

Emergency Services for briefing me on the fire containment plan and the State's response and recovery efforts. The seamless communication between ground and air crews from various local agencies and departments further exemplifies California as a model State for disaster response and interoperability.

I and my esteemed colleague Rep. ANNA ESHOO are closely monitoring the recovery effort and remain in close contact with State authorities. We are hopeful that the rebuilding process can begin and that the residents of the affected areas will be able to resume their normal activities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 355, on agreeing to the Akin amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, I was unavoidably absent due to a family medical emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 356, on agreeing to the Franks, AZ, amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 357, on agreeing to the Tierney amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 358, on agreeing to the Pearce amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 359, on agreeing to the Lee amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 360, on agreeing to the Braley amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 361, on agreeing to the Price, NC, amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 362, on agreeing to the Holt amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 363, on agreeing to the McGovern amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 364, on the motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 365, on passage of H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; and on rollcall No. 366, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 986, Recognizing the courage and sacrifice of those members of the United States Armed Forces who were held as prisoners of war during the Vietnam conflict and calling for a full accounting of the 1,729 members of the Armed Forces who remain unaccounted for from the

Vietnam conflict, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cuyahoga County Community College, Ohio's oldest community college, as the college hosts this year's Memorial Day Celebration along with the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland.

Cuyahoga County Community College (Tri-C) opened in 1963 and now serves more than fifty-five thousand credit and non-credit students each year. Tri-C provides students with a first-rate education environment with professors who are committed to their success at their three traditional campuses. Tri-C also offers students the option to earn their associate degree, participate in certificate programs and complete two years of a baccalaureate degree at two Corporate College locations, over fifty off-campus sites, and through various distance learning options.

Cuyahoga County Community College is one of the premier sites for many of the major cultural, community and sporting events that more than five-hundred thousand Greater Cleveland Area residents attend throughout the year. The college hosts one of the nation's largest educational Jazz festivals, Tri-C JazzFest Cleveland. This year the college hosts the annual Memorial Day Celebration, State Senator Robert F. Spada as the guest speaker, who has been representing Ohio since 1999.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Cuyahoga County Community College as they host this year's Memorial Day Celebration and for the college's contributions to the Greater Cleveland Area.

HONORING KYLE ROWLAND

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Rowland of Buckner, Missouri. Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1082, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Rowland for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SIDNEY LAPIDUS

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Sidney Lapidus and to congratulate him on receiving the Emma Lazarus Statue of Liberty Award. Mr. Lapidus's deep commitment to the American Jewish Historical Society has ensured that its collection is preserved and expanded for generations to come.

A graduate of Princeton University and Columbia University Law School, Sidney began his career as an attorney with the Securities and Exchange Commission in New York. A retired partner at Warburg Pincus LLC, one of the country's leading private equity firms, Sidney also serves on the boards of directors of Lennar Corporation, one of the Nation's largest homebuilders; Knoll Inc., a leading manufacturer of office furniture; and the Neiman Marcus Group, a leading upscale retailer.

Sidney contributes to and advocates on behalf of a number of charitable causes, several of which concern American history and Jewish affairs. He served as president of the American Jewish Historical Society from 2003 to 2007 and is now its chairman. He is a member of the advisory councils for Princeton University's History and Judaic Studies Departments. He is also a vice chairman of the American Antiquarian Society and is a trustee of the New York Historical Society. In other areas, he is chair of the United Neighborhood Houses of New York and a member of the executive committee of New York University School of Medicine.

Mr. Lapidus has balanced his distinguished career and philanthropic work with an equally impressive family life. He and his wife, Ruth, live in Harrison, New York. They have three married children—Gail, Janet and Roy—and six grandchildren—Sara, Eric, Kate, Henry, Jessica, and Zack. An avid skier, Sidney also collects British and American books about politics and economics from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my good friend Mr. Sidney Lapidus for a successful career in finance and unparalleled devotion to charitable causes. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, SVLG, and its contributions to Silicon Valley and the State of California with you.

On July 18, 1977, the exceptional innovator and pioneer, David Packard, gathered thirty of

his CEO peers with a simple yet provocative idea. To build an organization that would create a proactive voice for Silicon Valley businesses to ensure the economic health and a high quality of life in Silicon Valley. The organization would be an advocate for affordable housing, comprehensive regional transportation, reliable energy, a quality K-12 and higher education system, a prepared workforce, a sustainable environment, and business and tax policies that would keep California and Silicon Valley competitive.

The idea led to the founding of the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, now known as the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, in 1978 with 33 founding members. The first Chair of the Board was Bob Wilson of Memorex and the first Working Chair was Bob Kirkwood of Hewlett-Packard. David Packard accepted a seat on the Board and the position of Board Vice Chair. The first president was Bill June and Peter Giles was then hired as CEO. Over the course of the last thirty years David Packard's vision became a reality and there are many examples of success to highlight, including but not limited to the following:

In 1981, SVLG published its first housing study, emphasizing the need for a jobs-housing balance, and urges public officials to rezone land from industrial and commercial to residential. The report also called for more compact development to help lower housing costs and make better use of the Valley's limited land resources, and to place housing more closely to jobs. Several cities agreed, and thousands of acres are re-zoned for residential development.

In 1982, the Board of Directors helped lead the effort to establish Santa Clara County's first carpool, or "high occupancy vehicle" lane on the San Tomas Expressway. Measure A becomes a statewide model of efficiency, with all three projects completed on time and on budget during the measure's 10-year life. Following the lead of Santa Clara County, 19 counties representing nearly 85 percent of all Californians have since passed similar measures. These measures now fund \$1 of every \$2 invested in the state's transportation system.

1988—Model Toxic Gas Ordinance—The ordinance was aimed at any gas user, private and public sector, to respond to increased concern about the potential release of toxic gases.

1989—Board Endorses Gas Tax Increase—The Board of Directors voted to support Proposition 111—a nine-cent increase in the state gas tax to fund transportation improvements.

1990—Chlorofluorocarbon Reduction—The Board of Directors voted to play a leadership role in reducing CFC's. Silicon Valley high-tech firms became the national leaders in reducing this form of pollution.

1990—Open Space Initiative—Founder David Packard agrees to serve as Honorary Chair of the county's first Open Space Initiative. The measure receives a strong 64 percent support at the polls, but fails under the two-thirds vote requirement. However, it set the stage for the successful measure 4 years later.

1993—Housing Action Coalition Formed—The purpose of the coalition was to advocate for homes that are "well built, relatively afford-

able, and appropriately located" so that Valley cities could service them. With a mission to "advocate, educate, and legislate," the coalition has had a tremendous impact. Today, the coalition consists of more than 200 organizations and individuals.

1993—Board Endorses County's "Technology Bond" Proposal—In partnership with the county member companies purchased approximately \$12 million in "technology bonds" to help the county improve and install technology systems throughout its departments.

1995—Vehicle Buy-Back Coalition Scraps Old Polluting Cars—This innovative demonstration project raises nearly half a million dollars to purchase and permanently retire more than 400 "gross polluters," with a reduction in pollution of more than 400 tons. The demonstration project was so successful that it becomes a model for the Air District's own Buy-Back program.

1997—Eco Pass Partnership Initiated—SVLG is principal business voice in encouraging employers to consider the "Eco Pass" Program. The Eco Pass is a transit pass that employers can purchase for their Silicon Valley employees, allowing them the use of buses, express buses, and light rail for the entire year. The first year demonstration program produced a doubling of transit use by employees at participating companies. SVLG also launched the Bay Area Clean Air Partnership—Partnership to engage employers and employees in voluntary programs to reduce pollution on hot, smoggy "Spare the Air" days. In its first year of operation, thousands of vehicle trips were avoided and the region did not violate a single day of the federal Clean Air Standards.

1998—Housing Trust Fund Business Plan Approved—The Board endorses the business plan officially launching the County's first Housing Trust Fund. With a goal of raising up to \$20 million over the next 24 months, the funds will leverage approximately \$200 million worth of housing, with funds equally divided into three categories. They include first-time homebuyers assistance, affordable rental housing, and homeless shelter and assistance. These funds will assist nearly 5,000 Silicon Valley families.

1999—San Jose Teacher Housing Initiative—SVMG partnered with San Jose to launch San Jose's Teacher Housing Initiative, a proposal to assist San Jose teachers to become homebuyers, as well as enhancing recruitment and retention of educators in the community. SVLG also began the Summer Fellowships for Teachers—SVMG partnered with the Industry Institute for Science and Math Education (IISME) on a Summer Fellowship for Teachers program. By partnering with SVMG, the number of teacher fellowships was increased 40 percent from the highest numbers achieved in IISME's 17-year history.

1999—Creating Quality Neighborhoods—SVMG completed a 21-month study to identify every vacant (and underutilized) parcel of land that is zoned commercial, industrial, or residential. The effort will now shift to working with cities to consider the report's findings to ensure there are enough homes for Silicon Valley workers. By following the report's recommendations, the Valley could meet 99 percent of home demand during the next 10

years, rather than the current 50 percent projected if current land use patterns are followed.

2000—Statewide Transportation Plan—More than \$1 billion is directed to improvements that benefit the Valley, even though Santa Clara County accounts for only 5 percent of the state population.

2002—Hetch Hetchy Legislation Passes—SVMG, in coordination with BAWUA, successfully advocated for three critical pieces of state legislation to ensure the Hetch Hetchy water system would be updated to withstand earthquakes. This vital system serves the water needs of 2.4 million Bay Area residents and employers.

2005—The Leadership Group's first Annual CEO Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip, led by Soletron CEO Mike Cannon with 25 executive colleagues, met with 70 key members of Congress in the nation's Capitol. A new "Middle School Math Initiative" was reviewed by the Working Council with strong recommendation of the Education Committee. Also, the Leadership Group organized the first "Applied Materials Silicon Valley Turkey Trot," with 1,900 participants; 240 volunteers and more than \$132,000 raised for three local non-profits.

2006—The Board approved a 12-point "Clean and Green" Alternative Energy Action Plan to curb greenhouse gas emissions and impact climate change in the region.

2007—SolarTech Begins—Recognizing the growing importance of alternative energy the Leadership Group developed SolarTech. The purpose is to identify, prioritize, and resolve the technical and adoption barriers to solar technology by addressing issues of performance, standards, and workforce readiness.

Today, under the exceptional leadership of Carl Guardino, SVLG has more than 200 member companies and its members contribute more than \$1 trillion to the global economy, an amount equal to the gross national product of Italy. Members of the SVLG employ more than 250,000 people in the Valley who constitute one-fourth of the entire private sector workforce in the region. They generate more than \$1 trillion worth of business which is approximately eight times as large as California's entire state budget, and represents a significant contribution to the state and the national government treasuries, along with hefty property taxes for local governments.

Madam Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join us in honoring the Silicon Valley Leadership Group as it celebrates its 30 year anniversary marking its extraordinary contributions to the economic health and quality of life to the residents and businesses of Silicon Valley. We salute Carl Guardino, President and CEO, his staff and every member of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

HONORING DEAN REX R. PERSCHBACHER OF DAVIS, CALIFORNIA ON HIS RETIREMENT AS DEAN OF THE UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dean Rex R. Perschbacher on the occasion of his retirement as the Dean of the UC Davis School of Law. Dean Perschbacher served as Dean and in the Dean's office longer than anyone in the history of the UC Davis School of Law. He served for 10 years as Dean from 1998 to 2008. Before becoming Dean, he served for five years as associate dean for academic affairs in the School.

Dean Perschbacher is best known for strengthening the 40-year-old UC Davis School of Law's reputation as one of the nation's best public law schools. Students are recruited nationwide, and the School is frequently honored for the diversity of its faculty and student body. Under his leadership, the Law School recruited 26 ladder-rank faculty members, expanded the clinical program, started a master's program in international commercial law, and established an outreach program for underserved college students—many of whom have gone on to law school.

He worked with campus, university, and state officials to secure campus and state funding for the first significant expansion to the School's facilities since the completion of the Law School 40 years ago. He built a strong foundation of alumni philanthropy and volunteerism upon which the next generation of leadership at UC Davis School of Law can expand and is credited with increasing private giving over tenfold. During his tenure, the School added five endowed chairs and professorships, bringing the total number of seats to six. He also raised more than \$3 million in private donations for the building expansion and renovation project.

Dean Perschbacher taught at UC Davis since 1981 with an emphasis on the areas of Civil Procedure, Professional Responsibility, and Clinical teaching. He received the Law School's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1992 and a Special Citation Affirmative Action and Diversity Achievement Award in 2001. He has published articles in the areas of civil procedure, professional responsibility and lawyers' negotiations. He is co-author of *United States Legal System: An Introduction* (1st and 2d eds.); *Cases and Materials on Civil Procedure* (1–5th eds.); *California Civil Procedure*; *California Legal Ethics* (1–6th eds.), and *Problems in Legal Ethics* (3–8th eds.).

The Dean has also been involved in law school accreditation activities having served for six years on the American Bar Association's Accreditation Committee; and on two separate standing committees of the Association of American Law Schools, AALS, and two section executive committees. Currently, he is Chair of the AALS Section of the Dean. From 1990–1996, he served on the Board of Directors of the Legal Services of Northern Cali-

fornia and two related boards. He has also served on the Governing Committee on Continuing Education of the Bar from 2000–2003.

Dean Perschbacher received his J.D. degree from UC Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall), where he was Articles Editor of the California Law Review and elected to Order of the Coif. After graduation, he served as law clerk to The Honorable Alfonso J. Zirpoli of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Later he entered private practice with Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe in San Francisco. He has taught at UC Berkeley (Boalt Hall), the University of Texas, Santa Clara University, and the University of San Diego law schools.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, now is the appropriate time for us to acknowledge Dean Perschbacher for his years of work and service to UC Davis and the broader legal community. Please join me in thanking him and wishing him the very best as he enters retirement.

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORIAL DAY ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CLEVELAND

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland as they remember and honor our Nation's veterans on this year's Memorial Day.

The Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland consists of veterans and their organizations, joining together every year to commemorate the lives of their fellow veterans who lost their lives in service to our country. These organizations invite all members of the Greater Cleveland Area community to join in their remembrance during their annual traditional Memorial Day event.

I stand in honor and recognition of all the veterans and organizations for their contributions to the community: American Ex-Prisoners of War, American Gold Star Mothers, American Legion, Amvets with Auxiliary, Army and Navy Union with Auxiliary, Catholic War Veterans, Daughters of "98", Daughters of Union Veterans, Disabled American Veterans, Greater Cleveland Veterans Council, Greater Cleveland Veterans Memorial Inc., Jewish War Veterans with Auxiliary, Joint Veterans' Commission of Cuyahoga County, Korean War Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Marine Corps League, Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Polish Army Veterans Association of America, Polish Legion of American Veterans with Auxiliary, Reserve Officers Association, St. Theodosius War Veterans, Service Star Legion Veterans, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Spanish American War Veterans, Southwest Asia Veterans, Ukrainian American Veterans, Ukrainian Veterans Association, United Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Military Wars with Auxiliary, Veterans of World War One and Auxiliary, Vietnam Veterans of America, Waves National, and 82nd Airborne Division Association.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland as they commemorate Memorial Day and in recognition of these organizations' contributions to the Greater Cleveland Area.

HONORING DR. JOHN BERNARD

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. John Bernard on his retirement on June 30, 2008 from the Newark Unified School District. Dr. Bernard has served as Superintendent of Schools for the school district since July 2003.

A native of the Bay Area, Dr. Bernard is a product of the Oakland Public Schools, as are his three grown children. He and his wife have been married for 39 years and have five grandchildren.

Dr. Bernard has held a number of positions of leadership in various school districts throughout the state of California. He served for 4 years as Superintendent of Schools for the Novato Unified School district and for 4 years as Superintendent of Schools for the Bakersfield City School District. He also served as Director of K–12 Instruction, and later as Assistant Superintendent, in the Mt. Diablo Unified School district in Contra Costa County. Dr. Bernard began his career as an educator in the San Francisco Unified School District, where he spent 20 years as a classroom teacher, resource teacher, assistant principal, personnel administrator and principal.

Dr. Bernard earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from San Francisco State University in psychology and education administration, respectively. He earned his doctorate in multicultural education from the University of San Francisco. He continues to teach graduate courses at local universities and is often invited to speak, throughout the state, the nation and abroad, at conferences on instructional leadership, multicultural education, and education technology issues.

As Dr. Bernard retires, he leaves a legacy of outstanding experience and service to our children and the field of education. His commitment to education is noteworthy and I join the community in thanking him for his exemplary contributions.

HONORING JOSHUA DELONG

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua DeLong of Blue Springs, Missouri. Joshua is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1216, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.