Ms. Yang is involved in numerous volunteer activities. Her most recent activities include the Hmong American Women’s Association, Inc. Model for Hmong International New Year Cultural Events, Adopt a Highway, Clovis High Tutoring Program, College Church of Christ Nursery, College Church of Christ a cappella choir “In His Steps,” CUSD Elementary Cheer Camp Coach, and CUSD Leadership Camp facilitator. With all of her volunteer accomplishments, Ms. Yang still is able to maintain a high grade point average.

The program that has brought this young role model to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by the Prudential Insurance Company in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are extremely important and highly valued, and to inspire others to follow their example. In only 5 years, the program has become the nation’s largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Amorette Yang, who has received national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Amorette Yang many more years of continued success.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR; AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF
HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 15, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration H.R. 4578 making appropriations for the Department of Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Chairman, I wish to comment on the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Fossil Energy and Energy Conservation Research and Development (R&D), and Clean Coal Technology provisions in H.R. 4578, the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001. H.R. 4578 represents the hard work of Mr. REGULA and the members of the Appropriations Subcommittee and Committee and I appreciate their diligence.

The Science Committee has responsibility for setting authorization levels for funding civilian research at the DOE. The Committee has passed two authorization bills which address DOE fiscal year 2001 funding: (1) H.R. 1655 and H.R. 1656 provide $442.4 million for Fossil Energy R&D, and H.R. 4578 provides $410.4 million for similar accounts. Although H.R. 4578 does not fully fund these accounts to their authorized levels, Chairman REGULA has made a serious effort to fund R&D in a tight fiscal framework. Despite the shortfall in R&D funding, I am pleased the bill does provide $11.7 million for the Science Committee’s Energy Efficiency Science Initiative.

I am also pleased to see that section 330 of H.R. 4578 contains the Knollenberg amendment that prohibits the use of funds to propose or issue rules, regulations, decrees or orders for implementing the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change prior to Senate ratification. Mr. KNOLLENBERG’s language assures taxpayers that Senate ratification must precede actions to implement the Kyoto Protocol. Given the glaring problems with this unfunded, unsigned, and unratified Protocol, such a limitation is proper and necessary and I commend the Appropriations Committee for including it in H.R. 4578.

HONORING PRO FOOTBALL GREAT MICHAEL GREEN

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 19, 2000

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, 15 years ago, our colleague from California, Mr. Badham, who represented Newport Beach before I had that honor, rose in this chamber to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of an important community event in Orange County. The event was premised on the “simple act of doing something nice for someone for no reason.” Today, 25 years after the people of Orange County first decided to do something nice for someone for no reason, I’m pleased to report that “Irrelevant Week” and Orange County altruism are both thriving.

Irrelevant Week XXV is honoring Michael Green, from Northwestern State in Louisiana, who was selected 254th in the NFL draft. He is headed for the Chicago Bears, where—at six feet tall and 189 pounds—he will have trouble eclipsing the legend of Refrigerator Perry. Such long odds do not dampen the enthusiasm of community leaders like Paul Salata, who put this all together. That’s because they recognize that all fame is fleeting, but humility is a virtue, and that even the last-round NFL draft pick is a significantly better athlete than most Members of Congress.

Today, my colleague Mr. ROHRABACHER shares with me the honor of representing the City of Newport Beach, and he joins me in congratulating all of those involved in this celebration, which has now, we can all agree, outgrown its name—for there is little in this world today that is more relevant to our spirit of community and our common humanity than doing nice things for other people. On behalf of the United States Congress, on behalf of the people of Orange County whom it is my privilege to represent, congratulations to everyone associated with Irrelevant Week XXV, for being more relevant than you care to admit.