

A TRIBUTE TO DR. THEOPHINE  
ABAKPORO

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Theophine Abakporo, Medical Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine & Pre-Hospital Care at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and dedicated public servant.

Dr. Theophine Abakporo, MD was born in Nigeria in 1964. During his childhood, he was deeply influenced by the devastating experience of growing up in a country at war. He witnessed the effects the war had on his local community—displacement, premature deaths, injuries, disease and poverty. As he grew older, he realized the importance of community organizations and public service.

At the age of 23, Dr. Abakporo obtained his MD degree from Jos Medical School in Nigeria. Upon graduation, he was appointed Medical Officer with the Nigerian Army Field Ambulance. Subsequently, he relocated to the United States to pursue his postgraduate medical education. In 1995, he completed his residency in internal medicine at Brookdale University Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. He is board certified in internal medicine and emergency medicine.

In response to the increasing need for disaster awareness and management he took further training and certification. He is certified by the United States Department of Homeland Security in healthcare leadership and administrative decision-making in response to weapons of mass destruction (WMD). He is certified by the United States Army in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive incidents (CBRNE). In addition, he is certified by the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) in online medical control.

While pursuing his medical career Dr. Abakporo became deeply involved in the health care needs of the inner-city communities in the United States. Dr. Abakporo worked hard and committed himself to participating in the health outreach and other programs related to the well being of the Brooklyn communities such as Ocean Hill, Brownsville, East New York, Bed-Stuy, Bushwick and Ridgewood communities. This strong willingness to help and care for people, contributed to his interest and focus in the field of emergency medicine and pre-hospital care.

In 1996, Dr. Abakporo joined Wyckoff Heights Medical Center as an Attending Physician in the Department of Emergency Medicine. His leadership, hard work and dedication earned him a promotion as Assistant Director in 2005. Dr. Abakporo currently serves as Medical Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine & Pre-Hospital Care at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center.

In 2008, Dr. Abakporo was honored by the Wyckoff Heights Medical Center's Nursing Administration for his motivation, excellence, dedication and service to the patients and staff. He received the Nursing Recognition Award for Physician Education & Nursing Collaboration.

Dr. Abakporo is a member of World Association of Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM); the American Association of Physi-

cian Specialists, and the American College of Physicians.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Theophine Abakporo.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ADAM MIZER FOR WINNING THE  
BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Adam Mizer showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and Whereas, Adam Mizer was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Adam Mizer always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Adam Mizer on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE U.S.S.  
COD'S 50 YEARS IN CLEVELAND

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the U.S.S. Cod's 50 Years in Cleveland celebration on August 14th, 2009. The celebration featured a special free admission day for the public and ceremony to mark the golden anniversary and restoration of the Cod's Cleveland-built diesel engines. The ceremony concluded with a salute to the people of Cleveland with the firing of the Cod's deck gun.

On March 21, 1943 the U.S.S. Cod was launched and its engines, built in a General Motors plant on Cleveland's west side, powered the submarine around the globe. According to Dr. John Fakan, president of the non-profit U.S.S. Cod Submarine Memorial, "GM built Cod's five diesels right here in Cleveland, but it didn't end there. Much of the steel plate that forms her hull was made in Cleveland and Youngstown steel mills from Great Lakes ore." Through her heroic missions in World War II, Cleveland-based training programs during the Cold War, and place as a historic site and submarine memorial in Cleveland, the U.S.S. Cod has become a national symbol.

After her successful WW II service in the Pacific Ocean, the Cod continued to protect America in the Cold War by training NATO anti-submarine forces in the Atlantic Ocean. In 1959 the Cod was brought to Cleveland to serve as a dockside trainer for reservists, and instantly became popular with the public. Citizens were allowed to tour the sub when the Navy wasn't conducting training aboard, and these civilian tours continued even after the Navy declared the Cod obsolete in 1971 and began the scrap process.

Despite the Navy's decision, the people of Cleveland saved the Cod from being scrapped. School children, veterans groups, Scouts and "Save the Cod," a group formed by local business leaders in 1972, all banded together to raise money and save the historic and symbolic submarine. In 1976 the Navy turned the Cod over to her civilian caretakers, who immediately began restoring the Cod to the original beauty that she was while defending America. In 1986 these efforts were recognized by the Federal Government which declared the Cod a National Historic Landmark. The Cod's world-class restoration continues today, focusing on her Cleveland-built engines.

The Cod's caretakers estimate that more than a million people have toured the Cod in the 50 years she has called Cleveland home. In addition to being a popular attraction on Cleveland's lakefront, the Cod has also helped bring revenue into downtown by hosting television and film documentaries as well as military reunions and other special projects.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the celebration of the U.S.S. Cod's 50 Years in Cleveland. The U.S.S. Cod (SS 214) is both a floating memorial to U.S. submariners who gave their lives defending freedom as well as a unique piece of Cleveland's industrial history.

RECOGNIZING THE JOINT COMMUNITY POLICE PROJECT IN MINNESOTA

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Joint Community Police Project (JCPP), an initiative of the Hopkins, Richfield, Brooklyn Park, and Brooklyn Center Police Forces in Hennepin County, Minnesota, for being selected by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) as the winner of the 2009 Civil Rights Award.

The IACP is made up of over 20,000 law enforcement members at command level in 89+ countries. This is the first time the JCPP has received programming recognition from the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

These four aforementioned cities live the value of civil rights through the actions of the Joint Community Policing Project—which strives to enhance communication and understanding between police and multicultural residents to improve public safety and livability in the community.

I invite all the members of Congress to join me in recognizing the excellent work of these four fine Minnesota police forces of Hopkins, Richfield, Brooklyn Center, and Brooklyn Park for reaching out to new Americans within our cities and providing the services, hospitality, and valued information to make them welcome, active participants in our community.

In 2009, I proposed and Congress approved a \$100,000 appropriation to continue the work of the Joint Community Police Partnership. One example of their work can be seen in Hopkins, where some of the appropriated funds enabled JCPP to hire a Somali college student to work as Public Service Officer for