

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF RALPH J. PERK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

HON. JOHN R. KASICH

OF OHIO

HON. STEVE C. LaTOURETTE

OF OHIO

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

HON. THOMAS C. SAWYER

OF OHIO

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleagues from Ohio, Messrs. BOEHNER, BROWN, CHABOT, GILLMOR, HALL, HOBSON, Ms. KAPTUR, Messrs. KASICH, LaTOURETTE, NEY, OXLEY, PORTMAN, Ms. PRYCE, Messrs. REGULA, SAWYER, STOKES, STRICKLAND, and TRAFICANT rise to salute an extraordinary public servant, Ralph J. Perk. He has devoted his life to helping others and is beloved by the people of Cleveland, the people of Ohio, and people throughout the world.

Born under the shadow of the steel mill smokestacks of Cleveland, Ralph Perk was raised in poverty. At age 7, he began his day delivering the morning paper and ended it de-

livering the evening paper. At age twelve he began selling ice door to door. During the Depression of the 40s when he was still selling ice, Perk routinely extended credit to poor families. "If we don't give them ice, their children's milk will spoil," Perk would say. So, instead of making one-hundred dollars a week, he made twelve. That generosity and heart, paid rich dividends when Perk entered politics. Every election, the families he helped during the depression became the nucleus of Perk's campaigns. Their loyalty could not have been bought at any price. From those humble beginnings, Ralph Perk rose to serve five terms on the Cleveland City Council and nine years as county auditor.

In 1971 Ralph Perk was elected the 51st Mayor of Cleveland. He was not bound by party label. Rather, he achieved his popularity by following public service rather than party politics. His motto was simple: Do hard work, keep in touch with the people, and serve honestly. He did all three.

As Mayor, he deeply cared for those whom he represented. He secured hundreds of millions of dollars from the federal government to improve the city. And despite high inflation and a recession, Mayor Perk delivered quality basic city services to the neighborhoods of Cleveland.

Although he achieved high office in his city, Ralph Perk never forgot his humble beginnings and continued to help others. He understood people and their needs; but more important, he truly cared. He helped organize the diverse ethnic community and imbued it with a common pride in Cleveland. He was the founder of the Nationality Movement in Cleveland; and a driving force behind the recognition of the rights and cultural heritage of ethnic American in the United States. He served on numerous civic and fraternal organizations including, The Citizens League, The Council on Human Relations and The Knights of Columbus.

My fellow colleagues, Ralph Perk does not seek our praise. He is far above it. Rather, I ask you to join me in recognizing him for his many contributions. For if we learn from his dedication, we will all be better public servants.

HONORING REVEREND ROBERT O. SIMPSON'S 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Robert O. Simpson's 25th Pastoral Anniversary at Janes United Methodist Church, Brooklyn, New York.

Reverend Robert O. Simpson assumed responsibilities as Pastor of Janes United Methodist Church in July 1973. Reverend Simpson's formal education began, ironically, in a

nursery school at Janes United Methodist Church. He attended both public and private schools in Brooklyn before earning a Master of Divinity Degree from Yale Divinity School in June 1973.

Since Reverend Simpson's tenure at Janes United Methodist Church, active membership has tripled. Many positive programs have been implemented. The Church's Community Outreach has included a tutorial program, the Senior Citizens' Friendship Club, the Voter Registration and Information Project, the Meals-on-Wheels Program for the homebound elderly or disabled in the community, and "God's Sheltering Arms," Janes' ministry to the homeless who inhabit public places.

Reverend Simpson's greatest challenge came in 1984, when a fire destroyed Janes Church. With his dynamic leadership, Reverend Simpson led his congregation through this crisis. With his hard work and dedication, the new Janes Church was build and consecrated in April 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting Reverend Robert O. Simpson on the occasion of his 25th Pastoral Anniversary at Janes United Methodist Church.

TRIBUTE TO THE BRONX-LEBANON HOSPITAL CENTER AND THE AIDS RESEARCH COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center and the AIDS Research Community Advisory Board for their commitment to fighting AIDS and preventing the spreading of the deadly HIV. On Saturday, June 20, they will hold a prevention fair, Safety Jam, for adolescents and adults at the Claremont Neighborhood Center in the South Bronx.

Safety Jam will feature informative educational presentations and workshops on issues related to health and HIV prevention. Fun, food, live multicultural entertainment, and free raffles will be provided throughout the day, helping to draw people to the fair.

It is a privilege for me to represent the 16th district of New York, where the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center is located. I have witnessed first-hand the exemplary work they are doing for our community and I am deeply impressed.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the physicians, nurses, case-workers, administrators, clerical workers, and all of the other caregivers and support staff of the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center and the AIDS Research Community Advisory Board for their outstanding efforts at this important milestone, and in wishing them continued success.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK C. JONES,
SR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Frederick C. Jones, Sr. as he is retiring from state government.

He most recently was the Project Supervisor of Vocational Rehabilitation Services at South Carolina State Hospital. His duties included coordinating and implementing Vocational Rehabilitation services for seriously mentally ill patients within inpatient and community based mental health programs. He has been involved in Vocational Rehabilitation for much of his career, along with work with juveniles.

Mr. Jones is a life member of National Rehabilitation Association, a member of Professional Staff Association, SCVR, a member of the Action Council for Cross Cultural Studies, chairman of the Membership Committee of Capital City Club, and a member of St. John Baptist Church, in Hopkins South Carolina. He is best known to Columbians and South Carolinians as the manager of the "Friends Band" and for the musical accompaniment of his lovely wife Bunny.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me in wishing my friend Frederick C. Jones, Sr. a fulfilling retirement.

ASSISTANT CHIEF PATRICK D.
BRENNAN: A POINT-OF-LIGHT
FOR ALL AMERICANS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, it is generally recognized that the great drop in the national crime rate is due mostly to changes in the deployment of police officers and in the adoption of new attitudes with respect to police and community partnerships. No police and law enforcement leader in America has done more to advance these approaches and methods than Assistant Chief Patrick D. Brennan, one of New York's and Brooklyn's finest. On the occasion of the retirement of Chief Brennan we wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for his many years of service. I have met him at many late night community meetings and I know that Assistant Chief Brennan deserves the rest he will be able to get after retirement. On behalf of the constituents of the 11th Congressional District I salute Patrick D. Brennan as a POINT-OF-LIGHT for all Americans.

Assistant Chief Patrick D. Brennan, who is retiring after serving as the commanding Officer of Patrol Borough Brooklyn South, began his career with the New York City Police Department as a patrolman for the 84th Precinct in September 1965. Before achieving the rank of Assistant Chief in July 1997, he was promoted to Sergeant in May 1973; Lieutenant in March 1984; Captain in December 1987; Deputy Inspector in May 1993; Inspector in October 1994; and Deputy Chief in August 1995. Assistant Chief Brennan has served as the Commanding Officer of the 5th, 72nd, 84th

and 90th Precincts, as well as the Criminal Justice Bureau. He has served as the Commanding Officer of the 5th and 70th Precincts and 72nd Precinct Detective squad. Before joining the New York City Police Department, Assistant Chief Brennan received a Bachelor of Science Degree from John Jay College.

Throughout his career, Assistant Chief Brennan has been supported by his wife, Monica, for 35 years. They are the proud parents of six children: Maureen, Tara Ann, Martin, Dermott, John and Patrick.

Mr. Speaker, Brooklyn has encountered many problems involving the police within the last five years. Some very dramatic cases have received national attention. We must all strive to maintain a balanced perspective and continue to understand that the great majority of our police officers are productive and dedicated citizens. From the ranks of law enforcement we also repeatedly see the emergence of outstanding leaders like this one. Assistant Chief Patrick D. Brennan is an outstanding POINT-OF-LIGHT whose career can inspire all Americans.

CONGRATULATING REGINAL RYAN
FOR HIS AWARD-WINNING
AMVET ESSAY "MY FAVORITE
AMERICAN HERO"

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an exceptional young man, Reginal Ryan of Itasca, Texas, which is in my 11th Congressional District. Reginal recently won the AMVET's Americanism state level competition for ninth graders with a strong and moving essay entitled "My Favorite American Hero."

Reginal is a 15-year-old sophomore at Itasca High School. His accomplishment is all the more extraordinary considering that late last year he was living on the streets in Austin, Texas. However, he now lives in the Presbyterian Orphans Home in Itasca where he spends time putting together prize winning essays.

His prize for winning the AMVET's contest is an all expense paid trip to Valley Forge, Penn., to visit the Freedoms Foundation. Members of AMVET's Post 72 in Hillsboro were so moved by his essay that they took up an additional collection to finance a trip to Washington, D.C. While in Washington, Reginal's wish to visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and pay his respects was fulfilled.

I ask members to join me in congratulating this special young man for his accomplishment. I would also like to share his essay with the members.

MY FAVORITE AMERICAN HERO

(By Reginal Ryan)

My favorite American hero does not have a name, but I assure you he is real in many ways. Everyone remembers and knows what he did for our country and how he gives his life for others with devotion. He has shown commitment in many examples of his compassion as in the many wars in which he has fought such as World War I and World War II and even Vietnam.

My favorite American hero represents the heart of our country, because he is the common American. When called to serve, he is always ready and willing to protect his country by fighting in strange and foreign lands far away from home, away from friends and family with no assurance that he would ever return to them. Nevertheless, it was important for him to go to ensure that the freedom of America would be preserved.

My favorite American hero is visited by many people each year. They are always quiet and reverent in his presence. Flowers are often presented to him. The visitors come from all across America, and many shed a few tears as they leave because he may be their hero, too. It is the common thread that links and unites all Americans.

Because he is a true hero, he is the most likely to come to my mind. Symbolically, he stands for all the freedom fighters we have today in America. His efforts have allowed me and all Americans to continue to exercise all rights as a citizen of the United States. He has helped to preserve my life, my liberties, and my pursuit of happiness.

I hope by now that everyone who reads this, knows that my favorite American hero is the "Unknown Soldier." It matters not that he does not have a specific name. What matters is that he stands for every soldier who has ever fought to keep our nation free. This gift is the greatest gift America can receive—the gift of freedom. I hope someday I get to pay my respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

SALUTING OLD GLORY: OUR FLAG
AND ITS DEFENDERS

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 19, 1998

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, my family and I joined millions across the country to celebrate Flag Day. With its passage, I would like to share with my colleagues the story of one of my constituents.

Vito Cannella was born in Italy and later naturalized as an American citizen. He is a lifelong public servant, dedicated to serving our community and our nation. As a public official in Los Angeles County, he is committed to working to share the benefits of his adopted homeland with his neighbors. His patriotism is a lesson for us all.

Upset by anti-government protests and civil unrest during the 1960's, Vito joined with Bill Bailey, an old friend, and set about preserving and defending our most precious national emblem: The American flag. In 1966, the two Montrose, California residents worked with local civic groups to convince our former colleague H. Allen Smith to introduce and successfully pass House Joint Resolution 763. With its passage, the week surrounding Flag Day was thereafter dedicated national Flag Week. Sadly, this holiday has been quietly omitted from news stories ever since. It is my hope that this will change.

Mr. Speaker, the Stars and Stripes are a noble symbol of our republic. As we stand in this chamber, we rise before this bold symbol of our freedom. As we engage in debate with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, we should take pride in our right of dissension. And as we work to shape policy affecting our children, we should be ever mindful of those who sacrificed so much for this right. We honor all these by recognizing Flag Week.