

TAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL STATE  
CIVICS CHAMPIONS

**HON. KIM SCHRIER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 2020*

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Speaker, congratulations to the hardworking students of Tahoma High School from Maple Valley, Washington, for being selected for the 11th consecutive time to represent Washington state in the annual “We the People: The Citizens and the Constitution” competition organized by the Center for Civic Education.

These dedicated students have spent the past year studying the history and principles of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. They have gained a better understanding of our nation’s founding values, representative democracy, and how the lawmaking process functions.

The annual in-person “We the People” final competition typically takes place in Washington, D.C., in late April. Understandably, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the event was cancelled this year. Regardless, I am tremendously proud of these students’ diligent work over the past year. Civic education is vital to a well-rounded high school education. In this time of crisis, it is more important than ever that young people are well-informed so they can engage constructively with public policy. I hope that these talented students feel empowered to vote, participate in politics, and be leading voices for positive change in our state and country. I am excited to hear about how they carry the principles and values of civic education into their future endeavors and become the next generation of leaders.

I am especially grateful to Gretchen Wulping for her dedication to civic education. In addition to teaching government at Tahoma High School, Gretchen has coached Civic Education for 12 years. Most recently, in 2016, she was honored as one of Washington’s distinguished Civic Educators.

Teachers like Gretchen are especially vital in this uncertain time, and the 8th District is extremely appreciative for her dedication to educating students in Maple Valley.

Finally, I would like to individually recognize each student, whose tremendous commitment and enthusiasm to learning our Constitution, I deeply admire. Congratulations to: Riley Barlett, Dane Bowman-Weston, Katerina Bruhl, Matthew Bruneel, Neena Chana, Claire Cunningham, Grace Denison, Shelby Ellis, Djanaya Esiong, Issabella Huser.

Sarah Kropelnicki, Preston Lievano, Jaden Mason, Aidan Mercado, Emma Nickel, Gage Nickel, Calvin O’Connell, Luke Oriolt, Daniela Perezchica-Trancoso, Claire Riordan, Elizabeth St. John, Jasmine Tran, Janey Yee.

Congratulations again to Gretchen and these bright students from Tahoma High School for their dedication to civic education. We in Washington’s 8th District couldn’t be more proud of them, and we wish them the best of luck.

SHAYLEE BACH

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Shaylee Bach for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Shaylee Bach is a student at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shaylee Bach is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Shaylee Bach for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING JIM BISHOP

**HON. EARL L. “BUDDY” CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 2020*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jim Bishop for being awarded the University System of Georgia Regents’ Hall of Fame Alumni and Distinguished Friends Achievement Award.

Throughout his career, Mr. Bishop has had a passion for creating a better future for education in Georgia.

Thanks to his dedication, the two-year Brunswick Junior College was transformed into an esteemed four-year institution called College of Coastal Georgia, which has witnessed immense growth and success since its founding.

Mr. Bishop has also been a leader in the legal profession in Georgia’s First District for over 60 years and has been steadfast in putting others above himself.

Since becoming a regent in 2007, he has been a pillar in the University System because of his high integrity, stature, and proven commitment to higher education in Georgia.

I want to thank Mr. Bishop for all he has done for the state of Georgia, and I wish him the best of luck in all his endeavors to come.

TE’AIRA NUTTER

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Te’Aira Nutter for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Te’Aira Nutter is a student at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Te’Aira Nutter is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Te’Aira Nutter for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAUL CORTEZ AND EMILIO NICOLAS SR. AND FAMILY

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 2020*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the extended members of the Cortez and Nicolas family of Virginia and Texas who are Hispanic media pioneers and American patriots serving our nation in war and peace for over 75 years.

In the 40s and 50s, Mr. Raul Cortez developed KCOR radio and television and the Spanish International Network which grew into UNIVISON the nation’s largest provider of Spanish language content thanks to the major contributions of his son-in-law Mr. Emilio Nicolas, his wife Irma, their son Emilio Nicolas Jr. and family. In 1976 the Cortez and Nicolas family established the nation’s First Satellite Interconnected TV Network which provided coast to coast coverage.

I commend Mr. Frank Cortez Jr. and Mr. Daniel P. Cortez of Stafford, Virginia, for their Spanish and English language media contributions through their patriotic and informational media broadcast segments in print and electronically.

Five generations of Cortez and Nicolas family members have answered the military call to duty since World War I including Mr. Juan Manuel Cortez, Mr. Raul Cortez Jr. who served in Korea, Mr. Daniel Cortez who was wounded and decorated for extraordinary heroism in Vietnam and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Cortez II and his wife April Cortez who honorably served in the Air Force during Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Cortez and Nicolas families are proud Americans of Hispanic descent and remain the genuine pioneers of America’s Hispanic media and military patriotism. Their veteran’s activism continues to this day with the development of the National Vet Corps Alliance where Mr. Daniel Cortez is chairman in support of H.R. 886, The Veterans Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019 which I was proud to co-sponsor.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognition and celebration of the Cortez and Nicolas families’ contributions to Hispanic media, our brave armed forces, and to the United States of America.