

State Honors Jeffrey

JUNEAU — Governor William A. Egan presented the State's award for heroism and bravery to 13-year old Jeffrey Stone of Fairbanks in recognition of a "valorous and heroic deed performed in the saving of two lives in a fire at Fairbanks on January 20, 1972."

Stone, the son of S. Sgt. and Mrs. Jennie Stone, saved the lives of two youngsters in a burning apartment at Ft. Wainwright.

In a ceremony in the Governor's Office, Governor Egan presented young Stone with the coveted State Medal for Heroism and Bravery and a certificate describing the act of courage.

The citation read: "Thirteen-year old Jeffrey Stone, having observed intense smoke from an apartment building, reacted to the danger signal by attempting to force the door and enter the premises. Finding the door locked, he broke the glass over the door handle with his fist and forced his way into the burning

quarters. The smoke and heat were intense. Two small children, ages three and four, huddled in the dining room area. Jeffrey Stone took both children outside to safety and asked them if there was anyone else in the building. Upon being told that an infant child was upstairs, he made several valient attempts to reach the bedroom. However, the fire, heat and smoke were so extreme that his ability to breathe was severely impaired. After several attempts to rescue the third child, he was forced to retreat from the inferno. For saving the lives of 2 children, for his great courage in the face of a raging fire, and for his unselfish action at the risk of his own life to save others, the State of Alaska presents its State Medal for Bravery and Heroism to Jeffrey Stone."

Stone was accompanied by his parents at the ceremonies in Juneau.