



Senator Matt Bartle – Serving Jackson County

[Website](#) | [Contact Me](#) | [Biography](#) | [Newsroom](#)

A Bright Hope for the Future

When 11-year-old Jackie Megee noticed that the flagpole at Greenwood City Hall was so short the American flag dragged against the roof of the building, she took the initiative to solve the problem herself. I sent the following letter to Jackie, a resident of the 8th Senatorial District, to thank her for undertaking this remarkable project:

Dear Jackie:

Recently, Mayor DeCourcy brought to my attention a story about a young lady from Greenwood who performed a very gracious act of public service — purchasing with her own money a new flagpole and donating it to the city. The reason she gave was that the old flagpole was too short and that the American flag dragged against the roof of the City Hall.

Of course, Jackie, this remarkable young lady is you, and you are to be commended.

Sometimes those of us in public service get caught up with the glaring problems in society. We see high dropout rates, low test scores, senseless acts of juvenile crime, a spiraling rate of unwed mothers and we wonder if the next generation of young Americans understands what it took to make this nation great.

But then we hear the stories of a new generation of proud Americans — of an 11-year-old who takes money she earned by recycling thousands of aluminum cans and buys her city a new flagpole because (as she told her father), “it needed to be done.” We see on the news the faces of young men and women, many still in their teens, who proudly wear the uniform of their country in some of the world’s most dangerous and inhospitable places

because someone had to go and defend the United States.

It is then we realize that America's future is hopeful and that, like the generations of patriots who went before them, so, too, the generations now coming of age carry with them a love of liberty and a devotion to their fellow man.

Jackie, you are part of the solution. You are one of the many young people who understand that America is about duty and service, that government does not exist to cater to the desires of its citizens, but rather to guarantee them the opportunity to use their God-given creativity and talents to provide for themselves.

Thank you for your example and for reminding us that if we teach our children well, America's best days truly lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Matt Bartle

Contact Information

Capitol Office
State Capitol Building
Room 319
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Website:
<http://www.senate.mo.gov/bartle>

Phone Number:
888.711.9278 (toll-free)
573.751.1464

Fax:
573.751.8442