

The first of these ranches was established on the banks of Florida's historic Suwannee River under the direction of the Florida Sheriffs Association.

For four decades, this ranch and the many others established in its wake have provided a home for neglected, troubled, and abused boys and girls. They offer in-home counseling and parent effectiveness training to hundreds of families throughout Florida each year. The programs for youth include residential care, camping, foster care, adoption, after-care, and individual and family counseling.

Through these youth ranches, the Florida Sheriffs Association and our State's individual sheriffs, deputies, and office staffs have made a vital contribution in the fight against juvenile delinquency and the breakdown of the American family.

Mr. President, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches are a shining example of law enforcement working with communities to help troubled youth and their families. I offer my sincerest congratulations and thanks for their four decades of service to the people of Florida, and wish all of the individuals involved the best of luck for the next 40 years and beyond.●

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY

●Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, October 6 is German-American Day, and it is my pleasure to recognize the more than 57 million Americans who trace part of their ancestry to Germany.

Since the arrival of the first German immigrants in Philadelphia in 1683, German-Americans have distinguished themselves through their cultural, economic, and political contributions to life in the United States. Through their participation in American society, German-Americans have demonstrated their loyalty to their new homeland and their strong support of our Nation's democratic principles.

The German-American Friendship Garden in Washington, DC stands as a symbol of the positive and cooperative relations between the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany. I urge every American to acknowledge and honor the contributions to our Nation made by German-Americans, and to celebrate October 6 as German-American Day.●

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

●Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I join my colleagues in recognizing September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month. It is important that we reflect on the great contributions that Hispanic-Americans have made to our Nation.

Hispanic-Americans embrace the American society and culture, while at the same time perpetuating a unique cultural heritage of their own. In so

doing, they are contributing to our Nation's diversity—a quality Americans take great and justifiable pride in maintaining.

As one of the fastest growing segments of our society, Hispanic-Americans are an increasingly vital part of our economy. Hispanic-owned firms contribute significantly to our economic growth, and their ranks are increasing every day. In my own State of Georgia, which once served as the boundary between Spanish and English America, the number of Hispanic-owned businesses has risen 184.9 percent over the past 10 years.

But the contributions of Hispanic-Americans go well beyond the economic arena. Their strong commitment to family, community, and country sets an example for all our people. For example, many have demonstrated their commitment to our Nation through dedicated military service. And Hispanic culture continues to enrich American art, music, and literature.

Hispanic Heritage Month seeks to increase national awareness and understanding of and respect for Hispanics and their tradition of achievement in this country. Across the Nation, events are taking place which demonstrate our rich Hispanic heritage. Through these festivities, every American will be given the chance to experience Hispanic culture. I urge every citizen to do so. You will be educating yourself and giving the Hispanic-American community in your area the recognition it deserves.●

TRIBUTE IN COMMEMORATION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES [USUHS]

●Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences [USUHS] as it celebrates 25 years of service to our country. It was on September 21, 1972 that Public Law 92-426 established USUHS to provide a corps of uniformed medical officers who would provide continuity and leadership for uniformed medicine in the United States. For 25 years, USUHS had remained our Nation's only military medical school, ensuring top-quality medical care to the men and women of our armed services. This institution has consistently produced first-rate career medical officers who excel in meeting the needs of military medicine and military readiness.

USUHS provides a unique curriculum that contributes greatly to our military preparedness by providing knowledge that is vastly different from that taught in civilian medical schools. In fact, the American Medical Association [AMA] has recognized that training in military medicine mandates special course work and instruction not necessary in the civilian sector, and calls the existence of USUHS vital to the

continued strength, morale and operational readiness of the military services. This specialized training includes trauma, mass casualties, combat surgery, medical logistics, nuclear medicine, tropical infectious diseases, and medical responses to terrorism.

Following 18 graduations at the University, the total of USUHS School of Medicine [SOM] graduates is 2,470; the 2,276 active duty USUHS physicians represent 17 percent of the current physician force in the military medical system. Over the years, the university's graduates have consistently demonstrated a high level of performance during their various deployments in combat areas and in support missions, including Desert Storm and Somalia. This performance based upon their extensive military training has been validated by three Surgeons General, the American Medical Association and the Military Coalition, the Retired Officers Association, the National Association for Uniformed Services, and the American Legion, among others.

It is also important to underscore the long-term commitment made by USUHS graduates to our armed services. Although USUHS graduates are required to serve 7 years of active duty beyond the time they devote to internships and residencies, the average time served is actually 18.5 years. Indeed, 85 percent of those graduates who have completed their initial service obligations and could leave active duty for the private sector remain on active duty in the Armed Forces where they often hold significant leadership and operational positions. For example, four USUHS-SOM graduates currently work directly for the President of the United States in medical support positions. That so many USUHS graduates have made a career of military medicine provides the continuity that is so critical to our military medical services.

In addition to its original mandate, USUHS has further expanded its mission to meet the changing needs of the armed services. Additional programs provided by USUHS include the Graduate School of Nursing, recently granted full accreditation by the National League for Nursing, which prepares advanced practice nurses to deliver primary care and services to all eligible beneficiaries; the Graduate Medical Education Programs, established in 1986 to provide DOD-wide consultation on internships, residency, and fellowship training for physicians; the Graduate Education Program which has provided 444 students with graduate degrees in the basic medical sciences; and the Continuing Education for Health Professionals Program which facilitates the continued professional growth of health care professionals in the uniformed services and reduces DOD travel and other expenses by bringing medical training directly to the health care professional.

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medical officers who excel in meeting the needs of military medicine and military readiness. USUHS is a cost effective means of providing these uniquely trained physicians and deserves significant recognition of its accomplishments over its 25-year history in providing top-quality medical care.●

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN CAMERON BOSTER

●Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Jonathan Cameron Boster, a fallen firefighter who gave his life in service to his community. While nearly 100 fire service personnel nationwide sacrifice their lives every year, Jon's death is even more poignant because he was just 19 years old.

At 10 p.m. on April 8, 1996, Grant County Fire District 5 was responding to a structure fire in Moses Lake, WA. The water tanker Jon was driving rolled off a curved rural road, killing him and injuring one other firefighter. Jon's comrades could not turn back because of their commitment to the community. They did what Jon would have done; they fought the fire.

Jon was a fun-loving young man with bright eyes and a charming smile. A Montana State all-star basketball player in high school, Jon also played football and ran track. He enjoyed water and snow skiing, fishing and hunting. Jon delighted in his niece and nephew and his greatest joy was playing with them.

His driving desire, however, was firefighting and his world revolved around his ambition. He was a resident firefighter and E.M.S. provider and a State-certified first responder and defibrillator technician. He planned to attend the Washington State Fire Academy.

Each October, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation holds a memorial in tribute to the firefighters who died the previous year. On October 5, 1997, Jon will be honored and a plaque listing his name and the names of each fallen firefighter will be unveiled and dedicated.

Every fallen firefighter is a hero, and each death a loss to an entire community. While Jon's death is sorrowful, we can take comfort in knowing that Jon gave his life in pursuit of his goal, racing not just to a fire, but toward a dream.●

GEN. A.M. "BUDDY" STROUD

●Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, November 8th will be a significant and emotional day for the more than 13,000 members of the Louisiana National Guard. That day will mark the conclusion of the extraordinary and distinguished military career of their beloved adjutant general, Maj. Gen. Ansel "Buddy" Stroud.

For 17 years, "Buddy" Stroud has provided strong and innovative leadership as Louisiana's top guardsman. In fact, anyone familiar with the Louisi-

ana National Guard can attest that today's Louisiana National Guard is better trained, better equipped, and better prepared to defend our Nation than ever before. And much of that high degree of training and preparedness is due to the visionary and determined leadership that General Stroud has always provided.

Under General Stroud's able command, the Louisiana National Guard has always enjoyed widespread popular support in my State and has often made the difference in times of crisis and natural disaster in our State. In 1992, when Hurricane Andrew pounded the South Louisiana coast and inflicted heavy damage on a number of communities from New Orleans to Lafayette, General Stroud and his men were on the scene almost immediately. I suspect that without his leadership—and without the dedicated, hardworking guardsmen under his command—Louisiana's recovery from Andrew would have been much more painful and prolonged.

The Louisiana military personnel under General Stroud's command also distinguished themselves in another endeavor. During 1990-91, more than 6,400 men and women were activated for duty in Desert Shield/Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf. In all, 2,000 Louisiana Guardsmen saw duty in the Persian Gulf war. Our Nation and the people of Kuwait owe these men and women—and thousands of other guardsmen from other states—our sincere gratitude for their service in this noble cause.

Earlier this year, when the rapidly rising Mississippi River threatened to overwhelm our State penitentiary at Angola, General Stroud's guardsmen helped save the day by shoring up the levees. Because of the Guard's immediate response to this potential disaster, a costly evacuation of thousands of prisoners was averted.

Under General Stroud's leadership, the Guard has not only been present in times of natural disaster. Buddy Stroud has given thousands of Louisiana high school dropouts a second chance by creating a bootcamp-style program that instills discipline and guides these former dropouts toward the achievement of their high school diploma. Another program created under General Stroud's leadership, the Louisiana National Guard's Youth Challenge Program, was recently honored as the best overall youth challenge program in the United States.

Buddy Stroud was born on April 5, 1927 in Shreveport, LA. After his high school graduation, he attended college at Baylor and Texas A&M and graduated with his B.S. degree from the University of the State of New York. His long and distinguished military career began with his enlistment in the Army in 1944. Three years later, in 1947, he began a half century of service in the Louisiana National Guard, which culminated in 1981 with his promotion to the rank of major general.

General Stroud served his Nation in a number of other capacities. He is former president of the National Guard Association of the United States and has served on that organization's executive council for the last 4 years. He has also served as president of the Adjutants General Association of the United States.

Among General Stroud's professional achievements is a 1977 study which he directed for the Department of the Army on full-time training and administration for the Army Guard and the Army Reserve. The study, known as the Stroud Study, was accepted by the Army as a guideline for requirements of the National Guard and Army Reserve for full-time manning programs and was the basis for launching the AGR program. Most recently, General Stroud's unique contributions were recognized by the people of Louisiana when the State legislature directed that the Louisiana Military History and Weapons Museum should now bear his name.

While he will no longer serve the Guard in a full-time capacity, I know that retirement will not diminish "Buddy" Stroud's dedication to the Louisiana National Guard. In fact, I am certain that, even in retirement, he will find a way to continue making a significant contribution.

For many years, it has been my honor and privilege count "Buddy" Stroud as a friend. I could begin to count the number of times we worked together on behalf of the Louisiana National Guard, and because of our joint endeavors, I will always have fond memories of the important work that we did—together—for the Louisiana National Guard and the people of Louisiana. Most of all, however, I will always value Buddy's friendship.

Mr. President, Buddy Stroud is a truly extraordinary American. I know I speak for all Louisianians and all Americans when I salute him for his more than half century of distinguished service to his country and his State and wish him only the best in his well-deserved retirement.●

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

●Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I hereby submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report prepared by the Congressional Budget Office under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended. This report meets the requirements for Senate scorekeeping of section 5 of Senate Concurrent Resolution 32, the First Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for 1986.

This report shows the effects of congressional action on the budget through September 26, 1997. The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues, which are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of the 1997 Concurrent Resolution on the Budget, House Concurrent Resolution 178, show that current