

ARTICLE 1. To receive and place on file the reports of the Town Officers and Committees without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Select Board

MOTION: I move to **receive and place on file the reports** of the Town Officers and Committees without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed.

COMMENTS: This is the annual acknowledgement of the annual town report. The report can be found on line at the town website: www.boxfordma.gov.

The 2021 Annual Report is dedicated to:

- Jean Melzar

- James Locke

- Alden Clark

- Robert Aldenberg

- Paul “Mike” Bates

TOWN OF BOXFORD



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

IN MEMORIAM



Jean Melzar **April 5, 1926 – August 2, 2021**

Mrs. Jean (Jolly) Melzar, age 95, passed away on August 2, 2021, at the Kaplan House in Danvers, MA with family at her side. Beloved wife of the late Frederic P. Melzar. Born to Joseph W. and A. Gladys (McLane) Jolly, she first lived in Somerville, MA, then moving to Wilmington, MA, where she grew up.

She was a member of Wilmington High class of '44. After graduation, she attended Melrose-Wakefield Hospital School of Nursing, and upon graduation (as an RN), worked in the operating room at Winchester Hospital. She met her eventual husband, Frederic, at the Congregational church in Wilmington and they were married there in 1950. Over the next 13 years, she became the loving wife to her husband and always-giving mother to her six children.

A Boxford resident and proud member of the Boxford Village Garden Club (as President, 1973-1975), and a congregant at the First Church Congregational of Boxford since 1960, she was instrumental in creating the giant wreath each Christmas for the First Church. She also served as President of the Boxford Village Cemetery for the past 30 years. A longtime volunteer at the Red Cross bloodmobiles and the BoxTop Shop in Topsfield, MA, she was always looking to help others in their journey through life. Never asking.

James R. Locke **August 25, 1964 – August 15, 2021**

James R. Locke, 51 of Boxford, beloved husband of Leslie (Merritt) Locke, with whom he shared almost 25 years of marriage, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 15th at Brigham and Women's Hospital, after a two-year battle with cancer.

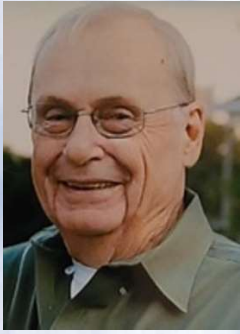
Born in Salem, Jim was the son of John A. and Marjorie J. (Williams) Locke. He was raised and educated in Salem and attended North Shore Vocational School. An outstanding athlete, as a young man he excelled on the Soccer field having been selected to the U.S. Men's Development team, competing in tournaments throughout Europe. He graduated from Salem State College where he played on the Men's Basketball and Soccer teams and later earned his M.B.A. degree from Suffolk University.

Jim worked as the Chief Financial Officer at Bit Flow in Woburn for the past twenty-one years. Bit Flow was like family to Jim and they offered unwavering support during his illness.

Jim was a very warm and generous man, both with his time and affections. He was a devoted husband, father, son and friend. Jim was very involved in the Boxford community as well as the youth sports community. He served on the board of the Boxford Athletic Association for many years while coaching his son, Evan and daughter, Alex in soccer, basketball, softball and baseball. Along with being their coach, he was Evan's and Alex's biggest cheerleader. His kids were his pride and joy. Jim also coached girls AAU basketball for many years prior to coaching his own kids. Jim was the Commissioner of the Boxford Men's Softball League for the past seven years where he made countless friends and loved the sense of community. The softball guys were a tremendous source of support for Jim and his family during his illness. Jim also served on the Andrews Farm Home Association.

Jim is survived by his wife and best friend, Leslie A. (Merritt) Locke, his son, Evan J. Locke and daughter, Alex L. Locke all of Boxford.





Alden Clark
September 5, 1937 – February 2, 2021

Alden Prescott Clark, 83, passed away on February 4, 2021 in Winchester Hospital. He was the husband of the late Marianne (McKenney) Clark.

Born in Peabody on September 5, 1937, he was the son of the late Prescott Clark and Helen (Doliber) (Clark) Knight and the step-son of the late Helen (Filipiak) (LeBlanc) Clark. He was raised in Danvers and Marblehead. He had served our country with the United States Navy and was honorably discharged. Alden owned and operated Auto Industrial Machine in Danvers for over 30 years. For over 15 years, he was the Council of Aging's go-to person. He delivered meals on wheels, took seniors to medical appointments for NEET. Alden was a handyman, doing small fix-it jobs for seniors, manned the BBQ grill during summer outings and was always available when the Council on Aging needed help. Alden made many friends and was well known and respected in the senior community.

Robert Aldenberg
October 14, 1935 – December 6, 2021



The Town of Boxford is mourning the loss of Robert Aldenberg, our beloved Inspector of Buildings of 8 years. Bob passed away on Monday, December 6, after a brief illness.

Mr. Robert Morton Aldenberg 86, of Middleton beloved husband of Ann Marie (LeClair) Aldenberg, died peacefully, December 6th, 2021. Born in Medford, he was the son of the late Bernard P. and Annie (Morton) Aldenberg. He was raised and educated in Wakefield.

Bob lived a life of public service. He served as the Building Inspector in the Town of Melrose, a Call Firefighter and Dispatcher in Town of Middleton, and a Police Officer in the Town of Lynnfield, to name a few.

Bob's work ethic and dedication set an example for all who worked with him. The Town of Boxford was fortunate to have had Bob, not only as a highly valued employee, but also as a friend. Bob met every day with his expertise, enthusiasm and sense of humor. He will be deeply missed by all.



Paul "Mike" Bates Jr.
December 6, 2021

Paul Michael Bates Jr. "Mike", 70, of Georgetown, MA, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at home on December 6, 2021.

Mike graduated from Masconomet Regional High School in 1969. He served as a police officer with the Boxford Police Department for 35 years, working his way up from dispatch and retiring as lieutenant. He was hardworking, humble, honest, and loving.

He never complained and was always happy to do whatever it was that needed to be done. He will be most remembered as an attentive and devoted family man. His priority was always making sure his family was happy.

In addition to spending time with family, Mike kept busy in retirement learning new creative hobbies and was always eager to experiment with new technology. He could often be found in his office, with his cat, Onyx, by his side as he worked on his creative endeavors.