

# 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.