

HONORING EDWARD PAELTZ

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2001*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edward Paeltz of Godfrey, Illinois. Mr. Paeltz is a veteran of World War II and was recently awarded the "General William C. Westmoreland Award" from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution for his distinguished service to veterans.

Since he was discharged from the Army 55 years ago, Edward Paeltz has spent countless hours helping veterans in need of care. With the help of his wife, Nancy, he frequently visits veterans in hospitals, nursing homes, and veterans homes throughout Illinois. During the Christmas season, he brings them cookies and other gifts to put a smile on their faces. In addition, Mr. Paeltz helps transport veterans from the Veterans Hospital in Marion, Illinois, to a lodge and retreat center in Carbondale so they can participate in recreational activities.

Edward Paeltz is a former commander of Alton American Legion Post 126. He recently fulfilled his dream by designing and organizing the construction of a Veterans' Memorial in Alton, Illinois, to honor the veterans of all branches of the armed forces. Mr. Paeltz is an inspiration to us all.

## A TRIBUTE TO HERB OBERMAN

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 10, 2001*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Mr. Herb Oberman, who will step down from his job as a Los Angeles County social worker on July 12, 2001. A dedicated public servant, Herb has served the people of Los Angeles County for the past 35 years.

Herb has proven that he truly cares about protecting children's rights. He received his Master's Degree of Social Work from the University of California Los Angeles in 1966 and spent seven years dedicating himself as a Children's Service Worker in the Foster Care Program. In 1973, he participated in the formation of Community Service Centers.

Herb has served on the board of directors of several social service organizations. He is the past president of the Santa Clarita Valley Girls and Boys Club and served on the board of directors of the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank between 1973–1993.

Herb Oberman's contributions have received recognition for his programs, which include the Los Angeles Efficiency and Productivity Program administration of the Los Angeles Citizenship Assistance Campaign; the Ford Foundation's "Innovations in State and Local Government" award in 1986 for his administration of the county's Federal Food Commodities Distribution Program; and the Parents Fair Share Project, a national demonstration project which helps noncustodial parents find employment and pay.

As Herb moves on to new pursuits, I would like to thank him for his remarkable work. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his

hard work and extraordinary contributions and wish him luck on his retirement.

## ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 27, 2001*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2311) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I would like to explain my position on the Kucinich amendment that would reduce funding for the National Ignition Facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and move some of the NIF money into the non-proliferation programs of the national Nuclear Security Administration. There is clearly a need to avoid the damage that would occur to our nonproliferation programs if funding is not increased. The President made a mistake in his budget when he made deep cuts in the non-proliferation programs. The cuts make little sense in a world where many nations have the capability and desire to develop weapons of mass destruction including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. We must therefore increase our capability to monitor developments around the globe in this area.

The President's budget already cuts the NIF programs. I support that cut given the troubling history of this program. I am very concerned about the recent GAO report findings, which concluded that not only will NIF cost at least \$1 billion more than planned and take six years longer than expected to begin operations, but also that the program poses a serious number of unresolved technical problems. Moreover, because of the critical nature of the GAO findings, the agency reportedly is doing a follow-up report, which it intends to submit to Congress.

Mr. Speaker, furthermore, in an article in the Albuquerque Tribune, the Director of Sandia National Laboratory, Mr. Paul Robinson, criticized NIF suggesting there be a reduction in its design and cost to protect other nuclear weapons program components. Moreover, a report by Dr. Robert Civiak, a physicist and former OMB Program Examiner for the Department of Energy, spells out the need to cancel NIF before any further spending occurs.

For these reasons and others, Congress needs to closely examine the NIF program and determine whether it warrants future funding. That is why I am voting NO on the Kucinich amendment.

## PROJECT VOTE SMART

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2001*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I was recently informed of the efforts of an organization called

Project Vote Smart—a group of dedicated individuals who work tirelessly in a non-partisan fashion to develop dependable facts about various national and state issues affecting all Americans while encouraging eligible citizens to vote. I am pleased to share some background information about the organization, which I hope my colleagues will find interesting and beneficial.

## PROJECT VOTE SMART

A few years ago a handful of people, a mixture of young energetic students and retired leaders from fields in politics, academia and various other civic fields, held a meeting about the increasing use of media and technology by campaigns to manipulate information, and the citizen's diminishing access to dependable, abundant information on issues and political candidates.

That meeting gave birth to Project Vote Smart (PVS), a small 501(c)(3) now engulfed in its own success. In the beginning the idea seemed simple: use young people from throughout the country to collect millions of documented facts about issues, candidates and other pertinent information about politics; index the information and then categorize it so that citizens could easily access the information through local libraries, toll-free hot lines, the internet and published reports.

Specifically, the Project is in a national library of factual information on over 40,000 candidates and incumbents in public office—all presidential, congressional, gubernatorial, state legislative seats, county, and local candidates and incumbents. They are researched in five basic areas: backgrounds, voting records, campaign finances, performance evaluations by over 100 conservative to liberal special interests, and campaign issue positions on the issues they will likely have to deal with if elected.

Project Vote Smart does not lobby, support or oppose any candidate or cause, and does not accept financial support from any organization that does—it is supported entirely by philanthropic foundations and the individual contributions of over 45,000 members. Election-year programs are sponsored by over 4,000 public libraries and hundreds of national and local news organizations. National leaders are not allowed to join the founding board without a political opposite—founding board members are national leaders as diverse as Goldwater and McGovern, Carter and Ford, Hatfield and Ferraro, Gingrich and Dukakis. PVS is staffed by volunteers, interns and a small staff paid only minimal salaries. They are conservatives and liberals of various parties who have volunteered for up to two years in order to help citizens get the facts about candidates instead of just the rhetoric.

## TRIBUTE TO 2001 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2001*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is a sincere pleasure to recognize the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Scholarship Program. This special honor is an appropriate tribute to the academic accomplishment, demonstration of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to social involvement displayed by these remarkable young adults. We all have reason to celebrate their success, for it

is in their promising and capable hands that our future rests:

Brian Anderson of Lansing, Michigan; Nicole Beil of Tecumseh, Michigan; Leah Brady, of Battle Creek, Michigan; Jeremy Connin of Jackson, Michigan; Lindsay Elliott of Pittsford, Michigan; Calby Garrison, of Onsted, Michigan; Aaron Heinen of Battle Creek, Michigan; Sarah Holliday of Hillsdale, Michigan; Stephanie Lallemand of Battle Creek, Michigan; Tabbetha McLain of Quincy, Michigan; Molly Miller of Marshall, Michigan; Jessica Muterspaugh of Spring Arbor, Michigan; Teresa Reinker of Horton, Michigan; Adam Shissler of Jackson, Michigan; Anna Vanderstelt of Charlotte, Michigan; and Randi Wigent of Reading, Michigan.

The finalists of the LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program are being honored for showing that same generosity of spirit, depth of intelligence, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan. They are young men and women of character, ambition, and initiative, who have already learned well the value of hard work, discipline, and commitment.

These exceptional students have consistently displayed their dedication, intelligence, and concern throughout their high school experience. They are people who stand out among their peers due to their many achievements and the disciplined manner in which they meet challenges. While they have already accomplished a great deal, these young people possess unlimited potential, for they have learned the keys to success in any endeavor. I am proud to join with their many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
SERGEANT RON PACKARD, OFFICER  
JOE REIS AND OFFICER  
JOHN NYIKES OF THE UNION  
CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 2001, the Union City Police Department will celebrate the retirement of three of its finest officers, Sergeant Ron Packard, Officer Joe Reis and Officer John Nyikes.

Sergeant Ron Packard began his law enforcement career with the Union City Police Department on November 1, 1968. His first assignment was undercover at a local high school, posing as a student. During the day, he attended classes with the intention of identifying sales and distribution of illegal drugs on campus. In the evenings, he completed class homework assignments and police reports. Sergeant Packard progressed in his career and was promoted from Officer to Sergeant on January 16, 1974. He has served as a Firearms Instructor and Range Master, SWAT member, and has supervised a number of divisions, including Traffic Investigations and Patrol. Sergeant Packard was instrumental in developing the Union City Police Department's current Canine Program and is currently the Canine Program Manager. During his off-duty

hours, Sergeant Packard enjoys participating in local and international Police and Fire Olympic Games, and is the recipient of numerous silver and gold medals in archery.

Officer Joe Reis, President of the Union City Police Officers Association, began his career in law enforcement on December 16, 1974. During his tenure with the Union City Police Department, Officer Reis worked as a Field Training Officer for ten years. He was responsible for training new Police Officers in Union City and assisted in developing a Recruit Training Manual for the Department. Officer Reis continued his enthusiasm for teaching by becoming the instructor of "Introduction of Administration of Justice" at James Logan High School for five years. In addition, Officer Reis was one of the Department's Firearms Instructors for nineteen years and was assigned as the Court Liaison Officer with the District Attorney's Office for four years. For the past eight years, Officer Reis has served on an assignment he considers the most rewarding, as a D.A.R.E. officer working with the New Haven Unified School District.

Officer John Nyikes began his career in law enforcement as a Detroit Police Officer for eight years where he was awarded a meritorious citation. He was hired by the Union City Police Department on July 2, 1980. While assigned Patrol duties with the Department, Officer Nyikes worked as a Field Training Officer and was responsible for training new police officers in Union City. Officer Nyikes was transferred from the Patrol Division to the Investigations Division where he has received many letters of commendation for his teamwork and clearances of crimes ranging from homicides to arson, and recovery of stolen property.

I am honored to join the colleagues of Sergeant Packard and Officers Reis and Nyikes in commending them for their many years of dedicated and exemplary service to law enforcement. They have left their indelible mark of excellence on the Union City Police Department.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANSING, MI,  
FOR "HIGH GROWTH" STATUS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2001*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the City of Lansing, Michigan, for having been named one of the top five cities in its population category for high-growth companies. The National Commission on Entrepreneurship released a study on High Growth Companies this week. This study was the first of its kind and examined entrepreneurial-growth companies in communities across the country.

Surprisingly to some, but not to the people of Michigan, the report found that the bulk of high-growth companies in the past ten years are not in "high tech" areas, but are instead found in the industrial sectors of America.

High-Growth status is achieved by few companies. It is given only to those that have attained a 15% employment growth per year for 5 years or 100% employment growth over 5 years.

Among the communities recognized for High-Growth is the City of Lansing, Michigan,

located in the 8th Congressional District, in the heart of Michigan and the greater Mid-west. Since 1996, the city of Lansing has generated more than 300,000 new jobs, more than New York, Los Angeles, or San Diego.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating and expressing pride in the city of Lansing, Michigan, and the community businesses that work for job growth and development of the city's entrepreneurial landscape.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2001*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained due to a delayed flight arriving into the Ronald Reagan National Airport on July 10, 2001, and unfortunately missed the following recorded votes: No. 211 on H. Con. Res. 170; No. 212 on H. Con. Res. 168; and No. 213 on H. Con. Res. 174.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that, had I not been delayed, I would have voted "yea" on all of the above bills.

TRIBUTE TO ERIN DOHERTY OF  
JONESVILLE, MI, LEGRAND  
SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2001*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, It is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Erin Doherty, winner of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship, Erin is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Erin Doherty is an exceptional student at Jonesville High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Erin has received numerous awards for her academic achievement and her success as a young athlete. She is active in student government, serving as President of her class, and participates in the high school and pep bands. Erin is active in S.A.D.D. and the Jr. Rotary, Interact.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Erin Doherty for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.