Carter Presidential Library Update
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August 20, 2020

We and the National Archives are continuing to monitor conditions in Georgia to determine when it is safe for our staff and the public to return to the library and museum. In the meantime, you can keep up with us on our webpage and social media.

From Our Director
This year marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: *The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.*

In participation with the National Archives, we are celebrating the anniversary of this amendment by highlighting Mrs. Rosalynn Carter’s birthday and her support of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

In many ways the ERA is a direct descendant of the 19th Amendment. It will protect individuals against discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, similar to federal statutes like Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

In 1970, a few months before Jimmy Carter became Governor, Georgia officially accepted the 19th Amendment. While in the Governor’s office, Mrs. Carter wore an ERA pin showing her support for the rights of women, and she promoted equal rights for all Americans during her husband’s Presidential campaign and administration.

Mrs. Carter’s memories and records reveal how she stood firm and fervently spoke up for women’s equality and the importance of constitutional protections. Listening to her reminds me that there is still work to do to ensure women and people are treated equally and fairly, so they can live the lives they want and that they rightfully deserve.

**Celebrating the 19th Amendment**
This month we are celebrating the ratification of the 19th Amendment, the culmination of a decades-long fight to secure the right to vote for women. As part of that celebration, the National Archives Foundation has created programs and exhibits entitled Rightfully Hers. Check it out.

**RIGHTFULLY HERS**

Celebrating Women's Rights

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library is joining the celebration with a look at Rosalynn Carter's efforts on behalf of women's rights and The Equal Rights Amendment. Here's our online exhibit.

*Mrs. America: Rosalynn Carter and the ERA*
Teaching Women's Rights

The Carter Library is also offering new civics education activities to engage students in the primary resources of the National Archives, to help them understand the history of Women's Rights.

*The Equal Rights Amendment and You*

And we have a new AP American History Document-based Question Exercise for Grades 9-12.

*Exercise on the ERA*

Hearing About Women's Rights
Even before she was First Lady, Rosalynn Carter was working to improve women's rights, whether it was through the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment or assuring that women were appointed to high level jobs in government.

We asked Mrs. Carter to talk about that work with Judy Langford, the Carters' former daughter-in-law and the honorary chair of the President's Advisory Commission for Women.

Conversation of the ERA

Celebrating Mrs. Carter's Birthday
Along with celebrating the ratification of the 19th Amendment on August 18th, we celebrated Mrs. Carter’s birthday. For more than four decades, she has worked to improve the quality of life for people around the world. Today, she is a leading advocate for mental health, caregiving, early childhood immunization, human rights, and conflict resolution through her work at The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

A mother of four, with 12 grandchildren (one deceased) and 14 great-grandchildren, she has maintained a lifelong dedication to issues affecting women and children.

President Jimmy Carter has often said that the best decision he ever made was to ask Rosalynn to marry him.

Virtual Author Program
Tuesday, Sept. 8th at 7pm
Lisa Napoli’s *Up All Night* is an entertaining inside look at the founding of the upstart network that set out to change the way news was delivered and consumed. Mixing media history, a business adventure story, and great characters, *Up All Night* tells the story of a network that succeeded beyond even the wildest imaginings of its charismatic and uncontrollable founder, and paved the way for the world we live in today. Lisa will be in conversation with former CNN Vice President Gail Evans. Join us at *Up All Night*

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum is part of the National Archives and Records Administration and is dedicated...