



Friends and family of murdered woman continue search

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By EMILY ZANGARO

COURTLAND TOWNSHIP -- Last August, Renee Pagel was killed at her home in Courtland Township, and still no arrests have been made.

Friends and family of the Kent County woman spent a warm Thursday evening outside, trying to bring her killer to justice.



The billboard used at M-6 and East Paris.

The house and property where Pagel was killed have sat empty for nearly 10 months, and still may hold the secret to finding Pagel's killer.

Thursday night, Pagel's family and friends gathered and began with a prayer. The group then began to scour the 15 acres of brush and trees to look for clues.

"Honestly we're hoping to find any piece of evidence that might help solve this crime," said Joyce Schaner, a friend of the family.

One friend said the group is looking for something specific -- a knife.

Pagel, a mother of three, was stabbed to death last August. Since then, her loved ones have launched an intense campaign and are determined to find her killer.

Last month they used a billboard on M-6 and East Paris in Kentwood. Thursday they held their own search.

"That's our biggest goal right now that we just keep it in the spotlight," Schaner said.

The group is doing anything they can to keep Pagel's memory alive, so that eventually they may find her killer.

"We also want the truth to come out for her children's sake and we want justice to be done," said Chris Crandle, another family friend.

Over the past few months the Kent County Sheriff's Department has told 24 Hour News 8 that they do have a person of interest.

Warrants, pulled shortly after Pagel's murder, site her estranged husband as a suspect. Today detectives said they have no new leads. They were not involved in this latest search.



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