Missing Five-Year-Old Sumner Boy Located

A huge team effort by multiple agencies and community volunteers located a missing 5-year-old Sumner child unharmed. The Levy County Sheriff's Office responded Monday June 9 to the Sumner area of Levy County. A frantic mother could not locate her five-year-old boy. The mother and family had been searching for almost an hour before calling for Law Enforcement assistance. He had been last seen in the front yard of the home by the grandmother playing with the family dog.

The Levy County Sheriff's Office, Levy County Department of Public Safety, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Highway Patrol, Marion County Sheriff's Office Air Unit and the Florida Department of Corrections K-9 teams searched the area of Shiloh Cemetery for the missing 5-year-old boy for over three hours before he was located. The young boy was last seen wearing blue jeans, no shirt and no shoes. He was ultimately located in a large marshy pond by community volunteers approximately three miles from his home.

Resident John Hanley located a small barefoot print in a muddy area near a road at the edge of a swampy pond. Law enforcement resources were being moved into the area when a second resident volunteer, Evan Phillips, located the young child. Phillips heard his yells for help and entered the swamp to rescue him. The child was found in the middle of a thick stand of cattails in the center of the shallow pond unharmed. He was treated for small scratches and reunited with his mother.

LCSO greatly appreciates the assistance received from the citizens and other agencies on this case.

….submitted by Lt. Scott Tummond, Levy County Sheriff's Office