

State Fire Marshal Honors Falls City 7th Grader

(KTNC) - A Falls City Middle School student is being recognized for heroic actions he took last fall during a fire that destroyed the home his family was living in near Salem.

Blake Vitale helped rescue some of his siblings who were sleeping in the two-story home when the fire broke out early in the morning of November 23rd.

Deputy State Fire Marshal Ray Nance presented Blake with an award from the Fire Marshal's Office during the Middle School's quarterly awards ceremony Wednesday morning.

Blake's father, Thomas, says lives likely would have been lost that morning had his son not been there.

Thomas says he's proud of his son's actions, but he's not surprised that Blake did what he did.

In addition to the award from the State Fire Marshal, Blake Vitale has also been chosen to receive a Good Samaritan Award from the Cornhusker Chapter of the American Red Cross. He is one of 12 people who will be recognized, and the youngest award recipient.

The Red Cross award will be presented at the annual Tribute to Heroes dinner on Thursday, May 2nd in Lincoln.