

passing legislation establishing Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. I respectfully ask that we take time during this day to also honor these widows, and to thank them for their loyalty.

A TRIBUTE TO HUEY HAVARD

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Huey Havard, the top law enforcement officer for nearly 10 years in Union County. Sheriff Havard died Sunday, June 23, 2002 after a long struggle with liver cancer. He was 63.

Sheriff Havard took office in 1993 but his career in law enforcement began three decades earlier as a 25-year-old patrolman for the El Dorado Police Department. It was then Havard found he had an unending passion to serve and protect the people he knew and loved in Union County. He had the distinction of being one of the first narcotics officers at the El Dorado Police Department and over the years he served as a motorcycle patrolman, commander of the patrol division, and in the detective division, climbing the ranks to sergeant, lieutenant, and finally captain.

Havard was named the city's officer of the year in 1973 and served as interim chief of police for a few months before taking a patrol deputy's assignment at the sheriff's office in 1983. During his tenure, Havard increased the number of patrol deputies and began 12-hour shifts for deputies to allow for better patrol coverage. He also assigned deputies to work full-time with the 13th Judicial District Drug Task Force.

Sheriff Havard was an honorable, driven, and passionate law officer. He was an amazing man, and an asset to Union County. I understand that this is a difficult time for his wife, Cathy, his mother, Eva, two daughters, Shondra and Laura, stepdaughter, Michele, and all of his many friends and relatives whom he loved dearly. They are in my heart and in my prayers.

Huey Havard will be missed greatly. His legacy of hard work, determination, and love of people will live on in the lives he touched and changed forever.

ON THE DEATH OF BENJAMIN O. DAVIS JR.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the passing of General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who was born on December 18, 1912, and died on July 4, 2002 at the age of 89. General Davis was buried at Arlington Cemetery with full military honors.

General Davis was an American hero, who through his leadership of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen, helped to dispel the myths about the ability of African-Americans to successfully engage in combat and specifically to master the complexities of flying and maintaining aircraft.

He was the first black graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point in the 20th Century. When Davis was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1936, the Army had had a total of two black officers, Benjamin O. Davis Senior and Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

While at West Point, Davis applied for entry to the Army Air Corps, but was rejected. He later attended the Army's Infantry School at Fort Benning, and taught military tactics at Tuskegee Institute. Diverting Davis from the Air Corps was the Army's way of avoiding having a black officer command white soldiers, in a time when segregation prevailed and black troops had little hope for promotion.

In 1941, as wartime approached, an all-black flying unit was created, and Captain Davis was assigned to the first training class at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. In March of 1942, Benjamin O. Davis won his wings and became one of five black officers to complete the course. In July of the same year, Davis was promoted to lieutenant colonel and was named commander of the first all black air unit known as the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

In the spring of 1943, the 99th Pursuit Squadron went to North Africa, where they saw combat for the first time on June 2. By summer, the 99th were flying missions to support the invasion of Sicily. In the fall, Colonel Davis returned to the United States to command the 332nd Fighter Group, an even larger all black unit preparing to make the trip overseas. It was about this time when Top Brass recommended that the 99th be removed from tactical operations for poor performance. Colonel Davis held a news conference at the Pentagon to defend his men. Although they were permitted to continue fighting, a top-level inquiry ensued. Questions about the squadron were put to rest in January 1944, when its pilots downed 12 German fighter planes over the Anzio beach in Italy.

Colonel Davis and the 332nd arrived in Italy shortly after that. They were based at Ramitelli and came to be known as the Red Tails for the distinctive marking on their planes. The four-squadron unit accumulated a successful record of missions flown deep into German territory.

General Benjamin O. Davis was a highly decorated leader of dozens of missions in P-47 Thunderbolts and P-51 Mustangs. He received the Silver Star for a strafing run into Austria, and the Distinguished Flying Cross for a bomber escort mission into Munich. General Davis went on to lead the all black 477th Bombardment Group, which compiled an exemplary combat record.

When General Davis retired from the military in 1970, he became the Director of Public Safety in Cleveland. Later he joined the United States Department of Transportation, directing anti-hijacking efforts. In his five years with the department he supervised the sky marshal program, airport security and a program to stop cargo theft. In 1998 President Bill Clinton awarded General Benjamin O. Davis a fourth star, the military's highest peacetime rank.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEE REEVES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lee Reeves of Howell, Michigan. Since 1987, Lee has served as President of the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce where she used her leadership skills and good nature to build up the city of Howell to its potential. Now she is leaving the chamber to pursue personal projects and family time.

Lee Reeves may be leaving the position this month, but the work she did while in office will continue to benefit the Howell community for years to come. While serving as President, Lee started countless community events, such as the Michigan Challenge Balloonfest, Sunday Farmer's Market, Taste of Livingston County, and the Fantasy of Lights Parade. She also saw Chamber membership grow from 200 to 925, and the budget increase from \$70,000 to \$850,000. In addition, Lee established a Downtown Development Authority and formed the Livingston County Visitors Bureau. She has received numerous awards, including Huron Valley Girl Scouts Woman of the Year, and Howell Citizen of the Year 2002. Lee has a husband, Louis, and a son, Skyler. She plans on writing a book about her daughter, Leta, who passed away five years ago from Leukemia.

Lee's efforts have contributed greatly to helping Howell grow into a remarkable city and a pleasant place to live. I am confident that her hard work and dedication to her community will continue well into the future. My Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Lee Reeves for all of her contributions to the community to Howell, and wish her success in her future endeavors.

TALKING TALONS YOUTH LEADERSHIP MAKES SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO NEW MEXICO

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, during the Independence Day work period, I had the opportunity, like many of my colleagues, to visit constituents and groups in my home state. There was one visit that was especially gratifying that I would like to relate to my colleagues.

Talking Talons Youth Leadership, located in the mountains East of Albuquerque, is a non-profit youth development organization. This program works in several different ways to evaluate youth to be effective advocates and ethical stewards of themselves, wildlife, and the environment. I went into this program believing that it was a basic rehabilitation program for wild animals. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that Talking Talons is so much more.

I want to give a brief history of this program. In 1988, Wendy C. Aeschliman, a nurse at Roosevelt Middle School, in Tijeras, New Mexico, with a side practice as a licensed animal