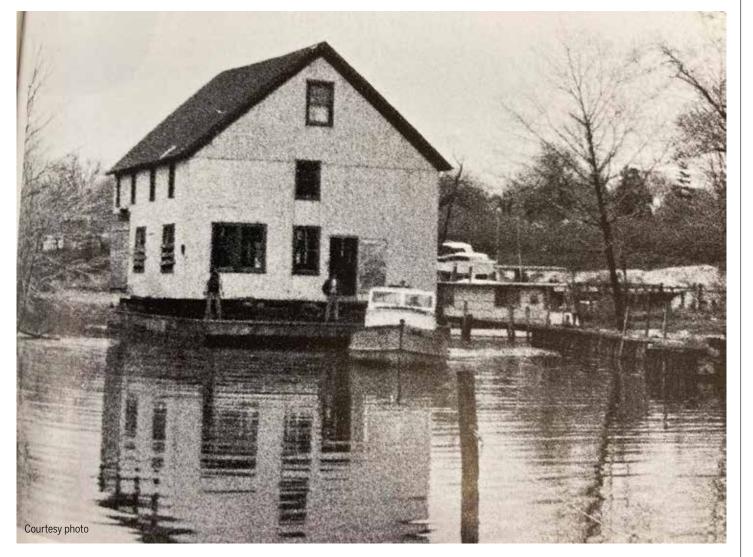




thetideofmoriches.com

JANUARY 2025

The Union Avenue Dock and its ties to Brooklyn



BY C. E. PARRY

For those who've been around long enough, Frowein Road is still the By-Pass, The Seacove restaurant is still The Sunrise, the phone prefix for Center Moriches is 878, and the dock at the end of Union Avenue is named after Brooklyn. To figure out why, one need only consult Van and Mary Fields' "The Illustrated History of the Moriches." At the turn of the 20th century, hotels and boarding houses between Eastport and Moriches catered to vacationers. The lure of fresh air and beautiful ocean beaches made the area a popular tourist draw in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Center Moriches alone had 13 summer getaway destinations. The largest of these, with accommodations for over 300 guests and towering over the rest of the neighborhood, The Brooklyn Hotel, stood on the west side of Union Avenue, just north of Bowditch Lane.

The hotel's booking office in NYC promoted its many amenities: all modern improvements, including private, en suite baths with modern—read inside plumbing; water sourced from artesian wells; and equally cool and comfortable stables for horses. Rail transpor-See **UNION AVENUE DOCK** on page 8 14th Year, Issue 1

New Year's resolutions for 2025

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The *Tide* is welcoming 2025 in the Moriches with admirable New Year's resolutions from many of our local faces. What is your New Year's goal?

Daniel Panico, Brookhaven Town Supervisor



"In this coming year, I will continue the preservation of open space, and push the redevelopments in downtown North Bellport and downtown Mastic Beach toward

fruition. Moreover, I will redouble our efforts to help the people and communities who are in need where town government can make a difference, while pushing other levels of government to do the same. I strongly believe that there should be no place in elected office for those who cannot rise to the challenges of our day, and those challenges are plenty. I will continue to meet those challenges head-on, whatever they be, while explaining facts to our residents, devoid of fanciful fiction and rhetoric that has too often become the discourse of our day. The people yearn for the truth, and that is what I will continue to give them.'

Karen Dunne Kesnig, Brookhaven Town Councilwoman



"As a member of the Brookhaven Town Board, my resolution is to encourage more direct open communication through meetings, telephone calls and emails,

and less misinformation being spread on Facebook. We are concentrating on cracking down on illegal rentals and See **RESOLUTIONS** on page 3



A look ahead at town projects PAGE 3 Friends of the Library book sale PAGE 4

Parade of Lights PAGE 12



Local town projects and a look ahead

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Brookhaven Town councilwoman Karen Dunne Kesnig has been hard at work in 2024, with a lot of attention paid to Main Street beautification efforts in downtown Center Moriches.

'My office worked closely with the Center Moriches Downtown Beautification Organization and the chamber of commerce, researching new garbage cans for Main Street that would be more functional, but still have the appropriate look and feel," she said.

A total of 27 cans were purchased and ordered and are now in hand; installation is expected in the coming months.

In addition, Dunne Kesnig's office worked with the Highway Department to plant several street trees along Main Street in Center Moriches that were missing.

Dunne Kesnig and supervisor Dan Panico said they are also "extremely proud" of the work that the town board did in significantly increasing fines for illegal rentals for repeat offenders.

'This is one of the single most important issues that my office deals with on a daily basis, one that can plague a neighborhood," Dunne Kesnig said of her area.

Also, this year, the town installed a new playground at Webby's Beach in Center Moriches.

"[It] was a long time coming, and has been met with rave reviews," she said. "This is a beautiful beach that is enjoyed by many families and their children.'

Goals for 2025 include:

Dunne Kesnig said she is starting to look at the Presbyterian Church on South Street and Wading River Road in Manorville, which was designated as a historic landmark in Brookhaven Town.

"I applaud Dan Panico's efforts when he was a councilman in preserving this landmark," she said. "I am now working with our town historian and Parks Department to get some work done on this property so that it can remain a treasured landmark.'

The town also recently installed a historic landmark sign at this location.

One of the major issues she said she hopes to continue to address in the new year is illegal dumping.

This continues to be a major issue throughout the Town of Brookhaven, which is why fines have been significantly increased and cameras installed in many places to help deter dumping," she said. "I will continue to fight illegal dumping and encourage constituents to report it."

To report illegal dumping to her office call 631-451-6502.

RESOLUTIONS: Library, legislator and chamber weigh in FROM PAGE 1

illegal dumping to help improve the quality of life here in Brookhaven."On a personal note, I also hope to focus on the positive and not let the few very negative people cause me to lose sight of what's important in life."

Marcie Litjens, **Center Moriches Free Public Library Director**

"The library sur-



passed over 200,000 visitors in 2024 and in addition to checking out items, provided a variety of services including

notary, passport acceptance, educational and entertaining programming, the seed library and partnered with Stony Brook Medicine to offer the Healthy Libraries Program and social work interns. In 2025, the library will be conducting a survey to see how we can continue to meet the needs of the community and what services and programs you'd like to see added. More information will follow in the upcoming year and will be announced in our newsletters and on our website."

Jackie Osborne, Moriches **Chamber of Commerce**

"In 2024, we were able to host seven summer concerts in Center Moriches and East Moriches, thanks to the generous donation of Jim Mazzarella, Suffolk County legislator, and the Center Moriches Library, bringing our communities together through the power of music. We also organized two large fairs, each featuring live music, which attracted people from near and far. Additionally, we continued our cherished traditions with the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Dinner, the Veterans Parade, and the Christmas tree and menorah lighting. These events have not only allowed us to come together in celebration, but have also served as a testament to the strength and unity of our chamber and our towns.

"This year, we also hosted two major fundraisers, and thanks to your incredible generosity, we were able to donate to 12 local charities. In addition, we provided six scholarships to our local schools, including a business student scholarship, to students from Center Moriches High School. These initiatives have had a tangible impact, and none of it would have been possible without your continued support and participation.

"We look forward to continuing this tradition of giving back and working together to make our community even stronger in the coming year. Thank you to everyone who has made this year a success!

'The chamber of commerce is excited for the upcoming year and all the wonderful events we have planned to bring our community together. One of our main goals for 2025 is to engage more volunteers from our community who would be willing to lend a helping hand at our various events. Your support is vital to making these events a success and ensuring they continue to bring joy and connection to our towns.'

James Mazzarella, Suffolk County Legislator

"My top priori-



ty as we head into 2025 is to continue improving public safety-because keeping our roads communities and

safe is the most important responsibility of any elected official. In the year ahead, I'm committed

to: Expanding beautification and

- revitalization efforts across the 3rd Legislative District.
- Advancing sewer infrastructure projects to protect our drinking water and ensure our waterways remain clean and healthy.
- And on a personal note (as cliché as it may sound)... I wouldn't mind shedding a few pounds, too!

Here's to a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2025 for all. Let's get to work!"

Cassy and Keith Caputo, Helping Makes U Happy



"Keith's resolution is to find new space for Helping Makes U Happy! Although we are extremely grateful to have been allowed to use some

of East Moriches Hardware's space for putting together all the Christmas helping we are doing this year, all the moving bags of gifts back and forth between home and there was really challenging for me and mom. And I resolve to keep asking people to keep an eye out for a place for uswe just missed out on a place today because we didn't see it in time. But no matter what, I'm going to keep my 'happy' on!"

Matt Gartelman, **Barn Again Farm**

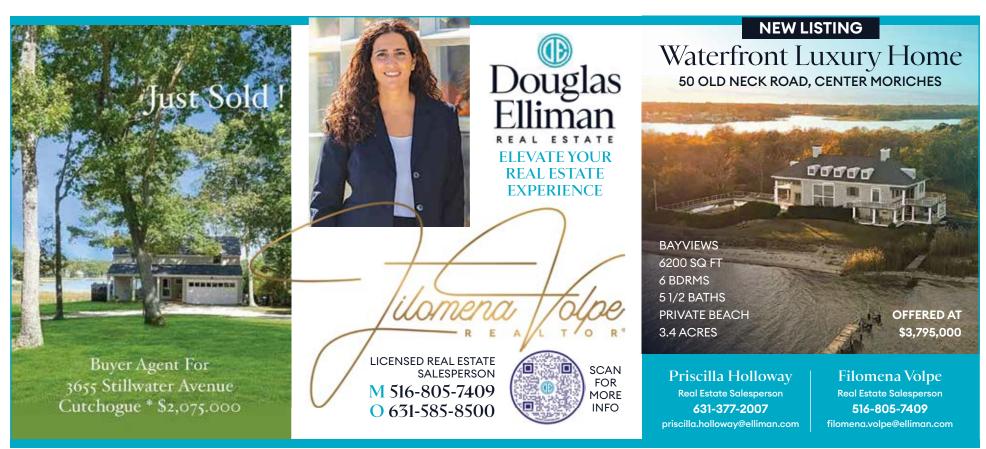


"2024 was amazing! I was blessed with so many amazing opportunities for the farm and even my personal life. I spoke at and

promoted farming at two schools a pre-K and even a college. I also was awarded the first-ever Young Entrepreneur Farmer Award from the Long Island Farm Bureau! We started farming bees and started a wildflower pollinator garden. We also worked with the Ketcham Inn Foundation and they were nice enough to let us set up our Festive Farm Stand.'

"My personal New Year's resolution is to keep learning! Learning about farming, marketing, managing, designing and so much more.'

"Our New Year's resolution here at Barn Again Farm is to keep promoting the opportunities of farming on Long Island. Another goal is to try to start another community garden for the residents and (or) tourists in Center Moriches. We are really looking forward to harvesting our first batch of honey from our Center Moriches farm."



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Vintage, antique and premium sale

BY NICOLE FUENTES

It's the moment local book fans have all been waiting for! The Friends of the Center Moriches Library second annual vintage, antique and premium book sale.

The club collects donated books eight months out of the year in an effort to sort and collect enough books for their sales.

"The older books are treasures. People do not always know what to do with them and not wanting to add to the landfill or toss, they find their way to various donation places, one of which is the CM Friends donation box (open April through November)," said member Kathy Kleinpeter.

The idea for the antique book sale originally came from seeing something similar at the West Islip library. After networking with that Friends group, Kleinpeter said, the CM FOL were able to host their first sale last January.

To make the sale happen, Kleinpeter and the friends search through hundreds of book donations for vintage finds.

"I continue to cull these treasures: antique books over 100 years old, vintage between 50 and 99 years, and premium would be up to 50 years old," she said. "Some of the older books may be tattered, but I still would like for them to eventually find a home."

However, if they are moldy or tattered beyond hope, they are tossed.

"Once in a while a book comes through with enough dedication information, or specific titles, that I am able to reconnect them with the place of origin, not necessarily the person," she added, noting not all of them are put up for sale. Unique finds included oversized atlases from the Cherokee Plantation (named after the Cherokee Rose), S.C., that belonged to the third wife, Caroline Coe, of WR Coe, who owned the Planting Fields Arboreum in Oyster Bay.

"I connected with the historian there and she was thrilled to have these pieces of history to add to their historical collection," she said of their good work, too.

Earlier this year, they also found a Luther's Small Catechism from the Orphans Home, Topton, Pa., December 1912. After some research, she spoke with a member of staff and again, they were thrilled to have this for their archives.

Also, this past summer they found a bible with the inscription: "The Rugby Congregational Church," dated in the 1920s. And, you guessed it, after some research, she was able to find the church, which is now The Rugby Deliverance Tabernacle, Brooklyn, N.Y.

"The reverend there was delighted to have this added to their historical archives," she added. "So, it's not just about having a fundraiser or finding new homes for the treasures, but giving new life for a book that had lost its way!"

The Friends of the Center Moriches Free Public Library has been operated by volunteers for decades with a purpose to maintain an association of people interested in libraries.

The Friends help the library by raising public awareness, stimulating the use of the library's resources and services, and to support the library's developments.

FOL has also maintained outreach programs, including Library at the Laun-See **BOOK SALE** on page 8



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Chamber swears in new board members

Students of the Month announced

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Moriches Chamber of Commerce recently announced the swearing in of the new board members of the chamber of commerce for the upcoming year.

Councilwoman Karen Dunne Kesnig and Legis. Jim Mazzarella performed the swearing in at the chamber's annual Christmas party last month.

"We would like to extend our congratulations to the following individuals who will be leading the chamber with passion and dedication," said Jackie Osborne, chamber president.

The 2025 officers include: Art Gerhauser, past president; Jackie Osborne, president, Jimmy Osborne Music; Lisa Goulding, vice president, Lifestyle Fishing Company; Amy Mahnken, recording secretary, Oasis; Gerry Sapanaro, treasurer, Moriches Bay Realty; and Melissa Molloy, corresponding secretary, notary public.

The 2025 directors include: Judy Eberhard, Eberhard Nursery; Miriam Gillies, resident; Paul Quinn, vice president, Federal Savings Bank; Florence Fournaris, Lemon Tree; Roseann Gencarelli, Moriches Bay Deli; Jennefer Susskraut, South Shore Plumbing and Heating; Joseph Bonanno, Jet Direct Mortgage Bankers & MCG Merchant Services; Katie Goulding, AJ Sunflower Boutique; and Jennifer Gagliano, Robertaccio Funeral Home.

"We are excited about the leadership

and vision this new board brings and look forward to all the accomplishments we will achieve together in the year ahead," Osborne said. "Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the chamber!"

Additionally, this month, the chamber held their annual tree lighting and menorah lighting supported by Miriam Gillies, Gerry Sapanaro, Art Gerhauser, Judy Savino, the Center Moriches High School Holiday Ensemble, directed by Sara Green and Paul Conefry, Greg Delong, who built and maintains the menorah, Puccio Electric for lighting up the town, Steve Druek of True Value Hardware, who donates and decorates the tree each year, Eberhard Nursey for donating the tree, Hampton Coffee, Chuck and Bonnie Schultz, and Village Music for MCing the event.

"This beloved event would not be possible without the support of many wonderful individuals," added Osborne of the event.

The chamber also thanked the Damianos family, owners of the shopping center, for their continued support of the tree-lighting event. The chamber places a star lit at the top of the tree in honor of John Damianos.

"The tree and menorah lighting is a cherished event that the chamber of commerce is honored to host each year. It is a time when our community comes together to celebrate the holiday season, spreading joy and creating lasting memories. This event has become a beloved tradition, and we are grateful to be able to share it with all of you," said Osborne.

The William Savino Holiday Decoration Contest

Every year Dr. Judy Savino honors her father, Dr. William Savino, by holding the annual William Savino Holiday Decorating Contest.

About 14 years ago, Dr. Savino started the tree-lighting ceremony to bring some holiday cheer to the town.

The five finalists this year were Brothers Four Pizzeria, 5 Star Construction, Century 21 Sparrow Realty, Build NY, and AJ Sunflower Boutique! And the winner was 5 Star Construction.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Last month, the chamber also hosted their annual Christmas party at LaVolpe Restaurant in Center Moriches.

During the party, the chamber recognized several local businesses for their remarkable longevity and continued success in the community.

"These businesses have been an integral part of our town's growth and prosperity, and we are proud to celebrate their milestones," said Osborne.

The businesses honored include: Andrea Milano - Tax & Accounting

- Services 30 Years
- Moriches Yacht Club 125 Years
- Mount Pleasant Cemetery 145 Years
- Hampton Coffee Company 30 Years
- Island Ready Mix 25 Years
 Anne Montanez Storage R Us West 25 Years

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

September - Gabriella DeAngelis is a senior at Center Moriches High School,

where she serves as senior class president and president of the DECA Club. As captain of the girls varsity soccer team and a member of the varsity flag football team, Gabriella has demonstrated exceptional leadership both on and off the field.

Her commitment to community service is equally impressive, as she actively contributes to organizing youth sports and advocating for mental health awareness. Gabriella is passionate about leadership and management, and her involvement in various school initiatives has helped her develop these skills further. Through her work with the student leadership group, she has played a key role in organizing events such as PS I Love You Day week, the Mental Health Run Series (a collaboration with three other school districts on Long Island), the Turkey Trot, and the ALS Ride for Life.

Gabriella's dedication to leadership, community engagement, and business has inspired her to pursue a degree in business management in college, where she looks forward to continuing her growth in these areas. Her experiences at Center Moriches High School have shaped her into a passionate and driven individual, eager to make a positive impact in both her local community and beyond.

October - Austin is a senior at Center Moriches High School, with a 4.0 GPA, ranked in the top 10 percent of the class. He is an active member of several honor societies, including the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the English, Foreign Language, Social Stud-See **CHAMBER** on page 8

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to introduce young players to volleyball. Registration is limited. Dates: Thursdays - Session #1: Jan 9, 16, 23, 30 Session #2: Feb 27, March 6, 13, 20 Time 5:30 - 7:00pm • Cost: \$150 per session

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dromat and the Little Free Libraries at

Kaler's Pond and Moriches Bay Recreation Facility; successful books sales, a few raffles, the Book Club, Puzzle Swap; and the annual scholarship program that presents awards to three local high school seniors.

BOOK SALE

FROM PAGE 4

Their fundraising efforts, though, rely mostly on the book donations from the public, where they offer them to the public on their thrift shelves in the library, as well as on specific book sale days, about twice a year.

All funds raised support the purchase of equipment, furniture, and programs. With the funding, the group also recently made the donation to the purchase of property to expand the library's parking lot. 🔳

The event will take place on Jan. 31 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Center Moriches Library. Another sale will also take place on Feb. 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cash transactions only!



CHAMBER

FROM PAGE 6

ies, and Science Honor Societies.

Outside of academics, Austin is heavily involved in athletics as a captain of both the varsity football and varsity lacrosse teams, as well as a longtime club lacrosse player. He engages in a variety of community service activities, including volunteering with local youth sports clinics, participating in mental health outreach programs, and assisting at local government events.

Notably, Austin was awarded the Gold Tier in the Suffolk County Legislature's Distinguished Youth Award.

His leadership roles include being involved in initiatives like the Upstanders program and Compassion Without Borders, PS I love You Day, and facilitating the Center Moriches Goal Getters group.

Austin strives to be a positive influence and to use his skills to help others. He has a passion for academics, athletics, and community service, and is excited to further his academic and athletic career in the fall of 2025 at Misericordia University.

If you're interested in becoming a friend of the chamber and volunteering, please reach out by emailing info@moricheschamber.org.

The next chamber of commerce meeting will be held at Camp Paquatuck on Jan. 14. Join them for networking at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Visit the chamber website at www.moricheschamber.org for more information.

Chamber of Commerce of Moriches Board 2025.



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UNION AVENUE DOCK

FROM PAGE 1

tation from NYC via a "special Moriches Express" whisked guests to Center Moriches in just under two hours, where hotel omnibuses awaited their arrival.

Once at the hotel, guests enjoyed the cooling breezes on a 600-foot-long veranda, concerts and dancing to a first-class orchestra, as well as "billiards, bowling, croquet, golf and tennis."

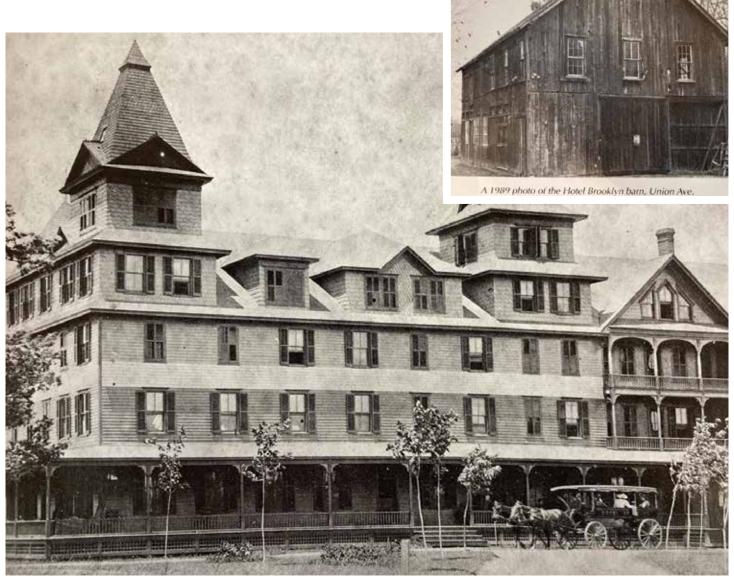
The grounds included a laundry and quarters for the help, as well as a windmill for pumping water and a water tower to supply running water for the interior bathrooms and the hotel kitchen.

And, from its dock, vacationers could board a ferry to Great Gun Beach. Far from the limited-use dock and marina that exist today, Great Gun Beach in the 1890s was replete with stores, a pavilion for bathing, a photographer, restaurant and proximity to hotels. Rates at The Brooklyn Hotel for single or en suite rooms started at \$3 per day.

Only a few years after it opened, the Brooklyn Hotel burned to the ground, leaving only the barn, laundry and helps' housing standing.

The barn is now on private land, west of Union Avenue, between Bowditch Lane and Estate Road. The laundry and helps' quarters, once moved to Penney's Boat Yard on Senix Creek, today is part of the Suffolk County Maritime Museum in Sayville.

And for those who have had the pleasure, today the Brooklyn dock at the end of Union Avenue offers visitors and residents fishing and open views of The Great South Bay, east of its namesake. ■ Courtesy photos



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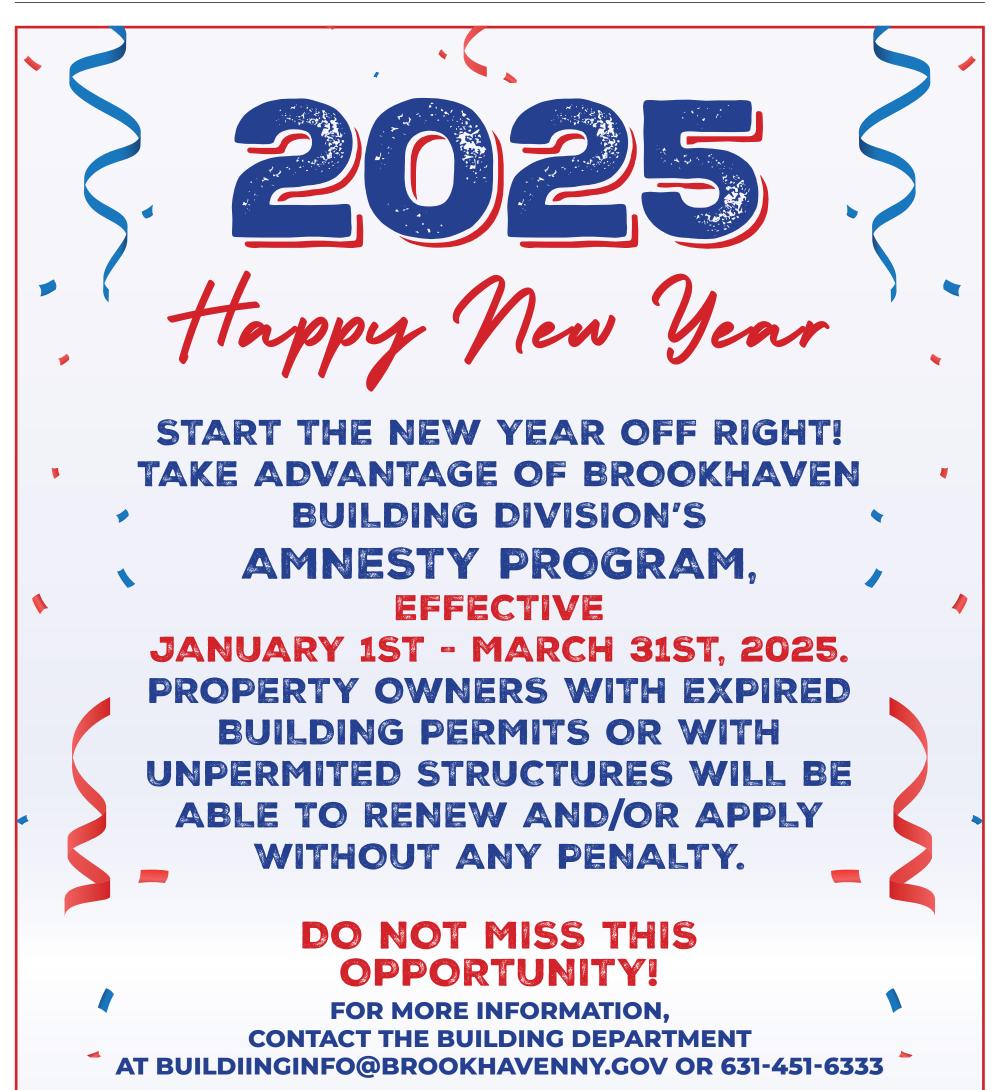
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Center Moriches Fire Department hosts annual Parade of Lights

BY KRAIG KLEIN

The Center Moriches Fire Department hosted their annual Parade of Lights in Center Moriches on Saturday, Dec. 14.

The parade started at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Main Street at 6 p.m. Numerous holiday-themed floats and performers proceeded along Main Street to Ocean Avenue as dozens of local residents watched from the sidewalks.

"The Parade of Lights was inspired by the department's desire to celebrate the holiday season," parade chairman and ex-fire chief Bill Renzetti said. "Initially, it was a small event, lasting about half an hour with a limited number of participants. Over time, it has grown significantly, now featuring over 60 participants, lasting more than two hours, and drawing thousands of people to the community."

Renzetti explained how the Center Moriches Fire Department prepares for the yuletide procession.

"About 20 years ago, I had the honor of stepping into the role of parade chairman... None of this would be possible... without the incredible dedication of the team of people working behind the scenes. From organizing logistics to managing the smallest details, their hard work and commitment is what makes the parade such a success," Renzetti explained. "It takes about three months of planning to bring everything together. We kick off in September by reviewing feedback and notes from the previous year to see what worked and where we can improve. From there, we file the necessary permits, coordinate logistics, and begin reaching out to the many organizations that make this event so special."

Participants in the parade varied, from businesses such as the Woodvalley Contractors to live performers such as the Center Moriches High School band. Multiple floats were themed around Dr. Seuss's "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" and there was also a float themed around the Willy Wonka character from "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

Two other floats included a recreation of Noah's Ark from the Old Testament that was covered in plush animals and a small float themed to the Disney film "The Little Mermaid." A dance group also performed in front of the Center Moriches Fire Department building.

The parade passed in front of the Center Moriches Fire Department building, where an announcer atop a massive podium introduced each parade participant as they passed by the bandstand.

A table with trophies was laid out in front of the podium; according to Renzetti, trophies were given to "local community groups and first responders in recognition of their creativity and effort undersigning the outstanding floats that make [the Parade of Lights] so special."

Some participants, such as a troupe of dancers and a karate group, put on a brief performance when they arrived in front of the fire department building.

The Parade of Lights ended around 7:30 p.m., with Santa Claus waving to the crowd from atop a Center Moriches Fire Department fire truck as two assistants tossed goodies to onlookers. ■

SEE PAGE 14 FOR PHOTOS



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KEITH'S CORNER Starting off the new year

We are starting the new year off a little differently at Helping Makes U Happy—back where we started 10 years ago, working out of my garage.

Normally, this is the time of year we post for our Super Bowl Party Package fundraiser, and we are still going to do that. Last year, however, we worked really hard on this fundraiser and raised enough to cover all our scholarships for this year as well, so this January we are doing the Super Bowl Party Package/Mini Basket Auction as a building fundraiser.

It's the same great package at the same great price it's been for 10 years: \$5 each or six for \$20 gets you chances to win a food package for 15 people on Super Bowl Sunday, sponsored by the amazing TJ's Heros of Mastic Beach, a TV (now 65-inch), football decor, and more.

Plus, our ever-popular mini basket auction. The basket auction and party package winners (two winners) drawing will take place on Sunday, Feb. 2 at Triangle Pub, Eastport, beginning at noon. We will be out and about in January selling raffles and you can also purchase them online.

Follow us on Facebook (Keith Caputo or Helping Makes U Happy) and on our website for updated info.

We hope you will support us in this effort to get a safe space for all of us helpers and volunteers to continue our good works! ■

Eastport-South Manor football celebrates successful season

BY JORDAN STANKOVICH

Eastport-South Manor varsity football had an admirable 2024 season, resulting in fall 2024 playoff contention.

The Eastport-South Manor Sharks finished the regular season in Suffolk County Division III with a 3-5 record. Quarterback Max Ferraro led his

team to a No. 8 seed in their 2024 campaign. It was the inaugural season of the new head coach Guy Buckley, whose initial ambition was to get the squad back to the postseason after last making a playoff appearance in 2018.

His goal was to make the postseason, and they did just that as he revamped the program, giving optimism and momentum likely to carry into next year.

The Sharks started the season at the Rocky Point Eagles on Sept. 14 and lost

the opener by a sliver, 13-12. The following week, they fell to Half Hollow Hills West, 49-12.

Now that the holidays are over, we

can take a little break before we start

thinking about our gardens. Although,

do we ever stop thinking about our

Our last official meeting of 2024

was on Nov. 21 at the Center Moriches

Library. Debbie, our president, spoke

to us about houseplants. She brought

several popular plants to the meeting,

some of which we probably have in our

Did you know that plants were first

brought indoors by the Ancient Egyp-

tians over 5,000 years ago? These were mostly ferns and palms. By the 19th

century, houseplants gained in popular-

ity and after WWII, they became more

available in all parts of the world. They

could bring nature inside and reduce

dust, ease stress, and add color and

The peace lily is toxic to pets, but they

are easy care and air purifying. They

like indirect, bright light and they like

Pothos, better known as devil's ivy,

is almost impossible to kill. Water this

plant from the top. Overwatering caus-

es root rot, while underwatering will

cause wilting. These plants are natural

air purifiers, but are also toxic to pets.

to be moist, but not sitting in water.

gardens?

own homes.

interest in the home.

ESM soaked in their homecoming parade to enjoy a 21-12 victory over the Harborfields Tornadoes, then dominated the Amityville Warriors 34-9 on Saturday, Oct. 5. ESM then fell to Hauppauge the following Thursday afternoon, 35-20.

The Sharks rebounded on a trip to

The spider plant is the plant that keeps on giving. You can easily pot up the babies they produce to make more plants. I personally have given many spider plants away that I have made from the babies on my plant. This plant is pet safe.

MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

Happy New Year,

everyone!

The snake plant is also an air purifier, and you only have to water it once a month. They are ideal for low-light environments like offices and are very resilient.

Aloe vera is a resilient succulent often found in lotions and soaps. It is an air purifier and loves bright light. Water the aloe only when it is completely dry. The aloe vera plant can be used to help burns and reduce inflammation. It is also very toxic to pets.

If you have plants in your house, you can keep them thriving and free of disease and bugs by using Neem Oil, potting soil that matches the plant's needs, and using liquid or powder fertilizers. Your plants will look beautiful, purify the air, and make you feel calm and happy.

Watch for our next article for more information about our garden club in 2025. If you have any questions or need information call or email Debbie at (631) 258-3657 or debgcan@gmail.com. ■

the North Shore, edging the Kings Park Kingsmen on the road 23-20 on the 19th.

ESM lost their final two meetings of the regular season at home, 54-10, to Sayville, then 42-7 on the road vs. East Hampton-Bridgehampton-Pierson.

The Sharks traveled to Sayville for the first round of the Suffolk County football playoffs and fell 59-13 to the Golden Flashes. ■

Center Moriches Fire Department hosts annual Parade of Lights



Parade floats including inflatable holiday decorations lined up alongside Main Street shortly before the beginning of the Parade of Lights in Center Moriches on Dec. 14.



Before the Parade of Lights began in Center Moriches on Dec. 14, some street vendors walked along Main Street selling glowing trinkets among other toys to passersby waiting on the sidewalks.



A "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"-themed float focusing on the confectionist Willy Wonka passes by the Center Moriches Fire Department building as part of the Parade of Lights in Center Moriches on Dec. 14.



One of the parade floats in the Parade of Lights in Center Moriches on Dec. 14 was the Grinch character from "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" imprisoned in a cage. All photos Mt/Klein



OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE

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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

Friday, January 10

Catholic Health's Community Outreach – A mobile health bus will be at the Moriches Branch of Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to provide free health screenings and a brief cardiac history for those 18 and older—including blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose—as well as patient education and referrals as needed. No appointments are necessary. Insurance is not required and there are no fees.

Sunday, January 12

Sunday Library Concert – The award-winning ensemble Serenade Duo featuring flutist Michelle LaPorte and guitarist Gerry Saulter will take the stage at Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 1 p.m., to share music of the world with their warm stage presence and engaging performances of culturally diverse repertoire. Open to all. Register online or call 631-399-1511.

Wednesday, January 15

Teen Program: "Let's Talk" – A unique ongoing drop-in program at the Mastic Branch of Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 8-9 p.m. where teens get to pick topics that are of concern to them that will be discussed among their peers in a judgement free and open atmosphere. Snacks will be served for all attendees. No registration required. Call 631-399-1511.

Saturday, January 18

Men's Ministry Breakfast – South Bay Bible Church, 578 Montauk Hwy., East Moriches invites all men of its fellowship for breakfast, 9-11 a.m. RSVP by Jan. 13. Visit www.southbaychurchli.org or call 631-909-8241.

Thursday, January 23

Virtual Author Talk – Join Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library for a virtual talk with New York Times bestselling author Amanda Montell about her new book, "The Age of Magical Overthinking: Notes on Modern Irrationality," 2-5 p.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511.

Of Note ...

Food Pantry – The Jewish Center of the Moriches, 227 E. Main St., Center Moriches, has a food pantry on the front lawn of the temple. The community is invited to take items for free from the pantry and encouraged to donate non-perishable food items to it.

Cat Spaying Season – Most feral kittens are born in spring, therefore rescue and community cat groups recommend pre-emotive spaying in February. Two local providers: Brookhaven Animal Shelter 300 Horseblock Rd., Medford. Call 631-451-6950. Services: Voucher for FREE spay/ neuter at Integrative Veterinary Therapies, Ridge. Must call clinic at 631-924-7700 for an appointment once you have a voucher. Clinic at Kent Animal Shelter, 2259 River Rd., 631-727-5731, ex. 2 or visit kentanimalshelter.com. Services \$90 includes spay/neuter surgery, rabies vaccine, ear tip.

Tell Us About Your Event – We print local events free of charge for the towns of Moriches, Center Moriches, East Moriches, and Manorville, for our "AROUND TOWN" section. For inclusion, please submit information by no later than the 15th of the month prior to the event.

Pay Your Taxes Online – Brookhaven taxpayers can now access their Real Property Tax Statements. View, print and/or pay taxes. Choose online credit card or checking account payment. Visit http://brookhaven. org for details.

Dress for Success Brookhaven – The organization is pleased to offer appointments for Virtual Suitings with curbside pickups at their Farmingville location. They also provide one-to-one career coaching, resume reviews, practice interviews, and more. They can work with clients via email, phone, or virtual sessions to make every effort to meet individual needs. Anyone in need is invited to call 631-451-9127 and leave a clear message with who you are; what you need; and the best way for us to reach you. You can also email Brookhaven@ dressforsuccess.org. Access a wide range of

information about what is available by viewing United Way information at <u>www.211.org</u>.

Homebound Library Services – Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Library patrons who are unable to visit the library due to a temporary or permanent illness or disability, or for individuals who are frail and elderly and don't have transportation may apply for the library's Homebound/Books by Mail Program. With this free service, homebound patrons can receive library materials delivered free of charge. Apply by calling Ellen at 631-399-1511 ext. 249.

Brainfuse Adult Learning – The Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Library has a free online center for adult learners. Access the center online at www.communitylibrary.org. Live online help available from 1 to 11 p.m. weekly. On the website, select Learn New Skills: Academic Assistance Online. Brainfuse Adult Learning Center features test preparation (including GED and U.S. citizenship preparation), writing assistance, and study tools for math, reading and writing. Live, online one-on-one interaction with a tutor or job coach is available. Live sessions can be conducted in English or Spanish.

The Harbor Church – Join a community, study or focus group at either of the church's locations: 25 Frowein Rd., Center Moriches or 89 N. Ocean Ave, Patchogue. Groups start in Sept. To learn more, visit www. http://theharborli.com/connect.

75 Years Ago JANUARY 1950

An exhibit of local historic documents that played an important part in the history and development of the Town of Brookhaven are on display in Town Hall in an exhibit arranged by town historian **Osborne Shaw**, to correspond with the visit of the New York State Freedom Train.

A two children from Eastport were featured on Uncle Win's radio program, which was broadcast from the Eastport Gospel Church. Six-year-old twins **Ronald and Donald Michne**, of Eastport, were quizzed on Bible passages and scripture readings.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Layman of Center Moriches entertained at a New Year's Eve party for their daughter, Lynne, and son, Wilbur Jr. The guests included Dorothy Rybicki, Joan Belli, Faith Henderson, Sarah Hamilton, Mary Trovato, Lewis Bropson and Harry Kalonowitz.

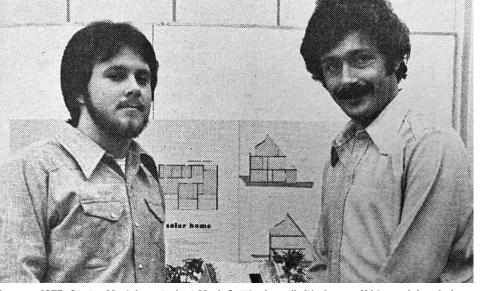
Officers elected at the annual congregational meeting of the First Presbyterian Church, East Moriches, are **T.T. Osborne, Vernon Hawkins** and **Herman David**, trustees; **R.M. Barber**, financial secretary; and **George Mueller** and **L.T. Nickerson**, elders.

Lois Lehmkuhl led the senior Brownies of Center Moriches Troop 23 in their first lesson in South American dancing in preparation for their appearance before the Lions Club in Patchogue in March.

The bundles of clothing collected by the Center Moriches Inter-Church Youth Fellowship for shipment overseas were taken to the Church World Service Center in New York City by **Henry Fechtman**.

Mrs. James Zegel was elected president of the Ladies' Guild of the First Presbyterian Church, Center Moriches, at a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Ralph Lukert.

Anthony Vigliotta and Henry Stype were accepted as new members of the East Moriches Fire Department at a meeting



YEARS AGO

January 1975: Center Moriches student Mark Cottingham (left) shows off his model and plans for a solar house to John Levitt of the Long Island home-building Levitts. Cottingham was one of nine upperclassmen at the New York Institute of Technology to research the use of solar energy in today's suburban home.

attended by 44 members.

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Kostuk, of Eastport, were married in St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church, Center Moriches.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Van Hoesen of Chichester Avenue, Center Moriches, are the parents of a son, **Charles Arthur**, born Jan. 9 at Mather Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 pounds, 12 and 1/2 ounces.

Mrs. Hubert Vogl is in charge of a Red Cross course in home nursing held at St. John's Episcopal Church, Center Moriches.

The Center Moriches Fire Department provided entertainment for about 50 Teen Towners with square dancing. Ben Tabatchnick called the dances and his musicians, Bobby Hartstein and Arthur Mapes, provided the songs. Cakes were provided by mothers of Teen Town members, including Mrs. Hallock Wood, Mrs. Wilbur Layman, Mrs. Chris Craft, Mrs. Henry Leide, Mrs. Burton Cassin, Mrs. Marvin Makransky, Mrs. Christian Merritt, Mrs. George Smith and

Mrs. William Usserv.

Six longtime employees of the Beacon Milling Company in Eastport were honored at the company's second annual dinner party. They were general manager George Brambley, Harold Brambley, Bernard Cavallaro, Joseph Conaughty, Dan Brown and Fenton Bennett.

Herman Gerard of Moriches, **William Price** of Center Moriches and **Daniel Yeager** of Manorville, all boating enthusiasts, attended the Motor Boat Show at Grand Central Palace, New York City.

Marion Raynor and Theodora Schwarzbach were adjudged the winners in an essay contest conducted at East Moriches Grammar School.

Marianne Lomaga, of Eastport, entered St. Luke's Hospital, School of Nursing, in New York City.

Playing in January in **The Center Moriches Theatre**: George Murphy and Ricardo Montalban in "Border Incident"; Robert Cummings and Ann Blyth in "Free for All"; Danny Kaye in "The Inspector General"; and John Wayne and John Agar in "Sands of Iwo Jima."

50 Years Ago

JANUARY 1975

Six seniors from Center Moriches High School were among those students in the state qualifying for a Regents scholarship. They are William Jacobowitz, Theresa Krupski, Michael Hinner, Briand Lindgren, Richard Fingerhut and Lisa Bowditch.

Leroy Wilcox, one of the directors of the Moriches Bay Audubon Society, gave a talk and slide demonstration at the Center Moriches Free Public Library on bird banding as a means of identification.

Two brothers from Mastic Beach, **Robert and George Demery**, completed basic training in the Army. Robert will report to Fort Carson, Colo., as a vehicle mechanic, and George will report to Fort Hood, Texas, as a heavy equipment operator.

Moriches Rotary Club vice president Hank Warmer and president Jim Dineen gave well wishes to Rotary exchange student Jackie Crump, who is returning home to Australia after spending a year working at Camp Paquatuck in East Moriches.

Firemen of the Year designations were made by chiefs from Bay Area departments as part of a banquet held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Patchogue. Among the local winners of honorary plaques donated by sponsors F & M Schaefer Brewing Co. was Center Moriches' **Howard Johnson**.

Playing in January at local United Artists Theatres: Albert Finney and Lauren Bacall in "Murder on the Orient Express"; Jon Voight and Maximillian Schell in "The Odessa File"; Burt Reynolds in "The Longest Yard"; Richard Dreyfuss in "American Graffiti"; and James Caan and Lauren Hutton in "The Gambler."

Compiled by Vanessa Graniello



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Speonk—\$1,100,000 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath Victorian located on quiet cul-de-sac just a short drive from Westhampton beaches! Must see!



Center Moriches—\$769,900 Brand new, 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, raised ranch with bonus room over garage, full basement with egress on half acre lot.



Mastic Beach—\$489,900 Brand new, 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, contemporary home located near the Great South Bay. If you love beaches and boating, this is for you!

