



**By Carolyn Lee**  
***The Imperial Republican***

The speakers at the Veterans' Day dinner at VFW Post 4688 this year included students participating in the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen contests.

Blair Hartman was placed first for her speech in the Voice of Democracy division, and received \$75 from the Post. Second was Kaycee Bubak, \$50 and third was Liz Tomky, \$25.

The topic of their speech, to be between three and five minutes, was "Is Our Constitution Still Relevant?"

Students in grades 9-12 can compete in the Voice of Democracy contest.

In the Patriot Pen contest, open to students in grades 6-8, a 300-500 word essay on the topic "What Would I Tell Our Founding Fathers?" was submitted.

Hayley Vitosh took first place, Kayla Schilke took second and Dawn Castle took third. The Auxiliary awarded them \$50, \$35 and \$25 respectively.

The Post and Auxiliary are sending five Voice of Democracy speeches and two Patriot Pen essays on to district competition in Maywood next month.

Winners are then sent to the state level. At the national level, the Voice of Democracy winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship.

