EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Benjamin Green of Morenci, Michigan
Rae Ann Herman of Manistou, Michigan
Alex Kellner of Flint, Michigan
Chelsey McConn of Bronson, Michigan
Ingrid Meye of Pittsford, Michigan
Martin Munz of Manchester, Michigan
Rebekah Preston of Quincy, Michigan
Lisa Sellers of Battle Creek, Michigan
Kristen Taddionio of Manchester, Michigan
Bethany Wheeler of Morenci, 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 the tools they have learned the keys to success in any endeavor. I am proud to join with my many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program.

SPEECH BY AHMET ERTEGUN

HON. ROBERT WEXLER
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following speech given by Ahmet Ertegun, Chief Executive Officer of Atlantic Records, on May 18, 2001, after receiving the Prestigious Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) Cultural Lifetime Achievement award during the FTAA cultural Cultural Week.

As co-founder of the House Caucus on U.S.-Turkish Relations and Turkish-Americans, I believe there is no individual more deserving of the FTAA Cultural Achievement Award than Ahmet Ertegun who is a leading voice in the Turkish-American community and an extraordinary humanitarian.

It would be an understatement to say that Mr. Ertegun is the epitome of the American dream. As a successful businessman and self-starter, he co-founded one of the most successful international recording studios, Atlantic Records. Mr. Ertegun has also been deeply involved in many worthwhile philanthropic activities. Thousands of individuals in the United States and throughout the world have benefited from his commitment and involvement in charities and civic organizations.

The Turkish-American community should be extremely proud to have Mr. Ertegun as a leading spokesman to promote Turkish culture and history in the United States. He, along with the Federation of Turkish American Associations, are the heart and soul of a dynamic Turkish-American community. Finally, I want to thank Mr. Ertegun and the FTAA for their commitment to strengthening the relationship between the United States and Turkey. Mr. Ertegun and the FTAA, I believe that the friendship and strategic partnership between America and Turkey are essential to both countries and will grow even more important throughout the 21st century.

Again, I join the Federation of Turkish American Associations and the Turkish-American community in celebrating Mr. Ertegun's extraordinary achievements and congratulate him on receiving the FTAA Cultural Lifetime Achievement award. It is great to be recognized by the Federation of Turkish American Associations.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great honor for me to be recognized by the Federation of Turkish American Associations.

I deem it a great honor to have been introduced by my dear friend, Arif Mardin.

Mr. Ertegun, as our musical director, has made the key monumental record hits that have been the highlights of Atlantic's history: "Respect" by Aretha Franklin, the Saturday Night Fever album by Bee Gees, and "Wind Beneath My Wings" by Bette Midler just to name a few.

I was recently invited to a white-tie gala banquet in Nashville to get a music citation. This was a period when I was using crutches to walk.

As they called my name and I started to walk up to the podium to receive the award, this southern lady turned to me and said: "You must be mighty proud. This is the first time we've given this award to a foreign citizen."

But to be serious, it is wonderful to see such a large group of Turkish Americans. Each and every one of you is an important part of what has become the beginnings of a group which could have some political influence in the near future, both here in America and also in Turkey, through our family and friends.

It is most important that we, as Turkish Americans, champion the cause of freedom and democracy, in both here and Turkey.

As you all must know, Turkey is now getting through a terrible time because of economic mismanagement. We are all aware of the rumors and accusations in the Turkish press of chaos and corruption, in both the public and the private sector.

But what has been the savior of Turkey has been the selfless and honest dedication of so many of its citizens, and the ever-present vigil of the Turkish Army, to protect the legacy of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. They have been our saviors through the many difficulties since the formation of the Republic in 1923.

With the coming of the current crisis and the devaluation of the Turkish lira, President Bulent Ecevit sent for a top economist from the World Bank, Mr. Kemal Dervis, to establish reforms and to encourage economic help from our friends in America and Europe.

He has been promised over 16 billion dollars, but with stringent conditions, which require drastic changes in the economic and political systems initiated by Ataturk at the beginning of the Republic.

Ataturk's dream was to bring his country and its people into the modern world's mainstream, and shortly before he died, he left this important message and I quote: "I am leaving no sacred dogma, nor am I leaving as my legacy any command-ment that is frozen in time or cast in stone.
Concepts of well-being for countries, for peoples, and for individuals are changing in time. In such a world, to argue for rules that never change would be to deny the reality found in scientific knowledge and rational judgement.

It is my fervent hope that all of you support Mr. Kemal Dervis’ mission and support President Ecevit in this critical moment. It is an important moment in Turkish history which will disengage the economic system from the political, which will bring about which will bring about an important member of the modern democratic world.

May the army and the Turkish people persevere in their pursuit of Atatürk’s dream.

IN HONOR OF MR. DONALD FREJOSKY
HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Donald R. Frejosky. During the more than 60 years that Mr. Frejosky resided in Garfield Heights, he was an exemplar of altruism, kindness, and service—not only to his own dear family, but also to the larger family of Garfield Heights as well.

Mr. Frejosky was a proud and loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother. Not only did Mr. Frejosky embody the principle of selflessness to his own family, but his example also sets a beautiful precedent for us all to achieve. Mr. Frejosky served his Cleveland community in numerous ways: he was employed as a service and parts manager for White Motor, Richfield Truck, and G&M Towing Co., and as a musical instrument repair artist for more than 35 years, at the diligent service of the Cleveland area.

Not only did Mr. Frejosky bestow upon us his service in simple and selfless ways, but he also served as a Councilman to Ward 5 in Garfield Heights, and until his last days was serving on the Civil Service Board of the city. Mr. Frejosky worked tirelessly, even up until his last breath, to improve the quality of life for others. It is because of his beneficence, integrity, and diligence that Mr. Frejosky can never be effaced from Garfield Heights’ memory, and it is also why we are honoring him today.

Garfield Heights’ loss of Mr. Frejosky is not only a loss of a husband, father, and brother, but is also a loss of one of its shining examples of sincerity and service. Today, we honor Mr. Frejosky’s past, and honor his indelible imprint on our present and future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for rollcall votes 148 and 149. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on both.