

News
From _____

CONGRESSMAN

Jerry Good
Nick Rahall

WEST VIRGINIA-4th DISTRICT

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RAHALL SAYS EDUCATION OF YOUTH TOP PRIORITY

LEWISBURG, W. VA.--U. S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) today at a meeting of the West Virginia Postmasters Association said one of the keys to building a strong, sound society is a solid education. Rahall, a strong supporter of education, charged the administration with attempting to do away with many of the programs designed to help further education for the youth of the mountain state.

Rahall accused the administration of spending excessive federal funds on defense, technology and many other areas are virtually useless without simple education.

To aid the fight for education in the mountain state, Rahall said that he has appointed an educational advisory committee to study the educational problems of West Virginia. The council, chaired by Marshall University President Dale Nitzschke, will assist Rahall in his efforts to better education in West Virginia.

In addition, Rahall told the Postmasters that the House recently passed legislation prohibiting the closing or consolidation of small post offices.

"Here in West Virginia, we all know the importance of the community post office. In many towns it is the center of activity each day as residents gather and talk about the day's happenings, conduct business and just socialize," Rahall said.

Rahall also spoke out on the current slump of the coal market noting that while he is optimistic that the mountain state coal industry will rebound, the state must seek and expand upon alternative sources of revenue.

"We have the potential to expand in the fields of tourism, wood products, health care and many other areas in which there is indeed an abundance in West Virginia," Rahall said.

In a move to expand tourism, a bill sponsored by Rahall was passed during the current session of Congress establishing the Gauley National Recreation Area, as well as giving national park status to segments of the Meadow, Bluestone and Greenbrier Rivers. The measure is an effort to preserve the beauty of the mountain state's rivers, while expanding on the state's economic base.

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