



English

[Login](#)  
[Other NewsBank Products](#)
[Search History](#) [Saved Articles](#) [Saved Searches](#) [Email Alerts](#) [Email Lists](#)

Search Results for "bruce porter" in All Text and past 5 years in Date

Flint Journal, The

[Edit Search](#) | [New Search](#)
[Show Help](#) ▾

[Back To Results](#)
Previous **Article 2 of 3** Next
[Save this Article](#)

## Hippie runaway found in Hawaii - Now a married mom in her 60s, Flint native not wild about publicity, retired journalist says

Flint Journal, The (MI) - Sunday, January 16, 2011

BEATA MOSTAFAVI

bmostafavi@flintjournal.com (810) 766-6210

FLINT - He didn't even know her last name.

But after just two days in the mystery girl's hometown of Flint, retired journalist **Bruce Porter** found more than clues about the life of the teen runaway he interviewed in 1967.

He found Marcy herself.

The girl who ended up in New York's East Village during the era's Summer of Love and shared with Porter her journey as part of Newsweek's cover story "Trouble in Hippieland" has moved on to a new life in Hawaii.

Marcy is in her 60s. She is married. She is a mother.

So when she got a phone call from the reporter with whom she had shared the most sordid details of drugs and hippie life as a teen more than 43 years ago, she was dumbfounded.

"She was a little disconcerted with everything ... as we all don't like things we did and mistakes we made when we were teenagers brought up and hashed over by everyone when we're grown up," said Porter, 72, of Greenwich Village, N.Y.

"It was, as you might imagine after not talking to somebody for 43 years, a little fraught."

And she still prefers to stay anonymous.

"It's more or less what I expected if we ever found her," Porter said. "She seems to have lived a very productive life."

Porter, a retired Columbia University professor, and filmmaker Dan Loewenthal visited Flint last weekend, camping at the Flint Public Library as they looked for the once-troubled woman who continued to haunt Porter all those years.

Loewenthal has been filming Porter's search for a possible documentary.

With just bits and pieces of information on Marcy and her family background, the pair pored over Social Security records, old newspaper obituaries and high school yearbooks.

It was enough to piece together who she was. They learned her last name and that the age they had for her was wrong. They learned her parents' names, siblings' names and what had happened to them.

They also found her photo in a Southwestern High School yearbook.

"I didn't recognize her," Porter said, recalling the teen he remembers as having stringy

### Related Articles

[Tell us what you think...](#)
[A cold, cold case - Murder mystery lingers with ev...](#)
[LETHAL LINKS- TRACKING PATH OF SERIAL KILLERS TAKE...](#)
[The Guardian: G2: On this beach, 700,000 years ago...](#)
[The Guardian: On this beach, 700,000 years ago ....](#)
[Girl, 5, dies in squalor - Siblings taken from par...](#)
[Hauntingly beautiful - Eerie tales swirl around st...](#)
[Twisted tail of missing pup - Police return Pomeran...](#)
[Teen girl found dead - County official was guardia...](#)
[UM-Flint official's family swells into hundreds](#)
[Local man's speech leads him to family he never kn...](#)

0 Saved Articles

- [this article](#)

[Email](#)
[Print](#)
[Bibliography \(export\)](#)

### Quick Links

[Find more articles from page 1](#)
[Find more from section "A"](#)
[Find all articles from January 18, 2011](#)

blond hair and blue eyes.

The last time Marcy was known to be seen was at a ramp on the New Jersey Turnpike, where she and some friends had been dropped off to hitchhike to Missouri and then on to San Francisco's hippie district of Haight-Ashbury.

She did make it to California, Porter said.

In their short conversation, it was also clear that Marcy is still upset by some of the old media coverage she agreed to - and not enthused by more publicity now that she'd been found.

She was especially unhappy with late radio talk show host Steve Young of New York's WNEW, who interviewed her about a week after the Newsweek article ran.

In an emotional November 1967 phone call to Flint that aired during a radio program called "A Child Again," Marcy admitted to her parents that she had used drugs.

But she was happy, she insisted, and had found a hippie family to live with. She told her parents she loved them and missed them.

She promised to write when she got to her next stop.

"She didn't realize he had the tape going when she called," Porter said. "She was very upset at him."

Grand Blanc Township resident Fred Walsh, 62, remembers the Newsweek article.

He also knew who Marcy was.

Walsh met her at a dance in Holly months before she left town. She needed a ride home.

They went out a few times, he remembered, and even spent a couple of days stranded at her friend's Flint apartment during the big snowstorm of January 1967.

She never told him about plans to leave Flint.

They lost touch, Walsh said, but when he saw last Sunday's Flint Journal article about Porter's search, he knew right away it was the same girl.

"I didn't know her long, but she seemed like a lot of fun," said Walsh, who contacted The Journal after reading the story. "I knew it was her, because how many Marcys could there be who were like that from Flint?"

"I was kind of curious to find out what happened to her myself," he said.

Meanwhile, Porter has received several e-mails from others who knew Marcy, including classmates and neighbors.

"It was really great. People recalled growing up with her and what a sweet person she was," he said.

Marcy told Porter she had done different things in her life, including working in real estate and the restaurant business.

He's not sure yet whether she will agree to be involved in a documentary, but he hopes to visit Hawaii, where she lives.

Another trip to Flint may be in the future, too.

"We thought it was worthwhile," he said. "I think we'll be back."

**Section:** A

**Page:** 1

**Record Number:** 501100897

*Copyright, 2011, The Flint Journal. All Rights Reserved. Used by NewsBank with Permission.*

To bookmark this article, right-click on the link below, and copy the link location:

Hippie runaway found in Hawaii - Now a married mom in her 60s, Flint native not wild about publicity, retired journalist says

[Back To Results](#)

Previous **Article 2 of 3** Next