

When sadness turns to anger

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Even the grief, turning to anger after 10 months of not knowing what has become of his daughter, sits below the surface.

Don Young speaks passionately, though in a calm voice, about the few facts he's gleaned about the disappearance last summer of Lisa, 21, and his growing impatience with the police investigation.

Lisa remains missing and while everyone suspects the worst, police have been unable to bring any certainty to the Youngs or the community about what happened to her. Young is sad and upset, but remains focused on his work as a delivery driver.

"It's hard to drive sometimes; I don't want to have an accident."

Lisa Young left a downtown Nanaimo nightclub in the early hours of June 29 last year and has not been seen since. Don and his wife Joanne called police when on the holiday Monday their daughter had not been heard from. About a week later, police said they considered Lisa's disappearance foul play.

"Sadness turns to anger once in awhile," said Young.

And that anger is in part at police, and in part at the man who drove the maroon Jaguar Lisa was last seen in. The man was questioned by police, but has not been named as a suspect.

Young's frustration has led him to make his own inquiries in the last 10 months, and he is convinced of certain things which RCMP investigators are not commenting on publicly.

Lisa, he believes, went to a party at a Nanaimo Lakes Road residence after leaving the nightclub. He thinks she was given a date rape drug there and taken elsewhere. "We hear she went to that party; they (the police) say she wasn't there," said Young.

In addition to being convinced about the Nanaimo Lakes Road party, Young is equally certain the driver of the Jaguar also knows something, as do people at the Nanaimo Lakes Road party.

"I've got a feeling there are a few people who know something, but they can't say anything because they're afraid," he said.

Young said he's not heard from the police in three months, and that they have no interest in his suggestion of a Crime Stoppers spot.

"How could a Crime Stoppers spot hurt?" he asked.

Const. Jack Eubank, spokesman. for the Nanaimo RCMP, said police have gone from nearly daily briefings with the Youngs to less frequent contact because there is little new to tell them. When more information arises which police can share, he said, they will.

"We completely understand the emotions Don and Joanne must be going through," said Eubank. "But there haven't been a lot of developments in the investigation." Investigators, said Eubank, would also prefer that as the one-year marker of Lisa's disappearance approaches they could solve the case, Eubank also said that Crime Stoppers no longer does re-enactments of crimes.

For now the Youngs are putting hope in a billboard to be put on Highway 19A near Petroglyph Park and media coverage. The billboard will feature a photo of Lisa and a request for anyone with information to call police or Crime Stoppers.

"All we can do is keep it out there and hope somebody says something," said Young.

[photo caption:] DON YOUNG, Lisa Young's father, stands next to a missing poster he put on the back of his courier van. (Glenn Olsen/Daily News)

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