

## Congresswoman

# Eleanor Holmes Norton

Winter 2005

## D.C. Vets Who Fought for Voting Rights in Iraq Ask House Leaders for the D.C. Vote

The three soldiers asked for a meeting with congressional leaders and were received by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. Speaker Dennis Hastert did not respond.

### In Their Own Words

▲ “Returning to me and other citizens... the vote in the Committee of the Whole we once had... would make me as proud as I will be to see the Iraqi people go to the polls on January 30th.”

— MARCUS GRAY, WARD 8, BALLOU SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, 2000

▲ “I want to speak up and ask that Congress take the first step... to give my family and me and my fellow D.C. citizens voting representation [by returning] the vote in the Committee of the Whole.”

— EMORY KOSH, WARD 7, EASTERN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, 2000

▲ “I come to the Congress today to ask for that vote before we are deployed again... The maximum is what my buddies and I are pledged to give. We believe that voting representation is not too much to ask in return.”

— ISAAC LEWIS, WARD 7, DUNBAR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, 1996

### House Honors

▲ “I ask the House of Representatives to honor the residents of the District of Columbia who have served in every war since the Revolutionary War of 1775, by recognizing three young men today who served in the Iraqi War without a vote, Marcus Gray, Emory Kosh, and Isaac Lewis.” Framed Congressional Record Honors presented to three D.C. veterans by Congresswoman Norton. They also received a special proclamation from Mayor Anthony Williams.



Photo By Lateef Mangum

Norton met with Isaac Lewis, Emory Kosh, and Marcus Gray, graduates of Dunbar, Eastern, and Ballou Senior High Schools, respectively, to discuss her efforts to return the Committee of the Whole vote on the House floor that D.C. won 10 years ago, as a first step toward full voting rights. Gray and Lewis have been informed they could be redeployed this year.

## The Annual Norton Tax Preparation & Information Fair

*First Come – First Served*

**Saturday, February 12, 2005**

**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Free Help To Fill out Your D.C. and Federal Taxes!!**

*The New Washington Convention Center*

*801 Mount Vernon Place, NW (between 7th & 9th Streets)*

**Get an Early Refund at No Cost**

### The Government May Owe You!

◆ Earned Income Tax Credit Refunds as much as \$4,300 for Single, Married, or Raising Children With Incomes \$11,490 - \$35,458

◆ Norton \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit

◆ Other Valuable Credits

**IF YOU FILE** 1040, 1040-A, 1040-EZ, DC D40 and D40-EZ 2004 forms only. Get the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Child & Dependent Care Credit, Elderly & Disabled Credit, the D.C. Homebuyer Tax Credit.

**BRING** W-2's, Form 1099, itemized deductions, documentation such as dependents' social security cards to support deductions and credits, blank check for direct deposits.

**Metro:** Mt. Vernon Square/7th St.—Convention Center—Green & Yellow Lines

**Buses:** 70, 71, 66, G8, P6

Parking: Private Lots & Street Meters

*Taxation Demands Passage of the  
No Taxation Without Representation Act*

**Please Note!** If you have income from rental property, partnerships, small business corporations, estates and trusts, or stocks/bonds sales or if you are self-employed, please seek assistance from a paid tax preparer.

# Big Norton Victories in the 108th Congress

**Gun laws saved.** See page 4.

**Two major money bills passed.**  
See page 4.

**First budget autonomy bill passed in Senate.**

**Successful fight for permanent Homeland Security headquarters and jobs in D.C.**

**D.C. voting rights and recognition of statehood advanced.**

Hearings on No Taxation Without Representation Act in Senate and House, and bill voted out of committee to Senate floor. Norton prime-time speech at Democratic National Convention. D.C. flag raised alongside state flags at Union Station.

**Best committee assignments for D.C.** Named to Homeland Security Committee. Elected Ranking Member of subcommittee that controls most city jobs and economic development. House D.C. subcommittee abolished, eliminating unneeded layer of intrusion into self government.

**3,000 flu doses to the city from Capitol Physician.**

**Lead water crisis relief.** Two House hearings. \$500,000 for drinking water infrastructure improvements. \$200,000 to monitor residents' exposure to lead.

**Two new tourist attractions and renovation of a tourist favorite.** Signed into law—Norton's Carter G. Woodson legislation to make the Shaw home of the "father of black history" a tourist attraction and the African American Museum bill (co-sponsored with Rep. John Lewis). \$2 million to renovate Frederick Douglass Home in S.E. passed.

**Airport noise.** Reduction of proposed new flights. Amendments to

restart small plane service and \$100 million reimbursement for shutdown at National.

**\$30 million for combined sewer overflow. Anacostia River bill.** \$5 million for Anacostia River walk and bike trail. D.C. included in the Water Resources Development Act for the first time. Primary sponsor of the first bill for total cleanup of the Anacostia River, joined by Republican and Democratic regional delegation.

**New annual vehicle for rapid enactment of D.C. laws** that change the Home Rule charter.

**First hometown D.C. stamp,** including hometown landmarks, with 70 million stamps in circulation.

**\$300 million for transportation and infrastructure improvements.**

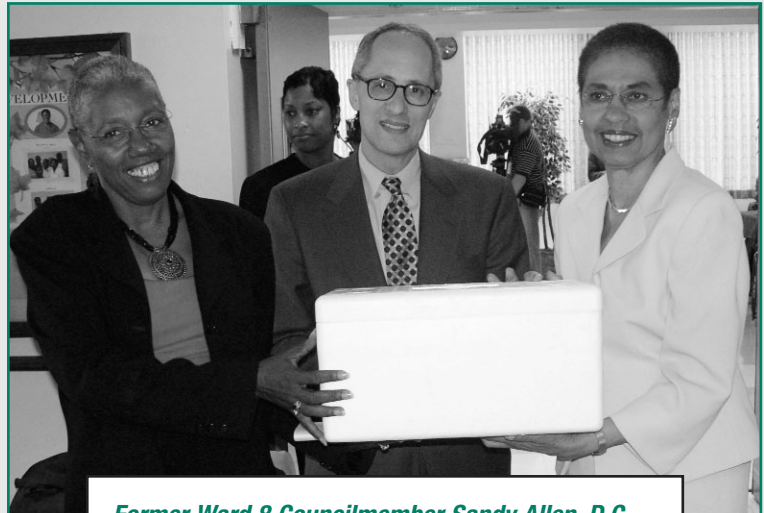
**Civil Rights.** Racial profiling provision passed by House. Appropriations language to safeguard EEOC enforcement.

**House passage of Norton bill to name Federal Court annex for Judge William B. Bryant,** first federal black chief judge and first black assistant U.S. attorney in D.C.

**Solar energy amendment for federal buildings,** \$60 million annually for five years.

**D.C. added to bill to assure House representation after a catastrophe.**

## Norton Gets Scarce Flu Vaccine for D.C. from Capitol



*Former Ward 8 Councilmember Sandy Allen, D.C. Public Health Director Dr. Gregg A. Pane and Congresswoman Norton deliver flu vaccine she got from Congress to the J. B. Johnson Nursing Home.*

## Norton Got Federal Funds for New York Avenue Metro



*Norton, Metro and D.C. officials cut the ribbon on the New York Avenue-Gallaudet University Metro Station.* Photo By Larry Levine

## Strong Goals for the 109th

- ▲ Making maximum use of Senate passage of D.C. budget autonomy to get House passage.
- ▲ Bipartisan bill on federal contribution as a payment for federally imposed costs to D.C. taxpayers.
- ▲ Major educational effort from Congress to bring national attention to her voting rights bill.
- ▲ Rerouting hazardous rail shipments away from D.C.
- ▲ Flu vaccine bill.
- ▲ Sensible coordinated security, including a citywide security plan, elimination of checkpoints, and reopening of First Street to Metro and tourist buses.
- ▲ National bill for pre-election day "early voting" to eliminate long lines and for remedies to assure provisional votes are counted.
- ▲ SAFE TRAINS Act with Norton as lead sponsor and Homeland Security Committee cosponsors to protect subway and rail travel from terrorism, as Congress has done for air travel.
- ▲ Presentation of Norton Commission on Black Men and Boys Action Plan to city and Congress to address unique problems of black males and families.
- ▲ Bill to regulate the National Zoo like other U.S. zoos to avoid neglect and deaths of animals.

# Utah Says "No" to D.C.-Utah House Bill

## The Facts in D.C.

Congresswoman Norton continues to work with citizen groups who have differing approaches to D.C. democracy. Statehood advocates, for example, lobbied for her Budget Autonomy bill that passed the Senate in 2004 instead (D.C. temporarily gave up some state costs in 1997 and therefore cannot get statehood at this time). Three other D.C. voting rights bills also have support among D.C. residents.

### ▲ How will D.C. get its Rights?

History shows that D.C. and other Americans almost never get all their demands in one bill at one time. D.C.'s limited home rule is one example. In the Congress, all or nothing usually means nothing.

### ▲ What should the strategy be?

Never confuse strategy with goals. Maintain leverage necessary to get the best bill possible by not folding prematurely. As openings appear, seize opportunities for progress.

### ▲ Where does Norton stand on the Davis bill for a D.C. vote in the House only?

Norton will continue to sponsor her own bill for full voting rights unless there is an opportunity to make progress on another. Norton has encouraged Rep. Tom Davis and has worked with him on his bill from the beginning. She got Rep. Davis to change his original proposal making D.C. a Maryland congressional district containing D.C. and Maryland residents to an independent D.C. district.

### ▲ Since the Davis bill has a prominent Majority party sponsor, will Majority leaders bring it to the floor?

No. The announced position of the Speaker is that he will not bring a bill to the floor unless the majority of his party supports it. The Republican leadership and their House Conference continue to voice strong opposition to D.C. voting rights. They even refused to return the less valuable vote in the Committee of the Whole that Republicans withdrew in 1995, as D.C. soldiers who fought for voting rights in Iraq personally requested. See page 1.

### ▲ Would the Majority favor a politically neutral proposal of one vote for us and one vote for them?

No. Rep. Davis has been honest that the only way to get a D.C. House vote is to also give Utah a vote. The best feature of his bill is one vote for D.C. and one vote for Utah, but the House leadership is unmoved. Now Utah has rejected this approach because that state qualifies for two more seats in the House on its own, according to the most recent U.S. Census.

### ▲ Should a House-only vote be removed as an option?


No. Conditions could change. All options should be on the table. Meanwhile, the No Taxation Without Representation Act expresses the will of D.C. residents and should not be abandoned.

## The Response from Utah

From the *Salt Lake Tribune*, May 24, 2004

"[T]he state's senior House member says, Why bother? 'Why would we fool around with a seat now when we are going to pick one up, and possibly two, after the next census anyway?' said Rep. Chris Cannon... That trade-off is considered crucial to the bill having any chance of passage in Congress... [T]hanks to Utah's traditionally high birth rate, the state's population by 2010 is expected to be enough to warrant a fourth seat anyway. 'By 2005, that means we are in the 2006 election cycle, so we take the seat in 2007 and maybe we have that seat for four years and then we're into redistricting again,' said Cannon. 'At some point, Republicans are going to say, "Why would we give a Democrat a seat with a vote when we only have a four-year benefit with a balance and then we are in a deficit [when the House returns to 435 seats after the 2010 census]?"'

## Norton Wins Place for Ballou Marching Band in Inaugural Parade

 "These children go to school everyday where the fatal shootings of two students occurred this year and the school was closed for more than a month because of a mercury spill. Instead of succumbing to low morale, the students raised the hopes and inspired the aspirations of their fellow students, their teachers and staff alike, as well as the proud residents living in surrounding neighborhoods, and the people of the District of Columbia. An opportunity to play and march in the inaugural parade, an event of very special national significance, would have a unique effect at Ballou well beyond the traditional school and city pride."

NORTON LETTER TO PRESIDENT BUSH

## Norton and Teen Superstar Promote Exercise for Kids



Norton and soccer prodigy Freddy Adu spoke to the children at the Boys and Girls Club about her bill that encourages exercise to defeat childhood obesity. Adu's DC United team won its fourth national soccer championship in 2004.

## Norton for 9/11 Commission Intelligence Reform Bill




Norton met with 9/11 family members Abraham Scott, Kathy Dillaber, and Robin Wiener at the House, who urged passage of 9/11 bill.

"After an impressive, exhaustive investigation, the 9/11 Commission ... deserves the credit for ... the bill.... Of particular concern to me ... are... problems that... deeply involve intelligence and the judgment of public officials.... The invasion of Iraq teaches the necessity of assuring that competing information not only reaches but influences the President.... This bill is already late, delayed by the Administration, but finally delivered at the hands of the 9/11 families and the Commission. We must seize this opportunity and pass this bill."

EXCERPT FROM NORTON DECEMBER 2004 FLOOR STATEMENT

## You Live in D.C., But Has Your Group Toured the Capitol?!

 Visit your Congresswoman and learn about the Capitol on a Norton-sponsored tour of the Capitol for student and adult groups. *Special to Principals and Teachers* – Every student should visit the Capitol at least once before graduating from high school. Call us to book well in advance. 225-8050.

**Capitol Trivia:** Name the cities where Congress met before settling in D.C. Turn page upside down for answer. Answer: Philadelphia, Baltimore, Lancaster, York, Princeton, Annapolis, Trenton, and New York City.

# D.C.'s Two Most Important Money Benefits Passed

## Norton's D.C.-only \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit and Business Tax Credits a Big Hit with Residents. Don't Miss Out!

- ▲ \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit good until end of 2005 and retroactive for 2004 for all who purchased in D.C. last year.
- ▲ Business tax credits also extended.
- ▲ Norton working with D.C. businesses for permanent renewal of all D.C. tax credits.

## Big Increase in Norton's Tuition Bill

- ▲ **50% increase** – \$25.6 million – in the program that is already sending 6,000 D.C. residents to 156 colleges in D.C., this region, and nationwide.
- ▲ **Residents** may attend any U.S. public college or get \$2,500 to attend private colleges in D.C. or region.
- ▲ **30% increase in D.C. college attendance** compared to national average of 11%. The tuition benefit also has kept taxpayers living in D.C.
- ▲ **Annual HBCU funding for UDC.**

## Norton and Citizens Coalition Wage Successful Fight to Save D.C. Gun Safety Laws

Working with relatives of children killed by gunfire, residents and D.C. officials, Congresswoman Norton drove back three attempts to repeal D.C. gun safety laws, two in the Senate and one in the House. Norton at a press conference on the repeal in the Senate with Co-Chairs of the Coalition to Save D.C. Gun Safety Laws from left: Iris Toyer, Parents United; Marita Michael, mother of gun victim; Hannah Hawkins, Children of Mine Center; Josh Williams, Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO; Lori Kaplan, Latin American Youth Center; and Robert Peck, Greater Washington Board of Trade.



## You Can't Stay Informed Without Important Norton E-News !!

### Sign-Up Today for Norton E-News !

Stay up to date on Norton community events, D.C. issues in the Congress, the war, and national issues that can make or break us locally—health care, crime, housing, voting rights and all the rest. *Get news you can use when it's fresh and hot!* With the click of your mouse get periodic Norton emails.

To sign up go to:  
[www.norton.house.gov](http://www.norton.house.gov)

## !! Small Businesses Can Access Capital !!

### At Norton Small Business Workshop

#### On the Spot Applications for Bank and SBA Loans!!

- ▲ How to Get a Commercial Business Loan Rather than a Consumer Loan for Your Business
- ▲ How to Buy the Space You Are Renting
- ▲ How to Get on the GSA Schedule for Government Procurement
- ▲ One-on-one Advice From Federal Government Contracting Officers, Bank Loan Officers and SBA Specialists

#### AND MUCH MORE

Friday, April 22, 2005 — 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The New Washington Convention Center ♦ 801 Mount Vernon Place, NW

D.C. residents and businesses only – Limited seating – Pre-registration requested by April 15th to guarantee seat

Call 783-5065 to register – On-site registration 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.



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## Norton Tax Fair – February 12th