

Nina Keown funeral will be held at Lexington church this Saturday

Written by Marty Randall

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Though her cause of death is not yet known, the funeral for Nina Rae Keown, the 26-year-old mother who was missing for nearly three weeks in August, will be conducted at the Lexington Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 18, at 11 a.m.

Keown was a resident of the Lexington area. She was reported missing by her family two days after she was seen leaving a privately-operated music festival near Lexington late on August 7. According to witnesses, she was with her ex-husband, Robert "Bobby" Petty, as she left the festival grounds. Petty is a person of interest in the case and remains incarcerated on an unrelated probation revocation at the Clark County Jail in Jeffersonville. He also faces a 180-day stretch at the Scott County Security Center in Scottsburg, thanks to a probation revocation in this county.

After an all-out search over a nearly three-week period, law enforcement officials were reportedly led by Petty to where Keown's body was located in a heavily-wooded area off a road in northern Clark County on Thursday, August 26. Her remains were recovered the following morning and had been at the Medical Examiner's office in Louisville, Ky., since that time.

According to Louisville media, Keown's body was released on Tuesday, September 7, after extensive testing and comparison of dental records. Those records and a tattoo were reportedly the keys to positively identifying the body as the 26-year-old.

According to Scott County Prosecutor Jason Mount, no official word on the woman's cause of death has yet been received by his office as of Monday, September 13. Reports on autopsy findings by the Medical Examiner's Office have yet to arrive.

Prosecutor Mount said he is beginning the first steps in obtaining documents that will be needed to build a case if evidence supports that Nina Keown was murdered.

For her family, however, receiving the body last week meant that plans for the funeral could be finalized.

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Calling at the Collins Funeral Home in Scottsburg is planned from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday, September 17. Calling at the church on Saturday morning will be held from 9 a.m. until the service. The Rev. David Flucke will officiate.

Burial will follow in Lexington Cemetery.

A three-day event at the site of the music festival where Nina was last seen was held over the Labor Day weekend. Money raised by a \$10 admission fee was advertised as a donation to help the family with funeral expenses.

Additionally, staff of the Collins Funeral Home is accepting contributions on behalf of the family.

Expressions of sympathy may be expressed to the family by visiting the funeral home's website at www.collinsfuneralhome.net .