

civic organizations. As a member of the Literacy Volunteers of America, Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Community Action Agency Nutrition Program, and a board member of the South Central Connecticut Agency on Aging, to name just a few, Al's compassion and efforts have made a real difference in the lives of many of our community's most vulnerable citizens. For over sixty years, Al has dedicated himself, both professionally and as a volunteer, to improving the quality of life for our children and families. His exceptional record of service should serve as an example for us all.

I have had the distinct privilege of working with Al and I am honored to call him my friend. It is with great pride that I join his wife, Judith, their seven children, friends, and colleagues to congratulate Al. I also extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for his many contributions to our community and best wishes for continued health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA BEST
ADAMS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of my dear friend, Mrs. Virginia Best Adams, who passed away on January 29, 2000 at the age of 96. Mrs. Adams will be remembered for her love and dedication for Yosemite as well as her shared compassion for music. As a child, Virginia Adams spent her childhood dotting over the natural beauty of Yosemite, and later as an adult it would be there that she would meet and marry the love of her life, Ansel Adams. Through her many accomplishments, Mrs. Adams will best be remembered for her contribution to the Monterey Peninsula culture.

As a devoted mother, Virginia Adams will be remembered well by her daughter Ann Helms. Ms. Helms noted that her mother was, "One of her dearest friends from the time [she] was a teenager on." Helms attributes this sacred friendship to her family's shared love for reading and history.

Known within the family circle as, "Nini", Virginia Adams will be remembered formidably for her favorite shade of green. This shade of green, identified as, "a little bit brighter than forest green", is highlighted in Mrs. Adam's living room draperies. Later, this trademark green was used in the cover of a CD titled, "Nini Green".

In addition to her daughter, Mrs. Adams is survived by her son, Dr. Michael Adams; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Mrs. Adam's curiosity for the natural world will be missed, but will not die as we acknowledge the contributions she has made upon music. Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask you and our distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the distinguished attributes of Mrs. Virginia Adams.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF COOL CREST

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, June 23–25, marks the 50th anniversary of Cool Crest Garden Golf and Game Room. This venerable complex is the oldest family entertainment center in Missouri's Fifth District. This Independence, MO business has provided families and teens a high quality, fun, and safe area to spend time seven days a week.

Cool Crest opened in 1950 with two miniature golf courses and sprawling manicured gardens in the countryside of Eastern Jackson County. Today, apartment complexes and businesses have replaced the fields as the area around Cool Crest developed. King and Inez Patterson owned and operated the business from its beginnings, and Inez continued to operate Cool Crest after the 1986 death of her husband. The business was in the Patterson family for 46 years before Inez sold it to Frank and Jennifer Licausi in 1997. In keeping with longstanding tradition which demonstrates her commitment to the company, Inez continues to work in the gardens. Because it remains a family-owned business, Cool Crest maintains its unique personal touch with its customers.

Over the years the business has expanded to include two more miniature golf courses and a state of the art game center. Through all the years, the fun, family-oriented atmosphere and safe environment remained constant. Because of Cool Crest, Independence and surrounding area families have a secure area where kids can play miniature golf and video games away from gangs, violence, drugs, and other negative influences. The miniature golf courses are challenging and unique, as they are surrounded by the flowing beauty of manicured gardens. Various challenges found on the courses include a moving rocket, an animatronic alligator, and the Eiffel Tower. The video games are cutting-edge to keep players of all ages satisfied.

I applaud the vision and dedication of the Patterson and Licausi families. The efforts of the Licausi's will ensure Cool Crest's mission to provide quality family entertainment in a clean, unique, and safe environment is afforded to all of its visitors.

Cool Crest truly is a local landmark, and I congratulate Patterson and the Licausi families on their first half century of keeping families entertained and safe. I am confident the next 50 years will be as memorable and productive in the established Cool Crest tradition.

HONORING HELEN RESTINO, UPON
RETIREMENT FROM THE TOWN
OF HOOSICK HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Helen Restino as she retires from

her service to the town of Hoosick Housing Authority. Mrs. Restino, of Hoosick Falls New York, retires after 27 years of dedicated duty. During that time, she brought happiness to many senior citizens in the 21nd congressional district. Her housing programs are nationally recognized and greatly appreciated by the local community.

Mrs. Restino positively impacted the town of Hoosick. As executive director of the Housing Authority, Helen provided general supervision over all administrative and business affairs. She managed the "Housing Project", directed and coordinated the administration of the Section 8 Voucher Program, and supervised the Low and Moderate Income Conventional Housing Program. Helen directed all aspects of the Housing Authority's daily operations and activities, including finance, procurement, maintenance, property management, modernization, personnel management, planning and development, and resident and community relations.

I commend Mrs. Restino for her outstanding performance over the course of her career. As a direct result of her actions, the town of Hoosick Housing Authority was recognized four times for superior achievement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Her organization won the Certificate of Excellence in Management Operations and High Performer Designation in 1995 and 1996, the Outstanding Performance Award in 1998, and Secretary's Commendation as High Performer in 1999. Mrs. Restino has set the example for all other housing authorities.

Mrs. Restino's most important role was in bringing joy to senior citizens who reside in the housing authority's centers. She undertook her job with fairness and compassion for all. The concerns of the residents were always Helen's top priority. Her enthusiasm, professionalism, and dedication to duty will be missed by all.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Helen Restino for her selfless service to the town of Hoosick Falls and congratulating her as she retires. Also, please join me in wishing her the very best of luck in all her future endeavors.

HONORING GEORGE DING-FELDER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an exceptional man, George Ding-Felder. In February, George was recognized as the "Heat Hero" in honor of his outstanding achievements in the area of drunk driving arrests. For his efforts in this area, George is eminently deserving of the thanks and admiration of this great body. George became a state trooper in 1995 and has served with great distinction ever since. As proof, look no farther than his record in combating drunk driving. In 1999 alone, he had 130 DUI/DUID arrests. It is obvious that George and his untiring efforts to help his community have made a real difference. He personifies the spirit that this award stands for and we all can learn from the example he has set.

It is clear why this outstanding American was chosen as the recipient of the "Heat