

Locally, Mr. Parker serves on the advisory board of the South Johnston High School Board of Education, serves as Four Oaks mayor pro-tem and town commissioner, third term; and serves as chairman of the Johnston County Tourism Authority. He has served as president of the Four Oaks Chamber of Commerce; chairman of the Tourism Authority's Finance Committee; and on the I-40 Study Commission. He was named the Four Oaks Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 1992 and given the Four Oaks Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Service Award also in 1992.

It was his activity in the Jaycees at an early age that began his interest in town and State affairs. It is especially notable that he led the chamber of commerce in benefits for underprivileged and needy people. Through his leadership and efforts \$10,000 was raised to help cover hospital bills for an out-of-state person who had a terrible accident in the county.

Statewide, Mr. Parker serves on the Critical Needs Commission appointed by the speaker of the House. This committee allocates money to local school districts which do not have the resources for school construction. He has served as president of the I-40 Association; and as a member of the Local Government Commission and Education Study Commission—both appointed by the Governor. He was given the North Carolina Jaycee's Outstanding Male Civic Award in 1973 and the Hardbarger Business College Outstanding Accounting and Business Administration Award in 1969.

Perhaps most important, Linwood Parker has shown what an individual with hard work, determination, entrepreneurial skill, and faith in our free enterprise system, can accomplish. His White Swan Barbecue Restaurants are known throughout east central North Carolina for their excellence and service. White Swan Restaurants can now be found in Smithfield and Princeton, NC. And Linwood hopes to franchise his restaurant in other towns in eastern North Carolina. He provides both jobs and opportunity for others as well as notable service and food.

Linwood Parker has made and continues to make a major contribution in the area. I am proud of him and happy to pay this special tribute. Congratulations Linwood.

PRINCIPAL IS STAYING PUT,  
THANK YOU

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, George Perry has dedicated 37 years of his life to school children in East Tennessee. His tremendous devotion to duty and service to others was recognized recently in an article I read in the Knoxville News-Sentinel.

Because we need many more educators like George Perry, I wanted to call this article to the attention of my colleagues and to other readers of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PRINCIPAL IS STAYING PUT, THANK-YOU

(By Elizabeth A. Pooley)

"School Days, School Days, good old golden rule days . . ." sang Doreen "Dody" Perry to her children every year on the open-

ing day of school. Little Georgie Perry heeded the wake-up call and proceeded to go to school, in one form or another, for the next 55 years—and he's still going.

"From a family that was so musically inclined, my mother couldn't carry a tune in a bucket. I guess you could say that I hold some kind of record among Knox County School administrators, 27 years in the same position. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. I wouldn't care to be anywhere else," said George Perry, principal of Cedar Bluff Middle School in West Knoxville.

With compassionate eyes, a spontaneous sense of humor and the ability to make everyone aware of their own identity and contribution, Perry oversees multiple projects and business-related concerns while speaking with the multitude who pop into the office for just a "minute" of his time. His desk phone is rarely silent and a crisis situation can present itself at any time.

Perry appears much younger than his 60 years and only recently cut back on his 60-hour work week when he retired as part-time music director at Parkway Baptist Church. A practicing Christian since childhood, Perry well remembers when reading passages from the Bible was an accepted part of the school curriculum, a form of literature.

"Today we hear, you are entitled to your religion, but just don't mention it. The courts have made rules and we have to follow them. We can teach scientific theory and psychology. I do feel that the schools are getting a bum rap from evangelists who say we are Godless and atheistic. We have to follow the mandates and keep in mind that we are living in a more cosmopolitan world. The students these days come from all over the world with different religious backgrounds," said Perry.

An educator of 37 years, Perry was born a Depression child. "If there hadn't been a depression, we had our own private one going on at home," he said.

Following graduation from Mars Hill College, Perry obtained his bachelor's degree in sociology and science from Carson-Newman. His work history began in 1958 as a cookware salesman in Morristown. An odd set of circumstances led him into teaching.

"I was passing by the music room at Morristown High School one day when I heard an announcement that there wouldn't be any class that day and all the students would be directed to study hall. I volunteered to conduct the class and was then asked to become a substitute teacher at the school for \$8 a day. I quit my job selling pots and pans," said Perry.

Following 10 years as assistant principal, Perry then went to Clinton High School as principal for one year. He took over as principal of Cedar Bluff Middle School in 1969.

"I don't dread coming to work. I can remember back in the 1960s when I was making \$6,000 a year, I was offered a job in the insurance industry for \$20,000 a year. I thought about it and realized I didn't want to sentence myself with a job I didn't like," said Perry.

Perry believes that if a student can leave Cedar Bluff Middle School and be able to make responsible decisions and live with them, he/she is well educated.

Too often he sees parents who are unwilling to accept that "their" child may have a problem in school. "They are setting themselves up for problems down the road and crippling the child's ability to make correct decisions. I once had a student here in my office who told me his father could take care of me. We're very fortunate here; the vast majority of students don't cause any problems," said Perry.

Perry's walls are full of awards, citations, certificates and a letter of appreciation from

the late Danny Thomas, founder of St. Jude's Children's Hospital. In the letter, Thomas commends Perry and the students' record-setting fund-raising efforts. He refers to Perry as giving more of himself to children than just books and school work. "You are teaching them the meaning of good deeds by personal example," Thomas writes.

Married for 40 years to his wife, Doris, a secretary at Powell Elementary, Perry takes extreme pride in three children: Chuck, Georgeann and Melody. The Perrys have one grandchild, 15-year-old Matthew.

Leaving his longtime position may be an option for Perry in another five years. Over the span of his teaching career he has accumulated 245 sick days, a year's sick leave which he has the option to apply toward an earlier retirement. In the meantime he will continue to enjoy his students, whom he says are old enough to reason with and still be cute.

His personal/family life may be summed up by an office wall hanging: "The best gift you can give your children is to love their mother." Perry's attitude regarding his career is best exemplified by the cross-stitched utterings of a frog near his desk: "I'm So Happy, I Could Croak!"

UNITED NATIONS ADDRESS BY  
PRESIDENT RAKHMONOV

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of serving as one of the President's special representatives to the United Nations General Assembly during this, the United Nations' 50th anniversary.

On October 24 some 180 heads of state attended the U.N. session. It was the largest convocation of world leaders in history and I shall remember it always.

While we heard speeches from President Clinton, President Yeltsin, Prime Minister Major, and other leaders of the major world powers, we also heard from leaders of the world's newest independent nations.

One was President Emomili Rakhmonov of Tajikistan, who particularly impressed me. His speech was one of the best statements on global affairs and his wise words should be read by all Members of the House.

Having just received the official text of this speech, today I am inserting President Rakhmonov's United Nations speech into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

In the post-cold-war era, the bright star of freedom, democracy, and peace is beckoning to people around the globe. They, and we, are fortunate that leaders such as President Rakhmonov are emerging to help us reach that noblest of goals: a peaceful world.

Esteemed Mr. Chairman, Esteemed Mr. Secretary General, Esteemed Delegates, Ladies and gentlemen: It is with a special feeling that we speak from this podium at a time marking 50 years since the inception of the organization, whose emblem is a symbol for peace, equality and cooperation. These highest moral values serve as a guiding light for the whole international community. Step by step, as we ascend toward them, we uncover not only new political horizons, but also new hopes. They are illuminated by the grandeur of the enormously difficult and important path, on which the United Nations has been and is seeking the unity of mankind.