

Alabama by keeping me abreast of the issues and events going on in that area. Born in Watson, AL, Stanley graduated from Birmingham's Phillips High School and attended Jefferson State Junior College. Stanley and his wife, Ethel Catherine Vines, have two sons, Thomas and James.

HEIDI WAGNER

Heidi Wagner has served as a front-office receptionist in my personal office and most recently as clerk and staff assistant for the Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts minority staff. A Mobile, AL native, she graduated from the University of South Alabama and is working on a masters degree at American University here in Washington. She is the portrait of cool under pressure, since she is always able to handle even the most demanding tasks and situations with grace, professionalism, and good humor. She is sort of a word "connoisseur," constantly challenging staff with the presentation of new words and definitions to enhance their vocabulary. Her "Word of the Day" feature appearing on computer screens each morning was often a welcome way to begin the day.

SALLY WALBURN

The first voice you hear when you call into my Washington office is that of Sally Walburn. Her cheery "Senator HEFLIN's office, this is Sally. May I help you?" has opened up hundreds of conversations with Alabamians. Sally has been my receptionist since June 1996. A native of Tuscaloosa, AL, she is the youngest child of Dr. and Mrs. James Walburn. Sally graduated from Ole Miss in May 1996 with a degree in English. Although her time on my staff has been brief, she has demonstrated her outstanding abilities in dealing with constituents on the "front line." I wish her every future success.

JAMES G. WHIDDON III

Jim Whiddon is currently serving as my counsel on the Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts and as legislative assistant for energy and natural resources issues. He has done an outstanding job on these and other issues that have come his way since joining the staff in 1993. He has been especially helpful on bankruptcy reform and the constitutional amendment to ban flag burning. Before moving to Washington, he worked in Atlanta. Jim, a native of Montgomery, attended the University of Alabama, where he earned his bachelor of science degree at Samford University in Birmingham, where he obtained his juris doctor degree from the Cumberland School of Law. He served as a law clerk to the Honorable Rodney R. Steele, Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Alabama.

JANETTA WHITT-MITCHELL

Janetta Whitt-Mitchell is a native of Mobile, AL. She graduated from Tuskegee University and is a longtime community activist and energetic ad-

vocate for the improvement of social conditions. Through her work as my Mobile field representative and other leadership activities, she had helped communities address needs related to health care, employment, human rights, education, law enforcement, economics, and drug abuse. She is a member of the New South Coalition and an associate of the National Organization for Women. She is also first vice president of Mobile's Human Rights Commission and serves on the board of directors of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women's Mobile County Chapter. The daughter of Mr. Charles and Mrs. Mary Lee Whitt, she is married to Dr. Joseph Colvis Mitchell. Janetta has been an invaluable member of my State staff and I truly appreciate her hard work and advocacy on so many issues and projects.●

TRIBUTE TO THORTON STEARNS

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I am pleased to offer congratulations to Thorton Stearns, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and longtime resident of Winchester, MA, who is the first recipient of the Eugene Joseph McCarthy Philanthropist of the Year Award, presented by Winchester Hospital.

For more than 15 years, Mr. Stearns has generously supported the hospital's philanthropic efforts. He has embodied the spirit of philanthropy of Mr. Eugene McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy was a quiet, private, but generous man who upon his passing left Winchester Hospital and numerous other charities a \$1 million bequest.

Thorton Stearns, known affectionately to the staff of Winchester Hospital as "Thorny," has served the hospital as a corporator. He has acknowledged that his philanthropy has a component of self-interest, having said, "I have used the hospital and I might need its services again; therefore, it is important that I support the hospital financially."

Now chairman of the Vacuum Barrier Corp., which he founded in 1958, Thorton Stearns continues to be an active member of the Winchester community. I am pleased to recognize his efforts on behalf of Winchester Hospital and wish to congratulate him on being chosen as the first recipient of its Philanthropist of the Year Award.●

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise to offer my congratulations to the School of Nursing at the University of Maryland Baltimore campus and its dean, Dr. Barbara Heller, as ground breaking begins for a new, state-of-the-art facility designed to provide an exceptional environment for students to obtain a high-technology, interactive nursing education.

The 150,000-square-foot building will combine cutting edge technology with

the existing topnotch, challenging curriculum. Since its establishment in 1889, the school of nursing in Baltimore has proven to be a nationally recognized leader in the nursing profession, providing high quality, specialized training for nurses across the country. The school ranks consistently among the top 10 schools of nursing in the United States and was recently listed as sixth in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report.

The school is a leading supplier of professional nurses for Maryland, with close to 82 percent of its graduates practicing in the State. With the increased demand for well-prepared nurses in health care delivery, I am confident that the school's graduates will provide this exceptional care to Maryland residents, as well as to all of our Nation's citizens.

As the first school in the world with a nursing informatics program, as well as the Nation's first program in nursing health policy, the School of Nursing at the University of Maryland Baltimore campus is a leader in providing the innovative knowledge and skills required to practice in an ever-changing profession. The school currently offers concentrations in a variety of fields including oncology, additions, neonatal intensive care, primary care, gerontology, informatics, and community-based care.

Mr. President, I was privileged to attend the ground breaking ceremony for this exceptional facility on September 27. I urge my colleagues today to join me once again in recognizing the school of nursing for its dedication to innovative educational programs of the highest caliber, its focus on community service, and its commitment to clinical research. The gifted students who will receive their education in this new facility will prove critical in ensuring that the people of Maryland and across the Nation will receive quality care in our changing health care environment.●

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the Senate earlier this month passed legislation, as part of the omnibus parks bill, to authorize the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity to establish a memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the District of Columbia.

I first introduced this legislation in the U.S. Senate in 1985 and have re-introduced it in each succeeding Congress. While we have been able to move this legislation through the Senate in two previous Congresses, until now it has failed to pass the House of Representatives. Fortunately, the bill has now also passed in the House of Representatives, thanks to the good work of Congresswoman MORELLA and Congressman DIXON.

Since 1955, when in Montgomery, AL, Dr. King became a national hero and

an acknowledged leader in the civil rights struggle, until his tragic death in Memphis, TN, in 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr., made an extraordinary contribution to the evolving history of our Nation.

His courageous stands and unyielding belief in the tenet of nonviolence reawakened our Nation to the injustice and discrimination which continued to exist 100 years after the Emancipation Proclamation and the enactment of the guarantees of the 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution.

Mr. President, Martin Luther King, Jr., dedicated his life to achieving equal treatment and enfranchisement for all Americans through nonviolent means, and a memorial in the Nation's Capital honoring Dr. King's tremendous contributions is long overdue. I want to again extend my thanks to all those who have worked so hard to bring this effort to fruition. Without their tireless efforts over the years, this important legislation would not have been enacted.●

HAROLD JINKS

● Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, Arkansas lost one of its treasures last week. Harold Jinks of Piggott, AR, whom Arkansans affectionately refer to as "Mr. Democrat," passed away at the age of 90.

If the term "yellow-dog Democrat" were in the dictionary, Harold Jinks would be listed as the definition. Though Harold Jinks studied to be a farmer in school, it was the study and practice of politics that sustained him throughout his life.

A friend to many Presidents and to every major Democratic officeholder in Arkansas, Harold Jinks brought enthusiasm into every room he entered. He admonished young people about their duty to vote and be involved in politics. To Harold, being a mere spectator in politics was a sin. You had a duty to be a player.

Active in his community and his church, Harold worked for many years at USDA and was at one time a special assistant to the regional director of the U.S. Postal Service.

Harold was southwest regional director for the Democratic National Convention in 1957 and attended most conventions thereafter either as a delegate or strong advocate for the national ticket. He chaired the Arkansas Committee on Seniors for Carter-Mondale.

In retirement, if you could call it that with Harold, he authored books and founded the Senior Democrats of Arkansas and served as chairman of the Arkansas Joint Legislative Committee of the National Retired Teachers Association and AARP. He also found time to organize the Washington-based Buy American Action Coalition to promote the buying of American products.

He was a walking whirlwind of activity, and always at work promoting a cause or a candidate. A virtual ency-

clopedia, he enjoyed the history of politics as much as he did the campaigns.

Mr. President, Harold Jinks taught us all the importance of being involved in our Government. He chided us when he thought we were dragging our feet and applauded us when we were conscientious. He was loved by those of us in Arkansas who shared his passion for politics, and he will be missed by all who had the good fortune to know him and be touched by him and his infectious enthusiasm for the political process.

Betty and I extend our deepest sympathy to Harold's lovely and devoted wife, Wilma. We owe her our gratitude as well for sharing Harold with us.●

TRIBUTE TO LT. GEN. RONALD R. BLANCK

● Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, reaching the top of one's profession is perhaps the most rewarding experience any person can achieve in their career, and today, I pay tribute to a good friend, Lt. Gen. Ronald R. Blanck, who has reached the pinnacle of the Army's Medical Corps with his promotion to the position of Surgeon General of the Army.

When one thinks of military medicine, the image that comes to the minds of most people is that of an Army medic rushing to the aid of a fallen comrade. While there is probably no sight more comforting to a wounded soldier than a medic, Army medicine goes far beyond the soldiers who brave fire on battlefields in order to save lives. Included in the Army Medical Corps are doctors, nurses, and specialists of all kinds who serve in a sophisticated system of clinics, hospitals, and research facilities. No matter where they are stationed, soldiers have access to excellent care thanks to the efforts of the selfless men and women of the Medical Corps and the leadership provided by the Surgeon General of the Army.

As he packs his bags and leaves the Capital area for his new job at Fort Sam Houston, TX, General Blanck assumes this post with the praises of his patients, as well as his peers in both the Army and in the medical fields of the other services. Throughout his career as a doctor and Army officer, the new surgeon general has established a respected, and well-deserved, record for professionalism, leadership and, most importantly, compassionate care. Beginning with his initial assignment as a battalion surgeon in Vietnam to his tenure as the commander of Walter Reed Army Medical Center, General Blanck has repeatedly sought innovative and more efficient manners in which to treat patients, demonstrated an ability to find solutions to complex tasks, and been an advocate for research into treatment that will benefit soldiers. Without question, General Blanck brings an impressive set of credentials to the Army's top medical post.

Mr. President, as General Blanck assumes the responsibilities of being the principal medical advisor to the Chief of Staff of the Army, I am certain that he will approach his job with enthusiasm, seriousness, and with a commitment to excellence. I wish him continued success in his duties and commend him for the service he has rendered the Army and the Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MABEL LEE BURROUGHS

● Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I today pay tribute to Mrs. Mabel Lee Burroughs, who recently passed away after leading a very long and rewarding life.

The region of South Carolina that stretches from just north of Charleston up to the North Carolina line, and only a few hundreds west—literally not much further than a stone's throw from the edge of the sand dunes—is known as the Grand Strand. This area has always been famous for having some of America's most beautiful beaches, and for years it has been one of the favored vacation destinations of people from around the world.

Much of the popularity of the Grand Strand can be attributed to the work and vision of the Burroughs family. The late James Burroughs, Mabel's husband, was a successful community and business leader who, along with a number of other individuals, became interested in the commercial potential of the Grand Strand as a resort area. In the years following World War II, these development pioneers were responsible for converting Myrtle Beach from a quiet and little known stretch of sun-kissed sand to an area that offers unlimited recreational opportunities for tourists and South Carolina residents. This tradition of entrepreneurial spirit and business success is being carried on by Egerton Burroughs, the son of Mabel and James, who is the developer of the successful and popular family attraction, Broadway on the Beach.

Without question, the late Mrs. Burroughs played an important role in her husband's business successes, and certainly served as a trusted adviser in his dealings. For almost 20 years she served as an account associate with the family-owned firm, Myrtle Beach Farms, as well as being an original trustee and secretary treasurer of the Burroughs Foundation, a philanthropic organization.

Mrs. Burroughs was more than a loyal wife, dedicated mother, and successful businesswoman, she was also a public spirited citizen who gave much of herself to the people of Myrtle Beach. Born in Loris, SC, which is just a short distance from the beach and is in the heart of my State's tobacco country, Mabel Burroughs learned at an early age the importance of community and working together. Throughout her life, Mrs. Burroughs was active in a number of causes that sought to make