

Optimist Club key factor in new youth identification program here

June 8, 2006

The Antigo Optimist Club and SafeAssured ID are partnering to bring Antigo families the most comprehensive, technologically advanced youth identification solution available to aid in the search for a missing youth.

Volunteers are receiving training in the new identification system this week, and it will be unveiled June 17 at the town of Antigo fire department's 30th anniversary open house, held in conjunction with the town's 125th anniversary. Hours are noon to 6 p.m.



Adam Cain, seated, demonstrates the program to, from left, Marji Majewski, Dan Majewski and Anna Matsche.

"With June 17th being the town of Antigo's 125th birthday, we are excited about celebrating the past and preparing for the future," Optimist President Marji Majewski said. "Offering SafeAssured IDs to Antigo and Langlade County youth is one important way that we can celebrate our community and proactively protect the youth of Langlade County."

When a youth is reported missing, minutes matter.

"Time is the enemy when it comes to recovering a missing child," Ernie Allen, president and CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, said. "A critical element to the first few hours of an investigation is for law enforcement to have a good quality, current photograph of the missing child. We urge parents and guardians to maintain easily accessible, good-quality photographs of their children. SafeAssured helps them accomplish this."

The encrypted mini-CD in the SafeAssured ID kit contains up to 10 digital fingerprints, digital photograph, streaming video showing mannerisms and gait, voice track providing the youth's voice inflection and accent, general physical description, vital personal information such as street address, date of birth, life-threatening medical conditions, identifying scars or marks and tattoos, and family code word.

Families also receive a durable, full-color photo ID card and a Parents Guidebook, written in conjunction with National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, containing helpful safety information.

"Not only can families create missing person posters from the mini-CD, the valuable information contained on the mini-CD can be accessed by law enforcement within

http://www.webmediainc.com/54409ADJ/AntigoDailyJournal.taf?function=detail&Layout1_uid2=7411

moments of the disappearance," Majewski said.

Majewski encouraged all parents and guardians to enroll their family in SafeAssured.

For more information of dates of future events, contact Majewski at 627-2101.

6/8/2006