

# MEET Your Neighbor: Emily Dimson

*Meet Your Neighbor is a feature of the Independent that introduces readers to a community member. To receive a profile form or to nominate a neighbor, send an e-mail to [emesaneews@newszap.com](mailto:emesaneews@newszap.com). Emily Dimson works at Mesa Community College Red Mountain Campus.*

**Name:** Emily Dimson

**School:** Mesa Community College at Red Mountain

**How long I have worked in education:** 13 years

**Why I chose to work for this school:** I chose to work for Mesa Community College because I have a passion for education and MCC has 50 years of excellence in education. I stay because I admire how passionate the faculty are about the disciplines they specialize in and how hard the staff and faculty work to provide a quality learning environment for our students.

**What I like most about what I do:** I love working with students and being a part of their educational journey. I love the native Sonoran Desert that surrounds the Red Mountain campus; it's a beautiful place to come to work every day. The campus recently received the North American Native Plant Society's Founders Conservation Award for MCC at Red Mountain's efforts to preserve the campus' surrounding Sonoran Desert and its use of these resources in education and outreach. It's a privilege working for a campus so committed to the environment and conservation.

**Where I came from:** Ontario, Canada

**What degree(s) I hold and from what institution:** B.Sc. University of Guelph; M.Sc. University of Guelph

**If I had picked a different occupation, it might have been:** Psychologist



Emily Dimson

**What I'm looking forward to the most this school year:** I love that every semester brings new students, new experiences, new challenges, new opportunities.

**My vision for the school:** A campus admired for its commitment to the environment and conservation.

**My top priority for the school this upcoming year:**

Completing an educational signage project for our cienega. The cienega was recently approved to be used as a refuge for four species of endangered Arizona fish. A total of 307 desert pupfish were added to the cienega on Nov. 4. Our cienega is also home to desert tortoises, mud turtles and several species of lizards and frogs. Come out and see the amazing educational displays on the MCC's Red Mountain campus.

**Favorite community cause & why:** Hippotherapy, which is the use of horseback riding in physical therapy. The horse's walking gait provides physical and sensory input to the patient. It improves physical strength, balance, neurological functioning and sensory processing, as well as building confidence.

**My interests and hobbies:** Yoga, collecting antique books and 78 rpm records.

**The trait(s) I admire in others:** Integrity and kindness

**People who inspired me (and how):** My Dad raised me on his own. He gets all the credit (or criticism) for the person I am today.

**My guiding philosophy:** How can this benefit our students?

**How I think students can achieve their potential:** Hard work, dedication, belief in one's own abilities.

**My advice to today's youth:** You are capable of more than you probably realize. Believe in yourself.

**One thing I want students to know about me:** We want to see you succeed. We are all here to help you; you just need to ask.

**One thing I want parents to know about me:** I care about your child's success. We are all rooting for them to succeed.

## Scouts visit East Mesa

### Independent newspaper office

On April 21, four members of Grand Canyon Council Cub Scout Pack 184 from San Tan Valley visited the East Mesa, Apache Junction/Gold Canyon and Queen Creek/San Tan Valley Independent newspapers office, 2066 W. Apache Trail Suite 110 in Apache Junction. Their visit was part of a mission to earn additional achievement badges. The pack members were, from left, Colton Robbins, Bryce Tietjen, Emerson Howcroft and Enlai Rodriguez. After having their picture taken outside the office, the pack members learned that the newspaper covers news stories in Queen Creek and San Tan Valley. They watched a video of a newspaper press printing papers and the managing editor, Richard Dyer, talked to them about the Independent's newspapers in Arizona, Delaware, Maryland and Florida. News Editor Wendy Miller then talked about the elements of a story: Who, when, where, what, why and how. Everyone got a souvenir front page to take home.

