

Child Missing From Wilkes County

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Twelve-year-old Boy Scout, Michael Auberry, was rescued yesterday morning around 11 am after a 4-day search. A rescue dog picked up his scent a little over a mile from his Boy Scout Troop' campsite.

Authorities said the boy was in weakened but good condition when they found him. He was treated for dehydration and then reunited with his family yesterday afternoon. Auberry told his father that he'd heard the search helicopter and people calling him. He said rescuers didn't hear him calling back. Michael also told his father that he'd been on the move; he slept in tree branches and curled up under rocks. He told rangers he'd drank water from streams. Searchers say they spotted Michael walking along a stream before he saw them. Park Ranger Tina White said that when he was found, Michael's first request was for food and a helicopter lift home. Michael Auberry went missing Saturday afternoon from his Boy Scout Troop's Campsite at Doughton Park just off the Blue Ridge Parkway in Wilkes County. His disappearance launched a massive 4-day search through the area. While he has not discussed his motive for leaving the camp, his father says he'd been homesick and missed some of his friends who weren't on the trip. He was trying to get home. According to the Associated Press, Auberry's favorite book, *Hatchet*, was about a youngster lost in the woods. Now Michael Auberry has his own survival tale.