

this legislation, the Commission will recommend ways to improve voter registration, verification of registration, and the maintenance and accuracy of voter rolls.

It is vital that we establish this Commission as a permanent body. Many issues and concerns surrounding elections necessitate a continual review of ever-changing technologies. A permanent Commission will be best suited to facilitate the sharing of information about new, cost-effective technologies that can improve the way we administer elections in America.

HONORING REV. FRED CORNELL'S
FIFTY YEARS IN THE MINISTRY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the fifty years of ministry for the Reverend Fred Cornell, pastor of the Concordia Church of Christ in Belleville, Illinois.

This month, Reverend Cornell is celebrating 50 years in the ministry. Rev. Cornell was ordained on December 27, 1950 and went on to establish himself as a progressive religious leader with a willingness to get involved in the community and speak out on important issues. He was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Belleville in 1964, when he was arrested in Mississippi with 26 others helping to register African American voters.

Reverend Cornell grew up in St. Louis, Missouri. His great-great-grandfather served as a Presbyterian Missionary to native Americans in Maine and Pennsylvania in the early 1800's. Reverend Cornell served three years in the navy and earned a business degree from Washington University in St. Louis. He also worked for Ralston-Purina of St. Louis, but found that work to be unsatisfying. He attended McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago for three years and got his first job as a minister in Mountainburg, Arkansas. Two years later he became pastor of two small churches in Owensville and Gerald, Missouri.

In 1956, he began as the Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian in Belleville and became its pastor three years later. His social activism was rooted in the Church philosophy that led the fight against slavery in the 1800's. His travels to Mississippi were in response to a church call for help with voter registration drives. Reverend Cornell was also active in promoting meetings between people. During the Vietnam War he formed a local group of concerned citizens about the War.

Throughout his time at First Presbyterian, he was also busy with numerous building projects having assisted with the construction of the new First Presbyterian church and the creation of First United Presbyterian Church in 1982. Reverend Cornell also served as the President of the Belleville Ministerial Alliance in the 50's and moderator of the Alton Presbytery in the 1960's. He also helped found the Belleville Clergy Association.

Reverend Cornell married his wife Barbara in 1994. His son John is an artist who lives in Belleville. He also has two grandchildren. Rev-

erend Cornell also was no stranger to adversity himself, his other son Paul, who was only 24 years old, died in 1977 after a blockage was discovered in his brain. Reverend Cornell also suffered a heart attack that same year and underwent by-pass surgery in 1987. After "retiring" from First United Presbyterian in 1988 he went to Concordia United Church of Christ. This place, he thought, would be perfect for him. The little country church, founded by German immigrants in 1845, had just lost its pastor of 19 years. Reverend Cornell now ministers its 90 members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Reverend Fred Cornell and to recognize his commitment for service to the community.

HONORING RICHARD "DICK"
JOHANSON

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to present the following Opinion-Editorial that was written by Deborah Nankivell, executive director of the Fresno Business Council. The Opinion-Editorial, printed in the Fresno Bee on December 20, 2000, reads as follows:

JOHANSON'S "GIFT" HAS BEEN SERVICE TO
PUBLIC

We all make decisions everyday based upon external signals and usually motivated by achieving specific goals. Much of life is about taking care of daily tasks and making plans for the future.

Then there are those whose path is determined from the inside. Their commitment is to serving and improving the lives of others. Usually these people are invisible in a community. They are the ones who work tirelessly in service professions, the healing arts and serving on countless committees. However, in times of crisis, these people make what is for them a difficult sacrifice, they assume public leadership positions.

For the past five years, such a public servant, Richard Johanson, has led the Fresno Business Council. When he was asked to assume this position he was bewildered. He could not understand why community leaders would turn to him to lead the organization. Time has made obvious what the wise among us already knew.

Fresno desperately needed to witness a new kind of leader, a community steward, someone who could inspire others to contribute their very highest talents to addressing a myriad of community problems.

SPECIAL TOUCH

It has been often asked how Dick does what he does. How does he take a table full of people who disagree and don't much like each other to come to consensus in less than an hour with hardly saying anything? Why have boards canceled or postponed meetings upon knowing Dick could not attend because they knew without him unproductive conflict would ensue. Why is it that Dick is the one everybody trusts?

I believe it is not about what he does at all; it is about who he is. His presence reminds us all of the noble impulses we would love to act upon, but so often choose to ignore in order to satisfy the desires of the

ego. Dick has been a role model simply by living his life according to his inner code of honor. In doing so, he has created a culture of stewardship within the Business Council that has begun to spread throughout the community.

Six years ago, the lack of civility was painfully obvious in the public arena. Today, those in the public affairs community are learning one of the responsibilities of public service is to be positive role models. Five years ago, the different sectors of the community operated in internal and external vacuums, often in competition with one another. Today, seeking collaborative partners is becoming the norm.

Four years ago, expecting merit-based decisions was considered naive. Today, seeking the views of all the stakeholders and deliberating on the merits of an issue is becoming the new standard for decision-making.

Three years ago, an expectation of excellence was seen as a criticism in a community defending the status quo. Today, the Center for Advanced Research and Technology, which Dick chairs, is a national example of excellence and the process of its creation has inspired people throughout the Valley to dream new dreams fully expecting fruition.

UNIQUE ROLE

While certainly many people have had a hand in the steady transformation of the Fresno area, Dick has played a unique and essential role. His ability to love, to care so deeply about his community and everyone who lives here, has melted the hearts and loosened the resources of everyone who is needed to help create a healthier and more prosperous home for us all.

As Dick steps down as president of the Business Council and passes the new leadership mantle to Ken Newby, it is the appropriate time to publicly thank him for the gift of himself.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Richard "Dick" Johanson for his years of dedicated and distinguished service to his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Johanson many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BILLY D. HARBIN
OF MADISON COUNTY, AL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has served Madison County for 30 years, Mr. Billy Harbin. I would like to recognize the outstanding contributions of Mr. Harbin to our community and to the Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit of Alabama.

Mr. Harbin's roots are deep within North Alabama. After growing up in Huntsville and graduating from Hazel Green High School, Mr. Harbin played basketball and baseball on scholarship at the University of North Alabama in Florence. After serving the Army on active duty between 1956-58, Mr. Harbin went to work with them at Redstone Arsenal as an instructor with the Ordnance Guided Missile School and Missile Munitions Center and School. Mr. Harbin's love for his country found a different path when he first ran for Circuit Clerk in 1970. His commitment to justice and efficiency were recognized by the people he