

This past week, I had the honor to speak at an event in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His daughter, Rev. Dr. Bernice A. King, also attended and spoke about the vision of Dr. King. When we revisit and remember the past, and what earlier citizens of this nation went through so we can thrive today, we remind ourselves of what is great about this country. Dr. King was focused on the positive, on bringing out the best inside each of us, and he encouraged everyone to dedicate themselves to the betterment of our community, and our fellow Americans. As he said: *If you want to be important—wonderful. If you want to be recognized—wonderful. If you want to be great—wonderful. But recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.* It's a great message to remember and honor.

Over the weekend, I attended 9/11 remembrance events in both Hampton and Fredericksburg. So many people came out to honor those lives lost. I was truly moved to stand with many citizens, first responders, service members and veterans on that solemn day of remembrance. Especially here in the First District, this day is remembered as we lost great citizens at the Pentagon that day. Although the passing of time may ease our sorrow, we must continue to honor the victims and their families each year. As so many echoed that day: Never forget.

On Tuesday I was privileged to visit Taylor Middle School in Warrenton, Virginia. School is back in full swing, and the kids were eager to ask questions about how Congress works, and if we have to wear a tie every day. We had a great visit, and talking with the students there was a great reminder of the hope we have in our leaders of tomorrow.

Back in Washington, DC, I joined with the Virginia Delegation in a meeting with NASA Administrator Charles Bolden. NASA embodies the American spirit of both innovation and hard work. Right here in the First District, the NASA Langley Research Center is the backbone of our country's work in aeronautics. I was pleased to have the chance to meet with Administrator Bolden. I have invited him to join me in visiting NASA Langley to see firsthand how the talented people who work there are leading the way on the nation's critical aeronautics and earth science programs. The research and testing at NASA Langley are critical to helping us better understand our climate and improve aviation technology. I look forward to continuing the conversation with Ambassador Bolden when he visits Langley.

As always, if we ever be of assistance please feel free to contact our office at 202-225-4261 or by e-mail at www.wittman.house.gov .

Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.