

**From:** Congresswoman Betty McCollum [betty.mccollum@congressnewsletter.com]

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**CONGRESSWOMAN**  
**Betty McCollum**  
MINNESOTA'S 4th DISTRICT

Congresswoman Betty McCollum - Minnesota's 4th District

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Dear Friend,

Families and friends all across America will gather in public places this weekend at picnics and fireworks displays to celebrate freedom on our nation's 228th birthday. However, as recently as 40 years ago, many people were not free to go to parks and other public areas, simply because of the color of their skin. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 ended this discrimination. The holiday weekend is the 40th anniversary of this critical milestone, which finally guaranteed rights and freedoms that had been denied to so many Americans.

Facing prejudice and stubborn odds, President Johnson guided the Civil Rights Act through the House and Senate and signed the Act into law on July 2, 1964. The law made racial discrimination in public places illegal and established standards to thwart the rigged voting system in the South.

While the Civil Rights Act was a crucial step forward for our nation, it was not the end of the journey. As a nation, we must strengthen our commitment to the principles of freedom and ideals of the Civil Rights Act if we are to achieve the America we envision.

I wish you a happy and safe July 4th weekend!

Sincerely,

### At Home in Minnesota



Residents of Marian Health East in St. Paul greet Congresswoman McCollum during her visit to the center this week with Ward 7 City Councilwoman Kathy Lantry.

### The Week Ahead

#### **Tuesday, July 6th**

Rep. McCollum will attend an award ceremony granting \$15 million in funding for a "Homeland Security Center of Excellence" on food security based on St. Paul's University of Minnesota campus. The center will be known as the

Congresswoman Betty McCollum  
Minnesota's 4th District

University Center for Post-Harvest Food  
Protection and Defense.

***Wednesday, July 7th***

International Relations Committee  
Hearing on U.S. support of human rights  
and democracy.

***Thursday, July 8th***

Center for Strategic and International  
Studies Conference to unveil the final  
report of the Africa Policy Advisory Panel

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