

for the Severely Handicapped (NISH). These opportunities have made a real difference in enhancing the quality of life for TAC's participants.

While our community and country have lost a leader and a devoted citizen, Mr. Ellebruck's legacy of service is an example for all of us on what one individual can do for others.

HONORING THE SAGINAW RIVER COAST GUARD STATION

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 personnel stationed at the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. The Zion Lutheran Church of Bay City Michigan is holding a program and reception on October 12th to recognize the hard work of these dedicated service members.

The lighthouse constructed in 1842 was the first time the U.S. Coast Guard established a presence at the mouth of the Saginaw River. The original lighthouse was replaced in 1876 with the Saginaw River Rear Range Light and in 1939 it became the Coast Guard Station of the Saginaw River. The Coast Guard built a new Rear Range Light in 1964 and a new station across the Saginaw River from the original location in 1980.

Under the command of Gerald Backus, the station currently houses 27 active duty personnel and 5 reserve personnel. Their area of responsibility runs from Point Lookout to Oak Point along the Saginaw Bay and Lake Huron shore, and up river to Green Point in Saginaw. They are responsible for servicing 134 aids to navigation from Alpena to river buoy 89 at the Carrolton turning basin. The station averages 110 search and rescue runs a year. They work closely with State and local law enforcement and emergency personnel to coordinate response efforts. To fulfill their mission the station is home to 8 boats including a 20-foot ice rescue air boat and a 49-foot buoy utility stern loading boat.

The station is the ICCE, Ice Capabilities Center for Excellence, formal training site for the U.S. Coast Guard. The crew serves as the instructors in ice rescue procedures and policies during the ice season and is considered the subject matter specialists on the topic of ice rescue. The station averages 40 ice rescues a year.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the work of the Coast Guard personnel at the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. Their commitment to the safety, security and welfare of the persons traveling on the waters of the Great Lakes is to be commended. I would like to congratulate them on a job well done and pray they will continue to serve for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING LAKE PROVIDENCE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church and offer my heartfelt congratulations on its 140th anniversary.

Founded in 1868, five years after the Emancipation Proclamation, the first members of the congregation were former slaves and their children, who worshiped together on former slave plantations. These faithful few endured many hardships, yet the congregation flourished under the guidance of their first pastor, Rev. Larry A. Thompson. Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church grew from a scattering of plantations, establishing a permanent structure and soon becoming a beacon for the surrounding community.

Over the past 140 years, Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church has seen over 20 pastors. Currently, Rev. H. Bruce Maxwell serves as pastor of the church, which has grown under each successive pastor. Today, the sanctuary seats over 3,700. Lake Providence Missionary Baptist now houses a range of ministries, offering programs for youth, young adults, and senior citizens. In the community it promotes health awareness, runs a prison ministry and offers bereavement assistance and counseling. Lake Providence Missionary Baptist stands firm in its vision to touch all citizens, no matter their age.

Madam Speaker, I join everyone in Tennessee's Fifth District in applauding Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church. I ask my colleagues in the 110th Congress to join me in commending the church for continuing to shape the lives of the Nashville community and serving as a vital link in Nashville's history.

RECOGNIZING RICHMOND, TX MAYOR HILMAR MOORE

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. LAMPSON, Madam Speaker, I am privileged to recognize Mayor Hilmar Moore of Richmond, Texas, who became the longest-serving mayor in United States' history this year. Mayor Moore served his community for 59 consecutive years and has led a life of distinction, service, and honor.

Mayor Moore is a native of Richmond and began his mayoral post in September of 1949, following his active duty in World War II. He is a fifth-generation Texan whose ancestors were among the Old 300 Colony of Settlers brought into the Fort Bend County area by Stephen F. Austin. In his lifetime, Mayor Moore has made significant contributions to a wide range of civic and business activities, including operating a successful 186-year-old family cattle business and serving as chairman of the Texas Department of Human Resources and director of the King Ranch, just to name a few.

To commemorate this milestone, in October of 2008, the Historic Richmond Association will honor Mayor Moore for his 59 consecutive years of dedicated service through the building of a plaza in downtown Richmond. The plaza will include a life-size sculpture of the Mayor and will be surrounded by beautiful landscaping, benches, and a paved walking area.

Richmond has been blessed for several decades with a strong and dedicated leader. Every community deserves a public servant as devoted as Mayor Hilmar Moore. His service cannot be overstated and I am proud to commend such a remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RICHARD LESLIE COMBS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exemplary career of Denver architect Mr. Richard Leslie Combs, who will be retiring at the end of this year. Throughout his career, Mr. Combs has made significant contributions to the practice of architecture on the local and national levels.

Richard Leslie Combs was born in Glendale, California on July 17, 1945. The son of Leslie and Annabelle Combs, Dick grew up in Hereford, Texas with his brothers Greg and Brent. In 1970, Mr. Combs obtained a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Shortly after graduation, he relocated to Denver, Colorado where in January 1971 he was hired by the office of Charles S. Sink, Architect. Serving in the role of project architect and project manager, Mr. Combs' contribution to the office was immediate and he was named an associate that same year.

As a licensed architect with his certification from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), he managed some of the firm's most influential projects, including the McNichols Sports Arena. Upon its completion in 1975, McNichols was hailed as one of the first major league event centers in the country and quickly became an iconic piece of architecture for the city of Denver.

In 1979, Mr. Combs became a principle of the firm, whose name was changed to Sink Combs and Associates. He served as Vice President and Secretary and acted as the firm's quality control officer, ensuring that the work executed by the firm was of the highest professional standard. During this time, Mr. Combs oversaw projects such as the Panorama Point Office Building, 183 Inverness Office Building, SOCO Place, and 1900 Grant Office Building.

In 1985, with the addition of Don Dethlefs as a principal, the firm—now Sink Combs Dethlefs and Associates—began to expand its sports architecture expertise throughout the local and national markets and in Canada, completing projects such as the Fargodome in Fargo, North Dakota, the San Jose Arena, which is now known as the HP Pavilion, the Save Mart Center at Fresno State University, and the MTS Centre in Winnipeg, Canada. The successful completion of those projects enabled Mr. Combs and the firm and to build

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. He 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