



**Altoona Mirror**

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**LOCAL**

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**Police renew search for woman who vanished in '91**

**BELLEFONTE (AP)** — Hoping for new leads to solve a 9-year-old mystery, state police are airing the case of a woman who disappeared from a Centre County bar in 1991.

Brenda L. Condon, then 28, was last seen Feb. 26, 1991, at the former Carl's Bad Tavern. She had been tending bar there for only three days. Left behind were her boots in the men's room, her car out back and her kids, 10-year-old Shawna and 12-year-old Todd, at home.

Her purse and car keys were missing, but nothing else was taken from the bar.

"It was something of a strange one," said ex-Spring Township officer Ron Schall, who first looked into the disappearance.

State police took over the investigation from Spring Township in 1997, and they say they have developed new leads to narrow the search.

"We reinterviewed, in-depth, everyone who may have been a part of Brenda's life," state police trooper Joseph Cjgich said Wednesday. He wouldn't comment before a news conference scheduled for Feb. 24.

Schall said the case was tough even when it was fresh.

"The bar owner said nothing was taken, so it wasn't a theft," he said. "There was a lot of speculation ... there was nothing really to go on."

Condon's sister, Iris Myers, hopes somebody steps forward with information.

**Altoona father looking for missing daughter**

BY TIFFANY SHAW  
Staff Writer

An Altoona father is still searching for his 21-year-old daughter he hasn't seen in nearly five months.

Sherry Jean Leighty left her estranged husband and three young children in Altoona at the end of September and hasn't been heard from since.

Her father, Sheldon Dumm, has waited for word from his daughter, but he is disappointed by the unsuccessful attempts to contact her.

"It worries me. It doesn't seem right," he said of her disappearance. "I don't understand how Sherry could do this."

He hopes someone who has seen her recently will recognize her photo and persuade her to contact her family.

Leighty's ex-husband, Aaron Leighty, last saw Sherry Leighty Sept. 26 when his parents dropped her off at work. But her employer later said Sherry Leighty never showed up for work that day. Friends have said Sherry Leighty ran away with a boyfriend.

"Some of her friends in the area heard her say she was going to move to Maine with some kid," Aaron Leighty said. "I have no idea."

Since she is an adult, and friends



Leighty

say she ran off with a boyfriend, Altoona police have no case to investigate. Sherry Leighty was entered in the police computers Nov. 4 as "an attempt to locate," meaning if officers talk to her in any capacity dur-

ing a case or traffic stop, the family would be notified. But there have been no sightings recorded.

Since foul play is not suspected in the case, Sherry Leighty wasn't entered in the national database of missing persons.

"Adults can go off on their own free will," said Altoona police Capt. Janice Freehling. If the family suspects a crime or abduction has occurred, the case must meet certain criteria before being pursued.

But even if she did leave the area with a friend, Dumm continues to worry about his daughter. "Between here and Maine, a lot could happen," he said. "It scares me."

He was granted full custody of the couple's three children — ages 7, 3, and 1½ — after the divorce was final in October, he said.

**Twp. discusses safety hazard**

**HUNTINGDON** — Officials in Smithfield Township just south of Huntingdon are looking at ways to eliminate a growing roadside danger.

Eighteen-wheel rigs are parking on the shoulders of Route 22, said

serious accidents yet.

Township supervisors have opted to place "no parking" signs at equal intervals along the highway from one end of the township to the other. The spacing will be determined by the PennDOT.

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