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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SPRING 2010 FIGHT THE BITE CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED
--Children learn about mosquito prevention and also earn money for their school

Elk Grove, Calif.— As part of Mosquito Awareness Week and informing the public about mosquitoes and diseases they transmit, the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announces the winners of the 2010 annual Fight the Bite Design a Calendar Page Contest for students in grades K-12. In an effort to have children learn about mosquito prevention, the contest encourages kids to use art and creatively design a page promoting the FIGHT the BITE theme to inspire everyone to practice any or all of the District 7 D's of Mosquito Prevention. "The contest was a hit" said David Brown, District Manager. This year, the District received over 1750 entries from both counties; this is in comparison to 2009 when the District received 1,079 entries. "The kids are extremely talented and we're delighted to see that students are engaged and understand the importance of reducing mosquitoes to prevent diseases such as West Nile virus."

Students were divided into three grade categories: K-3, 4-8 and 9-12. The winning entries were based on: creativity, originality and the ability to effectively communicate one or more of the District D's of prevention. Winners in each division were determined by a panel of judges and will receive a cash prize. This year, since many area schools are struggling with budget cuts, aside from prizes for individual winners, a cash prize will also be awarded to the school of each winning student. First place contest winners will also record a radio commercial that will be aired throughout the summer. All winning contest entries will be used in the 2011 District calendar and distributed at events later this year.

First place winners are:

K-3 Zalea Bjorgum from Ellen Feickert Elementary in Elk Grove
4-8 Cleary Chizmar from Sierra Oaks Elementary in Sacramento
9-12 Lika Ito from C.K McClatchy High in Sacramento

*****PHOTO OPPORTUNITY*****

WHEN: Wednesday, April 28 at 10:15 am and 12:30 pm

WHERE: Feickert Elementary (9351 Feickert Drive) in Elk Grove and Sierra Oaks (171 Mills Rd) in Sacramento

WHAT: Children receiving a surprise visit in their classroom to obtain their prize for winning the contest

*For a complete list of winners in all categories please visit www.FIGHTtheBITE.net

For media interviews or questions please contact Luz Rodriguez at 916.416.6337.

The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District provides year round mosquito and vector control services. The main goal for the District is to keep the public healthy by preventing the transmission of diseases and improving the quality of life for residents.