

profit organizations such as the Wang Center in Boston and the New England Conservatory, and also serves as the president and CEO of the Metropolitan Opera. He personally assists the Mayer Arts Center at Phillips Exeter Academy which attracts visiting artists to display their work on campus and establish residencies and workshops in the surrounding community. He also supports the scholarship program at Phillips Exeter Academy, designed to help support gifted students pursue their dreams in the arts. His early and consistent support of the Music Hall in Portsmouth is yet another testament of his vision and long-term commitment to the community.

Without the support of generous financial donations, arts programs would suffer tremendously. Paul has long patronized arts organizations and has convinced major corporations to do the same through "challenge" grants. These grants are made at significant points of the fund drive, thereby motivating other potential donors to donate. His keen business skills are evident in the large amounts of financial support he earns for particular programs.

It is citizens like Paul who exemplify the importance of civic responsibility. His work in making the arts more accessible to the community is commendable. Without the support of such dedicated people like Paul, the arts would not be able to thrive in New Hampshire. It is an honor to serve him in the United States Senate.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF BEDFORD

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the town of Bedford on its 250th anniversary, an important and historic milestone in New Hampshire's history.

The town was incorporated on May 21, 1750. Once an unsettled wilderness located in the heart of New Hampshire, Bedford has grown into a booming residential and commercial community. Its close proximity to the center of Southern New Hampshire makes it very convenient for residents to commute to bigger cities like Manchester and Nashua. Bedford is a thriving small town with a strong commitment to family and community values, evidenced by a first-rate school system and active participation by many residents in civic groups such as the Rotary Club and the Lions Club.

The town has come together to celebrate its anniversary with year-long events, such as town picnics, exhibits and a parade marking the town's official birthday. A 250th anniversary ball is planned as the culmination of the year's events. These celebrations strengthen town organizations' staying-power and provide an opportunity for residents to congregate and enjoy

all the town has to offer. The overwhelming number of Bedford residents who attended these events is a testament to their commitment to town and civic affairs.

Slowly but surely, this quiet former farming town has seen tremendous commercial growth within the last 50 years. Bedford is now home to many small businesses and office parks, but has certainly not lost that small-town charm. With 16,500 citizens, it is easy to meet familiar faces in passing. Although the town may be steadily expanding its collection of businesses, the residents have not let them overwhelm their beautiful scenic community.

Once again, I want to congratulate the town of Bedford on its 250th anniversary. Stable and secure communities such as Bedford are essentially the backbone of this great nation. It is an honor to serve its citizens in the United States Senate.●

#### TRIBUTE TO TOM SCHWIEGER UPON HIS RETIREMENT

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the outstanding leadership of Tom Schwieger, President and CEO of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce. Tom's seventeen years of service have been marked by integrity, vision and dedication, earning him the respect and admiration of the people of New Hampshire.

During his tenure at the Manchester Chamber, Tom has initiated and overseen some of the most important revitalization projects of the last fifty years. He was the driving force behind the development of the Manchester Airport and the newly approved Civic Center. In 1998, as a testament to the success of Tom's efforts, Manchester was named the best small city in America in which to live.

When I speak with Tom, I am always left with the impression that he truly loves what he does. His energy and enthusiasm is contagious and Tom has assembled a very prestigious Board of Directors. As BJ Eckhardt of Business New Hampshire Magazine remarked, "people are honored to serve on the board; no one says 'no' to Tom."

In addition to his many professional achievements, Tom has served as a mentor and an inspiration to many members of the Chamber staff. Many current New Hampshire community leaders credit Tom with giving them their start and helping to shape their careers.

Walter Lippman once said, "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on." In his seventeen years at the Chamber, Tom has given the organization direction, drive, and a sense of mission. He has served with spirit and devotion, and his legacy will

serve as an example to his successors for years to come.

Tom, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you in the United States Senate. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. May you always continue to inspire those around you.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SITESURFER PUBLISHING—NEW HAMPSHIRE "BUSINESS IN THE ARTS" AWARD WINNER

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Sitesurfer Publishing upon its recognition as a 2000 New Hampshire "Business in the Arts" award winner in the microenterprise category.

Sitesurfer Publishing has proven that a little bit of time and energy is all it takes to make a significant impact in the arts. This company has allowed such organizations as the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord to become more competitive in today's high-tech world of on-line business. Sitesurfer created a website for the Capitol Center which resulted in thousands of dollars worth of contributions and tickets sold. This type of competitive edge has attracted worldwide visitors and increased the appeal of corporate sponsorship packages, proving to be the sort of revenue needed to continue the Capitol Center's many programs.

Sitesurfer has gone a step further in assuring the future of the Capitol Center's newest technology by providing the necessary hands-on training for the Center's staff to maintain and update the website, while still making itself available for support and hands-on work when it is needed. Sitesurfer understands the importance of making the arts accessible to others by providing memberships and complimentary tickets to their employees and clients.

Without the support of dedicated businesses, the arts would not be able to flourish in the state. Despite its small size, Sitesurfer Publishing has demonstrated that even small businesses can take an active role in the community not only by donating money, but by investing time and hard work into civic causes. Sitesurfer truly signifies the deep personal commitment of small businesses across the state to supporting the causes that make New Hampshire the place to call home. It is an honor to represent them in the United States Senate.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LOU SISSON—WAKEFIELD CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lou Sisson upon her recognition as the Wakefield Citizen of the Year by the Greater Wakefield Chamber of Commerce.