

behalf of everyone in the 19th district, I send my deepest sympathies to his entire family.

As I comprehended Secretary Brown's death, I knew that most people would remember him for his efforts in the Democratic Party and for his global approach to supporting American economic interests. And while he must certainly be commended for those things, I knew that I would remember him much more for two very simple, relatively small projects which were extremely important to me and the people in my district. There are two major construction projects underway in my district right now because the communities made their case to the Commerce Department, and Secretary Brown made sure their needs were addressed. He was personally interested in how these projects would create jobs and improve the lives of working people, and I will always be thankful for that.

Mr. Speaker, two fine Americans were taken from us on that mountain in Croatia. I thank the Aldrich and Brown families for sharing their precious gifts with us for as long as they did, and commend their careers of public service to the rest of us to emulate and admire.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. RAY LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to salute a group of outstanding young women from my district who have been honored with the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. Gold Award by the Kickapoo Council of Girl Scouts in Peoria, IL. The seven girls who received this award are the following: Jennifer Baker of Troop 47; Jennifer Grafelman of Troop 22; Nora Hegwood of Troop 1000; Aria Hoekstra of Troop 581; Lee Ann Kroppel of Troop 22; Jordan Maricle of Troop 144; and Jennifer Roth of Troop 345.

The Gold Award is the highest achievement award in Girl Scouting. It symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The Girl Scout Gold Award can be earned by girls aged 14–17 or in grades 9–12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 3.3 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must fulfill five requirements: earn four interest project patches; earn the Career Exploration Pin; earn the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award; earn the Senior Girl Scout Challenge; and design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling the requirements of the award is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

Jennifer Baker began working on the Girl Scout Gold Award in early 1994. Her project was completed by making presentations to high school students regarding the importance of making and keeping family values a priority in their life. She worked on this with the guidance and supervision of the Fulton County Health and Child Services Department.

Jennifer Grafelman began working on her Girl Scout Gold Award requirements in 1994. She completed her project by presenting a Children's Safety Awareness With Strangers Program for a local elementary school, grades K–3. This program not only gave valuable information to the students, but also provided parents with a photo of their child, fingerprints and video tapes of the children. The local school board was very supportive of this project.

Nora Hegwood started work on the Girl Scout Gold Award in 1993. Her project involved working with an Early Childhood Education Center to assess the abilities of children who do not have minimal playing skills and then to work with each of them in play therapy/play intervention to improve their level of play with other children. This involved an average of 2-hour-long play sessions several times over a 3-month period.

Aria Hoekstra began work on the Gold Award in 1993. She completed her project by making and gathering toys, games, and books and making a toy box for these items, then donating them to the children's ward of a local hospital. In addition, she visited the hospital on several occasions and read, played games, and became friends to the children.

Lee Ann Kroppel started her work on the Girl Scout Gold Award in 1994. She completed her project by presenting a Children's Safety Awareness With Strangers program for a local elementary school, grades K–3. Working with the local school board, she provided valuable information to students and parents, including a photo and video tape of the child, as well as fingerprints.

Jordan Maricle initiated work on her Gold Award in 1994. Her project was completed by teaching French in an elementary school where there are no classes in French. The school has cooperated in allowing this to be done with interested children. This project helps expand the horizons of children to another culture different from their own.

Jennifer Roth began work on the Gold Award in 1994. She completed her project by cleaning, recording, and setting up a database for all of the band trophies and awards in her high school. They have received over 450 honors. This project will be one that can continue and will be of historical value to the school.

The earning of the Girl Scout Gold Award is a major accomplishment for all of these young women, and I believe they should all receive the public recognition due to them for their significant service to the community and to the country.

SALUTE TO THE UPPER MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

The Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department was incorporated in 1946 as a result of a major fire in the area. Before that

time, the closest firefighting and emergency medical help had to respond from a distance of 18 miles. The department has grown to serve 80 square miles and currently covers almost one-fifth of the county.

The department is comprised of 80 members, with active volunteers and career firefighters making up one-half of the membership. For 50 years, these dedicated members have willingly placed themselves in great danger so as to make the community safer for others. In volunteering to undertake the risks inherent in firefighting, they have shown a rare dedication to helping others.

From the auxiliary to the board of directors to the firefighters themselves, the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department's members are committed to keeping the community safe and fire-free. I would like to call special attention to George T. Hillard, who has served as the elected volunteer chief for every year but one since 1958, and the five charter members who are still with us: Charles Elgin, Sr., Charles Staub, A. Leland Clark, Benoni Allnut, and R. Edwin Brown. I would also like to recognize George Reid for the many years of comfort he has provided as the chaplain for the department.

I am certain my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Upper Montgomery County Fire Department on 50 years of dedicated service, and wish them equal success in the many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MADGELEAN BUSH

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 1996

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special friend and community leader from Houston. Ms. Madgelean Bush will be honored this Friday as the 1996 recipient of the Joint Action in Community Service, Inc.'s [JACS] National Volunteer of the Year Award.

Ms. Bush has been a JACS volunteer coordinator for 10 years and serves as the executive director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Center's halfway house in Houston. A natural leader and administrator, she supervises a staff of 45 and manages two and a half million dollars in city, county, State, and Federal funds. Among other services, she and her staff and volunteers have assisted more than 2,400 Job Corps students in their transition from Job Corps training to community re-adjustment and the world of work.

Ms. Bush was selected for this year's honor from a group of 10 individuals nominated as outstanding regional volunteers.

JACS Southwest Regional Director Deloris Kenerson, who nominated Ms. Bush, described her as "a dedicated, humble, yet dynamic advocate for the Job Corps program." Ms. Kenerson added, "Harris County has more students returning home from Job Corps than any other county in the Southwest region. The assistance Ms. Bush provides helps promote self-sufficiency and self-worth among the young people returning to the Houston area from Job Corps training."

Ms. Kenerson attributes much of Ms. Bush's success to the fact that she refuses to accept that what is right is not always possible. If