

loans consolidated rounded up to the nearest whole percent.

This legislation is revenue neutral and the right thing to do. Incidentally, there are some bureaucrats at the Department of Education, or at the Office of Management and Budget, or at the White House, who will complain about the \$25 million cost of this legislation being paid by reducing the mandatory administrative funds for the direct loan program. I would remind them that students are suffering in the program they promoted with these funds, that obviously the money they have for administration has not been wisely spent to date, and that fixing this problem is the right thing to do.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support us in this effort, and to cosponsor the Emergency Student Loan Consolidation Act of 1997.

**SISTER HARRIET OF CORTLAND
NAMED NATIONAL DISTIN-
GUISHED PRINCIPAL**

HON. JAMES. T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sister Harriet L. Hamilton of Cortland, NY, on the occasion of being named one of the National Distinguished Principals for 1997.

Sister Harriet is principal of St. Mary's School in Cortland. She will be honored with the other recipients September 25 and 26 here in Washington at a ceremony sponsored by the nominators, the Private School Recipients Selection Committee.

Other honorees include representatives from each State, the District of Columbia, and the Departments of Defense and State overseas schools.

Sister Harriet is the kind of inspirational, loving educator who wears many hats. She is an administrator, cafeteria monitor, custodian, bookkeeper, medic, and counselor.

She responds nurturingly to students' hugs. On snowy days she is there to take calls from parents who want to know if school will be open. When parents cannot pick up their children at school, Sister Harriet drives them home.

Sister Harriet has a special gift for motivating volunteers. She is an educator, friend, civic leader, and a woman of great faith in God. I applaud the decision to award her this great honor. And I want to publicly state that Sister Harriet is the kind of selfless individual who makes America the great country it is.

**FORT SOUTHWEST POINT'S 200TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring the House's attention to the 200th year celebration of Fort Southwest Point, located in Kingston, TN, on Oct. 5, 1997.

Military activities at Southwest Point began in 1792 with the establishment of a block-

house post for territorial militia troops under the command of Gen. John Sevier who later became the first Governor of Tennessee. During the 1790's, most of the many settlers traveling to the Nashville area passed Southwest Point, and parties of such travelers were often accompanied along the Cumberland Road by guards supplied from the militia post.

Subsiding hostilities with the Indians contributed to a change in the role played by Southwest Point and by 1797 the militia had been replaced by Federal troops under the command of Lt. Col. Thomas Butler. From this point until the removal period, the Federal troops preserved the peace primarily by preventing illegal settlers on the remaining Cherokee lands. Fort Southwest Point's role in the peaceful coexistence with the Cherokees was enhanced in 1801 when Col. Return Jonathan Meigs was appointed to be military agent for Federal troops in Tennessee and principal agent to the Cherokee Nation.

In 1807 the garrison was removed farther into the Indian territory, and Fort Southwest Point served as a supply depot for other forts until about 1812.

Archeological work at this site began in 1974 when crews from the University of Tennessee began to uncover the site of the original fort. In 1984 a cooperative endeavor between the Department of Conservation and the city of Kingston, owner of the site, continued the investigation, and began to rebuild the fort on its original foundations. Now the fort is open as a museum staffed by city-employed agents and volunteers. Work continues on the research and rebuilding and many historically and militarily oriented events take place there. Currently celebrations are in order for the commemoration of Fort Southwest Point's 200th birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation which would adjust the rules for deducting military separation pay amounts from veterans' disability compensation.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997—Public Law 104-201—reduced the required offset by the amount of Federal income tax withheld from separation pay for payments received after September 30, 1996. My legislation would make the tax withholding provision retroactive to include all payments to those who were separated from the military after December 31, 1993.

This bill would reduce the offset between veterans' disability compensation and certain bonus payments for early retirement received by former members of the military services. It is important that we correct this inequity in the law that unfairly penalizes many of our Nation's veterans' who have served their country honorably.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

ABERDEEN, MD, VOTED AN ALL-AMERICAN CITY BY THE NATIONAL CIVIC LEAGUE

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege and honor to recognize a quiet town in the Second Congressional District that has been singled out for a tremendous honor.

The town of Aberdeen, MD, is probably best known for two things: being the home town of Cal Ripken, Jr., and the location of Aberdeen Proving Ground—one of the best military installations in the Nation. This summer, Aberdeen received another distinction that will bring it additional notoriety in the future: it was named 1 of 10 "All-American Cities" by the National Civic League.

Each year, NCL selects 10 American cities for this designation. As you can imagine, the competition for this honor is keen, routinely attracting applications from cities big and small across the United States. In 1997, 150 cities filed applications. Of these, just 30 were selected as finalists. The finalists traveled to Kansas City, MO where they made presentations to a panel of NCL judges.

Aberdeen was selected based upon a number of factors, particularly its innovative programs to help disadvantaged youth. Mayor Chuck Boutin and other Aberdeen city government officials are thrilled to have received this honor. On September 20, I had the honor of visiting Aberdeen and participating in a celebratory breakfast. I know the folks of Aberdeen will be celebrating for months to come, just the way they did when their town's favorite son became the "Iron Man" of baseball. I look forward to joining them in their revelry.

Mr. Speaker, every town would like to think of itself as an "All-American City," but only a precious few have earned this designation. Aberdeen is one of them. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating the good folks of Aberdeen during this special time.

TRIBUTE TO STANLEY M. UMEDA

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Sacramento community, Mr. Stanley M. Umeda. Today, Mr. Umeda's many friends and colleagues are gathered to commemorate his 40 years of exemplary service to the State of California and the Sacramento County Welfare Department.

A graduate of California State University, Sacramento, Mr. Umeda has forged a long and distinguished career in the fields of social work and mental health. His service in the public sector dates back to 1955, when, as an undergraduate at Sacramento State University, Mr. Umeda worked for the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Upon completing his education with a master of social work degree in 1966, Mr. Umeda continued his State service as a psychiatric social worker in the California Department of

Social Welfare. In that capacity, Mr. Umeda provided invaluable support and guidance to State hospital convalescent patients and their families.

From 1969 until 1973, Mr. Umeda administered all phases of local mental health services for his assigned region as a Community program analyst with the California State Department of Mental Hygiene. In this role, he designed programs and budgets for a variety of local mental health services.

As the executive secretary of the Conference of Local Health Officers, the Conference of Local Mental Health Directors, and the Citizens Advisory Council from 1973 until 1976, Mr. Umeda worked on the coordination of staff services for these organizations. He also assisted in the formulation of important regulatory changes in the California Administrative Code.

Mr. Umeda's State service continued when he was appointed chief of the Office of Advisory Liaison within the California State Department of Health in 1976. For the next 2 years, he played a key role in coordinating health advice emanating from a wide variety of advisory boards and conferences to the Department of Health. Mr. Umeda fulfilled similar duties within the Department of Mental Health until 1979.

BUDDY ROTHSTEIN TRIBUTE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a community leader and close personal friend from my district in Pennsylvania, Alvin "Buddy" Rothstein. This week, Buddy will be honored by the Ethics Institute of northeastern Pennsylvania, and I am proud to have been asked to participate in this event.

A businessman in the northeastern Pennsylvania community for over 50 years, Buddy graduated from Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. Serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, Buddy was shot down four times during World War II. Following his tour of duty, Buddy returned home to begin a soft drink manufacturing and distributing company in 1945.

His business flourished, and he expanded to the ice cream franchise business covering 31 States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. In 1963, Buddy began Rothstein Inc., a realty company and Rothstein Construction, Inc., a development company, both of which he operates to this day.

Mr. Speaker, Buddy Rothstein's business accomplishments are well known in our area; his community involvement is also to be highly commended. He is extremely active in Rotary International, chairing several important committees and served as president of Wilkes-Barre Rotary from 1988-89.

Buddy also sits on the executive committee of B'nai B'rith Housing for the elderly. Buddy has also been president of the Wilkes-Barre Board of Realtors. He has served the local Jewish community by being involved with several organizations. Along with his service to the Jewish Community, Buddy has also been involved with the Economic Development Council of northeastern Pennsylvania. His love

for and dedication to improving the quality of life for the people of northeastern Pennsylvania are evident in everything he does, and we are, indeed, fortunate to have him as a member of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with the community and the Ethics Institute in honoring my good friend, Mr. Alvin "Buddy" Rothstein, and I am extremely proud to bring just a few of his many accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues.

IN RECOGNITION OF MABEL ZIRKLE AND JOHN IRVIN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, there's a special event held every year in the Shenandoah Valley town of Edinburg where friends and neighbors get together to celebrate the good things about living in small town America. And every year the Edinburg Ole Time Festival dedicates its celebration to memorable people from their community.

I want to share with our colleagues an article from the Shenandoah Valley-Herald of September 17 which honors two of Edinburg's finest citizens: the late Mabel Zirkle and the late John Irvin. Mrs. Zirkle and Mr. Irvin both passed away earlier this year, but their legacies live on in the foundations they laid to make their native Edinburg a better place. It is a fitting tribute that the annual Edinburg Ole Time Festival honored their years of dedication to their hometown.

[From the Shenandoah Valley-Herald, Sept. 17, 1997]

FESTIVAL HONORS ZIRKLE, IRVIN FOR DEDICATION TO TOWN
(By Lisa G. Currie)

For the past two years the Edinburg Ole Time Festival has dedicated the annual weekend celebration to memorable people from their community.

Last year, the late Louise Evans and the late Milt Hoffman received the honor.

Evans was a local artist who created the art show which remains part of the festival today. Dedicated to teaching and art for art's sake, Evans is remembered as the beloved and faithful art teacher who offered adult classes for years.

Hoffman was a Woodstock citizen with Edinburg roots. His Edinburg-based Christmas tree farm was one of the first in the county and his "Jackson Stew" was a favorite during Edinburg Ole Time Festival events. Hoffman is remembered as the flavor and character of the annual festival.

This year, the committee has selected two long-time and well-loved community members for dedication—the late Mabel Zirkle and the late John Irvin.

Zirkle, selected to be the 1995 grand marshal at age 100, lived in her family home next door to the former Edinburg Middle School.

She watched, listened and participated as a century of events changed Edinburg from a one-horse town to a thriving community adjacent to a major interstate highway.

She was the symbol of small town Edinburg—a familiar face among the people. She taught school at Pine Woods School, a one-room schoolhouse in town at the turn of the century. She was active in her church and concerned about the welfare of her community.

Her daughter Rosemary McDonald said her mother would be very pleased at the honor bestowed in her memory.

She remembers her mother as being very concerned about her Edinburg homeplace, dedicated to making it a better place.

"She would love this," said her daughter of the dedication.

McDonald said while her mother would be honored, Zirkle balked at being in the center of attention and was hesitant to step forward—even when she deserved the credit.

Zirkle was born Mabel Stoneburner, the middle child of Rosa Grandstaff and Robert Edward Lee Stoneburner. At one time she was the oldest living native in Edinburg, a town she grew up in and lived as a young adult.

It was the same town she grew old in, enjoying the views from her window as the town continued to change.

She lived to be 101 years old, dying May 26, 1997.

Sharing the honor with Zirkle is John Irvin.

Irvin was a man who helped prepare Edinburg for the next century while paying attention to the past.

President and owner of Irvin Inc., Irvin will long be remembered in Edinburg for his loyalty and perseverance concerning the town.

He was a man with a smile, known to most everyone in the community. He is remembered as one willing to fight for what he wanted.

Irvin was well-versed on local history, enjoying the debate of historical and controversial issues for debate sake. He kept abreast of community issues, always maintaining a smile and working for an outcome which best suited the community.

He helped establish and support the former Edinburg Library. He was instrumental in establishing the Madison District Recreation Authority and the Edinburg park and swimming pool which are in place today.

He played an active role in the development of the town museum and served on both the planning commission and the town council.

An Edinburg native, Irvin is the second son of Mary Grove and the late George Robert Irvin. He grew up in Edinburg, leaving only long enough to obtain an education and serve in the United States Navy. He returned to teach school and work in the family business, where he was later made president.

When he died in April, his funeral drew a crowd unprecedented for the Edinburg community.

"I know he would be proud," said his mother Mary Grove Irvin. She was the 1996 Grand Marshal, riding in the parade in a horse drawn carriage.

She said her son loved the festival, always taking time to visit the stands and watch the parade.

"He would have been very honored," she said.

TRIBUTE TO SIR JOHN KERR

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 1997

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to Sir John Kerr, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the United States, who will be departing soon to assume the post as the new Permanent Under Secretary of State and head of the diplomatic service—the top official at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.