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VOL.1 NO.329-226

SOMERVILLE/MEDFORD MASS.

Tuesday August 6th, 2024

FISCAL 2025 STATE BUDGET (H 4800)



Continued to page 7

WAGE TRANSPARENCY

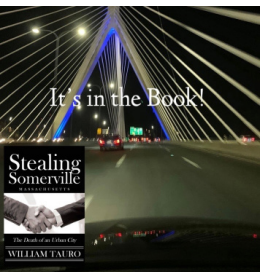
PARENTAGE EQUALITY



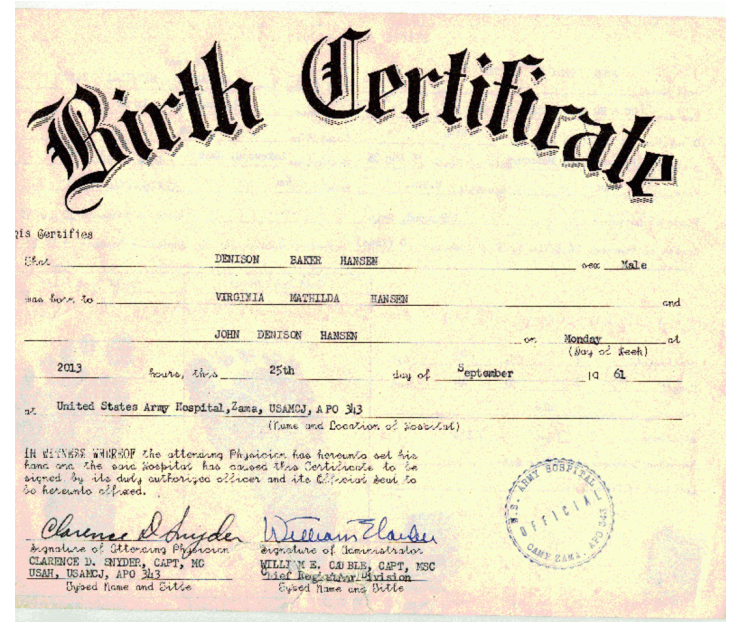
NEWS TALK OUT LOUD/SPEAK UP



Somerville Police
Real Life Somerville
Police Stories Page



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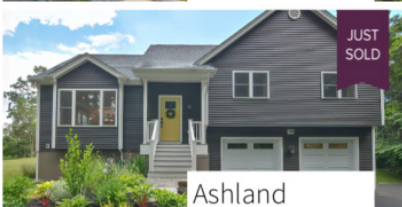
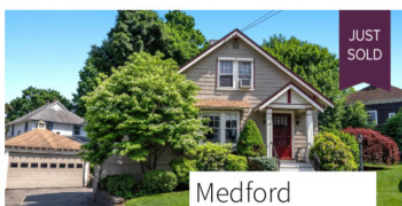
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Somerville/Medford Remembering Juanita Lillian Meranda



Obituary

Juanita Lillian Meranda (Nita) was born in Boston, MA on November

14, 1943. She was the only child born to the late Raymond Meranda and the late Berniece (Williams) Meranda. She attended school in Boston graduating from Jeremiah E Burke High School for Girls. After high school she attended Boston State College where she earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

After college she worked briefly as an undertaker working for J.B. Johnson and Rogers & Shields. She

then began working for the Massachusetts Department of Corrections where she worked for over 30 years and retired as a Correctional Program Office III. While serving as a Corrections Officer she was a hardnosed no-nonsense officer who struck fear in the hearts of the most hardened criminals, but underneath that tough exterior was a heart of gold always putting family and friends first. She resided in Somerville in the Clarendon Towers

for over 30 years where she was very involved in community serving as a member of the Cambridge/Somerville Elders and the Clarendon Tower Board of Directors where she remained faithful and active until her health began to deteriorate. She loved to travel and enjoyed life to the fullest as only she could. She passed away peacefully on July 30, 2024, at the Care One Lexington Nursing Facility. She will be gratefully missed for her kindness,

generosity and one of a kind scene of humor. She leaves to mourn one Goddaughter Michelle Knight Ward of Randolph, MA, and longtime high school friend Nellie Knight of Roxbury, and a host of relatives, family and friends.

Services will be held on Tuesday August 6th at Davis Funeral Home 89 Walnut Ave Roxbury, MA 02119 11AM – 1PM and burial at the Forest Hills Cemetery.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Kevin E. Van Stry, Sr.



Obituary

Van Stry, Kevin E. – Of Saugus, formerly of Medford, passed away at his home on Monday, July 29, 2024. He was 73 years young.

Born and raised in Cambridge, he was the son of the late John and Katherine (Conway) Van Stry.

Kevin was a man of many passions and an unwavering commitment to the joy of others. His love for the water was evident in his sailing adventures, where he found solace and exhilaration in the changing landscapes around him. Whether navigating the waves or engaging in a game of pool, Kevin approached each moment with a competitive spirit and a twinkle in his eye. Those who played pool with him knew they had to bring their best game,

as he was famously undefeated.

In his quieter moments, Kevin's insatiable curiosity led him to delve into the mechanics of various products, always eager to understand how things worked and operated. This thirst for knowledge was matched only by his profound desire to help others. Kevin found true fulfillment in assisting those around him, and his efforts were always accompanied by a heartfelt smile that brightened the lives of many.

Beloved husband of the late Noreen (Quinn) Van

Stry. Devoted father of Erik Van Stry, Katherine Van Stry, and the late Kevin Van Stry Jr and Carol Van Stry and Daniel Van Stry of Medford. Cherished grandfather of Ryan, Jacqueline and Colin Van Stry, Jacob and Cadence Van Stry. Loving brother of Richard Van Stry, Kathryn Hahan and her husband Terry and the late Carol Costa, Daniel Van Stry, Diane Kelley, Janet Van Stry and Jackie Van Stry. Also survived by the mother of his two youngest children Hien Troug, and many loving nieces, nephews friends and cousins.

A funeral procession will be held from the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville on Wednesday, August 7th at 9:00AM. Followed by a funeral mass celebrated in St. Raphael Church 512 High St., Medford at 10:00AM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Calling Hours will be held on Tuesday, August 6th from 5:00PM to 7:00PM.

Services will conclude with burial at Cambridge Cemetery, Cambridge.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Daniel P. Broberg



Obituary

Broberg, Daniel – Of Sanford, Maine, passed away on Wednesday, July 31, 2024. He was 75.

Born in Norway, Maine, he was the son of the late Axel K. Broberg and Barbara L. (Smith) Perrone.

Daniel began his career as a diesel mechanic in the

US Navy, demonstrating both technical expertise and a strong work ethic. After his service, he continued to work in the field as a mechanic and managed a gas station in Dorchester. His career journey also took him to Quincy, where he drove a taxi and was known for his reliability and kindness.

For many years, Daniel was a devoted caretaker of his mother with whom he shared a close bond. He devoted himself to maintaining and caring for her home, ensuring it was always in pristine condition. His loving and attentive

nature was a testament to the depth of his commitment and affection.

Daniel had a diverse range of hobbies that reflected his vibrant personality. While he worked as a mechanic, he enjoyed buying cars at auction, fixing them up, and reselling them, taking pride in his mechanical skills. His interests later extended to gardening and woodworking, with one of his proudest achievements being the desk he crafted for his mother. An enthusiastic cook, Daniel delighted in exploring new recipes and flavors. His eclectic taste in music

led him to embrace a wide variety of genres, always open to discovering new songs. He also had a deep passion for antique cars and loved discussing them at length.

He was the devoted father of Daniel Broberg of Somerville. Beloved brother of David Broberg of West Paris, Maine, Judith Duda of Randolph and the late Bernice Kravic. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, August 23rd at Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge at

11:00AM. Please meet directly inside the main gate.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Late U.S Navy Veteran.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Daniel's name to the American Cancer Society. P.O. Box 6704 Hagerstown, MD 21741



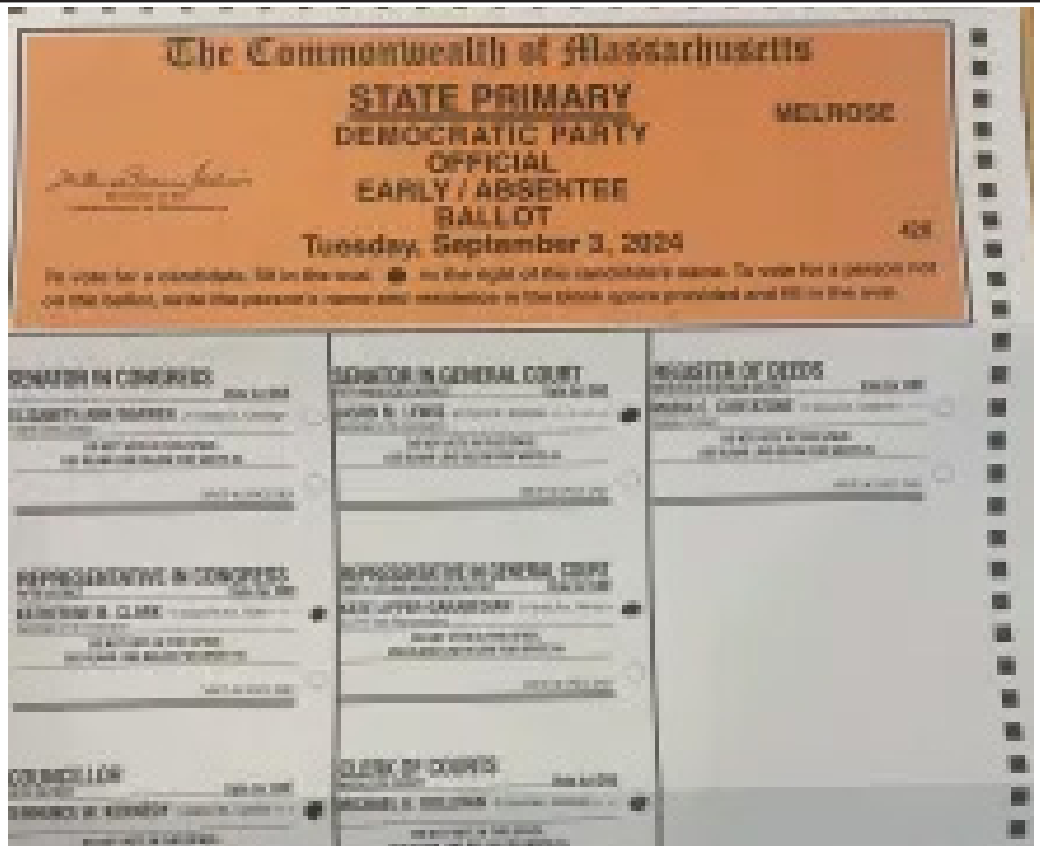
William "Billy" Tauro For Registrar of Deeds Explains Election Confusion

Just to Clear Up Some Election Confusion

If you notice on your early primary election ballots, my name does not appear. Yes, please you can write me in, but I will be on the General Election ballot on November 5th. The reason why I am not on the Democratic nor Republican primary ballot is because I'm not a Democrat nor a Republican, I'm an Independent, I vote for the person, not the party and with everyone's help, yes we will win the election! I thank you for thinking of

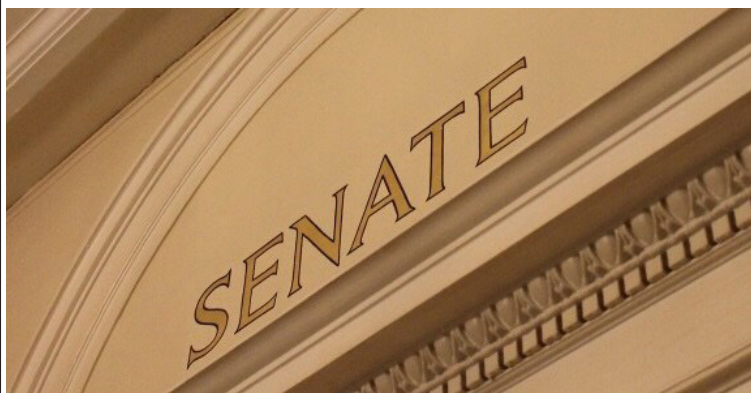
me. Very much appreciated, Billy

PS:If you would like to write William Billy Tauro 333 Great River Rd. Somerville in the space provided that also will be very much appreciated. Thank you.



WAGE TRANSPARENCY (H 4890)

Continued from front page



By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey signed into law a bill, named the Frances Perkins Workplace Equity Act, in honor of the first woman to serve as

U.S. Labor Secretary. The measure would require employers with 25 or more employees to disclose a salary range when posting a job position. The measure also would

require employers with 100 or more employees to file annual employment data reports, including information on employee demographics and salaries, with the state.

"I have long supported wage equity legislation and, as attorney general, I was proud to work together with the business community to implement the 2016 Equal Pay Act," said Gov. Healey. "This new law is an important next step toward closing wage gaps, especially for people of color and women. It

will also strengthen the ability of Massachusetts employers to build diverse, talented teams."

"I am proud that we as a commonwealth are taking concrete and nation-leading steps to close long-standing gender and racial wage gaps that persist across our economy," said Sen. Paul Feeney (D-Foxborough) a lead supporter of the bill. "These gaps not only erode the integrity of work in the commonwealth but also continue to exacerbate an uneven economy for working

people, especially women and people of color who have historically faced persistent and glaring inequities in the workplace. By bringing partners in labor, business and community together to establish common sense wage and workplace transparency, we will ensure Massachusetts can continue attracting and retaining diverse and skilled workers that enable our commonwealth to compete and thrive. With the signing of this bill, workers are empowered and businesses are supported."

\$1.26 BILLION BOND FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (H 4889)

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey signed into law a bill that would invest in information technology (IT) upgrades, improvements and new projects across state government. The measure authorizes \$1.23 billion in bonded spending and \$400 mil-

lion in anticipated federal funds.

"We've talked a lot about this administration's desire to lean into applied artificial intelligence in ways that benefit not only the way the state delivers services to residents and businesses, but also the

way that our businesses and economic sector are able to thrive," said Healey. "And we think that making applied AI a cornerstone of our economic development bill is really important. It's further supported by this FutureTech Act."

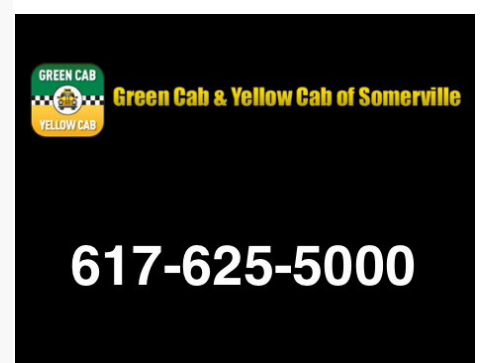
"When it comes to advancing the delivery of government services for our residents and for our state and municipal workers, information technology opens that digital door to meet people where they are," said Chief Information Officer and Technology Services Secretary

Jason Snyder. "The impact of IT on the services the commonwealth provides cannot be overstated. To that end, we are already hard at work on many of the investments in this legislation."

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large windows and lots of sun. *Must meet income requirements* Income limits: 1 person \$112,560, 2 persons \$128,640, 3 persons 144,720. *One household member must be 62+. *Pets allowed. *Priority to Andover residents & whoever completes the application in its entirety- application can be found at the link below* For more information regarding eligibility please visit <https://www.andoverclt.org/available-homes/riverside-woods-2-bedroom>



\$250,000 FOR FINANCIAL LITERACY (H 4800)

By Bob Katzen

The House 154-4, overrode Gov. Healey’s veto of the entire \$250,000 for a grant program to school districts to support the implementation of financial literacy courses and standards for students in kindergarten to grade 12, including training and developing programs to

assist teachers in incorporating appropriate financial literacy concepts into classroom curriculum. The Senate did not act on the veto.

“I am vetoing this item to an amount consistent with my House [budget] recommendation,” said Gov. Healey. “Other sources of funding for financial

literacy appropriated in this budget will mitigate the effects of this veto.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$250,000. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven Yes



MEDFORD VFW POST 1012 HAS A NEW COMMANDER

Congratulations to The Medford VFW on its new Installation of Commander Steve McLaughlin as he takes charge.

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DOG KENNEL SAFETY – OLLIE’S LAW (S 2929)

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 40-0, approved a bill that would allow the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources to establish rules and regulations for dog kennels in the Bay State, to ensure animal welfare, protect consumers and keep kennel staff safe. A person who violates the regulations would be fined \$500 for a first offense and \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense. The House has already approved a different version of the measure and the Senate version now goes to the House

for consideration.

Required regulations would include obtaining a license from the municipality, an annual inspection, dog to staff ratio specifications, injury reporting, indoor and outdoor physical facility requirements, insurance and minimal housing and care requirements.

Supporters said that currently, the state has no oversight of dog daycare or boarding kennels. They argued it is estimated that a dog is injured or killed every 9 to 10 days in Massachusetts at

these kennels. They noted that many families have suffered the loss or injury of an animal at a dog daycare or kennel that could have been prevented by commonsense regulations over these facilities.

The bill was filed in memory of “Ollie,” a 7-month-old labradoodle who was attacked by other dogs at a boarding kennel in East Longmeadow. Ollie needed round-the-clock care and surgery and was in the hospital for two months before succumbing to his injuries. While the facility was shut

down by town officials, Ollie’s owner Ann Baxter was stunned to learn that there were no state regulations regarding boarding facilities, and soon took up the fight to help ensure tragedies like this never happen again.

“Pets are family who provide boundless love and affection that we are lucky to receive,” said Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford), Senate sponsor of the bill. “For this reason, it is critical that we ensure all businesses entrusted with the care of our family adhere to proper health and safety protocols

no matter what town they operate in across the commonwealth. Too often, we have heard devastating stories of pets like Ollie who have been injured or killed due to negligent care. These people have no place caring for such precious creatures and it’s time that we implement consistent standards across Massachusetts.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

FISCAL 2025 STATE BUDGET (H 4800)

Continued from front page

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey, after vetoing several items, signed into law a \$58 billion fiscal 2025 state budget for the fiscal year that began July 1, 2024. The price tag represents a 1.97 billion or 3.5 percent increase over last year’s fiscal 2024 budget.

“Massachusetts is the leader in innovation and education, the best place to raise your family or grow a business,” said Healey. “But we also face challenges, so we aren’t resting – we’re going on offense. This budget delivers on our shared pri-

orities and drives our state forward with urgency and purpose. It invests in areas that we are already leading on and makes them better – including our number 1 ranked schools and our nation-leading childcare strategy. We’re also tackling our biggest challenges by lowering household costs and improving transportation. We’re doing all of this responsibly, staying within our means and in line with the rate of inflation.”

“Once again, the Massachusetts budget is the latest state budget to pass in the country and once again,

it’s the largest state budget in our commonwealth’s history,” said Paul Craney, spokesman for the Mass Fiscal Alliance. “What should also concern every Massachusetts taxpayer is the fact that the Legislature and governor are spending over a billion dollars a year on the illegal and inadmissible migrants, which comes out to be about \$3 million dollars a day. Every town and city in Massachusetts could use that money for their workers, schools and first responders but instead, Statehouse leaders are spending these valuable taxpayer resources

on illegal and inadmissible migrants.”



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“When it comes to advancing the delivery of government services for our residents and for our state and municipal workers, information technology opens that digital door to meet people where they are,” said Chief Information Officer and Technology

Services Secretary Jason Snyder. “The impact of IT on the services the commonwealth provides cannot be overstated. To that end, we are already hard at work on many of the investments in this legislation.”

BAN ELEPHANTS AND OTHER ANIMALS (H 4915)

By Bob Katzen

The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Healey legislation that effective January 1, 2025, would ban elephants, bears, lions, tigers, leopards, jaguars, cheetahs and

other wild animals from being used in traveling circuses and other traveling shows in Massachusetts.

Violators would be fined between \$500 and \$10,000. The ban would not apply to zoos or to performances that take place at other non-mobile, permanent

facilities if the covered animal is a resident animal at the same facility in which the performance takes place.

“We’re ecstatic that after so many years of advocating for the state to take a stance on the suffering of animals, as well as the

public health and safety risks. The bill to prohibit elephants, primates, bears, giraffes and big cats in traveling animal acts passed both chambers in the Legislature unanimously and is on the governor’s desk,” read a press release from the MSPCA. “This is truly a testament

to the perseverance of advocates and legislators to speak for those who cannot. We’re optimistic that the governor will sign the bill and put an end to these archaic acts in our state.”



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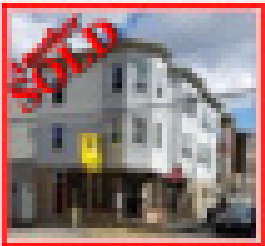


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The Somerville/Medford News Weekly

Here's your weekly News Talk Shout Out dosage continued from page 2



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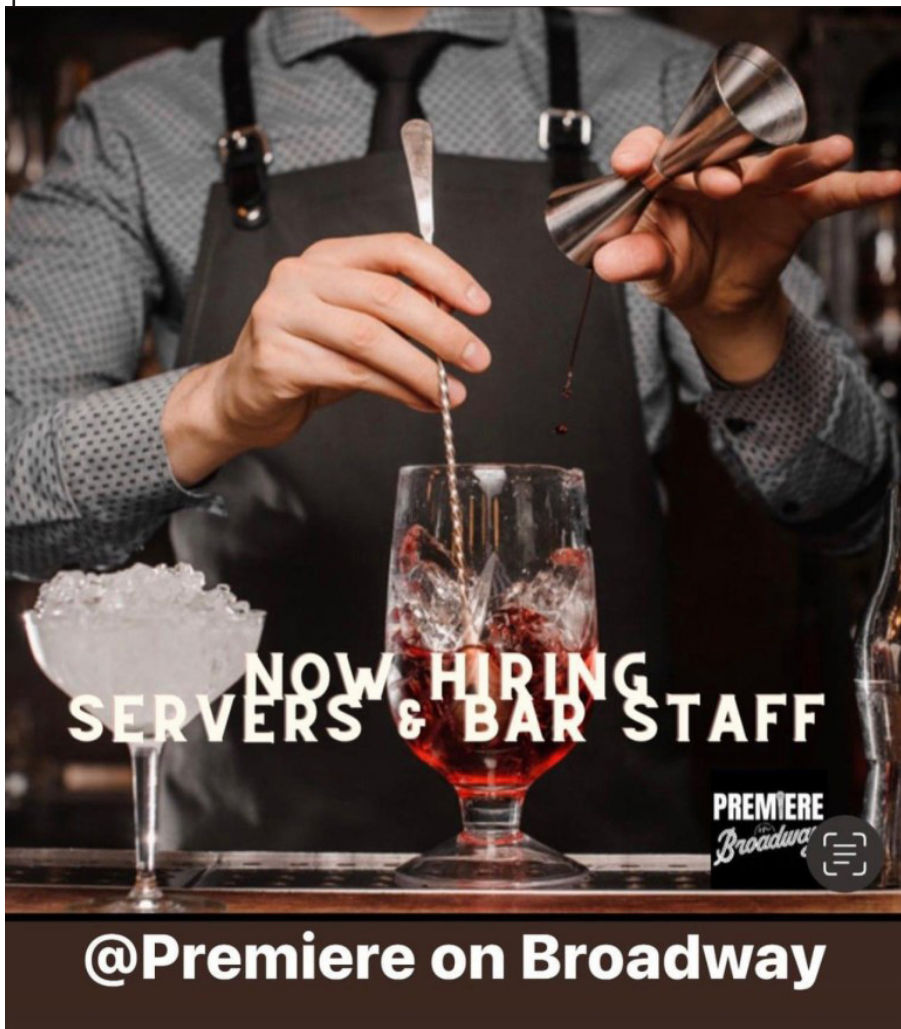
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JOIN SOMERVILLE'S ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT TO ENJOY FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES, MUSIC, FOOD, AND MORE



Browse Over 40 Local Vendors, Hop on a Bounce House, or Cool Down on a Water Slide on Tuesday August 6, starting at 5 p.m.

SOMERVILLE-Community members looking for a night out this summer can look no further than the City of Somerville's annual National Night Out Event hosted by the Somerville Police Department and the Somerville Office of Parks & Recreation.

The free event, set to take place on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 5-8 p.m. at Trum Field (541 Broadway), will include a diverse array of family-friendly activities including:

- Water slides
- Moon bounces
- Face painting
- Balloon animals
- Petting zoo
- DJ
- Pizza
- Raffles (free to enter)
- Lawn games
- Shopping at over 40 local vendors
- Giveaways

Additionally, the first 150 attendees to arrive will receive a free backpack and school supplies to get ready for the upcoming school year.

"National Night Out is a fantastic opportunity for our community to come together, meet our local

police officers, learn about community resources and enjoy a fun-filled evening," said Mayor Ballantyne. "We look forward to seeing everyone there."

National Night Out is a nationwide initiative promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Attendees can register by scanning the QR code on the event flyer or by visiting somervillerec.com. While registration is not required to attend, it is encouraged for prize eligibility.

DISABILITY PENSION FOR POLICE OFFICERS (H 2536)

By Bob Katzen

Gov. Healey signed into law legislation that would provide police officers who have suffered a violent act injury, 100 percent regular compensation and pension benefits, until they reach the age of mandatory retirement. Violent act injury is defined as "a serious and permanent personal bodily injury sustained as a direct and proximate result of a violent attack upon a person by means of a dangerous weapon, including a firearm, knife, automobile,

explosive device or other dangerous weapon."

"Our first responders go above and beyond to keep our communities safe and respond to emergencies," said Gov. Healey. "That's why it's critical that we support them when they experience emergencies of their own. This legislation ensures that first responders who are injured in the line of duty have access to the pay and health care, including mental health care, that they need to support their families and their road to recovery."

Supporters said that under current law, a first responder forced to retire due to a violent act injury can only receive benefits through the local retirement board via the home rule legislative process. They said this process is onerous and has resulted in disparate benefits being granted on a case-by-case basis.

"This legislation ensures that first responders who are forced to retire due to a violent injury received in the line of duty do not

struggle to make ends meet," said Sen. Cindy Friedman (D-Arlington). "Frankly, this cannot come soon enough. Recognizing the extreme burden placed on these first responders and their families, mandating 100 percent compensation until retirement age is the right way to honor their service and sacrifice."

Rep. Steve Xiarhos (R-Barnstable) said workers who are the victims of traumatic events at work would also be eligible to receive certain mental

health services to assist with their recovery. "The bill was inspired in part by several recent cases of first responders who suffered serious injuries in the line of duty, including retired Somerville Police Detective Mario Oliveira and Springfield Police Officer Nestor Santos," said Xiarhos.



HONK! FESTIVAL 2024: 19TH ANNUAL — SAVE THE DATES, OCTOBER 4-6, 2024



[photo credit: Michael Nosal]

NINETEENTH ANNUAL Festival of Activist Street Bands

SAVE THE DATES October 4-6, 2024 (rain or shine) primarily based in the vicinity of Davis Square, Somerville and Harvard Square, Cambridge

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL (Somerville & Cambridge, MA) By early September, the wheels will be set in full motion for HONK! Festival 2024, this year to be held from October 4-6, with HONK! outdoor band concerts held throughout Davis Square and nearby neighborhoods on that Friday thru Saturday.

Then on to the vast "Reclaim

the Streets for Horns, Bikes, and Feet" Parade, as it wends its way from Davis Square to Harvard Square on Sunday October 6th, to participate in Harvard Square's 45th annual Oktoberfest.

The entire Festival is inspired by a commitment to social change through music, embodied in the powerful upbeat music generated by activist street bands who have traveled from near and far to participate in our annual HONK! Because after all, this is where the HONK! movement all started back in 2006, spawning many a HONK! since then, and warranting its own wiki toboot: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/

HONK!

The Somerville-based HONK! Committee — spurred on by members of HONK!'s host band and HONK! movement founder, the Good Trouble Brass Band (fka The Second Line Social Aid and Pleasure Society Brass Band) — is working fast and furiously to solidify plans for this year's 19th annual HONK! with periodic updates posted on honkfest.org, x.com/honkfest/, and facebook.com/honkfestival.

At this early stage of the organizing game, the HONK! Festival Committee would like to give special thanks to

the City of Somerville, the Somerville Arts Council, and the Davis Square and Harvard Square businesses for their continuing support.

Basic listings information: HONK! Festival 19th Annual Festival of Activist Street Bands. October 4-6, 2024 Held throughout Somerville, Cambridge, and Boston neighborhoods. Outdoors rain or shine. Free and open to all; if interested in volunteering, contact volunteer@honkfest.org.

For further information: honkfest.org, facebook.com/honkfestival, info@honkfest.org, 781-285-8639.

Somerville/Medford Remembering Barbara J. McFarland

Obituary
McFarland, Barbara J. – Of Mendon, formerly of Somerville and Cambridge, passed away on Friday, August 2, 2024. She was 78 years old.

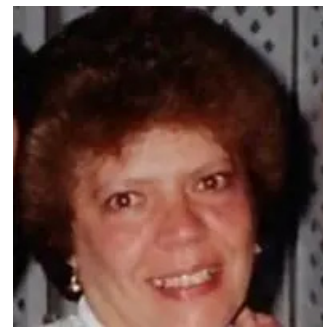
Complete obit to be posted.

Calling Hours will be held in the George L. Doherty Funeral Home 855 Broadway (Powder House Sq.) Somerville, on THURSDAY, August 8th from 4:00PM to 7:00PM.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

A prayer services will be held Thursday at 6:30PM.

Interment will be private.



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CREATE COMMISSION TO STUDY MISREPRESENTATION OF A SERVICE ANIMAL (H 4917)

By Bob Katzen

The House 158-0, approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would create a special commission to review current federal, state and local laws and procedures governing the use and misuse of service animals by individuals with disabilities in the Bay State. The commission would recommend the possible introduction of legislation prohibiting and civilly penalizing service animal

fraud and determining the feasibility of certification, registration or licensing of service animals.

Supporters said that more than half the states in the nation already have laws prohibiting misuse of service animals. They argued it is time for Massachusetts to begin the step toward adopting a similar law. They noted that there are currently no penalties for people who misrepresent a non-service

dog as being a service dog.

Sponsor Rep. Kim Ferguson (R-Holden) did not respond to repeated requests from Beacon Hill Roll Call asking her to comment on passage of her bill.

(A Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven Yes



PARENTAGE EQUALITY (S 2906)

Continued from front page

By Bob Katzen

The Senate 40-0, approved and sent to Gov. Healey a bill that supporters say would ensure legal parentage equality by protecting LGBTQ+ families, and children born through surrogacy and assisted reproduction, in forming the legal bond of a parent-child relationship. They said the measure would dismantle archaic legal barriers to basic parenting

responsibilities for modern families, opening the door to legally attend and make decisions during medical appointments, manage a child's finances, participate in educational decisions and provide authorizations for a child's travel.

"Today we acted to ensure that if you are a parent, whether a biological parent or not, the law will recognize you as a parent

just as society does," said Rep. Mike Day (D-Stonham), House Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary. "This bill will remove one of the last vestiges of the law that treats same sex parents and parents who engaged in assisted reproduction differently from every other parent. It is a good day for all families in Massachusetts."

"With unprecedented and alarming action in other

states to strip away the rights of LGBTQ+ people and our families, Massachusetts' outdated and heterocentric parentage laws put LGBTQ+ families at risk every day," said Sen. Julian Cyr (D-Truro). "The Massachusetts Parentage Act is personal—LGBTQ+ families like mine face excessive and expensive hoops just to ensure our children have the security of legal parentage. The Legisla-


ture's passage of this bill is a critical step to guarantee that all children can benefit from the stability of a legal parent-child relationship no matter how they came to be in this world."

(A Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

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\$7.5 MILLION FOR TOMORROW’S TEACHERS (H 4800)

By Bob Katzen

The House 134-24, overrode Gov. Maura Healey’s veto of \$7.5 million (reducing funding from \$10 million to \$2.5 million) for scholarship and loan

repayment for students seeking a teaching degree in the state’s public colleges. The Senate did not act on the veto.

“I am reducing this item to the amount projected to

be necessary,” said Healey in her veto message. “The amount as adjusted here, in combination with the available balance from fiscal year 2024, is sufficient to meet projected demand and result in no reduction

in fiscal year 2025 planned spending for this item.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$7.5 million. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes

Rep. Mike Connolly Yes
Rep. Paul Donato Yes
Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven Yes

JOIN THE SOMERVILLE LICENSING COMMISSION



Applications for Open Seat for Alternate Member Due Monday, August 26, 2024

SOMERVILLE – The City of Somerville is currently seeking applicants for one open alternate position on the Somerville Licensing Commission. We welcome applications from all Somerville residents ages 18 or older who meet the qualifications detailed below.

What is the Somerville Licensing Commission?

The Licensing Commission reviews and issues a range of licenses in Somerville. These include licenses to operate restaurants (both with and without alcohol service), liquor stores, private clubs, hotels, entertainment venues, and more. It also includes one-day special alcohol licenses, recreational marijuana

retail licenses, and public and private outdoor dining licenses. In addition, the Licensing Commission develops license rules and regulations and addresses complaints regarding these licenses.

For more information on the responsibilities of the Somerville Licensing Commission, visit: somervillema.gov/departments/licensing-commission.

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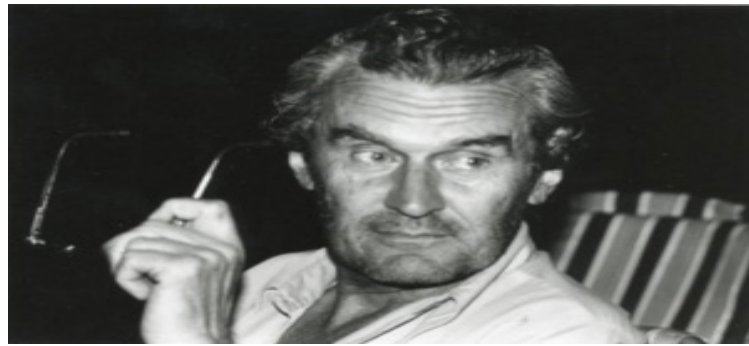
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Somerville/Medford Remembering Marthinus “Inus” Daneel



Obituary

Inus Daneel, African Theologian

Marthinus “Inus” Louis Daneel of Somerville, MA, and Polokwane, South Africa, died on July 29, 2024, at age 87, after a long illness. Daneel was a noted eco-theologian, ecumenist, author of fourteen published scholarly volumes on African Christianity and traditional religion, and founder of ecumenical movements in Masvingo Province, Zimbabwe.

He leaves his beloved wife of 28 years, Dana L. Robert Daneel; four adult children Alec Daneel, Lidia Haines (Russell), Talita Du Preez (Drean), and Inus Daneel, Jr. (Annelie); two stepsons Samuel Massie (Wenchi) and John Massie (Bonnie); and twelve grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents Alec and Tina Daneel, his sister Nyasa Groenewald, and his adopted son Leonard Gono. He is survived by

three sisters Charlotte Joubert, Alta Klopper, and Cinie-Marie Simmelink.

Inus was born of missionary parents in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). He grew up fluent in Afrikaans and in Karanga, a dialect of Shona, the majority language of Zimbabwe. In 1960, he graduated from the University of Stellenbosch with a B.A. Hons. in Philosophy. He received the prestigious Abe Bailey Bursary, which sent a dozen outstanding South African graduates to the United Kingdom. Cashing in his travel award, he headed to the Netherlands and in 1971 earned the D. Theol. (cum laude), from the Free University of Amsterdam with a dissertation on “The background and rise of Southern Shona Independent Churches.” He was Senior Lecturer and Researcher in Africa sponsored by the Free University of Amsterdam and the African Study Centre of Leiden University from 1965 to 1971. He founded and directed

both the African Independent Church Conference (Fambidzano) (1972-1989), and the Zimbabwean Institute of Religious Research and Ecological Conservation (ZIR-RCON) (1984-2000). In addition to his activism, he was Professor of Missiology at the University of South Africa (1981-1995), and Professor of Missiology Part-Time at the Boston University School of Theology from 1997 until his retirement in 2012. In 2004, his war novel Guerilla Snuff was named by the Zimbabwe International Book Fair as one of the best 75 books of twentieth-century fiction in Zimbabwe (one of 25 in English), the only one by a white Zimbabwean.

In 1965, Daneel moved into the Matopo Hills in apartheid-era Rhodesia to conduct research on indigenous Christian movements. Befriending the priests of the traditional high god Mwari, Daneel was the only white person admitted to the oracular cave of the deity. The deity sent him to warn Rhodesian government officials of the impending civil war, if white settlers did not return land to the Africans. His warnings went unheeded. For his refusal to bear arms against the Shona people, he was summoned before a Rhodesian military tribunal and threatened with imprisonment. With leaders of African Initiated Churches, he founded the ecumenical movement Fambidzano that

conducted theological education by extension throughout central Zimbabwe. As the adopted son of the Rev. Samuel Mutendi, founder of the Zion Christian Church in Zimbabwe, Daneel sat in the docket with the Mutendi family and bailed them out when they were convicted of resisting government seizure of ancestral land. After the war, although he was a Dutch Reformed church elder, Daneel was made a Bishop by Ndaza Zionist Churches in recognition of his ecological leadership. Called “Bishop Moses,” he raised funds for church development projects, planted trees, and wrote the most extensive detailed studies of African indigenous churches in a single cultural group.

After the civil war ended, resulting in the country of Zimbabwe in 1980, Daneel turned over the theological extension work to local church leaders and was appointed Professor of Missiology at the University of South Africa. His marriage to Beulah Curle ended in divorce in 1984. In his 15 years in Pretoria, he taught black and African theologies while commuting to Masvingo, Zimbabwe, where in 1985 with a group of chiefs and spirit mediums, he founded ZIRCON to restore the lands ecologically-devastated by the civil war. With a traditionalist branch and a Christian branch, ZIRCON initiated religious rituals for tree-planting, gully reclamation,

and similar efforts to “clothe the earth.” For roughly fifteen years, ZIRCON was the largest grass-roots tree-planting movement in southern Africa. It hosted dozens of tree nurseries, 80 women’s clubs, and theological education by extension that included eco-theology and HIV-AIDS awareness.

As a self-professed “nomad” and adventurer, during the late years of the war Daneel designed boats and with his team Mutapa Eagles won multiple championships over a five-year period at the Tiger Invitational Tournament at Lake Kariba, the largest freshwater fishing tournament in the world. In 1996, Daneel married fellow missiologist Dana Robert. He began a decades-long commute between southern Africa and teaching African religions and theology at Boston University. In 2001, Daneel and Robert founded the Center for Global Christianity and Mission (CGCM). He was a member of the Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church in Cambridge, MA. His ashes will be interred at Mt. Auburn Cemetery and a memorial service held at a later date. Donations in his memory may be sent to the CGCM, Boston University School of Theology, 745 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, MA 02215.

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homeless and less fortunate.
A “Somerville Blessing Boxes” Facebook page has been established keep everyone updated on donations and the Blessing Boxes inventory status. Please feel free to join the page and follow all the good that is being done everyday by the good people of Somerville.
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This Week's QUOTABLE QUOTES On Beacon Hill

Quotable Quotes



By Bob Katzen

"We were absolutely thrilled to witness the signing of the bill, standing shoulder to shoulder with Gov. Healey, our legislative champions, advocates and survivors from across the commonwealth.

At a time when so many states are weakening their legislative responses to gun violence, we are so proud to see Massachusetts take this tremendous step forward. We are also

so proud to have been a part of this advocacy every step of the way. This law ensures that Massachusetts will continue to lead the way, showing other states the impact and importance of taking a comprehensive approach to preventing gun violence."

— Ruth Zakarin, CEO of the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence on Gov. Healey signing the bill changing the state's gun laws.

"Massachusetts voters sent these elected officials to Beacon Hill to stand up for our health, to protect us from corporate greed and to safeguard our climate. On all counts, the Legislature has failed. Despite two years of mounting evidence from experts, advocates and officials in the Healey administration sending a clear signal that it's time to move beyond gas, the House failed to adopt reasonable measures from the Senate to move the commonwealth off of gas."

— Mark Dyen of Gas Transition Allies.

"Egos may be bruised at the Statehouse, but taxpayers should be feeling pretty good right now. Legislative leaders did not get their way with a handful of pieces of legislation and the taxpaying residents of Massachusetts were the winners. Mass-Fiscal is pleased to have played an important role this legislative session with a voice protecting the taxpayers. We are the first and the last wall of resistance before another set of tax hike policies become law and we will not break.

Our commitment lies with the taxpayers and we will continue to disrupt the plans of Statehouse leaders.

— Paul Craney, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance.

"Instead of letting fear or hate drive the narrative around immigrants, we need to embrace the facts: Immigrants without status contribute hundreds of millions of dollars in state and local tax dollars to our region, fueling the services so many of us depend on. Granting those without status work authorization is a common-sense reform that would dramatically increase tax revenues, while helping immigrants feel more safe and welcome in the state and nation they already contribute so much to."

— Elizabeth Sweet, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition, citing a study by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy showing that Immigrants without status contributed nearly \$650 million in state and local taxes to Massachusetts in

2022.

"Since October 7th, antisemitism has skyrocketed across the country and continues to spread through our Massachusetts communities and institutions. Schools have posed a special area of concern, as efforts continue to inject anti-Israel and anti-Jewish content into curricula. In a strong demonstration of leadership and support for the Jewish community, several Massachusetts legislators took initiative to ensure Massachusetts confronts this dangerous hate."

—From a statement by the American Jewish Committee New England on a section in the recently approved state budget that establishes a Special Commission for Addressing Antisemitism, and prompts the creation of curricula, resources and professional development opportunities to support antisemitism education.

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. COMMUNITY NOTICE: VOTE BY MAIL APPLICATIONS FOR 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION FROM COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS STARTING TO ARRIVE IN MAILBOXES



SOMERVILLE- The City of Somerville is alerting all registered voters that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has begun mailing a pre-addressed, postage pre-paid Vote by Mail application to every registered voter before each statewide election. If you have already applied to vote by mail for the upcoming election, you will not receive an additional application.

Voters who prefer to apply online may do so at VoteIn-MA.com.

Using the Application To request a ballot for the next statewide election or all elections this year, simply mark your selections, sign the application, and drop it in the mail.

If printing is not an option, any signed request will suffice. You may also send a signed letter to your local election office to request your ballot.

Application Deadlines Your mail-in application must reach your local election officials by 5 p.m. on the 5th business day before the

election. Regardless of the postmark date, your application must be at the local election office by the deadline.

2024 Application Deadlines:
September 3 State Primaries: 5 p.m., Monday, August 26.
November 5th State Election: 5 p.m., Tuesday, October 29.

The City of Somerville Elections Office will be sharing more voting information for the 2024 Presidential Election, including voting hours and ballot box locations, in the coming weeks on all City communications channels.

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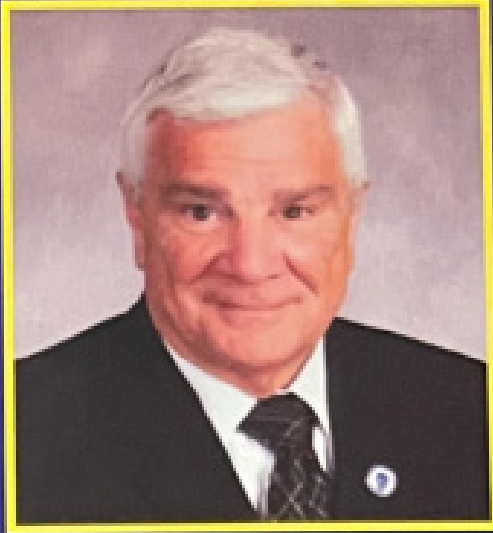
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