

RECOGNITION OF EARL W. RILINGTON, SR., OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

**HON. JACK KINGSTON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the retirement of Mr. Earl W. Rilington, Sr., from a lifetime of service to the pulp and paper industry of southeast Georgia.

Mr. Rilington spent his early childhood in Sylvania, Georgia. He has been a resident of Savannah for over 50 years. In 1969, he married his high school sweetheart, the late LaVenía Salley Wyley Rilington, and had their first child, Earlonda.

Mr. Rilington was employed with Union Camp, and later, International Paper for 40 years. He began work in the box plant as a slitterman in 1969, making boxes to be shipped all over the world for everyday uses. He attended school at Savannah State University and earned a promotion to electrician in 1973. As an electrician, he ensured the operational efficiency of all major plant equipment such as boilers and presses. The Rilington family has a noteworthy history with International Paper. Mr. Rilington's father, Willie V. Rilington, Sr., was employed with International Paper's predecessor, Union Camp for 23 years as a box car loader and truck driver. Earl's son, William Michael Rilington, is currently in training for instruments and controls with International Paper.

As Mr. Rilington enters his well-deserved retirement he can look forward to pursuing his hobbies, spending time with family and friends and traveling. Whether at the bowling alley every Monday and Thursday night or leading the Usher Board at Conner's Temple Baptist Church, we can be assured that our country is what it is today thanks to the contributions he has made throughout his lifetime. I rise today to recognize Mr. Rilington as a model husband, father, and citizen. We commemorate his retirement from a lifetime of service to the pulp and paper industry of Southeast Georgia on this day October 30, 2009.

REMEMBERING JAMES D. RANGE

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember James D. Range, a beloved father, son, brother, and friend.

Jim died peacefully, surrounded by family and loved ones, on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, after an extraordinarily courageous battle with kidney cancer. He was 63 years old.

A Johnson City, Tennessee, native, Jim was a life long outdoorsman who loved America's wild spaces and loved hunting and fishing.

He was respected as a passionate advocate for the country's fish and wildlife and their habitat and one of the Nation's most prominent champions of natural resource conservation.

In the 1970's, Jim was a trusted advisor and counsel to Senate Majority Leader Howard

Baker and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee where he served with verve and integrity.

During his time in the Senate, Jim was instrumental in the conservation of many different corners of the American landscape and integral in the crafting and final passage of a string of landmark laws such as the Clean Water Act.

Even after his time spent on Capitol Hill, Jim displayed an unrivaled commitment to our nation's natural resources and outdoor traditions by co-founding and serving as chairman of the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.

He furthered his service to the cause of conservation through work on the Boards of Directors for Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, the Wetlands America Trust, the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, the American Sportfishing Association, the American Bird Conservancy, the Pacific Forest Trust, the Yellowstone Park Foundation, the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, the Sportfishing and Boating Partnership Council, and the Valles Caldera Trust.

Through this work, Jim received such honors as the U.S. Department of the Interior's Great Blue Heron Award, the 2003 Outdoor Life Magazine Conservationist of the Year and the Norville Prosser Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the American Sportfishing Association.

He left both the political and natural landscape in which he lived, loved, worked and played better than when he found it. His achievements in conserving the valuable wild and natural resources of the country are unparalleled and he lived his extraordinary life with integrity, humor and goodwill he displayed in all his pursuits.

He left a legacy to all his family, friends and colleagues of a vision for a growing understanding and appreciation of our natural world and a daily commitment to conserving it for future generations.

Madam Speaker, please join our colleagues and me in recognizing Jim Range's accomplishments and contributions.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WHITING PARK

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I take this moment to congratulate the city of Whiting, Indiana, in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Whiting Park. Throughout the years, Whiting Park has been an integral part of the community providing residents with a place to create lasting memories while preserving the history of the city. Whiting commemorated this extraordinary milestone on July 18, 2009, with a celebration in the park presented by the Whiting Park Festival Orchestra.

In the early 1900s the idea for Whiting Park began to take shape. Many activists in the area, at the time, could envision the potential for a magnificent park that would serve to bring the community closer together. In 1908, Frank Long, Chairman of the City Council

Park Committee, along with Mayor Fred J. Smith, helped the city to acquire 22 acres of land bounded by Front and 117th Streets, the New York Central Railroad tracks and Lake Michigan. Whiting purchased the land from the Forsythe Estate for \$75,000. Whiting Park continued to expand, and by the 1920s the park included a man-made lagoon, fountains, attractive walkways, a baseball diamond, trap-shooting facility, tennis courts, a playground, and a pavilion used for ballroom dancing and different music venues. In addition, a bath house was built for the beach lakefront activities, which included two waterslides and a diving board. The winter months at the park were filled with ice skaters, sledding, and ice hockey games. Over the next two and a half decades, thousands of people would flock to Whiting Park for the amenities on the land and in the water, all year round making the park one of the most popular on the entire lake-shore.

The next 30 years proved to be a troublesome time for Whiting Park, and there were many factors that led to the downfall of the park's glorious days of the past. Whiting Park Beach was closed in the late 1940s due to a high bacteria count in the water. The war emergency, at the time, led to limited city and federal funding for the upkeep of the park and beach. While there were proposed solutions over the years to bring back the Whiting Park of the past, many of them fell through. People began to think that the once famous Whiting Park would never be restored.

Finally, in 1977, the Whiting Park and Recreation Board was established. Through the efforts of the Parks Department, the beach was reopened on August 23, 1981, and came to be known as Whihala Beach County Park. The name "Whihala" stands for Whiting, Hammond, and Lake County Parks Department. With the new beach open, the Whiting Parks Department began again to concentrate on restoring the beauty of Whiting Park. Over the years, volunteer groups spent much time planting new flowers, and restoring the main garden, pond and waterfall area near the entrance of the park, bringing the park back to life. Today, Whiting Park spans approximately 15 acres and includes playground equipment, walking paths, four tennis courts, one baseball diamond, picnic facilities, a concession area, a fishing pier, two sand volleyball courts, an inline skate/hockey rink, and a fish pond including a waterfall.

As Whiting Park celebrates its 100th anniversary, there are also many innovative plans for the future, including working to become an integral part of the proposed Marquette Plan, a project that will better utilize Northwest Indiana's Lake Michigan shoreline.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating the city of Whiting on their 100th anniversary of Whiting Park. Throughout the years, Whiting Park has been a historical reminder of a city whose people continue to push forward with enthusiasm and faith to return this park to one of the most prized recreational lakefronts in the region, just as it was at the turn of the century. Their constant dedication and commitment is worthy of our deepest admiration.

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 BASE-  
BALL 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