



CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Astronaut Mark Kelly headlines Legends & Leaders Thursday** *San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber to celebrate region's leaders in education*

Nearly 900 business and civic leaders will gather Thursday, Oct. 13, at the San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber's 16th Annual Legends & Leaders to hear Capt. Mark Kelly describe his experience as a NASA Astronaut, a shuttle commander and life as husband of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

This year's Legends & Leaders, presented by Lockheed Martin, will be held 6-9 p.m. at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose.

The event also will honor the chamber's Excellence in Education Award winners Prospect High School Principal Diane Burbank, Blackford Elementary School Teacher Kim Munoz and Pioneer High School student Austin McLaggan. The 2011 Community Leadership award winner Leah Toeniskoetter will also be recognized.

"The chamber is pleased to present to our members and the community such an inspirational person as Mark Kelly," said Matthew Mahood, president & CEO. "In a region that has created so many dynamic leaders and industry legends, Capt. Kelly is a landmark himself. What his exemplary duty to our country illustrates is how devotion to excellence can make individuals soar among their peers—and sometimes right into history."

Legends and Leaders is an annual event that features prominent celebrities in sports, entertainment and political arenas. Previous speakers have included Sen. Elizabeth Dole, Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Secty. Condoleezza Rice, Gen. Colin Powell and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Funds raised through this event underwrite grants provided to the recipients of the Excellence in Education Awards and support other education grants administered through the chamber's Community Education Foundation.

*The SJSV Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit business association representing nearly 1,500 employers throughout the greater Silicon Valley. Its mission is to create a strong local economy, provide premier business connections and visibility, represent the interests of business to government, promote the community and initiate political and community action. For more chamber information, [sjchamber.com](http://sjchamber.com).*

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