News and weather for:
[change]

BDN MAINE | Mid-Maine

Saturday, March 18, 2017   Last update: 2:22 p.m.

VIDEO

Police post $30,000 reward for information on missing 20-month-old Ayla

Next

By Christopher Cousins, BDN Staff
 Follow on Twitter Find on Facebook
Posted Dec. 26, 2011, at 3:44 p.m.
Last modified Jan. 27, 2012, at 1:59 p.m.

WATERVILLE, Maine — Waterville Police Chief Joseph Massey said Monday investigators have ruled out the possibility that missing 20-month-old Ayla Reynolds wandered away from her home and are focusing on identifying who took her.

Meanwhile, a group of local business owners announced Monday they are offering a $30,000 reward for information that leads to finding Ayla.

"We are confident that Ayla did not walk out of the house by herself," said Massey during a Monday afternoon press conference in Waterville. "We believe that someone was involved in taking her out of the house and that's where the focus of this investigation has turned."

Massey would not answer questions from reporters about who might be responsible for the toddler's disappearance.

"I don't want to speculate too much on that," he said. "The circumstances surround that, we're not sure of. We don't know what happened."

Monday was the first time that Massey or anyone else involved in the investigation has publicly ruled out any of several scenarios that could explain Ayla's disappearance.

"Like most missing persons cases, it concerns us more as time goes on," said Massey. "That's always concerning, particularly when it involves the most

Related stories

» Tips about missing Ayla pour in after reward offered

| News | Blogs | Living | Sports | Opinion |

1. Waterfront Concerts founder charged with domestic violence
2. Police officer fatally shoots Presque Isle man who was wielding knife
3. Trump cuts threaten passenger flights at 4 rural Maine airports
4. Wardens identify snowshoer, 57, found dead on Rome hiking trail
5. Lincoln wants feds to help pay for $20 million cleanup at former mill

vulnerable members of our population, the children."

Area businesses and individuals, led by Waterville-area attorney John Nale, contributed to a $30,000 reward fund to be used for any information that might lead investigators to the missing girl.

Nale presented the reward money to police during the press conference Monday afternoon.

"I ask and plead that the person or persons who have young Ayla Reynolds, that they please keep her safe and return her safely to us," said Nale, who encouraged anyone with information to call the Waterville Police Department.

Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety, said to his knowledge this reward is the largest one of its kind in the state in the history of such cases.

Ayla Reynolds was reported missing by her father, who said the last time he saw his daughter was when he put her to bed. He reported her missing the next morning.

The Waterville Police Department's telephone number is 680-4700.

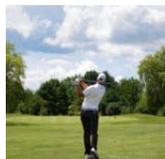💬 SEE COMMENTS →

Top Stories

Slower visa approval could worsen Maine's doctor shortage

Veterans are putting roots down in Maine — as farmers

Bill would allow adults under 21 to carry concealed weapons

Bangor Municipal Golf Course re-certified as 'Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary'

Lincoln wants feds to help pay for $20 million cleanup at former mill

Similar Articles

12.27.2011
Tips about missing Ayla pour in after reward offered

1.10.2012
Maine dive teams to search for toddler Ayla Reynolds

12.28.2011
Search for 20-month-old Ayla wrapping up; father pleads for child's return

12.30.2011
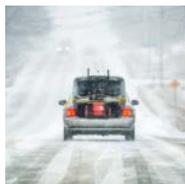Police: Disappearance of Ayla Reynolds involved foul play

1.17.2012
Vigil to mark one month since disappearance of Ayla Reynolds

More in Mid-Maine

Final Mass at Greenville church set before demolition

Map: Winter storm dumps 2 feet of snow in parts of Maine

Massive storm expected to dump foot or more across the state

FBI offers $5K reward for Maine's 'Silent Bandit' bank robber

Police suspect I-95 wrong-way driver was 'intoxicated and disoriented'