

Essay contest announced as part of 227th year of U.S. Constitution

Tuesday, September 09, 2014

There are a number of events and displays in Davis organized to celebrate the 227th year of the signing of the U.S. Constitution also designed to augment and draw attention to the Davis Constitution Essay Contest.

The Essay Contest has four categories of eligibility – elementary, junior high, high school and those nineteen and older residing in Davis. The essays can be up to 500 words in length. There will be a top prize winner selected from each category. Each of the four will receive a \$100 prize. The topic is "The U.S. Constitution Defends Me. How Can I Defend the U.S. Constitution." The deadline for submissions is 5 pm, October 17. The dropoff is The Avid Reader. Further information on the contest can be obtained through The Avid Reader website AvidReaderBooks.com.

Sponsors of the Contest are The Davis Enterprise, The Avid Reader, and a Davis group interested in American history and facts about the U.S. Constitution, "We the People of Davis." Contributors to the event also include Awards and More of Davis and Konditerei.

As last year, there will be a table at the Farmers Market, this year on four dates: Saturday, September 20, Wednesday, September 24, Saturday, October 4, and Wednesday, October 8 offering a Facts Contest on the Constitution. Everyone is invited to participate. There will be prizes for entering and others for answering correctly. There will also be an hourly random drawing for \$5 gift certificates at The Avid Reader.

There will also be a Facts Contest table on the U.S. Constitution present at the International House Festival with the theme "Unity in Diversity" Sunday, October 5 from noon to 6 p.m. at Central Park. Representing America, it will be one among fifty exhibits showcasing countries around the world. There will also be culture tables, business tables, and nonprofit tables, along with music, dance, food, and arts and crafts.

During Constitution Week from September 15 to September 19, there will be a display at the Yolo County Public Library featuring the title "Constitution Translated for Kids" by Cathy Travis and other children's books on the Constitution. Travis' book will be available for checking out. It will also be available for purchase at The Avid Reader.

In addition, there will be three speakers on the Constitution at The Avid Reader. The first is Jonathan Wood who will speak on the topic of "the rule of law," its history and current issues, Friday September 19 at 7:30. He is a Staff Attorney at Pacific Legal Foundation, a nonprofit legal foundation headquartered in Sacramento.

Second will be Mark Meckler. As Convention of States President, he will offer a program Friday evening, September 26 at 7:30 on the calling of the Convention of States happening now to allow the states to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Three states this year have passed the application to call a convention and legislators from fourteen states have already committed to filing the application in 2015. The impetus for such action is populist expressing respect for the wisdom and dignity of the citizen and comes from all sides of the political spectrum

Third will be Timothy Sandefur, author of "The Conscience of the Constitution: The Declaration of Independence and the Right to Liberty." He will be discussing his book October 16 at 7:30 p.m. Sandefur is an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute and a principal attorney at the Pacific Legal foundation. In his book, Sandefur examines the relationship between liberty and order and the intention of the Founders.

"The Conscience of the Constitution" is offered at a 25% discount for a total cost of \$20 through October 17.