

# Schools

## Terrific Kids



McDowell Mountain Elementary school and Noon Kiwanis member Pat Costa are proud to present Claire Stumpf (kindergarten), Christian Estes (first grade), Amayah Kill (first grade), Mya Hinton (second grade) and Ainsley McAlon (third grade) as Terrific Kids for the week of Sept. 4. The program, sponsored by Noon Kiwanis, recognizes students for positive achievements with respect to attitude, helping out, kindness to others, etc.



Fountain Hills Charter School, a public Montessori school, is pleased to honor students who have displayed good character as Kiwanis Terrific Kids. Congratulations to Elan Hagerty, Melanie Gillette, Colette Hayko, Grant McDonald, and Eddison Brasington for the week of Sept. 4.



Congratulations to Addison Norbeck, Zackary Daniels, Winnie Harris, Emma Brasington and Sammy Gillette, Fountain Hills Charter School Terrific Kids for the week of Sept. 11.

## Constitution Day Patriotic display



Second grader Regan Tower received second place in the national AMVETS Americanism contest. AMVETS Post 7 representative Sheila Pappas presented the 2015-16 award, which included \$75, to Tower at the assembly. The theme last year for the essay and poster contest was "Why we should honor the flag."



Two other McDowell Mountain pupils, Amara Schader, left, and Annabelle Hancock were winners in the state category. AMVETS Post 7 representative Sheila Pappas presented awards to Schader for second place, and Hancock for third. Last year's kindergarten pupil Maxwell Johnson placed first in the state competition. Analise Strange won first for first grade pupils while Hailey Adkins placed first among third graders.



Pupils at McDowell Mountain Elementary School observed Constitution Day Sept. 14 with a citizenship assembly. Second graders sang an animated version of "You're a Grand Old Flag."

## GEEF continues student support

The Golden Eagle Education Foundation is kicking into full gear this month by planning year-long events and activities to benefit students and staff in Fountain Hills.

The Golden Eagle Education Foundation has supported local schools for more than 20 years through scholarships to higher learning institutions, classroom projects, the Mentor Program and outstanding staff awards.

The GEEF is a non-profit partnership made up of parents, business members, and supportive community members from all walks of life who are committed to enhancing and enriching the education of students in Fountain Hills, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and the Verde River communities.

Students reap rewards through scholarships, mentoring, and creative and innovative classroom projects. Staff members also benefit from recognition.

As a parent recently remarked, "One need only to attend the annual Senior Recognition Night held in May to see the amazing job this small, but mighty group does."

Golden Eagle Education Foundation volunteers go through a myriad of student applications to select the most deserving applicants who will be granted the various scholarships on behalf of their contributors. The Foundation also supports classroom projects and

the Mentoring Program. In one way or another, the GEEF has touched thousands of students, parents and teachers over the years.

Organizers urge the community to support the Golden Eagle Education Foundation by joining, supporting and getting

behind the endeavor.

For further information, email info@geef.org or call Sandy Davis at 602-920-0505.

Donations may also be made out to the Golden Eagle Education Foundation and mailed to PO Box 17113, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269.

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## Did You Know?

### 5 Facts About Marijuana That Can Harm Our Kids

**Marijuana is a harmful drug, especially to our kids. Studies show that regular use by adolescents leads to lower academic achievement and mental health problems. Early, regular, and long-term use can result in a 6-8 point drop in IQ.**

**Marijuana is addictive. 17% of those who start using marijuana in their teens become addicted. The addiction rate for daily users jumps to 25-50%.**

**It is increasingly potent. Today's marijuana has an average THC content of 15%, compared to the 4% of the 1990's. It is being smoked, put in food, candies or beverages and being made even more potent converting it to hash oil (with 60%+ THC).**

**Legalization increases availability, especially for youth. 18% of Arizona 12th graders who use marijuana now get it from medical marijuana cardholders.**

**Kids are using marijuana at increasing rates. In Colorado, youth ages 12-17 have a 38% higher rate of marijuana use than the national average (11.6% vs. 7.15%).**

Sources: NIDA, 2014 AC Youth Survey, 2014 National Survey on Drug Use & Health

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