

DC Update

August has come and gone. Summer is almost over. Members of Congress are preparing to return to Washington DC. By the end of the month, Congress must pass legislation to fund the government. Since the majority has declined to put forward an actual budget, this will probably take the form of a "continuing resolution" which temporarily funds government agencies, programs and departments at current levels.

It is also very likely that the House will consider President Obama's new \$50,000,000,000 stimulus package for infrastructure. That this new money is being called for to "strengthen the recovery" is particularly amazing since last year's "stimulus" bill is not yet spent and was also supposed to partially go towards infrastructure spending.

9/11 Remembrance

Nine years ago tomorrow, two planes were driven into the Twin Towers, one heroically crashed in rural Pennsylvania and another flew into the Pentagon.

On September 11, 2001, America saw evil and horror. We saw heroism and nobility. More than 3,000 American civilians lost their lives. Many first responders suffered serious health consequences as a result of exposure to contaminants. Families of victims, law enforcement, volunteers, and survivors will forever be affected by their experiences on that day.

Since then, the men and women of our Armed Services have fought to bring the perpetrators of this terrible attack to justice. Many have lost their lives while preserving our liberty.

On this anniversary of 9/11, may we remember all those who lost loved ones in our thoughts and our prayers. And may we remain committed to repelling the horrors of terrorism with unity and heroism.

Hunger Action Month

September is National Hunger Action Month. With 9.6% of Americans unemployed and one in six people living below the poverty level, local food pantries are finding their resources stretched. Those that want to help relieve hunger are encouraged to donate to a food bank program in the St. Louis area. Local grocery stores may also be participating in a food drive this month for area food banks. Volunteers are also needed to help sort, package distribute food to the elderly and local families.