

July/August 2016

CONGRESSWOMAN TERRI SEWELL

REPRESENTING ALABAMA'S 7TH DISTRICT

Friends,

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 an update on the progress we have made both in Washington and in Alabama's 7th Congressional District during the month of June.

For more information on recent developments in our office, please visit our website at <http://sewell.house.gov/>.

Terri Sewell



5th Annual Congressional Job Fair in Birmingham Was a Big Success!



On Thursday, August 11, our annual Job Fair returned to Birmingham where we launched this effort in 2012. The event brought together 127 employers from a diverse range of sectors throughout the 7th Congressional District. Nearly 2,000 constituents from Birmingham and across our district attended the job fair and connected face-to-face with potential employers in the area.



Our office has implemented a results-driven approach to addressing the unemployment crisis in our district. Our efforts would not be possible if not for the support of the community and the amazing staff in my Alabama district and D.C. offices! A special thanks to all those who work hard to make our Job Fair 2016 such a big success.

President Obama Signs Bill to Name Selma Post Office after Amelia Boynton Robinson



On July 27, President Obama signed H.R. 4777 into law. I introduced the bill to name the Selma Post Office after the matriarch of the Voting Rights Movement, Amelia Boynton Robinson.

A native of Selma—Amelia Boynton Robinson made history in 1964 as the first woman to run for Congress from the State of Alabama. I know the journey I now take in Congress was only made possible because of her courage, tenacity and faith. As a daughter of Selma, I was incredibly grateful for the opportunity to bestow such a befitting honor to the life and legacy of Selma's own Amelia Boynton Robinson. Her acts of courage truly represent the heart, spirit and essence of Selma.

I am filled with excitement as the planning for the dedication ceremony commences. A dedicatory plaque will be placed in the U.S. Post Office in her honor.

Project R.E.A.D.Y. Workshop Hosted at Lawson State



In preparation for the Birmingham Job Fair we partnered with Lawson State Univ. to host a Project R.E.A.D.Y. workshop seminar. Our district is full of talented people who are eager to work. My office started Project R.E.A.D.Y. to provide free training workshops that prepare attendees for success in the workforce. At the event at Lawson on July 21, we focused on resume assistance, interview preparation, on-the-job etiquette, and previewed some of the major corporations that would be participating in our August Job Fair. We had a special treat, Miss Lawson State University Beatrice Collins gave her personal testimony about how a 2012 Project R.E.A.D.Y. seminar helped her launch her career. These success stories are the reason we make sure that this initiative continues. A special thanks to Dr. Perry Ward and Lawson State!

Congress in Your Community Comes to Sumter County



Congress in Your Community serves as our office's way to stay in touch with you. On July 19, I visited Sumter County where we had an open Town Hall hosted by the University of West Alabama addressing issues such as healthcare in rural communities and funding opportunities in the Black Belt. A Special thanks to Dr. Ken Tucker and the great people of University of West Alabama!

Francis Marion High School Receives \$1.7 Million Technology Grant



August 18, 2016 was a great day in Perry County as Francis Marion High School received a \$1.7million technology grant from Apple, AT&T and the White House Connected initiative. Over 800 students and teachers received iPads and Internet connection for three years. This is an amazing example of public/private partnership working for the

people in rural underserved Alabama and shows a great commitment that closes the digital divide.

Francis Marion School applied for the grant and was selected by Connected Nation, an independent, non-profit organization focused on increasing internet use and accelerating internet availability in underserved areas.

HUD Official Tours Selma Housing Authority



On July 18, United States Housing and Urban Development official, Lourdes Castro Ramirez visited Selma, Alabama to tour our public housing facilities. Together with Selma Mayor George Evans and Selma Housing Authority representatives, we met with residents of George Washington Carver Homes to listen to concerns about the condition of deteriorating housing conditions and neighborhood safety.

Residents were able to share their concerns about public housing in Selma, and offer suggestions about possible programs for residents in the community. We now await a report from HUD outlining an assessment of how to best address our housing needs in Selma.

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

