leaders from fields in politics, academia and various other fields, held a meeting in Washington D.C. on 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 by over 4,000 public libraries and hundreds of full-time 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, including 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 issue 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 allowed to join the founding board without a political opposition—founding board members are national leaders as diverse a 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 politics 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 Bell of Tecumseh, Michigan; Leah Brady, of Battle Creek, Michigan; Jeremy Connin of Jackson, Michigan; LaShay Elliott of Pittsford, Michigan; Calby Garrison, of Onsted, Michigan; Aaron Heinen of Battle Creek, Michigan; Sarah Holliday of Hillsdale, Michigan; Stephanie Lallemend of Battle Creek, Michigan; Tabetha McLain of Quincy, Michigan; Molly Miller of Marshall, Michigan; Jessica Muterspaugh of Spring Arbor, Michigan; Teresa Sargent of Detroit, Michigan; Adam Shissler of Jackson, Michigan; Anna Vanderstelt of Charlotte, Michigan; and Randi Wignet of Reading, Michigan.

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 for achievement and humble accomplishments 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.

HOOFING 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

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 continued 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 Olympics, 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 Investigative Division where he spent many years investigating and working on numerous cases. For his work 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 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. 169; 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.

**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.

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS**

**TRIBUTE TO THE 18TH ANNUAL FREMONT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**  
OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the 18th Annual Fremont Festival of the Arts sponsored by the Fremont Chamber of Commerce. The two-day Festival, to be held on July 28 and 29, 2001, is expected to attract over 450,000 attendees and has become a model of success for the modern festival. This single event provides some $400,000 in contributions to non-profits for the betterment of communities in Fremont, California. 

Over 780 artists, 35 culinary selections and 20 bands will be featured at the Festival. Three thousand volunteers give willingly of their time to contribute to the Festival’s success. It takes generous and concerned individuals, such as the volunteers, to reach out and make a difference, ensuring promise and opportunity for this and future generations. It also takes the support of business sponsors and patrons to ensure the success of the Festival.

The Festival typifies the spirit of community service, which is alive and thriving in Fremont. I am proud to salute the efforts of this year’s Festival Chairman, David M. O’Hara, the organizers, the volunteers, the sponsors and the patrons of the Fremont Festival of the Arts for their generous and untried efforts to ensure continued success.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LANSON BOARD OF WATER & LIGHT**

**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 proactive efforts of the Lansing Board of Water and Light in Lansing, Michigan, to develop a program aimed at using environmentally friendly energy to generate the electricity it provides in the Lansing metropolitan area.

The Board of Water and Light has launched a Green Wise Electric Power program that encourages customers to voluntarily pay an additional minimal fee to cover the added cost of purchasing electricity from “clean” sources. The program allows the municipal utility to buy some or all of its electricity from clean, renewable sources such as wind, water and biomass generation. While the cost of cleaner electricity may be higher than that provided through conventional sources such as coal or natural gas, the environmental advantages make this a highly worthy program.

As America struggles to meet its environmental challenges, the Lansing Board of Water and Light has shown extraordinary vision and commitment to protecting our precious resources while continuing to meet the electric power needs of its customers. They are working hard to achieve that balance between environment and economy which is essential for the future of every community across the nation.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Lansing Board of Water and Light and to extend to its board of directors and staff our admiration for their service in the interest of the nation, the State of Michigan, and their own community. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JULIA CARSON**  
OF INDIANA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 10, I was in my district attending to official business and as a result missed roll call votes 211, 212 and 213. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on all three votes.

**TRIBUTE TO ELLEN V. FUTTER, NASA PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL RECIPIENT**

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**  
OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Wednesday, July 11, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my pride, and that of New York, that on June 21, 2001, Ellen V. Futter, President of the world-renowned American Museum of Natural History, was awarded NASA’s prestigious Public Service Medal by NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin. She was presented this medal in recognition of her leadership in advancing the highest quality science education.

Through Ms. Futter’s leadership, the American Museum of Natural History is bringing NASA’s cutting-edge science to children and families of New York, the nation, and the world through the Rose Center for Earth and Space and the NASA-sponsored National Center for Science Literacy and Education Technology. Her achievements rest on a keen appreciation of the importance of scientific literacy in the 21st century and a unique vision for bridging the gap between science and the public.

With the leadership of Congress, the American Museum of Natural History and NASA have forged a productive scientific and educational partnership that advances their shared goals of advancing science and scientific literacy nationwide. The National Center for Science Literacy, Education, and Technology was conceived by the Museum; approved, advanced, and funded by Congress; and sponsored by NASA. It is a model partnership of which we can all be proud.

Founded in 1869, the American Museum of Natural History is one of the nation’s pre-eminent science and education institutions. Throughout its history, its efforts have been directed to its twin missions: to examine critical scientific issues and increase public knowledge about them. Its rich scientific legacy includes an irreplaceable record of life on Earth.