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For Immediate Release

Fire Prevention Taught to Local Youngsters
Coloring Contest Winners Announced

Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security volunteers visited over 400 children in Jefferson County Schools and Daycare Centers over the past month, bringing messages of fire safety and fire prevention. With the help of videos and books from the National Fire Prevention Association and the National Fire Academy, students learned from Sparky The Fire Dog how to Stop, Drop and Roll and about the Firefighter's A B C's of fire safety. Volunteers from the JCOHS who read to the children include: Victor Anderson, CERT Member; Debbi Palmer of Palmer & Associates and a CERT Member; Kelly Parsons and Tina Dillow of Nichols, DeHaven & Associates; Patsy Morgan, CERT Member; Sandy McDonald, CERT Member, and Laura Kuhn; John Sherwood, acting director of the Jefferson-Morgan Chapter, American Red Cross and Chairman of JCOHS; and JCOHS Coordinator, Barb Miller.

Additionally, over 700 children from throughout Jefferson County participated in the Fire Prevention Week Coloring Contest that was open to all children in Kindergarten through Second Grades. First Place winners were: Kindergarten: Kayla Brown and Dakota Lee from Mrs. Reagan's Class at Blue Ridge Elementary School; First Grade: Heavenly Webster from Ms. Potts Class at North Jefferson Elementary School and Skye Breeden from Miss Mimmick's Class at North Jefferson Elementary School; and Second Grade: John Adam Wilson of Mrs. Barkers Class at Blue Ridge Elementary School and Mariah

Rae Daffron from Miss Welge's Class at T. A. Lowery Elementary School. Each of the winners got a Certificate of Excellence and a Sparky the Fire Dog T-Shirt for their efforts. Additionally, they received fire prevention comic books and other prizes for all of the members of their classrooms.

The Fire Prevention Week activities were made possible from an Assistance to Firefighters Fire Prevention and Safety Grant that was awarded to the Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security to promote fire safety and fire prevention to high risk populations, such as the very young and the elderly.

(Photos available upon request.)