

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

rehabilitator, observed that her young patients suffered less from physical ailments and more from a downcast spirit and low self-esteem. The youth did seem, however, extremely curious and excited about her animal patients. With a small Burrowing Owl named "Bo" who had been declared non-releasable, she set forth to combine the natural love of animals she observed in youth, with the goal of increasing their self-esteem. She implemented, on a small scale at the middle school, a curriculum which trained students to perform public presentations about injured wildlife and their conservation. Thirteen years later, Talking Talons' basic approach to instill healthy lifestyles and attitudes in young people has grown and taken off.

Today, the program thrives in New Mexico. Through a dedication team of staff, volunteers, contributors, and state and federal government, Talking Talons is realizing its vision of the future. Through experiences in public speaking, team-building activities, and conservation projects, the youth of our communities and our environmental advocates of tomorrow are developing a commitment towards conservation of natural resources. We owe Talking Talons our gratitude for ensuring that such valuable opportunities exist.

Mr. Speaker, it seems that every time we open a newspaper or watch the news, we hear of another devastating scandal involving corporate America. From Enron to WorldCom, the news of recent months has been disheartening and unbelievable. It is nice to know, however, that there are some businesses out there that want to do the right thing. They want to become community partners. In that spirit, I want to commend Campbell Corporation and its President and CEO Robert Gately for recently donating land where students can implement riparian restoration practices, and for pledging to assist in the development of a new Talking Talons Leadership Center and Museum, along New Mexico's historic Turquoise Trail. At this new facility, Talking Talons will engage the community in conservation-based projects, including education wildlife programs designed to connect children and teens with nature.

Campbell Corporation is also working with Talking Talons to support a private-match funding source that will enable the program to qualify and compete for grants available from various foundations and agencies. I am so pleased that the East Mountains has a community partner like Campbell Corporation to help quality non-profits expand their operations.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to see firsthand the restoration project that Talking Talons has been conducted at the San Pedro Creek since spring this year. This ongoing restoration of the fragile environment involves the young preservationists working to identify native and non-native plant species and restoring the creek to its original state.

When I visited Talking Talons, I met a number of the students that are involved in the program. These young adults were clearly inspired, intelligent, and friendly. Some of the students gave me presentations on different projects that they were undertaking. Just meeting the students was positive proof that the mission of Talking Talons is soaring and succeeding.

Many of the students work directly with animals that can never be released again, either

due to permanent injury or their unnatural contact with humans. These animals, however, will be taken care of and used in a positive way. I was especially pleased to learn that Talking Talon, in conjunction with the New Mexico Department of Health's Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program, is working to warn other students about the deadly realities of tobacco. The students use the animals as metaphors for the strength and courage it takes to resist the peer pressure of tobacco and other negative influences. Seeing the animals used this way is truly novel. It is just another example of the creative approach that the staff of Talking Talons has taken to address the various challenges that are facing New Mexico's youth.

Another important element of this program is its location. Talking Talons is located in what is called the Tri-County area. So named because in about a ten-minute drive you will go through the counties of Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe. This particular area of the state is rural in nature and surrounded by beautiful forests. As is the case with most rural areas, finding things for youths to do—whether it be working or volunteering—is often difficult. Without positive outlets, our children often end up in negative and unhealthy situations. The genius of Talking Talons is that because of its location young people in the East Mountains have a wonderful and productive alternative way to spend their time.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to building a relationship with Talking Talons Youth Leadership. I am very proud to be able to share with you the story of these terrific students and the wonderful gift they are giving to their community and to themselves. They are demonstrating what life really is—being a leader, a good student, and living a healthy lifestyle.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "LIVING WELL WITH FATAL CHRONIC ILLNESS ACT OF 2002"

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Living Well with Fatal Chronic Illness Act of 2002," a bill to build the capacity to meet the challenge of growing numbers of people living with serious chronic illness for some time before death. I am joined in introducing this bill by my colleagues Representative STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, Representative MARTIN FROST, Representative MICHAEL McNULTY, and Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

The early ideas for this legislative initiative came from conversations around the dinner table with my wife, Jean. We have both lost spouses, who succumbed at an unusually early age to cancer, and we have tended to disabled and frail parents.

Many citizens have been personally touched by the experience of caring for disabled and frail parents or for spouses and children as they lived out their final days. My experience in these difficult situations has been that our health care system is a patchwork quilt of mismatched services that carry with them substantial expense. So, the challenges faced by those nearing the end of life, as well as by

those caring for loved ones, are particularly meaningful to me.

Just in the last half-century, the way that most Americans come to the end of life has changed dramatically. Today, most people live for many months with a serious chronic illness before they die. In fact, statistics show that, on average, Americans will be unable to care for themselves for the last two years of their lives. However, the services that our health care system makes readily available were designed to cope with short-term threats, such as accidental injuries and heart attacks. Our nation's health care system has not been adapted to meet the needs of people facing the final phase of life or the many challenges faced by their caregivers.

Many of the shortcomings in the health care system related to care at the end of life arise from inherent shortcomings in federal policy. Unfortunately, we have been slow to see that these lapses are not just personal calamities and challenges, but rather, are built into federal policy. For example, while Medicare coverage makes operations and emergency services readily available to the elderly, services more appropriate for serious disability and dying are not easily found. Medicare, Medicaid, and Veteran's coverage do not provide for continuity in care, advance care planning, family support, or symptom relief for long-term fatal illnesses.

Further, end of life care uses a large portion of funding allocated to health care services. Those last few years of life are tremendously expensive, with the last year alone using 28 percent of the overall Medicare budget. It is estimated that half of Medicare cost, and even more of Medicaid for the elderly and Veteran's health care, go toward care of those who are very sick and will die, rather than get well. Although taxpayers spend money on end of life care, they do not get reliability and quality from that care.

And this is a problem that will only increase in the coming years. The numbers of people facing serious illness and death will double within a quarter century, as the Baby Boomer generation reaches old age. Our nation must not only arrange and pay for services that can support the unprecedented number of people who will need care, but we must also learn how to support family caregivers. Facts show that a family member will spend nearly as many years, seventeen, caring for an elderly parent, as raising children, eighteen years. Further, a family caregiver can expect to lose more than one-half million dollars in net worth, (from having a lower pension, more time not covered by health insurance, and lost wages.)

The "Living Well with Fatal Chronic Illness Act of 2002" will meet the challenges faced by a growing number of people who must live with serious chronic illness for some time before death. This comprehensive legislation addresses four key initiatives—two affect caregivers, two points relate to improving end of life care.

First, we establish an early Medicare buy-in program for otherwise uninsured caregivers aged 55 to 65. This provision would guarantee that those caregivers approaching Medicare age would not have to go without health insurance themselves when they are forced to leave work to care for a family member. For example, a 60-year-old woman who leaves her job to take care of her 85-year-old mother who has Alzheimer's disease often not only