

# Jo Bonner



## THE WASHINGTON CYBER REPORT

315 Cannon House Office Building ★ Washington, DC 20515 ★ (202) 225-4931 ★ April/May 2006

### AGRICULTURE NATURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE BILL



Last month, U.S. Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN) and I, along with 33 of our House colleagues, introduced legislation to provide almost \$4 billion worth of economic assistance to agricultural producers for losses from hurricane and other weather related causes in 2005.

The "Emergency Agricultural Disaster Assistance Act of 2006," H.R. 5099, is the related House legislation to S. 2438, the bipartisan agriculture disaster assistance legislation, which was included with some modifications by the Senate in its most recent supplemental appropriations bill.

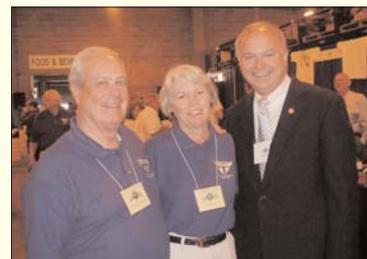
Over the last year, agricultural producers have experienced widespread devastation. Last year's hurricanes were especially difficult for our producers along the Gulf Coast. As a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, I know first hand that our agriculture community consists of proud, patriotic Americans. They love this country and do not complain when Mother Nature deals them a bad hand; they just keep working hard to try to make the best of a bad situation.

Assistance will be provided to producers of cotton, specialty crops, and nursery crops as well as sugarcane and dairy producers in hurricane affected counties. Tree producers who suffered losses will also receive assistance under the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). Currently, TAP provides emergency assistance to the agriculture industry; however, nurseries are not included. Under this legislation, TAP will include Christmas, ornamental, nursery, and potted trees as well as bushes, shrubs, and vines.

As grateful as I am to the American people for their assistance to the disaster victims of the worst hurricane season in U.S. history, I am also reminded that our agriculture community continues to be one group of Americans left behind from all of the assistance already appropriated.

### TURNER SUPPLY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

The Mobile-based, Turner Supply Company celebrated 100 years last month. The company is a leading distributor of manufacturing, repair, and operating supplies from 12 locations across the southeast.



Founded in December 1905, the family run business has had only three presidents in its history: W. Marshall Turner, Howard M. Schramm, Sr., and Howard M. Schramm, Jr. When the company began, it was delivering products using mule drawn carts.

*I was honored to join Howard and Beth Schramm at the celebration of Turner Supply's 100th year.*

From paper mills to automotive plants, from the shipbuilding industry to the rubber industry, Turner Supply has kept up with the changing demands of the market and technology and consistently provided quality products to its customers. The company provides products in categories including industrial machinery, power transmission, safety, rubber, pumps, and cutting tools.

Turner Supply currently employs approximately 175 throughout its 12 offices in Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee with 64 employees at its Mobile headquarters.

It is my sincere hope that Turner Supply Company will continue to be a vital partner to the industries in south Alabama and throughout the southeast for another 100 years.

*Pictured with me at the ribbon cutting to reopen the trails at the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge are, l-r, Refuge Manager Lloyd Culp; Cheryl Gilges; Friends of Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge President Ralph Gilges; and Jim Kurth, deputy chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*



## CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION WINNERS

On April 30, 2006, I was pleased to host a reception for the winners of this year's First Congressional District Art Competition: *An Artistic Discovery*. I have been honored to continue sponsoring this annual event because of the exposure it provides for talented young artists in our area.

First place honors were presented to Angelo Mosely, a student at John L. LeFlore High School. Mosely's piece, "What it is..." will be displayed in the halls of the United States Capitol complex for one year along with the winners from other congressional districts across the country.

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

**First Place:** Angelo Mosely, John L. LeFlore High School,  
Title of Work: "What it is..."

**Second Place:** Candace Wilson, St. Paul's Episcopal School,  
Title of Work: "Wallflowers"

**Third Place:** Stephen Heubach, Alma Bryant High School,  
Title of Work: "Untitled"

**Honorable Mentions:**

Jo Anna Rocker, John L. LeFlore High School,  
Title of Work: "Rock the Bay"

Kate Middleton, St. Paul's Episcopal School,  
Title of Work: "Chaos"

Lan Phuong Nguyen, Alma Bryant High School,  
Title of Work: "Cultural Image"

Allison Deppe, St. Paul's Episcopal School,  
Title of Work: "Mime Duck and Clown Fish"

Lindsey McNeely, St. Paul's Episcopal School,  
Title of Work: "Bubblewands and Balloons"

## "CONGRESSIONAL REPORT" RETURNS

After a hiatus of several weeks, I am pleased to announce that my weekly television show, "The Congressional Report," returned to the air on April 16, 2006. As in past years, Mobile's CBS affiliate, WKRG, has generously agreed to continue broadcasting these weekly reports each Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. Starting May 7, 2006, "The Congressional Report" is now closed-captioned.

All episodes are posted to my website in digital format. As I do with my weekly radio show, these shows are posted on my website to provide a further opportunity for my constituents to keep up with the latest events in our nation's capital. I would encourage you to visit <http://bonner.house.gov> to view these broadcasts and the additional information available there.



## MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS VISIT WASHINGTON



*I was pleased to join municipal officials from the First District on a tour of the WWII memorial in D.C. They were in town for the National League of Cities annual convention in March.*

## CRESTVIEW AEROSPACE MAKES NEW HOME IN FAIRHOPE

Crestview Aerospace has been a major provider in the aerospace industry since 1964 and now finds a home in south Alabama at its new plant in Fairhope. Some 60 men and women are already at work in Crestview's new 120,000 square foot manufacturing and assembly building adjacent to the H. L. "Sonny" Callahan Airport. CAC

— poised for tremendous growth as part of south Alabama's burgeoning aerospace industry — is a leading fabrication and modification firm in the industry working with partners including Boeing, EADS, Lockheed Martin, Bell, and Sikorsky. A recent contract with Bell to produce the UH-1Y Bell Helicopter airframe will be executed primarily at the Fairhope site — a contract worth potentially more than \$100 million over an 8-year period.



*An employee at Crestview Aerospace demonstrates how the sheet metal is cut.*



*On a recent tour, I was impressed with Crestview's operation as well as their commitment to South Alabama.*

# HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK MAY 21-27, 2006

Hurricanes pose their greatest threat in the southern region of Alabama, where residents are at most risk. It is very important that you and your family plan ahead and have a shelter and evacuation plan in place at all times.

## Planning

A HURRICANE WATCH indicates when hurricane conditions are *possible* within a 36-hour period in the specified area.

A HURRICANE WARNING indicates when hurricane conditions are *expected* within 24 hours in the specified area.

## Prepare a Disaster Supplies Kit:

Prescription medications and medical supplies;

Bedding and clothing, including sleeping bags and pillows;

Bottled water, battery-operated radio, extra batteries, first aid kit, flashlight  
Car keys and maps; and

Documents, including driver's license, Social Security card, proof of residence, insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, etc.

## Personal Evacuation Plan:

Identify ahead of time where you could go if you are told to evacuate. Choose several places — a friend's home in another town, a motel, or a shelter (some shelters will now accept pets).

Keep the telephone numbers of these places handy as well as a road map of your locality.

Stay tuned to local radio or TV stations for evacuation instructions. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.

## When a Hurricane WATCH Is Issued:

Stay tuned to local radio or TV stations for current storm information.

Prepare to bring inside any lawn furniture, outdoor decorations, trash cans, hanging plants, and anything else that can be picked up by the wind.

Prepare to cover all windows of your home. If shutters have not been installed, use pre-cut plywood as described above.

Fill your car's gas tank.

Recheck manufactured home tie-downs.

Check batteries and stock up on canned food, first aid supplies, drinking water, and medications.

## When a Hurricane WARNING Is Issued:

Stay tuned to local radio or TV stations for evacuation instructions. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.

Complete preparation activities.

If you are not advised to evacuate, stay indoors, away from windows.

Be aware that the calm "eye" is deceptive; the storm is not over. The worst part of the storm will happen once the eye passes over and the winds blow from the opposite direction. Objects damaged by the first winds can be broken or destroyed by the second winds.

Be alert for tornadoes. Tornadoes can occur during a hurricane and after it passes over. Remain indoors, in the center of your home, in a closet or bathroom without windows.

Stay away from floodwaters. If you come upon a flooded road, turn around and go another way. If you are caught on a flooded road and waters are rising rapidly around you, get out of the car and climb to higher ground.

## After a Hurricane:

Stay tuned to local radio or TV stations for updates and instructions.

If you evacuated, return home when local officials tell you it is safe to do so.

Inspect your home for damage.

Use flashlights in the dark; do not use candles (gas leaks are often undetectable and can cause explosions).

# MEDICARE SIGN UP REMINDER

The deadline to sign up for the permanent Medicare prescription drug benefit is Monday, May 15, 2006.

Seniors who do not sign up by May 15, 2006, may pay a penalty if they choose to join after that time and will have to wait until November 15, 2006, to join. You will need your Medicare card, a list of prescriptions you are currently taking, and the name of your pharmacy.

Sign up at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

# AUBURN SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAMS HONORED BY PRESIDENT BUSH

*Members of the men's swimming and diving teams entering the South Lawn of the White House. This year's title marks their 4th consecutive national title.*



*Members of the women's swimming and diving teams on the South Lawn of the White House. This year's title marks their 4th national title.*

## From the mailbox...

Dear Congressman Jo Bonner,

*Thank you so very, very much for helping our family receive payment from our flood insurance policy from Hurricane Katrina. We feel if it were not for you, we would still be waiting on this payment, and very much appreciate your concern and support in helping us recover and rebuild our lives! You are a blessing to our Congressional District — Thank You!*

*Thank you also to Mrs. Brandy Jackson in your office. She was very professional and courteous in assisting us in enlisting your help with this matter. Keep up the good work!*

*God Bless You,  
A satisfied constituent  
April 10, 2006*

