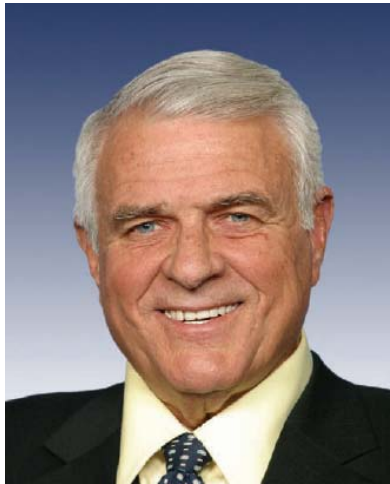




KIDS' PAGE IN E-NEWSLETTER



CONGRESSMAN JOHN CARTER

Enclosures:

- Sample e-newsletter
- Sample email, franking approved, asking constituents to sign up for weekly updates
- Dear Colleague from the Franking Commission discussing the email policy
- Best Practices document providing additional information

Staff Contact:

- Amy Ellsworth with Congressman Carter, 225-3864
- Alisha Perkins with Congressman Doolittle, 225-2511



CARTER COURIER

FEBRUARY 21, 2006

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 6

LETTER FROM THE CONGRESSMAN

Dear Friends,

In observance of President's Day, I am glad to be working in the District this week. I had the honor to speak at the Marvin Leath Visitor Center Dedication ceremony at Fort Hood, tour the YMCA of Greater Williamson County, attend a meeting of the Texas Department of Transportation, and read to elementary school students.

This past week in Washington, I asked Department of Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff about FEMA's response to Hurricane Katrina as well as current "catch and release" procedures. I also discussed problems with proposed increases in travel security fees and the Registered Traveler program and with the Assistant Secretary for the TSA, Kip Hawley. In another hearing I asked Department of Defense officials about issues of importance to the quality of life for our service men and women.

Until next week,



DHS PROCLAIMS COMMITMENT TO WORKING WITH CONGRESS ON BORDER SECURITY

Last week I had the opportunity to discuss border security priorities with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Michael Chertoff in a private meeting and during an Appropriations Committee hearing. During our discussions I once again explained the crisis along the Mexico-Texas border, and emphasized the need for immediate and aggressive action. The Secretary assured me that the Department considers border security and immigration management reform a top priority.

For many Texans, the situation along the border has been a concern in recent years. In January, I held a series of border security town hall meetings throughout the 31st District where I heard constituents' concerns first-hand. In my two visits to the border in the past six months, I am more convinced that the border is becoming increasingly dangerous by the day. Secretary Chertoff was with me when I made the trip in January, along with other members of the Texas delegation. The trip was the Secretary's first visit to the Texas-Mexico border, and it gave him a better understanding of the dangers along our border.

Since I serve on the Appropriations Subcommittee that funds DHS, which includes Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Border and Transportation Security (BTS), I let Secretary Chertoff know that I will do my part to see that the Depart-

CONTENTS

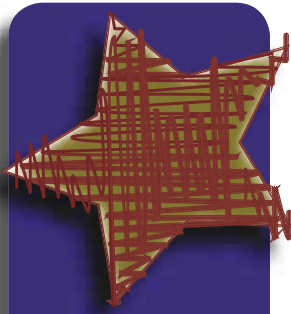
DHS & the Border
1-2

PATRIOT Act
2

Kid's Page
3

Coloring Page
4





ment receives adequate funds to secure our borders when he testified before our committee.

I am pleased that the Department has made the Secure Border Initiative, a comprehensive strategy to control the border and enforce immigration laws, a priority. In fact, DHS is requesting \$458.9 million for this program in order to increase the number of Border Patrol agents by 1,500. This increase would be a 42 percent increase in agents compared to pre-September 11th levels. I will support funding for this homeland security priority, and will work to see that Texas receives enough of these agents to effectively protect the border.

I believe in addition to agents, we should be taking advantage of technology available to us in order to patrol the border. Technology would allow the Border Patrol to enhance electronic surveillance of the border and improve operational response along certain areas of the border. The Department has made requests for funding for technology advancements, and if used properly, I believe it could be an effective border security tool.

Catching illegal immigrants crossing the border is only one part of the equation. One immigration security policy that causes me great concern is the “catch and release” of OTMs (Other Than Mexican) immigrants. Currently, when non-Mexican illegal immigrants are caught, they are initially detained but then released into society and asked to return for a court date. When the court date arrives, about 75 percent of those released don’t show up to the court. In fact, last year, only 30,000 of the 160,000 OTMs caught coming across our southern border were sent home. Clearly this is an alarming practice, and we are working to change this policy immediately. One way we can help alleviate this process is through additional beds in our detention facilities. In Central Texas, we are already increasing detention capacity, as the T. Don Hutto Correctional Center in Taylor is in the process of reopening in order to house up to 600 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees. On a larger scale, DHS has requested \$400 million to fund 6,700 additional detention beds so we might “catch and return” illegal immigrants to their home countries.

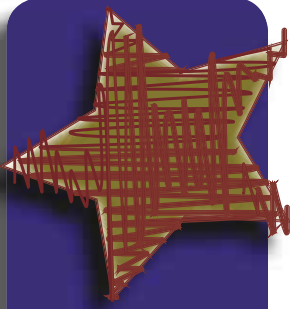
Recent news reports have detailed the increased dangers along the border, including shootings, standoffs with heavily armed men dressed in military uniforms, drug smuggling, flaming rocks being thrown, and corruption among Mexican immigration officials. Secretary Chertoff noted that there has been an over-100 percent increase in border violence aimed at our border patrol agents in the last fiscal year. These reports verify what my Texas colleagues and I have seen at the border, and explain the sense of urgency on this issue. The entire nation is becoming more aware of the fact that securing our borders is necessary to keeping our homeland secure. We are making progress, and I will remain committed to enacting policies that will secure the Texas-Mexico border.

PATRIOT ACT NEEDED FOR NATIONAL SECURITY

Currently, the Senate is considering the extension of the PATRIOT Act, which was made law in 2001. Once the Senate approves this bill in the next few weeks, the House will once again have an opportunity to pass this critical legislation.

The PATRIOT Act is an important tool in protecting the American people. I have been involved in law enforcement for the majority of my adult life and I’ve tried a substantial number of felony criminal cases, and one thing we try to do is have interagency cooperation. Work in cooperation, and share information. But as we approach a view of how we’re going to secure this nation we’ve had many agencies in the Federal Government and the State Governments not coordinating, or working together. The tools we’ve been using in the state for years in criminal justice and the war on drugs the war on crime were not being used for securing our nation. The FBI should share information with the CIA, the CIA should share information with DEA, and all the other groups up here should get together and share that information. The PATRIOT act sets that up.

The PATRIOT Act increases penalties on these terrorist crimes. Now, I personally am a penalty guy, I believe punishment works. Enhanced terrorist penalties are another important tool to help us protect our wives, children, husbands, and communities. Give them extra punishment for what they do. No one is claiming that everything is perfect, but if you throw away the tools and you put up the things that could help you solve the problems, the real purpose of Homeland Security is lost—and that is protecting our families and our way of life. The PATRIOT Act should be renewed. We should continue this tool for the agencies that deal with terrorism and lawbreakers, and help make sure that when our kids go to bed tonight they feel a little bit safer.



Kids' Page

PRESIDENT'S DAY TRUE/FALSE QUIZ

Monday, February 20th was probably a day off from school for many of you to celebrate President's Day.

This holiday was created to honor two legendary Presidents: George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1861. This holiday is also an opportunity to celebrate all the other men who have served as America's president.

1. Presidents' Day is celebrated the third Monday in February.

TRUE FALSE

2. President Washington was the third American president.

TRUE FALSE

3. President Washington is the only president to have a state named after him.

TRUE FALSE

4. Pictures of both presidents heads can be found on U.S. money.

TRUE FALSE

5. President Lincoln wrote the U.S. Constitution.

TRUE FALSE

6. Both presidents were assassinated.

TRUE FALSE

7. President Lincoln helped end slavery in the United States.

TRUE FALSE

*Answers on page 4.

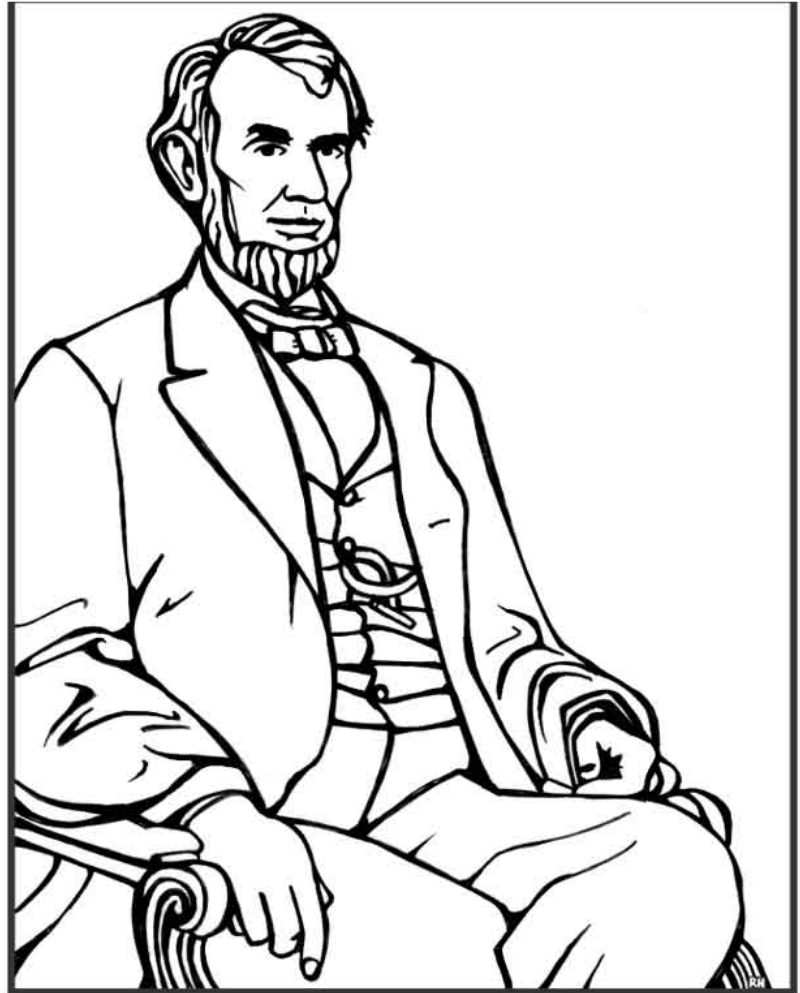
CARTER KIDS' QUESTION:

Why Would You Want to Be President?

What are some ways you can serve your neighbor, community or country today?

*Email your answers to john.carter@mail.house.gov, and your answers will be included in the next edition of the Carter Courier! Be sure to include your first name, age, and hometown!

Color the President



Abraham Lincoln

Presidential Number: 16th

Years he was President: 1861-1865

State Represented: Illinois

Party Affiliation: Republican

Fact(s): He had to struggle for a living. Lincoln's mom died when he was 9. He loved to read.

Personal

Birthday: February 12, 1809

How old would he be this year? 197

School(s) attended: Did not attend college, but read at home.

Wife: Mary Lincoln

Occupation(s) before he was Presi-

dent: Store clerk, rail-splitter, lawyer

Other way(s) he served: Congressman

Height: 6 feet 4 inches, tallest president

Favorite Foods: Fruit salad, cheese, crackers

Hobbies or Sports: Walking, wrestling

Pets: Horse

Life in America

How would he have traveled? Horse and carriage, train

How would he have communicated with his friends? Letter, telegram

U.S. Population when term began: 31,443,321

Number of stars on flag when he left office: 36

From: Rep. John Carter
To: Joe Constituent
Cc:
Subject: Requesting Your Permission



Dear Constituent:

As your representative in Congress, I am requesting your permission to send you weekly email updates. These communications will focus on the important issues facing Congress today.

The Internet has provided us an opportunity to speak to you directly and brings you a new way to be heard.

If you do not wish to have me contact you via email or if you believe you have received this message in error, please click the link below and your name will be permanently deleted from the email list.

Sincerely,

John Carter

Member of Congress



*This email is an official communication of a Member of Congress.
This communication does not represent in any way a commercial solicitation.*

If you do not wish to receive periodic email, please [click here](#) to be immediately removed from their email list.



Committee on
House Administration

1309 Longworth House Office Building | Washington, DC 20515-6157
t: 202-225-8281 | f: 202-225-9957 | www.house.gov/cha

[Dear Colleagues](#) :: September 8, 2003

Updated E-mail Policy Related to Subscriber Lists

Dear Colleague:

The Committee on House Administration has adopted a new policy related to individuals who subscribe to an electronic mailing list. Effective immediately, the new policy allows an individual who subscribes to a Member's electronic communication or newsletter, to be categorized as a "solicited" request by the individual. As a result, these communications would not be subject to the 90-day communications ban that applies to unsolicited communications.

The added communication ability also poses greater responsibilities on the part of Members and staff. While there is no requirement to seek an advisory opinion from the Franking Commission, the Committee **strongly encourages** each office to seek guidance from the Franking Commission when questions arise, to ensure compliance with franking content regulations and to avoid enforcement and punitive measures, from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, which may result from communications not in compliance with House and franking rules and regulations.

The new provision in the *Members' Congressional Handbook* reads accordingly:

Subscribed E-mail updates

A subscribed e-mail update is an e-mail sent to constituents who have individually subscribed to an e-mail list. Members must notify constituents who subscribe to e-mail updates that the constituent is authorizing the Member to send regular e-mail updates from the Member's office to the person's e-mail account. All e-mail updates to subscribers must contain an option that enables the constituent to unsubscribe from the e-mail list. Members may send subscribed e-mail updates without obtaining an advisory opinion.

Non-subscribed E-mail updates

If each e-mail address used in a mass communication was not obtained with consent for subscribed e-mail updates, then the Member must receive a Franking Advisory prior to the distribution of the mass communication.

Please see Unsolicited Mass Communications Restrictions.

This new category enables Members to provide legislative updates to individuals who have specifically requested this official information, and will allow Members to communicate with their constituency more closely as bills make their way through the legislative process. Subscriber lists would be treated consistently with other communications that fall within a solicited category, such as petitions, mass

distribution issue cards mailed in from constituents, and mass distribution telegrams that are received in Member offices. The unique nature of e-mail warrants different standards than would apply to the standard letter sent through the post office and the intent of this change is to allow Members to keep constituents better informed about legislative activity.

If you have any questions related to the new policy, please contact the Committee on House Administration (Majority – x58281; Minority – x52061), or the Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards at the same numbers.

Sincerely,

S/ BOB NEY

Chairman



BEST PRACTICES

A GUIDE TO WHAT'S WORKING

CHAIRMAN DEBORAH PRYCE SECRETARY JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

KIDS' PAGES IN E-NEWSLETTER

MEMBER: REP. JOHN CARTER

STAFF CONTACT: AMY ELLSWORTH, PRESS SECRETARY

ABOUT THIS EVENT:

This is a way to get kids more involved with what is going on in the government and with current events.

PREPARATION

Who is involved?

Press Secretary

Are any outside groups involved?

No outside groups needed for this one.

Timeframe for preparation:

It takes some time to set-up initially, and then only about 30 minutes each week to put together the newsletter.

PRESS COMPONENT

What press did you invite?

Press is not invited; we send our electronic newsletter to our constituents only.

What went into your press plan for the event?

Since press was not invited, there is no press plan for this event.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How often do you hold this event?

We send out an electronic newsletter every week. The first 2 pages or so are issue-based information and the second 2 pages are kids' pages and coloring pages. Adult constituents have told us that they often read the kids' pages first. The content on the kids' pages can be as simple or creative as you want. For President's Day, we gave information about the history of the month, a "President's Day True/False Quiz," and asked kids to submit answers to the question, "Why would you want to be President?" All entries will be included in an upcoming issue of the newsletter. For the coloring page, we've been going through the Presidents in order with a picture for them to color and the bio. We've been getting this information from the White House website.