INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS-

Here are some things families can do to encourage today's computer-savvy young people to be computer-safe.

1. **Do** speak with your child about their internet habits and your safety concerns.
2. **Do** set a limit for how much time your child can spend online.
3. **Do** keep the computer in a public place. "not in your child's bedroom"
4. **Do** install safety hardware and monitoring software and keep it updated.
5. **Do Not** overreact or threaten to take away the internet if your child tells you about something bad that they experienced online.
6. **Do** encourage your child to teach you what they know about the internet.
7. **Do Not** allow your child to have an online profile.
8. **Do Not** hesitate to get help if you think a predator may be targeting your child.
9. **Do** get to know your child's online friends as you would their real-life friends.

Talk to your kids. Keep the line of communication open. If a child tells you about an upsetting event experienced online, don't blame him or her. How you react will affect how much he or she shares with you in the future.

Problems? Report them!

CyberTipline, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 1800-843-5678, www.missingkids.org
Kent County Sheriff Department 632-6100
Federal Trade Commission (www.ftc.gov)
U.S. Department of Justice (www.usdoj.gov/criminal/cybercrime/reporting.htm)

Is your child ready for a lap/shoulder belt?

Kids under 13 should ride in the backseat always!

If you can answer "yes" to all of the **Five Step Test** questions, your child is ready for the lap/shoulder belt.

1. Is your child 4'9" AND 80 lbs?
2. Does the lap belt sit low-across the upper thighs?
3. Does the shoulder belt lie across the collar bone- not touching the neck and not off the should?
4. When the child's bottom is scooted all the way back against the seat back, do their knees bend at the edge of the auto seat?
5. Can the child stay seated that way for the entire trip?