**Assemblyman Weprin holds Vigil to honor victims of Wisconsin Sikh Temple Shooting**

Aassemblyman David Weprin (D-Fresh Meadows) held a candlelight vigil to commemorate all of the fallen victims who tragically lost their lives from the Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting. The vigil was held on the one-year anniversary of the mass shooting incident. District Leader Dr. Taj Rajkumar (D Southern Queens), Public Advocate Candidate Reshna Saujani and the Sikh Cultural Society attended the vigil.

On August 5, 2012, Wade Michael Page killed six victims and wounded four people at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin. Page committed suicide by shooting himself at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin. The Candlelight Vigil was held to commemorate all of the victims who lost their lives.

**SAADA launches First Days Project**

Bas in Philadelphia, the South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA) is the only independent nonprofit organization in the nation working to document the rich histories of South Asians in the United States and ensuring that this community's stories are protected and preserved for future generations. In 1959, 18year old Tariq Abbas departed from Lahore and arrived in New York City, en route to Dallas where he was admitted through the American Field Service foreign exchange program. He soon realized, wasn't exactly the America he imagined. "I only knew New York ... I had no idea, no concept of what to expect or what I was going," said India's biggest superstar and noted advertising agency Ogilvy & Mather, "Throughout interviewing my parents about their first days I learned something new about their experiences, hopes and dreams when first arriving in this country." With the First Days Project, SAADA continues its long-standing effort to showcase stories that reflect the diversity of the South Asian diaspora. According to the 2010 census, there are more than 3.4 million Americans of South Asian heritage, a growth in 81 percent between 2000 and 2010. In other words, 1 in every 100 Americans traces their heritage to South Asia, which includes India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Maldives. Yet there is also a critical danger in narratives of South Asian Americans being lost, particularly the ones left out of history books and not featured in the media. Stories like Tariq Abbas and Ma misdra's underscore just how diverse and complex the lives of South Asians in the U.S. have been. The First Days Project reveals the intimate details of arrival that are often lost in the grand sweep of history. "Often, members of our community don’t feel as though they have a story to tell or that their story matters," Mallick mentions. "The First Days Project demonstrates how individual stories come together to tell a community’s history. Each and every story adds to that tapestry."

First Day stories will be accepted through August 31, 2013 and can be submitted as an interview of a family member or a friend. First Day projects will be posted on the SAADA website and added to that tapestry. Visit www.saadigitalarchive.org/firstdays for more information.

**Star India, Superstar Amitabh Bachchan Creates Public Service Message for Flood-Hit Uttarakhand**

India’s leading media and entertainment conglomerate, Star India, has created a powerful public service message, featuring India’s cinema’s biggest superstar Amitabh Bachchan, for sensitizing and encouraging viewers to extend all possible support for the daunting task of rebuilding flood-ravaged hill-state Uttarakhand. The narrative is a call to all countrymen from Amitabh Bachchan to stand united for Uttarakhand’s cause. The Flash-floods this June have left the state in virtual paralysis, claiming scores of lives and rendering thousands homeless. Bachchan, in his unique and compelling style, asked people to look at the adversity squarely in the eye and come together for humanity. His message ends with an emotional poem—“Karodan Aaasonnain Hain Toh Kya, Karodan Hun Bhi Toh Hain” —to instil hope in the people that all is not lost and that no challenge is big enough if we stand united. The public service message, penned by noted advertising agency Ogilvy & Mather, will be aired on key channels of the Star India network.

"The task of rebuilding Uttarakhand is gravely difficult but isn’t an impossible one. Star India is humbled by Mr. Bachchan’s gesture and truly believes in his call for unity. We hope that his message inspires others to come forward and extend their help for the cause," Uday Shankar, CEO, Star India said. "We feel proud to have partnered with Star India, the Film & Television Producers Guild of India and FWICE to help make this happen. May the people of Uttarakhand find solace,“’ said Piyush Mishra, Executive Chairman & National Creative Director Ogilvy & Mather India, said.

Star India’s initiative is an extension of its philosophy to use television as a tool to create awareness for the larger good of a society. This belief is etched in the network’s popular shows, urging its viewers to support Uttarakhand’s cause by making generous donations.

**Xoom Announces Money Transfer Service to NRE and NRO Bank Accounts in India**

Xoom Corporation (NASDAQ: XOOM), a leading digital money transfer provider, has announced July 30 that NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) can now use Xoom’s money transfer service to send bank deposits directly to their NRE (Non-Resident External) and NRO (Non-Resident Ordinary) bank accounts in India. NRIs can now send bank deposits within four hours to recipients with NRE/NRO accounts, with great locked-in exchange rates. In a continued effort to provide superior services to our customers, Xoom now introduces bank deposits to NRE/NRO accounts, giving NRIs every reason to use Xoom, said Julian King, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Corporate Development for Xoom. "Plus, with our new App for Android and iOS devices, Xoom is committed to making money transfers easy and trustworthy for everyone." Xoom takes care of all your money transfer needs, said India’s biggest superstar and Xoom brand ambassador Amitabh Bachchan. "No one gets your bank deposits to India faster than Xoom and now to NRE and NRO accounts too!" Bank deposits are processed in India through Xoom’s partner Punjab National Bank. "We are pleased to partner with Xoom to provide NRIs a fast and easy way to send remittance to their NRE/NRO accounts, and other Rupee denominated Bank accounts in India," said Thiyagarajan, GM IBI, Punjab National Bank. With Xoom, customers can send money to all Rupee-denominated bank accounts in India, including NRE/NRO accounts within four hours, when sent during India bank processing hours. Service is available to all major banks in India including Punjab National Bank, ICICI, HDFC, SBI, Axis Bank, Citibank and many more. Customers can send up to $2,999 per transaction.

Indian bank processing hours are generally Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. (India Standard Time), and Saturday, 9:00 A.M. to Noon (India Standard Time). Individual bank branch operating and processing hours may vary. Customers can visit www.xoom.com/india for more information.

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