

a national reputation for exceptional client service, cost-effective building design, and expertise in sports and recreation architecture.

With the retirement of Charles S. Sink, Mr. Combs naturally assumed the role of the firm's leader. He became responsible for managing the company and nurturing relationships with the community, clients, and firm employees. Under his leadership the depth of experience and breadth of knowledge of the firm has expanded. His has retained key employees and groomed the firm for growth by naming Andy Barnard a Principal in 1993 and Chris Kastelic a Principal in 2004.

Mr. Combs' accomplishments reach far beyond the projects he has managed. Through his warm and caring nature, he has attracted and trained a new generation of architects and fostered an atmosphere of camaraderie within the office. He has mentored numerous young architects through their career paths encouraging personal growth, accountability, and public duty. He has demonstrated that architecture is not just about designing buildings but about serving clients and the community. Under his leadership, the firm has won numerous design awards and has participated in countless charitable pursuits and community outreach programs.

Richard Combs is a leading architect and businessman in Denver. He is the current President for the Denver Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, where he is working to promote sustainable, energy efficient building design, including resource conservation. As Congress increases its efforts to promote green buildings, his guidance has been extremely valuable.

Richard Combs has contributed over thirty-seven years of service to the practice of architecture while maintaining a rich and fulfilling personal life. Dick is married to Sue Combs and has three children—Leslie, Patrick and Daniel, and one granddaughter, Sadie.

He is retiring from a career that has left an outstanding legacy. I want to join his partners, employees, friends, and family in expressing my respect and appreciation and wishing him many well-deserved years of health, rest and relaxation.

RECOGNIZING THE SACRAMENTO  
COUNTY FARM BUREAU

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Congressman DAN LUNGREN and Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI, to recognize the Sacramento County Farm Bureau on the occasion of its selection as the first recipient of the 2008 Outstanding Achievement in Farm Health & Safety Recognition Award by the Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety at the University of California, Davis. The award is given in recognition of an individual, group, organization, association or business that consistently strives to reduce agricultural workplace injuries and improve overall health on the farm.

The Sacramento County Farm Bureau (SCFB) was established in 1917 to support the Sacramento County farming community.

SCFB is also a member of the California Farm Bureau Federation, a non-profit organization of farmers and ranchers with over 90,000 members throughout California. The Sacramento County farmers and ranchers supported by the SCFB produce approximately 75 different crops with a total annual crop value of over \$325 million.

On September 19, the Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety at UC Davis honored the SCFB and its leaders, President Ken Oneto and Executive Director Charlotte Mitchell, for its advancement of new agricultural health and safety practices and their development of model farm safety programs. The SCFB exemplifies exceptional involvement in promoting practices not only on the farm, but within communities through health fairs reaching farm workers, their families, and children.

Annually, the SCFB hosts a major safety seminar attended by approximately 200 farm workers and 20 employers and supervisors. To ensure a broad audience, all of the classes are offered in Spanish and English. The presenters are experts in their fields and come from a variety of private and public organizations. While the specific topics change each year, presenters always include representatives from the California Highway Patrol, local Fire Departments, County Health Department, CalOSHA, Blood Source, AmeriCorps, UC Davis and State Fund. The Sacramento County Farm Bureau's leadership in bringing agricultural employees together with safety officers and other agricultural safety representatives not only reduces workplace injuries, but improves family health and their communities overall.

In the last several years, the SCFB has also expanded its activities to include a well attended Health Fair for families. This major undertaking has enabled many families to receive free medical testing and basic health training that they might otherwise not receive.

Additionally, the SCFB sponsors two important programs for the agricultural community: the Young Farmers and Ranchers Program and the Foundation for Agricultural Education. The Young Farmers and Ranchers Program consists of a committee of the Farm Bureau members that organize young people between the ages of 18 and 35 who support the agricultural community. Established in July 2000, the Foundation for Agricultural Education's primary purpose is to provide scholastic financial awards to high school and college students continuing their education at the university level.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in acknowledging and congratulating the Sacramento County Farm Bureau and its leadership for its ongoing service to its members, California's farm workers, their families, and Sacramento's agricultural communities.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRES-

SIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 6947, the FY2009 Homeland Security Appropriations bill:

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN CULBERSON.

Bill Number: H.R. 6947, the FY2009 Homeland Security Appropriations bill.

Account: Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Predisaster Mitigation.

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Harris County Flood Control District, 9900 Northwest Freeway, Suite 220, Houston, Texas 77092.

Description of Request: Provides \$1,000,000 (to the Harris County Flood Control District. It is my understanding that 100 percent of the funding would be used for the construction of one small structural project as well as the acquisition and demolition of approximately 38 homes located deep within the floodplain and floodway of the White Oak Watershed of Harris County. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Predisaster Mitigation Account. These projects improve flood reduction and flood mitigation efforts by saving National Flood Insurance Program payments from repetitive flood loss properties. The Harris County Flood Control District will spend approximately \$2,000,000, derived primarily from a dedicated ad valorem property tax and through a capital project agreement with Harris County.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN CULBERSON.

Bill Number: H.R. 6947, the FY2009 Homeland Security Appropriations bill.

Account: Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Replacement.

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Administration Office, Washington, DC; and the Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association, 2010 Butler Drive, Friendswood, Texas 77546.

Description of Request: Provides \$5,000,000 for the Galveston Causeway Railroad Bridge Replacement. Today, 21 thousand barges move 29 million tons of cargo worth \$10 billion through the Galveston Bridge each year. In 2001, after a lengthy review process, the bridge was declared a hazard to navigation by the Coast Guard under the Truman Hobbs Act. The current estimated cost of replacement is almost \$68 million. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard, under the Truman Hobbs Act. Under the Truman Hobbs Act, the Federal Government pays 90 percent of replacement cost and the bridge owner—Galveston County—pays 10 percent.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF  
THE WALTER REUTHER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the three individuals being honored with the 2008 Walter Reuther Distinguished Service Award. On October 9th, the