

Police Question Neighbors About Missing Woman

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STATE COLLEGE, Pa. -- While police continue their search for a missing woman whose house was destroyed by a fire late last week, people in the neighborhood where her car was found said officials have been canvassing the area asking them what they know about the case.

It's been nearly a week since Joey Lynn Offutt's car was found abandoned at a State College apartment complex.

Some people who live at the Nittany Garden apartments have been speculating about what might have happened to her.

"I thought it was an abduction. The cop wasn't sure," said Tom Gardner.

George Elder talked about what police asked him.

"They asked what we had seen and they gave us pictures of her and her boyfriend and asked if we had seen them lately and any other information we had on them," he said.

Offutt's 1994 Saturn was found near where she once had an apartment. She has been missing since last week when the house she was renting in Sykesville burned down. The body of a baby was found inside the home. Investigators are still waiting for autopsy results to determine if it was Offutt's child.

In the meantime, police have been asking for the public's help in finding her. Offutt is a 33-year-old white woman 5 feet 3 inches tall, with a thin build, brown hair and brown eyes.

Anyone with information on Offutt or the fire is asked to call Pennsylvania state police at 371-4652.

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