Community Photo Album

Safe kids -

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tremely difficult as their fingers are so small. Digital fingerprints are much clearer, cleaner and faster. The agents also provided information to parents on preventing child abduction and collecting DNA material from their kids.

"As much as the Secret Service cares about your stolen checks, we care more about your children," said Annette Grosshans, Staff Support Coordinator of the Secret Service Forensic Services Division. "The big thing is making parents more aware. Everybody thinks my house won't burn down, my kids won't go missing."

Arlene Snyder of Dallas said when she took her 10vear-old to have fingerprinting done years ago, it was unusual. "People didn't even think of it then. What do I need my child fingerprinted for?" was the attitude said Snyder. "But now, you're picking up the paper, they are walking into your house and taking them out of bed. Every parent ought to do this. They should."

No information was collected or retained from the children; parents received the only copy of the data to take home and store.



Stephanie Cybulski, age 5, of Dallas, makes friends with K-9 Nitro, who is certified in narcotics detection, at the Safe Kids Day hosted by the Back Mountain Police Association. Officer Kevin Martin of the Wilkes-Barre Veteran's Affairs Police K-9 Division and Nitro are now working towards certification in explosives detection.



First Lieutenant Dennis Lee and Captain Chris Lamoreaux, Jackson Township Ambulance EMTs, give 6-year-old Johnny Yenchak a test drive on the backboard.



The Life Flight helicopter made an impressive entrance at the Safe Kids Day in Jackson Township. From left to right, the hosts of the event; Jackson Township Chief of Police Jerry Leedock; Dan Hunsinger, president of the Back Mountain Police Association; Ed Chesnovitch, Jackson Township Crime Watch Coordinator; Sergeant Scott Davis of the Jackson Township Police Department; Jeffery Malak, Jackson Township solicitor; and Jackson Township supervisor's John J. Wilkes, Al Fox and Andrew Kasko.

Tips from the experts

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center, there were 840,279 missing-person entries (adults and juveniles) in the year 2001 and 85 to 90 percent of these were children.

A good head and shoulders photograph of a missing child is the most valuable resource a parent can provide law enforcement should a child go missing, but a picture isn't the only tool that can be used in identifying a missing child.

"If a child has been missing for five or 10 years, a picture is not going to identify them," said Kristen Hazenstab, of the Secret Service Forensic Services Division.

The Secret Service, working with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), started the Children's Identification System and participates in Operation Safe Kids providing parents with a photograph and fingerprints of their child. Over 25,000 kids have been processed.

More information can be found on the NCMEC web site at www.missingkids.com or call them at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678).



Above, Lehman Township Assistant Chief Sev Newberry and Daren, the DARE lion, showed up at Safe Kids Day. DARE stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education and it is taught by police officers on school campuses.



Young Jake Blaski now knows what he wants to be when he grows up. Jake's mom, Denise, looks on as Jake checks out the Life Flight helicopter.



Danielle Ide, an eighth grade student at Lake-Lehman, paints Stephanie Cybulski's