

Honor Society and the Treasurer for her graduating class. Lyndsey has run cross country and track for four years. She is also very active with her church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Lyndsey Lea Teller for her accomplishments and selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but it is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals 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.

RECOGNIZING THE ALTAMED  
HEALTH SERVICES CORPORATION

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the AltaMed Health Services Corporation (AltaMed). For 35 years, AltaMed has exemplified exceptional leadership in America by providing increased access and award-winning quality health care to the medically underserved multi-ethnic communities of Los Angeles County.

Established in 1969 at a modest storefront in East Los Angeles, AltaMed has never strayed from its commitment to serve medically underinsured and uninsured individuals. First known as El Barrio Free Clinic and later as La Clínica Familiar Del Barrio, the AltaMed organization was first managed by doctors, nurses, and social workers, who generously volunteered their non-working hours to treat individuals and their families with the best-available medical care. Spurred by a federal government measure known as the Urban Health Initiative and a federal grant in 1977, La Clínica Familiar Del Barrio managed to increase its services and the organization officially changed its name to the AltaMed Health Services Corporation.

Thirty-five years after its inception, AltaMed continues to provide quality medical service to over 46,000 patients at 19 service outlets, six stand-alone health care clinics, two mobile health care units, and 11 social service sites throughout Los Angeles County. Proudly serving predominantly low-income and underrepresented communities, AltaMed continues to be at the forefront of quality health care service. Its extensive services provide individuals of all ages with state-of-the-art medical and dental clinics, geriatric care, home safety, HIV/AIDS prevention, youth support groups, and substance abuse prevention and treatment programs.

With an annual operating budget of \$55 million, AltaMed is the largest nonprofit health care agency in the greater East Los Angeles area—servicing 46 Zip codes in Los Angeles County. With support from various grants, AltaMed works to enroll uninsured individuals into low cost or no cost insurance programs such as Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, California Kids and Healthy Kids. In addition, AltaMed continues to promote economic and community development and is the second largest

employer in the greater East Los Angeles area, with over 900 racially diverse and multi-lingual staff members.

I want to commend the work of AltaMed's President and CEO Cástulo de la Rocha, the Board of Directors, its nine senior management professionals, and its generous supporters for their tireless and excellent leadership efforts. Their hard work made AltaMed's 35th Anniversary Gala a reality.

May this historic event be an opportunity for everyone to commemorate the vision, compassion, and commitment that the original AltaMed founders had for their community 35 years ago. And may today's AltaMed leadership and medical team carry their mission forward into the future.

THE PASSING OF ILLINOIS STATE  
SENATOR VINCE DEMUZIO

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Illinois State Senator Vince Demuzio who passed away on April 27. Senator Demuzio, or Vince as most people knew him, lived a life dedicated to public service. While committing himself to the public good, Vince still found time for his family—his wife, Deanna, their two children and their four grandchildren.

In central Illinois, Vince Demuzio is remembered as a champion for education, a fighter for good jobs and roadways, and a tireless advocate for the needs of his constituents.

Illinois Senate Minority Leader, Frank Watson, said of Vince, "If we all emulate the concerns that Vince Demuzio had for the people he represented and the people of this state . . . we would all be better off and be better people for it."

I couldn't agree more. Illinois has lost a great leader with the passing of State Senator Vince Demuzio.

2004 LEGRAND SMITH  
SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with my sincerest pleasure that I rise to recognize the finalists of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program. This special honor is an appropriate tribute to these remarkable young adults for their academic accomplishments, demonstration of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to social and civic involvement. We all have reason to celebrate their success, because our future rests in their promising and capable hands.

The finalists are being honored for showing the 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 and commitment.

These exceptional students have consistently displayed their dedication, intelligence and concern throughout their high school careers. They stand out among their peers not only because of their many achievements, but also the disciplined manner in which they meet all challenges. Although they have already accomplished a great deal, these young people possess unlimited potential.

On behalf of the United States Congress, we join the many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to the finalists of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program:

Tinsley Hunsdorfer of Albion, Michigan; Renee Gaudreau of Albion, Michigan; Benjamin Wilson of Battle Creek, Michigan; Heather Taylor of Homer, Michigan; Michael Schneider of Litchfield, Michigan; Lacey Ferro of Jonesville, Michigan; Joshua Robare of Hillsdale, Michigan; Amy Sanford of Reading, Michigan; Elysia Berry of Reading, Michigan; Kimberly Emens of Waldron, Michigan; Zachary Risk of Jonesville, Michigan; Ryan Cherry of Brooklyn, Michigan; Amanda Jones of Michigan Center, Michigan. Tiffany Lambert of Jerome, Michigan; Eric Palmer of Jerome, Michigan; Amy Nemeth of Jackson, Michigan; Kathryn Gillen of Jackson, Michigan; Zachary Kanaan, Jr. of Clark Lake, Michigan; Susan Hammond of Jackson, Michigan; Benjamin Stafford of Parma, Michigan; Rachel Osborne of Hudson, Michigan; Lyndsey Banks of Adrian, Michigan; Olivia Rawson of Onsted, Michigan; Leanna Pelham of Onsted, Michigan; Sara Worsham of Onsted, Michigan; Blythe Crane of Chelsea, Michigan; Ashleigh Doop of Dexter, Michigan; and Elizabeth Parker of Dexter, Michigan.

RECOGNIZING MR. SERGIO RASCÓN

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Sergio Rascón, a labor union leader who exemplifies the best in American leadership today.

Born in 1953 in Sonora, Mexico, Mr. Rascón grew up and graduated from high school in the San Fernando Valley region of Los Angeles. Possessing a strong passion for labor union politics, in 1979 he was named Labor Foreman of the Laborers' International Union of North America LIUNA Local 300, a powerful subdivision of the American Federation of Labor.

In 1984, he was named an official agent of the LIUNA Local 300, while becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen that same year. Demonstrating a natural ability to lead, motivate, and organize workers, he earned the highest honors by his peers and was promoted to the executive board of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement LCLAA in 1989 and later to Business Manager and President of the LIUNA Local 300 union throughout the 1990s.

Currently holding politically influential positions as First Vice President of the LCLAA State Chapter and as Los Angeles Commissioner on the Convention and Exhibition Center Bureau, Rascón is regarded as one of the most powerful and youngest political activists in the United States. Under his direction, the LIUNA Local 300 is involved in more political races than any other in its history.