

VIRGINIA BEACH ELKS LODGE
#2268

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Paul Shoemaker and the Virginia Beach Elks Lodge #2268. On Sunday, June 12, 2011, the Virginia Beach Elks Lodge #2268 held a Flag Day Ceremony at the Flame of Hope Memorial in Virginia Beach, VA, to commemorate the adoption of the Flag of the United States. I would like to thank Chief Warrant Officer Floyd R. Shoemaker, Sr. for attending the ceremony and for his 43 years of service in the Navy, Air Force, and Army. I would also like to thank Colonel Francis X. Cubillo, USMC; Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr.; Captain Robert N. Geis, USN; Karyn Swenor; Beverly Hamby; the Green Run High School NJROTC; Ron McGregor; and Samantha Spencer for participating in the ceremony. The Elks did an incredible job putting this event together, and I commend them for their continued service in the Hampton Roads community.

RANDLEMAN WINS CHAMPIONSHIP ON THE FINAL OUT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, unlike other sports, baseball is unique because there is no clock. Unless weather intervenes, the game ends only when the leading team records 27 outs. The baseball team at Randleman High School, located in the Sixth District of North Carolina, discovered that getting the last out can be the most difficult of all. Randleman won the North Carolina High School Athletic Association State 2-A championship on Saturday, June 4, 2011, in dramatic fashion by collecting that final out with a play at the plate.

The Randleman Tigers won this state championship with an 8-7 victory over defending state champion East Rutherford High School. The game was played on Doak Field at North Carolina State University. The Tigers won the best of three series, two games to one. This was Randleman's first appearance in the finals since 1985 and marks an important achievement in the school's history.

In the last inning, a six-run lead dissolved to two. Another hit scored the seventh run for East Rutherford, but as the tying run was heading to the plate, Randleman's Tyler Walls launched a perfect throw to cut-off man Dylan Richardson. The Tiger's shortstop never paused as he whipped the relay to catcher Zach Bach to get the last out and give Randleman its first state title ever. Head Coach Van Hurley, Jr., told the Asheboro Courier Tribune, "To win like that, Curtis [Linthicum] to throw like that. It's all unbelievable. We had three outs to get and six runs to give. I had complete confidence that he was going to do it."

With a grand slam on Friday and pitching the gutty win on Saturday, Curtis Linthicum received the MVP award. Joining him on the state championship team were Will Albertson, Easton Welch, Ted Luna, Jacob Tally, Dexter Allen, Jeremy Taylor, Dylan Richardson, Ryan Vickers, Cody Trogon, Tyler Walls, Connor Pratt and Zach Bach. The winning team was led by Head Coach Van Hurley, Jr., who was ably assisted by coaches Shawn Barker, Clayton Welch and Scott Clemons.

The Tigers finished their extraordinary season with a record of 28-4 and the satisfaction that comes from experiencing the result of practice and hard work right up until that final out. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Randleman High School baseball team for winning the 2011 state title.

IN SUPPORT OF EXPANDING THE PRIMARY CARE WORKFORCE AND OPPOSING H.R. 1216

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the importance of the primary care workforce and support provisions included in the Affordable Care Act to expand the number of primary care physicians, especially in my home state of Florida.

One of the smartest things we can do in health care today is to bolster primary care and family medicine. Your primary care doctor is your family doctor; the one you and your family see for checkups, and the doctor who is most likely to understand your health care needs. It is widely understood that if we are going to be more efficient in America with our health care dollars, we need to focus on prevention and boost the number of primary care doctors. There is a great demand for primary care physicians across the country and training new doctors in a community teaching setting is vital.

Training doctors is an especially critical issue in my home state of Florida. We have a significant doctor shortage. Florida has great medical schools and are turning out quality medical school graduates, but that is not enough because we do not have a sufficient number of residency slots. Florida is short nearly 3,000 new GME positions to meet current physician demand. Florida is the third most populous state, but ranks 44th in the nation in terms of the number of residency positions under Medicare. Those numbers reflect a brewing crisis situation. Not only does Florida have the largest and fastest growing percentage of citizens over 65, we have a rapidly aging physician population—25 percent of Florida's physicians are over 65. We need to do everything possible to train new primary care doctors all across the country, but especially in Florida. H.R. 1216 will take us backwards and that is why I strongly oppose its passage.

Before we take up legislation to terminate an initiative that encourages the training of new doctors in primary care, family medicine and internal medicine, please understand our

country's need for physicians who are most effective for our families. I urge my colleagues to support a robust primary care workforce. We need to work together to develop modern methods to train primary care physicians—and the Teaching Health Centers GME program, which my colleagues on the other side of the aisle seek to eliminate, is an innovative new model to help train more primary care physicians and encourage them to practice in communities. Physicians who train in a community setting have a better understanding of the needs of the communities they serve. Many organizations—like MedPAC and the Council on Graduate Medical Education—have called for a community-based GME program, so why do Republicans want to eliminate these opportunities before they start? Residency rotation through rural and outpatient locations provide great training opportunities for physician residents; and it encourages the resident to practice in out-patient or rural communities.

If we do not work together to find common sense solutions for our primary care workforce, America will be short of the doctors we need to serve in our communities and our families and neighbors will suffer the consequences. This is why I voted against H.R. 1216 and why I strongly oppose any attempt to eliminate innovated methods for training our future primary care workforce.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER SCOTT DAVIS

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the service and sacrifice of one of Indiana's bravest.

Firefighter Scott Davis was tragically killed yesterday while fighting a fire at Tabernacle of Praise Church in Muncie, Indiana. He is the first Muncie firefighter to give his life in the line of duty since 1955.

Those who knew Firefighter Davis were not surprised at his boldness and bravery in the Tabernacle of Praise fire. He was a former Yorktown fire chief, and had been with the Muncie Fire Department since June 15, 2005.

He bravely sacrificed his life protecting the community, and in so doing, he will forever be remembered as a hero and servant leader.

In the midst of great tragedy, I honor Firefighter Davis and the other brave men and women who risk their lives every day to protect their community. We must always be grateful for those who run in when others run out.

Firefighter Davis was a man of faith, a devoted husband to his wife Raeanne, and loving father of three children—Jake, Emma, and Max. My family and I offer our deepest condolences and prayers to his loved ones, and we honor the legacy of Firefighter Davis' life of sacrificial service.

The Good Book tells us that "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted." And that is my prayer for the Davis family and the Muncie community.