

Community Pages

Protecting Children in a Digital Age

Keeping a watchful eye on your kids requires an increasing level of tech savvy many parents find intimidating. Not only are your kids vulnerable to bad actors online, but your family's personal information could be at risk, as well.

Learn how to protect your children and family in this digital age with these tips:

Elementary-Age Children

* Encourage open communication. Have conversations about what your kids see and do online and talk with them about potential dangers. Avoid lecturing in favor of an open exchange of information.

* Make their inherent interest in privacy work in your favor. Kids in this age group, particularly toward the middle school years, understand the concept of privacy and value it immensely. Use that context to help them understand what goes online is there to stay. Talk about what kinds of information should always be kept private, including identifying details like addresses and social security numbers.

* Stay on alert. Not all apps are completely safe (even the ones you can access from trusted stores) and not all filters are foolproof. Keep close tabs on what your kids are downloading by reading comments and reviews, and regularly monitoring what kind of content they see.

Middle School and High School Kids

* Continue talking about privacy. You can never have too many conversations about privacy. What seems like harmless sharing on social media can be quite revealing. For example, frequent posts about visits to a favorite store or restaurant can allow a predator to begin tracking behavior patterns that make your child a target. It's also important for kids to understand how their privacy settings work. For example, settings that allow exposure to friends of friends make their visibility to strangers much broader than they may realize.

* Help manage their online reputation. Behaviors that once resulted in a day or two of hallway chatter can now live forever. Documenting mischief online is only fun until it spills over into real life and everyone sees those mistakes in full color - including prospective future employers.

* Be clear about your position on bullying. From the safe distance of a screen, it's easier for kids (and adults) to say things they'd never say in person. Teach your kids to handle problems constructively offline and avoid engaging in attacks on others through social media, email and other platforms.

College Students

* Reinforce the risks. Once they're on their own, kids may feel more liberated to make their own choices online. However, college students are easy prey for identity theft and worse. Remind them what's at stake if they fail to protect their identity and private information, like where they live and what they do on a regular basis.

* Teach smart practices. With all the independence that comes with college life, this is an ideal time for your student to take personal responsibility for his or her online security, including learning about virus protection, updating software, avoiding scams and backing up data.

If you're looking for more practical advice for everyday family matters, visit eLivingtoday.com.

Special Project Award For Reedsport Main Street Program

October 6, 2023 - Independence

The Oregon Main Street Conference on October 6th, gave a Special Project Award to the Reedsport Main Street Program for the Excellence on Main Program Award. The Special Project award is given to an activity or program that impactfully addresses specific goals or priorities of the local main street organization.

The Excellence on Main awards were created in 2010 to honor outstanding accomplishments, activities and people making a difference in historic downtowns and traditional commercial neighborhoods across the state. This year a total of 9 projects, activities, and people were recognized.

Reedsport City Manager, Deanna Schafer said, "We would like to thank Oregon Main

Street for the recognition and thank our Reedsport community for their support."

The project event was hosted as a progressive dinner of four meal courses held on May 5th 2023 and designed to engage participants with the community and communicate plans for the coming year. Each course served at 4 different business locations, with accompanying presentations highlighting Reedsport's Main Street's history, accomplishments and upcoming projects. This allowed participants to connect with business owners and learn about the program, while increasing foot traffic into downtown.

Rosa Solano, Main Street Director, stated, "We found ourselves trying to find ways to reconnect with our community and rebuild our volunteer programs". "We knew

we needed to be innovative in our approach and what better way than to bring it to the heart of our organization, our community businesses."



Aviva Health is excited to host the second Town Hall meeting at the Drain Civic Center on November 14th.

Enjoy a complimentary dinner and participate in a discussion about the health care needs of people living in Drain and the surrounding communities. Community members who join us will have the chance to win a \$50 Grocery Outlet gift card. Two winners will be randomly chosen.

DETAILS

Who: Residents of Drain and surrounding communities

What: Aviva Health North County Town Hall

When: Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023 - 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: Drain Civic Center, 205 W. A Ave., Drain, 97435

Why: To share information about Aviva Health services in Drain and have an open discussion with the community about area needs

AGENDA

6:15-6:30: Doors open

6:30-7:00: Welcome and complimentary community dinner

7:00-7:25: Introduction of Aviva Health staff and brief presentation

7:25-7:55: Comments and questions from community members

7:55-8:00: Raffle drawing and closing remarks

Two Car Crash near Elkton Results in DUII

October 3, 2023 - Elkton

OSP reported a two vehicle crash, at 6:15 p.m. on October 3rd, on Highway 38 about two and a half miles east of Elkton. Both vehicles required to be towed from the accident scene.

The driver of a pickup was injured in the accident and was taken to CHI Mercy Health Mercy Medical Center by ambulance. After showing signs of intoxication, a search warrant was issued for a blood sample from the injured driver.

30-year old Brent Jones was charged with DUII, reckless driving, and three counts recklessly endangering another person. He was detained before being released later that evening.

Oregon joins FTC lawsuit to break up Amazon Antitrust lawsuit alleges that Amazon maintains a monopoly at the expense of small businesses

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that currently have no choice but to rely on Amazon to stay in business. These fees range from a monthly fee sellers must pay for each item sold, to advertising fees that have become virtually necessary for sellers to do business. Combined, all of these fees force many sellers to pay close to 50% of their total revenues to Amazon. These fees harm not only sellers but also shoppers, who pay increased prices for thousands of products sold on or off Amazon.

The FTC, along with its state partners, are seeking a permanent injunction in federal court that would prohibit Amazon from engaging in

its unlawful conduct and pry loose Amazon's monopolistic control to restore competition.

The states of Oregon, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Nevada, New York, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin have joined the Commission's lawsuit. The Commission vote to authorize staff to file for a permanent injunction and other equitable relief in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington was 3-0.