



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



AUGUST 1, 2003

Hot News!

McCollum Visits Maplewood Food Bank

In the second of a series of daylong community visits, Rep. Betty McCollum met with families and local leaders in Maplewood to hear about the economic challenges they face. McCollum visited Schroeder Milk, Tri-District Community Cultures/Environmental Science Elementary School and Second Harvest food bank, and also met with elected officials.

"I hear growing concerns about the misplaced priorities of the White House and Congress. Families here in Minnesota are worried that their jobs and their children's education are not as important to our leaders as tax breaks for the super rich. Our families need investment in jobs and education," said Rep. McCollum.

On the same day President Bush's "Economic Team" made a trip to the twin cities, McCollum visited Second Harvest food bank to get a closer look at how the weak economy and job losses are taking a toll on area families.

Food bank donations are down between 5%-30% at a time when need is increasing between 30%-50%. The demand is increasing at such a rate that contributions cannot meet the needs of the community. The rising rate of jobless and struggling families is making yesterday's food shelf donors today's food bank clients.

President Bush sent his economic team on what is being called the "Jobs and Growth Tour" this week to boast the Bush tax cuts.

"This administration should be ashamed of their arrogance in touting these unnecessary and hurtful tax cuts," McCollum concluded.



During a tour of the Second Harvest food bank, Rep. McCollum joined students from Woodbury on the assembly line to box food for the shelter.

McCollum Travels to Norway and South Africa

On Saturday, August 2, 2003 Rep. Betty McCollum begins a two-week long fact-finding mission overseas. She begins her travels in Oslo, Norway where she will focus on security, defense technology, nuclear safety, dismantlement of nuclear submarines, Arctic Military Environmental Cooperation (AMEC), energy and environmental issues.

On the second leg of her travels, Rep. McCollum will visit pediatric HIV/AIDS clinics and service delivery sites in South Africa with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. McCollum will also travel to a rural Peace Corps site to meet with volunteers working in the Health and HIV/AIDS program area.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to meet with and discuss firsthand the issues our friends and neighbors abroad are dealing with daily," McCollum said of her upcoming travels.

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