



February 14, 2020

Weld County Sheriff's Office deputies save runaway

An 11-year-old Weld County boy is safe thanks to the work of two Weld County Sheriff's Office deputies who found him earlier this week out in the cold after he ran away from home.

About 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, deputies Daniel Trujillo and Donovan Pecorella responded to a report of a runaway juvenile at a home near the intersection of Weld County roads 8 and 61, about six miles southeast of Keenesburg. When the deputies arrived at the scene, they learned the boy lost both of his parents in a recent car crash. The boy, who is not being identified because he is a minor, was living with an aunt and uncle.

Deputies also learned the boy had been running away from home on a regular basis since moving in with this aunt and uncle, but typically went to his school and wouldn't be gone for long. The boy's aunt and uncle became worried after an hour passed, and their nephew still hadn't returned.

The deputies were able to identify the boy's footprints in the snow and followed his trail, which was difficult because it stopped and started intermittently among the scattered snowdrifts. At one point the footprints disappeared altogether and the deputies feared the boy had been picked up by an unknown passerby.

The deputies doubled their efforts and three hours later were back on the boy's trail. This time the boy's footprints led deputies to a property where at 5:35 p.m. they found him wrapped in a blanket behind a stack of hay bales.

The deputies spent more than four hours tracking the boy in unfavorable conditions. He had wandered more than a mile and a half from his home when they found him.

The boy was evaluated by medical personnel and returned to his family that same night.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Steve Reams'.

Steve Reams – Sheriff