

## LEARNED **IN AFRICA**

#### LOCAL 9

ENTERPRISENEWS.COM

JULY 13, 2014

#### WORLD **ISRAEL CONTINUES TO**

**BOMBARD GAZA STRIP** Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza

Strip on Saturday leveled a mosque and hit a home for the disabled, killing two handicapped women in an intensified bombardment that accompanied diplomatic efforts to mediate a ceasefire with the Islamist group Hamas.

The death toll from Israeli attacks continued to climb. The Gaza health ministry said that 135 people had been killed and more than 1,100 injured in the five days since Israel launched its offensive against Hamas. The United Nations said that more than two-thirds of the dead were civilians. PAGE 5

#### LOCAL

#### THREE INJURED IN HEAD-ON COLLISION

WEST BRIDGEWATER – A head-on collision near the Brockton-West Bridgewater line Saturday about 9 p.m. sent three people to Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital.

The crash, involving a Dodge Caravan and another vehicle, occurred in front of 755 North Main St., West Bridgewater.

First-responders were observed performing lifesaving measures on a female victim at the scene before she was transported to the hospital along with the two other injured people.

There were no further details on the conditions of the victims Saturday night. PAGE 2

#### STATE

SPIRITED CAMPAIGN LEADS TO NEW DIRECT SHIPPING

## Enterprise special report SUDDEN DEATHS

Seven police, firefighter suicides hit local departments hard

**GETS HER** 

LOCAL 11

**BIG BREAK** 

## City probe kept

BROCKTON

SAVINGS

**INSIDE!** 

\$2.00

secret Department head's

leave of absence shrouded in mystery

#### By Joseph Markman ENTERPRISE STAFE WRITER

BROCKTON - In November 2012, one of then-mayor Linda Balzotti's department heads was abruptly placed on paid administrative leave over a "personnel matter."

Six weeks later, having concluded an internal investigation, Balzotti welcomed back Superintendent of Buildings James Casieri, who had taken over the department in 2010 following a string of unqualified appointees.

At the time, Balzotti said only that "it's all taken care of" and Casieri did not comment.

Eighteen months later, Brockton officials refuse to discuss what happened and the city has denied a request under the state's Public Records Law pub-

**CASIERI/**PAGE 2

#### BROCKTON

First in a two-part series.



serves as deputy program director for the Plymouth County Critical Incident Stress Management Team. "Sometimes you spend more times with the guy on the job than your family members. You ask, 'Why didn't he come to me? Why didn't they say some-

Although the causes are not

clear, experts say the stresses of

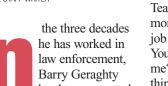
the job and their personal lives

**Police suicides** 

ASSOCIATED PRESS

estimate of law enforcement suicides nationwide in 2012

By Maria Papadopoulos ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER



thing?' '

#### LAW FUR WINE

Whether it's pinot noir, merlot, chardonnay or cabernet sauvignon, wine lovers in Massachusetts will soon be able to have some of their favorite bottles shipped straight from the vineyards to their homes. A provision in the new

state budget lifts a longstanding prohibition on direct deliveries from wineries to consumers. **PAGE 3** 

#### WEATHER



Today Partly cloudy High: 83



Tonight Chance of thunderstorm Low: 72

DETAILS, INSIDE | PAGE 5

#### INDEX

Dear Abby	20
Classified	31-36
Editorial	6-7
Local news	9-13, 18
Obituaries	17
Sports	27-30
TV listings	26



police officers in southeastern Massachusetts who committed suicide.

Some were close friends. In the days and months after-

ward, the same

questions spun

through Ger-

aghty's mind:

"Could I have

thing? How did

At least seven

area firefighters

and police offi-

cers have taken

their own lives

since 2010, ac-

cording to death

done some-

I miss this?"

#### The series

TODAY: At least seven local first responders have taken their own lives since 2010, yet officials remain reluctant to talk about suicide and its aftermath.

**MONDAY:** Candidates must pass a medical examination before becoming a first responder. But once hired, officers and firefighters do not have to undergo additional medical screenings - and some wonder if that's enough.

certificates obtained by The Enterprise. Even though the emergency responders worked for five different communities and the state police, the incidents often prompt the same response, experts said.

"You say, 'I might have missed something. I'm working with this guy,' " said Geraghty, 58, a retired Abington police officer who can take a toll on the most stoic of emergency officials, many of whom respond daily to traumatic incidents such as fatal drug overdoses, murder and domestic violence scenes, gruesome crashes or sudden infant deaths.

There are no exact state or national numbers on suicides of public

safety responders, experts said, because often the incidents are categorized only as sudden deaths. But since 2010, this region has had at least seven emergency responders die in such a fashion, including:

A 40-year-old Easton police officer who shot himself in the

SUICIDES/PAGE 4

percent who were male

average age of victim

15.4

average number of years on the force

91.5

percent killed by gunshot

percent that had reported personal problems

Source: International Journal of Emergency Mental Health and Human Resilience, 2013.

### France honors city veteran

#### By Joseph Markman ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

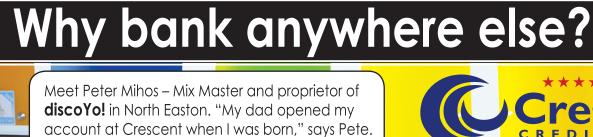
BROCKTON Seventy years ago, Frank Pagliuca was serving overseas when he was assigned to instruct a French military unit during World War II.

The unit came under attack, and Pagliuca and other American soldiers helped the French repel the German offensive.

For risking his life fighting in French territory during the war, Pagliuca will be bestowed Monday with France's highest military honor, an appointment to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honor.

Pagliuca, 89, has lived in

**PAGLIUCA/**PAGE 2



"And I've been there ever since. It's like home!"

www.crescentcredit.org

#### From Page 1



No matter where it happens, the death of a police officer or firefighter while on duty affects those with whom they worked. Police and fire departments now are starting special programs to help the men and women who are still wearing the uniform. Local police and fire departments have had to cope with seven suicides in their ranks since 2010.

## Discussing suicides often off limits

#### SUICIDES/FROM PAGE 1

head at his Easton home while on duty in April.

■ A Taunton police officer and U.S. Army veteran, 38, who killed himself by carbon monoxide poisoning in his car at home in March.

State Trooper Gregory Jasinskas, 40, of West Bridgewater, a decorated war veteran who shot himself in the head at a hotel in the town of Devens in July 2013.

■ A 43-year-old West Bridgewater police officer who hanged himself in his Bridgewater home in June 2013.

Two Brockton firefighters, both military veterans, who hanged themselves in their Brockton homes while off duty. One of them, a 48-year-old former Marine, died in April of last year. The other man, a 40-year-old Navy veteran, died in June 2010.

Quincy police Detective Edward Ryan, 41, a second-generation police officer who shot himself in the head in a Quincy cemetery in June 2012.



THINKSTOCK.COM ILLUSTRATION

#### **Crisis Hotlines**

■ The Massachusetts Peer Support Network: 617-967-4141

Cop 2 Cop Hotline: 866-C0P-2COP

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-TALK
- Safe Call Now, affiliated with Serve & Protect: 206-459-3020
- National Police Suicide

ing treatment could endanger their badges.

"Police officers are very reluctant to seek therapy," said Mitch Librett, a criminal justice professor at Bridgewater State University and a former New York police officer. "The culture considers it a sign of weakness, although that's changing to some degree."

#### Military suicides

The military has also been grappling with the number of suicides in its ranks and the staggering number of veterans who commit suicide. State trooper Jasinskas, the Taunton police officer and the two Brockton firefighters all were veterans. Jasinskas died one day after state police had relieved him of duty, amid allegations that he had sexually assaulted a woman while on duty.

In 2008, the Department of Defense began tracking suicides in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy as part of an effort to prevent suicides.

And in 2012, a presidential executive order signed by President Obama directed the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to hire 1,600 mental health professionals to address the problem of suicide among veterans. A 2013 study by the VA found that an average of 22 veterans kill themselves every day nationwide. One Taunton police captain, Michael Silvia, said, "I wouldn't want to comment on that."

Abington Police Chief David Majenski, who has not had a suicide in his department, said signs of stress are often present. Majenski estimates that, on average, between 10 percent and 20 percent of his department's 50 employees, including police officers and other staffers, use the Employee Assistance Program, which provides counseling and referral services for employees.

Majenski said he encourages his staff to use the program. He also encourages officers to connect with people outside law enforcement, since officers tend to hang out with other officers.

"Bad things happen to good people and after a while, it can really take a toll on people psychologically, especially if they can't break away," Majenski said. "We have not lost anybody that way, but I can tell you that we

The Enterprise is not using the names of the police officers and firefighters who were not previously identified by officials or in news accounts as having committed suicide.

#### **Reluctant to talk**

Death certificates in Massachusetts have a box that is checked in the case of a suicide. That box is checked on the death certificates for the seven police officers and firefighters list. All of them were men.

"We have a very serious, serious issue of suicide among our ranks," said Robert E. Douglas Jr., founder and executive director of the National Police Suicide Foundation in Delaware. "But they have been classifying them for years as accidental discharge, undetermined death."

Despite these incidents, many police and fire departments are reluctant to talk about suicide, which is one reason they can often go underreported, or characterized as something else, officials said.

"There's a stigma attached to it," said Jack Rinchich, president of the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

Rinchich, a retired West Virginia police officer, has also been a police chaplain for 35 years. He said he counsels police officers in distress weekly.

In four decades working in law enforcement, Rinchich said he has seen from 10 to 15 fellow officers take their own lives in his region of West Virginia.

One of them, a close friend and veteran police officer, had appeared friendly and conversational with Foundation: 866-276-4615

■ Veterans Crisis Line: 800-273-8255 and press 1

Rinchich. But a week later, he went onto his lawn and shot himself in the chest, Rinchich said.

"I was totally shocked. I had no indication whatsoever that there was an issue, a problem," Rinchich said. "It was so spontaneous."

There are no comprehensive nationwide statistics for police or firefighter suicides. It is estimated that more than 100 law enforcement officers in the United States commit suicide each year. Rinchich estimates the rate to be higher – about 300 officer suicides every year, or twice the number of officers killed in the line of duty.

In 2012, 126 law enforcement officers in the United States committed suicide, a study by the International Journal of Emergency Mental Health reported. Thousands more are believed to struggle silently, worried that seek-

#### No comment

Local chiefs overseeing departments in which a suicide occurred were reluctant to discuss the problem.

Easton Police Chief Allen Krajcik would not discuss details about the death of the Easton officer who shot himself, but said the officer is greatly missed by the entire department.

"I'm not comfortable talking about it," Krajcik said.

Brockton Fire Chief Richard Francis, West Bridgewater Police Chief Donald Clark and Taunton Police Chief Ed Walsh, who all endured suicides in their departments, could not be reached for comment for this story. have seen signs of stress and we take a proactive approach."

In Whitman, Fire Chief Timothy Grenno said job stress for firefighters comes in many forms: the sudden shock of fire alarms, the constant "fight or flight" response in going to several emergency calls, and a gruesome scene at an accident.

"It's not a Monday-to-Friday, 8-to-4 job and when you leave the job the stress goes away," Grenno said. "You don't really get away from it."

Often, a firefighter's family is also affected by this stress, he said.

"Those calls that you would prefer not to speak about, and you go home and you're in an altered state," Grenno said. "It can cause a rift between you and your wife because you don't want to talk about it."

Maria Papadopoulos may be reached at mpapa@ enterprisenews.com or follow on Twitter @MariaP\_ENT.



ASSOCIATED PRESS



### **TWO HURT IN EASTON** ACCIDENT NEWS 2



## **AREA PROSPECTS HOPING TO MAKE NFL ROSTERS**

**SPORTS 27** 

# The Zunday Enterprize

#### ENTERPRISENEWS.COM

JULY 20, 2014

#### NATION

#### JURY ORDERS TOBACCO COMPANY TO PAY **\$23.6B IN DAMAGES**

A Florida jury has slammed the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. with \$23.6 billion in punitive damages in a lawsuit filed by the widow of a longtime smoker who died of lung cancer in 1996.

The case is one of thousands filed in Florida after the state Supreme Court in 2006 tossed out a \$145 billion class-action verdict. That ruling also said smokers and their families need only prove addiction and that smoking caused their illnesses or deaths. PAGE 5

#### LOCAL

#### LAKEVILLE COUPLE **CHARGED WITH THEFTS**

Police have identified a Lakeville couple who they say have been stealing largeticket items from Home Depot stores in the region

Taunton police say Michael Ellis, 27, and Stacy Reynolds, 26, both of 1 Birch St., will be summoned to Taunton District Court to face charges of larceny over \$250 and criminal conspiracy.

Ellis and Reynolds, police said, had managed to steal items from Home Depot stores in Taunton, Somerset, Seekonk and Bridgewater during the past few months. They also reportedly tried but failed at a Brockton store.

#### REGIONAL

#### PARTNERS HEALTHCARE **DEAL AN ELECTION ISSUE**

Attorney General Martha Coakley is coming under increasing fire from her Democratic and Republican rivals in the governor's race over an agreement her office hammered out with Partners HealthCare The deal paves the way for Partners to acquire South Shore Hospital and Hallmark Health Systems, which owns Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Medford and Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. PAGE 3

## Enterprize special report FORGOTTEN FACES Inside Brockton's underground society



From left, Julie, "Filthy Rich" and Derek Hayward relax in Brockton's "Tent City.

MARC VASCONCELLOS/THE ENTERPRISE

#### WEATHER



Today Mostly cloudy High: 74



Tonight Partly cloudy Low: 63

DETAILS, INSIDE | PAGE 3

#### INDEX

Dear Abby	20
Classified	31-36
Editorial	6-7
Local news	9-12
Obituaries	17
Sports	27-30
TV listings	25



#### BROCKTON

idden in urban downtown Brockton is a sprawling 31-acre tract of woods behind North Montello, Elliot and North Cary streets.

Throughout the wooded area is a winding network of trails amidst the overgrown brush and abandoned train tracks. The trails are littered with trash, old shopping carts, broken glass and broken dreams.

Fresh footprints mark the muddy paths used daily by many of the city's homeless population who affectionately call the area "Tent City."

Throughout the year, dozens of homeless men and women call the area home. They live in tents and makeshift camps. Some live on their own,

#### BROCKTON

Today

Some of Brockton's homeless have carved out a way to live on vacant, wooded lands in the city. It isn't secure, nor always healthy, but it is where and how the hidden homeless live.

#### Monday

Advocates claim that providing services for the homeless is an uphill climb because many throughout the region find their way to Brockton, putting a great strain on the multiple support systems in place.

while others pile as many as six people into one tent.

Some people are there because of drugs and alcohol, some are there because of their criminal past and some choose to live there rather than being part of a society that they believe failed them.

One thing they all have in common is that their options are limited.

A reporter for The Enterprise visited with the inhabitants of "Tent City" several times in May, including spending an 8-hour work shift there. The reporter went back to "Tent City" this month. Those who were willing to speak revealed how they live and sometimes struggle to survive outdoors.

DETAILS, LOCAL | 9

### WEB EXTRA & INSIDE

Many more photos from our time with John and Mia, as well as at Tent City. enterprisenews.com

Meet the mayor of 'Hobo-ken Page 11

Brockton's homeless survive in crude circumstances just steps from civilization Page 9

## City man faces domestic violence charges

#### Suspect's girlfriend, mother injured

#### By Benjamin Paulin ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

BROCKTON - Todd Rippel got a knock on his door around midnight Friday from a petrified

14-year-old girl who lives next door.

"Mikey stabbed my mother," the girl said.

Family and neighbors said Michael Patrick Murray flew into a rage late Friday night and punched his girlfriend in the face, sliced his mother with a knife and broke her leg at their home on Kenelworth Avenue in Brockton.

Murray, 26, was charged with three counts of attempted murder, two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, two counts of assault and battery, two counts of intimidating a witness and threat to commit a crime.

Another neighbor, Linda Duhamel, said she called 911 when she heard yelling.

"I live next door and I heard the scream. It sounded like somebody was being murdered," she said. "It seemed like it was a long time but it probably wasn't but the screams were getting worse. So I called 911 again and I said 'You don't understand, it sounds like somebody is being killed here.' "

Duhamel went over to the house to see if the women were OK and she was confronted by an enraged Murray, who told her to leave.

**ASSAULT/**PAGE 2



#### LOCAL

John

### "I'm kind of a MacGyver so I kind of make my spot as good as I can."



John and Mia live in a wooded area that is not part of "Tent City" in Brockton.

MARC VASCONCELLOS PHOTOS/THE ENTERPRISE

## The mayor of 'Hobo-ken' A man's home is his castle, even if his home is in the woods

#### By Benjamin Paulin ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

WEB

XTRA

Many more

photos from

our time with

John and Mia,

as well as at

"Tent City."

enterprise

news.com

TAKE

POLL

Is enough

being done

to help the

homeless?

enterprise

THE

BROCKTON ohn's home in Brockton has a bedroom, a kitchen, a shower and a charcoal grill outside. In the morning he

cooks his wife Mia scrambled eggs and at night he plays video games on his Playstation 2.

The difference between where John lives and any other onebedroom apartment in Brockton is John's home is located in the middle of the woods.

"I call this Hobo-ken. It's not "Tent City." The only people around here are me and her," said John, 53, who did not want to

#### Enterprise SPECIAL REPORT

lived in "Hobo-ken" for more than two years. Before moving to Brockton, they lived in Quincy in a tent in the woods. Before that, they lived in shelters.

The frame of his two-room hut was built out of sticks and branches John gathered from nearby, all tied tightly together with twine. He used plastic tarps to cover the walls and roof and secured them in place with duct tape.

"I've been in there when it's 3 degrees with 20 miles an hour winds with snow on the roof. It don't leak, it's warm and I've never been cold," he said.

During a visit two months ago, John swung open the door to reveal his kitchen with a counter top and cans of food. In the other room is their pullout couch that doubles as their queen-sized bed, and a television.

He powers the television with a gas-powered generator he has chained to a tree nearby.



Mia shows some of the accommodations in the hut.



disclose his last name. "I built this the way I want to live out in the woods and I don't want to live out in the woods sleeping in a tent."

Hobo-ken is in the city of Brockton, but John asked that its exact location not be revealed for concern the owner of the large unused, wooded property would find out and ask them to leave, making them truly homeless.

John, who grew up in Brockton, describes himself as a Jackof-all-trades. He and Mia have



Mia looks out from atop the roof of the hut in the woods of Brockton.

Holes were cut out in the tarps to make windows in the bedroom and kitchen. In the summertime the windows are made of screen. In the wintertime he takes the screens out and puts up Plexiglas.

"I'm kind of a MacGyver so I kind of make my spot as good as I can," he said.

Outside of the house is a covered porch with chairs and a countertop. He uses a large plastic pouch of water to help run his gravity fed shower and sink.

He offered to whip up a hot dog or a hamburger on his twoburner Coleman grill.

Finding steady work is a struggle for John, who said he has done time in jail, but refused to go into further detail.

When he does work he does odd jobs and maintenance work for some of his friends and gets landscaping work whenever he can.

When John works, Mia goes out into the city to collect cans or scrap metal.

John said they live off what they earn.

"I don't get welfare, I don't get

John talks about the hut he built.

food stamps and I ain't on disability. And I don't get health insurance neither," he said.

While he and Mia are making the best out of their situation, he fears for his wife's safety when he is not close. After visiting with John again last week, he revealed that he and Mia are hopeful to be moving into an apartment on West Chestnut Street with a friend.

John said he isn't sure how he will manage with the change in

lifestyle but he is glad to do it to have a safe place for Mia.

"I'm a little nervous but it's for her," he said.

Benjamin Paulin may be reached at bpaulin@enterprisenews.com.

## Homeless live on edge, just steps from civilization

#### HOMELESS/FROM PAGE 9

toward the track. He walks over the active commuter rail tracks to an opening in the fence at the back of a building on North Montello Street.

Through the fence is a small alleyway in between two abandoned buildings. The alley is littered with discarded garbage and broken glass. Someone leaned several mattresses against the building for them to take if they need one.

Once at MainSpring, there are usually more

than 20 people in line outside waiting to get in. The shelter serves hot meals and also hands out bagged lunches and food for people to take with them on their way out.

None of the people at Tent City or MainSpring said they wanted to be in the situation they are in. Many people who live in Tent City suffer from mental issues and addiction to drugs and alcohol. And it can be a dangerous and sometimes deadly life to live.

On April 15, Barry Thomas, a homeless

man, died of liver failure while lying on the sidewalk on North Main Street.

■ On April 26, Danny Rivard, 39, and also homeless, was struck and killed by a commuter rail train.

■ On May 5, a homeless couple living in the woods behind Mulberry Street burned to death when their charcoal grill tipped over onto their tent.

Even though there are resources available to them, a lot of times they don't know where to

begin.

"How am I going to get the confidence back to go out for a job if I can't even get my teeth cleaned or glasses?" Filthy Rich asked.

"We need something to give us hope. We have us, together, living every day and then we go to bed and we wake up then next day and do it all over again, he said. "Where's the hope?"

Benjamin Paulin may be reached at bpaulin@enterprisenews.com.



#### NATION

#### **COLORADO TIGHTENING EDIBLE POT RULES**

Alarmed by booming sales of highly potent edible marijuana products, Colorado regulators have drafted an emergency rule making it easier for new users to tell how much pot they're eating. The result? Weaker pot

brownies and cookies on store shelves, and new packaging requirements. Colorado's rules already require edible pot to be sold in "servings" of 10 milligrams of THC PAGE 4

#### LOCAL

#### PAN-MASS CHALLENGE TO PASS THROUGH AREA

Thousands of cyclists will be pedaling through Middleboro, Bridgewater, West Bridgewater and Easton on Sunday as part of the 35th annual Pan-Mass Challenge.

The Pan-Mass Challenge raises money for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Cyclists ride up to 190 miles on multiple courses that stretch across 46 towns in the state this Saturday and Sunday. Altogether they expect nearly 6,000 riders from 34 states and nine countries to participate. PAGE 9

#### SPORTS

#### **RED SOX ROLL DICE AND** TRADE FOR THE FUTURE

It's an extraordinary piece of baseball business when a team changes the addresses of its two top pitchers in separate trades just hours apart. Jon Lester hardly had time to catch his breath when John Lackey began feeling the

## **Brockton holds the cards** after power plant rulings

Opponents say SJC ruling is death knell for project; supporters say not so fast

#### By Joseph Markman ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

BROCKTON - Opponents of a proposed Brockton power plant pegged their hopes to a single, natural chemical compound: H<sub>2</sub>O.

Without water for cooling, developer Advanced Power cannot move ahead with its plans to build a 350-megawatt, electricity generating plant on Oak Hill Way in Brockton. For years, the company has been fighting with the communities of Brockton and West Bridgewater and local residents over the proposal.

"It seems pretty clear to me," Councilor-at-Large Jass Stewart said, "if there's no water, there's no

power plant."

On Thursday, the opponents got their water wish.

Two decisions by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court simultaneously upheld a state agency's decision to approve the plant, but also said that the developer cannot use Brockton's public water supply to cool the facility.

"It's huge," said Justin Kane, an organizer with Stop the Power. "It's what we've been saying for eight years. It affirms everything.

In one ruling, the court said the state Energy Facilities Siting Board was right to approve the project. That approval, in

**POWER PLANT/**PAGE 2



A computer rendering shows the 350-megawatt power plant proposed for Oak Hill Way in Brockton.

#### FRONT AND CENTER



BROCKTON

INSIDE

Highlights

of Thursday's

Timeline of

plant proposal

the power

rulings

PAGE 2

PAGE 2



same way.

In making those moves Thursday, the Red Sox are putting the future in the hands of their young arms: Allen Webster, Brandon Workman, Rubby De La Rosa, Henry Owens, Anthony Ranaudo and anyone else under 30 who might step it PAGE 15

#### WEATHER



Toniaht Chance of rain Low: 67



Tomorrow Chance of rain High: 72 Low: 63

**DETAILS, INSIDE | PAGE 8** 

#### INDEX

Dear Abby	8
Classified	18-20
Comics	14
Editorial	7
Locals	9-12
Obituaries	13
Sports	15-17
TV listings	8





MARC VASCONCELLOS/THE ENTERPRISE

Alexis Kotsiopoulos performs Thursday as the master of ceremonies in the opening act of "A Year With Frog and Toad" for Act One, Scene I, the Brockton Community Schools' drama camp. More than 100 school-age performers have taken part in the fourweek program under the direction of Carol Thomas while learning the fundamentals of staging a show from dramatics and dialogue to set design, costuming and promotions. On Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., the students will perform the musical in Brockton High's Nelson Auditorium.

### Mobile home park not a pretty picture

#### By Susan Parkou Weinstein

EASTON - The potholes and dilapidated trailers described by residents of the Easton Mobile Home Park aren't the only blots on the landscape at the Turnpike Street facility.

The park owner's own ledgers also do not "paint a pretty picture," Town Counsel Jay Talerman told selectmen last week.

That could be a problem as the town weighs a request for a rent reduction.

"If they're not making much money because of a poor business decision to buy a park for too much money, I'm not sure if that's our issue," Talerman

said of owner Morgan Management.

Acting as the town's Mobile Home Park Rent Control Board, selectmen have been taking testimony on the residents' request to roll back a 33percent rental spike and reduce the \$468 a month rent to \$293. Residents say the rent exceeds the formula used for fair rent, fair operating income and reasonable profit under Massachusetts' mobile home park law and that shoddy conditions also do not merit the high fee.

Sandra Anderson compared the Easton facility to a slum with deep potholes, unsanitary

**RENT/**PAGE 3

ing

\*APR (Annual Percentage Rate) effective 05/01/2014 and subject to change without notice. Payment on a 5 year term at 2.99% APR is \$449.09 per \$25,000 borrowed. Maximum loan-to-value ratio of 75% Valid for 1-4 family owner occupied properties or single family second homes. Trust review fees may apply. Property insurance required. Flood insurance may be required. Subject to credit approval. Other terms and conditions may apply. Consult your tax advisor regarding deductibility of interest. Membership eligibility requirements apply.



### crash

#### By Benjamin Paulin ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

BROCKTON - When Jamila Miranda heard her older brother was in a bad accident, she and her family immediately rushed to Boston Medical Center to be by his side.

"The whole family was there at the hospital. Everybody was We there.

Jason Miranda

were there until they finally unplugged him and that was it," she said weep-

Jason Miranda, 25, of Brockton suffered fatal injuries Wednesday afternoon when he crashed his motorcycle trying to swerve out of the way of an SUV that was pulling out onto Oak Street.

"He tried to avoid it as much as he could. He was scared to

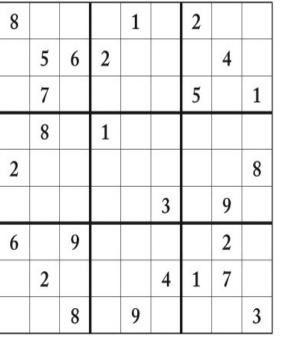
FATAL/PAGE 3



Pay off your mortgage of \$25,000 - \$250,000 quicker with a fixed term Home Equity Loan.

Call Nancy Van Lenten at 781-686-6921 or apply at www.crescentcredit.org





#### © Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution below. Solutions, tips and computer program at sudoku.com

#### LOTTERY masslottery.com

#### The winning numbers drawn Thursday in the "Massachusetts Daily Lottery"

Winning Number	Exact 4							Draw Type
4-9-2-7	\$5,576	\$781	\$67	\$7	\$232	\$130	\$130	Evening
7-0-5-5	\$6,225	\$871	\$75	\$7	\$519	\$145	\$290	Mid-Day

Lucky for Life 4-11-15-33-38 Lucky Ball: 30

Mass Cash 8-16-22-24-34

#### SUDOKU SOLUTION

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## Brockton holds the cards after SJC rulings on power plant

#### **POWER PLANT/**FROM PAGE 1

2009, included the use of city wastewater rather than drinking water for the facility's cooling tower.

However, in its other decision Thursday, the SJC said that the siting board was right to deny Advanced Power the use of drinking water, which the company later proposed to use after officials did not make the city's wastewater available.

That decision on the water, the court said, "appears to preclude construc-

tion of the facility as currently proposed."

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That means if Advanced Power chooses to continue the project, it must reach an agreement with the city on wastewater use, said Sean Kealy, a Read both clinical associate professor of court rulings law at Boston University, who entirety online specializes in government policy and federal and state constitutional law.

"The bottom line is the power plant developer has to renegotiate with the city to get wastewater," Kealy said. "The city now holds the cards."

Advanced Power shifted its proposal to using drinking water for cooling in 2010, after city councilors indicated they would not agree to the use of wastewater.

Following the rulings Thursday, several city councilors said they remain staunchly opposed to the plant and its use of wastewater. All 11 current councilors have said in the past that they op-



Power plant manager Jonathan Winslow says the company will continue to pursue the project through litigation.

#### pose the project.

Ward 6 Councilor Michelle DuBois called the water ruling the "death knell of the power plant."

Councilor-at-Large Moises Rodrigues vowed to fight any further attempts to build the plant.

"Whatever we are allowed under the law, it's going to be a definite no, no matter what they propose," Rodrigues said.

Council President Robert Sullivan said the court made the right decision.

"My stance is in opposition and I will not deter from my stance," Sullivan said.

Yet despite the court's ruling on water, plant

The bottom line is the power plant developer has to renegotiate with the city to get wastewater. The city now holds the cards."

> Sean Kealy **B.U. law professor**

supporters said the fight is not over.

"This is a slam dunk for the power plant people," Mayor Bill Carpenter said. "This was the city's last bite at the apple to overturn the plant permit."

Both Jonathan Winslow, director of development for Advanced Power, and Carpenter said Thursday that the water ruling means re-approaching the use of wastewater.

As leverage, Winslow said, the developer will use a \$68 million lawsuit it filed against city officials in 2012. The company alleges that the city itself and several current and former officials violated its due process and civil rights when it was going through the plant permitting process.

That lawsuit is currently before a judge in U.S. District Court in Boston and both parties plan to meet for a status conference Sept. 16.

"We wish and attempted to find common ground but haven't," Winslow said. "A wastewater connection is a viable source that we will continue to pursue through the lawsuit."

Joseph Markman may be reached at jmarkman@enterprisenews.com.

## Timeline of the power plant legal battle

#### By Edward Donga ENTERPRISE STAFE WRITER

A year-by-year breakdown of key events in the Brockton power plant battle:

■ **1998:** Brockton Power is formed and receives the necessary permits to construct a power plant in the city. However, the plan is shelved by developers after they learn that the state does not have a need for any more power.

■ 2003: Brockton Power renews their efforts to bring a power plant to Brockton and purchase 13 acres of land off Oak Hill Way near the city's wastewater treatment facility.

■ 2007: In March, Brockton Power unveiled its plans for the proposed power plant sparking opposition from concerned residents, notably Ed Byers, the owner of Cindy's Kitchen, which operates a



Ed Byers, owner of Cindy's Kitchen, has been a vocal opponent of the proposed plant.

chusetts.

**2009:** In August, the Energy Facilities Siting Board approves Brockton Power's petition prompt-

denied Brockton Power's request to use the city's drinking water.

In October, Brockton Power appealed the siting board's decision on the use of Brockton's drinking water to the Supreme Judicial Court.

Also in October, the city of Brockton filed an appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court appealing the siting board's approval to allow changes to the facility's design and elimination of diesel fuel based on air pollution and zoning issues.

■ 2012: In June, Brockton Power filed a \$68 million lawsuit against the city of Brockton in U.S. District Court alleging that the city had violated its civil rights as a landowner by conspiring to illegally block the plant. The litigation is still ongoing.

**2014:** In February, all parties

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#### + VOLUME 135 - No. 161

The Enterprise may be mailed Monday through Sunday to all parts of the United States and its possessions, including c/o Postmaster or Fleet P.O., 52 weeks, \$404.04;

26 weeks, \$202.02; 13 weeks, \$101.01; 4 weeks, \$31.08; single copy (Sun-(34), \$7.00; Sunday only: 52 weeks, \$135.20; 26 weeks, \$67.60; 13 weeks, \$33.80; 4 weeks, \$10.40.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Enterprise, 1324 Belmont St., Unit 102, Brockton, MA 02301

ISSN-0744-2114

Daily paper is published Monday through Saturday and was entered as 2nd class matter Jan. 1, 1880, at the Post Office in Brockton under act of March 3, 1879. Periodicals postage paid at Brockton, Mass. and at additional mailing Press and Audit Bureau of Circulation.

#### Corrections

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manufacturing plant near the site of the proposed plant.

Byers would go on to become a prominent leader of Stop the Power, a group of local activists opposed to the power plant's development, who would play a significant role in the legal battle against the plant.

In July, Brockton Power filed a petition with the state's Energy Facilities Siting Board, which licenses the construction of major energy infrastructure projects in Massa-

ing the City of Brockton, the Town of West Bridgewater and a group of residents from both communities to appeal the siting board's decision to the Supreme Judicial Court.

In the appeal, Brockton, West Bridgewater and the residents argue that the siting board did not properly apply the state's environmental justice policy in their approval of the power plant project.

**2010:** Brockton Power files a "project change filing" with the make several changes to the design of the facility, that they be allowed to eliminate the use of diesel fuel as an alternative fuels source at the plant and they be allowed to change the source of the water for the plant's cooling tower from Brockton's wastewater to the city's potable drinking water supply.

Energy Facilities Siting Board

The filing makes three requests:

that Brockton Power be allowed to

seeking to amend their proposal.

■ 2011: In September, the Energy Facilities Siting Board approved Brockton Power's requests to modify the facility's design and eliminate the use of diesel fuel, but to the appeal of the Energy Facilities Siting Board decisions file briefs to the Supreme Judicial Court.

In March, the Supreme Judicial Court hears oral arguments from both sides in the case.

On Thursday, July 31, the Supreme Judicial Court releases its decisions in the case.

Edward Donga may be reached at edonga@enterprisenews.com.

### Highlights from Thursday's SJC decisions

#### By Edward Donga ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

The Supreme Judicial Court released a decision on Thursday blocking Brockton Power LLC from using the city's potable drinking water to cool a 350-megwatt gas-fired power plant it is seeking to develop on the city's south side.

The decision "appears to preclude construction of the facility as currently proposed," according to the Supreme Judicial Court decision.

In the original plan Brockton Power submitted to the state's Energy Facilities Siting Board, the agency which licenses the construction of major energy infrastructure projects in Massachusetts, the developers planned to use

wastewater from the city's wastewater treatment facility to cool the plant.

However, after Brockton's City Council denied the developer access to the city's wastewater, Brockton Power requested permission from the siting board to change their plans to use the city's potable drinking water in their cooling tower.

The siting board denied the request and Brockton Power appealed the decision to the Supreme Judicial Court, prompting Thursday's ruling.

While Brockton Power argued that Brockton's water system would be able to accommodate the large amount of drinking water the plant would need, the siting board found that the developer did not provide sufficient evidence to prove the "environmental impacts of the proposed change would be minimized consistent with the minimization of related costs" as required by law.

The city draws a majority of its drinking water from Silver Lake, and has had significant environmental impacts on the lake in the past due to the use of its water.

If built, the siting board found that the power plant's cooling tower "would account for more than 10 percent of the city's current water demand.'

In their appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court, Brockton Power argued that the siting board overreached in their decision and "impermissibly intruded" on the state's Department of Environmental Protection's "statutory and regulatory authority" by denying the change.

Brockton Power argued that the DEP had previously set up "protection factors," which the developer's proposed plan would have met, and that the siting board must defer to those standards.

However, in its ruling, the Supreme Judicial Court upheld the Energy Facility Siting Board's decision, finding that the siting board did not intrude on Department of Environmental Protections jurisdiction and went on to state the siting would have "abdicated its statuary duties" if it had based its decision solely on the DEP's determinations.

Edward Donga may be reached at edonga@enterprisenews.com.

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