

Most importantly I want to stress that this commission must be independent and bipartisan, no administration could credibly investigate such an immense failure on its own watch. We owe it to the flood victims of New Orleans to give them truthful answers as to why this event took place and to assure our citizens that tragedies like this will never happen again.

TRIBUTE TO MS. AUDREY BERRY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Audrey Berry. This week, Ms. Berry will be retiring from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) where she served for over 12 years at DOE's Grand Junction Office on Colorado's Western Slope.

Her work at DOE, as well as her long career in public service, demonstrates her dedication and commitment to community concerns and enhancing the quality of life for those in Colorado, the Rocky Mountain region and across the country.

Serving as a Public Affairs Specialist at DOE's Grand Junction Office since January 25, 1993, Ms. Berry consistently has demonstrated a high level of performance. At this position she successfully engaged the communities surrounding DOE's Fernald and Mound Sites in Ohio and the Rocky Flats Site near Denver, Colorado in the establishment of Local Stakeholder Organizations, which provide opportunities for the public to comment on and be involved with the ongoing monitoring of the cleanup at these former nuclear weapons production facilities. She also helped develop a successful transition strategy for public participation at DOE sites that are slated for closure.

Ms. Berry also was instrumental in establishing one of the first DOE Site Specific Advisory Boards (SSAB) in November 1993 for the Monticello uranium mill tailings remediation site in Monticello, Utah. She developed the application for perspective members and interviewed applicants; managed the budget for the duration of the SSAB; provided DOE-Headquarters with required reports and action; organized meetings, was the liaison between the members, DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Utah; followed up on action items; was responsible in attempting to meet diversity requirements, and resolved issues of concern. Ms. Berry also was instrumental in disbanding the SSAB when the mission was completed. Her involvement with the community of Monticello continued for six years.

Also at the Monticello site, Ms. Berry organized, developed and implemented the plan to transfer DOE property located at the Monticello site to the City of Monticello for recreational use. Utilizing the General Services Administration and National Park Service's "Lands to Park" Program, the property was successfully transferred in June 2000.

Ms. Berry also supported numerous projects assigned to DOE's Grand Junction Office. During her tenure, she developed public participation plans and established outstanding relationships with numerous stakeholder

groups, including congressional, state and local officials, tribal members, special interest groups, citizen's advisory boards, the media, and individual citizens. In order to successfully interface with the multiple contacts she enjoyed, Ms. Berry possessed a broad technical knowledge of all of the assigned projects.

Ms. Berry also organized and conducted numerous workshops and conferences for DOE's Grand Junction Office. Most notably, four Long Term Stewardship Workshops were held, each with 225 to 300 attendees. And, she organized a Stakeholders Conference on Worker Transition and Legacy Benefits for DOE's Office of Legacy Management. This effort was especially important and noteworthy. She recognized, as do many at DOE, that providing health care and benefits for people who worked at DOE sites—sites that involved the handling of hazardous materials—is an important obligation that we as a nation owe to these workers. Her attention to detailed plans has assured successful and well-attended events and helped promote policies to address worker transition issues and public involvement regarding the long-term integrity of cleanup and closure of DOE sites.

Ms. Berry has been the recipient of at least 16 various awards, namely Special Act Awards, Individual Incentive Awards, and Group Awards during her tenure with DOE's Grand Junction Office.

Before joining DOE in 1993, she served as the Western Slope Office Director for Colorado Senator Tim Wirth. At this position, she helped constituents address issues and concerns with federal programs and policies. Prior to working for Senator Wirth, she performed the same service to citizens of Colorado's Western Slope in Representative Ray Kogovsek's office when he represented the 3rd Congressional District in Colorado.

Ms. Berry's work at all of these offices underscores her deep commitment to service for the communities she has served. What's especially impressive has been her personal touch—the way that she interacts with people so that they are included in policy decisions and treated with seriousness and respect. In so doing, she has been effective in getting the job done and involving the public and various stakeholders. Her accomplishments and style are models for the type of quality in public service that we all can seek to emulate.

I am sure that Ms. Berry will remain active in issues of importance to communities along Colorado's Western Slope or wherever life takes her. I wish her much future success.

PENN STATE FAYETTE CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus as it celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2005–2006. From its humble beginnings to its present status, Penn State Fayette had played a key role in the social, cultural, and economic development of Fayette County.

Penn State first came to scenic Southwestern Pennsylvania following the establishment of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Extension

Service and its county agricultural agents in 1907. In 1934, Penn State established an Undergraduate Center in Uniontown that provided the first two years of a college education to area residents "location bound" and/or unable to afford studies at the University Park campus. This Center closed in 1940 as the nation turned its attention to the approaching war. However, Penn State returned to Southwestern Pennsylvania with undergraduate educational programming on June 1, 1965, when it opened the Fayette campus to serve the residents of Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties. Penn State Fayette began by first offering classes in several buildings in downtown Uniontown. Then, in 1968 the Fayette Campus Advisory Board acquired 27 acres of the Garner Farm, located between Uniontown and Connellsville.

Since that time, the campus has grown to about 100 acres and 10 buildings: the renovated Eberly Building (named for Orville S. Eberly), the University House (once the Garner home), the Williams Building (the redesigned student center named for J. Lewis Williams), a state-of-the-art library, a gymnasium, an engineering building, the Biomedical Technology Building, and several other farm and maintenance buildings.

Penn State Fayette now has five baccalaureate degrees in Administration of Justice; Nursing; Human Development and Family Studies; Letters, Arts, and Sciences; and Business Administration. Penn State Fayette also offers nine associate degrees: Architectural Engineering Technology; Electrical Engineering Technology; Business Administration; Human Development and Family Studies; Letters, Arts, and Sciences; Information, Sciences, and Technology; Nanofabrication Manufacturing Technology, Science, and Nursing.

Responding to urgent statewide needs in 1987, Penn State Fayette established a training and certification program for emergency medical technicians. Today the Continuing Education Department offers credit, non-credit, and management development courses both on campus and off campus at the Uniontown Mall, United Parcel Services in New Stanton, and Somerset Hospital, Uniontown Hospital and Frick Hospital.

The faculty at Penn State Fayette fulfill two roles for the student body with their commitment not only to teaching but also to advising. The faculty have received national and University awards for teaching, research, community outreach, and performance in English, art, philosophy, history, physics, chemistry, administration of justice, and engineering technology. The size of the student population allows for personal interaction between instructors and students, and the dedication of the faculty makes this interaction a tremendous aid to learning.

The many campus activities and events contribute to an atmosphere of unity. Over twenty-five clubs and organizations match the interests of almost every student. The intramural organizations include eight different sports occurring year round. Students have access to a large, well-equipped library, a

state-of-the-art engineering building with a CAD lab, new computer labs, a student activity and cafeteria facility, multimedia rooms, and a fully equipped gymnasium. For various activities and events, the campus possesses video-conferencing capabilities, Internet connectivity, and satellite communications. In addition, the campus' Coal and Coke Heritage Center preserves coal-mining related artifacts, interviews and other memorabilia from the area.

Many campus enhancements have marked the last few years at Fayette. Fayette opened the BioMedical Technology Building, housing the science and nursing programs, in July of 1999. During the fall of 2001, the University reopened Eberly Building, which had been shut down for one year to transform it into one of the most technological state-of-the-art learning environments in the world. The renovations have proven to be a great success and feature many new technologically advanced facilities, including a Corporate Training Center, a new Information, Sciences and Technology (IST) lab, a technology center, a new Administration of Justice (ADMJ) crime lab, art facilities and a child-care center, the Cub's Den. In the fall of 2002, the theater in the Williams Building was remodeled and renamed Swimmer Hall.

In August 2005, a new community center was opened. This 52,000 sq. ft. addition to the campus includes a 1,500-seat NCAA gymnasium, racquetball courts in the center and an auxiliary gym. In addition, a 450-seat auditorium and the new cafeteria are housed in the community center. This center promises to provide top facilities for athletic, cultural and civic events. The 2004–2005 school year saw the dedication of our new Cultural Center as well as the new Student Center.

Again I offer my congratulations to Penn State Fayette for reaching the milestone of its 40th anniversary and I am confident that with such excellent programs the campus will continue to be a vital asset to the region for another 40 years and beyond.

HONORING MINNESOTA BOY
SCOUTS AND LEADERS ON THEIR
RECEIPT OF THE MEDAL OF
MERIT AND THE NATIONAL CER-
TIFICATE OF MERIT

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five Minnesota Boy Scouts and their two adult leaders as they receive the Medal of Merit and the National Certificate of Merit from the Boy Scouts of America. On September 18, 2005, Michael Daw, Eric Erfanian, David Fink, Derek Rossberg, Jim Spohn, John Spohn, and Tim Spohn will receive these awards for their heroic efforts to help save the life of another adult leader, Laurie Jedamus. An additional adult leader, Emilie Entrikin, will receive the National Certificate of Merit.

On August 18, 2004, the five Boy Scouts and four adult leaders began a week-long trek into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA) in northern Minnesota. On the third night of the trip, Laurie Jedamus developed

epiglottitis, a very dangerous throat infection that progressed to the point that, by the next morning, Jedamus had difficulty breathing. The Scouts and their leaders decided that medical attention was necessary and began the difficult expedition back out of the BWCA. The weather started to deteriorate, with 40 mph winds, two-foot waves and trees blowing down, but the Scouts and their leaders made the 11-mile trip, crossing 14 lakes and 13 long, steep portages (where they had to carry their 50 pound bags and 70 pound canoes) in six hours; usually a two-day trip. Jedamus stayed in the hospital for two days and made a complete recovery.

Mr. Speaker, these Scouts and their leaders exemplify the outstanding act of service and exceptional character that embody the Medal of Merit. Their courage and perseverance under trying conditions helped save the life of one of their leaders. On behalf of the Sixth District of Minnesota, I would like to extend my congratulations on receiving this most deserving award. It is community members like these Scouts and their leaders who help make Minnesota great.

TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR FARRAR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Eleanor Farrar who passed away at the age of 79, on August 25, 2005 from breast cancer. She was a founder and former Vice President of the Joint Center for Political Studies.

Born Eleanor Schneider in Vienna, Austria, Dr. Farrar immigrated to New York with her family in 1939, when she was 14. She received an undergraduate degree in political science from Mount Holyoke College in 1946, a master's degree in political science from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in 1947 and a PhD in international relations from the London School of Economics in 1952.

From 1954 to 1963, Ms. Farrar lived in Pakistan and Cambodia, working as a lecturer in political science and international relations at the University of the Punjab, Forman Christian College, both in Pakistan and the University of Karachi.

When she returned to the United States, she taught political science at Howard University, where she met Eddie N. Williams, who had served as a reserve officer in the Foreign Service, and Kenneth B. Clark, the psychologist whose work on the self-esteem of black students in segregated public schools became essential to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the monumental case *Brown vs. Board of Education*. She worked with the two men in attempts to increase the participation of blacks in the Foreign Service.

Subsequently, in the 1960's and 1970's, Eleanor Farrar worked as the director of Clark's think tank, the Metropolitan Applied Research Center. In 1970, however, that think tank entered into a partnership with Howard University to establish the Joint Center for Political Studies, established to provide training and technical assistance to black elected officials.

Ms. Farrar served as the organization's Vice President for twenty two years. The Joint Cen-

ter for Political Studies has become nationally known for its research on minority economic and social issues and black political participation.

She leaves behind four children, Jon, Cynthia, Andrew, and Erin; two siblings; and seven grandchildren.

Eleanor Farrar will always be remembered as "a woman of profound strength of character, who expressed her commitment to the study of race relations and development of sound policies with every endeavor she undertook." She will be truly missed.

CAMBRIA CITY MISSION
CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Cambria City Mission as it celebrates its 75th year of serving the Johnstown community physically, mentally, materially, and spiritually. The non-denominational mission is entirely financed by contributions from local churches, community service groups and generous individuals; operating without government assistance and following its Mission purpose for the last 75 years:

"To promote the Christian way of life and build character by teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. To provide spiritual inspiration through worship services and educational activities. To improve the home life of the community through boys' and girls' clubs and camps. To mold a greater love for country through an understanding of its opportunities and challenges."

Through the years, the Mission has experienced many growing pains and undergone many changes, but the commitment to its purpose stands firm.

The Mission was founded in 1930 by the First Presbyterian Church of Johnstown as a Home Mission project. Bertha Bell, a member of the church, was asked to be the first executive director. She rented a storeroom at 602 Board Street, and began her work in December of 1930. When the Great Depression affected all communities, including Johnstown, the Mission ministered to all who came for help. Food was prepared and served daily for hungry children who came after school, and clothing was distributed to families who were in need.

Today, in addition to Sunday school classes for children and adults, the mission also provides Sunday worship Bible study, craft, sewing and knitting classes and meeting facilities. Mother-daughter and father-son banquets are held annually, as well as vacation Bible school. Camp Harmony and Camp Allegheny remain the high points for the children of the Mission.

As the programs and attendance at the Mission expanded, the need for larger facilities fulfilled with the 1958 purchase of a double house at 906–908 Broad Street. However, the building burned in 1970. A new building was completed in 1972, and although it was severely damaged by the Johnstown flood of 1977, the building was restored and reopened in 1984.