



The 7th Express

Proudly Moving Alabama's 7th Congressional District Forward
Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell

October 2012

The 7th District Is On The Move!

Greetings!

The 7th Express is on the move! This office has helped secure over \$2.19 million in direct benefits to constituents of the 7th Congressional District and received over \$732 million in grants for our community. We hope to keep up this proud tradition! This newsletter is a way to track our progress. You can subscribe to this newsletter by visiting our website. Please forward to others so that they can stay informed. [Click here](#) to visit our website or visit <http://sewell.house.gov/>.

Congresswoman Sewell Joins Army Corps Officials to Tour Alabama River



On October 12, we joined officials from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Delta Regional Authority to tour the Alabama River to learn more about the river's lockage and dredging challenges. My office has been working closely with the U.S. Army of Corps Engineers and stakeholders in developing a workable solution to the operational issues surrounding the Alabama River locks. I am encouraged by the amended decision of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to modify the lock hours of operation on the Alabama and Chattahoochee River systems beginning February 1, 2013. This amended decision is an important step forward in addressing the concerns of constituents and stakeholders in light of the fiscal challenges facing the U.S. Army Corps. [Click here](#) to view my statement.

Congresswoman Sewell Honors Boys & Girls Club Southeast Youth of the Year Tyler Merriweather

On September 19, we had the pleasure of attending the Boys and Girls Clubs of American National Youth of the Year Breakfast to honor Southeast Region winner Tyler Merriweather of Tuscaloosa, AL along with four other winners from across the country. Tyler recently graduated from Holt High School with a grade point average of 3.9 and is now attending the University of Alabama studying accounting. Boys and Girls Club national spokesperson Denzel Washington keyed the event.



Congrats
to
Tyler!



Congresswoman Sewell and Congressman Bonner Hosts Bi-Partisan Town Hall



On September 27, I was pleased to host a joint town hall with my colleague Representative Jo Bonner at the Jackson City Hall in Jackson, AL to discuss the issues important to our constituents in a region we both share.

Congresswoman Sewell Hosts Military Academy Night

On September 25, we hosted a military academy forum for students to meet with representatives from the United States Air Force, Coast Guard, Military, Naval and Merchant Marine Academies at the Birmingham Public Library. This forum offers high school juniors and seniors and their parents an opportunity to learn detailed information about the process for entering our nation's military service academies. The deadline for students to apply to receive a nomination for the military academies from our office is November 12th. [Click here](#) for more information on how to apply.



Statement Regarding American Apparel Inc. Recent Announcement on Impending Layoffs

I am deeply disappointed in the recent decision by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) not to award the Army Combat Uniform coats contract to American Apparel Inc. I am especially frustrated by this recent decision in light of my office's continued efforts to strengthen DLA's critical partnership with American Apparel. This decision will have profound economic implications for the more than 250 hardworking women and men affected by the impending lay-offs. I strongly support American Apparel's protest petition to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and I am leading an Alabama Delegation letter requesting a thorough and expedited review of American Apparel's protest. [Click here](#) to view my statement.

Constituent Corner

Helping Alabama Farmers: A Success Story

In May 2012, a catfish farmer from Perry County contacted our Selma office regarding an issue of denied crop insurance because of an unpaid \$60.00 fee from twelve years ago. He had not planted a row of crops since 2000, and was unaware of the outstanding fee. The farmer had initially been loaned \$150,000 by a local bank to plant his row of crops earlier this year, but the bank recalled the loan once they learned his crop insurance was denied. However, his crops were already planted and the money had been expended so he could not return the loan. Our office worked closely with USDA Risk Management for guidance and resources, he paid the fine and was ultimately removed from the debt list. This allowed him to re-file for crop insurance and he was accepted in June 2012.

2012 Job Fair Testimonial

Connie Franklin, Birmingham, AL

"I first learned about Congresswoman Terri Sewell's Job Fair at the Alabama Career Center. After hearing the announcements on TV, I was eager to attend the event. Once I was inside I was able to give my resume to several vendors. The event has led to an interview with one company and I have received three potential opportunities. I was laid off in April 2011. Last year was really hard and no one was hiring due to the economy. But I've really been serious about seeking employment this year. Overall, I think this was a great idea and I look forward to hearing from the vendors regarding future employment."

Social Media

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It is an honor to serve the 7th District in Congress.
I'll be back in touch again soon!

Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress