

the world. I would also like to thank the thousands of volunteers and coaches who donate their time and energy to support this great program. I am pleased to recognize Special Olympics International for 40 years of service and commitment to the many Special Olympians both in America and across the globe.

12TH ANNIVERSARY OF TWA  
FLIGHT 800 TRAGEDY

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, today is the 12th anniversary of the TWA Flight 800 tragedy, which took the lives of 230 men, women and children off the south shore of my district on Long Island.

We must keep alive the memory of those who perished over the Atlantic on July 17, 1996—just 12 minutes after departing for home, school trips, and to visit loved ones.

Just as important, the anguished families of the Flight 800 victims deserve our recognition. As do the emergency personnel, volunteers and other Long Islanders who selflessly worked for days on end in the recovery efforts.

As we recall that fateful day, we must also examine what steps the FAA has taken to safeguard the flying public and prevent a similar catastrophe from occurring as a result of defective fuel tanks.

After 12 years, the FAA finally issued a rule today requiring flammability reduction in new and existing fuel tanks, as well as new design standards and operating rules for retrofitting existing planes.

Madam Speaker, again, my deepest condolences go to the surviving families and friends of the Flight 800 crash victims. And my thanks to everyone who helped memorialize those who died 12 years ago today and who have worked toward making sure the flying public is safer today.

KATHERINE AYDEN HOLLINGS-  
WORTH CREECH MAKES HER  
MARK ON THE WORLD

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zeke Creech, formerly of my staff, and his wife Bess on the birth of their first child, Katherine Ayden Hollingsworth Creech. Katherine was born on June 16, 2008, and weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces. Faye joins me in wishing Zeke and Bess great happiness during this very special time in their lives.

As a father and grandfather myself, I know the joy, pride, and excitement that parents experience upon the entrance of their child into the world. Representing hope, goodness, and innocence, a newborn allows those around her to see the world through her eyes as a new, fresh place with unending possibilities for the future. Through a child, one is able to recognize and appreciate the full potential of the human race. I know Zeke and Bess look for-

ward to the changes and challenges that their new daughter will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch her grow.

I welcome young Katherine into the world and wish Zeke and Bess all the best as they raise her.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE  
PROTECTION ACT

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Health Insurance Coverage Protection Act. This bill addresses a serious problem for those Americans with chronic diseases or disabilities who have a lifetime cap on their insurance benefits and I'm proud to introduce this much-needed legislation.

Most people are unaware that more than half of all private health insurance policies in the U.S. have a lifetime cap on benefits. Once a cap is reached, these individuals are released from their healthcare plans and forced to pay for their expenses out of pocket, try to qualify for Medicaid or other State programs, or seek free care from hospitals or other providers. Some people who reach their limits may forego treatment or use fewer services, which can result in higher costs of care in the future. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation's 2007 Annual Survey of Employer Health Benefits, over half of employer-sponsored health plans set aggregate lifetime caps on covered benefits, which are most typically set at \$2 to \$3 million.

It's not a secret that medical expenditures have grown much faster than inflation, especially for those with chronic diseases and disabilities. Increasing the minimum lifetime cap will result in a net savings for Federal and State governments by allowing individuals with high medical costs to maintain private insurance rather than be forced onto Medicaid.

The Health Insurance Coverage Protection Act will phase in an increase in the lifetime caps placed on private group health insurance plans, reaching \$10 million in 4 years. The bill also calls for an Institute of Medicine study to determine the number of individuals that reach their lifetime caps.

People shouldn't have to job-hop in order to switch insurance plans or quit their job altogether to access Medicaid. This legislation will protect individuals who do have insurance and are still struggling to pay for expensive medical treatments due to their long-term medical conditions.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House on this bill and with Senator DORGAN, who has introduced the legislation in the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO THE SPECIAL  
OLYMPICS

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I rise today in recognition of an organization that is influ-

ential in the lives of millions across this Nation and around the world. Since 1968, the Special Olympics has celebrated those who triumph in the face of adversity and achieve victory despite insurmountable odds. This organization recognizes the ineffable beauty of human life and emphasizes the dignity of people with intellectual disabilities.

In 1968, Eunice Kennedy Shriver founded the Special Olympics in honor of her sister, Rosemary. The first games were hosted at Soldier Field in Chicago, and featured over 1,000 participants from the United States and Canada. Since that time, the Special Olympics has become one of our Nation's greatest exports, serving 2.5 million athletes in over 180 nations and offering year-round training and competition in 30 Olympic-type winter and summer sports.

The Fifth District of New Jersey holds two major venues of our Winter Games each year: Campqaw in Mahwah features cross country skiing and snowshoeing, while Mountain Creek in Vernon holds alpine skiing and snowboarding.

Earlier this year, I was honored to have John Rosati, a Special Olympics participant from Mercer County, visit my office. In addition, I would like to recognize one of my own constituents, Kelley Sue Martin of Closter. Not only does she compete in alpine skiing, bowling, and track and field, but she also serves as a spokesperson for Special Olympics New Jersey and speaks at community and fund-raising events throughout the state.

As the Special Olympics celebrates its 40th birthday on July 20, I join my colleagues in recognizing the indelible impact left by this exceptional organization. Over the past four decades, the Special Olympics has been an effective catalyst for social change. Special Olympians develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence, and a more positive self-image. Participants grow mentally, socially and spiritually. They exhibit boundless courage and enthusiasm while enjoying the rewards of friendship and discovering new abilities and talents.

Few creeds sum up the American Spirit better than the oath of the Special Olympics: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." I applaud the Special Olympics for providing an arena for athletes to follow this creed.

TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE SPECIAL OLYM-  
PICS

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Special Olympics. Special Olympics began through the dreams, work, and dedication of Eunice Kennedy Shriver. Mrs. Shriver, along with her son Timothy Shriver, and countless volunteers have made the dream of the Special Olympics a reality for 40 years now.

The Special Olympics embody the real American Dream—a world where everybody matters, where everybody counts and everybody gives their all. For four decades, Special

Olympics has brought us closer to that idea by encouraging excellence, sharing and courage through year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics improves health and physical well-being. It builds confidence and self-esteem. And perhaps most importantly, it gives athletes a voice, so that they can become active and productive members of their communities.

We sometimes forget what life was like for the intellectually disabled before the Special Olympics—a time when people were shuttered away in institutions, sentenced to lives of solitude, emptiness and sadness. But today that has all changed, largely because of the Special Olympics. Today, 2.5 million Special Olympians train and compete in 30 sports in over 180 countries. The Special Olympics has become a platform for breaking down social barriers—for raising the standard of public health, for helping intellectually disabled people overcome a prejudice that, for all our advances, plagues us to this day in some corners of society.

I urge my colleagues to stand with me to celebrate and honor the Special Olympics on the 40th anniversary of this remarkable, inspirational organization.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHICAGO TO MACKINAC RACE

#### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor one of the Great Lakes' most hallowed traditions: annual Chicago to Mackinac Race, the world's oldest and longest freshwater sailboat race. Each July, nearly 300 boats make the 333-mile trip to Mackinac Island in 2 to 3 days.

This year will mark the 100th anniversary of the race, commonly referred to by sailing enthusiasts as simply "the Mac." Although the first race was held in 1898, several years passed between the first and second running of the race. In other years, the race did not occur because of the United States' entry into World War I. Two other years also did not count toward the total number of Mackinac races, as the race did not terminate at Mackinac Island, but at Harbor Springs, Michigan. This year, however, will mark the 100th time that the regatta will make the trek from Chicago, north up Lake Michigan, following the shores of Michigan's Lower Peninsula to finally land on historic Mackinac Island.

In the nautical world, the Mac is viewed by many as an outstanding test of sailors' skill, experience and sailing aptitude. Lake Michigan's volatile weather conditions can mean that the race challenges sailors' abilities. Despite the dangers and challenges of the Mac, there has never been a fatality and only one boat has been lost.

The weather challenges presented to those who sail in the Mac are well documented. In July 1925, 21 yachts started the race. Within 12 hours, six of the boats in the competition were blown back to Chicago. In 1937, sailors encountered winds with gusts up to 65 knots, or 75 miles per hour. In that race, only eight boats finished what 42 started. Mac enthu-

siasts refer to 1970 as "the year of the big blow" because a northerly wind blasted competitors in the race head on. Of the more than 160 yachts participating, more than half were forced to take refuge in safe harbor, crippled with shattered masts, torn sails and seasick crews.

One of the most challenging Mackinac races in history occurred in 1911. That year, 11 boats holding 142 crewmembers set forth from Chicago to Mackinac. Overnight, temperatures dropped to freezing, the breeze turned into a blustering wind and then became a gale. To add to the discomfort, a rainstorm began. As night fell, the gale escalated to hurricane force, with gusts peaking at 80 miles per hour. The wind, rain and waves played topsy-turvy with the yachts and the race of 1911 ended with the loss of a legendary mahogany-hulled sail boat, by the name of *Vencedor*. The huge waves thrashed the boat mercilessly and plunged it between two boulders on one of the many Great Lakes reefs. Although the crew was rescued, the *Vencedor* was lost. Despite the terrible storm, all 142 men who sailed that regatta arrived safely ashore at Mackinac Island, showing once more the perseverance and determination of those who compete in the Mac.

The race is sponsored by the Chicago Yacht Club and this year begins there on Saturday, July 19. The continued support of the Chicago Yacht Club and—since 1937—the Mackinac Island Yacht Club has been critical to keeping the Mac going these many years. The U.S. Coast Guard has provided tremendous assistance for the race over the years, working to ensure the safety of the sailors and rescue boats when necessary.

Madam Speaker, there is great nautical history associated with the race and great personal pride among those who have participated. Sailors who have competed in more than 25 "Macs" are called "Island Goats," a title they wear with pride and affection. There are various explanations for where the title "Island Goat" originates. Some say that the sailors who participated in the race smelled like goats when they completed their two- or three-day voyage from Chicago. Others claim that the title "Island Goat" is a reference to the unruly celebrations of the early sailors when they finally arrived at Mackinac Island. Regardless of where the term stems, those who are "Island Goats" are proud of this distinction and have even formed the Island Goat Sailing Society.

Madam Speaker, this July, for the 100th time, those on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan will once again be able to gaze out upon the Lake and watch as an impressive regatta of hundreds of vessels race north toward Mackinac Island. As all of us from the Great Lakes observe the 100th anniversary of the Mac, I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring the great tradition of the Mac and in saluting the thousands of men and women who have maintained this great race over the past century.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. GIL LANGFORD

#### HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Gilbert B. Langford, who died this week at the age of 82. One of the greatest honors in my time in Congress was awarding Gil the Congressional Gold Medal.

At the age of 16, he was assigned at Tuskegee Air Base later earning his wings and the honorable right to call himself a Tuskegee Airman. He ended his distinguished career as a 1st lieutenant acquiring the skills as a pilot, navigator, and bombardier.

As a civilian, he became one of the first black engineers for General Electric and served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Energy while working for the Department of Defense.

Gil was a true American hero and will be missed most by his three children and six grandchildren. Gilbert Langford unselfishly gave every fiber to his country, and still believed he could give more.

#### CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF HISTORY

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2008*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, rise today to honor the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International in the Towaco portion of the Township of Montville, Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent! On August 8 and 10, 2008, the good citizens of Montville will celebrate the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International's 40th anniversary.

Evangelical Mission and Seminary International, EMSI, was established in 1968 by the Reverend Moses Yang. The mission has branches in four continents: Europe, Asia, North America, and Africa, and is made up of several organizations, including Evangelical Bible Institute, Christian Evangelical Mission, and Christian Evangelical Overseas Outreach. Reverend Yang started the personal ministry in 1968. He opened his house and targeted different groups for Bible study, including the College Bible Study group, youth and junior high school students and the Children's Sunday School. When Bible study groups continued to grow, a church was established. The Evangelical Mission and Seminary International was established in Towaco, New Jersey in 1982. In the past 40 years, 1968–2008, the ministry had expanded to include seminaries, churches, mission, literature, and broadcasting.

The Evangelical Bible Institute, also located in Towaco, was founded in 1979 and occupies over 19 acres. Campus facilities include the Educational Building, a church, and Chinese/English library, which houses in excess of 14,000 books. The Christian Evangelical Mission was established in West Orange, New Jersey, in 1975. EMSI established the Christian Evangelical Overseas Mission in 1995