

# Jo Bonner



## THE WASHINGTON CYBER REPORT

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### PARIS AIR SHOW

Earlier this month, Governor Bob Riley, Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions, and I - as well as other elected officials - traveled to France for a trans-Atlantic economic development mission to build on the Southeast's growing aerospace industry.

Many others from Alabama made the trip, including Mobile Mayor Sam Jones, Baldwin County Commissioners Wayne Gruenloh and David Ed Bishop, officials from the Mobile Chamber of Commerce and the Mobile Airport Authority, as well as some fifty business and community leaders, many who traveled at their own expense.

The trip was a great opportunity for us to sell Alabama, and there is no better salesman for our state than Governor Riley. He led the Alabama delegation and helped introduce us to some of the key players in the aerospace and defense industries.

We toured the Airbus manufacturing complex and saw the A330 and A380 production lines. We had a chance to meet with a number of officials from air and space companies - who have indicated they want to locate in south Alabama should the tanker be built in Mobile.

We have a lot at stake and a lot riding on Alabama's developing aerospace industry. As you know, Northrop Grumman in partnership with EADS North America selected Mobile as the assembly site for its KC-30 tanker, should the team win the \$40 billion Air Force contract to



*Allan McArtor, chairman of Airbus North America Holdings, Inc.; Senator Jeff Sessions; Governor Bob Riley; Dr. Ron Sugar; chairman of the board and CEO of Northrop Grumman Corporation; Ralph Crosby, chairman and CEO of EADS North America; and I stand in front of the first set of wings for the KC-30 at the Airbus manufacturing complex in Toulouse, France.*

replace the KC-135 aircraft fleet.

The contract, which should be awarded in October, would create some 1,000 high-paying jobs and thousands more could be expected from aircraft parts suppliers and other related businesses. The highlight of the tour of the Airbus complex was seeing the first set of wings for the KC-30, which is the Northrop Grumman/EADS team's offer for the new tanker.

It is an exciting time for the Southeast, the state of Alabama, and certainly southwest Alabama to be on the forefront of aviation history, all the while helping to defend our country and friends abroad.

### FIRST LADY VISITS

### MOBILE'S TEAM FOCUS

*First Lady Laura Bush talks to National Team Focus members at*



*Spring Hill College. Pictured with her (l to r) are: Tony Javens, a graduate of the program, and Mike Gottfried, Team Focus co-founder.*

Last week, First Lady Laura Bush traveled to Mobile to commend Team Focus, the Mobile-based community outreach program that provides a positive role model to young men without a father at home.

Founded in 1999 by Mike and Mickey Gottfried, the program has grown rapidly, and today, there are camps in seven states and the District of Columbia.

The mission of Team Focus is to provide fatherless boys with role models and positive influences in order to build character and foster self-esteem, self-worth and self-confidence.

One of the five-day summer camps was held at Spring Hill College, where Mrs. Bush visited with the campers and their mentors.

As the leader of the president's Helping America's Youth initiative, Mrs. Bush thanked all of the mentors for "trying to fill that void in the lives of these boys and being so successful at it."

Mrs. Bush closed her remarks by challenging our future fathers with the words "if you can be a father to your own children, and then they'll know what it's like to have a dad that loves them."

# FIRST DISTRICT ART CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Several weeks ago, I hosted a reception for the winners of this year's First Congressional District Art Competition: *An Artistic Discovery* at the Mobile Museum of Art.

I have been honored to offer a competition that provides excellent exposure for the talented young men and women in southwest Alabama.

Bailey Miller of Baker High School was presented first place honors for her entry, "Water Wonderland." She is also eligible for a scholarship from the Savannah College of Art and Design. Her artwork, along with the other winning entries, will be displayed for one year in the United States Capitol building.

Below is a complete list of the winners from this year's competition. Congratulations to all of them for entering such great work!

**1st Place: Bailey Miller**

Baker High School  
Title of Work: "Water Wonderland"

**2nd Place: Andrew Landry**

St. Paul's Episcopal School  
Title of Work: "At the Paul"

**3rd Place: Elizabeth Norwood**

Baker High School  
Title of Work: "For Every Piece Broken a New Color is Born"

**Honorable Mention:**

**Breanna Rogers**

John L. LeFlore High School  
Title of Work: "My True Colors"

**John Miller**

Foley High School  
Title of Work: "Rooted Pathways"

**Rebecca Wilbur**

Foley High School  
Title of Work: "Jitter Kitty"

**Courtney Moralis**

Theodore High School  
Title of Work: "Drought"

**Joe Montefusco**

Alabama School of Math and Science  
Title of Work: "Self Portrait"



*I presented Bailey Miller, a student at Baker High School, with first-place honors in this year's First Congressional District Art Competition: An Artistic Discovery.*



*I attended the Foster Grandparent Program and the Senior Companion Program annual picnic in Mobile last month. The Foster Grandparent Program enables seniors to volunteer with special needs or disadvantaged children. Senior Companions aid frail senior adults, adults with disabilities, and those with terminal illnesses who need extra assistance to live independently in their own homes or communities. Pictured with me from left are: Belinda Metzger, SCP Director; Toni L. Robinson, FGP Director; and Terri Grodsky, RSVP Director.*

## From the mailbox...

*Dear Congressman Jo Bonner,*

*I'd like to thank you for your quick action concerning my situation about which I wrote to you last month. Due to your efforts, I received my children's dental insurance cards in the mail last week, and I have received three double payments of child support. I received the first payment in late March and another in April. This afternoon, I received a third check.*

*I am satisfied with the double payments; and if he continues to double his payments, he will be current by September. As I stated in my previous letter, I don't need the entire delinquent amount in a lump sum. I just wanted him to make an effort to catch up, and he has far exceeded my expectations to this point. I have spoken with him, and he has assured me that the double payments will continue until he is current.*

*I don't know what you did, but it worked, and I am grateful for your hard work and dedication to the citizens of our state. Once again, thank you for your time and efforts.*

*Sincerely,  
A satisfied mother in Fairhope*

