conscience of the Holocaust, who la-

bored heroically for decades to make
certain that history will not forget that
nightmare nor let its perpetrators escape
justice.

He did it, as he said, not just for Hol-

cia victims like himself, but for his

grandchildren, for if one generation’s

criminals go unpunished, their de-
sendants will conclude that they too
can get away with murder.

Simon Wiesenthal was also a per-

sonal friend. He inspired my wife, An-

nette, to gain recognition for another giant of righteousness,

Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish dip-

lomat who saved the lives of tens of

thousands of Hungarian Jews during the Nazi era.

Annette and I will miss our visits

with Simon Wiesenthal, but he has left

us a proud legacy through his vigi-
lance, bravery, and commitment to jus-
tice.

REBUILDING THE RIGHT WAY

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given per-

mission to address the House for 1

minute.)

Mr. DELAY. Madam Speaker, last

week President Bush spoke to the Na-

tion from Jackson Square, New Orleans

about his plans for the relief, recovery,

and rebuilding of the Gulf Coast region

and residents.

"There is no way to imagine America

without New Orleans," he said. And

there is no way to imagine the nec-

essary recovery effort without the

leadership and support of the Federal

Government. Every dime that has been

appropriated and every dime that will

be appropriated from the Federal

Treasury to the people of the Gulf Coast
has come from the votes of the House of

Representatives, and we are honored
to have that opportunity.

And with this opportunity, Madam

Speaker, comes a great responsibility
to make sure that the money comes

from and goes to the right places. Com-

mittees are already at work developing

oversight plans for the Hurricane

Katrina relief money, as are inspector

general offices across the Federal Gov-

ernment.

Funds will be needed to rescue cer-

tain communities in Louisiana and

Mississippi and we will have a moral

and physical obligation to ensure it
gets spent on the right priorities.

But just as important as our duty to

ensure the money goes to the right

places is our duty to ensure the money

comes from the right places. Even be-

fore the levees were fixed and the flood

waters started to recede, many voices

were calling for massive tax increases
to pay for the recovery effort.

Of course, most of these voices were
calling for massive tax increases long
before Katrina ever showed up on the

Doppler radar. Since Ronald Reagan first asked Congress to lower

them. The so-called Katrina tax hikes are not about Katrina, they are about

tax hikes, and will only serve to bal-

loon the oversized, underresponsive en-

ergy management system that broke
down 3 weeks ago in the wake of the

hurricane.

The gulf coast region is today with-

out an economy, without jobs or busi-

nesses or investment. Raising taxes

will only serve as a hindrance to any

of those things, but will instead guarantee

that the region’s economic troubles spread
to the rest of the country. We cannot

allow that, and the President has al-

ready said he will not.

The challenge, then, to both sides of

the aisle, is to find a way to pay for the

recovery and rebuilding of New Orleans

and the rest of the Gulf coast without

the tax hikes or without wasteful

spending that we cannot afford.

WE NEED TO ROLL BACK THE TAX

CUTS AND DEVELOP AN EXIT

STRATEGY TO GET OUT OF IRAQ

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given

permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his

remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I

want to agree with my good friend

from Texas (Mr. Delay) that we need
to do everything we can to avoid any

tax hikes.

However, I think all Americans

would expect that the top 1 percent

of the income earners in this country,

who receive most of the benefit from

the administration’s tax cuts, should

have to give up some of their tax
cuts in order to relieve the burden on

the people in the gulf coast. It is only fair.

America can meet its responsibilities,

but we are going to have to roll back

those tax breaks that were given to

the wealthiest Americans in order to

help them with the recovery.

We can also save money by planning

an exit strategy out of Iraq. Wherever

I go in my district, people say, get us

out of Iraq. Well, it is time for us to

have an exit strategy. That is what

House Joint Resolution 55 is about, a

bipartisan exit strategy.

We can do things to have the re-

sources to take care of people in the

gulf. But we first have to get out of the

Persian Gulf. And we also have to get

out of this thinking that says that tax
cuts are somehow the way to economic

recovery.

PROGRESS IN THE GLOBAL WAR

ON TERROR

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina

asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to re-

vise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON. Madam Speaker, Sun-

day’s elections in Afghanistan are an

other example of progress in the global

war on terror.

Millions of Afghans bravely defied

terrorists, just as Iraqi voters did in

January when they cast their ballots in

the first free parliamentary elec-

tions in history. They are developing a

civil society which will prevent the

spread of terrorism and help protect

American families. Due to the strong

resolve of President Bush and our

troops, a spirit of freedom and democ-

racy are spreading throughout the

world.

Libya has terminated its nuclear

weapons programs. Lebanon has re-

sumed its democracy with the with-

drawal of Syria. Indonesia has had its

first free presidential elections. Egypt

began multi-candidate elections. Paki-

stan has strengthened its ability to

stop cross-border terrorism, and Ku-

wait now allows women to vote. Free

elections in Ukraine.

Recently, leading terrorists were

killed or captured in Algeria, Saudi

Arabia, and even here in California.

Over 20 years ago, Ronald Reagan ad-

vanced the idea of peace through

strength. As we now witness the great-

breakthroughs in the war on terrorism

in the world, his vision is reality.

In conclusion, God bless our troops,

and we will never forget September 11.

SUCCESS OF THE TEXAS MEDICAL

LIABILITY TRUST

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given

permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his

remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, just

a little over 2 years ago Texas passed a

constitutional amendment that al-

lowed for caps on noneconomic dam-

ages in medical liability lawsuits.

And what has been the experience in Texas

over those 2 years?

Well, we have seen insurance and
doctors come back to the state. Texas

gone from 17 down to two medical

insurance companies, and now they are

back up to 12. Not-for-profit hospitals

have seen significant increases in the

money that they are now able to invest

in plants and equipment, money that

otherwise would have gone for their

self-insurance programs.

And perhaps most importantly, the

rates of liability insurance for Texas

doctors has come down. Texas Medical

Liability Trust has reduced rates three
times since the passage of House bill 4

and proposition 12, 12 percent in 2004, 5

percent in 2005, and now a recently

announced 5 percent decrease in 2006, and,
coupled with that, a 5 percent dividend

rebate. So that now there is a total of

27 percent insurance savings for Texas

doctors in medical liability.

Speaking to physicians of the Texas

Medical Association just last weekend,

Dr. Dennis Factor said, “Access to

health care and the malpractice envi-

ronment in Texas has made a healthy

recovery since the Texas legislature

passed medical liability reform.”

I urge this body to take it up and get

it done.

AMERICAN SPIRIT

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was

given permission to address the House

for 1 minute.)
Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, heroes come in every shape and form. Some teach in our classroom rooms, some defend our freedoms overseas, and on 9/11 our heroes were the ones who wore the insignia of the fire and police departments of New York City and elsewhere.

And again today, our heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina are numerous. Some are doctors and nurses who have saved lives, others are National Guardsmen and women who rescued people from rooftops and elsewhere. But most are those that you will not read about in the newspaper: Americans committing random acts of kindness when help is needed.

People are opening their homes, donating clothing, and enrolling evacuated children into schools in their communities. In Georgia we have nearly 10,000 children who have been enrolled in our schools. We have set up shelters, held telethons, and opened megacenters to serve as a one-stop-shop for evacuees, all to help them put their lives back together.

You name it, and the residents of Georgia are stepping up to the challenge and helping out wherever they can.

Madam Speaker, we will overcome this tragedy and we will do it one day at a time and one life at a time. That is truly the American way and the American spirit.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, the American Gold Star Mothers Group was incorporated in 1929. On June 23 of 1936, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued a proclamation designating the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mothers Day. To this very day, Madam Speaker, Gold Star Mothers Day is the last Sunday in September. Unfortunately, over the last several years Americans have forgotten about that.

So at the request of some of my constituents, I introduced a resolution. It is being sponsored in the Senate by Senator Tom Coburn from Oklahoma, encouraging all Americans to recognize this very important day.

The Gold Star Mothers is a group that no one joins voluntarily. You must have lost a son or a daughter in combat to become a member of the Gold Star Mothers Association.

This resolution is important, and we will vote on it tomorrow. I currently have over 200 co-sponsors, and I would encourage other Members to join. The dedication and heartfelt thanks of the Gold Star Mothers stem from a shared bond. As they describe it, and I close: "The success of our organization continues because of the bond of mutual love, sympathy and support of the many loyal, capable and patriotic mothers who while sharing their grief and their pride have channeled their time, efforts and gifts into lessening the pain of others. We stand tall and proud by honoring our sons and daughters, assisting our veterans, supporting our Nation and healing with each other."

ACCOUNTABILITY IN FEDERAL DISASTER RELIEF

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, like so many of my constituents, I have been extremely saddened by the devastation inflicted by Hurricane Katrina. To date I have supported the $10.5 billion in aid and voted for several bills to help ease the strain of this difficult time.

It is understandable that some have questioned my vote against the $51.8 billion relief supplemental. I believe taxpayer money should be spent wisely. My concern is that huge sums of money are being spent with little assurance the money is really helping those in need. Some estimate the Federal Government will be asked to spend as much as $200 billion on relief. But my support depends on tight controls and accountability measures. That is why I voted the way I did.

It is also why I have co-sponsored legislation to create a chief financial officer for the Federal Government's Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Without this level of oversight and accountability, we will waste precious tax dollars, and every dollar wasted is a dollar that is not going to assist a displaced family in need. We also need to examine what the role of Federal Government should be in disaster relief. I will continue to support measured, commonsense solutions, but I will not support out-of-control Federal spending without proper oversight. We will not help the people affected by this storm by wasting taxpayers' money.

THE GOLDEN RULE

(Mr. CLYBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I come today to say to the people of South Carolina, most especially the people of Columbia and the Midlands, how much I appreciate the tremendous outpouring of love and respect they have given to the victims of Katrina. I want to say a special thank you to Mayor Bob Coble of Columbia, businessman Sam Tannenbaum of Columbia, and the Columbia chamber president, Ike McLeese.

These three dynamic gentlemen coordinated an effort in Columbia to receive evacuees that I would like to call a practical application of the Golden Rule. They decided that they would not put anyone in shelters. Anyone coming to Columbia would go to a home or to a private motel room. We have just been informed that we can expect more evacuees coming to Columbia tomorrow morning.

I want to say those who have volunteered to man the One Stop Center to please continue to practice the Golden Rule.

HONORING AFGHANI WOMEN

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my solidarity with the courageous women of Afghanistan.

This past weekend, Afghan women once again made history as their country held their second round of free and fair elections to select a national parliament and provincial assemblies. Despite threats of retaliation and retribution, 580 women stood for election. These 580 women have risen up to be leaders of their land, in a country that just 4 years ago prohibited women from participating in national life.

Just as significant, many men for the first time voted to support female candidates. While skeptics on the left and in the media said it could not be done, this is an unmistakable victory for forces of democracy in our battle against tyranny and oppression.

The Afghan election demonstrates that we have learned the lessons of history: if women are not allowed to participate in the decision-making process, if women are deprived of rights to run for elective office, and if women are not given the opportunity to determine their own future, then those women will suffer oppression and human rights violations.