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Missing 411 wisconsin cluster map. Missing 411 location. Missing case 411. 411 cluster map. Missing 411.

You're invited to submit your own spine-tingling stories about ghosts, hauntings, cryptids, and UFOs for our Halloween episodes! Send them to us at astonishingcontact@gmail.com with a little "meat" to keep us hooked. If your story doesn't make it this time, don't worry - we'll keep it on file for future consideration. Thanks! Episode 241: Missing 411 Part 1 This episode's produced by Scott Philbrook & Forrest Burgess; audio editing by Sarah Vorhees Wendel of VW Sound. Ryan McCullough handled the sound design, with Tess Pfeifle as producer and lead researcher. The Astonishing Research Corps (A.R.C.) provided research support. Copyright 2022 Astonishing Legends Productions, LLC. All Rights Reserved. The trail that led to six-year-old Dennis Martin's last known location starts near Cades Cove - the most popular campground in America's most visited National Park. It's a strange juxtaposition: civilization at the foothills of the uninhabited Smoky Mountains. On that Saturday morning, the picnic grounds were almost deserted. The parking lot felt safe for the first mile, then the sounds of moving water and falling leaves replaced the commotion. David Paulides, a researcher and archivist, looks like a cop. He spent 16 years with California's San Jose Police Department before turning his attention to the "Missing 411" enigma. His work documents peculiar disappearances in the wilderness. The title refers to the total number of missing persons cases compiled in his first two books: 296 males and 115 females (411). David is cautious about suggesting what might cause these odd vanishing acts, but his premise is clear: something strange is making people disappear in the woods. You know you've arrived at Spence Field when the forest has reclaimed most of the grassy bald.



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411 cluster map. Missing 411.

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Clumps of briars and blueberries litter the landscape among rings of pin cherry trees offering up branches full of small red berries. The canopy around Spence Field is open and airy. From the Anthony Creek trailhead, the hike to the clearing where Dennis Martin went missing is strenuous, gaining over 3,000 feet in elevation by the time the trail terminates at the ridgeline. It feels its advertised 5.2 miles. Dennis was last seen in the summer of 1969. Family members described being within 30 feet of his last known location. As he concealed himself behind shrubs in the open terrain straddling the Tennessee and North Carolina divide, Spence Field stood nearby, where three trails converged: Eagle Creek Trail from the south, Bote Mountain Trail from the north, and the Appalachian Trail running east-west along the mountain's ridge. A backcountry shelter, less than a quarter mile away, offered respite to weary hikers. The location is remote yet serves as a hub for hikers arriving from various directions. Paulides meticulously analyzed potential cases of people vanishing under unusual circumstances, identifying "clusters" and trends in the data. He discovered that most missing persons are gone quickly, with no distress calls or cries for help heard by their companions. Berries frequently feature prominently in these cases, as individuals were last seen picking berries, found in berry bushes, or surviving off berries while lost. The repeated patterns include Emma Bowers (1953), a 5-year-old girl who went missing for 60 hours before being discovered eating wild berries; and Alvan Diggan (1942), a 3-year-old boy who became lost while his parents worked in a wild strawberry patch. Both children were found over 2 miles from their last known locations, often at an odd distance. In other cases, missing individuals turn up near where they disappeared, despite thorough searches having taken place. Michael Reel (1983), an 8-year-old boy, was lost for a week near the Smoky Mountains before being found in a blackberry patch 2.5 miles from his disappearance.

His claim that he spent the time with his deceased grandfather in a deserted cabin raises questions. Rivers, whether dry or flowing, are another consistent element. Search teams often track dogs to riverbanks only to lose the scent.

Many missing individuals vanish near rivers or are later located in creek beds, areas that obscure footprints and odors from search parties. Clothing also plays a role, with some missing persons wearing red or bright colors when they disappear, while others shed their shoes or important pieces of clothing during their absence. In the Smoky Mountains, Geoffrey Hague's belongings were found neatly arranged on a rock near his body, with no explanation for why he left behind his backpack, survival gear, and most of his clothing despite the cold winter temperatures.

Paulides notes that articles from the pack were laid out as if someone was taking inventory, adding to the mystery of Hague's disappearance. Another unsettling theme in 'Missing 411' cases is the presence of hairy woodland creatures exhibiting human-like behavior.

A notable example is Katie Flynn's encounter with a large black bear in Walhalla, Michigan, where she went missing from her father's lumber camp. She was found wearing only one shoe, standing on a downed tree across a river, and claimed that a "big dog" had walked away with her. In some 'Missing 411' cases, children report encounters with large woodland creatures of surprising intelligence. David Paulides recounts the story of Dennis Martin, who vanished during a game of hide and seek in Tennessee's Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The park assembled its largest search and rescue response, involving over 1,400 people, including Army Special Forces, helicopters, bloodhounds, and psychics, but no trace of Dennis was ever found. The scarcity of hikers in the area was likely attributed to aggressive bear activity. Campsite 9 was closed due to elevated risk, with signs alerting visitors to recent attacks. On the trail, a black bear cub was spotted, but it quickly fled upon detection. Bear activity fluctuates in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, where attacks on humans are rare but do occur. The trail to Spence Field featured cautionary signs due to increased activity. In 1969, food scarcity and weather conditions led to an unusual surge in human-bear encounters.

While some speculate that an animal was involved in Dennis Martin's disappearance, there is no evidence of an attack. Some attribute the theory to a reported encounter by the Key family, who heard a blood-curdling scream while hiking 9 miles from where Dennis went missing. Their story claimed they saw a man hiding behind bushes, attempting to remain unseen. However, park rangers and officials doubt that the Keys witnessed anything related to Dennis' disappearance due to the vast forest terrain and distance. Details have evolved over time, with some attributing the sighting to Bigfoot or the "wild man." I've been exploring cases that defy conventional explanations. I asked someone about putting the Missing 411 data into a spreadsheet for scientific analysis, but unfortunately, there was no response. However, something unexpected happened.

As my article on Medium gained popularity, I started receiving messages from readers.

While it's nice to hear from people sharing their personal stories or theories, I realized that more accounts and ideas can only take us so far. That's when I received an email from Gary Koehler, who had already done the work of assembling a sample of 1,127 victims from the first seven Missing 411 books. Gary also conducted a preliminary descriptive analysis to identify basic patterns in the data. He gave me permission to use his findings and shared both the data and his analysis with me. I decided to share my initial impressions here. It's surprising that Gary didn't receive the attachments due to concerns about computer viruses, but I understand his caution.

In any case, I believe it's essential to analyze this data, and the results are intriguing. I won't post the entire dataset or Gary's analysis here, but I'll share some highlights along with basic peer-review comments to start a discussion. If you're interested in seeing more, please reach out to me through direct message on any of my social media platforms, and I'll share it with you. Eventually, I'll post the information on my website once I begin analyzing it myself. The significance of this data lies in its representativeness. The sample is substantial, covering about half or even a majority of all possible Missing 411 cases. Each demographic subgroup within the sample is large enough to be considered statistically significant. However, there's potential for concern regarding the mixing of different case types, such as rural and urban settings or time periods (from the 19th century to present). In the future, it might be beneficial to create separate samples for these subgroups. For this specific sample, keep in mind that only 117 cases from urban areas are included, and most Missing 411 victims are... In the wake of World War II, reports of hiker disappearances began to surface, although it's possible that such incidents occurred prior to this time.

A closer examination of these Missing 411 cases reveals commonalities among unexplained disappearance scenarios. This analysis delves into what links these events together. An initial review of the data yields some striking statistics: out of a total of 1,127 missing individuals, 853 (75.7%) are male and 274 (24.3%) are female. Furthermore, 479 (42.5%) are between 0-17 years old, while 625 (55.5%) are adults, with 23 (2%) having unknown ages. Broken down by age group, the confirmed adult victims reveal that 199 (17.7%) were between 18-24, 113 (10%) were between 25-34, and so on. A total of 269 (23.8%) individuals were found alive, 355 (31.5%) were discovered dead, and 501 (44.5%) remained missing. The data suggests that men go missing at a rate approximately 25% higher than expected, while children and adolescents disappear about 20% more frequently than their adult counterparts. However, the significance of these findings hinges on whether the demographic composition of national park visitors differs substantially from that of the general population. A cursory internet search reveals a lack of robust demographic research in this area. For instance, I was unable to find statistics on the percentage of children and adolescents visiting national parks, although it's possible that baby boomers are overrepresented today. This sample may artificially lower the ratio of children due to the inclusion of books focused on hunters and college students. In terms of male-to-female visitor ratios, data from the Journal of Leisure Research suggests that this ratio should be roughly equal in national parks, with women being only slightly underrepresented. I found no evidence to contradict this finding.

Some potential prosaic explanations for these findings include psychological factors, such as men being more reckless. However, given the substantial sample size, statistical error is unlikely to contribute to a discrepancy of this magnitude. The absence of reliable comparison data hinders our understanding of disappearances in North America over the past century. To move forward, researchers should compile a large control sample of unexplained cases to investigate how gender and age influence these events. Until then, we cannot definitively establish their roles. Despite this limitation, the current dataset reveals some striking demographic patterns: The vast majority (247 out of 268) of those found alive were minors. Young men aged 18-24 are more likely to be found dead compared to other adult groups (64% versus 13-40%). Elderly individuals have the highest rate of not being found (81%). Women, both minors and adults, tend to be found alive more often than their male counterparts by around 10-15%. These statistics are intriguing. Let's examine the cases of minors first. It's unclear why they're disproportionately found alive. Perhaps it's because they're less likely to wander far from home, yet there were instances where children were found miles away. Similarly, children and the elderly should have low survival chances due to physical limitations or lack of survival skills. Yet, the data shows that children are often found alive, while the elderly are least likely to be found. This discrepancy is puzzling. Young men, who should be well-equipped to survive, are instead rarely found alive. The anomaly in urban cases might explain this phenomenon, but it's unclear why it only affects men aged 18-24 and not those aged 25-34. It's as if there's a hidden explanation. The differences between minors and adults might stem from the fact that when adults disappear and are found alive, their stories are often told, making the case more explainable. However, this raises questions about why some adult cases remain unexplained. To move forward, we need to consider additional profile points, including those covered by Gary in his analysis. Some of these points are too subjective to be reliable, such as how to define high elevation or a boulder field. Conclusions from autopsies also raise concerns. Suspicions of general incompetence among US coroners arise from objective statistics that defy interpretation.

Key findings include: Dogs fail to track scents and locate victims in 81% of cases. 86% of victims are found alive, while 17.6% are discovered dead near water. 5.4% of victims are found alive in previously searched areas, with minors making up 59% of this group. 37% of victims vanish during the afternoon between noon and 8:00 pm, with 18.2% disappearing during the remaining 16 hours. Bad weather affects search missions in 33.8%, but outcomes remain similar regardless of weather conditions. 19.5% of cases involve missing clothing, while 15.6% mention shoes or socks specifically. Some possible explanations for these findings include: The inability to track victims may indicate a significant contributing factor to disappearances. The high percentage of minors found alive in previously searched areas could be related to the fact that most adults who are found alive usually explain their disappearance.

A comparison with a control sample of normal disappearances is needed to understand what's happening. This would help determine if there's sample selection bias or if something unusual is occurring. The peak time of disappearance during the afternoon might simply be coincidental, but only a control sample comparison can confirm whether this proportion is unusually high. Gary suggests that most missing persons cases can be explained by normal circumstances and locations. He notes that bad weather has little impact on search success rates, occurring in only about a third of cases. This implies that storms are coincidental rather than causative. To further investigate, a control sample of normal disappearances would be necessary to compare with Missing 411 cases. Regarding missing clothing items, particularly shoes, Gary proposes that paradoxical undressing due to hypothermia is the primary explanation. However, based on his knowledge of many Missing 411 cases, this doesn't account for all instances. He speculates that another mental condition may play a role, such as dementia or confusion, which could contribute to irrational behavior like removing shoes in rough terrain. Gary concludes that while some discrepancies don't rule out the possibility of intelligent perpetrators behind at least some disappearances, it's unclear without a control sample comparison. It's also possible that errors or mistakes exist in the data set. The text is rephrased without any comments and remains in its original language. Approaching cases like David Paulides does is crucial for identifying potential anomalies that warrant a closer examination. Assuming the perpetrator hypothesis holds true, Gary likens missing persons to fish in a metaphorical sense. Just as different fish disappear under various circumstances, humans vanish due to diverse motivations. A fish might be consumed by another predator or plucked from its environment by an entity operating outside its ecosystem. This scenario suggests that these entities might not specifically target their prey but instead operate within specific ranges, driven by various motives (hunting for sustenance, companionship, or study). Of course, this is just one of many competing hypotheses, which skeptics reject due to the notion of intelligent non-human beings in our wilderness being an Occam’s bridge too far. I argue that this data doesn't necessarily disprove it, so it can't be dismissed without a control sample comparison. Until then, we're left with speculation or field investigation. Your thoughts on this analysis are welcome, and I encourage you to propose alternative explanations compatible with the data. The more individuals participate in peer review, the better. If you'd like to access the full dataset and report, feel free to message me.