

After almost 100 years, Mrs. Tompkins says she would not change a thing about her life if she had to live it over. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she said, "Work hard and go to church." She says the best thing about growing older is all of the memories from years past.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Georgia Tompkins today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has and the ability to live and love as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of family and friends.

CONGRATULATING THE GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LEOPARDS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the Gainesville Leopards for winning the Class 3A Division I state football championship on December 13, 2003.

The Leopards' marquee season was one for the record books. The team finished the season with a perfect 15-0 record, becoming the first Gainesville High School team to ever win a state football championship. They achieved this victory by defeating the No. 1-ranked Burnet High School Bulldogs—a team that boasted the state's top passer and receiver. Led by first-year coach Jeff Cordell, the Leopards fought off a formidable team with a blistering offense to win the game by a score of 35-24.

The game was punctuated by Gainesville's impressive rushing offense. Running back Terrius Purvey led the team with 26 carries for 232 yards, and quarterback Chris Brown scored two touchdowns late in the game. But the win was a team effort, as it had been throughout the season. The 22 seniors, 5 juniors, and 6 sophomores followed the lead of the 11 Leopard's coaches and overcame a season of challenges.

For the town of Gainesville, Texas, the mighty Leopard team brought the community together like never before. After a special sendoff in Gainesville, fans from all over north Texas traveled to Texas Stadium to cheer on the team. A supportive community that proudly displayed Leopard car flags and victory messages backed the united varsity team. On behalf of the players, coaches, and fans, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to congratulate the new state champions—The Gainesville Leopards.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF PERRY B. DURYEA, JR., FORMER SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Perry B. Duryea, Jr., the former Speaker of the New York State Assembly and a lifelong resident of New York's First

Congressional District, who tragically lost his life last week after having sustained injuries from an auto accident near his Montauk home. Mr. Duryea was an outstanding public servant, successful businessman, and World War II veteran who dutifully served the people of Long Island and the State of New York with distinction for more than four decades.

Perry Duryea began what would become a legendary state political career in his hometown of Montauk, New York, having served as a member of the Montauk Public Board of Education and as president of the Long Island State Park Commission. He was first elected to represent the First Assembly District of the New York State Legislature in 1960, and remained a member of the body until 1978. During his time in the legislature, Mr. Duryea held the post of Minority Leader for 6 years and Speaker of the Assembly for 4 years. Although he was a leader of the Republican party's conservative wing, Mr. Duryea was known for his pragmatic bipartisanship, as he forged strong relationships with members from across the aisle and often supported legislative measures that were unpopular within his own party. Among his most noteworthy achievements was legislation that he initiated and passed to expand the state parks and the state university system. He also championed construction of the Long Island Expressway and the Sunrise Highway extension, and worked hard to promote environmental protection measures. Those who knew Perry Duryea remember him as an extraordinary leader who elevated the status of the New York legislature.

A prominent businessman within his Montauk community, Mr. Duryea also devoted much of his time to various community and civic endeavors which improved the lives of Long Island residents. Born and raised in Montauk New York, Perry Duryea took over the family wholesale seafood business, Perry Duryea & Son, after completing his service as a plane commander with the United States Naval Transport Service during World War II. After leaving politics following an unsuccessful bid for the governorship in 1978, Mr. Duryea returned to running his business and volunteering his time with numerous public and civic organizations, including Long Island Commercial Bank, where he served as Chairman of the Board.

In recognition of his many contributions and achievements, Mr. Duryea received numerous honors, including the distinction of "Man of the Year" by the Montauk Chamber of Commerce, and the naming of a state office building after him. Mr. Duryea is survived by his wife, Marie Therese Duryea, and two children—Lynne Duryea and Perry "Chip" Duryea III.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Throughout his exemplary career in public service, Mr. Duryea enhanced the quality of life for residents of Long Island and the State of New York. The spirit of bipartisanship with which he conducted his public life garnered him the respect of his peers and served to inspire future generations of community leaders. Mr. Duryea's leadership and strength of character are qualities each of us should aspire to embrace as we carry out our duties in this distinguished body.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN HENDRICKS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Christian "Chris" Hendricks, Deputy Inspector General of the House of Representatives will be retiring at the end of this year after a long and distinguished career in service to the United States government. His exemplary career spans twenty-seven years of service, including the last six years with the House of Representatives. Chris' considerable professional skills and credentials as a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, and Certified Information Systems Auditor have enabled him to assist the House of Representatives in achieving its present standards of safety, security and accountability.

Chris' duties within the Office of Inspector General have ranged from the analysis of the House's financial controls to careful analysis of emerging technologies. His efforts have contributed to improved administrative functions for the House and improved services and security for individual Members. He has worked to ensure fire safety improvements in House facilities and has been critical to assuring the integrity of the House's information technology systems.

Chris will be missed by all of his colleagues, but he can take great satisfaction in the many efforts of his career. Chris' advice and counsel on matters of significant importance to the House will be difficult to replace. I wish Chris and his wife Nancy a joyful and exciting retirement, and I congratulate him once again for his long and distinguished career of service.

HONORING ELSA F. ANDERSON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elsa F. Anderson, a resident of my fifth congressional district of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Elsa Anderson is a centenarian and at 102 she is a mother to 2, a grandmother to 2 grandchildren and a great-grandmother to 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Anderson was born in Stockholm, Sweden, but went to school in New York City. Following school, she worked as an assistant in a specialty shop, in an office and as a housewife. Obviously a dedicated mother, she describes her happiest moments as the births of her two daughters. To this day one of her favorite activities is spending time with them when they come to visit.

After 102 years, Mrs. Anderson says she wouldn't change a thing about her life—she says she enjoys everything she's been given. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she says, "Work hard, be honest, and be ready to enjoy good things." She says the best thing about growing older is that people respect you.

I respect that candor and I'm proud to be her representative in Congress.