

SCHOOLNews

Journalism seniors selected for national honor roll



Sarah Kocher



Nicole Gimpl

Red Mountain High School seniors Nicole Gimpl and Sarah Kocher were selected for the National Scholastic Press Association's Journalism Honor Roll.

Ms. Gimpl is managing editor of the Red Mountain High School Roar Magazine.

Ms. Kocher is editor-in-chief of the Red Mountain High School Pinnacle yearbook.

The NSPA Honor Roll recognizes student journalists who have excelled as journalists and scholars, have served on a publication staff for a minimum of two years and have a minimum GPA of 3.75.

Mesa schools select March employees of the month

March Employees of the Month were recognized by Mesa Public Schools Superintendent Michael Cowan and school board members, on March 31, for their leadership,

commitment and dedication to the students they serve. They are appreciated for their service to the school district.

Prospective employees of the month are nominated by co-workers and endorsed by administrators. March recipients were:

- Mark Atwood, grounds, Whitman Elementary School
- Terri Cooper, secretary to principal, Red Mountain Ranch Elementary School
- Dylan-Lacey Fleisch, social studies, East Valley Academy
- Debra Shook, ELL kindergarten, Salk Elementary School

Employees of the Month receive certificates, school board scripts and \$400 for professional development workshops or conferences of their choice.

Six RMHS students' art to be displayed in Gilbert show

Six Red Mountain students have been chosen to have their artwork displayed at the Emerge Student Photography Exhibition at Art Intersection in Gilbert. Emerge is a juried art show for high school and college students.

Melodie Bennett, Tristan Colgin, Jenah Park, Mia Acosta, Elizabeth Smith and Jenna Mennetti were selected by the show's juror, Claire Warden, to participate in the yearly exhibition.

The show runs May 6-23.

Opening night will be 5-8 p.m., on

Wednesday, May 6, at Art Intersection, 201 N. Gilbert Road #201, in downtown Gilbert.

Artwork can also be viewed online after the exhibition is open.

Mesa students of the month honored at April meeting

The Governing Board recognized six outstanding Mesa Public Schools students at the April 14 board meeting. Students from Skyline High School, Rhodes Junior High, and Irving, MacArthur, Salk and Washington elementary schools have been named April Students of the Month.

Each month during the school year, students from elementary, junior high and high schools throughout the district are selected to receive the award. Honorees are recognized for both quality of character and excellence in leadership, academics, arts, athletics and more.

Students of the Month win plaques and other prizes. They are:

- Pablo Enrique Esquer Fraijo, sixth-grader, Irving Elementary
 - Aaron Grubb, sixth-grader, Washington Elementary
 - Ryan Gurr, senior, Skyline High School
 - Felicia King, eighth-grader, Rhodes Junior High
 - Natalie Morgan, fifth-grader, MacArthur Elementary
 - Ryan Taylor, fifth-grader, Salk Elementary
- Board meetings come alive as families,



Special to the Independent/ Tim Hacker, Mesa Public Schools

Fifth-grader Natalie Morgan of MacArthur Elementary, hugs principal Mark Norris during her student of the month presentation.

friends, principals and teachers join district officials to honor Students of the Month.

As videos show students in their daily school lives, their principals or other school representatives read thoughtful tributes aloud. Students take home special plaques and professional-quality portraits, provided by Mesa Public Schools.

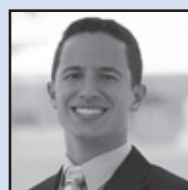
Winners also receive gift cards from the Mesa Foundation for Educational Excellence.

Mesa Community College students named All-Arizona Academic



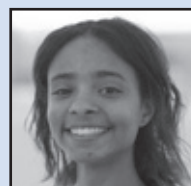
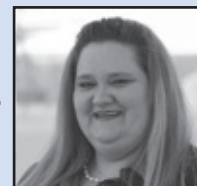
Special to the Independent/MCC

On Wednesday, Feb. 18, four Mesa Community College students were honored at the 20th Annual All-Arizona Academic Luncheon, by Phi Theta Kappa, for their outstanding academic achievements and distinguished leadership skills. Seventy-three community colleges from across the state participated in the luncheon, according to a press release. The honored students, wearing the medals around their neck are, from left: Valerie LaGrande, Andrew Sypher, Alisha Brown and Jonathan Talos. They are with MCC faculty. To be considered for the award, students must be working on an associate's degree, maintain a 3.5 or higher GPA, be in good academic standing, demonstrate leadership and be a college ambassador within the community.



MCC Red Mountain Campus student Andrew Sypher plans to be a foreign diplomat with a career in civil service after earning a bachelor's degree in political science.

After earning a bachelor's degree in social work, MCC Southern and Dobson student Valerie LeGrande would like to help women recover from trauma and addiction.



MCC Southern and Dobson campus student Alisha Brown will use a bachelor's degree in global health and health policy to improve health services and living standards in destitution regions.

Jonathan Talos, a student at MCC Red Mountain Campus, will use a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering to pursue biomedical entrepreneurship.

