

Tsuji, Arlene Friends continue search for woman

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SANTA CRUZ — Since Arlene Tsuji disappeared from her Aptos neighborhood one month ago, her friends have mounted a diligent but unsuccessful search, hoping to find her alive.

Saturday, they began a search for Tsuji along the North Coast, using directions from two psychics.

The search was unsuccessful. "Everyone's back and nothing turned up," said Tsuji's boss, Kirk Montero, Saturday evening.

At the time of her disappearance Oct. 24, Tsuji was an employee of a Capitola travel-tour company, well-liked by friends and co-workers.

Since then, they have put up

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more than 1,000 fliers throughout the county, and have repeatedly searched wooded areas between Cabrillo College and the Forest of Nisene Marks.

At this point, most believe she is dead, said Montero.

"We've talked to six or seven different psychics," he said. "Each and every one has pretty much stated they feel no presence of her, which means she's either dead or removed so far from the area that

their abilities to feel her aren't there."

Montero said two psychics said Tsuji was in a swampy area near a tree trunk, north of Davenport along Highway 1.

Saturday they began searching at Davenport and moved north, searching bodies of water along the coast.

"If we find her alive, it would be the greatest thing in the world," said Montero. "Since it's been so

long, and the psychics are saying she isn't here, everyone is pretty much in the mindset she's dead."

Nevertheless, a half-dozen will look again today, starting where they left Saturday and moving north to Pescadero.

"It's been a long process. No one's been able to heal," Montero said. "Everyone wants to heal their spirit and soul and know Arlene is at rest and found."

There is a \$25,000 reward for information leading to her discovery.

Tsuji is described as Asian, 5 feet tall, around 103 pounds, with straight, brownish-black shoulder-length hair and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing a gray, long-sleeve pullover sweatshirt and black baggy short pants with cuffs.