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September 24, 2013

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Media Release

Fernley Youth to be Recognized for Heroic Act After Her Family was Involved in a Major Accident in Fallon

Rylee Sweetser a resident of Fernley, NV and student at East Valley Elementary School will be awarded a Certificate of Recognition / Appreciation on Friday Sept 27th 2013 at 1:30 pm at the East Valley Elementary School. The award will be presented to Rylee by Command Staff from the Nevada Highway Patrol Reno office.

On Friday, August 14, 2013 at approximately 9:25 am, Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol were dispatched to a crash on US Highway 50, at the intersection with Sheckler Cut Off or State Route 117, just west of Fallon in Churchill County. The section of the four-lane highway in this area was reduced to one lane of travel in each direction, and the posted speed limit was reduced from 65 miles per hour to 55 mph, as this was an active work zone where Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) personnel were resealing the surface of the highway. Several employees were operating equipment while others were performing highway maintenance and repair-related duties on foot.

The sequence of that morning's crash happened when the driver of a white 2002 Toyota Camry 4-door sedan, 88-year-old Belle C. Currie of Fallon, attempted to turn south onto Sheckler Road from the westbound travel lane. Ms Currie failed to observe a silver 2012 Nissan Armada traveling east on Highway 50 driven by 34-year-old Jamie L. Sweetser of Fernley. Sweetser had her 3 young children and another family member riding in the SUV with her. The front of the Toyota struck the left side of the Nissan causing the SUV to rollover onto its roof.

The act that took place next showed the selfless bravery performed by 8 Year old Rylee Sweetser. Rylee is a small child, but she has an amazingly huge spirit and unimaginable strength.

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This is a story of Rylee's bravery.

On August 14th her family was in a major roll over accident. Everything happened so fast, and when the car finally came to a stop they found themselves upside-down. Rylee's mom, Jamie, unhooked her seat belt and crawled out the driver's side window. The SUV was badly damaged and Jamie could not get any of the doors open to get her family out of the car. She went to the rear of the vehicle and pulled off the window where her two daughters Rylee and Kamdyn were.

When Jamie got there, she realized that Rylee had already jumped into action. Rylee had unhooked her seatbelt and pushed her car seat aside. Then she went to her sister Kamdyn and unhooked her seatbelt and pushed her car seat out of the way. Rylee then led Kamdyn through the rear window to the safety of her mother. Without hesitation, Rylee turned around to go back for her little brother Jaymeson, who was still trapped upside down in the car, but her mother called her back.

Her determination to save her family in an emergency situation outweighed her own fear. Rylee's family is so proud and grateful for her quick thinking and courage. Her family will forever consider her a hero.

