

has set for others, his employees are also deeply committed to high quality service and products.

Jay's sharp business skills and telecommunications experience prove to be just the right combination for a business that shows its success not only in dollar figures, but in the contributions it makes to leading new technologies. His commitment to the advancement of New Hampshire's technological economy is truly commendable. It is companies like Jay's that prove New Hampshire's true competitiveness in the technological field. Jay, it is an honor to represent you in the United States Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO KRISTINE WEST—  
AMERICAN LEGION LADIES AUXILIARY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Kristine West for her recent selection as National President of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Kristine's commitment to public service as a member of the American Legion Auxiliary is evident through her long list of accomplishments. In a time where civic duties seem to be waning, Kristine exemplifies true civic pride and involvement. Not only has she been an active member of the Ladies Auxiliary for over 20 years, she has given freely of her time to the town of Sutton as a member of the North Sutton Improvement Society and the Sutton Historical Society; working to better New Hampshire's scenic and historic heritage for all Granite Staters.

Kristine was a member of the American Legion Department of New Hampshire for five years before moving on to national level work. Her ten years of experience as chairwoman of various national committees proves that she is more than capable of handling the position of President. Her commitment to such organizations as Habitat for Humanity, the Education Committee and the Community Service Committee prove her strong dedication to helping surrounding communities and individuals in need.

Kristine's hard work, determination and energy are truly commendable. Her deep concern for the common good is admirable. She has truly demonstrated the qualities of strong leadership which will take her far in her new position. It is an honor to represent her in the United States Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN E. SIROIS ON  
BEING NAMED PRESIDENTIAL  
SCHOLAR

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Lauren E. Sirois, of Salem, NH, for being selected as a 2000 Presidential Scholar by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

Of the over 2.5 million graduating seniors nationwide, Lauren is one of

only 141 seniors to receive this distinction for academics. This impressive young woman is well-deserving of the title of Presidential Scholar. I wish to commend Lauren for her outstanding achievement.

As a student at Phillips Academy in New Hampshire, Lauren has served as a role model for her peers through her commitment to excellence. Lauren's determination promises to guide her in the future.

It is certain that Lauren will continue to excel in her future endeavors. I wish to offer my most sincere congratulations and best wishes to Lauren. Her achievements are truly remarkable. It is an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO MARK F. LEVENSON,  
DIRECTOR OF THE MANCHESTER  
VA MEDICAL CENTER

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mark Levenson upon being appointed the Director of the VA Medical Center in Manchester, NH.

As director, Dr. Levenson will have the responsibility of leading the VA Medical Center into the 21st century. The level of dedication and commitment required by such a prestigious position would seem overwhelming to many, yet Dr. Levenson has proven himself willing and capable of providing the best leadership for the center.

Prior to his appointment as the director for the VA Medical Center, Dr. Levenson served as the acting director of the center. During that 22 month period, Mark dedicated his time to improving medical care access for veterans. His efforts to expand clinics in Manchester and Portsmouth are just some examples of his loyalty and commitment to America's veterans.

Dr. Levenson has used each and every day of his career with the VA Medical Center to remind his peers and the surrounding community of their commitment to those men and women who served our great nation.

As a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces and a friend of the VA Medical Center, I salute the selfless efforts of Dr. Levenson. His leadership will prove invaluable as he assumes the position of director, and I wish him all the best in his endeavors. It is truly an honor to represent Dr. Levenson in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO MARY NOUCAS—  
OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary Nocas, for her recognition as an Outstanding Volunteer by the New Hampshire Partners in Education.

In a world full of waning civic responsibility, it is always heartwarming

to hear of selfless citizens devoting time to their communities. Mary's tireless dedication to Portsmouth schools has garnered her state-wide recognition for her efforts. She initially started working at the Dondero Elementary School when her children started kindergarten seven years ago in order to become more fully involved in their education. She offered to sign up for everything to get to know the teachers and the parents better, and hasn't stopped since. Her work now stretches to other schools in the area as well.

Mary has established a number of successful programs at the school, such as the Class Popcorn Giveaway and the Magical Mailbox program, heads numerous committees, and has overseen countless art shows, bake sales and book fairs. She puts together the middle school newsletter and continues to do publicity for the elementary school. She truly enjoys volunteering and cites her love of children as the driving force behind her efforts.

Mary's work is truly inspirational and typifies what is good about American citizens today. Without the help of dedicated volunteers, our schools would not be able to run smoothly, and it is the children who ultimately would suffer. It is truly an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO MCLANE, GRAF,  
RAULERSON AND MIDDLETON—  
NH BUSINESS IN THE ARTS  
AWARD WINNER

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton upon their recognition as a 2000 New Hampshire "Business in the Arts" award winner in the medium-sized company category.

The firm has been a long time contributor to the development of the arts in New Hampshire. They not only donate time and money to various arts events, but they have established themselves on numerous boards and sponsorships and are well-known for distributing complimentary tickets to clients and friends. This extensive sponsorship of different arts programs is carried out on a more personal level by the firm's employees, whose individual contributions of time and money make a significant impact on the organizations they support.

The firm has placed a considerable interest in promoting musical events throughout the State, and avidly supports the Opera League of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Symphony Orchestra, the Portsmouth Music Hall, the Concord Community Music School and the Nashua Symphony, to name a few. Their list of achievements stretches even further to other venues of the arts as well, such as the Palace Theater in Manchester, the Currier