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Missing Waterbury man's case gets national attention



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The case of a missing man from the Naugatuck Valley gains national attention.

Billy Smolinski suddenly disappeared from his Waterbury home nearly two years ago.



In all that time his family has never given up hope he will be found and they're joining a national effort to draw attention to his case..

• *by News Channel 8's Jamie Muro*

Today's rally was held by the Community United Center (Cue) for Missing Persons at Liberty Park. The North Carolina organization is traveling to 16 Eastern states as part of it's annual Road to Remember tour.

There are those at today's rally who have not seen or heard from loved ones in years, like the Smolinski family whose son Billy disappeared almost two years ago.

But there are those here who have lost loved ones to violence, like the family of Kathy Hardy or Jessica Keyworth. Kathy died in an arson fire a few months ago in Branford. 16-year-old Jessica Keyworth was found dead in Waterbury two years ago in the stairwell of a home. There have been no arrests for any of these crimes.

These events are two fold. They serve as a support system for grieving families, but also put unsolved cases back into the spotlight.

"We're not giving up, you know, it could be another 20 years, and I've devoted my life to finding my son, and if son is out there and they hurt them, I'm not giving up," says Janice Smolinski.

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"There's a lot of support because people really understand what you're feeling, it's a special club that you don't want to belong to, but it helps," says Betty Barrett, Lost daughter in arson fire.

Every family member is pleading with the public that if anyone has any information on any of these cases, call police.

Smolinski's case will also be profiled on America's Most Wanted.



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