

Woman fell 200 feet to her death in the Gila, police say

Associated Press

SILVER CITY — The body of a 63-year-old Grant County woman was found Tuesday afternoon on a ledge below Hillsboro Peak in the Gila National Forest.

State police said Martha Crosby of White Signal fell about 200 feet to her death.

Searchers using a helicopter spotted the body at about 1:45 p.m. and a ground team was sent to the area, police said.

Police said the woman had hiked about a mile from where her car was found by relatives Monday near Emory Pass.

Helicopters, bloodhounds and teams of mounted searchers were involved in the search.

Police said Crosby left a note

for her husband Sunday morning, saying she was going for a short ride. She was reported missing Sunday evening.

Authorities say the medical examiner will have to determine when the woman died.

Searchers Tuesday found a hunter who also had been reported missing in the Gila National Forest.

A dispatcher for the state police in Deming said Mike Pesce was found at about 10:50 a.m. in good shape. His hometown was not immediately available.

Authorities said Pesce's brother told police he disappeared at about 5 p.m. Monday near Little Walnut in the Gila. State police began their search at about 9 p.m. Monday.