

## **NOTICE**

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**FERNALD LIVING HISTORY PROJECT**  
**Transcript**

Name: Melba Guard

Date Interviewed: 07/06/99

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Tape: 48

Project Number 20012

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**Tape FLHP0106**

13:01:01

Q:

All right.

A:

I wanna ask (laughing) \_\_\_\_\_

Q:

Are you ready? (laughs)

A:

Well, I guess I'm as ready as I'll ever be.

Q:

Well it's easy. The first question is always the easiest question. If you could just give us your name and spell it, so we know we have it correct.

A:

My name is Melba Guard. And it's M-E-L-B-A G-U-A-R-D.

13:01:20

Q:

Great. And uh, usually we start with a little of background. If you could tell us uh, um, where you were born, and how you came to this area, and a little bit about your family.

A:

OK, I was born in Harrison, Ohio, or grew up in Harrison, Ohio. Actually was born in Hamilton, Fort Hamilton Hospital. Uh, my family uh, was always from Harrison. Uh, went to the schools in Harrison, and I came out to this area, Crosby Township um, when I got out on my own, and I lived out on Willey Road and rented a farmhouse there.

13:01:52

Q:

And where on Willey Road did you live?

A:

Um, I couldn't give you the address, it's, and, and the house is not there any more. They tore it down, but it was a two-story f-, uh, farmhouse, and um, it was about, I would say uh, half a mile from Fernald.

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13:02:09

Q:

So you were very close (laughs).

A:

Yes, I was very close. Um-hmm.

13:02:12

Q:

Let's go back a little bit and talk about your years in uh, the school system. And you mentioned that you went to Harrison grade school in the '50s. Um, tell us a little bit about how Fernald affected your school years.

A:

Okay. The only thing that I can remember, and it wasn't really a, a big effect or anything like that, but I remember that at the beginning of every school year uh, for the, I would say for the. I would say probably the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade, uh, the teachers would always have to find out what children who had parents that worked at Fernald.

13:02:47

A:

And um, and at that, at that age, you know, it, at that age, it didn't mean anything to me, but now as I think back, I often you know kinda, wondered why. And I thought if I ever had a chance to talk to any of the, the teachers if they're still around, (laughing) uh, why they had to do that, if they even knew.

13:03:04

A:

I would you know, like to find out. But uh, that was all there was that I can remember. They just asked you know, if their parents worked there, and didn't say anything else that I can remember about that.

13:03:18

Q:

Did you have any friends while you were in school whose parents did worked there?

A:

Uh, I can't remember any. I'm sure I did. But I sure, (begins to laugh while answering) can't remember. That was a long time ago. I can't remember back that far, so I don't know.

13:03:33

Q:

And how, what exactly did you think Fernald did? When you were a child, especially, did you drive by and wonder?

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A:

I don't remember really ever driving by. I just, I just don't know and I, I couldn't tell you what I knew about it because I don't think I knew anything to tell you the truth, you know, what they did there or anything like that. That was not, you know, important to me then. Uh, in high school, I know uh, or towards, probably towards the end of high school there was the bomb scares and things like that.

13:04:05

A:

Russia was gonna g-, bomb you know, the United States and all that that was going on. And I know, I remember hearing comments that well, we would probably be one of their targets because of Fernald because of uh, ah, what they were doing at Fernald. But again, I didn't uh, really know exactly what they did you know, that would cause them to uh, bomb us that we would be an actual target.

13:04:32

A:

But it was scary (laughs), you know, something to think about and wondering you know, what's there that they would bomb us for.

Q:

So that was during sort of the height of the Cold War.

A:

Yes, around that time. Um-hmm.

13:04:47

Q:

How did the Russian missile, or not the R-, Cuban Missile Crisis sort of changed those kinds of things. Wha-, what was the attitude of the typical student for during that period of time?

A:

Uh, well I'm, being a high school student at that time, I think we were still more involved with high school, I mean you know, we'd, it was probably more our parents that were more concerned and you'd listen to what your parents had to say. And we did have drills in case there was a bomb threat. (Laughing) And I don't know what, really you know we could've really protected ourselves.

13:05:30

A:

I mean unless it was people that went to bomb shelters, but being at school there wasn't a whole lot that you know, could be done except um, get in a safe corner and, and stay there until the, you know it was all over. But um, I think that was the only real concern we had was going through those drills. But after that was over, you're back to doing your teenage things and that was more important.

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Q:

What was the s-, the typical student's mindset? I know we sorta covered this already, towards um, the cold war in general. I mean did they know that much about it?

A:

Um, well, I would say, like I say, probably as much as what uh, they heard on TV or radio or their parents. I mean, I guess for myself, um, we would talk about you know, where would we, where would we go or what would we do, and, and what were the places you could go uh, in cases of a bomb threat.

13:06:41

A:

Um, but I can't remember it being any more than that. And I don't remember really any, any of my friends saying any more than that, you know. They might have a place in their basement that they could go or. Uh, I don't even (chuckles) know that there were any that actually built a, a bomb shelter or anything like that you know, in their yard. But uh, that's all that I remember, you know.

Q:

I just think that's interesting. Talk to people about that time, in history. Um, so you never heard any stories, or strange stories or anything about the plant, being close by?

A:

Not, no, none that I can think of. Off hand I can't, no.

Q:

'Cause there's a lot o' legends and rumors and stuff out there. It's kinda interesting to see what people think.

A:

Yeah, I know.

13:07:38

Q:

Um, uh, tell me a little bit about uh, the farmhouse on, on Willey Road. You're awfully close to the plant there. Uh, how do you think that the Fernald plant, I mean from a resident's point of view, being so close, how do you think it changed the surrounding community?

A:

Um, well I rented there, and um, there was, there was um, another family below me. It was a two-story as I said, two-story farmhouse. And the people that uh, I rented from lived next door, their names were Mondary. They're not there any more. And they moved out mainly because of old age.

13:08:17

A:

Um, as far as, we had a creek that went by the house and ah, I don't know if I even thought about it being contaminated or anything. 'Cause it really, even at that time that was ah, in the early or mid-70's

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and we still weren't hearing a whole then about what was going on at Fernald. Ah, ah, we had a well there, I remember that and ah, but that wasn't a concern then either, whether it was polluted.

13:08:47

A:

Um, and I didn't really get to know ah, my ah neighbors because they were farming or doing something like that and I was working and going to school. Ah, so I, I was there, I lived there about two or three years and ah, I don't remember anything really much being said about Fernald. I mean, there's, there were a lot of cars that would go by from people worked there, but as far as people saying much of anything about Fernald, no. I don't remember anything.

13:09:18

Q:

Stop.

Cameraman: We're getting an error message (everyone laughing).

A:

I didn't (Tape cuts out and begins again)

13:09:23

Q:

So now, um, hindsight is always 20/20 of course. Looking back on your years at Willey Road, how long did you live there?

A:

Only about two or three years.

Q:

Um, how do you feel about that now?

13:09:39

A:

Well, I, I don't have concerns. I don't have any concerns about it. Now if I get sick it might be a differ-, I'm sure I'd definitely would wonder. Ah, if it affected an illness or caused as illness. But I just can't, I can't be ah, worried about it. I mean it's, it happened, I didn't you know, ah I was unaware ah and that's ah, that's sad for some people who, you know who have ah, possibly gotten an illness from, from it.

13:10:14

A:

It's more than sad, it's, it's ah, it's terrible is what it really is. That those people never had a chance to be in their homes and, and feel safe. At the time I'm sure they did, but then later on find out that it wasn't as safe because of Fernald. But as far as, as far as I'm concerned, right now I don't have any, you know, any worries about living there.

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Q:

Now in the mid-80's of course there was ah, a lot of media coverage of about a dust collector leak in Plant 9 and how they had been putting out material into the atmosphere, ah how did you react to that?

A:

Well, I remember ah, going to work, I worked in ah, Oak Hills School District and um, I remember many times on ah, my ah, ah way back home on, being on Route 128, seeing ah, the ah, I don't know what it would be called. Whether it was the smoke or the cloud that came out from, you know Fernald and I thought, oh you know, I've wondered whether that had anything in it that you know, could've affected ah, the surrounding area.

13:11:31

A:

Um, it ah, I, when I heard it I thought ah, ah, how could they not have been more careful. Ah, being the government and they've done all the research and why didn't they know that ah, if something you know, why wouldn't, why didn't they catch it? And why didn't they do something about it? Ah, those are the thoughts that you know, of course came to my mind.

13:11:54

A:

You trust the government and trust that they know what they're doing and you expect them to do the right thing.

Q:

Tell us a little bit about being a trustee, and why you got involved in being a trustee.

A:

The trustee itself or being involved with Fernald? I'm not sure of your question.

13:12:13

Q:

I guess sort of both that same thing. I mean was it because of Fernald that you got involved with being a trustee?

A:

No. It was not. (Response: Okay) Ah, I felt ah, I just gotten very interested in local politics and felt that maybe that I could ah, have a good contribution to my community by ah, becoming a trustee. So I got out there and campaigned and ah, fortunately won. Um, since I've have been a trustee, ah I of course have gotten involved ah, Fernald.

13:12:44

A:

Um, we have ah, three trustees and we each do our part in knowing more about Fernald and keeping up to date. We have ah, a liaison ah, from Fernald ah, Theresa Schomaker and she comes to our

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meetings and she keeps us up to date on what's going on. And, and ah, I have gone to several meetings, I go regularly to ah, FEMP's planning and training ah, meeting that's at Ross Fire Department.

13:13:17

A:

Ah, I believe that's like every two months and they might have less than that. Ah, upcoming (clears throat) meetings, but ah, I've gone to one or two ah, CRO meetings. The Citizen's Reuse Organization to see, ah what they're doing. I think that's really important to see what they can do with ah, taking that knowledge that people have and they're training and being able to put it in other areas.

13:13:45

A:

And, getting grants to start businesses and, and to help the people that are coming out of Fernald and having to find other ah, work. I think that's really ah, a great idea to do something like that. Um, and I've gone to some of the clean-up workshops that ah, they've had to see what's happening with the railroad. Ah, how they're going to transport it out and, and things like that.

13:14:10

A:

So I, I've gotten involved ah, probably more with it's ah, FEMP's ah, training and, ah planning and training than I have the other two, but we keep up to date as much as we can on it. And I've gone to some of the, ah we've gone to two of the tours. I've only been a trustee for a year and a half, and we've had two tours at ah, Fernald.

13:14:31

A:

And ah, we also ah, there was a public um, they invited the public to come on a tour and we did that as well.

Q:

So when you tour Fernald now, what are your impressions of the site?

A:

Well there's a, a great deal of cleanup which is good to see and it looks like they have um, are being very careful in how they're doing that. And ah, they're taking a lot of time that I think is necessary to be able to do it right. And um, I've just gotten a real good impression of how, how they're going about it. They, I'm very interested in how it's gonna all end.

13:15:11

A:

Ah, we've heard a lot of different things, um, um, much of it going back to being natural. Ah, habitat as much as they can, ah, government I guess is still going to own it. (Clears throat) There is a, a certain ah, amount of acreage that's suppose to be um, given to the ah, surrounding areas, and that's up for grabs as to what's going to happen there. Whether it's gonna be a museum, or whatever.



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A:

Uh, the um, the Native Americans also have a, a stake in that ah, as a burial ground. And um, there's some you know, real good things happening I think. But it's interesting to find out how it's gonna end. All of it, if there's going to be anything left at all. Ah, there certainly will be some in the ground but otherwise anything else that you know, that might happen there.

13:16:03

Q:

What would you personally like to see done with the land?

A:

Well I, (clears throat) I like the idea of it going back natural. Um, it would be nice to be able to use some of that for public use and hopefully it would be safe enough to do that. Um, but I think the natural use, I like that idea the most.

13:16:34

A:

Uh, we have a lot of uh, good area around here that uh, good farm land and, and it's, it's um, lessening as years go by because uh, farmers having, retiring or having difficulties staying you know, into farming. And having a big area like Fernald and having it natural, it's, and we have Miami Whitewater that's all, you know, all natural.

13:17:00

A:

And, uh a great place to visit, but ( laughing) I don't know that you could visit Fernald except you know, in certain areas, but I like that idea of it being natural.

Q:

And how have you seen the attitude of the government, in particular the Department of Energy, change with time since the process years to the cleanup years?

13:17:25

A:

I can't say I've been real involved in the beginning, except for uh, where I've read things in newspapers and, and heard uh, things. I would say they're a lot more open. There's more consideration for the public in letting them know what's going on. So I would say they're more cooperative in letting the public know.

Q:

Great, okay. Um, let's see. Now you live still pretty close to the plant (A: Um-hmm.) where you are here. How far are you away from Fernald?

A:

We, I believe are, we're less than 6 miles away, I probably only about 4 maybe at the most, I'm not, I'm not real sure.

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13:18:21

Q:

So how has the plant, where, where you live now, how is it, how has it affected your family?

A:

(Pauses) Well, uh, we, there were some, survey, two surveys that came out, and one had to do with the evaluation of the property and whether we felt it had, and all we could do is fill it out and let them know how long we'd been here and there. Um, we also had one for um, um, for the Fernald medical monitoring, and we take full advantage of that, uh, my husband and I.

13:19:02

A:

My daughter wasn't around at the time, so she's not qualified to be a part of that, but we take full advantage of that. And um, and there was one I think on, as a matter of fact there was one on the psychological effects, and we didn't feel it affected us, so we didn't even fill that one out.

13:19:22

A:

So as far as how it has affected us here, uh, I, I know there was a certain amount of devaluation on our property, but (laughing) it didn't show up on our taxes, property taxes. Um, which I thought was interesting (laughing). Uh, as far as being able to sell this property, what I see, properties around us, there's no problem selling property around, on Mt. Hope Road.

13:19:49

A:

And maybe that has something to do with the park. And I think, could still get pretty good top dollar for, you know, the property around here, compared to the properties in Crosby Township. But um, we had our well tested, and it, there didn't seem to be any problems, we're considering having it tested again just to keep up on that.

13:20:12

A:

But as far as it affecting us, I don't think any, except for the things that I've mentioned, I don't think it has too much.

Q:

Great, and uh, let's see, as a trustee, um, how did you feel about the class action lawsuit that happened?

13:20:36

A:

How did I feel about it? Well, we apparently were a part of it because we had the devaluation and we had the Fernald medical monitoring, and uh, I think that was, I think that was the right thing to do. I think um, people were a lot more affected by it than we were a lot, Fernald itself, health-wise, and with their property, and those people I felt needed to be compensated, probably more than I did.

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13:21:04

A:

But there, I mean I had heard where some people that weren't affected got a great deal of money, and I would like to know more about uh, how they did the figuring on that. And who deserved what, but um, and I, it doesn't matter to me, you know, as far as what we got, we, you know, that was sufficient.

13:21:21

A:

Uh, we didn't get a great deal of money, but that disturbed me a little bit, you know, some people getting, you know, some people getting tons of money (laughs). I'd like to know how, you know, some of them were really affected to, to deserve that, but you know, there were some people probably deserved that and didn't you know, get that amount.

13:21:39

A:

And I think it had a lot to do with the forms they filled out and how they answered them, I, I assume. I guess that's you know, about all I can you know, say. I, I just think that it was necessary to help the people that uh, were definitely affected by it.

Q:

And are you pretty active in going to a lot of the Fernald public meetings and cleanup progress briefings?

13:22:05

A:

Well, the ones that I told you, those're the ones that I go to. Uh, I um, the tours, uh, the training, planning and training at CRO. And uh, a couple o' the cleanup workshops, uh, like I said, our trustees, we kinda split it so that one trustee does more in this area and another one does more in another area and so that we can, we can share it and then learn from each other.

13:22:34

A:

It takes an awful lot o' time (laughing) going to meetings and having a family, and I'm not making excuses, just a reality that uh, I can't go to every one of 'em because they have tons of meetings. And uh, and I have other meetings within Fernald that I have to go to as well, so. So that's how we do that, to stay updated on it that we share those meetings.

13:22:58

Q:

Tell us how one o' those workshops works. Just to give us a typical evening, what it's like to go to one o' those workshops.

A:

Well uh, I can tell you the one I've been to the most, the uh, planning and training meeting is at, as I said is at Ross Firehouse. And it's, we usually meet at 5 o'clock, and uh, there's different representatives from the different areas. There's, there is, there are fire people there, emergency people, um, there are people that represent Fernald, and there's the different officials.

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A:

Um, we um, usually have a little something to eat and then they go into their meeting and they update us on what's happening, and um, there's questions and answers and then we, that's it, that's about, you know, what goes on, with that one.

13:23:56

A:

Uh, when I went to the CRO, I hadn't gone, you know, they had, had done a lot of work before I had ever gone to that meeting, and they have officers and they have all the different representatives and they have um, public people there and they have visitors. The time I was there, there were people that had visited from other parts of the country that wanted to know about what was, what they were doing.

13:24:23

A:

They updated everybody on the grants, and, and they had um, they were doing research on what other things that they could do if they had a grant, and what they could do to help people that were coming out of Fernald, and, and using that, their training. And then there was a time for questions and answers as well.

Q:

And how much control over cleanup decisions in your opinion does the public have?

13:24:58

A:

(Clears throat) The few times that I have gone to those cleanup, they, it appears that they, that um, Fernald/DOE listen to comments, especially people like Lisa Crawford and Edwa Yokum. Um, and they look into those, and they get back with 'em, and they, if they already know the answers, they give them answers right away. Uh, it seems they ver-, are very responsive from what I can see.

13:25:31

A:

Uh, I mean I haven't talked to Lisa, and, but Edwa comes to our meeting-, our trustee meetings. And when Theresa Schomaker speaks, uh, on the talking, points of what's happening of Fernald updates, uh, Edwa will, if she has a question or concern, she definitely, you know, says something and, and Theresa either has an answer or she gets back with her, so they're very responsive I think, uh, from what I can, you know, what I, my obs-, observation is.

13:26:05

Q:

How do you feel about the Envoy program?

A:

Well, um, I'd like to see as much outta this (laughing) are as possible. I would like to have probably a better answer, to being able to store and get rid of this, this, material that really can harm people, but I don't have that answer and I would like to see it some day see it come out. Because who knows how long it can really be stored and it, and it won't affect us.

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13:26:47

A:

And is it really right to send it out in a location that maybe no one lives around, but it's still an environment, and I just, I wouldn't know what to do with it, but I wish there were some way that it would just disappear and it wasn't there any more. But uh, right now there isn't that, that um, availability I guess.

13:27:09

Q:

As a trustee, did you guys have a lot of input into this shipping, shipping program and what was gonna happen with uh, the uh, trains?

A:

Only if you went to, I would say if you went to the meetings, and you voiced your concern. Uh, we voice our concerns at our meeting with Theresa Schomaker but uh, and she takes it back and lets them know, but as far as a real decision, I haven't noticed, you know, I haven't noticed anything to that effect.

13:27:44

Q:

And how do you personally feel about the trains that are going out now, and how the shipments are going?

A:

Um, I haven't heard a whole lot except that some of it's been delayed, and there were some problems with a train um corporation, or company. Um I, it worries me because I, a little bit because I know that train tracks aren't what they used to be and I don't know if they've taken, you know, time to take a look at the track to see you know, if it's in the best condition when you're going through those areas.

13:28:27

A:

I, I, I hope that they're notifying, and I don't know if they, you have to notify the areas as they go through. I certainly hope they are being notified as well. It, it concerns me a little bit. Uh, just hoping that they're ta-, at this end they seem to be taking all the precautions, but along the way, I hope they're taking those same precautions, and I'm not real sure whether they are or not.

Q:

Okay, good, we're gonna take a little break. Switch tapes here.

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**Tape FLHP0107**

14:01:00

Q:

Okay, excellent, tell us a little bit about your teaching career.

A:

My teaching career? Well, um, I started out training at Miami University, Hamilton branch and then went on to Oxford branch. And that was about the time that I was living on Willey Road, and they I got a job teaching 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade at C.O. Harrison in Oak Hill School District.

14:01:30

A:

And I'm an art teacher, and uh, I taught there for about 10 years and married, and had a little girl and I decided to stay home with her, so I stayed home about 5 years with her. And then decided to go back to teaching, and um, when I went back, I went back part time.

14:01:51

A:

And they gave me uh, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, two 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes, and when I took those (laughs) when I, when I decided to teach 8<sup>th</sup> grade, they said, "Oh, by the way, how would you like to teach 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade?" And I thought, "Well, why not? I mean, I'm used to elementary school."

14:02:10

A:

And so that first year, I didn't realize how hard it was going to be going from 8<sup>th</sup> grade and then 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and so I decided (laughing) not to take 8<sup>th</sup> grade the next year fortunately. So I've stayed in the elementary schools and have taught another 10 years, and I travel between two schools.

14:02:29

A:

And so this coming year I'll be going full time uh, and I'll be at Dallas teaching 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and I'll have my own room, and then I'll go in the afternoon to Oak Dale, uh again an Oak Dale school district, and still teach 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, but I'll be travelling to the classrooms to do that. They're fun. I really enjoy teaching, especially the younger, younger classes there.

14:02:51

A:

They're so open and energetic, and, and the creativity's there and it's just enjoyable to teach art.

Q:

Great, sounds like fun. (A: It is. A lot o' fun.) And you have the summer off, right?

(Both laughing)

A:

Yes, I enjoy that, too. Look forward to that, every summer.

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14:03:09

Q:

Right, now how far is Oak Hills from this area? I'm not even sure where it is.

A:

It's about, my fi-, my um, the um, one school that I used to teach at until this coming year was about 15 to 20 minutes away, so I would say it's about 20 miles at the most, from this area.

14:03:30

Q:

And were you teaching in the mid-'80s? In that school district?

A:

Yes. Uh, yes, up until Jen-, Jennifer my daughter was born, um, in '84 and I taught up until the end of '83.

14:03:42

Q:

During your teaching career, when a lot of the media attention started happening at Fernald, did you get feedback from parents and students as to be, you know, they're in the area, they're not far from Fernald?

14:03:54

A:

Uh, probably not a whole lot. Uh, um, they would ask, you know, what's happening over there and I could only tell them the same thing probably they've been reading. So, I can't say there was a whole lot, everyone knows, and there's always the joke, oh, do you glow at night, you know. But uh, that, that would probably be the extent of any conversations on Fernald.

14:04:23

Q:

I usually say to people I never heard that one before (both laughing). I say that all the time. Um, let's see from Crosby Township people in particular, since you are a trustee, do you have a lot of people asking you questions, about what is happening at Fernald?

14:04:45

A:

Oh, no I really haven't and I think because of the ones that are really concerned are at the meetings, uh, they're reading everything that's being put out. Fernald has a lot of pamphlets to come out and there was several times when they asked do you want these sent, mailed to you and so forth. So I think they're probably doing a lot on their own.

14:05:06

A:

Uh, finding out what's going on there. So I can't say, it's probably more people that are not familiar or not around this area that ask, but then most of those people know too, because they've been reading in the papers, but I really can't say I had a whole lot.

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14:05:25

Q:

And what are your impressions of the FRESH organization?

14:05:33

A:

Um, I um, I, I see them as very vigilant and um that they are concerned about every part of what's going on, they keep up to date on everything and uh, they very active in every part of the meetings, the research, the media, everything that's happening, so I would say they are a very important group to keep people informed and keep their voice heard from the community to Fernald.

14:06:05

Q:

When you first became a trustee were they helpful in getting you sort of up to speed as to what was going on on-site and those kinds of things?

14:06:13

A:

Well they were always at the meetings and before I became a trustee I went to most of the township meetings for about three years and I would listen a lot to what they would have to say and so forth and I would say it's more having listened, aah in meetings than them actually coming to me and uh, letting me know.

14:06:36

A:

Now as a trustee, of course, they would come to me as a trustee in a meeting, to all the trustees and to keep us all up to date on their meetings and uh, their questions and things like that. But I can't say that they've actually come to me to update me, no, not personally.

14:06:58

Q:

And tell me, you mentioned a little while ago about the medical monitoring, um, tell us what's involved in that?

14:07:05

A:

Well, of course we had the forms at first and then you called to let them know when you can come to have the physical done and so me and my husband usually try to have it the same day. We can go together and I try to fit it usually, uh, when I'm off from school, when I have a holiday or something like that, it doesn't always happen, but when I was teaching part-time, I could sometimes work it in and at a time when I wasn't teaching during the day.

14:07:34

A:

And so, we would go over to um, Mercy Fairfield. And um, that's where the physical is done and then you go through their test and usually with women, there's a mammogram done. And um, then they'll



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provide you with a little bit of a breakfast, uh, when most of it's all over. And then afterwards, um, they send you all the results.

14:08:13

A:

And so, which is nice, because things like cholesterol and so forth I was able to, you know, see how mine, because I never have it checked (laughing). And I was able to see, you know, how that's, um, doing in my life and uh doing what I needed to do to correct it if I needed to correct it and the mammograms are all so important, and it's all free.

14:08:32

A:

And that's, that's a great thing to, of course, to be able to that and take advantage of it, but then I know there are people that don't have that ability to go and they just don't do it and I'm thinking that's a shame because they have if they want to but they just choose not to.

14:08:52

A:

And um, so that's basically it, we get the results afterwards and if there is a problem they want us to go to our doctors and get it rechecked or looked, or they always from what I understand they always, from what I understand, they always send the results to your primary physician and to keep them updated too, so that's how that works.

14:09:14

Q:

Great and now your daughter is fifteen, now.

14:09:18

A:

Yes, she's fifteen (laughing). Now I won't say anything about her being fifteen (laughing) or being a parent of a fifteen year old (both laughing).

14:09:31

Q:

Does she every have any questions for you about your work as a trustee?

14:09:33

A:

Oh, yes, sometimes I can tell her and sometimes I can't. Sometimes it's things that are not for her to know or for anyone to know. I mean, um, but yes she does and she likes to, she, I don't think she's come to, um, maybe one or two meetings at the most. But if there is a special thing, like uh, our senior center open house, or um our ground breaking ceremony for the senior center.

14:10:03

A:

She was there, she was taking pictures and she was directing me and she was letting me know how to act and all that kind of thing a fifteen-year-old would do. But, yeah, she gets involved to an extent, she

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does like to know what's going on. And if I'm concerned about something, she definitely wants to know about it if I tell her about it, sometimes I can and sometimes I can't.

14:10:25

Q:

Has she every asked you any questions about the plant?

14:10:30

A:

Uh, well, uh, really, not a whole lot. Um, and I guess I just wait and see if it will ever affect her. I don't know, I mean, I don't know with how things affect, I mean, I wasn't pregnant with her at the time, I wasn't married at the time. But if it would have affected my body, I would have assumed it never would have affected hers, but I don't know those things. I don't know of anyone actually knows those things.

14:11:01

A:

Uh, she doesn't seem to be real concerned about it, because now she knows more of the phases of clean up than anything. So, um, she hasn't asked a whole lot about it that I can say off hand.

14:11:16

Q:

(Coughing) I was planning a cough there. Um, okay. Is there anything that you'd like to discuss that we didn't get to or anything you'd like to add?

14:11:28

A:

Well, um, not that I can, not off hand. I can't tell you any special stories that you've asked everything pretty much I already know. Of course, we can't wait to see when it's all over and the people that have been hurt by Fernald that they get the medical attention that they need or whatever else that they should be compensated for. Uh, the concerns of the community and the way I understand it there were probably more people hurt by it in Butler County because it all kind of went that direction.

14:12:30

A:

The pollution went that direction than our side although we did get our share. I hope those people can and I don't know if they can if they were really harmed physically, whether they'll ever be really compensated for what Fernald has done to them. But I hope someday they can have peace over it. That's about it.

14:12:57

Oh, yeah, hang on just a second. I swallowed a bug (coughing). Excuse me. Quiet on the set for about 30 seconds. This is nat sound.