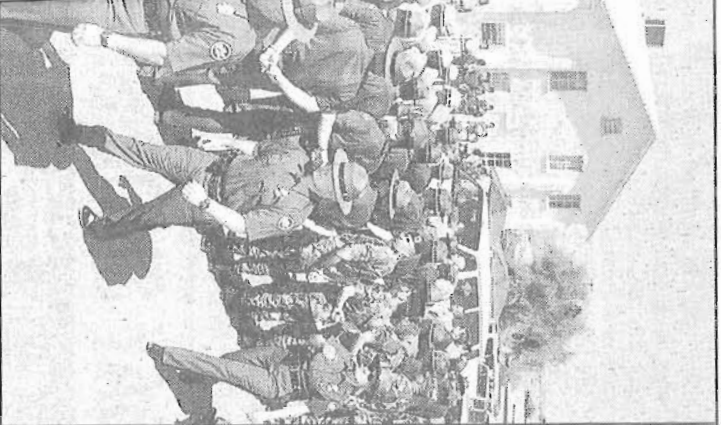


# ark rangers



Memorial service of Organ Pipe Cactus  
h. Associated Press file photo

have a standard reporting procedure. Different parks have different reporting standards, so some incidents are not reported.

Earlier this year, the Washington-based group Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility released figures that the number of attacks, threats and incidents of harassment against park service employees had risen from 57 in 1999 to 222 in 2001.

Adopting a standard reporting system is one of the changes the department is making. Others include a field training program, in which rookie rangers start out patrolling alongside veterans.

## Voices and faces of black history will be preserved

So far, 400 have been interviewed

NEW YORK TIMES  
NEWS SERVICE

CHICAGO — Inside the 7,000-square-foot office of a renovated warehouse on south Michigan Avenue, it is almost as if the walls can talk. Boxes of labeled videotapes neatly line shelves where the tales of a century and a people are stored.

Some of the stories are familiar, some not so familiar. And some of those telling their stories are famous — Harry Belafonte, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Terry McMillan and Julian Bond — though many are not so famous.

But all are deemed to be history makers, their voices and faces captured on film as lessons for generations to come.

At least, that is the aim of a Chicago nonprofit group, HistoryMakers. The group's founder, Julieanna Richardson, said the hope was to preserve an oral history on videotape of blacks and their accomplishments — to seek and find them, then to record "America's missing stories."

"We are preserving living history," Richardson said. "In today's world you hear Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Fannie Lou Hamer, you keep hearing the same names over and over again."

"Had it not been a lot for the lawyers behind the scene, and funders like Harry Belafonte, there would not have been a Martin Luther King," Richardson said.

She said she hoped HistoryMakers would help to fill in the gaps that she believes exist in black history largely because of the tendency to focus on icons and on more frequently explored subjects such as slavery, the abolitionist movement and civil rights.

Richardson, a Harvard Law School graduate and entrepreneur turned historian — through HistoryMakers — has begun to collect the stories of 5,000 blacks, a task she hopes to complete by 2005, and apparently the single largest black archival project since the recording of more than 2,000 slaves by the Works Progress Administration in the Depression.

Since she started the project in 1999, HistoryMakers has interviewed 400 people. Among those interviewed are artists, entertainers, civic leaders, athletes and noncelebrities such as Alonzo Petite, 93, whom HistoryMakers says is the oldest living black cowboy.

The cost of the HistoryMakers project is estimated at \$30 million, and Richardson said she has raised \$2.4 million, through private donations and grants.

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