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WOMEN'S ISSUES

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



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### **Senator April Baskin's Celebrates JV Trailblazing Sign Unveiling**

**Buffalo, NY** – Joined by several Vinson family members, Senator April N.M. Baskin celebrated the unveiling of the JV Trailblazing sign today on East Delavan Avenue, marking 50 years of a generational business founded by James Vinson. JV's Barber Shop, 835 East Delavan Avenue, opened a half-century ago in the very same location it still stands to this day. Mr. Vinson died last year, but his business continues to thrive.

Prior to the unveiling, Senator Baskin presented a proclamation to the Vinson family, recognizing JV's iconic neighborhood business and remarkable milestone.

Mr. Vinson came to Buffalo in the 1960s from North Carolina. He and his wife Lillie raised four children, one of whom, Damon Vinson, followed in his father's footsteps, currently working as a barber at JV's.

With on-the-job training, Mr. Vinson built a clientele that included neighbors, clients from all over the area – including the suburbs – and a number of Buffalo Bills.

**"JV's Barbershop represented the revival of small businesses on the East Side. Covid did a number on retail, but during my time as a County Legislator, we were able to provide grants, like the one Mr. Vinson received, to renovate storefronts and breathe new life into our local, small retail businesses," Senator Baskin said.**

**Damon Vinson added: "While JV's was the go-to barber shop, it was more than a place to get a haircut or new style. Rather, during tumultuous times, JV's was a place of solace, a haven where people could feel safe, come in and talk about the world, their lives, their hopes."**

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Photos and video available by request.