

Immediate

## **Volunteers sought to assist with search for missing student on Saturday, April 26**

Middlebury -- On Saturday, April 26, beginning at 9 a.m., there will be a ground search for missing Middlebury College student Nicholas Garza, directed by veteran missing person consultant Gary Peterson, with approval from the Middlebury Police Department.

Peterson and the Garza family are requesting the help of qualified volunteers from throughout the region to take part in the search, which will cover areas nearby the Middlebury campus.

The search group will assemble at Middlebury Colleges Kenyon Arena, located on South Main Street (Route 30) at 9 a.m. Volunteers should park in the lot next to the arena, or as directed, and use the main entrance. All volunteer searchers must register at the search headquarters in Kenyon Arena and will sign a waiver of liability before entering the field. Food, beverages and transportation to the search areas will be provided for registered searchers.

Volunteers must meet the following requirements to participate:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be able to hike distances over uneven terrain
- Have no health concerns

Volunteers should:

- Dress for the weather sun screen, hat, bug spray etc.
- Wear appropriate footwear - sturdy boots are necessary for walking over varied terrain including fields and wooded areas
- Bring a GPS or compass if available
- Not bring household pets or weapons of any kind

The schedule for the day will be as follows:

- 9 a.m.** Arrive and sign in at Kenyon Arena
- 9:15 a.m.** Instructions and team assignments from Gary Peterson
- 9:45 a.m.** Begin search
- Noon** Lunch break
- 1 p.m.** Resume searching until done or time to stop

Press briefings will take place at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Kenyon Arena. Anyone not directly involved in the search process is asked to stay out of the search area and away from the volunteers during the search.

For more information or to sign up for the search online, visit [www.nicholasgarza.org/](http://www.nicholasgarza.org/) or call Natalie Garza at 505-235-2961.