



ARSON AWARENESS CONTEST

More than 200 elementary students from 11 schools throughout Broward County participated in the U.S. Fire Administration's Arson Awareness Week 2010 poem writing contest. The event was coordinated by the Broward Sheriff Fire Marshal's Bureau on behalf of the Broward County Juvenile Firesetters Program and the Florida Division of State Fire Marshal.

The winners were announced on May 13 at Gator Run Elementary School in Weston where Fifth grader Jennifer Benitez, 11, took top honors.



Front row: Third grader Samita Joshi (2nd place school-wide), Fifth grader Cole Kauffman (3rd place school-wide), **Fifth grader Jennifer Benitez (1st place county-wide)**, Third grader Drew Poisson (4th place school-wide).

Back row: BSO School Resource Deputy Joshua Bey, Lt. Joe Schwartz, Asst. Chief Harris Bouchillon, Maj. Mark Sauls, Life Safety Educator LaToya Carbonell.

Benitez won first place out of all the entries submitted county-wide. Weston Fire Chief Harris Bouchillon and Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue Life Safety Educator LaToya Carbonell presented her with a first place certificate. Benitez also received an iPod, presented by Maj. Mark Sauls from the State Fire Marshal's Office. Benitez and the other winners received WalMart gift cards and McDonald's gift certificates.



The highlight of the awards presentation was a visit from Ember, a four-year-old arson detection dog from the State Fire Marshal's Office. Capt. Ross Holt gave a demonstration to the Gator Run students showing how Ember can detect just a drop of gasoline in a sealed can.





1st place winner Jennifer Benitez (fifth grade) reads her winning poem on arson awareness to fellow students at Gator Run Elementary School and in front of television cameras.

The third, fourth and fifth grade students who participated in this year's contest wrote poems on the topic of arson awareness and prevention in the community.

The judges chose the winning poems based on accuracy of information, focus on topic, relevant supporting ideas and creativity. Benitez's teacher, Mrs. Marta Nelson, also won an Ace Educational Supply gift card, donated by the Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention.

This event was one of many throughout the state designed to raise awareness of the risks and dangers of arson. Arson Awareness Week 2010 ran from May 2 – 8. This year's focus was on community arson prevention. This crime affects everyone through the loss of life, property and increased insurance premiums, as well as expenses for responding fire and law enforcement agencies. In 2007, arson fires killed 295 civilians and caused nearly \$900 million damage in insured property, according to the Insurance Information Institute.

Media Release and photos: BSO Fire Rescue



BEAT THE HEAT HYDRATION IS ESSENTIAL

Summertime is almost here.
South Florida temperatures are rising and both
kids and adults will be outdoors more often.
Make your summer a safe one & keep hydration in mind at all times.
Water makes up 75 percent of the muscle in our bodies.
Our bodies lose water by being active, in the heat, and sweating.

Heat exhaustion can result in a person of any age. Signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion often begin suddenly, sometimes after excessive exercise, heavy perspiration, and inadequate fluid or salt intake, or after several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids.

Warning Signs of Heat Exhaustion Include:

- heavy sweating
- paleness
- muscle cramps
- tiredness
- weakness
- dizziness
- headache
- nausea or vomiting
- fainting
- dark urine

The skin may be cool and moist. The victim's pulse rate will be fast and weak, and breathing will be fast and shallow.

Heat Exhaustion Treatment - Cooling measures that may be effective include:

- get person out of the sun to a shady or an air-conditioned environment
- lay person down with legs slightly elevated
- cool, non-alcoholic beverages without caffeine
- cool shower, bath, or spray person with water from a hose
- loosen clothing and rest

Monitor carefully. If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke, which is a medical emergency. Seek medical attention and call 911 immediately if:

- If fever greater than 102 F (38.9 C), fainting, confusion or seizures occur.



REMINDER TO RESIDENTS SORT NO MORE! "All-in-One" Recycling Without Sorting

Sorting and separating recyclable paper from recyclable plastic bottles, metal cans and glass bottles & jars is a thing of the past...

The "All-In-One" single-stream system allows recyclables to all be placed together in the same container.

By recycling we conserve natural resources, save energy and reduce pollution. We also reduce our need for fossil fuels, and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Items That Can Be Mixed Together:

- Newspapers, inserts, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, office paper, soft-covered books, file folders, soda cartons, and crushed boxes, including tissue boxes and those from such food items as cereal, rice and pasta
- Flattened cardboard from non-food items such as shipping boxes
- Aluminum and steel food and beverage containers
- Plastic bottles with neck narrower than body, such as soda bottles, milk, water, detergent and shampoo bottles (**without caps or lids**)
- Glass food and beverage containers
- Milk and juice cartons and drink boxes

Participants are asked to keep recycling free of contamination by putting only acceptable items into recycling containers. When food scraps or liquids get into the batch, they can cause a whole truckload of recyclables to be wasted.





2009/2010 WESTON PERFORMING ARTS SEASON WRAPS UP WITH LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD



The Weston 2009-2010 Performing Arts Series, which ran from October thru May, was packed full of events and performances. The series included children's theater productions, philharmonic concerts, the annual free Concert in the Park, free monthly Movies in the Park and a variety of professional puppet shows for children.



***Attendance this season was at
an all time high!***

On May 8th the season wrapped up with the final puppet show performance of *Little Red Riding Hood*. Dozens of excited children and their parents filled the Weston Community Center for each of the two performances that day of this favorite children's tale.





MEMBERS OF BSO FIRE RESCUE HONORED BY FDOT



Left to right: Driver/Engineer Kevin "Casey" Boylan, Firefighter/Paramedic Juan Sopena, Battalion Chief Michael Clougherty, FDOT Severe Incident Response Vehicle Team Manager Tom Dickson, Lt. John Orlando

Members of Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue were recognized on May 5th by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for their efforts above and beyond the call of duty.

On April 26, 2010, a fatal traffic crash occurred in the northbound lanes of I-75 before the Indian Trace exit. In addition to the fatality, a damaged tractor trailer had spilled oil, covering the five northbound lanes of the interstate for approximately 100 yards. The road had to be closed. Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue's Weston Station 81 and Regional Hazardous Materials Team responded to the incident. The crews worked tirelessly alongside the FDOT's Severe Incident Response Vehicle Team to mitigate the oil spill. Thanks to the Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue teams, the road was reopened as soon as possible.

FDOT commended BSO for excellence in upholding TIM principles:
Communication, Cooperation and Coordination.