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Phillip Haberthur Receives 2009 George C. Marshall Public Leadership Award

(October 8, 2009-VANCOUVER, Wash.)— Phillip Haberthur of Battle Ground has been named the 2009 recipient of the General George C. Marshall Public Leadership Award. He will be recognized during a ceremony at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 4th at Marshall's former Vancouver home, the Marshall House, 1301 Officers Row. The ceremony will be broadcast on CVTV. This year marks the 21st anniversary of this prestigious community award honoring the legacy of one-time Vancouver resident General George C. Marshall.

Haberthur, 32, is an attorney with Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt. He holds a Juris Doctor degree from Lewis & Clark Law School and a Bachelor of Social Science degree from Washington State University. He is a member of the Washington State Bar Association, the Clark County Bar Association and the 2008 class of Leadership Clark County. He served two years on the City of Battle Ground Planning Commission and currently serves as Councilmember for the City of Battle Ground. He is the ad hoc board member of the Battle Ground Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Association of Washington Cities' Fiscal Health and Flexibility Legislative Committee. Michael Ciraulo, mayor of Battle Ground, nominated Haberthur for the award.

In his nomination form, Ciraulo wrote, "I first came to know Phil when he joined our Rotary club and then when he was appointed to the Battle Ground Planning Commission. Phil immediately struck me as a natural-born leader. His ability to gain others' trust, his willingness to do hard work and his global perspective on a multitude of issues make Phil the ideal recipient of this award."

As recipient of the Marshall Award, Haberthur will travel to Lexington, Virginia, to tour the Marshall Foundation and to Colonial Williamsburg and Washington, D.C. He also will participate in Celebrate Freedom programs throughout the year and will have opportunities to meet with local elected officials.

Haberthur was chosen by the Marshall selection committee consisting of community members and chaired by Dr. Leslie Burger, a retired Army general. Other committee members are Cheryl Bledsoe, 2008 Marshall Award recipient; Tom Burns, Veolia Water; Kim Capeloto, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce; John McIlvain, past Marshall Award recipient; Jada Rupley, ESD 112 and Larry Smith, Vancouver City Councilmember.

“This year, sixteen candidates represented not only Vancouver, but all parts of Clark County,” said chair Les Burger. “In the history of this award, this is the largest group of nominees. All of them were well qualified, but Phillip’s qualifications were exceptional.”

About the Marshall Public Leadership Award

The Marshall Public Leadership Award honoring the legacy of General George C. Marshall is one of the Celebrate Freedom programs organized by the Fort Vancouver National Trust. From 1936 to 1938 when Marshall lived in Vancouver, he was a brigadier general and served as Commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade at Vancouver Barracks. During World War II, Marshall served as the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. He was Secretary of State (1947-1949) and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on the Marshall Plan which helped rebuild the economies of Europe and the Pacific nations after the war.

Each candidate for the Marshall Public Leadership Award must be an involved Clark County resident, 35 years of age or under and have completed a four-year college degree. Selection is based on demonstrated leadership ability, academic achievement and commitment to and potential for an ongoing active role in public service.

Previous Marshall Public Leadership Award recipients include Cindy Gibbon, John McIlvain, Steven Dearborn, Douglas Sessions, Paula Martin, Darin Atteberry, Shawna Burkholder, Thomas Hagley, Jr., Charlene Ryan, Theresa Wagner, Michael Stromme, Juliet Laycoe Hagley, Scott Patterson, Tanisha Harris, Dena Horton, Jennifer Kampsula, Gregory McGreevey, VaNessa Duplessie, Deena Bisig and Cheryl Bledsoe.

About Celebrate Freedom

Celebrate Freedom is a series of festive and educational events and programs aimed at inspiring all generations and strengthening community values of leadership, public service, patriotism and lifelong learning. The Fort Vancouver National Trust organizes the Celebrate Freedom programs, which include the Marshall Public Leadership Award and the Marshall Youth Leadership Award, the Marshall Lecture series, the Flag Day Ceremony, Independence Day and the Veterans Parade.