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## **ILLINOIS STUDENT TAKES 6TH PLACE AT TAR WARS NATIONAL POSTER CONTEST**

Madelyn Noyes, a fifth-grader at Rochester Middle School represented Illinois at the National Tar Wars Poster Contest July 11-12 in Washington, D.C. Her poster finished sixth out of 38 state poster contest winners from around the nation. You can link to all the posters on the National Tar Wars web site [here](http://www.tarwars.org/online/tarwars/home/studentcontests/poster-contest/pastwinners/2011.html). <http://www.tarwars.org/online/tarwars/home/studentcontests/poster-contest/pastwinners/2011.html>

On July 12th, all the state poster contest winners at the event spent the day on Capitol Hill visiting with their Congressional representatives to talk about tobacco and health issues as well as share their posters with their elected officials. Madelyn, her sister Lexie and father Andrew spent an exciting day with U.S. Rep. John Shimkus, (R-19, Collinsville).

The Noyes family accompanied Rep. Shimkus to his committee meeting, which was being broadcast live on C-Span. He took them down to the tunnel where they rode the Capitol tram (which is exclusively for Capitol Hill members and staff!). Together they went up to the House of Representatives gallery – under the famous Capitol Hill dome - where he spent some time talking to them about the House, how he votes, and some of the more interesting sights in the House.

But wait, there is more! Congressman Shimkus then went to his meeting with Speaker of the House John Boehner while his staff member gave them a personalized tour of the Capitol. When the Congressman returned, he took the Noyes family up to the Speaker's office and out onto the Speaker's private balcony which had a clear view of the Washington monument and which is right above the site where the President is sworn in! The final stop was to the Capitol steps where they took a photo with the Congressman, who promptly pulled out his BlackBerry and posted the picture to his Twitter page, along with mention that Madelyn was attending the Tar Wars national conference.

The Family Health Foundation of Illinois provided travel funding assistance to the Noyes family, thanks to a grant from Pfizer Health Charitables.

Tar Wars, a program of the American Academy of Family Physicians, is at work in schools around the country, as well as in Canada and overseas. The program is free for schools and for volunteers to teach in their local schools or youth groups. For more information, including the complete program curriculum, visit [www.tarwars.org](http://www.tarwars.org).

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