



# The 7<sup>th</sup> Express

Proudly Moving Alabama's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Forward

Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell

November 14, 2011

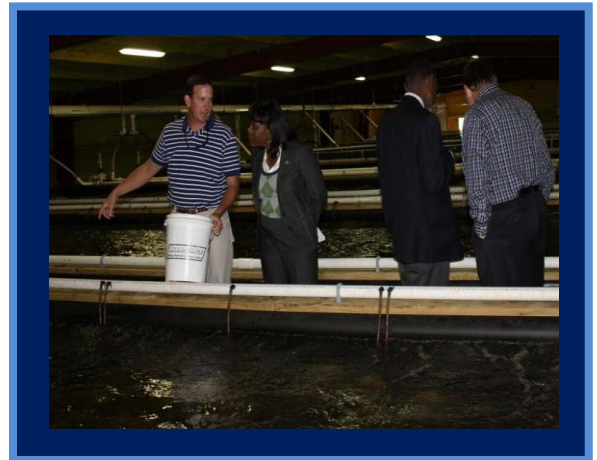
## The 7<sup>th</sup> District Is On The Move!

### Greetings!

The 7th Express is on the move! 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](http://sewell.house.gov/) to visit our website or visit <http://sewell.house.gov/>.

## Congresswoman Sewell Hosts Grown in Alabama: A Farm Bill Listening Tour

On October 28, our office had the pleasure of hosting *Grown in Alabama: A Farm Bill Listening Tour*. The tour was a wonderful opportunity for us to meet with farmers, producers, and growers from the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. We toured several agricultural sites and also held several forums giving those who attended an opportunity to discuss various issues affecting the agriculture industry. Local farmers and producers were able to discuss their concerns and suggestions regarding the 2012 Farm Bill with several state and national agricultural and rural development officials. We truly enjoyed these interesting discussions and input from our farmers, producers, growers and agricultural officials as Congress begins to work on the 2012 Farm Bill. This was a very productive and engaging event for our office. We greatly appreciate the participation of all who attended and helped to make this event a wonderful success.



## Blast Off With Congresswoman Sewell: A Day with NASA Astronauts



On October 21, our office hosted *To Infinity and Beyond: A Day with NASA Astronauts*. The goal of this event was to inspire and educate students in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District about careers and opportunities in space science, aerospace technology, engineering and related scientific fields. Students from Birmingham City Schools and Bessemer City Schools had the unique and exciting opportunity to speak to Commander Mike Fossum, an astronaut currently stationed on the International Space Station, via a live satellite downlink. A discussion of science, mathematics, and engineering educational opportunities in schools followed the downlink. We truly enjoyed this event and exposing our next generation to the opportunities that await them. The sky is truly the limit!

## Congresswoman Sewell on Black Farmers Settlement

On October 28, a federal judge ruled in favor of thousands of black farmers across the nation in a class action suit filed against the United States Department of Agriculture. Over several decades, these farmers were denied loans and endured systematic discrimination by the USDA. This settlement is very important to farmers in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and the state of Alabama because it will provide much needed funding for farmers in some of the poorest areas in our state and in the nation. With this ruling, our country moves one step closer to closing an unfortunate chapter in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's civil rights history and working to ensure equal treatment for all people. [Click here](#) to read more about the settlement.

## Congresswoman Sewell Salutes the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Magic City Classic

During the weekend of October 29<sup>th</sup>, our office had the wonderful opportunity to participate in the festivities of the annual Magic City Classic. I had the great pleasure of participating in the coin toss before the game and appearing on the Tom Joyner Morning Show, which was broadcasted live from the stadium. Our office also hosted a tailgate at the event to give all who attended an opportunity to meet with my staff and me. The Magic City Classic is a long-standing and revered football rivalry between Alabama State University and Alabama A&M University. It is held each year at Legion Field in Birmingham. We immensely enjoyed the opportunity to interact with our constituents, friends, students and alumni from each of the schools. I truly appreciate any opportunity to meet with my constituents while also celebrating the legacies of two of Alabama's most prestigious Historically Black Universities.



## Congresswoman Sewell on Growth in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

This past month, our office was pleased to announce several opportunities that will positively affect the residents of Alabama's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in the areas of healthcare, job creation, and increased access to affordable housing.

- DaVita Dialysis has been approved by the State of Alabama to open a dialysis center in Marion, Alabama. Their nine centers already serve more than 700 people throughout the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. This new center will ensure that our Black Belt residents have access to the highest quality of dialysis services. [Click here](#) to read more about it.
- Mercedes-Benz announced that it will build a fifth model at its Alabama plant in Tuscaloosa County. This investment will create 400 new jobs in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and will increase the total investment into the Tuscaloosa plant by nearly \$2.4 billion. [Click here](#) to read more about it.
- The Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta awarded a \$1 million grant to build an affordable housing development in Selma. This housing development will be targeted to low income seniors. The Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta has committed a total of \$4.9 million in low-cost funds to support community economic and affordable housing initiatives in Alabama. To read more about this award, [Click here](#).

We are so grateful for all of the companies and organizations that have chosen to invest in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Our office will continue to work hard each day to bring new opportunities to our district.

## Social Media

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

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/RepSewell>

YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/RepSewell>

Twitter

<http://www.twitter/RepTerriSewell>

I would like to thank you all for your support through social media! We now have over 400 Twitter followers and over 1,000 Facebook Likes! Continue to keep up with the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District through Social Media!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Terri'.

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

Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress