

to the 10-year limitation is defaulted student loans owed to the U.S. Department of Education. This legislation would bring all other types of debt in line with the requirements for repaying student loans.

The U.S. government should have the ability to collect each and every debt. This money belongs to the taxpayers. No one should be able to avoid responsibility simply by waiting for an arbitrary time limit to expire. In times of tightening budgets, we cannot afford to allow delinquent debtors to shift their burdens onto taxpayers.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF RETIRED SGT. MAJOR  
BENITO V. GUERRERO

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize retired Sergeant Major Benito V. Guerrero and his many years of service in our United States Army.

Mr. Guerrero was born north of New Braunfels, Texas on April 3, 1935. He began his military career very early as the Advisory President of his Junior ROTC Program at Jefferson High School in San Antonio, Texas.

Upon graduating high school, Guerrero joined the army in 1956. By 1959 Mr. Guerrero's airborne unit was deployed to Germany and became part of the 8th Infantry Division. Because Mr. Guerrero graduated in the top ten percent of his class at the 7th U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy, he was selected to attend the Federal Republic of Germany Airborne School in 1962.

Throughout his many years of service Mr. Guerrero has served all over the world and has received such awards as the Purple Heart with 1st Oak Leaf Clusters, the Meritorious Service Award, the National Defense Medal, and the Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer Award, just to name a few.

Retired Sergeant Major Benito V. Guerrero retired from the United States Army after over 30 years of honorable service to our Country. He is the epitome of dedication and professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this opportunity to recognize the many achievements and service of Retired Sergeant Major Benito V. Guerrero.

A TRIBUTE TO LOUISE WILSON  
LEWIS, 29TH CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE  
YEAR—2005

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during the month of March. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District.

I would like to recognize an outstanding woman in my Congressional District, Louise Wilson Lewis. For many years, Louise has brought an abounding spirit and energy to her service in the community. Those fortunate enough to meet and work with Louise instantly recognize her dedication toward helping others.

Born and raised in the Glendale area, Louise worked at Walt Disney Studios for 14 years until she cofounded Iwerks Entertainment. She was able to retire at an early age, which gave her more time to devote to her real career—helping other people.

Louise's description of herself as a "professional volunteer" is an apt one. She began her volunteer career while in elementary school as a math and reading tutor, and an assistant in the Vice Principal's office. At age 12, she started teaching Sunday School and continues to do so today. At age 16, Louise began volunteering as a candy striper at Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center. This year she is celebrating 42 years of continuous service, having served several terms as President of the hospital's Guild, on the hospital's Community Board of Directors, and is the first woman to chair the hospital's Foundation Board. In addition, she served 2 terms as President of the San Gabriel Area Council of Hospital Volunteers and 2 years on the Volunteer Board of the California Association of Hospitals and Health Systems. Louise also volunteers for Las Candelas, an organization which assists emotionally disturbed children.

Devoted to her church, St. Francis Episcopal Church, Louise has volunteered in every volunteer capacity—the Altar Guild, the Thrift Shop, Girl's Youth Group, Vacation Bible School, Rose Garden, Junior Warden and Senior Warden and is currently Bishop's Warden. She is also a Lay Eucharist Minister, a Stephen Minister, and in her spare time visits shut-ins and the elderly in retirement homes and convalescent hospitals.

Louise has received several awards over the years including the First Volunteer at Glendale Memorial Hospital to serve 500 hours at age 17, Uni-Health Hospital System Volunteer of the Year in 1997, recognition from the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, and the Glendale Young Women's Christian Association Woman of Heart and Excellence in 2004.

During the last few years, Louise has managed to maintain her active volunteer work while battling cancer. Her courage and determination is an inspiration to us all. Louise and her husband Tim have been married for 32 years and reside in Glendale.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Louise Wilson Lewis. The entire community joins me in thanking Louise for her success and continued efforts toward making the 29th Congressional District a more enjoyable place in which to live and work.

CONGRATULATING CANISIUS COLLEGE  
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL  
TEAM

**HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Canisius College Golden Griffins Women's Basketball Team on winning the 2005 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Tournament on March 7, 2005. Their win over Marist College gives the "Griffs" its first-ever MAAC Championship and their first bid to the Division I NCAA Tournament.

The "Griffs" have had a truly remarkable season. After narrowly missing out on the MAAC Championship last season, Canisius capped their first 20-win season with a nail-biter in the MAAC Championship game. Their victory, like their entire season, was exemplified by a total-team effort. In the biggest game of her career, Becky Zak scored 12 points, three assists and two steals, and was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Megan Lyte tallied 10 points and 11 rebounds, her seventh double-double of the season, and Jessie Lamparski registered 11 points, six boards, five assists and three steals. Jessica Steeves posted eight points, five rebounds and a blocked shot en route to joining Zak on the all-tournament accolades.

The accomplishment of the Canisius College Golden Griffins Women's Basketball team demonstrates the profound impact that Title IX has had on increasing opportunities in sports for women and girls. Title IX, part of the Education Amendments of 1972, required that public schools and colleges provide equal educational and athletic opportunities for girls and women. It has unquestionably been a tremendous factor in the lives of the talented members of this team.

It is important for girls and women to have every opportunity to succeed, especially when it comes to athletics. That is why I have introduced H.R. 595, the High School Athletics Accountability Act. This bill will require schools to report to the Department of Education basic data on the number of female and male students in their athletic programs and the expenditures made for their sports teams. Currently, high schools are not required to disclose any data on equity in sports, making it difficult for schools and parents to ensure fairness in athletics programs. Better information can help high schools and parents of schoolchildren foster fairness in athletic opportunities for girls and boys.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot be prouder of the Canisius Women's Basketball team. I especially want to applaud coach Terry Zeh. As a first year coach, he demands accountability from his players both on and off the court, and is a strong role model for the entire college community. I wish to also commend college president Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J., the coaching staff and players, and the student body for this Championship season. These women continue to be role models for young girls, and their wonderful accomplishment will inspire more girls to increase participation in athletics. I will be eagerly watching the team's first round game in the NCAA tournament as they proudly represent Canisius College on the national stage.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR ADRIAN ROGERS

**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay well deserved tribute to one of the great religious leaders of our time, Pastor Adrian Rogers of Tennessee.

In the words of Billy Graham, "We need for ministers of the Gospel to defend the Bible as the infallible Word of God . . . I believe in my heart that Adrian Rogers is such a man. I know him personally. I have walked with him and prayed with him . . . I know God's hand is upon Adrian Rogers as he proclaims the Bread of Life from his church and through radio and television . . . I praise God for his ministry."

These comments echo the sentiment of millions who've been touched and inspired by the life-changing ministry of Pastor Rogers. The high regard in which he is held translated to his three elections as President of the Southern Baptist Convention—the world's largest Protestant denomination with 16 million members. With a passion and gift for applying the gospel message to everyday life, he has also shared the "good news" as a noted author with scores of books and instructional material to his credit; as a featured speaker at a number of historic conferences and international crusades; and as the founder and broadcaster with Love Worth Finding ministries which is played on over 14,000 broadcast and cable television outlets, on nearly 2000 radio stations and in more than 150 countries worldwide.

With all that he has given to people across the nation and the world, Adrian Rogers has etched a special place in Tennessee and Mid-South history as the pastor of the renowned Bellevue Baptist Church. Founded in 1903 in a small chapel on the "outskirts of Memphis, Tennessee," Bellevue Baptist Church was in 1972 already a significant pillar in the religious community with a membership of approximately 9,000 persons. In this year, however, the entrance of Pastor Rogers and his wife, Joyce, served as a milestone in Bellevue's history. From this new beginning, the congregation grew from 9,000 to 29,000 members and expanded to a campus and multifaceted ministries that now stand as a model for houses of worship worldwide.

Through the growth and success, Pastor Rogers gives all credit to God saying that "Bellevue is what she is because of the love of Jesus. . . . Jesus is the glue that holds Bellevue together." These words are particularly significant as Adrian Rogers makes his transition from active Pastor to Pastor Emeritus of this great ministry.

For his humility and his worthy example of all that faith should represent, I would ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives would join with me in honoring a servant of God and a friend to humanity—Pastor Adrian Rogers.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICA'S BLOOD CENTERS

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of America's Blood Centers. At this moment, someone in America is in vital need of a life-saving blood transfusion. Donated blood is needed every two seconds across the nation. Today, American's will use thirty thousand units of donated blood. One out of seven hospital patients will require blood transfusions. One out of three people in this chamber will need donated blood at least once in their lifetime. Technological and scientific advancements in the medical field continue to rapidly develop, but there remains no substitution for the blood transfusion. Blood cannot be manufactured nor reproduced. This life sustaining substance can only be transfused from one person to another. Life-saving blood remains a gift from one person to the rest of society. Through blood donations we help each other to survive and overcome medical hardships. Blood donations connect and unify us as a people who care.

Today I stand to recognize America's Blood Centers, our nation's largest not-for-profit, community-based network of blood centers that keep on giving the gift of life. America's Blood Centers, founded in 1962, has grown to include seventy-two independent, community owned blood centers, which collect nearly half of the nation's blood supply. This June marks 10 years that Southwest Missouri's own Community Blood Center of the Ozarks has been providing blood to all Seventh District hospitals under the national guidance of America's Blood Centers. America's Blood Centers operate more than 600 collection sites that give the gift of blood to more than 150 million people and more than 3,300 U.S. hospitals. Not only do America's Blood Centers give blood, but they also ensure that their gift is safe and adequate by developing new tests and technologies as well as actively engaging in biomedical research in the area of transfusion medicine. Members of America's Blood Centers ardently work together to share resources and best practices, rising to meet increased national blood supply needs in times of peace, in times of war and in times of disaster. America's Blood Centers were the first to respond to the Oklahoma City bombing, Columbine shootings, and 9/11, and have since worked with the Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services to ensure adequate blood supply and rapid response in times of national disaster or acts of terrorism.

Additionally, America's Blood Centers continue to support U.S. military operations around the globe. Together the centers promote donor recruitment and societal awareness of blood donations as a top priority, working to guarantee that America will have the blood it needs to continue to live and thrive. I recognize and commend America's Blood Centers on transfusing life into our nation whenever and wherever needed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, during roll call vote number 74 on H.R. 1268, I mistakenly recorded my vote as "no" when I should have voted "yes." I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the record immediately following roll call vote number 74.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

**HON. RICHARD W. POMBO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today, along with my colleagues WAYNE GILCHREST and NORM DICKS, legislation to reauthorize the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was established in 1984 when President Ronald Reagan signed into law legislation introduced by then Congressman John Breaux. Since that time, the foundation has financed more than 7,200 conservation projects both here in the United States and throughout the world. By leveraging a small amount of Federal assistance each year, they have been able to successfully raise millions of private dollars which have been spent to encourage Coral Reef conservation, enact an early warning system for invasive species, support oyster restoration in the Chesapeake Bay, help save endangered wild tigers and assist in the conservation of habitat critical for endangered marine sea turtles.

The foundation is governed by a board of directors consisting of 25 Americans who are dedicated to conservation. These distinguished men and women serve without compensation. In addition, the foundation is prohibited from using any Federal money to pay administrative expenses and both the foundation and its grantees may not use any Federal dollars to engage in litigation or lobbying activities.

In my own State of California, the foundation has approved hundreds of conservation projects. These projects have included: California Rangeland Trust, California Saltwater Wetlands Habitat restoration, California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance, Point San Luis Lighthouse improvements, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and Upper Sacramento River Riparian restoration.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act is a simple, bipartisan and non-controversial bill. It will extend the existing authorization levels for an additional 5 years, clarify the requirement that Congress must be given a 30-day congressional notice requirement prior to the issuance of any conservation grant or expenditure of funds and modify the matching requirement to ensure that the foundation is not required to satisfy this provision in those cases where it does not receive any contributions.