Frank C. "Chico" Monteiro, 93, of New Bedford, died Thursday, September 2, 2010, at Brigham and Women's Hospital after a brief illness. He was the husband of the late Pauline J. (Almeida) Monteiro. Born in New Bedford, the son of the late Francisco S. and Ignacia (Soares) Monteiro, he had lived in New Bedford for all of his life. He was a parishioner of Our Lady of the Assumption Church. Mr. Monteiro was formerly employed as a foreman at Morse Cutting Tools for 30 years until his retirement. Mr. Monteiro was a well-known musician in this area, having played with the Duke Oliver Band, the Al Lopes Band, and the Cape Verdean Ultramarine Marching Band. He had been the leader of the Skyliners Orchestra. He was a Past President of the American Federation of Musicians Local 214. He had been a Past President of the Cape Verdean Action Committee, Past Vice President of the Cape Verdean Ultramarine Band Club, former New Bedford Airport Commissioner, and former Vice Chairman of the New Bedford Senior Advisory Board. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army with the 173rd Army Ground Forces Band. He was honored this past summer as the Grand Marshall of the 2010 Cape Verdean Recognition Parade.

Survivors include his nieces and nephews, Gail Duarte, Muriel Fortes and her husband, Alan, Antone Monteiro Jr., Carole Monteiro, Eleanor Pontes, Toni Almeida and her husband, Sonny, and Trudy Encarnacao and her husband, John; his godchildren, Marilyn Gonsalves, Darren Rodericks, and Cookie Rosario; and several other nieces and nephews; and many friends. He was the brother of the late Antone S. Monteiro, Pedro H. Monteiro, and Isadore P. "Zeta" Monteiro, and uncle and godfather of the late Raymond Almeida.

J. Carter, Jr, 90, of Mattapoisett died unexpectedly on Friday, June 4, 2010. He was the husband of Winifred T. (Francis) Carter for 67 years. Born in New Bedford, the son of the late William and Mary (Boissonneau) Carter, he lived in New Bedford until moving to Mattapoisett in the 1960's. He was a 1936 graduate of Holy Family High School where he excelled in all sports, receiving a football scholarship to Providence College from where he graduated in 1940. He later became a teacher and coach at Holy Family High school in the summer year 1941 -1942. He joined the U.S. Navy (90 day wonder program) in 1942. He attended Notre Dame and Northwestern Universities and was commissioned as ensign in December of 1942. He was assigned to the U.S.S. PC 1191 based in Port of Spain, Trinidad and conducted convey escort duty in the Atlantic and Caribbean. In early 1944, he was promoted to full lieutenant and was assigned as captain of LSM 221. He participated in the invasion of Okinawa, and the D-Day landing on April 1, 1945. Of his medals, he was most proud of the Star medal for being captain on naval ships during wartime. Upon returning to civilian life in 1946 he opened a men's clothing store on William Street. The business still survives in New Bedford and Fall River operating as Carter's Clothing and Footwear under the ownership of his son. Stephen Carter. He also was active in real estate sales and appraisal and was recognized as an expert witness in land damage cases and other matters. He enjoyed all sports and was an avid golfer and member of the Whaling City and New Bedford Country Clubs.

Survivors include his beloved wife; three sons, William "Skip"

Carter and his wife Joni of Lakeville, Paul Carter of New Bedford and Stephen Carter and his wife Kathleen of Dartmouth; three daughters, Karen E. Halloran of Dartmouth, Janice A. Hollis and her husband Dudley of Bermuda and Christine M. Mello and her husband Wayne of Fairhaven; a sister, Pearl Pataki of Dayton, Ohio; 12 grandchildren, Ben, Elizabeth and Emma Carter, Tracy Garcia, Jennifer Griffith, Robyn Carter, Michael and Brian Halloran, Erin Burdman, Kevin, Sean and Trevor Carter; six great-grandchildren, Kayli, Makena, Damian, Owen, Brennan and Liam. He was the father of the late Kelly A. Carter and the brother of the late Mary Senesac and Lillian Marshall.

Mary (Ramos) Galvin, 89, of New Bedford, died June 2, 2010, unexpectedly at Rhode Island Hospital. She was the wife of the late Walter Galvin. Born in New Bedford, the daughter of the late Joaquim J. and Anna (Lomba) Ramos, she lived in New Bedford all of her life. Mrs. Galvin was a communicant of Our Lady of the Assumption Church. She was the recipient of the Marian Medal from the Diocese of Fall River for her many years of service to her parish. She was formerly employed as a clerk for the New Bedford Health Department for many years until retirement. In retirement, she enjoyed volunteering as a foster grandparent at J. B. Condon School in New Bedford for over 20 years. Mrs. Galvin was a member of the Our Lady of the Assumption Club, the St. Martin dePorres Guild, the Our Lady of the Assumption Senior Citizens, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, the Catholic Women's Club, and the Daughters of Isabella.

Survivors include three sisters, Louise Cruz, Charlotte Figueiredo, and Benvinda Rose, all of New Bedford; several nieces and nephews including Jeffrey L. Rose who lived with her. She was the sister of the late Beatrice Kligel and John Vieira.

Thomas Ferraro, 62, of Mattapoisett passed away on Monday, Memorial Day, May 31, after an eleven year battle with prostate cancer. He was President of Ferraro Communications, Inc. based in Needham, Massachusetts. A native of Massachusetts, in 1967, Tom began a life-long career in communications as a staff aide in Washington, DC, to Massachusetts United States Senator Edward W. Brooke. Leaving after serving as the communications director for Brooke's successful re-election campaign in 1972, Tom worked 6 years in the Boston advertising firm, Provandie, Eastwood and Lombardi, where he rose to the position of Executive Vice President for Creative Services. In 1978, he founded Ferraro Communications, Inc. which has since provided corporate communications services to a wide variety of regional, national and international companies and institutions. Tom is the son of Anthony and Dora Ferraro, now deceased, formerly of Framingham and Brewster, Massachusetts.

He is survived by his wife, Christine of Mattapoisett; his brother, Eugene and his wife JoAnn Ferraro, of Andover; niece, Amy

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Source: Mspca.org

Recently Massachusetts Governor, Deval Patrick, signed into law a bill targeted at reducing the ingestion of poisonous antifreeze and engine coolant by children and animals. The Humane Society Legislative Fund, The Humane Society of the United States, and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals commend Governor Patrick and the Massachusetts State Legislature for approving the measure that will save countless animal lives. The bill will take effect on January 1, 2011.

H. 4285 requires antifreeze and engine coolant to include a bitter flavor agent to prevent animals and children from being poisoned by the sweet-tasting liquid. Poisoning occurs because children and animals are attracted to the sweetness of antifreeze and engine coolant, which inadvertently spills in our driveways or is left in open containers in garages. The bill requires manufacturers to add bitter-tasting denatonium benzoate to antifreeze and coolant sold in the state. The bill was championed by Reps. John W. Scibak (D-Second Hampshire), Martin Walsh (D-Thirteenth Suffolk), and James Welch (D-Sixth Hampden), and Sens. Stephen M. Brewer (D-Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin), and Patricia D. Jehlen (D-Second Middlesex).

"The addition of a bitter agent to antifreeze and engine coolant is a common-sense solution to a serious safety issue for children and animals," said the MSPCA's Director of Advocacy, Kara Holmquist. "The MSPCA-Angell operates one of the world's largest animal hospitals, Angell Animal Medical Center, and without question, we see the tragic consequences of ingesting these poisonous chemicals. Governor Patrick's signature has ensured additional safety measures for the children and pets of Massachusetts."

In a MSPCA survey, 67.9 percent of responding licensed veterinarians in Massachusetts reported treating animals for antifreeze ingestion. Many veterinarians noted the high mortality rate and the speed at which antifreeze poisoning causes irreparable damage to the animals' internal organs.

"An estimated 90,000 animals are poisoned each year after ingesting ethylene glycol, a highly toxic substance used in antifreeze and coolant," said Sara Amundson, executive director of the HSLF. "By passing this bill, Massachusetts is providing an additional tool to prevent antifreeze poisonings."

The bill was also supported by the Consumer Specialty Products Association, the trade association representing antifreeze and engine coolant manufacturers, and the Massachusetts Vet-



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Governor Signs Bill To Prevent Antifreeze Poisoning

erinary Medical Association.

Has Your License Expired?

It has come to our attention that many drivers are unaware that, due to budget cuts, the RMV is no longer mailing license renewal reminders via mail. As a result, you may not have looked at your driver's license in a while, and it may have expired. Mass, driver's licenses normally renew on your birthday, at five-year intervals. You can renew every other year, on-line, but you will have to renew in person eventually, as the RMV requires a new photograph every 10 years.

Keep in mind that there are certain license violations that are arrestable in Mass. Arrestable violations are 'officer witnessed operation of a motor vehicle' in which the operator's license is suspended or revoked. In addition, those operators that were never issued a license, or have an EXPIRED license, can also be placed under arrest. All unlicensed operation is arrestable in Mass. and driving with an expired license is considered unlicensed operation.

Now, that being said, police officers in Massachusetts have 'discretion' in whether or not to arrest the operator or to simply issue a citation for the license violation. Most police officers are probably not going to arrest an operator for driving with an expired license, but, bear in mind, that it IS arrestable. However, regardless of what action an officer takes, they must never let unlicensed operation continue. So your vehicle will be subject to being towed by police if it is on a public way.

It is interesting to note that, while the RMV is no longer mailing license renewal reminders, they are still mailing vehicle registration renewals. Driving a motor vehicle with a revoked, suspended, or expired registration, is NOT arrestable, however police may issue a citation and will tow the vehicle off of any public way.

Right to Repair' Bill Fails To Move Forward

Source: The Standard Times

The so-called "Right to Repair" bill that supporters say would give motorists more choices in where they can get their cars fixed has stalled on Beacon Hill. The Senate had already passed the legislation, but the House never took a vote on it before the legislative session ended this summer. The bill would have required authorized automobile dealerships to sell the correct codes, tools and information necessary for repairing cars to independent auto dealerships and vehicle owners. Local independent dealers had hoped the bill would pass.

"We are disappointed, but we're going to keep working on it," said Sam Giammalvo, owner of Sam Giammalvo's Auto Sales in New Bedford. "I'm sure a lot of people who want their own mechanics to work on their cars will be disappointed, and they are voters."

Independent repair shops argue that they are unable to repair many cars without the specialized information. Massachusetts would have become the first state in the nation to pass such a law. Sid Benevides, one of the owners of Benevides Brothers Auto Service in New Bedford, said he was disappointed by the House not approving the legislation. "We have waiting for a while," Benevides said. "This has been going on for a few years."

The change would help people who cannot afford to get their cars repaired at a dealership. Independent shops do not have access to everything they need to work on today's technologically advanced cars, he said. "All of the small repair shops are hoping some day it will get pushed through," he said.

Opponents argue that releasing proprietary information would give a competitive advantage to makers of generic parts. Local authorized dealers have said independent shops already get most of the repair business. The authorized dealers said they invest a lot of money in tools and training, and the law would hurt their dealerships. According to the Association of International Automobile Manufacturers, the necessary information is already available. However, supporters of the law counter that the available information is limited.

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Green License Plates Flagged By RMV

If you are among that smaller group of car owners that still has one of the older green colored Mass. license plates, read on. The RMV is now asking Mass. Inspection Stations to check the condition of the green plates during your annual vehicle inspection. If the green license plate is faded, and many are, you will not pass for the inspection and will be told to get replacement plates from the RMV. However, the RMV is no longer issuing green plates so those owners needing replacement will be given new red letter plates which come as a set of two. In addition, the new red plates will no longer be in the same number/letter combination that you had prior.

Below is a related statement from the Mass RMV website www.mass.gov/rmv

By state law, Massachusetts license plates must be readable from 60 feet away. Any green or red passenger plate, which has lost its reflective coating or paint or has been damaged, must be replaced. You can also be cited by law enforcement for this violation. The RMV encourages vehicle owners to swap illegible plates for a set of red plates at no fee. Faded and illegible plates can be swapped at any of the RMV's full service branch locations. A red plate that is lost or damaged can also be ordered at any branch or by calling the RMV Telephone Center at 617-351-4500. The cost of replacing these plates is \$10 a plate and will be mailed to the registered owner.

Source AAA

Gasoline prices in Massachusetts are dropping for the third straight week, according to AAA Southern New England. AAA's September 13 survey of prices in Massachusetts finds self-serve, regular unleaded averaging \$2.609 per gallon, down one cent from last week. The current price is ten cents below the national average for self serve unleaded of \$2.70. A year ago at this time the Massachusetts average price was exactly the same, standing at \$2.60.

The range in prices in the latest AAA survey for unleaded regular is 42 cents, from a low of \$2.479 to a high of \$2.899. AAA advises motorists to shop around for the best prices in their area, and to make sure they and their passengers buckle up — every time. Today's local gas prices and their ranges are as follows: Regular Unleaded - Self Serve/Full Serve \$2.609 (\$2.479-\$2.899)/\$2.729 (\$2.639-\$2.799) Midgrade Unleaded - Self Serve/Full Serve \$2.759 (\$2.519-\$2.999)/\$2.849 (\$2.739-\$2.899) Premium Unleaded - Self Serve/Full Serve \$2.869 (\$2.679-\$3.199)/\$2.959 (\$2.839-\$2.999) Diesel - Self Serve/Full Serve \$2.929 (\$2.859-\$3.199)/\$2.989 (\$2.879-\$3.109)

AAA Fuel Saving Tip of the Week;

With colder temperatures fast approaching, it's a good time to take the first steps to winterize your car. Inspect your tires, check fluids, and make plans to do any repairs necessary for winter driving. Find the most up-to-date local gas prices with the AAA Fuel Finder by logging onto AAA.com and clicking on Gas Saving Tips & Tools. AAA members can also obtain a copy of the Gas Watcher's Guide at their local AAA Southern New England office.

In Passing

Gas Prices Falling