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Tigard girl wins Washington County's first poster contest

Tuesday, December 08, 2009
The Hillsboro Argus

The Human Rights Council (HRC) of Washington County sponsored its first poster contest, in honor of International Human Rights Day, Dec. 10. The contest was open to all Washington County students in public and private schools, grades K-12. The theme of the contest was "Human Rights: Let It Begin With Me."

Out of 64 entries, the winner of the Human Rights Council's first Human Rights Poster Contest is seventh grader Sophia Qamar (Kaa -Mar) of the Oregon Islamic School in Tigard. The winning poster is being presented at the council meetings of 10 of 13 jurisdictions in Washington County as part of special public proclamations for Human Rights Day and Human Rights Week including the cities of Banks, Beaverton, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin, and the Washington County Board of Commissioners.

Human Rights Day is celebrated annually on Dec. 10 in special events around the world on the anniversary of the signing of Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration, passed unanimously by the United Nations in 1948, in the aftermath of the Second World War, was the first global enunciation of human rights, and has become the most translated document in the world. It has inspired and guided efforts to improve the rights of people all over the world.

The HRC is made up of Washington County residents who represent a wide range of faiths, ethnicities and professions, including education, local and state government, law enforcement, faith communities, and private citizens. The HRC was launched in 2006 to promote a community where every person is valued, and equal rights and diversity are embraced.

The goals of the Human Rights Council are:

- To foster mutual understanding among all of our community's residents;
- To respect and reflect the cultural diversity of our community;
- To share valuable perspectives with local leaders on issues of equity and diversity, and...

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