

HONORING THE AAA SAFETY PATROL LIFESAVING MEDAL AWARD WINNERS

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I am proud to announce to the Senate today the names of the 7 young men and women who have been selected to receive the 1999 American Automobile Association Lifesaving Medal. This award is the highest honor given to members of the school safety patrol.

There are roughly 500,000 members of the school safety patrol in this country, helping over 50,000 schools. Every day, these young people ensure that their peers arrive safely at school in the morning, and back home in the afternoon.

Most of the time, they accomplish their jobs uneventfully. But, on occasion, these volunteers must make split-second decisions, placing themselves in harm's way to save the lives of others. The heroic actions of this year's honorees exemplify this selflessness, and richly deserve recognition.

The first AAA Lifesaving Medal recipient comes from Rochester, New York.

On September 22, 1998, 11-year-old Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School Safety Patrol Katherine Garcia was at her post in the back parking lot. She was helping create order out of the chaos that occurs when buses, walkers and parents all try to leave the school at the same time.

Behind her post, a 9-year-old boy and his 7-year-old friend separated from his grandmother to look for their car. They tried to run past Katherine. As they did, she quickly reached out, grabbed the boys by their t-shirts, and pulled them out of the path of an oncoming car.

This year's second AAA Lifesaving Medal honoree comes from Brooklyn, New York.

On January 5, 1999, an 8-year-old student asked Public School 151 Safety Patrol Anthony Christian, Jr. if he would walk him across the street.

Leaving his post in the hands of his patrol partner, Anthony carefully checked the traffic signal and crossed the street. Just as they reached the other corner, two cars collided at high speed in the middle of the intersection. One of the cars spun out of control, heading directly for the two boys. Without regard for his own safety, Anthony pulled the little boy out of the way just before the car jumped the curb where the two boys were.

The third AAA Lifesaving Medal winner comes from Unadilla, New York.

On October 8, 1997, Unadilla Elementary School Safety Patrol Nichole L. Decker was at her post at the school's back door when she heard a 7-year-old boy's desperate cries for help.

When she went outside, she saw the boy trapped on the ground by a huge dog—a husky/wolf mix. The dog was biting at the little boy's face and

throat. Without considering what the 50-pound dog could do to her, 13-year-old Nichole began shouting and waving her arms to distract it from the boy. When the dog ran away, Nichole scooped up the badly bleeding boy and took him inside the school for help.

The fourth recipient of the AAA Lifesaving Medal comes from Brooklyn, New York.

On January 28, 1999, 10-year-old Public School 91 Safety Patrol Stacia Walker saw a car drop off a 5-year-old boy at school, then depart.

Instead of entering the schoolyard, the little boy turned around and headed for a park across the street, Stacia ran to the little boy and stopped him just before he crossed the street in front of a car.

This year's fifth AAA Lifesaving Medal honoree comes from Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

On September 2, 1998, 12-year-old Ganiard Elementary School Safety Patrol Michael T. Wiltsie was helping the adult crossing guard at the corner of Broadway and Adams streets, the busiest corner for patrols.

The adult crossing guard had just walked to the center of the street to stop traffic when a 7-year-old boy walked around Michael's outstretched arms to follow her. A truck made a left-hand turn and passed between the adult crossing guard and Michael's post on the curb, ignoring the stop sign held by the adult crossing guard. Michael reached out, grabbed the 7-year-old boy by the backpack, and pulled him to safety just as the truck sped by.

The fifth recipient of the AAA Lifesaving Medal comes from Fairfax, Virginia.

On February 22, 1999, Fairhill Elementary School Safety Patrol Roxanne A. Bauland (BALL-lund) was standing at her post near a bus stop when she noticed there was something wrong with a 6-year-old girl approaching the bus stop from across the street.

When the little girl began running toward the bus stop, the hard candy she had been eating became lodged in her throat, causing her to cough and choke. Quickly sizing up the situation, 11-year-old Roxanne performed the Heimlich maneuver on the little girl and dislodged the candy from her throat, quite possibly saving the little girl's life.

The final AAA School Safety Patrol Lifesaving Award recipient comes from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

On November 2, 1998, 11-year-old Jenny Lind Community School Safety Patrol Tonya L. M. Boner was completing her shift for the day when she decided to wait a little longer to help some stragglers cross the street safely.

Three students, ages 7, 9, and 10, began to cross the road. Across the intersection, a car stopped briefly at the stop sign, then headed straight for the crosswalk and the students. Seeing

the immediate danger, Tonya hurried the students to the other side just as the car sped through the crosswalk a mere 2 feet from where she and the students had been walking seconds before.

Mr. President, on behalf of the Senate, I extend congratulations and thanks to these young women and men who are visiting the Capitol today. They are an asset to their communities, and their families and neighbors should be very proud of their courage and dedication.

I would also like to recognize the American Automobile Association for providing the supplies and training necessary to keep the safety patrol on duty nationwide.

Since the 1920's, AAA clubs across the country have been sponsoring student safety patrols to guide and protect younger classmates against traffic accidents. Easily recognizable by their fluorescent orange safety belt and shoulder strap, safety patrol members represent the very best of their schools and communities. Experts credit school safety patrol programs with helping to lower the number of traffic accidents and fatalities involving young children.

We owe AAA our gratitude for their tireless efforts to ensure that our Nation's children arrive to and from school safe and sound.

And we owe our thanks to these exceptional young men and women for their selfless actions. The discipline and courage they displayed deserves the praise and recognition of their schools, their communities and the Nation.

CLARIFYING TAX TREATMENT OF SETTLEMENT TRUSTS ESTABLISHED UNDER ANCSA

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, today I join Senator MURKOWSKI in rising in support of S. 933, which would clarify tax treatment of Settlement Trusts established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Our legislation would amend the U.S. tax code by allowing these Settlement Trusts to organize as 501(c)(28) tax exempt organizations. This bill is similar to S. 2065 which I co-sponsored with Senator MURKOWSKI last year.

Consistent with last year's proposal, this bill allows for conveyances to a Settlement Trust without including those contributions in the beneficiaries' gross income. This is an important provision because under the current tax code, beneficiaries of a Settlement Trust can be taxed on contributions to the trust, even though they haven't received a payment or disbursement from the Settlement Trust.

Our new provision also outlines the process and terms for revoking a trust's tax exempt status as a 501(c)(28) organization. Under this provision, if a Settlement Trust engages in forbidden