



Minnesota's 4th District **E-Report!**

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



JANUARY 9, 2004

Hot News!

South St. Paul Company Develops Technology to Monitor Mad Cow Disease

Rep. Betty McCollum was joined by Rep. Gil Gutknecht (MN-01) as they toured Digital Angel Corporation this week. The South St. Paul company demonstrated the innovative technology that it developed to identify and trace cattle.

"Families need to know their food is safe, and this technology shows great promise for helping to ensure the safety of our meat supply. I am incredibly proud that Digital Angel's successful technology is being developed in my hometown," McCollum said.

Digital Angel is confident their technologies are proven, cost-effective, safe and ready for implementation in the cattle industry to help ensure public confidence in response to Mad Cow Disease. Electronic ID tags and scanners connected to databases can capture detailed information about an animal as it moves through the various points of its lifecycle.

Digital Angel pioneered the first scanning system that enabled the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to begin migratory tracking of salmon through U.S. waterways. Each year, millions of their microchips are implanted in salmon to monitor passage through the hydroelectric diversion systems of the Pacific Northwest. The DOE has chosen to use Digital Angel identification microchips and scanners exclusively since the mid-1980s.

McCollum and Gutknecht sent a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman requesting that she meet with representatives from Digital Angel so they can brief her on this vital technology.



On Tuesday Rep. McCollum visited 9th grade Honors Civics students at Mounds View High School to discuss current events and how Congress works.

World Bank Invites McCollum to AIDS Conference in Ethiopia

This week, Rep. Betty McCollum will be the sole U.S. official participating in a World Bank sponsored international parliamentary conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia addressing the HIV/AIDS pandemic. While in Ethiopia from **January 12 - 18**, McCollum will join elected officials from more than a dozen countries to address strategies for fighting AIDS around the world, meet with international donor agencies and tour World Bank health, education and poverty alleviation projects.

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html

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