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NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO *Tim Ashbaugh*

Holmes County has close encounter

From Staff and Wire Reports

It's the talk of Millersburg.

Ever since Holmes County residents reported strange lights in the sky Saturday and a resident called the sheriff to investigate a circular depression on her front lawn, stories have been circulating about the weird occurrence.

A waitress at the Korner Kitchen Restaurant in Millersburg, who asked not to be identified, said the incident was the talk

among the restaurant's patrons Tuesday.

"Everyone was saying that somebody had a UFO land in their yard," she said. "I have to say I don't believe in them myself."

She added the reports had generated a lot of excitement.

According to a sheriff's department news release Tuesday, a family in Monroe Township discovered the ring, about 7 inches wide and 45 feet in diameter, Saturday afternoon.

The family has no explanation for the

phenomenon, the news release said.

In areas where the grass had been matted down, the ring was about a half-inch deep, the sheriff's department said.

Judy Neville told authorities that other than the family dogs' unusual barking early Saturday morning, no one heard or saw anything out of the ordinary.

A sheriff's dispatcher said this morning there were no new developments and that it was no longer under investigation by the department.