

September 2015

CONGRESSWOMAN TERRI SEWELL

REPRESENTING ALABAMA'S 7TH DISTRICT

Friend,

It is an honor to serve you in Congress! One of the most important responsibilities I have as your representative is to update you on the work we are doing on your behalf. This newsletter serves as a monthly update on the progress we have made both in Washington and in Alabama's 7th Congressional District. For more information, please visit our website at <http://sewell.house.gov/>.

Terri Sewell



Rep. Terri Sewell Visits Alabama Troops in Iraq



Our brave men and women in uniform play an integral role in Iraq, and my visit to Ebril and Baghdad deepened my appreciation for the sacrifices they have made to protect our country.

I was especially honored to meet with members of the Alabama National Guard's 20th Special Forces division, and to learn more about their vital mission.



A Living Legend



What a treat! I spent some time catching up with Ms. Annie Pearl Avery during her recent visit to Washington, D.C. Ms. Avery is a living legend, and one of the courageous Foot Soldiers of the Voting Rights Movement!

Bipartisan Support for the Voting Rights Advancement Act!

I am excited to announce that the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015 has bipartisan support in the Senate. Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska became the first Republican to support the bill, and I am hopeful that other Republicans – in both the House and Senate – will join our efforts to restore federal voting protections.

I am proud to sponsor this bill in the U.S. House of Representatives, alongside my colleagues Reps. Judy Chu and Linda Sanchez. Senators Patrick Leahy, Dick Durbin and Chris Coons introduced a companion Senate bill.



Hope on Wheels



Congratulations to the University of Alabama at Birmingham Children's Hospital! Thanks to Hyundai Hope on Wheels, the Birmingham Children's Hospital will receive \$250,000 for research.

Constituent Success Story

A Jefferson County veteran contacted our Tuscaloosa office for assistance with his VA claim that had been open since 2012. He was experiencing severe financial hardships as a result of the delay.

Our office contacted the Veterans Administration Regional Office (VARO) to inquire on the status of his claim and to get the ball rolling. Our efforts helped the veteran receive a retroactive payment of more than \$240,000!

CONNECT WITH US

Please be sure to "like" us on [Facebook](#), and follow us on [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#) to receive Congressional updates and stay abreast of office events!

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



Honoring Alabama's Treasures



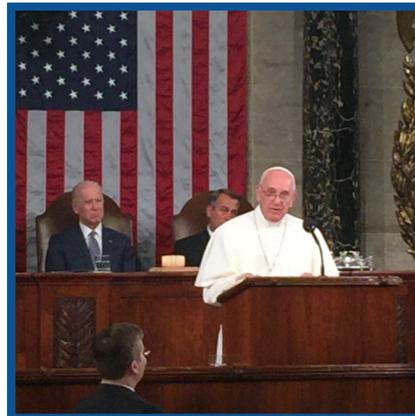
During September we honored three Alabama treasures in Washington, D.C. I was privileged to witness and learn from the brilliance of Judge U.W. Clemon when I served as his law clerk in 1992. His teaching, mentoring, and sage counsel have been a constant guiding force in my life for over 30 years. I was honored to present him with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Southern Company's Evening of Excellence.

The illustrious Attorney Fred Gray represented Rosa Parks, and later Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He's the legal legend who represented the brave Foot Soldiers of the Voting Rights Movement in the case *William v. Wallace*, which forced the State of Alabama to protect marchers as they walked from Selma to Montgomery. I was proud to present him with a Phoenix Award for his work!



Amelia Boynton Robinson was my hero, and a trailblazer who paved the way for me to become the first African-American woman to represent Alabama in Congress. I think about her every day, and she received a posthumous Phoenix Award for her contributions to the Voting Rights Movement.

Pope Francis Addresses Congress



Pope Francis' address to Congress reminded our nation of its greatness, and challenged us to go even farther in the pursuit of liberty and justice. We must look at our neighbor as our brother, and work to end injustice anywhere it exists.

I was pleased to hear His Holiness acknowledge the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and recognize the significance of the marches from Selma to Montgomery. As the Pope noted, 'dreams lead to action, to participation, to commitment.'

I cannot think of a better example than the courage and strength shown by those brave men and women for whom that dream was so real it pushed them to lay down their very lives for equality. That moment was especially poignant for me, as I had the privilege of sitting next to my personal hero and civil rights icon Representative John Lewis.

