

Robert Stoldal has achieved well-deserved legendary stature over his 41-year career at Las Vegas' CBS affiliate, KLAS-TV, Channel 8. Bob's insistence on the highest journalistic standards of accuracy, thoroughness, fairness, and aggressiveness established a clear benchmark of professional values which has been followed by hundreds of journalists, videographers, producers, and editors. Uniformly, those who have worked for Bob credit him with improving their professionalism through his guidance and the example he sets.

Bob is a good friend of mine, and he has my highest respect as a newsman and as a preeminent leader of the city we both love so much, Las Vegas. Bob has led the charge for community causes too numerous to mention, even as he has led one of America's top local newscasts for decades.

Bob and his corps of news professionals at Channel 8 and sister station, Las Vegas NEWS ONE, consistently earn the highest honors awarded by the national broadcast news industry. At the same time, Bob Stoldal worked successfully for television cameras to gain access to courtrooms; battled over the years to preserve Nevada's historical legacy; gained recognition across the Silver State as an authority on Nevada history; and, devoted himself to the growth of his alma mater, UNLV.

Bob Stoldal has the trait common to all great journalists—courage—courage to stand up to organized crime and political corruption, courage to accept the risk of going into a highly dangerous jailhouse stand-off and negotiate a peaceful solution, and, the courage to take on the federal government over its use and abuse of Nevada as a nuclear proving ground, as just some examples of his fortitude.

Southern Nevada is indeed most fortunate that a person of Bob's unflagging energy, enthusiasm, creativity, and tenacity has set the pace for the area's newsgathering during the four decades that metro Las Vegas has led the nation in population growth.

Bob, I congratulate you on a tremendous career, of which I, and our fellow Las Vegans, are so proud. I know you will keep giving your all for our community in your purported retirement!

Best wishes to you, Kay, and your family as we look to the future.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, on June 23, 2008, I was unavoidably absent from the House.

If I had been present, I would have voted Yes on rollcall Vote No. 438, a motion by Mr. SARBANES of Maryland to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 1242, a resolution honoring the life, musical accomplishments, and contributions of Louis Jordan on the 100th anniversary of his birth.

I would have voted Yes on rollcall Vote No. #439, a motion by Mr. SARBANES of Maryland

to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 372, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Black Music Month and to honor the outstanding contributions that African American singers and musicians have made to the United States.

Finally, I would have voted Yes on rollcall Vote No. 440, a motion by Mr. SARBANES of Maryland to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 1051, a resolution congratulating James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, for 100 years of service and leadership to the United States.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Monday, June 23, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 438—"aye"; rollcall 439—"aye"; and rollcall 440—"aye".

#### TRIBUTE TO SAINT GERARD PARISH

### HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Saint Gerard Parish in Lansing, Michigan on the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary. It is with great admiration and pride that I congratulate St. Gerard on behalf of all of those in south-central Michigan who have benefited from its steadfast commitment to faith, education, outreach and prayer.

St. Gerard Parish, named after St. Gerard Majella, Patron of Mothers, was established in June of 1958. Lacking a permanent meeting place, its first Sunday services were held in the gymnasium of Bretton Woods School. Each parishioner was asked to give an hour's salary a week to build a temporary church and less than a year later, in April of 1959, ground was broken. The first liturgy in the packed 800-seat church occurred during Christmas Midnight Mass in 1959, and in the fall of 1960, Saint Gerard School opened its doors for its first class.

In October of 1974, a fund drive was announced for a permanent church building. Within three short months, the \$350,000 goal was surpassed by \$180,000. Bishop James S. Sullivan dedicated the present church on June 15, 1975. St. Gerard Parish continues to grow, requiring an expansion of its facilities beginning in 2000. Mirroring the impressive growth-rate of the church, St. Gerard School is now filled to capacity with 350 students enrolled.

St. Gerard Parish stands out for its deep involvement in the Lansing community, and it constantly seeks out ways to serve those in need. The church sponsors countless outreach programs, including Senior Citizen

potlucks and Bingo nights, Couple to Couple League and the Lansing Regional Council of Catholic Women. St. Gerard has also been extremely instrumental in reaching out to the sick and homebound through its Befriender Ministry and Respite Care. It is impossible to measure the enormous impact these ministries have had on lives throughout Lansing. They merely reflect the loving hearts of the St. Gerard community and testify to the unwavering faith that has flourished at St. Gerard for the past fifty years.

Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint Gerard Parish on the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary since first coming together to follow the Lord Jesus. May others know of my high regard for the St. Gerard community's inspiring faith and eagerness to serve, as well as my best wishes for Saint Gerard Parish in the future.

#### POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS

### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, the positive contributions of the immigrant labor force to our society are too often unnoticed.

Hardworking families contribute daily and pay their share into the American system.

Hardworking mothers sometimes work three jobs, give up weekends, and take overtime and night shifts to feed and clothe their children.

Hardworking fathers wake up at 4 a.m. to go to work, earn below minimum wages, and manage to provide for their families.

Immigrants contribute in taxes from their paychecks, just like the next person.

In fact, the IRS reported that between 1996–2003, immigrants contributed \$50 billion in Federal taxes.

Social Security reported that "other than legal immigrants," will contribute 15 percent of the system's projected long term deficit.

We cannot afford to ignore the figures and more importantly, we cannot afford to ignore the positive contributions of immigrants in America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to be present in the Capitol on Monday, June 23, 2008, and was unable to cast votes on the House floor that evening.

However, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 1242, Honoring the life, musical accomplishments, and contributions of Louis Jordan on the 100th anniversary of his birth; "yea" on H. Con. Res. 372, Supporting the goals and ideals of Black Music

Month and to honor the outstanding contributions that African American singers and musicians have made to the United States; and “yea” on H. Res. 1051, Congratulating James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, for 100 years of service and leadership to the United States.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall 438 on H. Res. 1242; “yes” on rollcall 439 on H. Con. Res. 372; and “yes” on rollcall 440 on H. Res. 1051.

COMMEMORATING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF MISSISSIPPI CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS: GOODMAN, SCHWERNER AND CHANEY

##### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 44th anniversary of the tragic death of Mississippi civil rights activists: Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner.

The murder of Goodman, Schwerner and Chaney occurred in Philadelphia, Mississippi, on June 21, 1964. These three young, courageous and bright men came to Philadelphia to fight for freedom and justice, promote equality in voting and bring peace and a better life for all people of Neshoba County. The American Civil Rights Movement carried out the mission of “Freedom Summer” determined to encourage equal voter registration regardless of race. The “Freedom Summer” participants included many Jewish-American and African-Americans, dedicated to such a noble cause. Unfortunately, three of the best, idealistic, and brightest of the volunteers who responded to the call to come to Mississippi and work for justice, were cowardly kidnapped and brutally murdered by the coldblooded activists of the Ku Klux Klan. Public outrage and demands for justice led to the FBI’s thorough investigation of this shocking murder case. For several weeks the American people followed the unfolding of this horrible event in the televised newscasts. The bodies of Goodman, Chaney and Schwerner were found 44 days later, buried in the dam with bullets in their hearts. Three years after the murders, FBI arrested 21 active members of the Ku Klux Klan and indicted 19 of them.

The realization of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 came in part as a result of public reaction to the brutal murders of Goodman, Chaney and Schwerner as well as through demonstrations, marches and public demand for passing these critical laws. Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner were committed to fight for justice and democracy in their beloved country. They believed in con-

stitutional rights for all, regardless of race, gender or religion. Even today this struggle is not yet over. We should continue the noble fight for justice.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, June 23, 2008, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 1242, H. Con. Res. 372, and H. Res. 1051, and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 438 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1242, Honoring the life, musical accomplishments, and contributions of Louis Jordan on the 100th anniversary of his birth, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall No. 439 on suspending the rules and passing H. Con. Res. 372, Supporting the goals and ideals of Black Music Month, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall No. 440 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 1051, Congratulating James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, for 100 years of service and leadership to the United States, I would have voted “aye.”

#### HONORING RONNIE HEEP

##### HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable citizen from my congressional district. Ronnie Heep, Chief of the Owensboro Fire Department, is retiring next month after 30 years of service.

Chief Heep first joined the Owensboro Fire Department in 1978, following in the footsteps of his father, Stewart, who himself served for 32 years. Ronnie steadily rose through the ranks, becoming a serious firefighter and public servant, culminating with his appointment as Chief in 2004.

As Chief, he has been responsible for training and managing a diverse crew of firefighters, purchasing and maintaining fire apparatus, and developing policies designed to help the department run as efficiently and safely as possible. He has been personally responsible for countless acts of heroism throughout his three decades as a firefighter and a medical first responder. His collective efforts have saved lives, protected property, and contributed to the overall safety and comfort enjoyed by those who live and work in Owensboro, KY.

It is my great privilege to honor Ronnie Heep today before the entire United States House of Representatives. His distinguished career, along with his unwavering dedication to his family and fellow firefighters, is a portrait of outstanding citizenship worthy of our collective respect and appreciation.

#### THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIGHER DIMENSION MATERIALS

##### HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of an amazing company from Oakdale, Minnesota. Higher Dimension Materials has perfected a groundbreaking new material—called SuperFabric—which may literally revolutionize the world of material science and which has life-saving applications for our service men and women.

Under the bold and pioneering leadership of Dr. Young-Hwa-Kim, HDM has developed a line of SuperFabric materials, which possess an astonishing strength, flexibility and resistance and are open to an equally astonishing array of uses. After 10 years of painstaking research, HDM has successfully overcome the challenge of developing a polymer that possesses both great density and great flexibility. SuperFabrics incorporate hard solids with flexible fabrics to create new composite fabrics that maintain their original flexibility and yet are resistant to fire, abrasions, cuts and punctures.

In fact, NASA, law enforcement agencies and the United States military have all expressed great interest in taking advantage of Higher Dimensions’ breakthroughs. For instance, the military is applying Super Fabrics technology in the making of boots for the special-ops community and also potentially life-saving vests for Coast Guard divers. NASA is even testing SuperFabrics for new space gloves.

So revolutionary are these technologies that the University of Minnesota is putting them on display in their new Museum of Design. And the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Office of Textiles and Apparel has selected HDM to participate in their European Outdoor Show—one of the world’s major international trade shows, focusing on performance textiles.

These are but a few of the honors HDM has received for its ingenious technological advances. Thanks to the devotion and brilliance of people like Dr. Kim and the scientists at HDM, America continues to lead the world in the development of new technologies.

Higher Dimension Materials is a true credit to the state of Minnesota and I am honored to recognize their achievements today.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. STEVAN PEARCE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. PEARCE. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 438 H. Res. 1242—Honoring the life, musical accomplishments, and contributions of Louis Jordan on the 100th anniversary of his birth. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”