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The Enterprise

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025 | ENTERPRISENEWS.COM

Theater Director at Brockton Public School Robert Hogan ties the tie for Ronald James who plays a police officer before a dress rehearsal at Brockton High School of its production of "Bye Bye Birdie" on May 15.

MARC VASCONCELLOS/THE ENTERPRISE

'They become family'

Brockton High drama club builds talent and bonds

Jacob Posner

The Enterprise | USA TODAY NETWORK

BROCKTON — The Brockton High School drama club is a point of pride for the school.

The Brockton High drama club consistently ranks among the top 14 schools in the state finals, competing against more than 100 public and private programs each year. In recent years, it has taken home the top prize twice. But the club's success doesn't stop there as its alumni have gone on to impressive careers on Broadway, in Hollywood, and on national stages. Notably, former students Andreia Gibau and Sabrina Victor both competed in the Miss America Pageant, showcasing the talent and confidence they developed at Brockton High.

The program's consistent excellence comes from long hours, love of the craft, diverse students and dedicated staff, current and former club members told The Enterprise during a recent interview.

'I'm going to be doing the thing I love'

Students in the high school drama club work hard. The program puts on four performances each year, and, during weeks of preparation, student actors and crew members work for hours every day after school. And that's on top of homework and other extracurricular activities.

With the school day starting at 7 a.m., the day can sometimes end at 9 p.m. for students who play leading roles, like Ellie Cabellon, a rising senior. Some days she'll get home after school, do her homework, take a quick nap, and then have to head right back to school.

As she's waking up, she won't want to go. But then realizes, "oh, when I get there, all the people that I love, all my friends, are going to be there, and I'm going to be doing the thing I love," she said.

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Flooding in Cape Verde prompts relief efforts

Brockton organizers collecting donations of cash, food, clothing

Jacob Posner

The Enterprise | USA TODAY NETWORK

Organizers in Brockton are collecting donations after floods displaced over 1,500 people and killed at least nine on São Vicente, an island in Cape Verde.

Brockton's Cape Verdean Association is seeking

Brockton's Cape Verdean Association is seeking both cash and supplies, according to Moises Rodrigues, head of the association.

"We've been fundraising because the immediate necessity of the folks there is food and water," he said. The money will go to the association's partner in Cape Verde, the Association of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, which will distribute aid, Rodrigues said.

"They know what the needs are," he said.

Rodrigues said people can also drop items, including canned goods, nonperishables – like rice, sugar and beans – as well as kids' clothes, at 575 North Montello St., Brockton. They'll be shipped later this month.

The Associaton of Social Solidarity, a nonprofit in Brockton, is also collecting donations, including nonperishable foods, feminine hygiene products and clothes, at 17 Prospect St. in Brockton this Sunday, Aug. 17, at 12 p.m. The nonprofit can be reached at 508-857-2302 or asolsocial4u@gmail.com.

Making an impact

The Cape Verdean Association is "trying to get as much as we possibly can," Rodrigues said of the drive for donations. Almost all of the island's roughly 80,000 residents have been affected in some way, he said. This island typically has a dry climate, he explained, and people weren't prepared for the torrential rainfall last Sunday and Monday.

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The Cape Verdean Association of Brockton, 575 North Montello St., is collecting donations after floods displaced over 1,500 people and killed at least nine on São Vicente, an island in Cape Verde. MARC VASCONCELLOS/THE ENTERPRISE

EEE risk level elevated in Bristol and Plymouth counties

Kathy Bossa

The Enterprise | USA TODAY NETWORK

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has announced the risk level for West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) has been elevated in multiple communities.

According to a statement on the DPH website, as of Tuesday, Aug. 12, the following municipalities in Bristol

and Plymouth counties have been elevated to moderate risk: Bridgewater, Carver, East Bridgewater, Easton, Halifax, Hanson, Lakeville, Middleborough, Plympton, Raynham, Taunton, and West Bridgewater. These counties are a "historic area of EEE activity," according to the statement.

EEE is a very rare disease but very serious when it is contracted. According to the DPH, since the virus was first identified in Massachusetts in 1938, just over 115 cases have occurred. Of those, approximately half of the people identified with EEE in Massachusetts have died from the infection, and those who do survive are often left permanently disabled, the DPH said.

According to the DPH, the State Public Health Laboratory confirmed this year's first WNV-positive mosquitoes in Massachusetts on June 17. Since then, there

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