

Jo Bonner



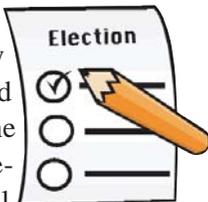
THE WASHINGTON CYBER REPORT

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PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY FEB. 5

Early Voting in Mobile/Baldwin Counties

The Alabama presidential primary election is just around the corner with the Democratic and Republican presidential primaries scheduled for Tuesday, February 5.



As most of you know, February 5 is also Fat Tuesday, so for those of us who live in Mobile and Baldwin counties, we will have the opportunity to cast our ballots on Wednesday, January 30.

Additionally, Mobile and Baldwin County voters can use absentee ballots for any reason because of the primary schedule. Voters in both counties must have their absentee ballots dropped off or postmarked by February 4.

The polls in Mobile and Baldwin counties will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both Wednesday, January 30, and Tuesday, February 5; however, your voting location will vary depending on the county in which you vote, so please contact your respective county probate office, check your local newspaper, or go to <http://www.earlyvotingday.com/>.

Unfortunately, the voter registration deadline has passed, but for those of you already registered, I strongly encourage you to exercise your right to vote.

SOUTH ALABAMA'S ECONOMY TAKING OFF

While much of the news recently has focused on the downturn of the national economy, good economic news continues for our neck of the woods. Just this month, Airbus announced it will shift a portion of its commercial aircraft production to Mobile if Northrop Grumman, along with Airbus' parent company EADS, is awarded the contract to build aerial refueling tankers for the Air Force.

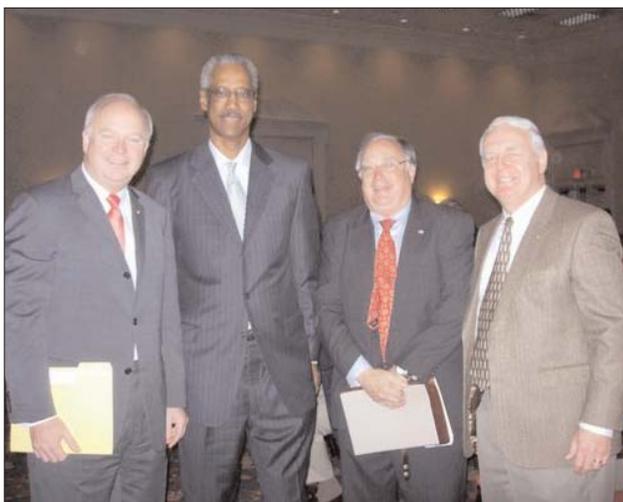


As you probably know, Northrop Grumman and EADS North America are competing against Boeing to build the next generation of tankers. Both teams have submitted their final proposals to the Department of Defense, and the Air Force is in the process of reading over thousands of pages of documents to determine the best bid and the best choice for the American warfighter. It looks as though the Air Force will announce its

decision late next month.

Toulouse, France and Seattle, Washington are currently the only cities in the world where the production of large commercial aircraft occurs. If Northrop Grumman is chosen to build the next generation of tankers, Mobile, Alabama, will become the third city and, in so doing, become one of the aerospace centers of excellence.

There's no doubt this is an exciting time for Mobile and for all of south Alabama.



Earlier this month, I attended an insurance symposium hosted by the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, where we discussed the National Flood Insurance Program. Pictured with me (l to r) are: Alabama Insurance Commissioner Walter Bell; local developer and real estate executive, Randy Delchamps; and former Foley mayor, Tim Russell.

2008 — A Look at the Year Ahead

The second session of the 110th Congress began this month, and Congress returned to unfinished business left over from the first session.

Most immediately, Congress will be faced with enacting into law permanent changes to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). FISA allows our intelligence community to monitor terrorist communications, and it is set to expire February 1. After already delaying the debate for six months, the Democratic majority voted to extend FISA for fifteen days instead of passing a long-term bill that updates the 1978 statute.

The House also returned its attention to the State Children's Health Insurance Program, also known as S-CHIP. For the second time this Congress, the House voted to sustain the president's veto. Overall, the vote was the eighth vote on the issue this Congress. As I have said many times before, my Republican colleagues and I stand ready to support a bill that extends and expands health coverage to poor American kids — not adults, not illegal immigrants, and not wealthy families.

Congress will also face a series of key decisions regarding our nation's economy. With our national economy in an obvious downturn, I was so pleased to see Congress and the president come together, across party lines, and create a stimulus package that will help boost our national economy.

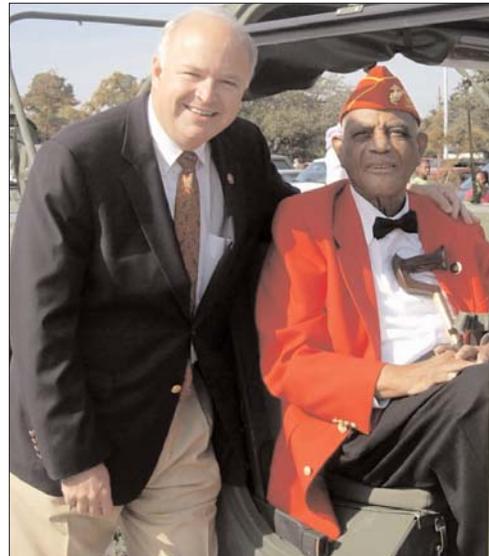
House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader John Boehner, and Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson came to an agreement to bring the bill to the House floor, and I am hopeful we will get it to the president's desk without delay.

FIRST DISTRICT ART CONTEST

It is time again for the annual Congressional High School Art Competition, *An Artistic Discovery*, which is coordinated by Members of the United States House of Representatives. This competition provides Members and the public an opportunity to encourage and recognize the creative imagination and spirit of American high school students nationwide.

The winning entries from around the country will be placed on display for one year in the United States Capitol complex. Each year so many talented young artists from across south Alabama enter great work, and I know this year will be no exception!

For more information, please contact Courtney Soward in my Mobile office at (251) 690-2811 or (800) 288-8721.



I was honored to participate in our most recent Veterans Day Parade. Pictured with me is South Alabama's Veteran of the Year, Mr. John Gray, who was also featured in Ken Burns' documentary, "The War".



Catherine Fair, a graduate of McGill-Toolen High School and a senior at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., recently completed an internship in my Washington office. During her internship, she assisted in the operations of the office, which included researching issues and conducting tours of the U.S. Capitol building.

From the mailbox...

Dear Congressman Jo Bonner,

Thank you for helping my brother with his Medicaid. He was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and we lost him last year. Your office helped our family to be able to get his Hospice care and the medication he needed.

He was a resident of Bayou la Batre. He lost everything he had during (Hurricane) Katrina. His home was a FEMA trailer, and he was a fisherman. We know he is in a better place, and we thank everyone for your help.

*Sincerely,
A grateful sister*

