

Megan for her many accomplishments and for her service to the Atlantic community. I wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

HONORING JILL MCGEE

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Jill McGee for her dedication and service to the El Paso community. As an elementary school teacher, Ms. McGee has stood out among her peers for her innovative teaching methods that empower and challenge her students.

A native of Lincoln, Nebraska, Jill McGee earned her Spanish undergraduate degree from North Park University in Chicago, Illinois and her Master's degree in Bilingual Education from the University of Texas at El Paso. After graduating, Ms. McGee began her career as a teacher in the colonias of our sister city Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Through her work in Ciudad Juarez, Ms. McGee has become fluent in Spanish and realized the importance of dual-language education. To this day, Ms. McGee often finds herself back in Ciudad Juarez where she continues to work several days a week with students from areas of extreme poverty.

More recently, Ms. McGee has worked over the past five years as a second grade elementary school teacher at Mesita Elementary, a dual-language elementary school in El Paso, Texas. At Mesita, she has incorporated the use of cutting edge technology in the classroom, such as computer coding and live broadcasting of her classes online, while also crafting a syllabus that challenges her students through problem-based learning.

To honor Jill McGee's decade-plus teaching career and dedication to dual-language learning, the El Paso Independent School District recently recognized her as the 2016 Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Jill McGee is an inspiration to the El Paso community, and I am honored to represent her.

HONORING KARRIE COULTER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karrie Coulter of Marin County, California, for her selection as the Teacher of the Year at the 2016 Golden Bell Awards Ceremony, presented by the Marin County Office of Education in collaboration with the Marin County School Board Association and other local civic organizations. Ms. Coulter has dedicated more than 15 years to educating students in San Rafael City Schools and is currently a 2nd grade teacher at Short Elementary School in San Rafael.

A skilled teacher and proven leader, Ms. Coulter helped shape the direction of Short when it reopened in 2012. The school uses the Guided Language Acquisition Design

(GLAD) model to serve its students, an innovative approach that Ms. Coulter championed to better serve its multilingual students.

Ms. Coulter believes in the potential of each child, and works hard so they can achieve success. She sets a high bar in her classroom, while ensuring students feel respected and heard. Along with responding to individuals' needs in the classroom, she also employs data analysis and evaluates patterns outside of class to better track and promote students' progress.

The Golden Bell Awards celebrate public education in Marin County by recognizing outstanding teachers and supportive community partners. Each year, they select an exemplary educator, classified employee, teacher, and trustee for recognition.

Mr. Speaker, it is therefore fitting that we honor and thank Karrie Coulter for her contributions to students and public education in Marin County and California.

IN HONOR OF H.R. 4425, THE DESIGNATION OF THE "EUGENE J. MCCARTHY POST OFFICE" IN COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 4425 and honor the late Senator Eugene McCarthy, from Minnesota. H.R. 4425 will rename the postal facility located at 110 East Powerhouse Road in Collegeville, Minnesota, as the "Eugene J. McCarthy Post Office."

Before becoming a two-term Senator for the great state of Minnesota, Senator McCarthy was one of my predecessors, representing the people of the 4th District of Minnesota. In both the House and the Senate, Senator McCarthy took pride in representing Minnesota and was widely recognized for his collegiality and passion for good governance. Perhaps President Lyndon B. Johnson said it best when he referred to Senator McCarthy as "one of those uncommon men who puts his courage in the service of his country, and whose eloquence and energy are at the side of what is right and good."

As a graduate of both Saint John's Preparatory School and Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, I am sure Senator McCarthy would be happy to know that the Collegeville Post Office will now forever bear his name.

LEAH VOLZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leah Volz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Leah Volz is a 12th grader at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Leah Volz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Leah Volz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,214,514,064,181.20. We've added \$8,587,637,015,268.12 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO KATHLEEN RICKER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Kathleen Ricker of Des Moines, Iowa on the very special occasion of her retirement after 48 years of championing for students, with many of those years as principal of Bergman Academy in Des Moines, Iowa. She will retire in June 2016 and her impact will be reverberating for generations to come.

Mrs. Ricker came to the Des Moines Jewish Academy in 1977 to develop the school because of her proven track record for recognizing and nurturing academic excellence in young Iowans. In 2004, the Des Moines Jewish Academy merged with another private school to form The Academy, teaching 65 students. Years later, the Academy outgrew its home at the Tifereth Israel Synagogue in Des Moines, relocating and taking on the new name of Bergman Academy. The Bergman Academy now educates over 250 students.

Kathleen Ricker has guided students to become well-rounded citizens, telling her students, "To whom much is given, much is expected." This spirit of philanthropy has been realized in school service projects, with students and their families contributing to organizations such as the Ronald McDonald House, the Animal Rescue League of Iowa, Food Bank of Iowa, UNICEF, Meals from the Heartland and many more charitable and philanthropic organizations. Academically, her pupils have reached their potential during their Bergman Academy years, with the school scoring in the 99th percentile on standardized assessments each year. Learning is also enriched through programs such as archery,

chess club, Odyssey of the Mind, the arts, and numerous class trips.

I commend Kathleen Ricker for shaping the hearts and minds of so many central Iowans. I wish her a lifetime of joy, prosperity, happiness and faith as she embarks on her next journey. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Kathleen Ricker on this celebratory milestone.

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG CHEMICAL SAFETY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT, (H.R. 2576)

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I support the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act because it offers Americans meaningful protection from exposure to dangerous, unregulated chemicals found in the products we use every day. This bill represents a substantive step in favor of public health, but it's far from what's needed.

Today, the status quo isn't working. Industries can release hundreds of chemicals each year into our homes and workplaces without any federal requirement to consider their safety. Researchers have linked chemicals used in things like household cleaners, clothing, and furniture, to serious illnesses like cancer, infertility, diabetes and Parkinson's. The current law, the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), isn't up to the job. It restricts the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from doing much of anything about these dangers. Under TSCA, only a small fraction of the thousands of chemicals used in our products have ever been reviewed for safety.

The current law is so weak that the EPA couldn't even regulate asbestos. In 1989, after 10 years of research and more than 100,000 pages of administrative record supporting action, the EPA issued a rule under TSCA to ban most uses of asbestos. But two years later, the EPA's regulation was overturned by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals; while acknowledging that "asbestos is a potential carcinogen at all levels of exposure," the Court ruled that the agency's administrative record failed to demonstrate that the regulation was the "least burdensome alternative," as required under the law. Since the court's ruling, the burden to regulate most toxic substances under TSCA has been insurmountable.

The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act is an important improvement over TSCA. It would require reviews for chemicals in use today, mandating greater scrutiny of new chemicals, and removing barriers that have prevented the EPA from regulating highly toxic substances in the past, such as asbestos.

This reform is necessary, but it's not adequate. The Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act doesn't do everything public health and safety demand. Unfortunately, it bows to chemical industry, which stood in the way of reform for so long, in key provisions. For example, the chemical industry demanded and got unprecedented state preemption standards in the bill. It also imposes limitations on the EPA's ability to monitor chemicals in imported

products. Federal policy should be a floor, not a ceiling, for public health and safety. States, like my Minnesota, have led the way in creating chemical safety standards that protect their residents. Last year in Minnesota, we took an important step toward protecting children and firefighters' health when the legislature passed a law to prohibit toxic flame retardants.

For my part, I will continue to be an advocate for reform that protects public health, not special interests like the chemical industry.

HONORING THE ROTARY CLUB OF ALBUQUERQUE

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Albuquerque, which was chartered on July 1, 1916, with 31 charter members embracing the Rotary International motto of Service Above Self.

Community service projects have been a central theme throughout the club's history. Among the first efforts of the Albuquerque Club was "boosting" the climate and health facilities of the city, at a time when tuberculosis sanatoriums were a leading industry. Rotarians promoted and supported good roads for Albuquerque when it became apparent that the automobile was imperative to future growth. The Club helped direct attention to the recurring problem of flooding from the Rio Grande, and generated local support for the institution of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, which continues to deal with a variety of critical water issues today.

Over the years, the Club has played an important role in the expansion of cultural life in Albuquerque. Members launched the Symphony Orchestra in 1932, which is now the New Mexico Philharmonic that has delighted and inspired audiences for over half a century. The Club also helped sustain the Albuquerque Little Theater for nearly as long.

In more recent years, the Rotary Club co-sponsored the Grand Opening of the New Mexico Natural History Museum and provided major sponsorship for the "Children's Fantasy Garden" at the Albuquerque Biological Park. Members are currently leading a Signature Centennial Project to provide \$500,000 to the Explora! Museum for the "Working Together to Build a Village" project, which will lead participants to experiment with science, engineering, architecture and the daily application of the construction process, encouraging an appreciation for STEM.

As it completes its first century of service in our city, the Rotary Club of Albuquerque will continue to play a leading role in helping solve problems and improve the community. The moral and ethical foundation of Rotary is timeless, and will continue to inspire members with a sense of civic pride and service for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING BRYAN "SCOTTIE" IRVING AND BLUE SKYE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing and commending Bryan "Scottie" Irving, president of Blue Skye Development and Construction as our 2016 D.C. Small Business of the Year. The D.C. Small Business of the Year is named annually at our D.C. Small Business Fair, and serves as an example to inspire D.C. small businesses on what can be accomplished by small businesses here.

We selected Blue Skye Development and Construction not only because of its successes as a small business in the highly competitive construction field, but also because of the company's work in providing affordable housing in the District. No area of entrepreneurship for businesses of every size today is more difficult than affordable housing. Blue Skye is working in Southeast D.C. to provide affordable condominium units for District residents. Blue Skye is experienced in local construction, and has worked on Marleyridge Condominiums, Arena Condominiums, Terrell Jr. High School, the Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization, Tewkesbury Condominiums, Washington Highlands Neighborhood Library, Rosedale Recreation Center, Park 7, Hayes Street Apartments, and Bald Eagle Recreation Center.

Bryan "Scottie" Irving is a fifth generation Washingtonian with very strong ties to the District of Columbia. Mr. Irving is a graduate of Cardozo High School and Central State University in Ohio. Before founding Blue Skye Development and Construction, Bryan was a D.C. public school teacher and also had a successful career as vice president of basketball and football recruitment with Business Arena Inc., a sports marketing firm. Today, Blue Skye serves government, residential, and commercial clients across the national capital region. The company is an example and a role model for D.C. residents and small businesses who seek to succeed in business by providing outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bryan "Scottie" Irving of Blue Skye Development and Construction, this year's D.C. Small Business of the Year, for his noteworthy accomplishments in the construction of affordable housing and numerous government and other projects.

MARIAH GREEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mariah Green for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mariah Green is a 12th grader at Pomona High School and received this award because