

# Internet safety program to keep your kids safe

Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove sponsors fair on March 5

Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove and Sprint are teaming up to host an Internet and Media safety fair to teach parents and youth simple precautions to help children have a safer online experience.

On March 5, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., attendees will hear how to safely and effectively use today's technological resources at the main branch located at 9860 Larson Street. This event is free and open to the public.

Boys & Girls Club of Garden Grove's teen leadership club, Keystone, will teach the other students about the benefits of the Internet. They will also highlight how important it is to use the Internet the right way and to protect themselves in all of their online activities.

Youth will participate in activities that replicate the online experience. Students will learn the negative ef-

fects of registering for online contests, how posting content may affect their future, and the realism that you never know who might be on the other side, whether it's a stranger or some kind of virus.

Today's children are ever-connected to the endless world of technology that they have at their fingertips. That's why, with the increasingly tech-savvy world that children are living in, teaching youth to be cautious when using technology is extremely important.

From cyberbullying to texting inappropriate images to cheating with technology, the event will provide Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove and Sprint an opportunity to address the various issues that affect today's youth.

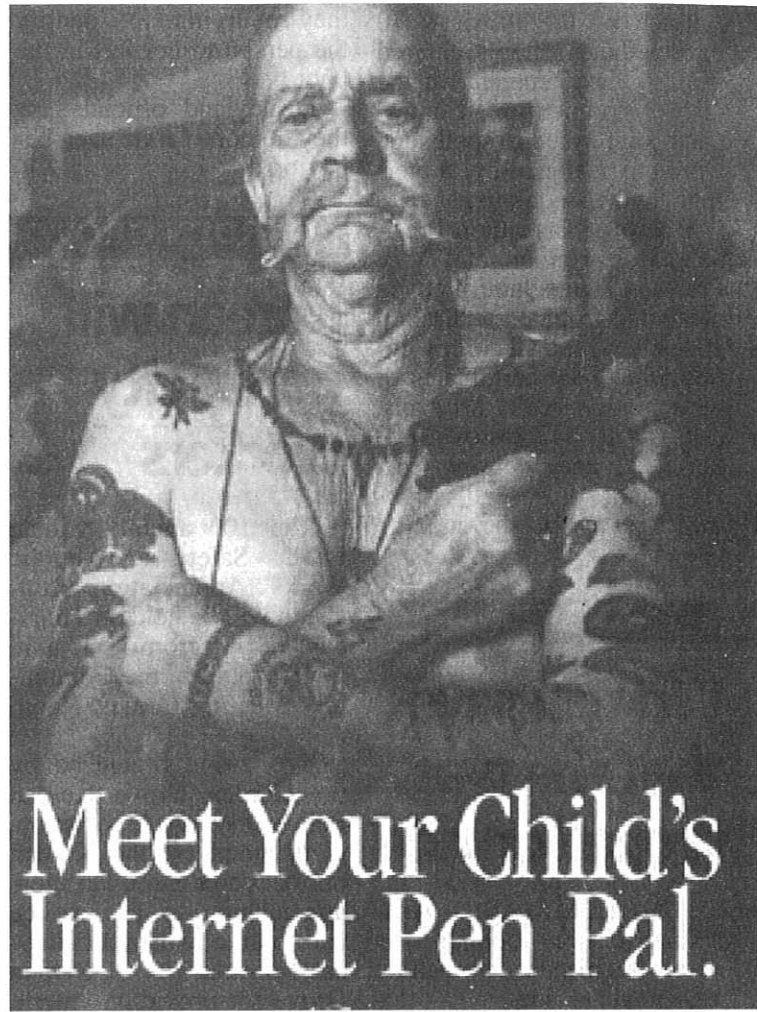
Together with Sprint, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove hope to empower

Club members to be cautious users of the Internet and other technologies so they can have a safer and informative experience using the wealth of knowledge at their disposal.

"Often parents' hectic schedules do not allow them adequate time to monitor their children's online activities," said Pat Halberstadt, chief professional officer, Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove.

"Boys & Girls Clubs are committed to teaching young people how to safely and effectively use technology through our 4NetSafety partnership with Sprint. We expect for not only our youth, but our parents to walk away from the event with useful information that can help them have an ongoing dialogue about online safety."

A Boys & Girls Club survey of young people found that more than half of those surveyed said their parents



## Meet Your Child's Internet Pen Pal.

THE INTERNET has its fakers and dangers.

never ask them about whom they are talking to on the Internet and 55 percent said their parents never surfed the Inter-

net with them – showing the need for Internet safety education for both youth and adults.

Continued on page 10