

13th Year, Issue 8



thetideofmoriches.com

**AUGUST 2024** 

# **Picklers rejoice at site** of new courts



### Town adds pickleball courts to Moriches Athletic Complex

#### **BY NICOLE FUENTES**

The Town of Brookhaven Department of Parks, Recreation and Sports, and Cultural Resources recently added 11 new pickleball courts, including four at the Moriches Athletic Complex. The cost for the project, according to the town, was \$225,000 as part of the Parks Capital Budget.

In addition to the new courts at the Moriches Athletic Complex, there are new courts located at Sylvan Avenue in Miller Place (three) and the Medford Athletic Complex (four). The new courts now add to the town's lineup of 11 courts at the Centereach pool, as well as the courts at the Mastic Athletic Complex, which have plans to be refaced. The town also has plans to add new pickleball courts at Martha Avenue Park, in Bellport.

According to supervisor Daniel J Panico, the town has invested heavily in their parks system and open spaces.

'These 11 new pickleball courts double our existing inventory and are providing recreational activity and a great deal of enjoyment for our residents," See **PICKLEBALL** on page 3

### Being bar mitzvahed at 83

The Jewish Center of the Moriches celebrates Stephen Schwartz **BY NICOLE FUENTES** 

Center Moriches resident and member of the Jewish Center of the Moriches, Stephen Schwartz, recently made his bar mitzvah at the age of 83.

Although it is customary for young adults to make their bat/bar mitzvah at 13, what many may not know is that it is also a tradition within the Jewish community to make a second bar mitzvah at 83. The number is significant in the fact that the Hebrew Bible says the life of man is three score years and 10, or 70 years. Meaning, the clock starts over at 70, but then adds 13 years to get to the second bar mitzvah at 83.

However, for Schwartz, who has been a lifelong practicing Jew, this was his first time making this life achievement, being that it was not customary in the Reform synagogue that his family attended in Missouri, where he grew up.

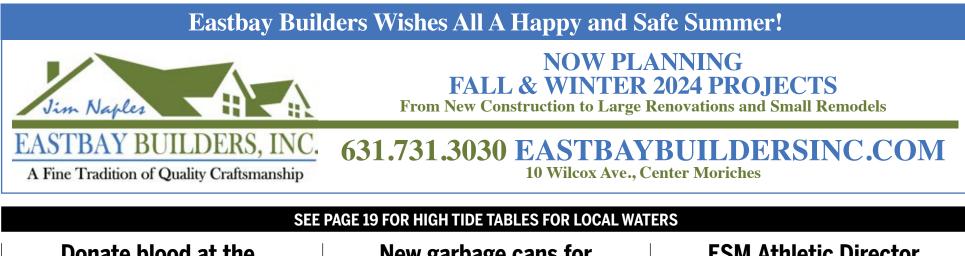
"I was brought up in an ultra-reformed congregation; we didn't practice bar mitzvah," he said, explaining that when he married his wife, Sherry, in the late 1980s, they settled in Center Moriches.

Upon settling on the Moriches Jewish Center, he and his wife then saw his son make his bar mitzvah there. Schwartz also went on to serve as a longtime board member of the center.

"There was some sense of desire on my part to fulfill this ritual, and when I decided to do it, I had to really learn the Hebrew alphabet from scratch," he said, noting he was tutored by cantor Susanne Katchko. "It's a very complicated system of consonants and vowels, dots and dashes.

During his preparation, he had to go from aleph-bet all the way to learning to read from the Torah scroll, which meant lessons two to three times per week.

See BAR MITZVAH on page 16



Donate blood at the **library** PAGE 7

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**ESM Athletic Director** hired PAGE 18

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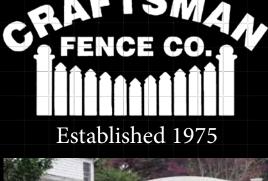
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# **Center Moriches High School's Class of 2024**

On June 29, Center Moriches High School's Class of 2024 celebrated its graduation during the 124th annual commencement ceremony. The graduating seniors,

dressed in their red caps and gowns, processed down a red carpet in the school's gymnasium as the symphonic band performed "Pomp and Circumstance."

The ceremony began with a warm welcome from principal Marissa Mangogna, followed by senior class president Isabella Rayburn leading everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Valedictorian Alexandra DeMatteo then performed a breathtaking rendition of the national anthem before seniors and guests took their seats.  $\blacksquare$ 



Center Moriches High School's Class of 2024 valedictorian Alexandra DeMatteo and salutatorian Tori Rudnick.

Members of the Center Moriches High School Class of 2024. Photos courtesy of Center Moriches School District

# **Congratulations to the ESM Class of 2024**

To the sound of bagpipes and the joyous cheers of family, friends and faculty, 287 graduates from Eastport-South Manor Junior-Senior High School's Class of 2024 processed into the school gymnasium on June 26 for the annual commencement ceremony. The seniors were honored for their collective accomplishments during one of the most important and memorable milestones of their lives.

Upon the graduates taking their places, class vice president Sydney Flores led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a stellar performance of the national anthem by Jenna Balzano.

Board of Education trustee Jeffrey Goldhammer welcomed the Class of 2024 and encouraged the graduates to hold onto the values of integrity, kindness, and perseverance. All three values have guided them to their success so far. "The path ahead may have twists and turns, but it's these challenges that will sculpt

you into the remarkable individuals you are destined to become," he said.

Class president Brooke Keitel reflected on the last six years at the junior-senior high school and cautioned that the graduates may feel lost in their next life chapter. "Remember, life is an adventure and will take you on the journey that you are meant to be on," she said. "You don't need to have everything figured out."

Salutatorian Layla Warsaw and valedictorian Ryan Lee then took the stage to address their peers and proffered last words of advice. Layla touched on the importance of the graduates' filling their future lives with love and passion. "Life is about so much more than success," Layla said. "A happy life requires a balance of success and a love for what you do."

Ryan spoke about the importance of welcoming failure and change and working to be better. "Perfection is too rigid of a standard. It doesn't allow for change, and change helps you grow," he said.

Principal Salvatore Alaimo also recognized 50 student-members of the district's inaugural Century Club, those entering a branch of the armed forces along with the coaches, unsung heroes, teachers, and friends who pushed the graduates to be better. Also congratulated were the 130 students receiving the Seal of Civic Readiness, those who acquired the Seal of Bi-Literacy, and students committed to academics or involved in sports and extracurricular activities through high school.

"Against the backdrop of unprecedented challenges, you navigated the choppy waters of high school with resilience, resourcefulness and spirit," Alaimo told the graduates. "The world now awaits, eager for your innovative minds and empathetic hearts."

After Alaimo certified that the Class of 2024 has met the requirements for graduation set by New York State, Hannah Squicciarini led her peers in the traditional changing of the tassels from right to left.

Prior to handing out the diplomas, superintendent of schools Joseph A. Steimel addressed the students with the message to carry the ESM spirit with them when they face obstacles. "There will be some unknown obstacles and setbacks," he said. "But you should always remember the resilience you've cultivated here at Eastport-South Manor... your greatest weapon in the face of adversity.'

After the final diploma was received, the new graduates threw their caps and exited the gymnasium as new alumni of the Eastport-South Manor Central School District. The district congratulates the Class of 2024 on this milestone accomplishment and extends best wishes for success as the class embarks on a new journey.



From left, Eastport-South Manor Jr.-Sr. High School graduates Ryan Lee and Layla Warsaw were valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the Class of 2024.



During the Class of 2024 commencement exercises at Eastport-South Manor Jr.-Sr. High School, 287 seniors received diplomas.

### **PICKLEBALL:** Courts will get benches and racks soon

#### FROM PAGE 1

he said. "Rumor has it that my colleague Karen has challenged my former legislative aide, her current legislative aide, to resident Michelle Robey, who has been a match. While I cannot choose sides on playing the sport for about a year after whom might win such an event, I can say that the entire town board looks forward to it."

On July 10, Panico and councilwoman Karen Dunne Kesnig stopped by the Moriches Athletic Complex to see the four new pickleball courts.

"Even I am not too old and out of shape to give pickleball a try on these beautiful new courts, and I will be playing with my legislative aide and secretary," joked Dunne Kesnig.

While there, they met with enthusiastic picklers, who are avid fans of the game and excited to play on the new courts. One such pickler is Moriches taking a lesson in Florida and becoming "obsessed."

"I found it difficult in the beginning to find courts and people to play with here on Long Island, but the TeamReach app really helped in terms of joining different groups and playing with random people who ultimately became friends,' she said

Typically, she was playing at Mastic, Calverton, and Sayville, traveling up to a half hour to play. She is also a member at Paddles Up in Bellport for indoor play. She plays about three to four times a week with her husband, sister, and players she has met along the way.

"These new courts at the MAC field are a game changer. So close to my house and absolutely beautiful!" she said of the Moriches addition. "I love that they are shaded, have fence dividers between the courts to limit interference from other games, and have lights for night play, especially in the summer when it's too hot to play in the middle of the day.'

She loves the sport for how inclusive it is.

"It is fun, challenging, and great exercise," she said. "You can have a great time as a beginner while continuing to learn and improve your game. If you are not very athletic, you can still be

very competitive by perfecting the strategy and placement of the ball. I have had 80-year-olds kick my butt because although they may not be able to run around the court, they can place the ball perfectly and beat you every time!" What more could you ask for?

Actually, she suggested a picnic table be added to rest between games, as well as a paddle rack to line up their paddles for the next players. According to town parks commissioner Ed Morris, the town does currently have plans to add benches and paddle racks.

"I'm so excited to play at these courts," she said, noting those are only suggestions. "It's great to see our tax dollars put to such good use!" ■



# The joy of lavender at Hoshyla Farm

#### BY C. E. PARRY

An unmistakable scent greeted a steady stream of visitors to Hoshyla Farm's purple fields for the opening of its first lavender festival on July 6 and 7. The Manorville farm has been under cultivation by the family for over 100 years and has recently undergone a transformation, switching to lavender from potatoes.

"It's got to be in your blood," said Paul Hoshyla, explaining the draw farming has had on his family over five generations. Despite its many challenges—diseases, weather changes, risk and barely breaking even financially—he says the rewards are many and keep them going. "You're your own boss. You make your own hours. And there's always something to do, even in winter."

Wearing his 82 years as lightly as he does his Long Island potato-decaled grey shirt, he is watching a transition to the next generation as his granddaughter, Monique, focuses on a new crop, and with it, a positive outlook for the future.

His great-grandparents arrived from Ukraine and began farming in East Meadow, in Nassau County. A move to Manorville in 1953 saw new acreage under cultivation with potatoes, a mainstay of Long Island farming on the East End at that time. Today, a copy of the label from the bags that held those potatoes is printed on T-shirts, an homage to their roots.

And, as Monique will proudly tell a visitor, the search for a new cash crop came easily. Starting three years ago with 11 acres under cultivation, she planted lavender, a plant that needs dry roots and perfectly suited to the sandy, well-drained Long Island soil.

The hand-tilled rows of Hidcote and munstead varieties, harvested in June, and the Provence plants ready in mid-July, prolong the availability of this fragrant, popular, and versatile plant. According to Monique, waiting three years before opening the fields to the public allowed the plants time to mature enough to sustain visitor foot traffic and the family time to consider how best to use it.

In addition to live plants, bundles of dried lavender, toiletries, and hand-painted glassware, there are jars of award-winning honey available for purchase. Newly designed plush pillows offer soothing comfort and a delightful aroma.

With its team of creative and dedicated family members, Hoshyla Farms is looking to the future as it celebrates its past. And we can anticipate new delights to come from their continued work on the land. ■





# Waterdrinker Family Farm and Garden hosts Lavender Festival

#### **BY KRAIG KLEIN**

Waterdrinker Family Farm and Garden in Manorville hosted the Lavender Festival and French Market on June 8 and June 9. The farm showcased a display of freshly grown lavender as well as lavender-themed photo opportunities and lavender products, including lavender-flavored ice cream. The Lavender Festival and Market's creation was inspired by the success of similar events in the past at Waterdrinker Family Farm and Garden.

"We had hosted the Garlic Festival last September with great success," Waterdrinker Family Farm and Garden member Brittney Weiss said. "We enjoyed it very much and thought it would be a fun idea to introduce some other seasonal festivals this year."

According to Weiss, different types

of lavender grow under different conditions. "Most lavender needs a period of cold in order to bloom the following year," she said. "We usually root the plants in summer [and] size them up. [We] let them go through a cold period in winter [so that they] bloom naturally in the spring."

The festival was themed around not just the lavender, but also France. The farm's official website specifically referenced the Provence region of France when describing the Lavender Festival and Market. Food and alcoholic beverages, live music, barnyard animals such as Nigerian dwarf goats, an obstacle course, a tulip-themed attraction, and a few activities like trampoline pads and miniature golf were also offered during the festival. The festival additionally featured an outdoors market filled with stalls operated by local businesses and craftspeople.



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# **Tavern night at the Ketcham Inn**

#### BY C. E. PARRY

"We have a different sense of time here," Bert Seides offered as a newly arrived participant apologized for being late.

Indeed, they do. Through its myriad activities, The Ketcham Inn strives to help residents re-imagine life in the Moriches during the 17th to 19th centuries.

To this end, what better way to spend an evening than with libation, friendly conversation, an inviting host and a winsome storyteller?

As their publican served drinks, Seides moved among guests making sure all felt welcome. Later, Diane Schwindt entertained with a lively discussion on the inn's place as a mainstay of Center Moriches community life, including the location for folks to gather for mail delivery pre-USPS.

Following a suitable time for socializing, guests made paper and ink, discovering the joys of tactile engagement with the written word. Future tavern events include another discussion of the 17th to 18th century on Friday, Aug. 16, 2024; an evening of dinner prepared on the hearth on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024; and, just in time for harvest season, a demonstration of historic food preservation on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2024. All events start at 6:30 p.m.

More information and registration: EVENTBRITE.COM. ■ Mt/Parry







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# Save a life this summer

Library hosts NYBC blood drive

#### **BY NICOLE FUENTES**

The Center Moriches Free Public Library will be hosting another New York Blood Center blood drive on Aug. 29. The event will take place from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Children's Activity Room.

This will be the library's eighth blood drive since 2021. Since then, the library helped collect a total of 402 pints of blood. Each pint can save up to three lives.

"We hope our eighth blood drive will be successful and bring the community together to help those in need," said library director Marcie Litjens.

Mary McNulty, community engagement librarian who helps organize the blood drives for the community, said they are excited to host another event.

"We are so pleased to host a blood drive for the community," she said. "Knowing that the need for blood in our hospitals never goes away, we are so grateful not only to the New York Blood Center for putting this together, but also to our generous community for helping to save lives through their donations. As community engagement librarian, it is my pleasure to help facilitate this for our community."

Donating blood is safe if requirements are met, including being in good health; 17 years or older (16 with a parent or guardian's written consent and 76-plus with physician consent); weighing at least 110 pounds (donors aged 16-18 have additional height and weight restrictions); antibiotics (except antibiotics for acne) if taken for infection, accept after last dose provided donor meets all other criteria; symptom-free for at least 72 hours following cold or flu.

To schedule an appointment or for questions concerning medical eligibility/information, or to make an appointment call 1-800-933-2566. Donors can also call the library at 631-878-0940 ext. 5 to schedule an appointment. ■



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# Center Moriches student wins music scholarship

#### **BY NICOLE FUENTES**

Stephen Buff of Center Moriches was one of 10 high school seniors to be awarded The Long Island Music Entertainment Hall of Fame awards scholarship.

Buff has been playing the flute since 2016 when he began private lessons under the instruction of Dr. Jennifer Haley. Stephen has also performed in the pit orchestra for "Jesus Christ Superstar" and the "Wizard of Oz" at the CM performing Arts Center in Oakdale. He has also participated in his private teacher's flute choir program over the summer.

"Thank you to the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame for awarding me the 2024 Student Scholarship," he said. "I am very grateful for this opportunity and excited to continue pursuing music for the rest of my life."

During his musical career, Buff has obtained perfect scores on all NYSSMA solos for flute since fourth grade. He was honored to be selected for the 2023 All-State Symphonic Band, for piccolo, and the 2023 All-State Symphonic Orchestra, for first flute.

Stephen has been a member of his school's jazz band since sixth grade, starting on flute and then switching to trombone in 10th grade.

This past summer, he performed with outstanding high school aged musicians in Europe through an organization called American Music Abroad (AMA). He performed as the lead piccolo and first flute in the orchestrawhile the group toured Austria, Germany, France, Czechia, and Italy.

Outside of school, Stephen plays in many community bands such as the No Doubt World Famous Monday Night Band, under the direction of Mike Cordaro, and the Greenport Band, conducted by Colin Van Tuyl.

He also has been playing with the Nassau-Suffolk Wind Symphony, directed by Joel Levy, for the past three years, in which he was the principal player this year.

In his future, he will be studying with Dr. Brian Dunbar at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, majoring in music education and music performance for flute.

This year, LIMEHOF awarded 10 graduating students a total of \$1,000. The organization also awarded the Pat DeRosa Memorial Scholarship for the second year in a row in memory of LIMHOF inductee Pat DeRosa. This year's winner was Peter Hoss of Greenlawn.

Additional students from across Long Island included Cooper Arbisi of Massapequa, Cody Chelune of Levittown, Jocelyn Chiu of Albertson, Guiliana Gallone of Kings Park, Dara Gordon of Dix Hills, Emily Helbock of Sayville, Ryan Loughlin of Farmingdale, Aidan Passaro of Mt. Sinai, and Julian Zuzzolo of Sea Cliff.

"We are thrilled to award these scholarships to such talented and dedicated young musicians," said Tom Needham, LIMEHOF's educational programs director. "Supporting the next generation of music students as they embark on their college journeys is at the heart of our mission. These scholarships not only recognize their hard work and passion but also reinforce our commitment to nurturing musical talent and education within our community. We can't wait to see what these young people will accomplish in their musical careers."

This is the first year that LIMEHOF has expanded its scholarships to include not only music but also the performing arts. This also marks the largest number of scholarships awarded in a single year since the program began.

LIMEHOF has awarded tens of thousands of scholarships to Long Island high school students since its inception. The students submit applications that are judged by LIMHOF's education committee, chaired by board member Tom Needham.

This year had a record number of

applications received. Students from schools in Queens and Brooklyn are eligible to apply in addition to those from Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

For more information about LIME-HOF's scholarships and educational programs visit https://www.limusichalloffame.org/scholarshipsgrants/.

#### About the Pat DeRosa Memorial Scholarship

Mr. Pat A. DeRosa performed for many years from Manhattan to Montauk and beyond. He taught music in Huntington and South Huntington and in 2018 the Guinness Book of World Records named him the "World's Oldest Professional Saxophone Player". (101 years old and still playing in 2022). Additionally, he was inducted into the Long Island Hall of Fame and the South Huntington Hall of Fame.

Born in Brooklyn and raised in South Huntington, DeRosa picked up a saxophone in the Bowery with his mom at the age of 12. After High School, he worked at Grumman before he was drafted into WWII where he played with the Glenn Miller Army/Air Force Band.

After the war, he played at The Latin Quarter and the Copacabana as well as other NYC clubs while attending the Manhattan School of Music, where he received a bachelor's and master's degrees in English horn and oboe. He played with Tommy Tucker, Tex Benecke, Lionel Hampton amongst others while on the road stopping to make a movie in Hollywood where he was invited to have lunch with Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis. When he returned home, he was introduced to John Coltrane and they played duets together for three years.

Most recently he could be seen playing with his daughter, Patricia DeRosa Padden of Montauk, on piano, and his granddaughter Nicole DeRosa Padden, also of Montauk, on vocals and flute as well as sitting in with numerous bands on the East End and Western Suffolk.

DeRosa retired from teaching in 1978,

but his students continued to contact him often. This Memorial Scholarship has been set up for a High School Senior to continue their studies in music on the saxophone or woodwind instrument. The criteria includes a 95 or above in music and a 90 overall average. An essay should also be provided by the student to show why they would like to continue to pursue music.

#### About LIMEHOF

Founded in 2004, the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the idea that Long Island's musical and entertainment heritage is an important resource to be celebrated and preserved for future generations. The organization, which encompasses New York State's Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, and Kings (Brooklyn) Counties, was created as a place of community that inspires and explores Long Island music and entertainment in all its forms. In 2022, LIME-HOF opened its first Hall of Fame building location in Stony Brook, New York. To date, the organization has inducted more than 130 musicians and music industry executives, and offers education programs, scholarships, and awards to Long Island students and educators.



# James O'Malley to perform next month

#### **BY NICOLE FUENTES**

Center Moriches resident and musician James O'Malley will be performing at the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame on Sept. 8. He has appeared on TV, radio, concert stages, and festivals throughout the area.

The Brooklyn-born Center Moriches songwriter composed songs fans call "endearing" and "relatable."

The Huntington Folk Music Society has called his music: "his soft voice and gentle finger style on the guitar enthralls the most jaded listener. The warm and intimate melodies that he crafts beautifully frame the direct and honest stories that he tells."

"Over the course of an hour or so, James's music elicits the same lumps in our throats, and smiles on our faces that we've all experienced over many years," said Todd Evans, of He Bird She Bird. During his performance he will be playing "I'm Ready" (2001), "If Only

In my Dreams" (2005), "Tales To Tell" (2010), "The Writer Remains" (2010), and "Ivyland" (2024). The event will take place at 3 p.m. at

the Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame at 97 Main Street, Stony Brook. Tickets are free with a general admission ticket. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at https://www.limusichalloffame.org/tickets-and-gift-cards/.

For information and bookings call or text James O'Malley 631-644-4099 or email james@jamesomalley.com.

#### Q&A with O'Malley

**Tide:** What drew you to Center Moriches?

J.O: Almost 24 years ago, my wife Pat

and I were looking for a nice town to live in. We drove east along Montauk Hwy till we came to Center Moriches. We stopped for breakfast at The Country Diner in the middle of town, and afterwards, took a little tour of the area and spotted an old Victorian that we fell in love with. To make a long story short, we wound up purchasing that exact house. Sadly, Pat passed away in 2022, but I am still here and wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

**Tide:** How do you describe your music? And who will enjoy it?

**J.O:** It could come under a few. Let's say, contemporary acoustic... Americana... singer-songwriter... folk. There isn't an age limit, but I'd say those who have lived and experienced life's ups and downs and still carry on with hope and faith.

**Tide:** Why play at the LIMEHOF? **J.O:** It is a way to show my apprecia-

tion for those who have supported and volunteered at the LIMEHOF. It is a wonderful venue with, what I've heard, a dedicated listening audience, which is the perfect setting for my music. Many of my pals have had wonderful experiences while there.

Tide: What can people expect of the show?

**J.O:** I perform solo with a guitar... I have, what's been called, a filigreed finger style. I decorate my songs using standard and open tunings, as well as fingerpicking.

#### **OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS**

The Beatles on the Balcony tour has been rescheduled to July 28 and the Bangles founding member Vicki Peterson on Aug 9. The Bangles were a major band in the 1980s. ■

## Fundraiser to be held in honor of Kathleen Johnson

The Moriches Community Center will be hosting a memorial fundraiser for the late director Kathleen A. Johnson on Sunday, Aug. 25. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the center located at 313 Frowein Road in Center Moriches. Refreshments will be served.

There will also be an art auction featuring Johnson and other local artists. All the proceeds will go toward The Community Center, direct donations can be made as well.

Organizers are also requesting attendees bring their favorite stories and memories of Johnson. If you have any photographs, please also send them in advance to Emily.ushko@ yahoo.co with "Kathleen" in the subject.

Johnson, known as a selfless community leader, died surrounded by loved ones on April 18, 2024, at 68 years old. ■



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# **Great Gun Moriches Anglers host fishing tournament**

#### **BY KRAIG KLEIN**

The Great Gun Moriches Anglers hosted a fishing tournament at the Union Avenue dock in Center Moriches on June 22.

The tournament began at 6 a.m. and included both inshore and offshore fishing. Striped bass, bluefish, weakfish and fluke were accepted for the inshore fishing competition; thresher sharks and bluefin tuna were accepted for the offshore fishing part of the tournament.

Judging began at the Union Avenue dock at 5:30 p.m., with first place for largest inshore and offshore fish winning 50 percent of the total money offered as prizes for their respective categories. The tournament raised funds for the Great Gun Moriches Anglers.

"The Great Gun Moriches Anglers Fishing Club has held inshore (fluke) and offshore (shark) tournaments for many years," Great Gun Moriches Anglers director of communications Tim Markart said. "With the ever-changing regulations, it was decided this year to combine our fluke and shark tournaments into [one] larger all-inclusive tournament."

"This is the evolution of our former shark tournament," Great Gun Moriches Anglers president Evan Goldstein added. "As conservation is a priority, we only target edible species in all our tournaments. This is an annual event dating back over 40 years."

Surfcasters Thomas Johnson and Sal Castellano won the first-place prize, \$400, for inshore fishing with a striped bass weighing 10.67 pounds. Richard Cannarella won the first-place prize for offshore fishing with a 205-pound thresher shark and won \$1,440. Cannarella also won an additional prize of \$1,200. Because no participant qualified for the second and third-place prizes for offshore fishing, the second and third-place prizes were raffled off.

Tournament participants met at the Rock Hill Country Club on June 21 for a captains' meeting. Markart said drinks, a raffle, and door prizes were handed out during the meeting. All anglers must have submitted their fish by 6 p.m. on June 22



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in order to be eligible for an award.

"The prize amount will be determined by the total number of entries in each category [minus] 10 percent for the club's operating expenses," Markart said.

New York State regulations prevented any striped bass over 31 inches long from being submitted.

"That restriction limits the weight to where any of the four species in the inshore category can be competitive," Great Gun Moriches Anglers member Frank Lapinski said.

"All members of the Great Gun Moriches Anglers have a passion for fishing, conservation, and protecting Moriches Bay and ocean," Markart added.



A 205-pound thresher shark was caught and displayed at the Great Gun Moriches Anglers fishing tournament at the Union Avenue dock in Center Moriches on June 22. Mt/Klein



The Great Gun Moriches Anglers currently plan to host the tournament again next year.

"We anticipate this format being very successful and plan to continue with [it] moving forward," Markart said.

"I've been fishing these waters for nearly 50 years plus," fisherman Russell Werthner said. "If the tournament is the same next year, I will... be fishing for whatever the inshore fish will be."

The Great Gun Moriches Anglers' next event will be Take a Vet Fishing on July 27, where the organization will be helping military veterans fish in local waters. A fluke tournament is also currently being planned. ■



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# New garbage cans aimed for Main Street

#### **BY LINDA LEUZZI**

Check out the new garbage receptacle in front of the Center Moriches Library. It's part of a pilot program underway to test its feasibility before others are joined along Main Street.

The Center Moriches Main Street holds its own with its attractive, cared-for business area featuring 112 hanging baskets regularly watered and clean sidewalks. But a garbage and dumpster issue began percolating a couple of years ago.

Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches Downtown Beautification Committee members Gerry Sapanaro (she is president) and Mark Danowski have been leading the charge. Councilwoman Karen Kesnig has been working with the group, along with Christine Fetten, commissioner of recycling and sustainable materials management.

"The receptacles are just for people walking past and disposing items like a pack of gum or a coffee cup," explained Sapanaro, who owns Moriches Bay Realty. "But that hasn't been happening. The town sent out letters to the property owners. We do have rentals, and want to make sure they aren't using these receptacles for their own business garbage."

There are 28 Main Street garbage cans currently in use.

Danowski, an Allstate Insurance agent, said there are about 50 businesses in the chamber.

"The garbage cans we have now have a life span," Danowski said. "They're about 15 years old." Business owners do go outside with a garbage picker if they see litter in front of their shop, he said.

As for the dumpsters problem. "Some of the gates swing open, and the garbage falls out and makes a mess," he said.

There was an inner liner that some garbage companies stopped utilizing.

"The town has gotten on those garbage-collecting companies and now they're being held accountable. The new cans have a system where the garbage can't fall outside the cannister," Danowski added.

Councilwoman Kesnig said commissioner Fetten spoke at a June 11 chamber meeting.

"The day after, Christine sent out a letter spelling out what the garbage cans in town were to be used for like coffee cups, but not for the businesses to empty their garbage in each day. She's very passionate about what she does and about getting people to comply. The town is spending a lot of money to get new cans in their search to satisfy the business



Center Moriches Main Street with current garbage receptacle. New ones are being considered.

owners," Kesnig said.

The new receptacle by the library costs approximately \$1,629. The unit was provided to the town at no cost, but there will be additional costs for installation once the program is in full swing. Once a green light is given, municipal bidding would take place. The town is picking up the tab.According to commissioner Fetten, "The new unit will remain at the library allowing the chamber to observe the unit and for the collection carter servicing it to determine if it's an appropriate type for the corridor. The town, highway department and chamber will then work together to determine permanent locations for the receptacles and develop an installation estimate, then would proceed with full deployment and investment."

Illegal dumping is another issue; the town has now issued stronger fines, as seen with the recent dumping of a boat in the Pine Barrens in Manorville.

"There's no Main Street in Manorville, so it's an easier place to dump whatever you want," Kesnig said. "But there are more cameras now and my office has made a strong effort to address that. People like to [do] things like paint cans they can't put out on the curb. But we've gotten lots of calls. Someone dumped five tires, for example; we got calls and sent the highway department out to pick them up."

Kesnig said at each town board meeting the town has adopted changes to town codes regarding this issue with stiffer penalties, "to wake people up that they can't be doing this."

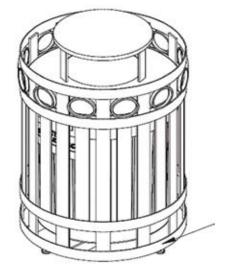
According to Local Law 8 passed in April, first conviction fines tally in at \$2,000 to \$10,000 or by imprisonment no fewer than 15 days nor more than six months.

Recycling also needs to be emphasized and followed through by residents, sadly on the wane, too.

"People don't properly recycle," Kesnig said. "So, we're trying to emphasize recycling education. Each council member has two recycling events each year."

Kesnig and Brookhaven recycling educator Zachary Sicardi visited the Dayton Avenue, South Street, Eastport and Tuttle Avenue elementary schools and made a recycling presentation, stressing its importance in May. On June 1, the town held an E-Waste, Shredding and Shed the Meds prescription drugs take-back, with Kesnig encouraging kids to get their parents involved.

"The kids were amazing. The class in each of the schools with the most participants got a pizza party," she said. ■



An illustration of the pilot receptacle in front of the Center Moriches Library. Courtesy photos

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# 'Abstracts' at Gallery 90

#### BY C. E. PARRY

Like a prism that reconfigures light and color, abstraction expresses an artist's translation of external and internal reality and gives it a totally new visual expression. Often spontaneous and playful, sometimes spare and almost primal in its simplicity, emphasizing mark making as distinctive as a signature, abstract art offers viewers a renewed sense of childlike wonder and excitement. The artists currently on view at Gallery 90 are representative of this highly individualistic approach.

George Schulman's childhood desire for self-expression led him to copy what he saw in art books and illustrations. Once he learned the basics of art making, he sought to find his own "voice" and move away from relying on other artists' work to inspire him. As he transitioned to working from his own inner voice, he saw ways to integrate his personal sense of rich color relationships with his drawing, and a visual style that was distinctly his own emerged.

Today, he incorporates found objects into his canvas surfaces; everything from paint caps, to stones, to beach and street detritus contribute to the story within his artistic statement. Almost as important to the inspiration he draws from these found sources was his discovery that he has to take risks without worrying about outcomes.

Esther Marie Caponigro's multimedia drawings take their inspiration from the movement and space in nature, especially the Long Island and New York environments, as she merges the visual with the rhythmic in interpretative expressions of multimedia abstraction.

Patti Robinson's collages celebrate the tactile with the poetic. Her process involves working from piles of paper, often including old copies of LIFE magazine, to extract patches of color which she coaxes into compositions both vibrant and arresting.

Susan Buroker strives to use her media—sculpture, puppetry, collage, as well as mixed media, drawing and painting-to promote public collaborations for social change, including efforts to correct ecological imbalances.

Ray Germann's high-contrast photographs dazzle the eye, bringing new focus to the quotidian and the sublime, and challenging our assumptions about the world around us.

"Abstracts" at Gallery 90, July 13 Aug. 11, 2024; Artists' Talk, Aug. 4, 2 p.m. 90 Montauk Highway, Center Moriches. Open Saturdays and Sundays noon - 5 p.m. 🔳



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### **BAR MITZVAH**

#### FROM PAGE 1

"It's a lot easier to teach seventh graders than an 80-year-old man," he said of Katchko's patience. "It's an old dog learning new tricks, but she was patient with me and I was diligent."

Schwartz then was called to Bema, a term for Torah reading during services, on June 29. His portion, determined by his date of birth, included the biblical requirements to wear prayer shawls.

"I am proud of myself. Yes, it was a challenge, but I am glad I did it and became a full-fledged member of the Jewish community," Schwartz said.

The service was led by Rabbi Jack Shlachter, former spiritual leader. He was joined by two previous spiritual leaders, Cantor Zach, now Rabbi Zachary Konigsberg, and cantor Katchko.

"It was a wonderful experience for everyone present, and I'm confident that Steve inspired others to consider marking the event in a similar fashion," said Rabbi Shlachter. "Steve has now passed the fullness of years threshold by 13 years, and thus, cycled around for a so-called second bar mitzvah ceremony. It's way harder to learn as we advance in age, yet Steve demonstrated to his friends, his family, and the entire congregation (including himself) that one is never too old to learn. He not only read from the sacred handwritten scroll of the Five Books of Moses (the Torah), which lacks vowels, punctuation, and trope, but he chanted the passage, and he did so flawlessly.'

Schwartz's bar mitzvah reception, held at Trumpets at the Gate, was also very well attended, including members of the congregation as well as his wife, children, son and daughter, grandchildren, cousins and extended family.

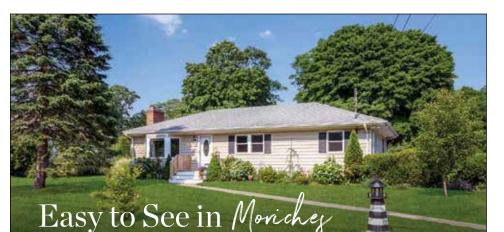
#### WHAT IS A BAR MITZVAH?

In one of the classic Rabbinical texts of a few thousand years ago, the age of 70 is identified as fullness of years (Pirke Avot 5:21). That same passage identifies 13 years of age as an age when one becomes responsible for fulfilling the commandments or mitzvot, hence the term bar or bat mitzvah, meaning one who is now obligated in Judaism like any other adult Jew. It is an unfortunate misconception that people "have" a bar or bat mitzvah. More accurately. they become a bar or bat mitzvah, and this happens simply by attaining the correct age-there need be no ceremony to mark the occasion.

Professionally, Schwartz is a retired senior scientist and group leader at Brookhaven National Laboratory, who is still busy writing scientific papers and teaching a course at Stony Brook University. ■



Schwartz stands with his wife, Sherry. Courtesy photos



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# A one-mile swim for a good cause

# Moriches Bay Swim to take place on Aug. 3

#### **BY NICOLE FUENTES**

Don't miss the annual Moriches Bay Swim, hosted by the Westhampton House Swim Club, on Aug. 3.

The event, now in its fifth year, is run by Art Dresner, who coordinates the swim across the Moriches Bay to raise money for East End Hospice and the Westhampton Fire Department.

"These two organizations can have the greatest impact on a wide population in the area and they do such important work," Dresner said of his choice to raise money for the organizations.

"Art Dressner and the Westhampton House Swim Club have done a wonderful job bringing together two of the East End's greatest characteristics—our community's love of the water and passion for supporting local charities," said East End Hospice president and CEO Mary Crosby. "We're thrilled once again to be a beneficiary of the Moriches Bay Swim Club and thank the swimmers and their supporters for helping bring East End Hospice's care and compassion to people throughout our East End communities." since high school. His father, he said, was a swimmer before him and enjoyed swimming off the ocean beaches in Rockaway during the summers of 1950 and '60. Art continues to swim in the ocean, pool, and the bay.

"I try to swim wherever I am traveling. It's a great form of exercise and one which everyone can do well into the senior years, so I promote it when I can," he added.

The one-mile swim typically attracts about 20 to 30 people. During the event, the Suffolk County Police Department also facilitates with boats to make sure all swimmers are safe in the boating





The idea behind having a competitive swim across Moriches Bay occurred to him because he has a summer home in Westhampton on the shores of the bay. Five years ago, he said, they became very friendly with the folks at Westhampton Hospice, who at the time were caring for a close friend and neighbor.

"It was a way to raise some money for them," he said of the original idea behind the fundraiser. "The local fire department became a recent beneficiary of the fundraiser. The Westhampton Fire Department is full of local heroes who saved the entire town of Westhampton during the Pine Barren fires of the mid 1990s."

Dresner, an attorney, is 83, his son Steven Dresner said, and though it's an unusual hobby for someone of his age, he loves it.

"[He] has been swimming for as long as I can remember, Steven said. "At 83 years old, he still swims in the ocean every day. Even last year, with all the shark sightings, none of that seemed to bother him. He went swimming anyway."

A few years ago, he said, his mom tried to get him to wear a small buoy around his waist in the ocean.

"But I'm pretty sure he never wore it, so she asked the lifeguard to follow him as he swims jetty to jetty," he added. "That's how you can see he's swimming—the lifeguard is walking back and forth on the beach."

Art has also been a regular swimmer

channel. Several other boats will also be manned by volunteers to follow the slower swimmers across the bay.

The swim will start at 11 a.m. at the Westhampton House Bay Beach, 585 Dune Road, with a boat ride to the Remsenberg Yacht Club, where swimmers will de-boat and swim back.

The entrance fee or support should be made out to East End Hospice or the West Hampton Fire Department. For more information or to RSVP call Art Dresner at 917-593-3676. Courtesy photos

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# **Eastport-South Manor alum named** district athletic director

#### **BY GARY HABER**

Patrick Hayes has joined the Eastport-South Manor Central School District as director of health, physical education and athletics.

Hayes comes from South Country School District in Bellport, where he held a similar position for the past two years.

It's a homecoming for Hayes, who graduated from Eastport-South Manor Junior-Senior High School in 2007 and began his teaching career there as a leave replacement physical education teacher, according to a press release from the district announcing his appointment.

Hayes, in his time at South Country, presided over a successful athletics program at Bellport High School, whose football team won its second consecutive county championship in 2022 and whose 2023-2024 girls basketball team made it to the county championship game for the first time in school history.

Bellport head varsity football coach Jamie Fabian said Hayes was supportive of the football program and the two worked well together.

When he was a teacher at Longwood



Patrick Hayes is the new director of health, physical education, and athletics at the Eastport-South Manor Central School District. Courtesy photo

High School, Hayes coached a number of sports, including the boys varsity basketball team. He coached the team to two league championships and was twice named League I coach of the year, the district's press release said.

Hayes was a familiar presence at games for Bellport teams, Bellport boys varsity basketball assistant coach Rich Brown said.

"He's a young guy with lots of energy and passionate about sports and he really embraced Bellport," said Brown, who said the two often talked about basketball coaching strategy.

Hayes holds a bachelor's degree in

K-12 physical education from SUNY Cortland and a Master of Science degree in liberal studies and certification in coaching from State University at Stony Brook. He also holds a certificate in coaching and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership from Stony Brook.

South Country named Martino Sottile as Hayes's replacement.

Sottile comes from the Brentwood School District, where he was a physical education teacher and head coach of the girls soccer team at Brentwood High School and assistant varsity wrestling coach. 🔳

## **Town honors Moriches** youth soccer team

At the June 27 town board meeting, supervisor Dan Panico and the town council presented Certificates of Achievement to the Moriches Youth Organization United Soccer Team in recognition of their Long Island Cup win to cap an outstanding 2024 season. Pictured with the team

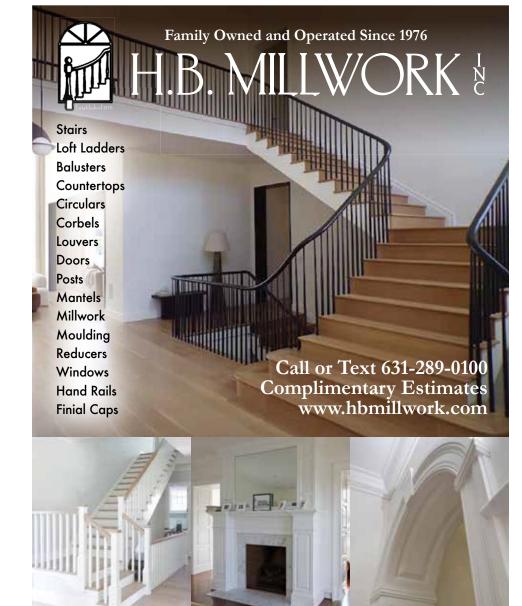
are (back row, left to right) coach Jeffrey Butofsky; councilmember Jonathan Kornreich; councilwoman Jane Bonner; supervisor Dan Panico; councilwoman Karen Dunne Kesnig; councilman Michael Loguercio; councilman Neil Manzella; and coach Sal Santoro.



### **NEXT ISSUE OF THE TIDE SEPTEMBER 6**



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# Town acquires land with historic background

#### Arch family home property **BY NICOLE FUENTES**

The Town of Brookhaven and Suffolk County recently partnered to acquire just under 12 acres of undeveloped woodlands along North Street on the Manorville/East Yaphank border.

The site, according to Brookhaven Town supervisor Dan Panico, features mature woodlands, rolling topography and a natural pond. It also has historical significance, having been the site of the home of the Arch family, an African American family residing at the property in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Abram and Huldah Arch acquired the property in 1865 and were part of a network of laborers who were employed by William Sidney Smith (of the Longwood Estate) among other prominent Brookhaven residents. The home is depicted on historical maps dating to 1873.

It is believed the Arches had one daughter (Annie Arch), who was well known within the local community and involved in the AME Zion Church in Center Moriches. She was also a close friend of Mary Bell, whose historic home in Center Moriches is listed on the NYS and National Registers of Historic Places and has been acquired by the Town of Brookhaven.

Mary Bell's historic home, locally known as the "slave house," is also located nearby at 66 Railroad Avenue in Center Moriches. The Mary E. Bell

House is an example of how emancipated slaves went on to build their own communities. The house and land provided a safe space, the ability to supplement their income with a garden and independent work, and was located close to the AME Church that they played an active role in.

This joint acquisition further protects important woodlands in and around the Central Pine Barrens, the Forge River watershed, and furthers the town and county's efforts to protect and promote our local history through preservation," Panico said. "Brookhaven Town and Suffolk County look forward to learning more about the rich history of this property."

The town and county will be hosting a press conference on Wednesday, Aug. 31. ■







The Man

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### HIGH TIDE TABLES FOR LOCAL WATERS **AUGUST 2024**

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	SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
Moriches Bay	8:16 AM	8:26 PM	8:58 AM	9:06 PM	9:40 AM	9:44 PM	10:21 AM	10:22 PM	11:02 AM	11:01 PM	11:42 AM	11:40 PM	AM	12:21 PM
Moriches Inlet	7:37 AM	7:47 PM	8:19 AM	8:27 PM	9:01 AM	9:05 PM	9:42 AM	9:43 PM	10:23 AM	10:22 PM	11:03 AM	11:01 PM	11:42 AM	11:43 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	10:32 AM	10:42 PM	11:14 AM	11:22 PM	11:56 AM	PM	12:00 AM	12:37 PM	12:38 AM	1:18 PM	1:17 AM	1:58 PM	1:56 AM	2:37 PM
	SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
Moriches Bay	12:22 AM	1:00 PM	1:06 AM	1:42 PM	1:55 AM	2:30 PM	2:52 AM	3:26 PM	3:57 AM	4:29 PM	5:04 AM	5:31 PM	6:04 AM	6:26 PM
Moriches Inlet	AM	12:21 PM	12:27 AM	1:03 PM	1:16 AM	1:51 PM	2:13 AM	2:47 PM	3:18 AM	3:50 PM	4:25 AM	4:52 PM	5:25 AM	5:47 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	2:38 AM	3:16 PM	3:22 AM	3:58 PM	4:11 AM	4:46 PM	5:08 AM	5:42 PM	6:13 AM	6:45 PM	7:20 AM	7:47 PM	8:20 AM	8:42 PM
	SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
Moriches Bay	6:57 AM	7:17 PM	7:45 AM	8:04 PM	8:33 AM	8:52 PM	9:21 AM	9:40 PM	10:11 AM	10:32 PM	11:04 AM	11:26 PM	11:59 AM	PM
Moriches Inlet	6:18 AM	6:38 PM	7:06 AM	7:25 PM	7:54 AM	8:13 PM	8:42 AM	9:01 PM	9:32 AM	9:53 PM	10:25 AM	10:47 PM	11:20 AM	11:44 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	9:13 AM	9:33 PM	10:01 AM	10:20 PM	10:49 AM	11:08 PM	11:37 AM	11:56 PM	AM	12:27 PM	12:48 AM	1:20 PM	1:42 AM	2:15 PM
	SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
Moriches Bay	12:23 AM	12:54 PM	1:21 AM	1:50 PM	2:20 AM	2:49 PM	3:23 AM	3:51 PM	4:29 AM	4:54 PM	5:31 AM	5:52 PM	6:25 AM	6:42 PM
Moriches Inlet	AM	12:15 PM	12:42 AM	1:11 PM	1:41 AM	2:10 PM	2:44 AM	3:12 PM	3:50 AM	4:15 PM	4:52 AM	5:13 PM	5:46 AM	6:03 PM
A														
Smith Pt. Bridge	2:39 AM	3:10 PM1	3:37 AM	4:06 PM	4:36 AM	5:05 PM	5:39 AM	6:07 PM	6:45 AM	7:10 PM	7:47 AM	8:08 PM	8:41 AM	8:58 PM

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# **Homeless in Moriches: The Way Home**

#### BY C. E. PARRY

Prior to changes in its system and its approach, Houston's homeless services for those in its city and its suburbs were among the worst in the nation.

According to Fryda Ochoa, communications associate with The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, Texas, before their current strategy, there was no coordinated approach. Nonprofits and other providers were working in silos. There wasn't much communication or collaboration. As a consequence, their homeless issues were managed, not addressed.

"By implementing our strategy, focusing on housing first, everyone was brought to the table to find the best ways to work together," she said.

to work together," she said. HUD provided technical assistance to create a community plan to address homelessness, and the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris, Fort Bend, and Montgomery Counties (CFTH) was designated as the lead agency for The Way Home, Houston's homeless response system.

A major change was in the approach to its homeless citizens. Believing that having a safe, stable home was primary and the foundation on which all other assistance should be based, CFTH made housing its No. 1 priority.

As a condition of funding from HUD's Continuum of Care (COC) program, it conducts an annual count of both sheltered and unsheltered citizens to capture trends in this population's increasing/ decreasing numbers to assess the overall effectiveness of its programs.

The 2023 count was conducted over three days in January. It showed a total



of 3,270 people experiencing homelessness. Of those 62 percent were sheltered, while 38 percent remained unsheltered. It followed a year in which COC received \$46 million in assistance.

- Among the key findings of the report:A 61 percent decrease in homelessness since 2011 when CFTH began
- 59,000 people sought information through the CFTH Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- More than 9,300 people were living in a permanent, supportive program
- through The Way Home More than 28,000 people had been placed in permanent housing since

A major factor in the program's success is the financial support provided by HUD.

631-878-0482

In 2024, the region received \$59 million, funds the program can rely on; recently a significant increase in funding came, thanks to pandemic relief dollars.

As a designated lead agency, CFTH is in charge of submitting a joint application to HUD each year. Funds are then distributed to each organization that applied through CFTH; additional funds may come from outside sources through separate fundraising efforts.

Under CFTH, a collaborative network of over 100 organizations—including homeless service agencies, local governments, public housing authorities, the local Veterans Affairs Office, and other nonprofits and community stakeholders—are linked into a system called The Way Home. "Our partners work together to make homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring in our region," Ochoa said. "When an individual presents as seeking services from any of our partners, they are entered into our database, where they're able to track services received and whether or not they received a coordinated access assessment—the first step toward housing."

"Since our funding comes from HUD, we are only able to house those who meet the literal definition of homelessness: someone living in a shelter or in a place not meant for habitation; outside; or in a vehicle or abandoned building. Those couch surfing with friends or in a hotel qualify only if the loss of that option is imminent. An ancillary pilot program works to address housing and financial needs of those who don't qualify under The Way Home."

"The city of Houston, Harris County, and all partners of The Way Home have a strong commitment to making sure everyone in their community has a safe place to call home. The program continues to build on the momentum generated by the data which show continued success of its efforts."

And CFTH's rising reputation as a model for effectively applying a "housing first" philosophy, to fulfill the need for housing and then treat any additional needs once housing is secured, has prompted many elected officials, media outlets, as well as groups from around the country, and the world, to reach out to see what they can learn from CFTH to address homelessness in their communities. ■



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### DRIVE SAFELY THIS SUMMER

Drivers need to do their part to keep summer a safe time for children to play outside and walk in their neighborhoods. Have a healthy and safe summer.

### KEITH'S CORNER Back to school

The month of August is all about back to school at Helping Makes U Happy.

This year, we have committed to the challenge of helping 400 students in need with new backpacks filled with school supplies!

Some will be going to students referred to us by area schools and some will be going to Suffolk County Sheriff Toulon's Back to School Fair. I'm so happy to have been invited to participate in this event on Aug. 19, and some will be going to other organizations who've asked for our help.

We are extremely thankful for the partnership of our friends at Girl Scouts of Suffolk County Service Unit 48, who are assisting us with collecting supplies, and of course, as always, thankful for our generous community members.

For information on what we are collecting, please visit our website, <u>www.</u><u>helpingmakesuhappy.org</u>, or our Facebook page.

We are also excited to be participating in the National Night Out, cosponsored by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Brookhaven. This event aims to foster community partnerships and promoting neighborhood safety and will be held on Aug. 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Fireman's Memorial Park, in Ridge.

Lastly, we are hard at work with preparation for our big October events, which take lots of planning!

Look for more about those in next month's column. Enjoy the rest of your summer!  $\blacksquare$ 



### MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB Celebrating our 50th anniversary

#### BY PATTI CHIEFFO

The Moriches Bay Garden Club met on Thursday, June 20, the day of the summer solstice. We gathered in the gazebo at the Rose Garden behind the Southampton Library. This beautiful garden is maintained by the Rose Society of Southampton. We were surrounded by spectacular roses in a variety of colors and sizes. It was a fitting way to spend the first day of summer.

President Debbie spoke to us about the rose, which is the New York State flower. The rose is 35 million years old according to fossil evidence, and there are 150 species throughout the Northern Hemisphere, Alaska to Mexico, including North Africa. Garden cultivation began 5,000 years ago in China. Roses are symbols of love, beauty, war, and politics.

You've heard of the War of the Roses? In the 15th century, the rose was used as a symbol of fighting to control England. White was York and Red was Lancaster, and the conflict was to become the War of the Roses.

Napoleon's wife, Josephine, had an extensive rose collection and a botanical illustrator, Pierre-Joseph Redoute, painted some of the finest rose watercolors in 1894.

Roses have become more disease and insect resistant than in the past and are more and more popular for gardens today.

In addition to observing the beautiful roses and hearing about the history of the flowers, we are preparing for two important events coming up in our garden club. Our flower show will be held at the Center Moriches Library on Saturday, Aug. 17 from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is free and we hope you will take this opportunity to come and see the beautiful exhibits displayed by our members.

We are also very excited to celebrate our 50th anniversary this year! We will be hosting a tea on Sept. 19 at 1 p.m. at Camp PaQuaTuck, in Center Moriches. In addition to enjoying tea, sandwiches, and dessert, we will have a gift basket raffle. And for our entertainment, Elvis will be in the building! Tickets are \$35. Come and join us as we celebrate 50 years of the Moriches Bay Garden Club. Who said a tea is boring?

If you are interested in becoming a member, would like more information about the flower show, or would like to purchase tickets for our tea, please contact our president, Debbie Cannarelli, at debgcan@gmail.com or (631) 258-2657, or 105 Ocean Ave., Center Moriches, NY 11934. ■



### MORICHES CHAMBER UPDATE Concerts and fundraiser

The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches is proud to host their Summer Concert Series. Listening to the sounds of Hot Water Street and Chain Reaction Band provided an uplifting experience for attendees of all ages.

"A great time was had by all. Children playing, people dancing, while others were savoring the relaxed summer atmosphere, chatting and laughing with family and friends," said president Jackie Osborne. "As the sun set, the scene epitomized the essence of summer—a time for relaxation, togetherness, and creating cherished memories with loved ones and friends. The concerts underscored the simple joys that make summer truly special."

To add to the night was Bad S Smoothie, offering delicious food and smoothies! The chamber would like to thank Jim Mazzarella and the Suffolk County

MORICHES & MANORVILLE

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legislature for their generous donation, as well as the Center Moriches Library, which makes this possible. Please join us for our summer concerts in August and remember to bring a lawn chair and dancing shoes!

Center Moriches Elementary - Main Street - Concert on the Lawn Concert Schedule Aug. 3 - Milagro Aug. 10 - Easy Street Aug. 17 - Sitting Ducks

Aug. 31 - Souled Out East Moriches - Soldiers & Sailors Park

The chamber has an exciting summer raffle! A \$20 ticket will enter you to win some great prizes! First prize, Big Cat 2024 Long Beach Cruiser E-Bike; second prize, NexGrill 4-burner gas grill; and third prize, Piedmont steel fire pit in black with poker.

You can purchase your raffle tickets at a few places: visit local shops and businesses such as Moriches Bay Deli, Moriches Bay Realty, Jimmy Osborne Music, AJ Sunflower; come to our Summer Concert Series and visit our chamber table; go to our website and buy online; visit our chamber table at all our summer concerts.

The winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the last summer concert on Aug. 31 at Center Moriches Elementary.

Also, as you drive down Main Street, please notice our beautiful flowers, which Kurt Weiss arranges for us, as well as our Hometown Hero project banners and flags. Most people are unaware that it costs in excess of \$5,000 a year to put up the beautiful summertime and holiday

flower baskets along Main Street.

There are no government grants for this and the Downtown Beautification Organization must raise this money each year in order to replace these baskets. And while we have volunteers who water and maintain the baskets, we are always looking for additional help. Please consider making a donation today by going to the chamber website moricheschamber.org.

#### JOIN THE CHAMBER

The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches helps support and promote local business and is proud to sponsor many community events. We are always looking for new members and volunteers. Please go to our website to become a member and if you'd like to volunteer, please send us an email at infor@moricheschamber.org. ■

It is not our aim to tell readers what to think, but to provide them with food for thought and to make interpretive editorial comment on the news

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Letters policy: Letters to the Editor are always welcome. Letters must be 300 words or less, in good taste and not libelous, signed and include a daytime telephone number for confirmation of authorship. Our email address is ADVletters@optonline.net.

### **AROUND TOWN**

#### Saturday, August 3

**Outdoor Summer Concert** – As part of the free Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches free Summer Concert Series, "Milagro" will play on the front lawn of the Clayton Hey Elementary School, Center Moriches, 7-9 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and snacks. No alcohol.

**Metal-Detecting for Beginners** – Program at Moriches Branch of Community Library will discuss the basics of this 'treasure-hunting' hobby, 10-11:30 a.m. Open to all. Register online or call 631-399-1511.

#### Wednesday, August 7

**Mastic Peninsula** - The Historical Society will meet at the Forge River Boat Club, 48 Riviera Dr., Mastic, 7:30 p.m. Call 631-281-7347 or visit <u>www.mphistorical.org</u> or email mastichistory333@gmail.com for more information.

#### Saturday, August 10

**Outdoor Summer Concert** – As part of the free Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches free Summer Concert Series, "Easy Street" will play at Soldiers and Sailors Park, East Moriches, 7-9 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and snacks.

#### Sunday, August 11

**Backpack Drive** – Now through Aug. 12, donate a new backpack to South Bay Bible

Church, 578 Montauk Hwy., East Moriches, and they'll fill it with school supplies. Volunteers can sign up for Backpack Packing Day, Saturday, Aug. 17, 10 a.m. Filled backpacks will be given away on Movie Night, Aug. 23. Call 631-909-8241.

#### Monday, August 12

**Book Chat** – Join Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library off site at the Wine Barn, 339 Montauk Hwy., Moriches, to discuss all things books—what's on your nightstand, your favorites, what to read next, and more, 6-7 p.m. Wine and beer available for purchase. Snacks provided. Open to all. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 2014.

#### Thursday, August 15

**Alzheimer's Caregiver Support** – Support group for caregivers of someone with dementia or memory loss at Mastics Beach branch of the Community Library, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Receive emotional and social support as well as educational materials. Register online or call 631-399-1511.

#### Saturday, August 17

**Outdoor Summer Concert** – As part of the free Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches free Summer Concert Series, "Sitting Ducks" will play on the front lawn of the Clayton Hey Elementary School, Center Moriches, 7-9 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and snacks. No alcohol.

#### Of Note ...

**Book Sale** – Browse a wide variety of gently used and antique books at the Ketcham Farm Book Barn, 81 Main St., Center Moriches. Proceeds support Ketcham Inn restoration. Open Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, noon to 5 p.m. and Sat., Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; April through December. Visit www.ketchaminnfoundation.org/book-barn/ for details.

**Volunteer Advocates Needed** – Family Service League is seeking volunteers to train as advocates for adult-care residents. Volunteer Ombudspersons visit residents weekly to ensure quality of life. For information, call 631-470-6756 or email jwirkula@fsl-li.org.

**Volunteers Needed** – Suffolk County Helen Keller Services seeks individuals to visit homebound blind and elderly people. Read mail, socialize and transport. For more information, call 631-424-0022.

Student Volunteers – Colonials Community Volunteers Corp is looking for students in grades 7-12 to help with graffiti removal, flowers for friends, tutoring, newsletter publication, youth council and community events. To get involved, call 631-281-4416 and ask for Ray.

**Brookhaven Veterans** – Those needing information regarding VA compensation, pensions, health care, employment or other benefits can call Sam Stahlman at Town Hall, between 9-10 a.m. at 631-451-6574. **Free Food** – Word of Life Ministries opens its food pantry every Tuesday at 6:30-8:30 p.m. for those in need. Sunday service is at 11 a.m. Bring photo I.D. for your first visit. Pantry located at 15 Frowein Rd., Bldg. F4 in Center Moriches. Call 631-208-4050 for more information.

**Retired Seniors** – RSVP helps partner volunteer adults 55+ with local organizations that need help. To find out what opportunities exist, call 631-979-9490 or visit www. rsvpsuffolk.org.

**DVDs for Military Personnel** – AMVETS Task Force DVD is an appeal to patriotic Americans to donate their new and used DVDs to be shipped to our fighting men and women overseas. If you have a family member and/ or friend deployed anywhere around the world, AMVETS will send them a box of DVDs for their personal and/or unit's use. You may make your request by providing their complete military mailing address, name, APO, etc. in an email addressed to thilton@amvets.org.

**Sunday Worship** – Join the Presbyterian Church of the Moriches Sundays for worship and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m., and teen class at 9:30 a.m. Call 631-878-1993.

**County Pass Discount for Veterans** – Veterans can purchase a Suffolk County Green Key Card at a reduced rate with state driver's license and 2 additional proofs of residency. For more information, visit www. suffolkcountyny.gov.

#### 75 Years Ago AUGUST 1949

Mrs. Elizabeth Hedges and her son, Charles, sold their stationary store on Main Street, that has become a landmark to Center Moriches villagers in its 25-year existence when it was first established by the late A.T. Hedges, Mrs. Hedges' husband. The new owner will be Robert Sprague of Lake Street.

The winners of the baby contest held in Center Moriches under the sponsorship of the Methodist Church were as follows: **Catherine Townsend** of Center Moriches, **Robert Dyke** of Eastport, **Loretta Strebel** of Center Moriches, **Marvyn Hudson** of Center Moriches, and **Cheryl Smith** of East Moriches.

Eastport resident Eddie Hall and his dart team attended a baseball game at Ebbets Filed, Brooklyn. Those attending were Eddie Heil, Eddie Heil Jr., Joe Radjiewski, John Kostuk, Pat Rogers, Martin Yarrow, Lee Rogers, Hubert Raynor, Palmer Smith, George Kanas, Lyman Edwards, Joe Connaughty and Charles Babkiewich.

**William Ellington**, of East Moriches, became a member of the Associated Musicians of Greater New York after passing his entrance test on the string bass.

Master merchant and old-time Eastport resident **Harry Goldstein**, founder of the Harry Goldstein and Son Department Store in Eastport, has been passing on tips of the trade to his granddaughter, **Esther**, who is a student at Eastport High School and works part time at the store.

Jean Ann Ellington, of East Moriches, completed an intensive course at the Traphagen School of Fashion, New York City, majoring in costume design and illustration.

Many relatives and friends extended hearty congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. William M. Edwards** in celebration of their 66th wedding anniversary.

Five-year-old **Roger Brown Reeve**, of East Moriches, reeled in a 4-and-1/2 and

5-pound bluefish while troiling with his uncle and grandfather, **Hiram Reeve** and **Russell Henderson**, just outside of Moriches Inlet.

**D.L. Brown** of Union Avenue, Center Moriches, was presented with a 40-year pin by **Alfred Klement**, noble grand of Warratta Lodge, IOOF, in recognition of his service in the lodge.

**Jane Burwell** pitched the Center Moriches girls softball team to a 23-10 victory over Blue Point in a Police Athletic League game at Center Moriches.

Playing in August at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: Clark Gable and Alexis Smith in "Any Number Can Play"; Glenn Ford and Ida Lupino in "Lust for Gold"; and "The Great Gatsby."

### 50 Years Ago

AUGUST 1974

The monthly meeting of the Moriches Bay Audubon Society was held at the Quogue Wildlife Refuge. **Dr. and Mrs. Mervyn Kamran**, members of the society, presented slides of the Philippine and the Hawaiian Islands.

**Louis A. Fuoco Jr.** was chairman of the Louis A. Fuoco Sr. Golf Open at the Bellport Golf Course to benefit Camp Paquatuck in Center Moriches.

National Challenge, a sporting event that brought together over \$6 million worth of the most exotic racing machinery in the world, took place in Center Moriches on the National Speedway and featured **Don Garlits**, one of the most wellknown competitors in contemporary racing.

Some 400 contestants competed at the Centereach Pool in the Brookhaven Town Recreations annual swimming meet. Among the local winners were **Robert Reimann** of Center Moriches in the 15-to-17-year-old freestyle; and **Nancy Debrowsky** in the 9-to-10-yaer-old freestyle.

**Eugene Blau**, of Manorville, came in second place in the South Shore Bridge



August 1949: Burning up the waterways this summer is Nick Chapman of East Moriches, crack outboard racing pilot who has chalked up victories all over Long Island. He is pictured in the cockpit of the *Rowdy*, the slick racing craft that has shown its stern to many of the best boats in the area.

Club competition.

Over 20 students from the Center Moriches School District are forming a petition to hold a revote in order to pass their school budget after two defeats last month. The petition drive organizers include **Cindy Malanchuk, Leanna Huey**, and **Brian Lindgrin**.

**Guiseppe and Rose Garappolo** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a surprise party given for them at the J.V. Kavanaugh Knights of Columbus Hall in Mastic. After the party, the Guiseppe and Rose renewed their wedding vows.

Scout Troop 262 of Mastic returned from Lake of Isles Scout Reservation in North Stonington, Conn., under the leadership of scoutmasters **Anthony Prakeseh** and **Ray Larsen Sr**.

The Manorville Community Ambulance was officially dedicated at ceremonies at the firehouse of Silas Carter Road. The driving force behind the creation of the ambulance is lifelong Manorville resident and 18-year volunteer firefighter, **Perry Stafford**.

Residents of Cedar Lodge Nursing Home and children of Camp Paquatuck, in Center Moriches, bridged the generation gap by getting together for some ice cream and sing-alongs, under the leadership of camp director **Dave Rodgers** and Cedar Lodge administrator **Bruce Telcher**.

Playing in August at local United Artists Theatres: Barbra Streisand in "For Pete's Sake"; Paul Newman and Robert Redford in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid"; Paul Newman in "The Sting"; and Walt Disney's "Herbie Rides Again."

#### - Compiled by Vanessa Graniello

YEARS AGO



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