

morrow at noon and 7 p.m. at the firehouse on Jewett Avenue to continue their search of Richmond Terrace.

Detectives last night were still waiting for the results of tests being conducted on what appeared to have been blood smeared on a wall in one of the buildings at SIDC.

Investigators yesterday declined to comment on a branch of their investigation that focused on a transient who authorities said had been a suspect in the disappearance of 7-year-old Holly Ann Hughes of Port Richmond in 1981. Police also said the transient was possibly linked to the disappearance of 10-year-old Tiahease Jackson in August 1983, and a third missing child who vanished about 15 years ago.

None of the children has been found.

The transient was interviewed by police for hours over a two-day period shortly after the start of the search. The man is currently back in the community, police said.

Family members and friends are offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to Jennifer's return. Police maintain that they have yet to come across evidence indicating that any crime has been involved with the child's disappearance.

"We have to assume that she is still alive," McBride said, "and there is a certain urgency attached to that."

A temporary police headquarters is being maintained in the 120th Precinct in St. George. The 24-hour phone number is 447-4168.

Teens asked to aid search

Borough President Ralph J. Lamberti yesterday joined the Advance in calling on Island youths to join in the hunt for the girl.

In an editorial Monday entitled "Help wanted desperately," the Advance asked teens to aid the search, saying that every minute could be critical.

The borough president explained that "... there comes a time when police officers must return to their beats and the manpower assigned to this investigation redeployed.

"Obviously during the summer months, our kids are home from school, especially our high school students. These kids could provide an invaluable service to their community in general and to Jennifer's parents in particular by helping their search for her."