massachusetts State Police detectives, Sgt. James S. Nanof or Trooper Gerard A. O’Malley, at 508-832-9124,” Early said.

The area around the reservoir consists of more than 1,600 acres owned by the city Worcester for the reservoir and water treatment plant, as well as a few private parks and recreation sites.

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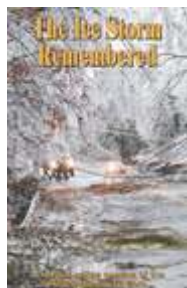
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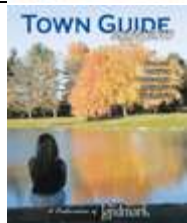
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