

As an active member in the community Mr. Eddie J. Fair stays involved with many organizations that included but are not limited to:

1. Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
2. Member of the Sallie B. Norwood Lodge Number 699.
3. Life Member NAACP.
4. Member of Leadership of Jackson 2005–current.
5. Member of the Jackson Rotary Club.
6. Member of the National & Mississippi Tax Collector/Assessor Association.
7. Former President of the Jackson Pan Hellenic Council.
8. Former Basileus, Omega Psi Phi, Inc., Beta Alpha Chapter.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Eddie J. Fair, Jr. for his dedication to serving others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote Nos. 195 and 196. Had I been present, I would have voted aye on both.

CONGRESSIONAL TEACHERS AWARD

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of outstanding public school teachers in Florida's 16th Congressional District.

I was once told that children are 25 percent of the population, but they are 100 percent of the future.

And it's true. The education of a child is an investment, not only in that student, but in the future of our country.

Therefore, I established the Congressional Teacher Awards to honor educators for their ability to teach and inspire students.

An independent panel has chosen the following teachers from Manatee, Sarasota, and Hillsborough Counties to receive Florida's 16th District 2017 Congressional Teacher Award for their accomplishments as educators:

Danielle Murphy for her accomplishments as a teacher at Boyette Springs Elementary in Riverview.

Carol Pelletier for her accomplishments as a teacher at Sarasota Military Academy Prep in Sarasota.

Emilee Vermilion for her accomplishments as a teacher at Southeast High School in Bradenton.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District I congratulate each of these outstanding teachers and offer my sincere appreciation for their service and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO WILL SMITH

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, it is with the deepest gratitude that I rise on this bittersweet occasion to recognize Will Smith, who is leaving Capitol Hill after more than two decades of distinguished service.

Will has been my right hand in the halls of Congress for nearly two decades, and I cannot imagine a more thoughtful advisor, a more capable strategist, or a more loyal friend. A native of Beattyville, Kentucky, Will began his career on Capitol Hill in 1994, working for now-Majority Leader MITCH McCONNELL. In 1998, he brought his talents to my personal office, where he eventually became Chief of Staff in 2002.

Over his 12 years in my personal office, the people of Kentucky could not have asked for a better advocate or a more capable public servant. Will's upbringing in his small eastern Kentucky hometown and his Appalachian roots have always been reflected in his work, and his legacy will be felt throughout the region for decades to come. He has championed numerous projects that benefitted the people of Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District from flood protection, to water and sewer expansion, to transportation improvements, and the like. He was instrumental in standing up Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, an organization focused on environmental clean-up, as well as our nation's pre-eminent regional anti-drug organization, Operation UNITE, that has become a model for nationwide replication. And holding true to Kentucky tradition, Will has always loyally cheered on the UK Wildcats from the Nation's capital. He has never forgotten where he came from or the people he came to serve.

This remained true when I assumed the Chairmanship of the House Committee on Appropriations in 2011. Will stayed by my side—first as Deputy Staff Director for the Committee and then in 2013, was promoted to Clerk and Staff Director. During his tenure, he helped shepherd 70 bills to passage—bills that saved the American taxpayers more than \$126 billion.

His steady demeanor and strong leadership have been an asset to the Committee—particularly during some of the most trying times of the past six years. Even in the face of shutdowns, Will led with tact, professionalism, and thoughtfulness, working tirelessly to find a solution and get the job done. He is truly beloved by his colleagues and those congressional staff who have been fortunate enough to call him their boss and mentor.

As we all know, these congressional staff work long hours, and often sacrifice weekends and holidays in order to keep this esteemed institution running smoothly. This inevitably takes a toll on personal commitments, and we also owe a debt of gratitude to Will's lovely wife, Kim, and his cherished children, Morgan and Matthew.

Will is not going far away. But his absence will nonetheless be felt deeply throughout this institution. Will, on behalf of the Appropriations Committee and this Congress, I thank you for your service to our country. I wish you all the best in the future. Godspeed.

ROSENBERG FIRE CHIEF RETIRES

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wade Goates of Houston, TX, and thank him for his leadership at the Rosenberg Volunteer Fire Department.

Wade joined the Rosenberg Volunteer Fire Department in 1992 and began working as a full-time firefighter in 1995. His commitment to public service led Wade to several promotions throughout his time with the fire department, from fire fighter to fire marshal and then fire chief in 2012. Wade received the Firefighter of the Year award in 2001 and the American Legion's Firefighter of the Year award in 2002. In 2008, the City of Rosenberg awarded Wade the Willie D. McQueen Award for his service to residents and coworkers. Wade retired from the Rosenberg Volunteer Fire Department on February 24th and plans to join the Fulshear-Simonton Fire Department. Both communities are lucky to have his dedication and commitment to service.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I would like to thank Wade Goates for his 25 years of service with Rosenberg. We wish him good luck with the Fulshear-Simonton Fire Department and thank him for his continued dedication to keeping TX-22 safe.

HONORING LITTLE ZION M.B. CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable historical church, Little Zion Missionary Baptist of Money, Mississippi and the great leadership it is under.

The Little Zion M.B. Church in Money, Mississippi was built in 1871 by field-hand laborers. Mrs. Bloodsol gave the people of Wade, Whittington and the Bloodsol Plantations the property. It sits in the center of these plantations.

The bible states that "Upon this rock, I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it". Taking this verse into consideration the church's name became Little Zion. The name is significant because the Hebrew meaning of Zion is Jerusalem and Little Zion is the little Jerusalem.

After the construction of the church, Mrs. Bloodsol gave her yard-boy a letter to deliver to the preacher of the church explaining to the church members what the letter deed meant. She told the yard-boy to tell the members that if they did not understand the letter deed, she would send a rider to explain it.

When the church was built, it was facing the Tallahatchie River which during that time was the main route of travel. In 1929, a fire partially burned the church. When it was repaired, it was built facing the road.

The early leaders of the church were: R.L. Reynolds, A.D. Williams, A.D. Burke, H.L. Collins and S.T. Taylor. They were the cornerstones of the church and they were mainly responsible for the church's continued existence.