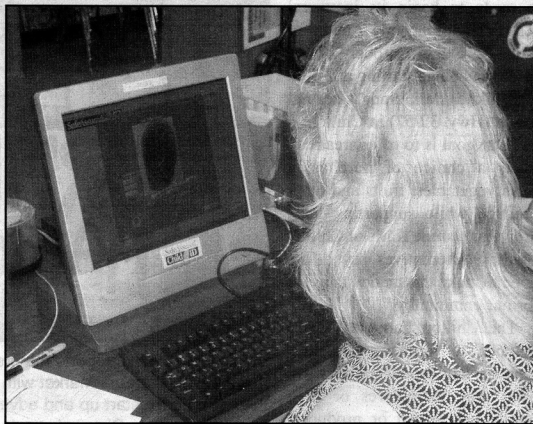


Chilton Optimist Club, State Bank join forces to ID kids

By James Lawrence
Times-Journal Editor

The Chilton Optimist Club and State Bank of Chilton teamed up to bring families from the Chilton and Stockbridge school districts the *SafeAssured Identification Solutions*, a youth identification program, that would help law enforcement officers get valuable information about missing children out to the public within minutes.

According to Ken Hofmaster, President and COO of SafeAssured Solution, families receive a mini-CD that contains: streaming video, digital voiceprint, a digital photograph, a full set of digitally scanned fingerprints, and general physical information. Private and sensitive data are encrypted, with access only provided to law enforcement. Lastly, families receive a durable, full-color photo ID card, and a guidebook, written in conjunction with NCMC, containing helpful safety tips. Mini-CD also allows you to create missing person



posters.

Jerry Pagel, an Optimist member and sheriff of Calumet County, said that SafeAssured ID provides instant information about a missing child.

"The thing I like about it is that we can get the information from the ID disk out to T.V. news stations within a matter of minutes right from our squad cars. Time is the enemy when it comes

to recovering a missing child. 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."

SafeAssured ID is designed to compliment efforts in cases of qualified and non-qualified AMBER Alert recovery situations, and/or other state and national programs.

Ken Weber, the Chilton Optimist Club President, said that after having seen a presentation on the program, members were very interested in bringing the ID program to Calumet County. The Kiel Optimist Club started using the program last summer and Chilton's club received high recommendations. It applied for a Chilton Area Community Foundation grant to buy the initial equipment.

Weber explained that with each kit costing \$10, the club was uncertain how they could raise the money to help the program succeed. That's when Laura Hoerth, executive vice president of the State Bank of Chilton, said the bank wanted to sponsor kits for the club to conduct the program for any Chilton or Stockbridge parents who want it done for their child.

Weber said there will be many chances to have your children ID'd. The Optimist Club and State Bank will hold its next event at the State Bank this summer, the date to be announced. Also, the club is planning to hold several events during the school year.

For detailed product information log onto www.safeassured-id.com.