



Middle, high school students win Sandy VFW essay contests

The Sandy Post, Jan 10, 2012

The Sandy Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars announced the winners of its annual essay competitions, Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen. Local high school and middle school students were invited to submit a short essay on a patriotic theme for the competition.

The winning students for Voice of Democracy, all from Sandy High School, were Ryan Fenster, first place, with a \$300 award; Madeline Westbrook, second place, with a \$200 award; and Hollyanne Hanson, third place, with a \$100 award.

In the Patriots Pen program the winning students were Adian Martinez, Cedar Ridge Middle School, first place with a \$300 award; Hanah Holliday, Boring Middle School, second place, with a \$200 award; and Madalyn Newell, Cedar Ridge Middle School, third place with a \$100 award.

Winning students at the local level had the opportunity to compete at the district, state and national VFW levels. The winning student at the national level for Voice of Democracy receives a \$30,000 scholarship, and the winning student at the national Patriots Pen program receives a \$10,000 savings bond. Each will receive a free trip to Washington, D.C.

Two students from schools in Sandy and the surrounding area placed at the VFW district level for the Patriots Pen program. They include Aubrey Van Houte, Cedar Ridge Middle School, first place with a \$250 award; and Nicholas Morgan, Boring Middle School, second place with a \$150 award.

Other schools that participated were Damascus Christian Schools, Estacada High School, Estacada Middle School and Welches Middle School.

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