

upsets in Super Bowl history in Glendale, Arizona on February 3, 2008.

New Yorkers were first introduced to professional football and the New York Football Giants in my congressional district, sharing their games with the city's baseball Giants in the Polo Grounds. From those magnificent days on 155th Street and 8th Avenue until today, the Giants have always brought us memorable games. Deep-rooted enthusiasts remember the famed Sneaker Game when the team, playing in 9 degree weather, switched to basketball shoes to increase traction in the icy turf Frankfurt Yellowjackets in 1925. They recall how the G-men sailed to Super Bowl victory in 1986 under the powerful running game of Joe Morris, the pressure of Lawrence Taylor and near-perfection of quarterback Phil Simms. Football fans everywhere will also recall how the Giants won their second Super Bowl in a dramatic 20–19 victory over the Buffalo Bills.

In Super Bowl XLII, the Giants have once again provided fans with another dramatic victory. This time it was against arguably one of the greatest offenses that the game has seen, an undefeated veteran team who was widely expected to win their fourth championship of the decade. Yet the Giants remained resilient. Just like they overcame an early 0–2 start to their season, they overcame early mistakes to keep it close. And then when it mattered the most, they came up with a perfect answer for the perfect Patriots: a frantic 12-play, 83-yard drive, led by quarterback Eli Manning, that featured a dazzling leaping catch by David Tyree and key plays by running back Brandon Jacobs, as well as receivers Steve Smith and Plaxico Burress.

Because of their team effort, the Giants now become the first NFC wild card team to win a Super Bowl. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire team who placed with such valor and heart. Especially to the recipient of the Most Valuable Player Award, quarterback Eli Manning who has shown tremendous growth and has matched the successes of his brother, Indianapolis Colts quarterback Paton Manning.

I also salute the co-owners, the Mara and Tisch families and their coaches—Head Coach Tom Coughlin, Offensive Coordinator Kevin Gilbride, Defensive Coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, Special Teams Coordinator Tom Quinn, and the rest of the coaching staff for their commitment, expertise and leadership. Coughlin, a highly successful head coach at Boston College and with the Jacksonville Jaguars, and a former Giants assistant, was hired as the 16th head coach in Giants history. This victory is Coughlin's first appearance in a Super Bowl as a head coach.

History will always have a special place for Coughlin's New York Football Giants. They are truly an inspirational team whose victory will live forever in Super Bowl lore.

HONORING WILLIAM H. LEWIS JR.

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor a friend and colleague William H. Lewis, Jr. of Neptune, New Jersey who passed away on Monday, January 28. Bill was

a remarkable man who dedicated his life to public service. He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends and the entire New Jersey community he served.

After a second valiant fight with cancer, Bill died at the Jersey Shore University Medical Center. Born in New York City on November 27, 1939, he lived a fulfilling and diversified life in which he found great successes in so many areas.

Bill was an enthusiastic educator for almost 30 years. Along with his wife, Bill started teaching in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, before they would move back to New Jersey to his childhood roots, where he then taught at Shore Regional High School, in West Long Branch. He was also an adored football and track coach and a local advocate at the West Side Community Center in Asbury Park.

During his days at Shore Regional, Bill would become a local Monmouth County Education Association president, working hard to protect teacher's rights. When Bill retired from teaching 18 years ago, he would continue advocating for children in New Jersey outside of the classroom. He became a full-time activist for the New Jersey Education Association, where he worked to advance and protect the rights, benefits, and interests of its members, and promote a quality system of public education for all students. It was in this capacity that I had the honor of working closely with Bill. Together we worked to help New Jersey students achieve excellence.

Bill is survived by a son, William David Lewis and a daughter, Michele Lewis, as well as other loving extended family members. His loving wife, Laura Oxley Lewis predeceased Bill, whom he lost almost 6 years ago to her own bout with cancer.

Madam Speaker, Bill Lewis was a devoted advocate for children and public education. He was a strong champion for New Jersey's children, working tirelessly to provide them with better opportunities and life choices. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this trying time.

#### REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF GENOCIDE IN BOSNIA

**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the victims of genocide in Bosnia. I would particularly like to draw the attention of this body to the atrocities perpetrated by Serb forces against the Bosniak and Croat populations in eastern Bosnia. Eastern Bosnia became the site of a number of atrocities long before the name Srebrenica became known worldwide. The aggression perpetrated against the newly independent and sovereign Bosnia and the genocide of its Bosniak population took one of its earliest and most vicious forms with the attacks of Serb forces on eastern Bosnia in 1992. The multi-ethnic and multi-religious character of eastern Bosnia was systematically destroyed beginning in April 1992.

The historic town of Visegrad epitomizes what happened in eastern Bosnia in 1992. The assault on Visegrad started on April 6, 1992 when Serb military units began shelling

Visegrad and several of the nearby Bosnian Muslim villages. With the takeover of Visegrad, Serb forces unleashed a campaign of terror against the Bosniak and Croat population of Visegrad. Every day men, women and children were killed on a famous bridge on the Drina and their bodies were dumped into the river. Many of the Bosniak men and women were arrested and detained at various locations in the town. Serb soldiers raped women and inflicted terror on civilians. Looting and destruction of Bosniak and Croat property occurred daily and mosques in Visegrad were destroyed.

As the journalist Ed Vulliamy described in *The Guardian*: "For centuries, although wars had crisscrossed the Drina, Visegrad has remained a town two-thirds Bosnian Muslim and one-third Bosnian Serb. The communities entwined, few caring who was what. But in the spring of 1992, a hurricane of violence was unleashed by Bosnian Serbs against their Muslim neighbors in Visegrad, with similar attacks along the Drina valley and other parts of Bosnia. Visegrad is one of hundreds of forgotten names . . . As elsewhere, the pogrom was carried out on orders from the Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and his military counterpart General Ratko Mladic, both still wanted for genocide." By the end of 1992, the Bosniak and Croat communities in Visegrad were effectively "cleansed" through killings and deportations. Some survivors of the initial attacks on eastern Bosnia found their way into the three Bosnian government-held enclaves and United Nations-declared "safe havens" of Srebrenica, Zepa and Gorazde. The tragic fate of these "safe havens" is well known. The fate of Visegrad and the pattern of genocidal violence was similar in other eastern Bosnian towns such as Bijeljina, Zvornik and Foca.

As we prepare to mark another anniversary of the beginning of genocidal violence in eastern Bosnia and as we prepare to commemorate the 13th anniversary of Srebrenica, let us remember the victims of Visegrad and other Visegrads throughout Bosnia.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly introduce legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to some of the most valiant and courageous soldiers who have ever fought for our Nation—the troops who battled and were prisoners of war at Bataan during World War II.

Nearly seven decades ago, the United States responded to the attacks on Pearl Harbor by declaring war—and more than 5,000 miles away in the Philippines, thousands of American soldiers, many of whom were from my State of New Mexico, found themselves on the frontline of this global fight. For 4 months, in the face of overwhelming odds and without ready supplies or reinforcements, these troops fought and died for their Nation. Their efforts not only provided the U.S. with much needed stories of heroism during a dire, dark time of the war, their sacrifice also substantively provided much needed time for U.S. and Allied

commanders to regroup, plan, and prepare for the Pacific battle. Without these troops delaying the momentum of the enemy, the U.S. might not have fully recovered from the Pearl Harbor attack until much later.

After months of fighting and with his men starving and sick, on April 9, 1942, the commander of the troops at Bataan reluctantly surrendered. Shortly thereafter, nearly 12,000 American troops and 67,000 Filipino troops were forced to march through tropical heat and without food or water for days on end in what became known as the Bataan Death March. Many died during this time, and those who survived were subject to three years of mistreatment, malnutrition, sickness and captivity before being rescued and released near the end of the war.

For the State of New Mexico, this chapter of World War II is particularly near to our hearts. New Mexico's 200th and 515th Coast Artillery units served with significant honor during the battle of Bataan, earning the distinction of being the "first to fire" on the enemy on December 8, 1941. Many of the Americans captured and held as prisoners of war were from New Mexico, and of the 1,800 who left home to fight, half did not return. Further, nearly a third of those did return home after their tortuous 3 years of captivity died within a year, most often due to complications from health issues directly attributed to their time in the POW camps.

The 200th and 515th also are notable because they largely consisted of Hispanic soldiers, a group that at the time was often subject to discrimination in the military due simply to their ethnicity. Despite these barriers, they fought without hesitation, noting that they were as American as any other soldier who wore the uniform. They came from every corner of the State, from Farmington to Alamogordo, from Deming to Raton, and from Clovis to Gallup.

Many years ago, my father Stewart Udall wrote a book called *Majestic Journey* chronicling the early explorations of North America in the sixteenth century. He described the vision, the individualism, and the pioneering spirit of early Hispanic explorers, and I believe that like these explorers, the actions of the Bataan prisoners of war "resonate through the annals of our history, and the imprint they left on our culture is both permanent and profound. They will add a special luster to our national story."

Every year, thousands of people participate in the Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sand Missile Range in southern New Mexico. The 26.2 mile march not only marks the historical significance of the event, but reminds us of how many in New Mexico underwent the ordeals at Bataan. In Albuquerque, stone columns rise from the ground at the Bataan Memorial Park, each of them bearing both the names of those who returned from Bataan and those who did not. In Santa Fe, the Military Museum bears the name of Bataan, reminding all who enter of the costs of war and the sacrifice made by our soldiers. And all across the country are similar memorials, keeping alive the memory of those who went through years of suffering at Bataan.

I want to thank the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Preservation League for their help on this legislation. Also, General Leo Marquez, General Edward Baca, General Melvyn Montano, General Gene Chavez, General

Kenny Montoya, and New Mexico Department of Veterans Services Secretary John Garcia for their continued insistence that we honor the Bataan veterans.

Madam Speaker, we must never forget the sacrifice of our soldiers, particularly during times of war. We are reminded daily of the hardships and danger faced by the men and women currently fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq. Like the soldiers of Bataan, these brave troops fight for patriotism, for duty, and for country. I hope my colleagues will join me to honor the sacrifice of the soldiers at Bataan by awarding them the Congressional Gold Medal.

#### IN MEMORY OF MIMI SCHMIDT

#### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of Emilienne Desnoyers "Mimi" Schmidt, with whom I enjoyed a warm personal relationship for about 30 years.

Mimi died in her sleep a couple of weeks ago. She leaves behind a legacy of nurturing a fine family of outstanding citizens while also helping to nurture a growing community. Her son Dominic is a close family friend, as are her grandchildren Brandon and Brianna.

Mimi and her husband, Glen, moved to my hometown of Simi Valley, California, in 1962. Mimi was then pregnant with their seventh son and Simi Valley was a rural community of apricot and walnut groves.

Others joined the Schmidts in moving to the valley and a cityhood drive was launched in 1966. Fifty-five citizens placed their names on the ballot. Mimi was the only woman. That effort failed but three years later the citizens of the two communities of Simi Valley and Santa Susana voted to incorporate into the City of Simi Valley.

Glen's chairmanship of the incorporation study committee catapulted him into a four-year term on the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in 1970, which put his career as an aerospace engineer on hold. It also forced him to take a pay cut. With seven boys to feed, Mimi reentered the workforce.

Before commuting "over the hill" to work each day, Mimi took the time to pack her sons lunches, using a whole loaf of bread to do so. She also helped form Cub Scout Pack 3621 and was active in the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church's bereavement ministry.

In 1979, with her family mostly grown, Mimi again ran for the Simi Valley City Council. Not getting elected did not diminish her passion for politics. She was a life member of the Simi Valley Republican Women's Club, serving one term as its president, and helped organize its annual garden tour. In addition, she served as a poll worker at her neighborhood precinct for many years and volunteered as a docent at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

She never forgot, however, that she was a mother and grandmother first.

In addition to Dominic and his wife, Teresa, and their children, Brandon and Brianna, Mimi is survived by her six other sons and their families: David and Carol and their daughters, Samantha and Michelle; Dan and Phyllis; Damian and Karen and their sons, Ryan and Cameron; Douglas and Patricia and their son,

Morgan, and twin daughters, Riley and Madison; Darren and Theresa and their son, Ken, and daughter, Stephanie; and Dennis and Julia and their twin daughters, Elizabeth and Melissa.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in remembering Mimi Schmidt's lifelong love of family and community and in offering our condolences to her family and friends.

#### HONORING INDIANA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Indiana County, Pennsylvania, for being named one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People in America by America's Promise Alliance. Indiana was one of only two communities in Pennsylvania to receive this award. It is a great honor and achievement by the government of Indiana County and, most importantly, its community. I am proud of their hard work and dedication to our youth.

The objective of the 100 Best Communities competition is to recognize outstanding community-wide efforts that improve the well-being of youth. Indiana County has achieved this through the creation of a Children's Advisory Commission to assess the needs of the children and youth of the county and create positive after school activities. The annual Family Fun Fest was also noticed for its ability to connect parents and youth in a way that strengthens the family bond and promotes positive behavior.

I congratulate the people of Indiana County and their government for creating an environment where young people can thrive in a nurturing environment. It is truly a great place to call home, a wonderful place where our youth can grow and thrive. The county has illustrated great initiative in creating an environment that encourages young people to get involved work together, and help others in their community. I am proud of the work Indiana County has done to encourage positive youth development, and I hope they continue to be recognized for their efforts.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HANOVER PARK

#### HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2008

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Hanover Park, Illinois, an exciting and important town in my congressional district.

Today, Hanover Park has grown to include more than 12,000 families. However, its history truly began in the 19th century when the community began to lay roots in northern Illinois.