#### inside today ARTS, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

#### Barnstable

Fund raising for school music programs continues Page 8

Chapin Beach house expansions test new septic technology Page 7

#### Yarmouth

Proposal to limit signs sparks opposition Page 6

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# Cape Cod's weekly newspaper since 1836 "A map of busy life, its fluctuations and vast concerns

Vol. 166, No. 38 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER COMPANY

Three Sections

Thursday, September 20, 2001

## Courage is beaming at 'Ground Hero'



Hyannis Fire Lt. Thomas Kenney stands in the middle of what was the World Trade Center

#### By Karen Monahan

NEW YORK CITY — Less than three hours after the twin towers of the World Trade Center had col-lapsed in an incredulous roar of fire and dust, the six

lapsed in an incredulous roar on the add outs, the six Cape Cod rescue workers were speeding to New York City.

All the years of training, all the experience, all the courage, however, couldn't begin to prepare them for the apocalyptic vision of ground zero. Tens of thou-sands of tons of concrete reduced to ash, as though a shadow of the contraction of

sands of tons of concrete reduced to asin, as mough a volcano had erupted.

These half dozen Cape Codders were part of an elite team of firefighters and emergency specialists from across the country mobilized the moment that shock turned to action.

Even on Sunday, days after the last of so few survivors had been pulled from the ungodly wreckage. Sandwich firefighter Scott Ames remained stalwart.

Sandwich firefighter Scott Ames remained stalwart. "We still hold out hope."

Nothing less made sense to him and his five compartiots. They are Massachusetts Search & Rescueteam members. They aren't salvage experts. More than 5,000 people missings more than 200 firefighters among them. So, as the Cape Codders stepped across the simmering rubble, as they clawed and scraped away the debris, the numbers glared at them.

them.
Search and rescue. Search and rescue in the horror

of ground zero.
Team leader and Hyannis Fire Department Lieutenant Thomas Kenney worked the day shift with West Barnstable Firefighter Jim Murphy. Ames.

Yarmouth Firefighter Robert Reardon, and Hyannis firefighters Chris Standish and Brett Grandaw worked the night shift. Day after day, night after night. "110 stories - two buildings - not even there." Kenney said, still awestruck after days at ground

zero.
"If you leveled Main Street in Hyannis east to west it wouldn't be as big as this is. The Cape Cod Mall and the Hyannis K-Mart Plaza together would not even come close to filling it, he said. Getting through the rubble will take workers years, be said.

But, now the goal is to find someone alive. That's what all the instincts and adrenaline and hope is all

The weight of the fallen towers, coupled with the

heat of fire that continues to smolder beneath debris, has created a massive crater where the World Trade Center once stood. The massive hole is crisscrossed with jagged steel up to 200 feet long and chunks of

concrete.

Ground Zero should be renamed "Ground Hero,"
said Massachusetts team-member Jay Bourgeous, as
hundreds of compatriots raced the sun toward another
nightfall.

er nightfall.

There are 27 Urban Search & Rescue teams nationwide. The Federal Emergency Management Agency deploys selected teams to respond and assist in such national emergencies.

"It is prestigious and a great honor" to become a team member, said Brett Hansard, public information

COURAGE continued on Page 5

### **Dennis approves** visitor center funds

By Adam Martignetti

Dennisport will get its visitor's center after \$275,000 was approved by Tuesday's special Town Meeting for the demolition and reconstruction of buildings on the Maloney property at the intersection of Route 28 and Hall

section of Route 28 and Hall Street.

The only warrant article not approved Tuesday was the \$73,000 designated for Road Safety Task Force projects. That article was referred back to the task force as recommended by the Dennis Finance Committee.

Almost two years to the day after Town Meeting agreed to purchase the Dennisport land, the town unantimously endorsed bringing the Maloney property to completion. The three dilapidated buildings currently on

the property will be knocked down and replaced with a building to house public restrooms, a visitor center and public meeting space for local businesses.

space for local businesses.
"Placing a new building on the property is the best investment for the town," Cleon Turner, chairman of the selectmen, said, "That property, with a new building on it, will be a new crown jewel for the town of Dennis."
"The view will be from Route 28 and will be rather inviting for people to relax and to really get acquainted with the village," added Kay Gilmore, chair of the Maloney Property Study

Maloney Committee. Property Study

Some discussion arose about possibly saving the historic barn on the property. That cost of that

VISITOR CENTER continued on Page 14

#### INDEX

- · Classifieds 29
- Editorials 12
- Education 9
- Letters 13
- Lifestyles 15
- Obituaries 10
- Real Estate 28
- Sports 11 • Tides 13

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## Heart attack compounds young mother's woes

By Bill Barnes bbarnes@cac.com

For 11 years Patty Gieselman has been struggling

For 11 years Patty Gieselman has been struggling with the emotional, financial and physical issues of raising her severely disabled son, Kyle.

Her daily ritual involved helping him in and out of his wheelchair, dressing him for school, going off to work in Dennis and coming home to drive him to medical appointments, therapy sessions, swimming lessons, religious instruction, feeding him and, at days end, to carry him upstairs to bed.

That routine was struck a sharp blow last Truesday, evening when Gieselman, 31, had a heart attack. She was rushed to Cape Cod Hospital, where doctors found one of her arteries completely blocked. Angioplasty and a shunt reopened the artery and she was given medications to clear partial blockages in two others.

MOTHER continued on Page 14



On Monday afternoon she came home to Kyle and new struggles. She can't drive a car for the time most struggles. She can't drive a car for the time MOTHER and the capped son Kyle. But after suffering a heart attack last week Gieselman has new challenges to face.

### Courage continued from Page 1

officer for FEMA. "It is amazing what it takes physically and emotionally."

Nine teams from across the country were called in. They repre-sent only a fraction of the resources helping to dig New York City out

of the disaster.
When the Cape Codders arrived, they found grounds stretching far beyond the towers covered with six inches of debris

Every building surrounding the site has been destroyed structural-y. Crumbling buildings and blown-out windows surrounded the crater.

"This isn't a car accident. One "This isn't a car accident. One picture isn't going to show you everything. If you put 800 different pictures in a book, you would still have no idea," said Kenney.

The Massachusetts team was the

first to be deployed to assist New York's own teams. They literally pitched their tents at the corner of Church and Dey streets and got to

"We wasted absolutely no time gathering resources," Kenney said. Each member of the state team has experience ranging from four to 30 years. "I have more than 100 years of experience on my team." Kenney said, "and nobody had ever seen devastation like this." Kenney was in Barnstable Town

Hall when the first tower was hit. "I went back to the firehouse and saw that the second tower had been hit, and by the time I got home, the task force had called. We left the Cape before 11 a.m."

The state's 62-member team

met at Beverly Airport - their cen-tral training facility - and left for the Jacob Javits Convention Center

in Manhattan.

"If there's something going on, these are the guys who want to be there. It's a hell of a bunch of

guys," Kenney said.

The scene of destruction is several blocks south of the convention center, which is heavily guarded by state police and the U.S. military. The entire city is guarded heavily, and teams must pass through sev eral checkpoints by bus and on foot on their way to their stations.

Each 62-member team is divided into two groups of 31, each assigned to a 12- hour shift beginning at either 7 a.m. or 7 p.m. Shifts start on time, but do not necssarily end after 12 hours of work.

Teams do not stop a task until it complete.

Search and rescue missions are emotionally exhausting, said

## "All the days have run together," he said, walking around outside in his socks after a long shift

Firefighters are averaging four to five hours of sleep a night - with no complaints. "We are here for a We're here to bring our

brothers home," Murphy said. Team members go through years of training, and give their

brothers home," Murphy said.

Team members and give their own time, money - and this veck, sweat and tears - for situations like this, said Murphy.

The Massachusetts team had successfully searched several buildings in the area since Tuesday - all with various degrees of damage.

Saturday, the team was part of a five-hour, 80-person search effort at the World Financial Center the 34-story building adjacent to the fallen towers.

"Eerie," is how team member Grandaw described his feelings as he searched buildings. He was particularly disturbed by a photograph of a child on someone's desk.

Whether people in the adjacent buildings survived depends on which side they exited. Ames said. People leaving on the tower side would have been buried bearen the shower of debris from the collapsing towers.

Ames found a set of keys, a Dunkin' Donuts bag and an unopened cup of coffee on some one's desk. At a nearby hotel, a buffet breakfast was set up and the team found dishes of food half-caten.

Team members have been entity the controlling to the effort.

"Everybody in the free wordwants to help," Kenney said.

Citizens have been very encouraging. They line up to clap, cheer each build flage alone the secretal build. Hear alone the s

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## **Barnstable Municipal Airport feeling** aftermath of terrorist attacks

### By Karen Monahan kmonahan@cnc.com

It could take months until Barnstable Municipal Airport returns to normal after last week's temporary national air traffic shutdown ordered by the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Everybody in the free world wants to help," Kenney said.

Citizens have been very encouraging. They line up to clap, cheer and hold flags along the resultant hold flags and hold flags along the resultant hold flags and the hold flags and the hold flags and the hold flags along the resultant hold flags along

NYC day tour - Radio City Christmas Show Nov. 8 879 NYC - Radio City Christmas Show Dec. 9-10 \$245

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Tow truck operators moved all cars from within 300 feet of Barnstable Municipal Airport in Hyannis after the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington last week.

help people, he said.

Workers are paving a path across the grass island in front of the terminal to improve handicapped access. All access scenarios are being handled on an individual basis because of the unique vidual basis because of the unique nature of the situation and the uncertain future of regulations.

uncertain future of regulations.
The FAA's gradual reduction of
the airport's security level, which
cannot be anticipated, may loosen
some of the parking restrictions,
Mosby said, but he is not expecting anything soon.

"I don't see anything changing for the next month or two," he

Although he has heard a few Although he has heard a few complaints from people about the inconvenience of walking from their cars to the terminal. Mosby said. "most people are taking it in stride. At least the airport is not closed, he said. "We can still fly," he said. "It's just the little incon-tenience."

Among those inconveniences are tighter regulations for passen-

gers.
"No matter what changes there are, people can't leave bags or cars unattended while in the terminal," Mosby said. Bags will be confis-cated and cars will be towed if people are not with them at all

times, he said. Bags are being checked to various degrees by individual air taxis, which may require less regulation than larger air carriers using the airport. Although owners of air taxis may not be required to, "They are following the same poli-

rices out of good faith in the securi-ty system." Mosby said.

Police presence has increased since last Tuesday, when officials arrived before 10 a.m. to block entrances and ensure that people

were sale.

Barnstable police are now providing protection 24 hours a day. They are mointing vehicles coming into the airport and ensuring that all freight — prohibited from being delivered to the terminal — is being delivered to the Island Air hangar.

is being delivered to the Island Air hangar.
Chaos continues in airport offices. Phones are ringing, meetings have been scheduled and the FAA is continuously sending print-outs of updated procedures to all U.S. airports, keeping all airport staff on their toes. By 4:30 pm. Monday afternoon, employees were leaving exhausted and drained.
Mosby is in contact with the FAA at least one or two times per day since last week, which is an increase from random, more casual communications every other day with the federal agency.
"They want us to be more vigilant to suspicious persons, begage, people in a hurry to leave the country and things like that," be said.

said.
Employees have been subjected to random 1D checks and are required to carry identification with them at all times.

"There have been no problems so far," Mosby said. "This is kind

of a family airport."

Although the airport may have an intimate family feel, it ranks in the top three busiest airports, along with Boston and Nantucket, in

With Boston and Nanucket, in New England. "Hyannis is not one of your sleepy hole-in-the-wall airports," Mosby said.

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Tickets available at participating salons. Call 508-362-5999 for more information.

## Final Liquidation Sale for The Furniture Barn Saturday, September 22nd

and Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 AM through 5:00 PM

at our warehouse located next to the Cape Cod Gymnastics building on Hokum Rock Road in Dennis

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