

# THE Carter / Mondale *Letter*

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## Carter and Mondale Set Longevity Record

*Pair have lived longer after leaving office than any other president and vice president*

**F**ormer U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale became the longest-living post-administration president and vice president team in U.S. history on May 23, 2006. On that day, the pair had lived 25 years and 123 days after leaving the White House, which is one day longer than President John Adams and Vice President Thomas Jefferson lived after leaving office. Adams and Jefferson both died in 1826.

“While breaking the Adams and Jefferson record is certainly a milestone, the important thing is how President Carter and Vice President Mondale have used that time,” said Jay Hakes, director of the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum in Atlanta.

In 1982, a year after leaving the White House, President and Mrs. Carter founded The Carter Center to advance peace and health worldwide. Since then, the nonprofit Center has observed 62 elections in 25 countries; helped farmers double or triple grain production in 15 African countries; mediated or worked to prevent civil and international conflicts in North Korea, Haiti, Bosnia, Sudan, and Liberia; intervened to prevent unnecessary

diseases in Latin America and Africa, including the near-eradication of Guinea worm disease; and strived to diminish the stigma against mental illnesses.

“The Carter Center is a unique nongovernmental organization that is a permanent legacy of the vision and values of both President and Mrs. Carter,” said Dr. John

Hardman, executive director of the Center. “Because of their passion and commitment, once-forgotten people in 65 developing nations have renewed hope for lives free of preventable diseases, a voice in their own governance, and the means to create sustainable peace.”

Mondale also has continued a distinguished career of public service. As vice president, he traveled extensively throughout the United States and the world promoting U.S. policy and in 1984, was chosen as the Democratic Party’s nominee for president. Following the 1984 election, he practiced law and served on the boards of several corporations and nonprofit organizations. He also was chairman of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, a



*Vice President Walter Mondale and President Carter confer on the White House lawn in 1978.*

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# Jack Carter Runs for Office in Nevada

In 1979, when his father was in the White House, Jack Carter toyed briefly with leaping into the political arena himself. He never did, deciding life held other things in store for him besides public office. Until now, that is. At the age of 58, Jack Carter, the eldest son of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, is making his first foray into politics.

Jack announced his candidacy for U.S. Senate representing Nevada earlier this year and has since crisscrossed the state with his wife, Elizabeth, meeting people from all walks of life and of all political persuasions. In addition to meeting Nevada Democrats, Jack said he has met a number of “confirmed Republicans” who are disgusted with the current direction of the U.S. government and are therefore switching parties. The Carters have lived in Nevada for four years.

President and Mrs. Carter are playing a supportive role in their son’s campaign. They appeared at Jack’s side as he announced his candidacy in February. Throughout the spring and summer, they have appeared at fund-raising events from

coast to coast. This fall, they will make trips to Nevada to stump for their son as the Nov. 7 election approaches.

Jack’s and Elizabeth’s children also are active in the campaign. John is designing the campaign’s graphics. Jason helps frame issues, and Sarah E. provides input from New York City. Sarah R. contributes to the campaign Web site ([www.carterfornevada.com](http://www.carterfornevada.com)) with her regular blogs, which the Chicago Tribune called “blogging (done) right.”

Visitors to the Web site can find Jack’s positions, written in his own words, on key issues facing Nevadans and Americans. There is information on how to get involved in the campaign, whether by making a financial contribution or volunteering time. The campaign also can be reached by phone at (702) 309-JACK (5225).

“We know we face a battle,” Jack said. “But with the help of our many supporters around the country, we intend to win.”



*Jack Carter, oldest son of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, has entered the race for U.S. Senate representing Nevada.*

# Carter Library Acquires New Papers From Former White House Staff

**A**lthough the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum has been open for more than 20 years, its collection continues to grow as new materials are given to the library from individuals associated with the Carter presidential administration.

Earlier this year, Vice President Mondale made a major new donation of his national security files. He also spent several days conducting research at the library for a course he is teaching at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute this fall.

In recent years, the library has acquired the personal papers of White House staffers Frank Moore, Tim Kraft, Al McDonald, Mary Finch Hoyt, and Barry Jagoda; Ambassadors John Gunter Dean and Milton Wolf; and Carter appointees Rupert Cutler (Department of Agriculture), Doug Costle (Environmental Protection Agency), Michael Bleicher (Department of Energy), Peter Petkas (Regulatory Council), and Allan Cohen (Department of Education).

Library Director Jay Hakes is making an effort to acquire additional personal papers of President Carter's associates and would like to hear from anyone with materials to donate. President and Mrs. Carter continue to contribute important historical materials to the collection.

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*The exhibit... will emphasize U.S. policy toward South Africa during the Carter administration and display a specially built replica of Nelson Mandela's prison cell.*

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In addition to its permanent exhibits, the museum displays several rotating exhibits each year. This summer, in conjunction with the National Black Arts Festival, it opened "From Apartheid to Democracy: The Freedom Struggle in



*Former Vice President Walter Mondale conducts research at the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum for a course he is teaching in the fall.*

South Africa and the American South," which was developed by the South African Department of Arts and Culture and adapted by the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte, N.C. The exhibit at the Carter Library and Museum will emphasize U.S. policy toward South Africa during the Carter administration and display a specially built replica of Nelson Mandela's prison cell.

The Carter Library and Museum also hosts a vigorous schedule of book signings and lectures, including recent events featuring President and Mrs. Carter, Vice President Mondale, former Secretary of State (and Carter/Mondale National Security Council staffer) Madeleine Albright, former Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Todd Whitman, former Ambassador Richard Gardner, comedian Al Franken, and historians John Hope Franklin, Douglas Brinkley, and Taylor Branch.

For more information, visit [www.jimmycarterlibrary.org](http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.org).

# Rosalynn Carter Continues Her Crusade for Mental Health Care

By Kathy Cade

**T**om Bryant is calling ... again. National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) research funds are threatened ... again. What year is this anyway? Tom and I first met in 1976 during the general election campaign. A friend and colleague of Peter Bourne's, he was hoping to find a role advising Mrs. Carter on mental health issues. Little did we know then that our collaboration would continue for over three decades. Nor did we imagine that in 2006 Mrs. Carter would still be meeting with the CEOs of major insurance companies, calling on the director of the NIMH for expert advice, and urging journalists to help eliminate the stigma about mental illnesses that keeps many from seeking help.



**Mrs. Carter has advocated for mental health issues for 35 years.**

Mrs. Carter has been the nation's leading mental health advocate for 35 years. Soon after The Carter Center opened, she met with Denis Prager of the MacArthur Foundation to talk about creating a mental health program at the Center to continue her important work in this field. Tom and I, as well as Dr. Julius Richmond, participated in those early meetings. Today, a distinguished group of leaders in the mental health field serve on the Mental Health Task Force at The Carter Center. The Mental Health Program is now nationally

recognized for its efforts to improve public understanding and eliminate the stigma of mental illnesses, promote dialogue and action on major public policy issues, and ensure full integration of mental health into primary health care in all ways—from financing to treatment and prevention.

Under Mrs. Carter's leadership, the program has had a significant impact. While stigma remains a problem, it is far less pervasive than 30 years ago. The Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism have provided 68 journalists to date from both print and electronic media the opportunity to pursue in-depth stories in the field, helping to deepen understanding and change public perceptions. Well-known individuals such as Mike Wallace and Brooke Shields now speak openly about their own struggles. The annual Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy, now in its 22nd year, brings together national leaders in the field to address the most current and critical issues.

Yet these are only highlights, for Mrs. Carter continues to work tirelessly in both public appearances and more private settings to promote the message that, as a result of research and advances in treatment, recovery is indeed a possibility for all who struggle with the many forms of serious mental illnesses. From Atlanta to Washington, D.C., to New Zealand and throughout Africa, she continues to travel across the country and around the world promoting this message. As chair of the International Committee for Women Leaders, she encourages first ladies and other women leaders to do likewise in their own countries.

For me, it continues to be a great privilege to help support her efforts. She has championed a cause that too few others have been willing to embrace and offered comfort, hope, and inspiration to countless individuals and families afflicted with serious mental illnesses.

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*Kathy Cade has been involved with Rosalynn Carter's mental health efforts since the late 1970s. She recently retired from 20 years in banking in the Boston area. She continues to serve on the boards of organizations such as the Boston Children's Center, the Carter Center Mental Health Task Force, and the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving at Georgia Southwestern State University in Americus, Ga.*

# Lobby at Carter Center Dedicated



*The lobby of the Upper Commons area in The Carter Center building was named in honor of Jim and Ann Free (pictured above with President and Mrs. Carter) for their outstanding support of the Carter Center's work. The dedication ceremony was attended by many of the Frees' friends and family, including former Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter and U.S. Senator Jim Sasser.*

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## Longevity Record

Washington, D.C.-based organization that conducts non-partisan international programs to help maintain and strengthen democratic institutions.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton nominated Mondale as ambassador to Japan. As ambassador, Mondale helped negotiate several security agreements between the United States and Japan, including ending the controversy over the U.S. military presence in Okinawa. In 1998, Mondale served as President Clinton's special envoy to meet with Indonesia's then President Suharto regarding the Asian financial crisis and economic reforms in Indonesia.

Mondale has been a vital contributor to the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. According to J. Brian Atwood, dean of the Humphrey Institute, "The vice president has been a driving force in teaching tomorrow's leaders about public service and in founding our new Center for the Study of Politics and Governance."

Mondale currently is senior counsel with the law firm Dorsey & Whitney and is active in the firm's Asian Practice Group. He also serves on the boards for the Nobel Peace Prize Foundation and the Mansfield Foundation.

## Alumnus Visits Center for Briefing



*Mark Cohen and Sheila Fyfe talk with President Carter at the Executive Briefing at The Carter Center in April. Cohen joined the 1976 campaign in Iowa. He worked at the White House and moved to Florida in the 1980s. Cohen and Fyfe work in the health care field and make their home in the Miami area. The Center hosts the Executive Briefing event annually for Ambassadors Circle and Legacy Circle members who donate to the Center through its annual fund and by estate planning, respectively. Cohen and Fyfe belong to both groups.*

# Comings & Goings

After **Bill Albers** discovered that he had Parkinson's disease, he spent a great deal of time on the Internet finding out how to deal with it. Albers found that a new procedure known as deep brain stimulation enabled him to live life without the typical side effects, such as tremors, associated with the disease. If you are acquainted with someone with the illness, Albers encourages you to have the person contact the Movement Disorders Program at Georgetown University at (202) 342-3300 for more information about the procedure.

Albers was appointed by President Carter to the Appalachian Regional Commission and moved to the White House as the deputy assistant to the president for political affairs. In the 1976 campaign, Bill was a national fund-raising director, and he ran North Carolina in the 1980 campaign.

**Bob Bland** is stepping down as treasurer of the Vermont Democratic Party in order to provide his services to the party as a professional fund-raiser at least for the midterm elections. He will remain as chair of the Orange County Democratic Committee and can be reached at bob@mountainsidebland.com.

**Dr. Peter G. Bourne** has been visiting scholar at Green College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, for five years. As vice chancellor emeritus of St. George's University in Grenada, West Indies, he continues to teach twice a year in both the medical school and the veterinary school. He chairs the Medical Education Cooperation with Cuba, an organization that has in the last five years sent more than 1,000 U.S. medical students to Cuba for six-week electives where they work alongside Cuban family doctors. He is one of the producers of "¡Salud!," a film about the Cuban health system and the role of Cuban doctors around the world, to be released in September. The film features an interview with President Carter. He also is co-author of a book on the same subject to be published by Oxford University Press.

**Jeffrey Boutwell** is the executive director of the Pugwash Conferences in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the Pugwash Conferences is to bring together influential scientists from around the world, scholars, and public figures concerned with reducing the danger of armed conflict and seeking cooperative solutions for global problems. Pugwash participants exchange views and explore alternative approaches to arms control and tension reduction with a combination of candor, continuity, and flexibility seldom attained in official East-West and North-South discussions and negotiations. For more information, visit [www.pugwash.org](http://www.pugwash.org).

**Scott Burnett** is running for re-election as legislator for the 1st District of Jackson County, Mo., which includes Kansas City. As the elected legislator for the county's 1st District, Burnett constantly attends neighborhood and civic meetings, raising awareness about Jackson County and connecting people with government resources they cannot find on their own or may not know exist. For more information, visit [www.friendsofscottburnett.com](http://www.friendsofscottburnett.com).

**Richard E. Cavanagh** (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, 1977–1979) announced recently that after a



*Former Deputy Chief of Staff Al McDonald recently visited with the Carters at The Carter Center.*

nine-year term, he is stepping aside as president and chief executive officer of The Conference Board, the 90-year-old global research and business membership organization. He expects to serve until the end of this year pending the appointment of his successor.

After leaving The Conference Board, Cavanagh expects to devote more time to working on nonprofit activities and serving on corporate boards. He will continue as chairman of the board of trustees of the nonprofit organization Educational Testing Service, the world's leading educational assessment group that administers the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and other tests. He also will continue to serve as an independent director on public company boards, including BlackRock, Arch Chemicals, and Guardian Life Insurance.

During Cavanagh's tenure, The Conference Board has grown significantly and expanded its worldwide reputation as a leading economic and management research organization. The Conference Board is today a major force in the fields of corporate governance and workforce diversity.

**Cooki (Lutkefedder) Collinet** married filmmaker George Collinet in 1980 and has spent the past 26 years as a proud parent of three sons. She has worked with the Streisand Foundation, the political campaigns of Eleanor Holmes Norton, and psychiatric facilities as part of a Medicare/Medicaid contract. Collinet worked in the Carter campaigns after time on the staff of Maynard Jackson, mayor of Atlanta.

**Timothy S. Davis** is the chief executive officer of the Close Up Foundation in Alexandria, Va., the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan citizenship education organization. Since its founding in 1970, Close Up has worked to promote responsible and informed participation in the democratic process through a variety of educational programs. Each year, more than 20,000 students, teachers, and other adults take part in Close Up's programs in Washington, D.C. Since the inception of its Washington-based programs in 1971, the Close Up Foundation has welcomed nearly 650,000 students, educators, and other adults to the nation's capital.

**John Gunther Dean** concluded his career in the U.S. Foreign Service by donating his papers to the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration. Dean served in the Carter administration as an ambassador to both Denmark and Lebanon, and his papers are housed at the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum.

## Passages

**Georgia State Senator Paul Broun** passed away early last year. Broun was a friend and supporter of President Carter from their days in the legislature, and he was active in the Peanut Brigade.

**Evelyn Dubrow**, for many years the lobbyist for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, passed away recently. Many who worked with the diminutive but very energetic "Evy" remember her presence on Capitol Hill for more than 40 years as one of the first female lobbyists.

**Wilber "Buddy" Tribble Jr.**, 78, of Social Circle, Ga., died on May 17. Tribble was an active Peanut Brigade member and volunteered at The Carter Center with his sister **Mary Kate Tribble**.

**Louise Dunlap** remembers President Carter fondly from the early days of the 1976 campaign when she would pick him up at National Airport in Washington, D.C., in her little yellow Volkswagen bug convertible because so few people in D.C. had any interest in his campaign in those times.

**Robert H. Dunn** recently moved to New York to become president and chief executive officer of the Synergos Institute, a global nonprofit organization working with partners to address issues of poverty and social injustice. During a recent trip to Africa, Dunn had a delightful visit with **Nelson Mandela** during which they spent much of their time together talking about President Carter.

**William Drayton**, chief executive officer of Ashoka, was named one of "America's Best Leaders" by the Harvard Center of Public Leadership and *U.S. News and World Report*. Drayton, who formerly served on the Carter/Mondale domestic policy staff, invented the phrase "social entrepreneur" and is dedicated to finding practical and innovative answers to global problems.

**Alicia Smith** reported that **Jim Gammill** departed June 25 on a trans-Atlantic sailing trip designed to increase awareness about breast cancer and raise funds for research. To learn more about the trip, visit [www.makewaves4breakthrough.com](http://www.makewaves4breakthrough.com).

## Comings & Goings, cont.

**Ellen L. Goldstein**, former assistant director of the domestic policy staff, was appointed the first director of the Global Health Benefits Institute. The organization focuses on health care and related benefits issues for many Fortune 100 companies. Goldstein was previously the chief health advocate for General Electric.

**David F. Hales** is the new president of the College of the Atlantic in Maine, effective July 1.

**Dr. Richard Hammonds** was honored on April 30 in a retirement ceremony by his friends, family, and colleagues who gathered at WellStar Cobb Hospital in Austell, Ga. As a tribute to Hammonds' lifetime achievements, a commemorative plaque was unveiled at the main entrance to the hospital. A longtime internist and medical community leader in Cobb County, Ga., Hammonds was a presidential appointee during the Carter administration, serving as President Carter's personal physician. A letter from President Carter was read at the party, which former Carter administration Chief of Staff Hamilton Jordan attended.

**John Huie**, who organized Californians for Carter, a student group for Carter/Mondale at the University of California, Santa Barbara, is the son of **Mildred Nix Huie** (deceased). Mildred was a lively member of the Senior Citizens for Carter group, who knocked on doors in New Mexico. Originally from Albany, Ga., John is currently the director of the Environmental Leadership Center of Warren Wilson College in Asheville, N.C., where he is actively engaged in environmental and social justice issues.

**Barry Jagoda** was television adviser in the 1976 presidential campaign and served as special assistant to President Carter for media and public affairs. He is now director of communications at the University of California, San Diego. His wife, **Karen Jagoda**, is president of E-Voter Institute, which studies the impact of the Internet on politics. They live in La Jolla, Calif.

**Kate King** worked in the White House press office and on press staff during the 1976 campaign. She is currently working at CNN.com and living in Lilburn, Ga.

**Dr. Mary E. King** has recently finished two years as senior fellow at the Rothermere American Institute of University of Oxford, United Kingdom. For the past five years she also has been professor of peace and conflict studies with the University for Peace, affiliated with the United Nations, located in Costa Rica. During that time, as academic adviser to the Africa Programme, she visited more than 40 universities in Africa. She currently is completing a book titled "Quiet Revolution" on the nonviolent strategies employed by Palestinians and Israeli sympathizers in the first *intifada*, to be published by NationBooks late in 2006. She also is a distinguished scholar at the American University Center for Global Peace in Washington, D.C., where she and her husband, Dr. Peter Bourne, reside.

**Lee Kling** continues to be involved in political action and investments from his base in Missouri. He served as Democratic National Committee finance chairman during the 1976 Carter campaign and as a finance adviser on the Camp David Accords.

**Vicki Lowe** has sold her bed and breakfast in Washington, D.C., and moved to Lakeland, Fla., to be with her mother. Lowe was one of the members of the Alabama campaign staff in the 1976 campaign that moved to Washington, D.C., and stayed for many years.

**Dr. Robert Maddox**, former speechwriter and religious liaison for President Carter, has been pastor of Briggs Memorial Baptist Church in Bethesda, Md., for the past 14 years. He will become a minister in the United Church of Christ as his congregation merges with Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ. The combined churches will expand their ministries in the areas of mental health, impoverished children, interfaith bridge building, and overall faith development. Maddox and his wife, Linda, attended the Ambassadors Circle Executive Briefing at The Carter Center in April and made a trip to Plains, Ga.

**Margaret A. McKenna** has announced that she will step down as president of Lesley University in June 2007 after 22 years. During her tenure, the university has grown from 2,500 to 10,000 students, and the endowment has grown from \$1 million to \$85 million. One of McKenna's goals is to be active in the 2008 presidential campaign, and she has already begun working with **Virginia Governor Mark Warner**. Her son **Michael** is the field director for the **John P. Sarbanes** for Congress Committee (Maryland).

## Comings & Goings, cont.

Energy expert **Deborah E. Miller** was appointed vice president of ICF International in August 2005 to lead the Energy Star Commercial Buildings work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. ICF International partners with government and commercial clients to deliver consulting services and technology solutions in defense, energy, environment, homeland security, social programs, and transportation. She worked on the Democratic Finance Committee and the Democratic National Committee during the Carter/Mondale administration.

**Frank Moore** is living at Cherry Point Farm on the eastern shore of Maryland with his wife, Nancy. They raise small grain for waterfowl with their partners and neighbors, Jody and Nan Powell. Moore has recently come out of retirement to become the senior vice president of Coda Octopus Inc. in its Washington, D.C., office. He serves on the environmental science board at the University of Maryland with other alumni David Dunn, Jody Powell, and Susie Smith's husband, Terry, with a focus on preserving Chesapeake Bay. The Moores' three grandchildren are the joy of their lives.

**Dorothy Padgett**, former Peanut Brigade organizer and current board of councilors member at The Carter Center, continues her oral history project on the Carter/Mondale administration. She recently had a delightful taping with vice president Mondale. Padgett also has taped President Carter, Andrew Young, and Jim Schlesinger. The Schlesinger conversations pointed out how the current energy crisis has been greatly exacerbated by the failure of subsequent administrations to carry out Carter administration programs.

**R. Scott Pastrick**, who recently attended a fundraiser for **Jack Carter** in the Washington, D.C., home of **Jerry Rafshoon**, is an advisor to his childhood friend, **U.S. Senator Evan Bayh** (Indiana). Pastrick is raising money and building an organization as they look at the 2008 presidential race. Former Carter/Mondale pollster **Paul Maslin** also is helping the Bayh cause.

**Jim Purks**, former assistant press secretary, recently was elected president of the Sumter Area Ministerial Association in Georgia. The ministerial association sponsors or cosponsors

some major ministries that reflect concerns mirroring those of the Carter administration. The organization works with several churches to support the poor, sick, and needy in a wide area of south-central Georgia. Jim also is a chaplain in the International Order of St. Luke the Physician, which is a healing order. He serves as a volunteer chaplain at both Sumter Regional Hospital in Americus, Ga., and Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, Ga., and is a volunteer with Hospice of Americus-Sumter County.

**Linda Peek Schacht** is finishing her fourth year as a senior fellow at the Center for Business and Government at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Linda also is acting chair of the Organizational and Political Communication Department at Emerson College in Boston. She is writing a book on leaders, truth, and communication. Schacht moved to the Boston area after retiring as vice president of The Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta.

**Charlotte Scot**, who worked press/media ops in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and California is now living in British Columbia. She attends Victoria College of Art and will receive her degree in two years. Scot was press secretary and director of communications at the Democratic National Committee when Ken Curtis, former governor of Maine, was chairman. She also was a paid consultant to the White House for town meetings and President Carter's trip to Venezuela. During the last presidential election, she was an ardent supporter of Wes Clark.

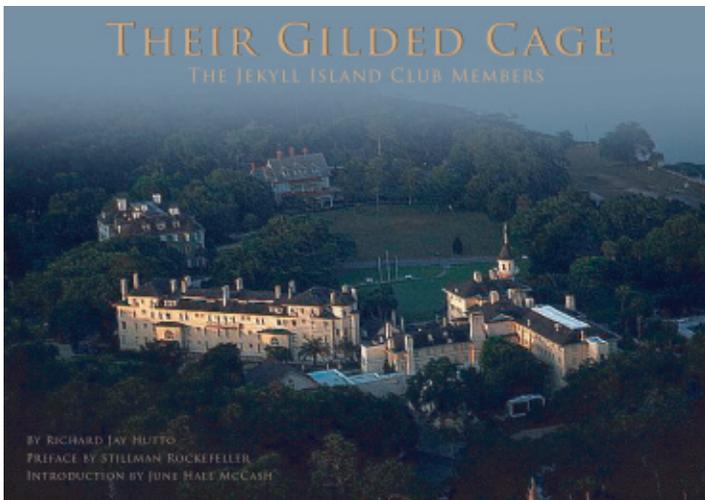
**Nancy Coggins Seymour** and friend **Lynne Pettman** gained publicity from photos taken at the Winter Weekend ski trip with President and Mrs. Carter in February. The photos were published in the *The Elberton Star* and *Where When How*—Turks & Caicos magazine following the event in Crested Butte, Co. Seymour is the daughter of **Frank Coggins**, longtime friend and supporter of President Carter since his days as governor of Georgia. Both Seymour and her father were active in the Peanut Brigade.

### Are You on the Move?

*Drop us a line and let us know what you're doing. Items can be sent to Jay Beck, The Carter Center, One Copenhill, 453 Freedom Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30307; Fax (404) 892-9438; E-mail jbeck4@emory.edu.*

# BOOK CLUB

**Richard Jay Hutto** was the first executive director of the Jekyll Island Foundation, a nonprofit organization formed to protect the history and environment of Jekyll Island, Ga. An attorney and writer, Hutto served as White House appointments secretary to the Carter family and was chairman of the Georgia Council for the Arts. He, his wife, and children now live in Macon, Ga., where he serves on the city council.



Hutto recently wrote a book about the Jekyll Island Club, which was an exclusive compound for the wealthy in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Stillman Rockefeller wrote the book's preface. According to Amazon.com: "Their Gilded Cage: The Jekyll Island Club Members' recounts the rich heritage of this exclusive Georgia retreat whose members were said to control one-sixth of the nation's wealth. Lavishly illustrated with vintage photographs, this book offers a privileged glimpse into the families of such titans of industry as J. P. Morgan, Joseph Pulitzer, William Rockefeller, Vincent Astor, and W. K. Vanderbilt."

**Jim Fallows**, former chief speechwriter for President Carter, has a new book coming out in September called "Blind Into Baghdad: America's War in Iraq." Fallows just began a two-year reporting stint from China for The Atlantic Monthly.

The paperback edition of **Donald L. Maggin's** biography "Dizzy: The Life and Times of John Birks Gillespie" was released in early 2006. The hardcover edition was issued in 2005. Maggin also wrote the liner notes and produced the album "Dizzy: The Music of John Birks Gillespie" that Verve Records issued as a companion to the biography. In June, Maggin introduced the documentary "A Night in Havana: Dizzy Gillespie in Cuba" at its New York screening and participated in a discussion of the film with its director, John Holland.

Maggin is also an editor of and contributor to The Reading Room, a literary magazine. He has written a 7,500-word essay to accompany a seven-CD compendium of Dizzy Gillespie's small-group recordings from 1954–1964, a total of 106 tracks on Mosaic Records. Maggin's daughter, Alice Maggin, continues her successful career as a senior producer for the "ABC Evening News." Her husband, Wayne Nelson, recently left "60 Minutes" to start his own company, Parachute Productions. Their daughter, Lila Kate Nelson, is almost 2 years old.

**Jim Purks** was one of the editors of the recently published book "Reporter: Covering Civil Rights and Wrongs," written by Alvin Benn. In the near future, a photo of Purks as an Associated Press newsman interviewing Martin Luther King Jr., Ralph David Abernathy, and Fred Shuttlesworth in Birmingham will be on the cover of a book by Hank Klibanoff titled "Race Beat."

**Bob Schule** is helping out as a political consultant on the author David Baldacci's thrillers. When Baldacci writes about politics or government, Schule is his political consultant. Every book that Schule has provided assistance with has spent time at the top of The New York Times bestseller list. Schule also is on the board of Baldacci's Wish You Well Foundation, which fights illiteracy.

# Democrats, Pay Attention to What Americans Want

By Les Francis

Americans seldom are pleased with the nation's political climate. It is a time-honored tradition to complain about whoever is in charge. In keeping with that tradition, President George W. Bush's job approval ratings have hit near-historic lows, and Congress is faring even worse.

My fellow Democrats can barely contain their glee at the Republicans' plight as we head closer to November's midterm elections. What was once a delusion—a Democratic majority in one or both houses of the 110th Congress—now looks possible, if not altogether probable. A normal sense of prudence would suggest that the Democrats' celebratory champagne be kept on ice awhile longer. But it might also be smart, even in the wake of victory in November, to be sober and restrained going into the new Congress.

That will be difficult, because activists will want the party to give as good as they got under Republican domination the past six years. There will be enormous pressure to conduct investigations and "oversight" hearings. Hotheads can be expected to rant about impeaching the president. And Democratic constituencies will be pushing their various agendas, regardless of their prospects for passage.

Democratic congressional leaders will be tested severely by these pressures. But as they calculate how to win in November, and perhaps then how to govern starting in January, those leaders should be mindful of some research findings published last week.

The nonpartisan Council for Excellence in Government recently commissioned a public opinion survey by Democratic pollster Peter Hart and his Republican counterpart Bill McInturff. For Democratic candidates and campaign operatives, many of the findings will be encouraging, to the point where some will be tempted to sneak an early sip of that champagne; for their Republican counterparts, the results will be downright depressing.

By nearly a 3-to-1 ratio, Americans believe that the country is "off on the wrong track." Only 25 percent have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the president and his Cabinet, while 49 percent have "very little" confidence in them. And Congress is in even worse shape: A mere 16 percent have either "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of

confidence in the legislative branch of the federal government. Those numbers suggest that Republicans enter this year's elections in deep trouble.

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*Americans have had it with false choices, partisan posturing, and political gamesmanship.*

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However, as a recovering campaign operative, I believe the most revealing results of the poll came from a couple of questions near the end of the survey, when respondents were asked, "Have Republicans and Democrats in Washington been working together more to solve problems, or do you think they have been bickering and opposing one another more than usual?" The answers were unequivocal and powerful: Only 9 percent said "working together more," while 75 percent said "opposing each other more."

Then, when asked whether elected representatives should "work in a bipartisan way and be willing to compromise with others to make progress on important problems," or rather should "stand firm with their party on issues and stick with their principles without compromise," we find an electorate that is very pragmatic. By a ratio of almost 4-to-1, Americans opt for a bipartisan approach to governing.

The poll proves what anecdotal evidence already had suggested: Americans have had it with false choices, partisan posturing, and political gamesmanship. The party that internalizes that fact the best will improve its prospects in November. On the other hand, if Democrats go on to win in November, and thereby conclude that governing in the next two years can be reduced to payback time, they will be making a serious strategic miscalculation. They also will be doing a terrible disservice to our nation and to its long-term political health.

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*This article appeared in the San Jose Mercury News (Calif.).*

**Les Francis** is a native of San Jose and a graduate of San Jose State University. He served as deputy chief of staff in Jimmy Carter's White House and as executive director of the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

# Remembering our Achievements



**N**ext summer will be the 30th anniversary of the Surface Mine Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA) signed into law by President Carter. The SMCRA is one of the most important environmental laws in our country's history and the first (and only) time the U.S. government has passed a law requiring the coal industry to be more responsible to the land and people affected by coal mining. It was the first of the many historic environmental laws enacted during the Carter presidency. The law regulates the reclamation of strip-mined lands.

## About this Newsletter

The Carter/Mondale Letter is sent to individuals who were associated with the campaign and administration of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale. Please send us news, photos, and other items that will interest your fellow alumni, and let us know of others who need to be added to the mailing list.

**Receive this newsletter via e-mail:** The Carter/Mondale Letter can be sent to you electronically rather than in the mail. Let us know if this is your preference.

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