

PASTIES

Continued from Page 1B

this point.”

According to Dingus, there were 298 meat pasties and 4,000 pounds of rock salt onboard the missing plane when it went into the air, along with 20 crew members. Dingus said authorities, police and airport staff are researching flight manifests and may have uncovered a mystery reaching beyond the disappearance.

“There are two individuals aboard that vessel we have reasons to be suspicious about that may have contributed to the disappearance, but all of that is purely theoretical at this point,” Dingus said. “Two people were reported to be Yoopers but many people say they know the two individuals and say they really are not Yoopers. It’s a pretty serious accusation with the plane having turned up missing. These ‘mystery Yoopers’ may have brought the plane down.”

On Wednesday, March 26, the U.S. Coast Guard received a tip from a source that discovered a large break in the ice of Lake Superior roughly 20 miles away from Sawyer International to the east using Google Earth. According to Acoti, the hole in Lake Superior’s surface is the exact shape of an airplane. When authorities responded to the hole, they discovered pasties floating to the

surface, according to a search crew report.

Acoti said the discovery was a breakthrough in the investigation, but the search doesn’t stop there.

“By no means does that hole in the ice show any real evidence of a plane having crashed through the ice,” Acoti said. “There simply is no physical way an aircraft of that size can plummet straight down like that in order to make a cookie-cutter shape in the ice. There would be skid marks. There would be something. We need to look elsewhere.”

According to authorities at the Marquette U.S. Coast Guard, search crews and authorities dedicating themselves to the efforts have theorized other leads with more alleged evidence. These theories include: the plane crashed somewhere else in Lake Superior, extraterrestrials were involved in the disappearance or an intoxicated local hijacked the plane and flew it north.

Acoti also said a high-priority theory around two crates that were discovered 10 miles away from the ice hole in Lake Superior arose.

“Shortly after declaring the plane-shape a dead-end, we discovered two boxes floating in unfrozen water,” Acoti said. “Upon further inspection, the boxes were brown and had labels on them detailing a local brand of microbrewery alcohol. While these boxes were not on the manifests for the 145, this is a more tangi-

ble discovery than the hole in the ice.”

At 5 a.m. on Thursday, March 27, winter hikers claim they saw a plane flying low and the sky was “raining pasties and salt,” according to the U.S. Coast Guard. The new theory, Acoti said, changed the direction of the entire investigation once more.

“First the hole in the ice, then the boxes of alcohol and now this,” Acoti said. “We may have to wait until Lake Superior thaws or for clearer weather to see if a change of direction happened. We have no knowledge as to how the pasties could have been falling out of the aircraft and, upon investigating the island, there was no evidence to pasties being on the ground.”

The investigation behind the missing Embraer ERJ-145 continues. According to Grinder, citizens are worried about the lack of rock salt in the area. Grinder said the missing 145 is covering up a larger issue.

“Without salt or sand, the ground is as slick as a baby walrus,” Grinder said. “I’m sure people are missing their pasties, but we are having severe problems with road conditions. There was just a big wreck out on the highway near Marquette. Things will just continue until this plane is either found or we move on to bigger things.”

People who lost their pasty orders due to the incident were given \$5,000 in meat pasty products.

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Timothy Collier, Ph.D., is a professor in the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine Department of Translational Science & Molecular Medicine, Edwin A. Brophy Endowed Chair in Central Nervous System Disorders and Director of the Morris K. Udall Center for Excellence in Parkinson's Disease Research. More than 10 years ago he became a member of a four principal investigator collaborative team that has been studying issues of dopamine neuron biology as they apply to aging, Parkinson's disease and experimental therapeutics.

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