

1997 was a year of recognition for the Contways. Bruce was named the Indian Arts and Crafts Association (IACA) Artist of the Year and was also awarded the steer wrestling and bareback riding bronze commissions during the 1997 Calgary Stampede Trophy Bronze Competition. Kathy was awarded the envy of all artists participating in the Stampede competition—the Chuckwagon Race Outriders bronze. Mr. President, bronze artists everywhere understand the significance of these honors.

The work of Bruce and Kathy indicates a strong pride in their Native American heritage. Their remarkable talent combined with modest self-recognition is an inspiration to young artists across our country. And their desire to pass on their legacy and pride is a tribute to all Montanans.

Among their peers, Bruce and Kathy are considered world-class artists. Among their neighbors, Bruce and Kathy are considered friends. The Contways are very involved in the local community. Accomplished high school and college rodeo stars, they enjoy working with local students in the high school's rodeo club.

Last December, the front page headline of the Whitehall Ledger read, 'Contway art "Stampedes" to great year'. The article was a fitting tribute to two of Montana's best. Artists with this kind of talent are difficult to find, and you can bet that a Contway bronze will be a treasured work of art on any lucky owner's mantel.●

THE CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG EXCHANGE

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, since 1983, the United States Congress and the German Parliament have conducted an annual exchange program for senior staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and convey Members' views on issues of mutual concern. The program is now in its 15th year and has strong support and participation from federal agencies as well as corresponding support from the German government.

A staff delegation from the United States Congress will be chosen to visit Germany March 22 to April 4 of this year. During the two week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag Members, Bundestag party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Cultural activities and a weekend visit in a Bundestag Member's district will complete the schedule.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for three weeks this summer. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of Congressional Members.

The Congress-Bundestag Exchange is highly regarded in Germany, and is one

of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. The ongoing situation in Bosnia, the future expansion of NATO and the proposed expansion of the European Union, as well as plans for a single currency will make this year's exchange particularly relevant.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff members who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag sends senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern in Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, immigration, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two Bundestag staffers in their Member's district over the July Fourth break, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Kathie Scarrah, in my office at 706 Hart Senate Building, by Thursday, February 12.●

TRIBUTE TO THE GALLATIN AMERICAN LEGION POST 17 SOFTBALL TEAM

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as a physician I have long advocated maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I'm always amazed when individuals prove that exercise and eating right are simple requirements for remaining healthy and staying young at heart. The Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team is just such a group that is having fun staying healthy and exercising regularly.

This is no ordinary softball team, these ladies are sixty-years of age and older. This special team is comprised of women from all over middle Tennessee.

The team was formed in 1994. They practice each Monday in Gallatin and in the winter they keep up their stamina by using the Gallatin Sports Complex for their weekly softball practices. That same year they participated in the State tournament and won. Since then they are proud to be a force to reckon with on the Senior's Softball circuit.

This past spring the team traveled to Tucson, Arizona to participate in the International Senior Olympic Games. The competition drew more than 12,000 seniors over sixty-years-old from all over the world who competed in a variety of athletic events. The Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team, with 13 players and two coaches, faced competition from nine teams across the United States and Canada. These ladies played hard and their dedication and determination paid off when they came home with the gold medal. They won each of the six games in which they played and outscored their Olympic competitors 122-10.

Since winning the International Olympics gold medal these women have not rested on their laurels. They're back on the field practicing and playing the game. Because of the increase in interest in women's softball for seniors, leagues have cropped up across the country, and they gather for yearly tournaments. The ladies of Gallatin American Legion Post 17 maintain their busy schedule with practices and games to defend their international title.

This newly developed enthusiasm for senior athletic groups is truly inspiring. These women serve as role models for younger generations and encourage participation from other seniors. They are living examples of the happiness that seniors can find in exercising and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. I want to congratulate the Gallatin American Legion Post 17 Softball team not only for winning the gold medal at the International Senior Citizen's Olympics but for also winning in the game of life. These ladies are active and healthy, taking advantage of their older years rather than letting old age take care of them. I wish them the best of luck in the future.●

TRIBUTE AND THANKS TO AL ALM

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, in just a few days, the Department of Energy will lose one of its best, most able and selfless public servants. Al Alm, Assistant Secretary for the Department of Energy's Environmental Management program, is leaving federal service on January 31.

Al epitomizes the best in public service. Integrity and responsibility are his hallmarks. He has left those marks throughout the government, in academia, and in private industry. Al's government service has included positions in the Atomic Energy Commission, the Bureau of the Budget, the Council on Environmental Quality, the