

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017.

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Monday, February 27, 2017.

Met at eight minutes past eleven o'clock A.M. (Mr. Boncore in the Chair).

The Senator for Essex and Middlesex, Mr. Tarr, then led the Chair (Mr. Boncore), members, guests and staff in the recitation of the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Distinguished Guests.

There being no objection, the Chair (Mr. Boncore) handed the gavel to Mr. Tarr for the purpose of an introduction. Mr. Tarr then introduced, in the rear of the Chamber, the family of Michael Conor Quinlan, who served in the United States Army and recently passed away from a lengthy battle with cancer at the age of 28. Among the group were his parents, Dan and Jan, his sister Katie and her boyfriend Jamie Perocchi, and close family friends Ted and Libby Cranney. They were also accompanied by Veterans Service Officer Gerry Maguire. The Senate applauded Michael's service to our country, welcomed his family with applause and they withdrew from the Chamber. They were also guests of Senator O'Connor Ives.

Quinlan family.

Communications.

The following communications were severally received and placed on file, to wit:

Communications from the Honorable Stanley C. Rosenberg, President of the Senate, announcing the following appointments:

Senator Jennifer L. Flanagan (pursuant to Section 193 of Chapter 133 of the Acts of 2016) to the Senate Seat on the Special Commission on Behavioral Health Promotion and Upstream Prevention;

Behavioral Health Promotion and Upstream Prevention.

Senators Eric P. Lesser and Donald F. Humason, Jr. (pursuant to Chapter 6 of the Resolves of 2016) to the Senate Seats on the Special Commission to Preserve Polish Heritage in the Pioneer Valley; and

Preserving Polish Heritage in the Pioneer Valley.

Virginia Foote (pursuant to Section 29A(1) of the General Laws) to the Brownfields Advisory Group.

Brownfields Advisory Group.

Petition.

Mr. Tarr presented a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2035) of Bruce E. Tarr (by vote of the town) for legislation to provide property tax exemptions for certain nonprofit senior housing in Boxford [Local approval received];

Boxford,-- elderly housing.

Referred, under Senate Rule 20, to the committee on Revenue. Sent to the House for concurrence.

PAPER FROM THE HOUSE

Message from His Excellency the Governor implementing the joint recommendations of the Massachusetts criminal justice review (House, No. 74),-- **was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on the Judiciary.**

Criminal justice review.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (having been filed with the Clerk) were severally considered forthwith and adopted, as follows:-

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Gobi, Messrs. Fattman and Eldridge, Ms. L’Italien and Mr. Walter F. Timilty) “commending the New England Hemophilia Organization on its recognition of March 2017 as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month”; and

New England Hemophilia Organization.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Rosenberg and Hinds) “congratulating The Recorder on its two hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary.”

The Recorder.

Order Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tarr,--

Ordered, That when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o’clock A.M.

Time of meeting.

Moment of Silence.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Boncore), the members, guests and staff stood in a moment of silence and reflection to the memory of Edgar Joseph Krasa.

Moment of silence.

Adjournment in Memory of Edgar Joseph Krasa

The Senator from Middlesex and Norfolk, Ms. Creem moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it adjourn in memory of Edgar Joseph Krasa.

Newton resident Edgar Joseph Krasa died February 7, 2017.

Edgar was born in Karlsbad, Czechoslovakia in 1924 and grew up in Prague. In 1941, when he was 17, he was transported to the nearby Jewish Ghetto of Terezin where he was forced to work under the German Gestapo in barracks kitchens of what became the Theresienstadt concentration camp. Eventually, his parents were also imprisoned there, and were fortunate to survive the war.

While In Terezín, Edgar and a fellow prisoner, conductor Rafael Schaechter, led more than 150 prisoners in performing Verdi's Requiem, secretly structured as a protest against the Nazis. They staged the requiem sixteen times, including one presentation before senior SS officials from Berlin and an international Red Cross delegation.

Deported to Auschwitz in 1944, Edgar escaped from a Nazi death march back to Germany, by rolling into a ditch after being shot and pretending to be dead. Following World War II, Edgar met and married Hana Fuchs, another survivor of Terezin. They lived in Israel until 1962, then emigrated to the United States, where they raised two sons. Edgar was an administrator at Brookline’s Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for two decades, and went on to operate the Veronique

Restaurant.

Respected and admired for his fortitude, vitality and his passionate dedication to remembering the Shoah, Edgar Krasa dedicated his life to sharing his story and educating young people about the Holocaust.

Edgar Krasa was the devoted husband of the late Hana (Fuchs) Krasa for 65 years. He will be deeply missed by his sons and daughters-in-law, Daniel and Tatjana, Raphael and Debra and his five grandchildren, his many friends, and the countless individuals who have been touched by his exceptional kindness, encouragement, wit and inspiration.

Accordingly, as a mark of respect to the memory of Edgar Joseph Krasa, at a quarter past eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Tarr, the Senate adjourned to meet again on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M.