

And in that same spirit, we have been reminded that one last job remains.

At one time, the thousands upon thousands of "FIND JENNIFER SCHWEIGER" posters around Staten Island were a positive sign of that overwhelming community response. But now they are a taunting, haunting reminder of this tragedy, and they must be torture for Jennifer's family and friends to see.

We hope Islanders will pitch in to remove these posters from poles, windows and trees as quickly as possible to spare the Schweiger family any more hurt.

During the course of the investigation, the Police Department gave some grim indications that the suspect in the murder of Jennifer Schweiger had been involved in several other disappearances of children, including those of Holly Ann Hughes in 1981 and Tiahese Jackson in 1983.

These other cases were never solved, and the little girls were never found.

We hope that the suspect now in custody can provide information on these other disappearances, so that these children's families can begin to grasp for some sort of grieving peace.

But if he can't or won't point the way, we think that the police should take the volunteers' up on their determined offer and continue searching until these children are found. It won't be easy, but the volunteers are there — experienced, organized and willing.

Unfortunately, detective work hasn't turned up much in these cases. It may take an all-out search, of certain areas the suspect was known to frequent, including the Staten Island Developmental Center grounds. There will never be another opportunity — we fervently hope — to be able to mobilize such a large search party.

That may be what is necessary to clear up these lingering, and painful, mysteries.

Page 2
of
2 pages