

resources to a case because of having too much work or too few resources, etc., but sometimes they do not devote more resources to a case because they already know exactly what happened, they just remain silent about it because they cannot prove it.

As for the media, they usually care most about what attracts attention, what sells.

The woman I mentioned above, whose younger sister has been missing for more than a decade, told me a Eugene/Springfield-based television news station produced a story about her sister that never aired. When she asked them why it never aired, she was told that the public is not interested in stories about missing people.

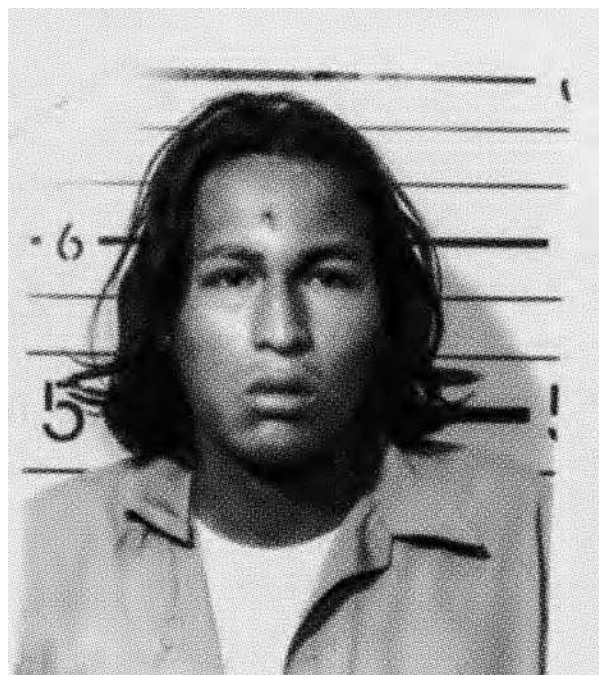
Obviously, I disagree. I think people matter. I think missing people matter. I think getting to the bottom of things matters.

Genuine interest and inquiry and concern — along with diligence and determination — can go a long way in any endeavor, which is why I am writing this: I want cases to get solved.

## REVISITING CASES

Lane County has, unfortunately, no shortage of fascinating and tragic missing persons cases to investigate. Below are just a few cases lingering.

Jerome Clements Charles



Charles has been missing from Eugene since June 2, 1984. The Charley Project classifies him as missing. He

was 26 years old at the time of his disappearance.

According to The Charley Project, Charles left his father's residence on West 3rd Avenue, "saying he was going for a walk and would be back in about two hours. He has never been heard from again. Few details are available in his case."

Charles, unlike the other missing people discussed in this article, is unique in that he comes from an infamous outlaw family: He is one of 10 children born to the late Avery Chester Charles and Ruth Wanda Charles. Every member of the family (alive or dead) has felony convictions. Charles has at least four siblings currently incarcerated in Oregon prisons for violent offenses.

An August 23, 1987, article from *The Oregonian* says, "Jerome C. Charles, 29, served two prison terms before his final parole in 1983. At age 18, he was first arrested in 1975 for driving without a license and resisting arrest. Jerome Charles was reported missing by his father in 1984. The elder Charles said he believes police murdered his son, but he has never taken that account to authorities. Police still list Jerome as a missing person."

Wendy Marie Dehoop



Dehoop was once a police dispatcher in California and has been missing from Eugene since April 22, 2005. The Charley Project classifies her as endangered missing. She was born Nov. 5, 1960, and was 44 years old when she vanished.

The Charley Project says Dehoop was last seen when she dropped her husband off at the Home Depot off Green Acres Road. "She was scheduled to drive to Halsey, Or-

egon, for her own job at Georgia-Pacific but never arrived. She has never been heard from again. Her boss and boyfriend reported her missing."

Someone found Dehoop's purse six days after her disappearance and dropped it off at a Bi-Mart in Eugene. "He said he had found it while walking his dog. The wallet was missing. On May 2, 10 days after Dehoop's disappearance, the same person who found her purse led authorities to her white two-door 1990 Toyota Corolla SR5 with Oregon license plate YCH635. It was on Lorane Highway just east of Fillmore Street in south Eugene. There was no sign of Dehoop at the scene."

Dehoop's sister Terri Slaughter-Cabbell wrote on Facebook on April 22, 2013: "Some of you may wonder why I always repost Missing people's pictures, it's something very close to my heart. Today makes eight years that my sister, (my BABY sister) has been missing. I keep in touch with the authorities, but nothing new (at least I know they are still looking), eight years of wondering, wishing is hard. I miss her very much and just wish we could get some closure."

Dehoop has now been missing for more than 13 years.

Kevin Scott Nordquist



Nordquist is classified as missing by The Charley Project. He has been missing from Eugene since Dec. 5, 2005. He was born on May 1, 1967, and he was 38 years old at the time of his disappearance.

The Charley Project says Nordquist was last seen "leaving an acquaintance's residence in the vicinity of the 32400 block of Matthews Road in Eugene, Oregon. He was en

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