

In support of missing children



CUE Center For Missing Persons

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For immediate release:

National Tour Visits Connecticut to Revive Missing Persons Cases

Advocates Are Traveling Cross-Country for the 7th Annual "On the Road to Remember" Tour

Wilmington, NC – For the seventh year, volunteers from the North Carolina-based CUE Center for Missing Persons will travel across the U.S. to raise awareness of missing children and adults. The team will be in **Danbury on August 22nd**, to attend their pre planned rally stop hosted by the family and friends of **Mary Badaracco**; the public and media outlets are invited to attend. CUE will be distributing a trail of DVD's, press kits, t shirts and valuable information throughout the path of the tour - concerning missing person's and unsolved homicide cases that have gone cold.

"After so many years, these cases fade from the public's radar, but for the families and friends of a missing person, the nightmare continues – every minute of every day their loved one is absent," said CUE Founder, Monica Caison; who is leading the caravan of volunteers. "We are traveling across the country to make sure that no case fades from memory and we come to **Danbury, Connecticut**, in an effort to remind everyone of these featured cases in need of a resolution", they need our help and the community's help to bring them home", she added.

This year's On the Road to Remember Tour will begin in Carrboro, NC on August 19th, and end on August 28, 2010, close to 3,272 miles and ten days later in group's hometown, Wilmington, NC. Hundreds of volunteers, families of the missing, law enforcement agencies, volunteer groups and officials will take part in various legs of the tour, which will include twenty one preplanned rally stops in ten states to promote a mixture of one hundred - nine cold cases.

"Each year as we begin in preparation for the tour, we are reminded of the overwhelming numbers of unsolved cases from across the country, silently you see all of the request that flood in, obviously we can only take a certain amount each year," Mrs. Caison said. "The cases we feature are a small number compared to the NCIC Statistics 700,000 to 850,000 cases reported annually", but I'm confident we will make a difference in those we represent, CUE's Founder added.

What 7th Annual "On the Road to Remember" Nationwide Tour for Missing Persons
When August 22, 2010 Time: 3:30 pm
Where Hatters Park 7 East Hayestown Road Danbury, CT
Who Connecticut Featured Missing: Billy Smolinski, Mary Badaracco and Carmella Gutierrez

About CUE

CUE Founder Monica Caison, who has dedicated her life to the plight of missing people and their loved ones; Mrs. Caison became a tireless advocate for the missing after being exposed to the families of missing persons at least three times before she was 25 years old. In 1994, she founded the non-profit (Community United Effort), known as the CUE Center, which is focused on finding the missing, advocating for their causes, and supporting their families. Since its inception, CUE has helped more than 9,000 families in what is often the most confusing and desperate times of their lives. The non-profit CUE Center is funded entirely by donations, and staffed by dedicated volunteers.

National Tour Purpose and Inspiration



The annual tour was created to generate new interest in cold cases of missing people across our nation. The inspiration came in 2004 from the case of a North Carolina college student Leah Roberts, who had gone on a cross-country trip of self-exploration. Her wrecked and abandoned vehicle was found, but Leah remains missing. Leah's case went cold and interest faded until CUE volunteers set out on a grueling 14-day trip to retrace her route and inform the media of her case and all those who were missing in the path of the route. In Leah's case the tour's mission was to gain her national attention in which was accomplished when it landed a feature story in *People Magazine*. In the years to follow, it only seemed right to keep hope alive after families from across the country voiced the need for more help and supported the tour idea.

National Tour Objective

The national road tour, called "On the Road to Remember," is an awareness campaign that primarily focuses on missing persons cases that have gone cold or have not received appropriate media coverage on the local level – much less the national level.. The tour, which travels through many states annually, provides that attention.

In all cases of missing people, it is vital to inform the public of the missing person's circumstances quickly and to disseminate that information to the media and the community. In most cases where details are released immediately to the public through an organized campaign, the public brings forth information that aids in the investigation and or the location of the victim. The media plays a significant role in getting the word out on the behalf of the missing person and should be recognized as a vital resource to any investigation.

Interest in many of the cases we have featured in previous tours has been renewed. The media has learned about local cases they were unaware of; case investigations have been sparked, and searches conducted. Information has resulted in new leads in some cases, and has even helped identify an unknown decedent; returned children of a parental abduction and in 2008 solved a cold case of twenty eight years. In each tour year, some of the missing cases featured have been found from various efforts prompted by the tour's visit, being the main reason for its existence today.

It is the belief of the CUE Center for Missing Persons that all investigators, the public, volunteers and the media should work in collaboration on cases involving missing children and adults; until this happens, their will continue to be cases of the missing labeled "cold", "inactive" or unsolved.

About the 2010 Tour Honoree

In keeping the tradition of the tour – an honoree is selected each year, one who needs fair coverage of their disappearance. This year's honoree is Patricia Viola

Details of Disappearance:

Patricia Viola was last seen on February 13, 2001, on her way home from the Bixby School Library, where she volunteered. Her coworkers say she was quieter than usual the day of her disappearance. She was last heard from at 12:30 p.m. that day when she placed a telephone call from her residence in the 70 block of Chestnut Avenue in Bogota, New Jersey. She returned a call to her mother, who describes the conversation as normal.

Viola's family believes she may have had a seizure, become disoriented, and wandered away from her home. She left behind a husband and two children when she disappeared. She did not take her purse, identification, cellular phone, credit cards, keys, or any other personal belongings with her, but may have had some money on her person. Viola is believed to have left her house at approximately 1:30 p.m., judging by the time she set the house alarm. None of the neighbors reported seeing anything unusual. Queries to area taxi companies turned up no information regarding Viola's disappearance, but her husband thinks she may have taken a taxi out of the area. Due to her epilepsy, she cannot drive, and did not have access to a car at the time of her disappearance.



Missing from: Bogota, New Jersey

Date Of Birth: 08/18/58

Age at disappearance: 42 Height: 5'2" Weight: 125-135 lbs.

Hair Color: Brown Eye Color: Brown Race: White

Distinguishing Characteristics: Pierced ears.

Medical Conditions: Suffers from epilepsy and is required to take 300 milligrams of Dilantin and 150 milligrams of Phenobarbital daily. She did not have her medication with her. She may be disoriented and/or suffer amnesia.

Clothing: Green or gray long sleeved sport shirt, jeans, white athletic shoes, black cloth winter jacket.

Jewelry: 14 karat gold wedding band, engagement ring with 1 karat round stone worn on left finger.

AKA: Maiden name is "Marri". Her nickname is "Pat".

Every missing person is somebody's child.



Recap Tour Facts

- Tour Mileage – 3,272
- Rally Stops – 21
- States traveling through - 10
- Featured Cases - 109
- Tour Dates – August 19th thru August 28th of 2010
- States traveling through – North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, New York, Connecticut and New Jersey

For full tour dates, times and location, as well as a complete listing of cases featured on the tour, visit CUE on the web at www.ncmissingpersons.org “*click on road tour*” or e-mail cuecenter@aol.com or call Monica Caison at (910) 343-1131 or 24 Hour Line (910) 232-1687.

An additional website will be following the tour as it is moving with daily updates, you can visit them at <http://www.roadtorembertour.com>

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