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OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE

thetideofmoriches.com MARCH 2025 14th Year, Issue 3

New restaurant to be built in Manorville



Clancy Street Market submits site plans

BY NICOLE FUENTES

During the start of the new year, the Brookhaven Town Planning Board considered a site plan application with a special permit for Clancy Street Food, located at the vacant southeast corner of the Expressway South Service Road and County 111 in Manorville. The proposed restaurant, according to councilwoman Karen Dunne-Kesnig, is an As of Right Use based upon the zoning, that had received approval from the Pine Barrens Commission.

Current zoning is J-2, vacant, and the proposed zoning is J-2, restaurant. "The purpose of the planning board hearing was to consider the site plan and request for a special permit," she explained. "We look forward to learning what new restaurant will be coming to Manorville."

See **CLANCY STREET MARKET** on page 7

Islamic Cemetery proposed for East Moriches airport

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Suffolk Muslim Cemetery proposed for the former Spadaro Airport in East Moriches, is an As of Right Use under its current zoning of A1 residential.

According to plans, the cemetery is slated for an over 28-acre site with over

25,000 plots located on Montauk Highway. The site has remained vacant since the closure of the private airport in 2016.

The application includes the demolition of small sheds and structures, new front railing and gates, drainage along existing roadway/parking and two recharge basins, a new parking lot, landscape and related site improve-

ments. The application also states a plan to keep the existing residential building as is and one existing building to be renovated for office use, plus one new 6,000-square-foot single-story building for funeral service use.

The developer, Ghulam Sarwar, filed the application under Sali Holdings Inc.

See **ISLAMIC CEMETERY** on page 6

ST. PATRICK'S DAY GUIDE INSIDE CENTER MORICHES 22ND ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARAMETER AND ANNUAL SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH STARTS AT 2PM ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER PARTY Friday March 14th • 7pm At Rock Hill Country Club, Manorville, NY For Tickets and Information Call 63.878.0003

Don't miss the St. Patrick's Day parade!

Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 2 p.m. on Main Street

This year's Moriches Chamber of Commerce St. Patrick's Day Parade grand marshal has been announced as Mark Danowski. The 22nd annual parade will take place on Sunday, March 16.

Danowski, a dedicated community member, was born in Manorville. He met his wife, Missy on Main Street in Center Moriches. They have five children: their oldest son Jacob, oldest daughter, Sara, their middle child, Emma, and twin sons, Alex and Noah.

The 22nd annual St. Patrick's Day parade will be held on Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m. on Main Street. The parade begins on Lake Avenue and ends at Railroad Avenue and includes floats, fire departments, and pipe and drum bands.

Also, the Center Moriches St. Patrick's Day Dinner honoring Danowski will be held on March 14 from 7 to 10 p.m. at The Rock Hill Country Club. Tickets are \$75; visit moricheschamber.org for more information. ■





The indoor yard sale is back PAGE 4



Bird Flu hits locally PAGE 8

Unified Sports makes a big impact PAGE 3

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An inclusive way to play

Center Moriches Schools **Unified Sports Program** and Special Olympics team

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches School District has been providing students with a more inclusive way to play sports with their addition of the Unified Sports Program. The co-ed program, through Section XI, is for all students at the high-school level. According to the Unified Sports Website, the idea is to join people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

Teachers involved in the program include LisaAnn Zlatniski, the program's bowling and golf coach and assistant basketball coach as well as the high school physical education teacher; Katie Ross, the CM middle school and high school health and physical education teacher and head coach of the unified basketball team and assistant top golf coach; and Tracy Sigerson, the high school special education teacher and transition coordinator, who also helps coach the bowling, golf, and basketball teams as an assis-

Sigerson is also a certified Special Olympics coach and has been providing the opportunity for special education



students to attend the Special Olympics for years.

"It started in 2013 when we saw a need for sports for kids with special needs and put it together with the Special Education PTA," she said, noting her students participate in the javelin and softball toss and the 50-meter dash. "We still go every year and take student volunteers

The first team included about six students and now includes about four to eight. This year's team will prepare soon, in the next month or so, to participate in the spring. On average, her team usually brings in about three gold medals and always places silver and bronze. "It's the most magical day ever. These kids just want to have fun and feel included," she said. "It's not about winning; they just want to cheer each other on."

The event takes place at a to-be-announced Long Island school district and includes kids from all over both Suffolk and Nassau counties.

Members from the team are also typically involved in the district's larger Unified Sports Program, which allows both special education students and regular education students to play together at the varsity level.

The district started this program about five years ago including golf, basketball and bowling.

According to Ross, the basketball team, which is through Section XI, participated in a total of eight games with local school districts. The team includes about 15 athletes with 15 regular education partners.

"It's a normal basketball game with scorekeepers and announcers," she said.

"The kids get a chance to compete in a sport and experience competition while also building friendship," added Ross. "It's cool to see the kids building confidence. Also, the relationship between the athlete and their partner grows from being teammates to also being friends off

As for the top golf team, it's more of a club, explained Zlatniski. They play for a total of eight weeks, ending in February, and compete against other school districts. A total of about 17 student-athletes and their partners participated.

Their bowling team is also a varsity sport, with the season officially starting last month. The team includes about 32 students who practice daily and compete in matches at All-Star bowling in River-

The district is open to adding more sports in the future to expand the Unified Sports Program. For example, bocce ball has been added to other Suffolk County school districts.

Center Moriches girls varsity basketball

BY JORDAN STANKOVICH

Center Moriches girls varsity basketball enjoyed a flourishing 2024-25 winter season. The Center Moriches Red Devils of Suffolk County League VII concluded the regular season with a 10-6 league record and 11-9 overall record.

They started off 0-2 after losses to Eastport-South Manor and Lindenhurst,

then fended off the Port Jefferson Royals 44-41 on Dec. 10, then two days later defeated Greenport/Shelter Island, then fell to Babylon 51-40.

In late December, the Red Devils annihilated Southampton 50-11, downed the Bellport Clippers 45-34, then fell to Mount Sinai. In early January, they defeated Pierson/Bridgehampton 44-33, but lost to Mattituck by a sliver 37-36, then fell to

Smithtown Christian 40-26.

A four-game winning streak ensued during the middle of the month. They had an 8-point victory over East Hampton, seized Port Jeff by 9 points, dominated Greenport/Shelter Island 44-28, then overpowered the Babylon Panthers 43-35.

Followed by the winning streak, Center Moriches lost three in a row to Southampton, Smithtown Christian, and Pierson/Bridgehampton.

On Saturday, Feb. 1, the Red Devils beat the Mattituck Tuckers by 8 points by a score of 43-35, then prevailed in a 5-point win over the East Hampton Bonackers 40-35 in the regular-season finale.

Center Moriches faced Kings Park for the first round of the playoffs and lost 50-12 on Feb. 13. It was a valiant season for Center Moriches. ■



Hundreds expected to attend indoor yard sale

Holiday Beach Property Owner's Association to host 25th annual event

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Get ready for the Holiday Beach Property Owner's Association's 25th annual Indoor Yard Sale, which will take place on Saturday, March 8, at the national historic site of the Masury Estate Ballroom.

The estate is located at 67 Old Neck Road South in Center Moriches and is owned by the Holiday Beach Association. Board member Bill Roache organizes the event. Doors open at 9 a.m. and the sale goes to 3 p.m.; cash only.

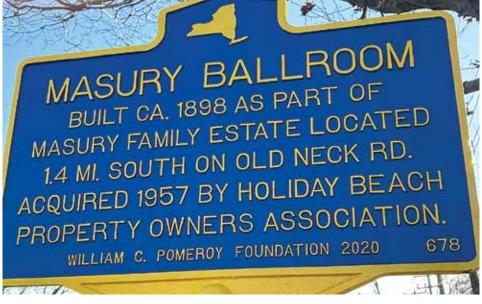
Available items, which are all donated by the community and friends of the community, will include household, children's, small electronics, small pieces of furniture, clothing, books, kitchenware, dishes, pots, pans, handyman tools, jewelry, linens and much more.

All items will be displayed and individually priced throughout the building: the ballroom, bowling alley/billiard area, and sunroom. Larger items are sometimes displayed on the porch. The items range in price from as low as 50 cents and up.

"It's quite the fundraiser," said member Kathy Kleinpeter.

The fundraising goal is to meet or beat last year's about \$6,000 raised. This year, though unsure of the possibility, according to Kleinpeter, the members are looking into restoring the ceiling of the ballroom. They also plan to redo the bowling alley in the near future.

'We are a small group of volunteers.



We think it's fun and we love digging through people's treasures. I think people love coming," added Lynn Southard, member.

According to Southard, there is always a line out the door of people waiting and loading up boxes with their finds. Typically, she said, they see hundreds of people attending the event.

Over the years, the HBPOA has used the yard sale as a way to raise funds for various construction and restoration projects. The event not only raises monev. but also awareness for the Center Moriches historical treasure.

The original residence was destroyed in the '38 Hurricane, leaving the ballroom, bowling alley, and sunroom, intact. During the '50s, residents in Holiday Beach purchased the structure using monies raised from various fundraisers for restoration.

Funded projects have included roofing, siding, updated bathrooms and kitchen, carpeting, windows, shades, cushions for the sitting areas, painting, a matching stained-glass window that needed replacing, and keeping up the parquet flooring.

For additional efforts to raise monies, members have organized a golf outing, a Blues and Brews afternoon, wine tasting, and an art expo, to name a few.

However, the yard sale, according to Kleinpeter, is by far the longest-running event, as well as their Victorian tea, both of which started in the late-'90s.

The event only missed one year in 2020 due to the pandemic, and has since come back in "full force" with a dedicated group of about 30 member volunteers.

For more information about the sale or the estate visit: https://hbpoa.com.

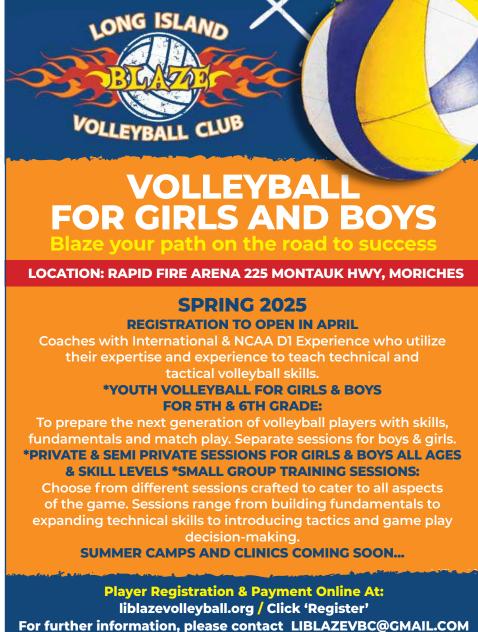
ABOUT THE MASURY ESTATE

The Moriches area used to comprise many large estates. According to "The Illustrated History of the Moriches Bay Area" by Van and Mary Field, the largest in Center Moriches was undoubtedly the Masury Estate located between West Senix (Mud) Creek and the Forge River.

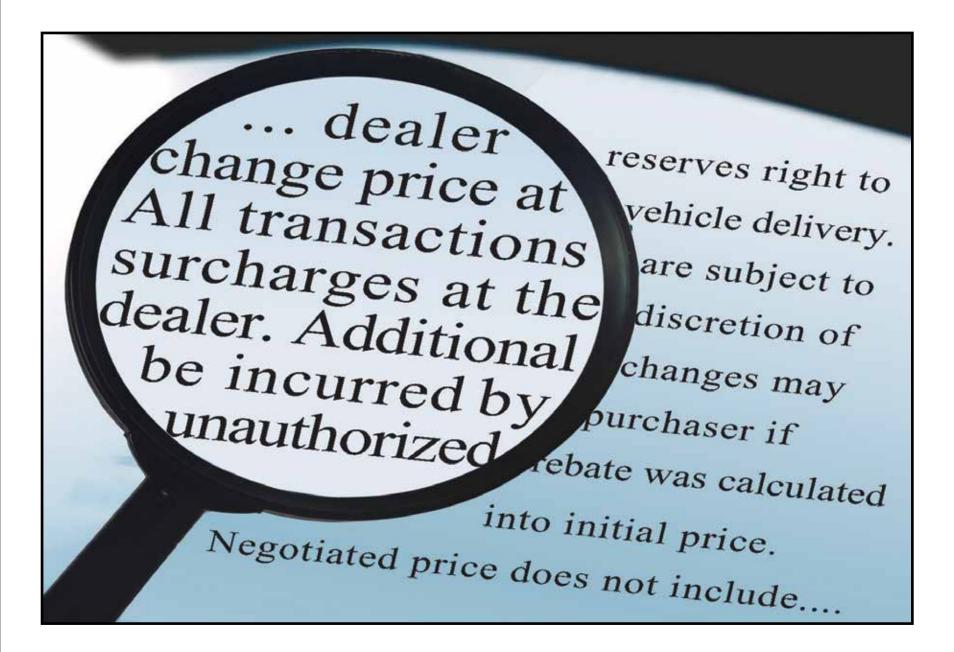
John W. Masury made his fortune manufacturing paint. He invented and patented several paint industry innovations, including a water-cooled method for grinding pigments and the familiar lip closure on paint cans (dripless paint can). In the late 1800s, J. W. Masury bought large areas in and around Center Moriches.

First, a summer cottage was built on the Forge River. Later, the land on Masury Point was developed. Formal gardens, pools and an extensive farm which included a large family home, staff homes, barn, stable, hunting lodge, gate house, stable house and windmill to supply all of the buildings with pumped water through underground pipes.

In 1898, after John Masury's death, his widow Grace Masury built another large summer house near the mouth of the West Senix (Mud) Creek facing the Moriches Bay. The house had a separate recreation wing which housed a bowling alley, billiard room, card room, solarium and ballroom. After Grace Masury's death in 1932, the family still used the house as a summer home until the Hurricane of 1938. The main house was ruined and the recreation wing severely damaged. The recreation wing was rebuilt. ■







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ISLAMIC CEMETERY: Plans to fill vacant airport

FROM PAGE 1

and Lime Enterprises Inc., which are both located in Holtsville.

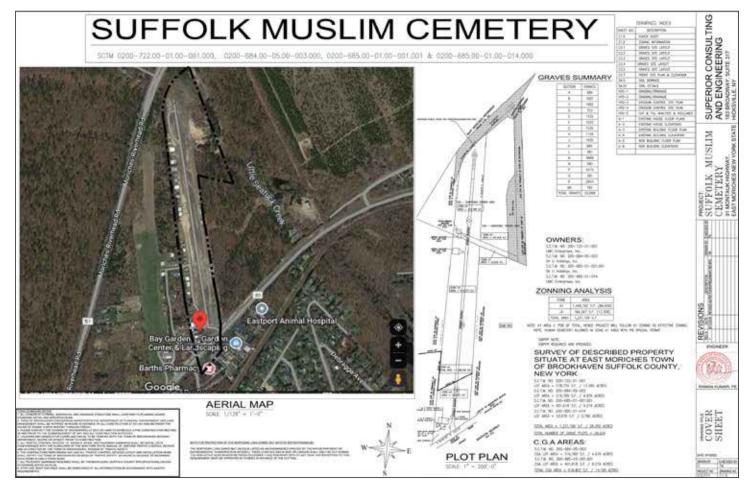
According to the National Library of Medicine, Muslims are always buried, never cremated. Additionally, it is a religious requirement that the body be ritually washed and draped before burial, which should be as soon as possible after death.

During a Muslim funeral service, the deceased is taken to the cemetery for burial and traditionally, only men are allowed to attend the burial, though some Muslim communities may allow women to attend.

The grave must be at the right angles to the direction of Mecca, with the deceased placed on their right side facing the Islamic holy city. Wood and stones should be placed on top of the body to prevent direct contact between the person and the soil. All mourners will pour handfuls of earth on top of the grave, before it is filled in.

"The use of this property as a cemetery is less intense than housing would be, and ideally, will allow for a more natural landscape setting," said councilwoman Karen Kesnig Dunne.

The town's planning department, she noted, will continue to work with the applicant to achieve a site plan "that will strike the right balance." ■



Read the Tide Online

thetideofmoriches.com





CLANCY STREET MARKET

FROM PAGE 1

The application was submitted by the Quogue firm David J Kepner and Co. and includes the construction of a proposed 3,293-square-foot take-out restaurant with outdoor seating and no basement. If built, it would include parking, drainage, lighting and curbing site improvements.

According to Kepner, the idea for the restaurant is really in the preliminary stages as he is a developer, not a restaurant owner. Instead, he is seeking brokers to help find a customer so that he can build to suit.

This would be Kepner's first restaurant venture as he is a residential builder in the Hamptons.

For more information about the application or more renderings visit: https:// brookhavenny.portal.civicclerk.com/ event/2742/overview. ■



Rendering for Clancy Street Market, which is the name of the application, not necessarily the name of the proposed restaurant.





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Concerns rise as sick and dying birds are found in the Moriches

BY C E PARRY

Paul Bennett was among the first to notice something was wrong with Center Moriches waterfowl. A 30-year resident and frequent observer of area wildlife, Bennett grew concerned when a swan he recognized from daily walks wasn't eating, then not in her usual places but instead sheltering by a tree near the creek headwaters.

A day later she was crashing into a bulkhead, swimming in circles that grew smaller as the hours passed, until, with a feeble flap of her wings, she died.

Returning to the spot where he'd first observed the swan, he found a dead heron. Then three ducks dead on the Canal Street boardwalk. A duck dead on the beach at Terrell County Park.

And no sign of injury to any of them. Three days later, the Crescent Duck Farm was closed, over 100,000 ducks euthanized, its premises quarantined. And Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center received news of confirmed cases of avian influenza in waterfowl found in Sag Harbor and Westhampton Beach.

According to the New York State Department of Health (health.ny.gov), this strain of avian influenza, or "bird flu," has been present throughout the United States since 2022, causing severe illness and death among wild and domestic birds such as chickens, ducks and turkeys. It can survive in wild birds like ducks, geese, and swans that migrate and infect other birds or mammals that have contact with them, or predators like raptors that consume them.

It is expelled through the animal's nasal secretions and excrement or on surfaces such as clothing, shoes, tools or in water frequented by other sick birds. There is risk to mammals, including cows, companion animals such as cats and dogs, as well as humans that come into direct contact with the excretions, feces, or remains of sick or dead birds.

And the story is fluid. On Feb. 13, 2025, a report by Lena H. Sun in The Washington Post detailed how new findings scheduled in late January for inclusion in the CDC's "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report" were held back after federal agencies were told to "pause all external communications on Jan. 21."

According to Sun's report, "a delayed CDC report shows increased evidence of bird flu spread to people. Veterinarians who provide care for cattle were unknowingly infected last year." Among the causes for concern: the exposure rate among those who had greater contact with infected animals are being infected at rates that aren't being reported.

The new findings were abruptly pulled from the CDC "Morbidity and Mortality" report. According to The Washington Post, the revised report published in early February omitted new information about bird flu. Elsewhere, subsequent reports indicate CDC staff working on avian influenza have been dismissed.

Infectious disease experts are concerned that many more than the 68 known, confirmed cases in humans since 2024 are going undetected. Recently,

the CDC tested 150 veterinarians who worked with dairy cattle and found three had been infected without knowing it. The three had worn protective items like gloves and masks, but not eye coverings,

A Kansas State University veterinarian is also advising cat owners to be aware of changes in their pet's behavior and take precautions to keep them safe since both domestic and feral cats are among the mammals at risk from H5N1 virus (bird flu). Many have died. Sources of infection include consumption of raw foods, unpasteurized milk, contact with infected birds, livestock, as well as contaminated surfaces or with humans who handle infected birds, such as farm workers who bring home the virus on their clothing or shoes.

Symptoms include loss of appetite, seizures, fever, coughing, nasal discharge, pink eye, coughing, difficulty breathing, and blindness. Owners who observe any of these in their pet should contact their veterinarian immediately.

The New York State Department of Health and Suffolk County Health Department have maintained the risk to humans is low if they haven't come into direct contact with infected animals. However, with flu cases at a 15-year high, on Feb. 3, Gov. Hochul issued an advisory to hospitals recommending testing for H5N1 within 24 hours of patients admitted for treatment to prevent undetected cases of avian flu. Live poultry markets around NYC were also closed for one week and ordered to disinfect after cases of bird flu were detected.

Until more is known, recommendations include updating your flu shot, avoid handling sick or injured wildlife, especially waterfowl, avoid giving pets free range to run off a leash which may give them contact with dead animals, refer any dead wild animals to the DEC, avoid walking in areas where there is bird excrement, avoid throwing dead animals into the creek or bay. Water is a vector for transmission.

For more information: NYS Department of Health health.ny.gov; NYDEC at

USDA aphis.usda.gov; American Veterinary Medical Association avma.org ■



When duck was king

Part 1 of our rural past

BY C E PARRY

Once, they were everywhere. From East Patchogue to Remsenberg, along the South Shore coastline and north across much of Riverhead, duck farms drove the local economy.

The Corwin family Crescent Farm closure last month may have ended the more than century-long period when Long Island duckling was on plates and restaurant menus around the world.

From meat to feathers to fertilizer, duck farming was a major driver of the local rural economy. A 2009 report by the Suffolk County Department of Planning, "LI Duck Farm History and Ecosystem Restoration Opportunities," charts the growth of the industry from the introduction of the Peking duck to the region

By 1900, 30 farms operated on Long Island where proximity to creeks, rivers, and the Great South Bay, a temperate climate, abundant open land, sandy soil, local feed production and good transportation to markets in NYC made eastern Suffolk County a perfect place for duck farming.

By 1940, that number had grown to 90 farms; 30 of these operated between Moriches and Eastport, employing both family and community members, including recent immigrants and spanning more than 224 acres. Popular for their rapid growth and market-readiness at a desirable 5 to 7 pounds within 10 to 12 weeks after hatching, Peking ducks became a profitable business that soon



A photo of the Flanders Big Duck Farm duck barn. Courtesy photo

overtook production of other crops and commercial fishing.

Speonk's Atlantic Duck Farm, started in the 1880s, was the largest duck farm in the world between 1916 and 1938 when the historic September hurricane destroyed it. After Atlantic closed, the Hollis Warner farm in Riverhead nearly doubled Atlantic's production rate, to 500,000 per year. Concurrently, 30 farms operated between Forge River in Moriches and Eastport, including seven on the east side of the Terrell River.

Along with potatoes, Long Island duck-

ling soon became one of our most famous products. And its influence could be felt in small towns economically, environmentally and socially.

Economically, duck farms employed thousands of people. Multiple generations of a family worked together. Men like Bill Harvey spent their entire career working on a farm. Eldest sons of farmers were granted wartime service deferment to ensure adequate food production during World War II. Once the ducks were ready for market, they were driven to processing facilities like one run on

Chichester Avenue by the Bernstein family or the co-operative in Eastport.

Workers, many of them immigrant women, removed feathers and organs. Innards were sold as animal feed. Feathers were sent to Speonk for cleaning and packaging, the meat to restaurants and markets, many of them in NYC. Used straw from the duck barns was sold to area farmers for fertilizer.

Yet, the proliferation of ducks on local waterways inevitably added concentrated layers of guano and attendant bacteria to water resources, making them less desirable for fishing and recreation. Conservation officers marked off areas to prevent shell fishing where bacteria counts were high. Some villages had a smell that residents felt discouraged tourism.

But the duck's presence was also part of the social fabric of the time here. The Big Duck, originally created in 1931 by Martin Mauer to promote his duck products, is now a local landmark included on the National Register of Historic Places. From the 1950s to the mid-1960s, the LI Duck Queen beauty pageant was held at the Riverhead Elks Club.

And, well into the 21st century, events like the annual Moriches Yacht Club Duck Barbecue and the Rotary Club's annual Duck Race and Barbecue to benefit Camp Paquatuck continued to draw participants eager to celebrate the sovereignty of LI duckling.

NOTE: Ann Wilcox and Herb Strobel, former and current Center Moriches residents, respectively, generously contributed some of the details included in this story. ■

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CM Fire Dept. vote fails, again



Necessary work to be done within budget over years

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The most recent proposal made to the community by the Center Moriches Fire Department failed again, with 240 no votes to 211 yes votes. The vote took place on Jan. 28.

The proposal included a \$3.9 million bond after using \$600,000 from reserves for parking lot, bay, and additional building renovations. Cost to the average tax payer was estimated at about \$94 per year.

According to the department, the project would have included new asphalt and curbs as well as re-grading for the paving portion. It would have also addressed bay four's water issues by fixing the rear and front door, as well as repairing the "popping" concrete floor.

The last time the parking lot was resurfaced was in the '80s, and the water pooling issues have been ongoing.

Also, the old side of the fire house is in need of door raising to accommodate the standard-sized ambulances, which are larger than they used to be when the firehouse was built. And, the second-floor fire escape from 1970 is rotted and past its service life.

The department also hoped to remove the front staircase up to the old firehouse on the west side and add a male and female EMS room for their 24-hour staff. As for the upstairs on the west side, they wanted to renovate to add office space. On the newer side, they wanted to redo the kitchen and add an ADA-compliant male and female bathroom, which they currently do not have on the second floor.

"A lot of this work is necessary," said commissioner John DeLong, noting the department will likely have to drag the projects over 10 to 15 years in order to afford the work. "We can only do a little bit each year with the funding we have.'

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The first thing to be done will be to stop the water pooling, likely, he said, with reserves in the spring or summer, though this option is still being considered.

A meeting will be held to discuss the project and its affordability with an architect.

The possibility of building a new fire department is unlikely, DeLong said, being that it is less affordable and their current location is central.

Back in September of last year, the department held a \$17.9 million bond which also failed by slim margins with 389 no to 387 yes votes out of 776 cast.

"While we are disappointed with the outcome, we are also heartened by the community's heightened participation and support. The result, however close, underscores the challenges ahead in providing essential fire and ambulance services, particularly as the demand for these services continues to rise signifi-cantly year after year," the department said in a statement. "We are grateful for the significantly greater number of 'yes' votes compared to the vote on June 20, as it demonstrates increased community support for our mission to protect life and property.'

The original bond vote failed on June 20 of 2024, with a total of 221 no votes to 201 yes votes.

The originally bond proposition would have also paid for the renovation and expansion of the department's firehouse. Due to the larger size of modern fire trucks, the present firehouse fails to meet federal and fire industry codes.

If passed, the bond would have allowed for the renovation and expansion of the department's firehouse, which presently does not have the capacity to accommodate larger trucks required by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) stan-

The proposal included a reconstruction of a portion of the facility originally built in 1930, as well as renovations that will bring the overall building into compliance. The apparatus bay built in the '70s is too narrow for firefighters to safely and efficiently dispatch. The '90s-built annex building also requires roof and exterior repairs and is too small for modern fire trucks. In addition, the existing radio room on the ground floor of the main firehouse will be reused to accommodate the 24-hour presence of EMS personnel, who currently lack a dedicated space at the firehouse.

Earlier versions of the plan would have provided the firefighters with a separate gear storage space, improving conditions by minimizing exposure to carcinogens. The current overcrowding is also a violation of NFPA standards.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

Fire call volume has increased from 347 to 539 between 2010 and 2022, an increase of 55 percent. Emergency medical service calls have skyrocketed from 735 to 1,778 during that same period, an increase of 142 percent. ■





st. patrick's day parade

SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH 2025 STARTING AT 2PM MAIN STREET, CENTER MORICHES



MORICHES CHAMBER ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE DINNER

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Brookhaven Councilwoman Karen Dunne Kesnig is taking Town Hall on the road

Tuesday, March 18th

The Councilwoman and staff will have office hours at the Moriches Bay Recreation Center, 313 Frowein Road, Center Moriches. 1:30-4:30PM



advance to schedule a specific time OR stop in to ask questions, discuss concerns or any other town-related matters.

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kdunnekesnig@brookhavenny.gov



Keep up with fire safety

Tips from Suffolk County fire commissioner Sunderman

BY C E PARRY

News of the fires ravaging Los Angeles has reminded many local residents of the 1995 Sunrise Fire which made national headlines, scorched thousands of acres of the Pine Barrens, and threatened homes and businesses in Westhampton Beach before it was extinguished.

A dry spell, 19 days without rain and wind gusts that exceeded 30 miles per hour, helped create a near disaster as fire tore through 5,500 acres of dry brush and pine forest and nearly reached loaded fuel tanks at Gabreski Airport.

It took several days and hundreds of firefighters, including a team of Hot Shots from California, to put out the inferno.

Asked about that fire, Suffolk County fire commissioner Rudy Sunderman got right to the point. "We had a fire yesterday," he said.

On Monday, Feb. 17, fire broke out between Sunrise Highway exits 62 and 63, a seven-mile stretch of wooded acreage and the same vicinity as the 1995 blaze. That fire started near Suffolk Community College's Riverhead campus, and spread rapidly, then did the unthinkable: jumped across Sunrise Highway and continued to burn near Gabreski Airport and, later, farther south, threatening the village of Westhampton.

Thanks to a quick response by 15 local fire departments, the 2025 blaze was extinguished in two hours, with damage to 2.7 acres and no loss of life or property—a vast improvement over the earlier, near catastrophic, event.

Commissioner Sunderman was quick to reflect on some of the changes that made a difference.

"We have cellphones today," he said. "Thirty years ago, you saw smoke, you'd have to run home or try to find a public payphone to report it. Now we have brush trucks that hold more water.

Red Flag Warning Suffolk County



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JONATHAN Swezey raynor

Jonathan Swezey Raynor, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, teacher, and mentor, passed away on February 6, 2025, at the Kanas Center for Hospice Care in Quiogue. He was 74.

Jonathan was born on March 30, 1950, the son of Robert Clinton Raynor and Dorothy Raynor (née Swezey). He was raised in Remsenburg and graduated from Westhampton Beach High School before attending SUNY Oswego, where he met the love of his life, Elizabeth "Betsy" Gaylord. The two married in 1973 and shared a lifetime of love and partnership until Betsy's passing from glioblastoma in March of last year.

A lifelong educator both in and out of the classroom, Jonathan spent his career teaching, mentoring, and leading by example. Before obtaining his Master's degree and teaching certification, Jonathan had a successful lawn care business. Although he was only a handful of years older than his employees, he thought of himself more as a teacher than a boss.

In 1980, Jonathan began his career at South Manor School District where he taught junior high Social Studies for many years. After South Manor's merger with Eastport, he added Theater Arts and Stagecraft electives to his course offerings. It was as a Stagecraft teacher and as the Technical Director for over 25 school theater productions that he will be best remembered by generations of former students—however. Jon took on countless other roles (officially and unofficially) to support his students and colleagues.

Jonathan was a man who valued relationships above all else. Whether it was family, students, colleagues, or community members, he was known for his willingness to help, his dependability, and his reputation for never saying "no." He was the person people turned to when they needed support, guidance, or simply a helping hand.

In his final months, Jonathan faced serious health challenges with remarkable strength. On November 14, he underwent emergency surgery to repair a ruptured aortic aneurysm. His initial recovery was swift, but a rare and severe allergic reaction to the blood thinner heparin led to complications, including a stroke. Undeterred, he dedicated himself to rehabilitation and was making steady progress when he contracted a bacterial infection that colonized the artificial valve and graft in his repaired aorta. He ultimately succumbed to endocarditis, passing peacefully in hospice care.

Jonathan is survived by his sons, Nathaniel Robert (Marybeth) and Clinton William (Elizabeth); his beloved grandchildren, Charlotte and Owen; his sisters, Deborah Johnson (Kenneth) and Samantha Raynor (Randel); his cousins, Catherine Shapiro (Jonathan), Cornelia "Nina" Aiston, and George Fournier, as well as his extended family and in-laws.

Jonathan will be remembered for his selflessness, his quiet but steadfast love for his family, and his deep sense of responsibility to others. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched, both in and out of the classroom.

Details of a celebration to honor Jonathan's life and memory will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to East End Hospice, the Ketcham Inn Foundation, or the Eastport-South Manor Community for the Arts.

They're more efficient at knocking out fires. And, we have opportunities to provide more training today. There's ongoing activity at both the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank and in-house at local fire departments. Today's Suffolk County firefighters are trained in wild land firefighting techniques.'

FRES—the Fire Rescue and Emergency Services-oversees the county's fire academy and posts regular alerts about current fire risk, as it did last November when concern was high after 40 days without rain.

While the cause of the Feb. 17 fire is still under investigation, Sunderman urges residents to exercise caution and remain aware of potential fire risks, especially as we enter peak fire season.

Make sure that matches, cigarettes,

or cigars are completely extinguished. Discard them only in a proper container, never on the ground or out a window, where they could ignite surroundings.

Don't put mulch up to the foundation of your home or other structure. Cut back vegetation, especially tree limbs, which should be 6 to 8 feet away from

Wind, dry weather, and sparks from outdoor grills and fire pits can be a recipe for disaster as well.

"Pay attention to weather alerts and outside conditions and definitely exercise caution with open burns during fire season," he said. "Go on FRES, check our social media page, the Suffolk County homepage, or local village or fire jurisdiction sites for fire risk alerts before burning." ■

Relaxing afternoon turns into a rescue

BY LINDA LEUZZI

It was quite a Christmas for Kayla Masotto. The day after the big holiday, she risked her life and rescued a man who fell through the ice on Poospatuck Creek.

Legis. Jim Mazzarella recognized her in early February for her bravery and quick thinking at a legislative meeting.

Masotto had been relaxing with her sister, visiting from Florida and watching television.

"My living room looks out to the water and that's when I noticed a man struggling," she said of the man on a Jet Ski who had fallen through the ice.'

A native Center Moriches resident who graduated from Center Moriches High School, Masotto now lives in Mastic Beach in a house purchased with her fiancée that borders the Poospatuck Creek.

"He was still floating on the Jet Ski, and I had gone out to my dock and asked See **RESCUE** on page 14



Center Moriches native, now Mastic Beach resident Kayla Masotto receives recognition from Legis. James Mazzarella for rescuing a Courtesy photo

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KEITH'S CORNER

Helping Makes U Happy searches for new home

Nonprofit becomes homeless ahead of organization's 10th anniversary

BY AMY NICOLE

Helping Makes U Happy founder Keith Caputo has dedicated his life to helping others and spreading happiness throughout his community and beyond. However, recently, when the 44-year-old stepped into the space the organization called home for the last seven years, it brought

Standing by his side was his mother and co-founder, Cassy Caputo, who took to social media to share a video of the emptiness of the former space, which was used as their hub for helping countless others for years in their community. The video also depicted the heartbreak of her son, Keith, asking for support as they continue their search to find a new working space.

While the decision for the 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity to leave the Center Moriches location was not an easy one, Cassy said it became an "unhealthy environment," leaving her and Keith with the only option but to find a new space.

Currently, the entire contents of supplies and items kept from the move are in storage until a new location comes along. Keith and Cassy are hoping the right opportunity comes along as soon as possible.

Ideally, they said they are looking for a workspace with a minimum of 1,500 square feet, a small reception space, plenty of room for table setups, and storage, anywhere between Moriches and Eastport.

Also, to properly function, a prospective space needs either a ramp or street-level entrance for loading and unloading as Keith and Cassy, who do much of the heavy lifting themselves, face their own challenging physical needs.

'Stairs are a problem; we need something we can walk straight into. We carry a lot of stuff-food, clothes, Halloween costumes," Cassy explained.

And, although it is not a requirement, it has been a dream of Keith's to have yard space to one day build a community garden.

But most of all, the location of the prospective new space is a top factor in the decision-making process. Moriches to Eastport is not just the community Keith and Cassy live and work in, but also a big consideration for the parents who bring their kids back and forth from schools in between sports, play practices, and clubs to drop and pick-up for their offered community services.

With rental costs being at an all-time high across Long Island, Keith and Cassy said they have been exploring every option, all the way to the possibility of buying a small plot of land and building a kit home.

However, they are hopeful the right place is out there. And Cassy said it is a matter of getting the word out to the right people.

'We just need to get on the right path," added Keith.

Even though there is an urgency to find the perfect new home for Helping Makes U Happy, it has not slowed Keith down from getting out in the community and doing what he does best: bringing smiles to others, hosting raffles, and collecting for those in need.

Recently, Helping Makes U Happy held their annual Super Bowl Party Raffle/ Basket auction at the Triangle Pub in Eastport, with over 70 baskets, and this year it was to support funds for their new

In years past, Cassy said the Super Bowl raffle event is usually held to raise money for their annual scholarship fund, but last year they worked so hard

MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

Looking ahead and planning to grow

BY PATTI CHIEFFO

Greetings everyone!

I hope you're all thinking about spring and keeping warm. Though I am not fond of the cold weather, I like this time of the year because I'm looking ahead and planning to grow some different flowers in my garden as well as some favorites that I know will add color and interest.

The first meeting of the Garden Club is March 20, at the Center Moriches Library. Roxanne Zimmer, from Cornell Cooperative Extension, will be talking to us about lawn alternatives. This is a topic that many gardeners are interested in and Roxanne will educate us with her presentation.

Please join us if you would like to learn more about lawn alternatives. We meet at the library at 1 p.m.

If you would like additional information or are interested in becoming a member, please contact me. My email is beachbaby4894@gmail.com, my cell is 631 838-6656, my home phone is 631 878-4894.

I am looking forward to seeing some new faces.

they already secured the scholarship for this year, so they were grateful to be able to hold this year's event to support rebuilding.

Over the past decade, Helping Makes U Happy has raised thousands of dollars and collected thousands of donations. And though their time now is uncertain, with their entire organization being packed up in a storage unit, Keith is keeping a shining eye on all his goals for the year ahead.

In addition to helping as many people as he can in the community, Keith said, his top three goals for the new year are to work on a new website, reactivate their "Cooking with the Cops" program, and do more to honor his local law enforcement and first responder heroes.

Another particular hope for Keith's and the future of Helping Makes U Happy, he said, is to host an event for people to come together including volunteers, families, law enforcement and first responders for a day to say thank you and learn about those who serve and protect in their community.

"I want to inspire more 'good guys' to come up and serve and protect our freedom in America to help us where we need." he said.

With the clock ticking and so many big

plans lined up, Keith and Cassy said so many businesses are ready to do more, but they just need the space.

'What we do is simply because we want to make people happy," Cassy said as she looked over at Keith and smiled with a wink.

For any information or recommendations regarding prospective spaces available, please email helpingmakesuhappy@gmail.com. To learn more about the organization visit: helpingmakesuhappy. org and to keep up to date with all things Helping Makes U Happy follow them on social outlets @helpingmakesuhappy.



RESCUE

FROM PAGE 12

if he needed help," Masotto said. "He said he had people coming. I went inside, then heard people on the other side screaming that the Jet Ski was sinking.

While onlookers by the Poospatuck Reservation were trying to get to him off a dock via kayak and rope, Masotto grabbed her paddleboard and maneuvered it over the ice to the struggling Jet Skier, where he grabbed on. She then pushed both of them towards the dock, where bystanders assisted in bringing him safely to shore.

"I think emergency services were already called," Mazzarella said of the rescue. "There are two sides of the creek: one on Riverside Avenue, the other side borders the Poospatuck Reservation. The Jet Ski got stuck on the ice, then toppled in the water. By the time EMS came, she'd had him on the paddleboard; there were other civilian people from the other side who tried to pull him out."

Mazzarella added, "It wasn't only her

dropping everything. She's a water person, an avid sailor and paddleboarder, so she knows what she's doing. The adrenaline was flowing, and she grabbed her paddleboard and used it.

"I asked her what he said when she got to him and he said, 'I can't feel my arms, I can't feel my legs and I don't know if I'm going to make it.'

"He was fortunate there were other people yelling and she looked out. Sometimes, it changes a person's personality, and they pay it forward."

Masotto grew up navigating local waterways. A graduate of Stony Brook University, she has a successful career in ophthalmology pharmaceutical sales with Bausch & Lomb. She was asked if the rescued man came by after the incident.

Yes, we met a few days after," Masotto said. "He and his family wanted to meet me. They brought me flowers.

"He said I was his guardian angel." ■

MORICHES & MANORVILLE

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AROUND TOWN

Saturday, March 8

International Women's Day – A global day celebrating the historical, cultural, and political achievements of women, and in support of taking action against gender inequality around the world.

Pop-Up Book Sale – Friends of the Library will host a book sale at the Center Moriches Library, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, March 9

Daylight Savings Time - Set clocks forward one hour. The Firefighters Association of New York encourages all residents to use this annual event to test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors as well as check battery life and alarm expiration dates.

Wednesday, March 13

National Good Samaritan Day – Also known as Good Samaritan Involvement Day, the day is celebrated every March 13 to encourage kindness and selflessness, despite our differences.

Saturday, March 15

Saturday Matinee – Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Library will show "Barbie," in the Main Library, 2 p.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 2024.

Sunday, March 16

St. Patrick's Day Parade – Join Center

Moriches for their annual parade down Main Street, 2 p.m.

Monday, March 17

Happy Saint Patrick's Day - Get your green on!

Thursday, March 20

Spring Equinox – As the sun heads northward, on this day, it sits directly over the Earth's equator, and night and day are roughly the same length.

Saturday, March 22

Spanish for Kids – Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Library program for kids 2-5 years with an adult features storytime, songs, crafts and games, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 2024.

Of Note ...

BiasHELP - Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender. BiasHELP proudly supports the LGBT community year-round. For more information on BiasHELP's anti-bias programming and efforts visit www.lincs.org/ biashelp.php or call 877-END-Bias.

Reporting Power Outages - Call PSE&G at 1-800-490-0075, text "OUT" to PSEG-LI (773454) or visit www.psegliny.com/ stormcenter. For more storm related news, visit www.brookhaven.org.

Volunteers needed – Daytime hours to assist with general office duties at Parents for Megan's Law and the Crime Victims Center. Fax your resume with three references to 751-1695 or call for more information 631-689-2672.

Free Foreclosure Prevention Counseling

- Long Island Housing Services Inc., will set you up with a HUD approved counselor who will help you explore available programs. Visit wwwLlFairHousing.org or call 631-567-5111, ext. 383 for more information.

Puppy Raisers Needed - Canine Companions for Independence trains assistance dogs for people with disabilities. Volunteers are needed to mold pups into responsive adult dogs. For more information, call 631-561-0217 or visit www.cci.org.

Parent Leadership Initiative – PLI is a community network empowering parent advocates for children. Evening weekly meetings held in Brookhaven Township. For more information, call 462-0303 or visit www.childcaresuffolk.org/parentleadership.

Volunteers Needed – Assist with general office duties at Parents for Megan's Law and the Crime Victims Center. Fax your resume with three references to 751-1695. For more information call 631-689-2672.

Teen Counseling – The Sanctuary Program of Brookhaven Youth Bureau offers free individual or family counseling for town

residents ages 12-21. Call 451-8011 to speak with a licensed clinical worker.

Abuse & Abduction Prevention – Parents for Megan's Law and The Crime Victims Center will hold educational workshops for children, teens, staff and adult community members. Call the helpline at 689-2672 for information or to schedule a workshop.

Conservation – Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE) along with the Sierra Club, RELI and National Wildlife Federation urge residents to support renewable energy goals for Long Island. To find out more, contact: David Alicea (Sierra Club) at 223-6330, Adrienne Esposito (Citizens Campaign) at (516) 390-7150 or Gordian Raacke (Renewable Energy Long Island) at (516) 313-6611.

Historic House Tours – Tour the John Scudder Haven Homestead (circa, 1755) located at 15 Main St., Center Moriches. Call Loren at 631-457-9763 to make an appointment. Visit the museum shop on the premises, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Antiques and collectibles. Follow them on Facebook.

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.

YEARS AGO

70 Years Ago

MARCH 1950

A number of area clammers braved wintry weather to take advantage of high prices, despite several inches of ice and high winds on the Moriches Bay. Three clammers, Henry Robison, Paul Kern and Kinky Smith, were caught in ice floes and blown onto sandbars, but got off safely after considerable difficulty.

A flock of over 50 evening grosbeaks, which rarely stray below New England, has been visiting the home of Mrs. Burton Cassin on Union Avenue, Center Morich-

Mrs. John Moseley, of Manorville, was awarded a handsome quilt made and donated by Mrs. Anna Pendzick at the card party held for the benefit of St. Peter and Paul R.C. Church.

Janet and Clair, twin daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Kaznowski, of Eastport, were among the first-round winners in an amateur contest at the Westhampton Star Theatre when they entertained with three piano-vocal duets.

Top students at East Moriches Grammar School are Richard Herbert, Marion Raynor and Jean Smith, with averages of 96.6, 94.4 and 93, respectively.

Ms. Julia Tunnell, a member of the Moriches Grammar School faculty, reported on a trip she took through the United States and Canada at the March meeting of the Moriches Grammar School Parent-Teacher Association.

A team of girl basketeers from Center Moriches High School reached the finals in a basketball playday at Riverhead High School, defeating Southampton 13-4. Girls on the team are Lynne Layman, Louise Buzeski, Rosemary May, Helen Malutka, Virginia Holzman, Jane Burwell, Jean Arnzen, Joyce Perrier and Marylin Merritt.

William E. Tyson of Reeves Road, Center Moriches, is a member of the honor guard of Gen. Douglas MacArthur and who is residing at the general's home in Tokyo, Japan.



March 1950: Among the showstoppers who starred in the Victory Post 414, Veterans of Foreign Wars "Television Review" presented at Center Moriches and Eastport high schools were the men's hula chorus, comprising (left to right) George Schuyler, Albert Nooger, William Palmer, Michael Scrabet, Nicholas Zaharakos and Philip Mottola.

Apparently, seasonable weather comes early to Manorville, according to Mrs. H.J. **Kelly.** a weather observer at the Rock Hill station, who spotted a number of redwinged blackbirds and a doe with twin

Members of the Kookanos 4-H Club of Center Moriches took part in a series of demonstrations at Riverhead High School, bringing home several ribbons. Blue ribbon winners included **Dolores** Bryant, who demonstrated an apple crisp; Jayne Byczkiewicz, a Cherry Betty; and Catherine Kosach, dustless dust clothes.

Mrs. Walter Whitman, Mrs. John Hean, Mrs. Belle Bernstein, Mrs. Sylvia Bernstein and Mrs. Zelda Nooger attended the meeting of Sunrise Chapter 776, Order of the Eastern Star, in Westhampton Beach.

Joan Downs of Sound Avenue, Center Moriches, was awarded an all-expense trip to the International Flower Show held in New York City, in recognition of her outstanding work in the 4-H Club

home grounds improvement project.

Playing this month at The Center Moriches Theatre: Gregory Peck in "Twelve o'Clock High"; Dan Dailey and Corinne Calvert in "When Willie Comes Marching Home"; and Charles Laughton and Franchot Tone in "The Man on the Eiffel

MARCH 1975

Buoyed by support from the Center Moriches community, two young broadcasters, 22-year-old John Lopinto and 24-year-old Fred Miller, are hoping to begin operating an FM radio station in the local area, called Milo Broadcasting.

Librarians at William Floyd Elementary School sponsored a Design Your Own Bookmark Contest. Among the winners were third-grader Dawn Kettleman, fourth-grader John Asendorf, and fifth-grader Tammy Dunne, who was also judged the grand prize winner.

Aruela Sewell McAndrew of the Palette and Brush Art League has several oil paintings on display at the Eastern Federal Bank in Center Moriches.

Navy Seaman Recruit Eugene Varvi of Bay Bright Drive, E. Shirley, graduated from recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

Jean Schiffelbian, well known for her artistic handicraft displays, will give an Easter Show at Center Moriches Library using a variety of materials easily found in every home such as paper, balsa wood, eggs, soap, felt cloth and flowers.

Bert Spadaro, an instructor at his own flying school in East Moriches, was the guest speaker at the meeting of the Rotary Club of the Moriches.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Meshenberg of Elm Road attended an awards breakfast by invitation held at the Sinai Reform Temple in Bay Shore honoring outstanding Boy Scouts.

For his work on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce of the Mastics, former president Ronald Springhorn was presented with a plaque by chamber president Bud Zuzierla.

Mrs. Verna Edwards, the new president of the Paquatuck Squaws, was honored by having her name added to a plaque listing all past presidents that will hang in the dining hall at Camp Paquatuck.

Among those finalizing plans for the nnual fundraising scholarship dinner-dance for Eastport High School were representatives of the school's PTA Student Organization Committee, including Marie Kelly and Charles Frankenback of the teachers' association; district principal Roger Schmidtt; committee chairman Paul Daniels; and president of the senior class, Rod Dickson.

Playing this month at local United Artist Theatres: Dustin Hoffman in "Lenny" Max Von Sydow in "Steppenwolf"; Mel Brooks's "Young Frankenstein"; and Steve McQueen in "The Towering Inferno."

- Compiled by Vanessa Graniello

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Real Estate



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We will have previews on Thursday April 3 and Friday April 4 from 9AM- 4 PM. There will also be a preview on the day of the auction from 8AM - 9 AM. 100 vehicles will be auctioned which include SUVs, numerous pick up trucks, vans

and a Can AM Ryker. For additional information go to www.suffolkpd.org

Current Impound Auction Information: ALL VEHICLES SOLD AS IS It is not the responsibility of the Suffolk County Police Department to list or notify the buyer of any existing liens that may be listed on the title. All the previous owners and lien holders of each vehicle have been notified as per law to claim their vehicle.

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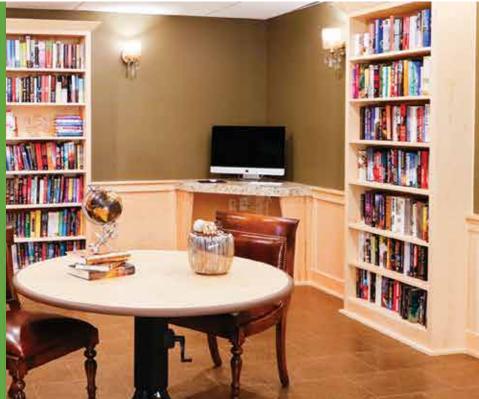
GRAND MARSHAL MARK DANOWSKI

ABOUT THE PARADE

Center Moriches will host the 22nd annual St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 16th at 2 p.m. on Main Street.
The parade begins on Lake Avenue and ends at Railroad Avenue and includes floats, fire departments and pipe & drum bands.
The chamber's dinner will be held on March 14th at 7 p.m. in honor of Mark Danowski. Tickets are \$75 per person.

For more information or to request to be part of the parade, visit www.moricheschamber.org.









Happy St. Patrick's Day From Your Friends At



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GRAND MARSHAL MARK DANOWSKI



I was born and raised in Manorville, where I still live today. I graduated from Eastport High School and attended Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) for two years. During this time, I worked at Heinz Deli on Main Street in Center Moriches alongside Gerry Sapanaro. It was while working at the deli that I developed a strong appreciation for Main Street and its sense of community.

After SCCC, I attended SUNY New Paltz, where I earned a business degree. My first job out of college was with Allstate Insurance—an uncommon but fortunate situation to still be working for my first employer. I started selling Allstate Insurance at the Sears store on Main Street in Riverhead, which further deepened my affinity for Main Streets and local businesses.

In 1988, I joined Don Striplin in Center Moriches to help promote the Spring Fair and other Chamber of Commerce activities. I was also a volunteer firefighter in Manorville for 17 years. When I considered stepping away, I was told, "Stick around another three years, and you'll reach 20 years of service—then you won't have to do anything." But I've never volunteered just for recognition—I do it to contribute. At that point in my life, I was married, and within seven years of marriage, my wife and I had five children.

My wife, Melissa ("Missy") Danowski (née Knerr), grew up in Center Moriches, where her parents owned Sunrise Restaurant on Main Street until 1986. While our children were still young, Art Gerhauser, then president of the Chamber of Commerce, asked me to co-found the Downtown Beautification Organization of Center Moriches, Inc. with Gerry Sapanaro. The goal was to secure grants, impact fees, and other funding to improve Main Street. I served as the organization's first president and continue to serve as vice president. Over the years, we secured funding for Bank Street Park—designed by Suzanne McKeon, another past president of Downtown Beautification—as well as several smaller projects. In 2008, we successfully revamped all the sidewalks on Main Street and added benches, garbage receptacles, and new light posts to display our beautiful hanging flower baskets each summer.

During this time, I was also very involved with the Eastport South Manor Sports Association, serving as a board member for 10 years and director of youth basketball for eight years. Leveraging my experience in working with government entities, I helped secure the construction of ballfields in Eastport. I coached Little League baseball, Little League softball, boys' and girls' youth volleyball, and girls' lacrosse. My son Jake was part of the 2016 New York State Champion ESM boys' volleyball team, and my daughter Sara played on the 2019 New York State Champion ESM girls' lacrosse team.



Currently, I oversee the watering of the flowers on Main Street, a task made easier thanks to our dedicated volunteers. We use a golf cart kept on Main Street for this purpose.

My wife, Missy, whom I met while she was working at North Fork Bank on Main Street in Center Moriches, is now a special education teacher at The Little Flower School. We have five

children: our oldest son, Jake; our oldest daughter, Sara; our middle child, Emma; and our twin sons, Alex and Noah. ■



















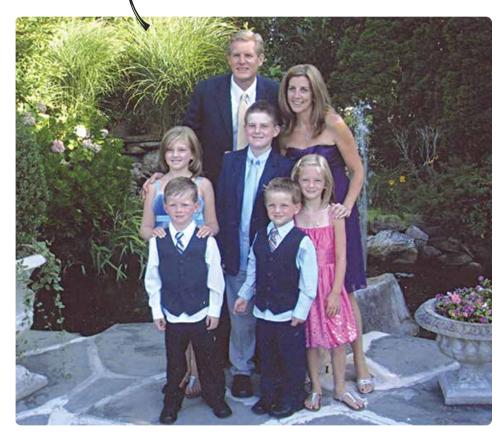


















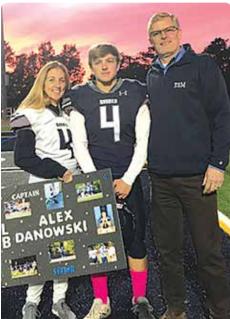


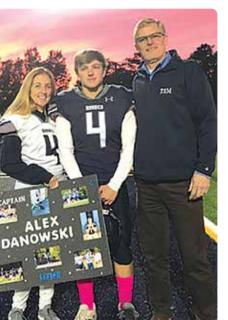


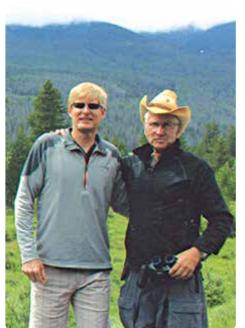


















PAST GRAND MARSHALS













































2003 Buddy Mazzio 2004 Vinnie O'Brien 2005 Joseph McHeffey **2006** Clayton Huey **2007** Arthur Rumph 2008 Rev. John J. Corcoran

2009 James Dineen **2010** Hon. Edward Romaine 2011 **Miriam Gillies 2012** Lee W. Sinnickson **2013** Edward Morris, Sr. **2014** Gerry Sapanaro

Tony Parlato 2015 2016 Philomena Vigliotta 2017 Joe Maag **Keith Caputo** 2018 2019 **Arthur Gerhauser 2020** Elsie & Tom Tebbens

2022 Kenneth Johnson 2023 **Joseph Townsend George Keller**

PAST PARADES















PAST PRINCESSES









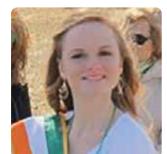


































2003 Cari Woolford 2004 Amy Berdan 2005 Aimee-Noelle 2005 Hughes-Smith 2006 Kristen Dagradi **2007** Kaitlyn March 2008 Eileen Harrigan 2009 Nicolette Broda

2010 Krysten O'Hara **Catherine** 2011 **McHeffey** 2012 Amanda Guinta 2013 Jill Almond **2014** Maureen Miner 2015 **Abigail Lehr** 2016 **Kelsey Debatto**

2017 Kristen Renzetti 2018 **Staphanie** Sunderman 2019 Megan McLaughli **Cassandra Cosma** 2020 2022 Lillian Babzien 2023 **Jillian Rvan 2024** Allie DeMatteo

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

2025 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

IRISH PRINCESS CAITLIN HYERS

Caitlin Hyers is a senior at Center Moriches High School. She lives in Center Moriches and is an only child who lives with her parents, Robert and Julie Hyers. Caitlin's Irish ancestry is from her mother's side of the family. Her grandparents were born, raised, and married in County Cork, Ireland and immigrated to New York in the 1970's.

Caitlin is a member of numerous honor societies including the National Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society, Tri M Music Honor Society, and Foreign Language Honor Society. She is on the Varsity Girl's Tennis Team and is a member of the Serious About Science Club and the Center Moriches High School Band where she plays the oboe.

Caitlin takes part in community service in Center Moriches. In her church, St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, she serves as a faith formation assistant, vacation bible camp leader, and chef for the parish's social ministry in cooking dinners and preparing sandwiches for the homeless. She volunteers at the Center Moriches Public Library where she writes book and movie reviews which serve as a resource for others to help them select suitable books and movies.

Caitlin's career goal is to become a pharmacist. She will be attending St. John's University where she has been awarded numerous scholarships. She will begin the 6-year Doctor of Pharmacy program in the fall of 2025.





PAST ST PATRICK'S DAY PARTIES



































FOR SELECTING ME AS THE **GRAND MARSHAL**

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I am humbled by those Grand Marshals' who came before me and how much that they have done for our town.

I first started working on Main Street, Center Moriches in 1981 and quickly developed an affinity for Main Street that has continued to present day.

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Mark Danowski

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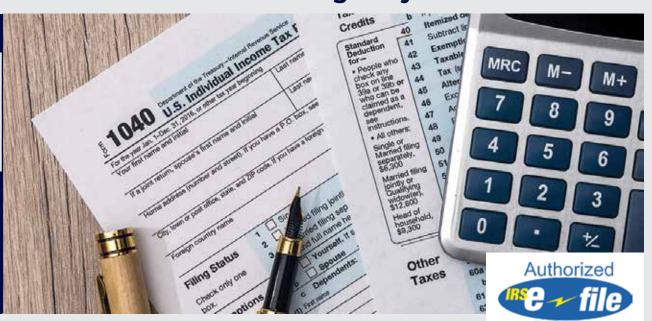
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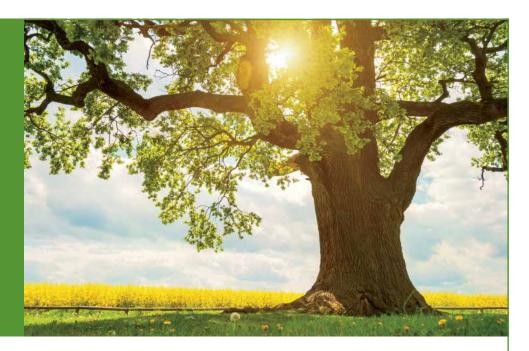
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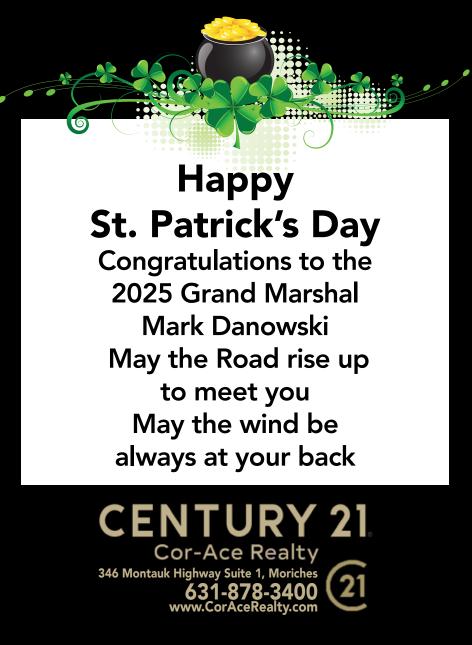




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Mark Danowski





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2025 Grand Marshal of The Moriches Chamber of Commerce MARCH 16th ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE





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Congratulations to Grand Marshal Mark Danowski

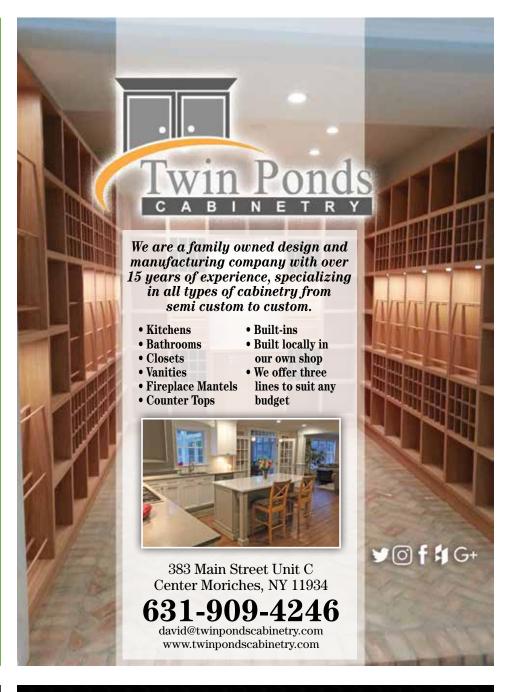




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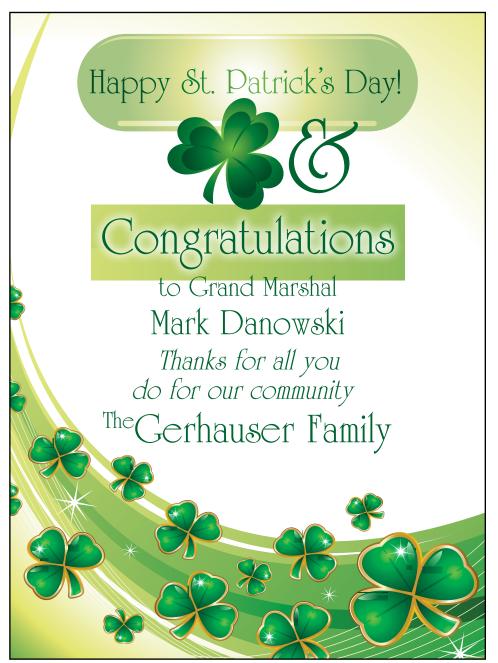














HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARK DANOWSKI

2025 GRAND MARSHAL

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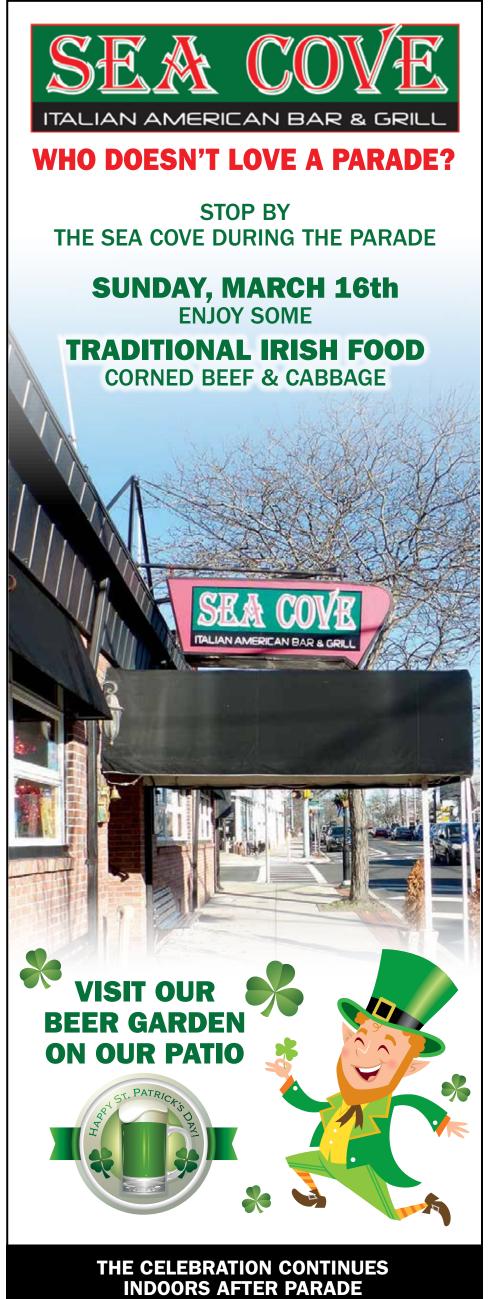
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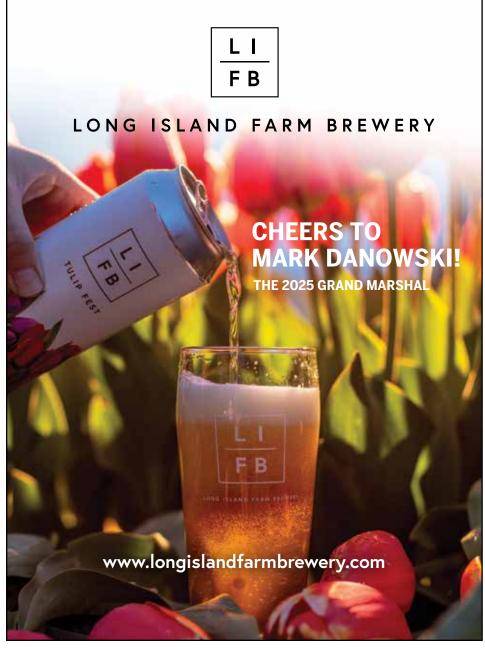
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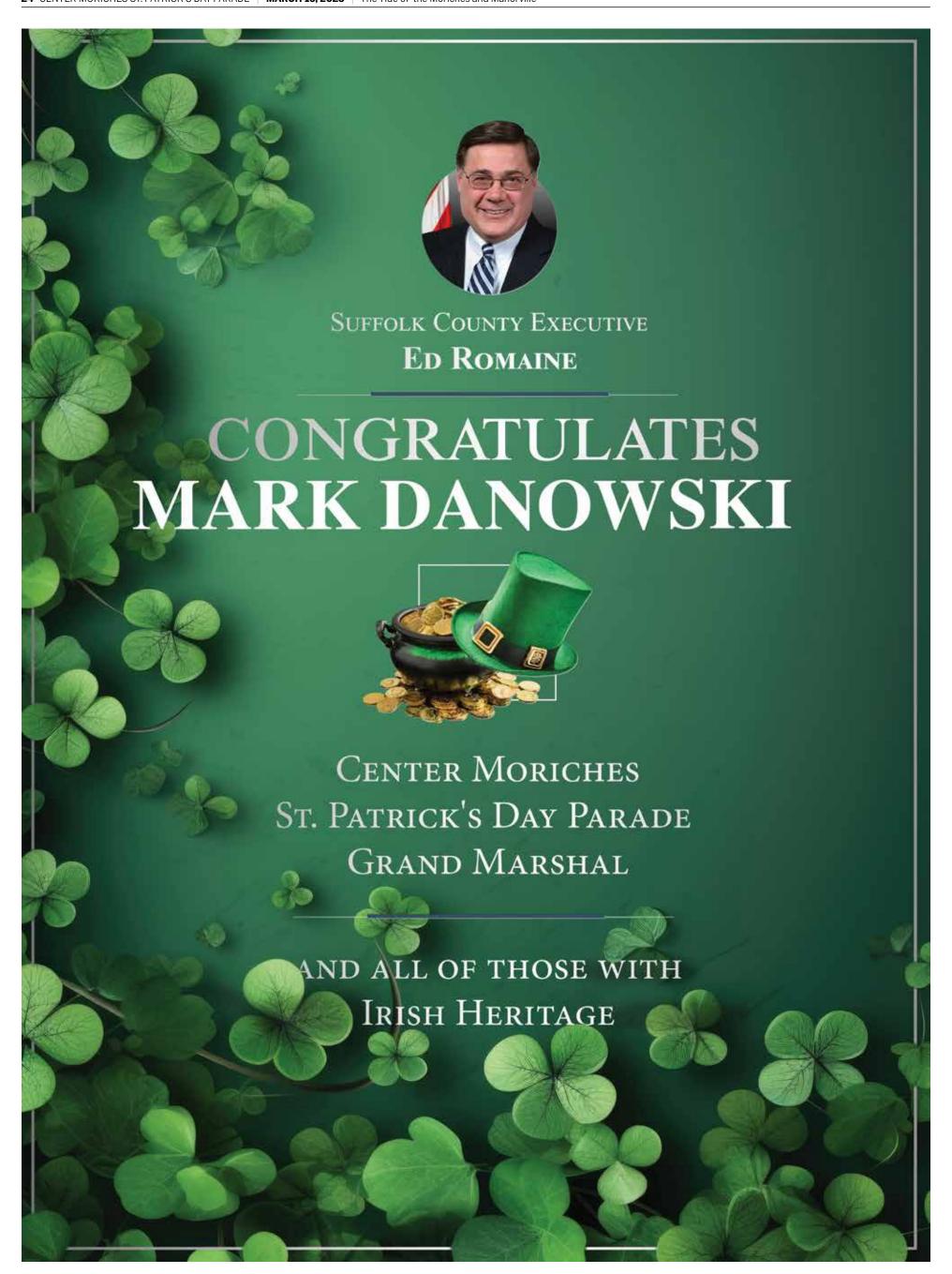
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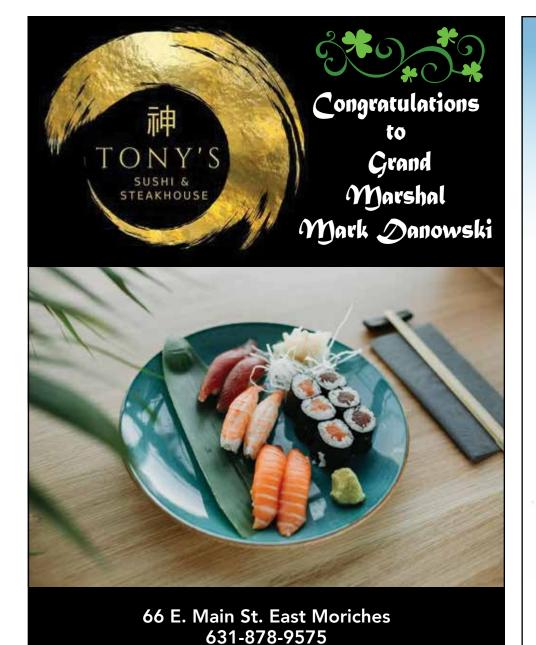
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Happy St. Patrick's Day and Congratulations 2025 Grand Marshal Mark Danowski







Congratulations to Mark Danowski



* Leprechauns and Shamrocks optional

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Congratulations to Mark Danowski

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Our Legacy

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With the birth of Pedro's sons, Andrew and Pete the barbering legacy was solidified. Andrew and Pete Jr grew up in the Barbershop. Andrew went on to have his own Barbershop in East Quoque for 18 years before relocating with his family to Georgia.

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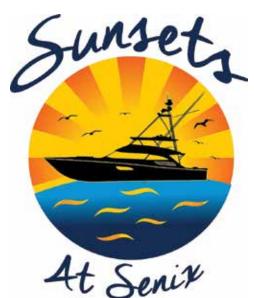
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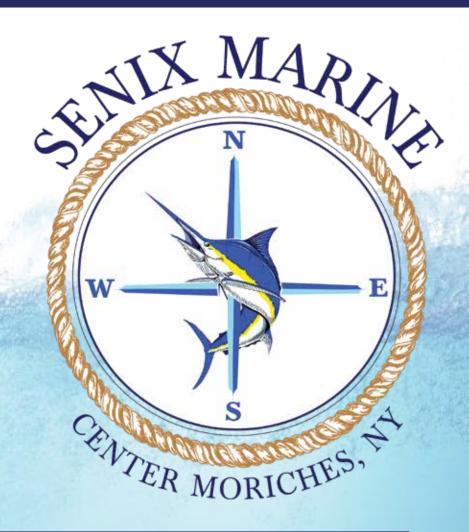
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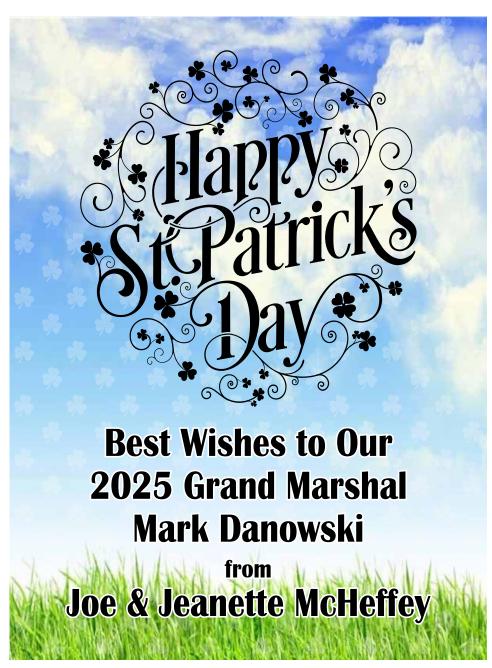
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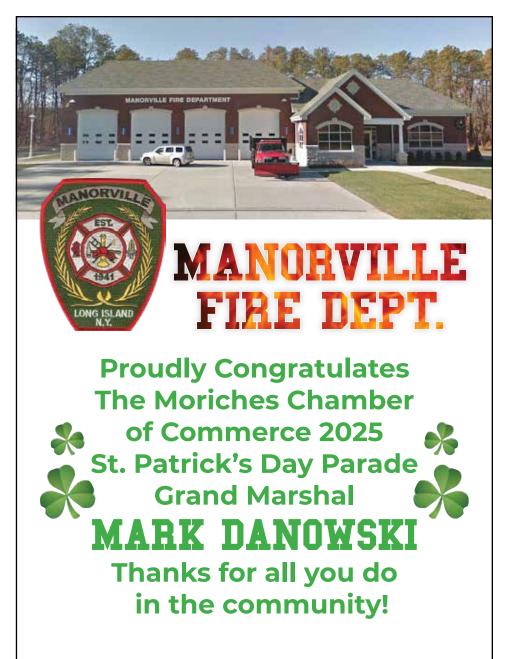
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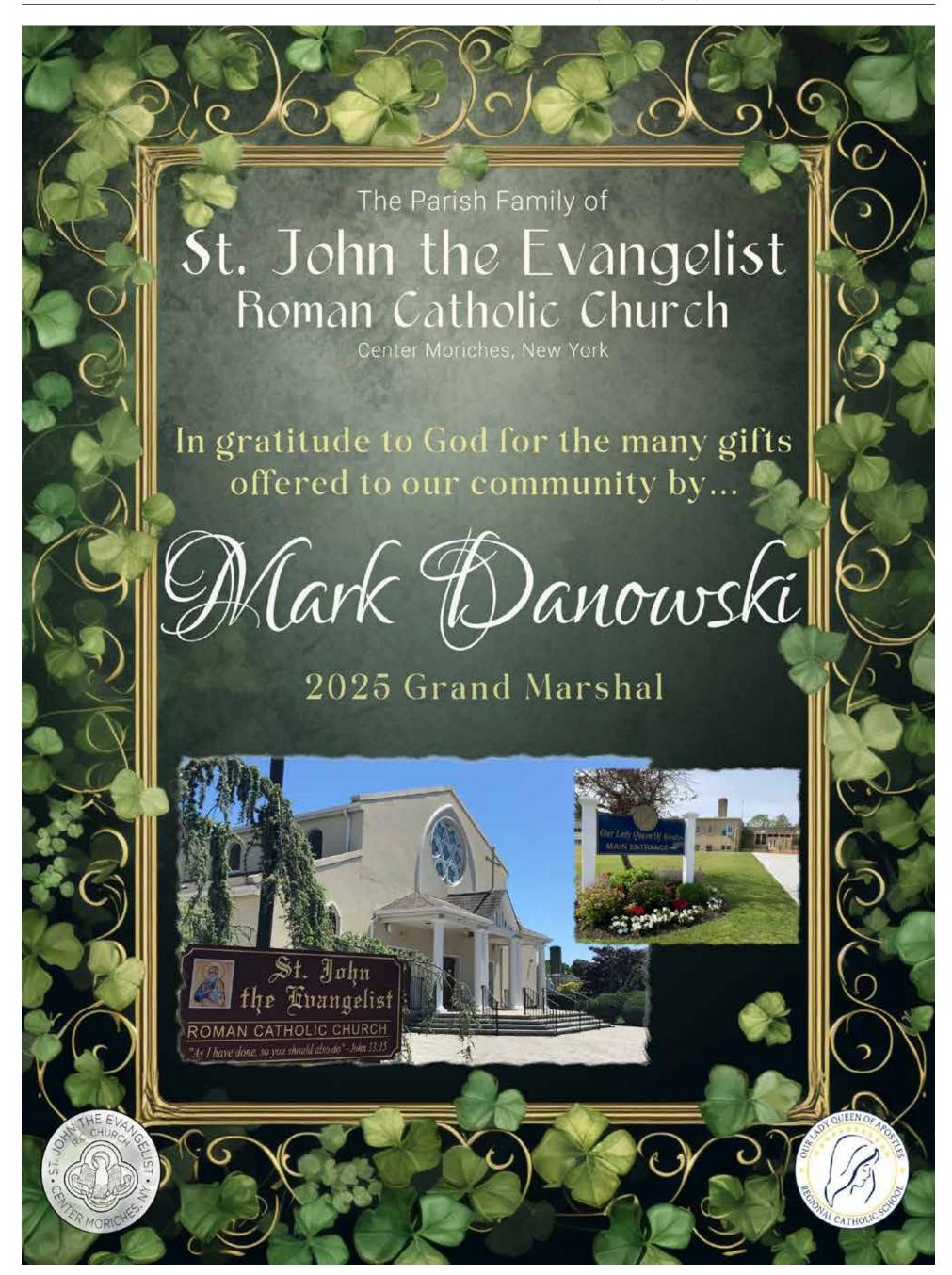
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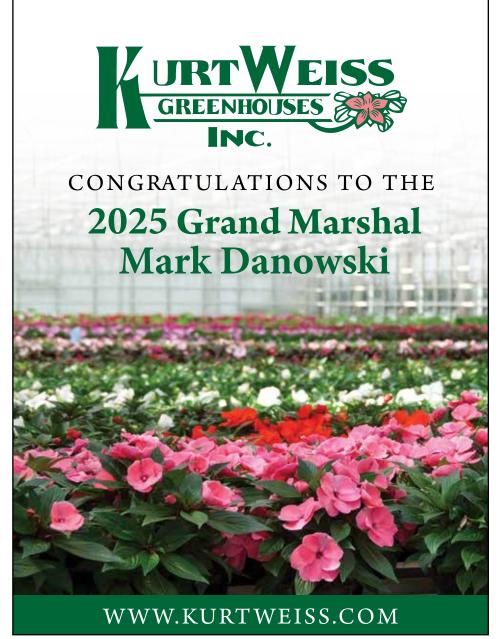






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Congratulations to Mark Danowski - 2025 Grand Marshal

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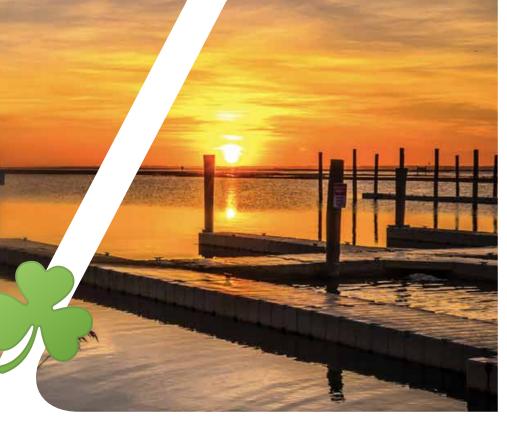
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Laura has been practicing law in the areas of tax planning, estate planning and elder law for over 25 years. Her attention to the individual needs of her clients is the hallmark of her practice. She assists families with complex tax planning to very tailored estate planning.



SO HAPPY TO SAY...

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO OUR FRIEND

MARK DANOWSKI

2025 GRAND MARSHAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE MORICHES ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADE



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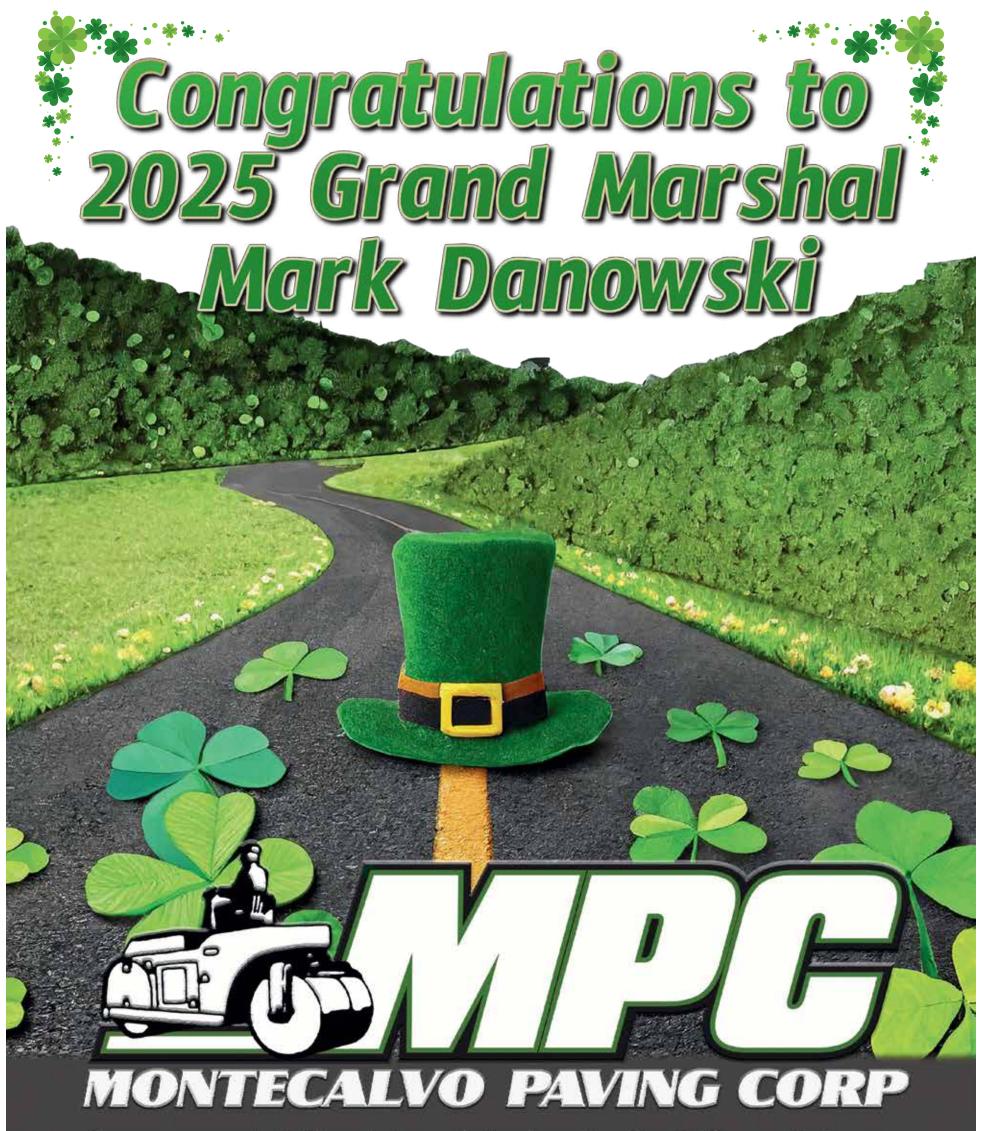
Congratulations Mark Danowski 2025 Grand Marshal

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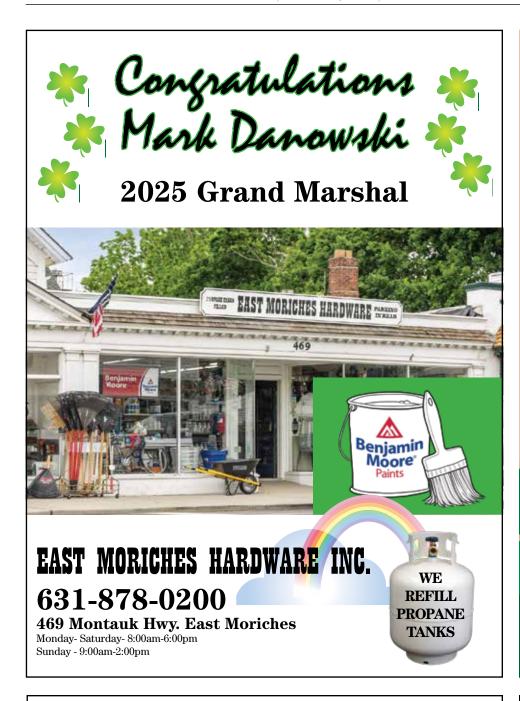


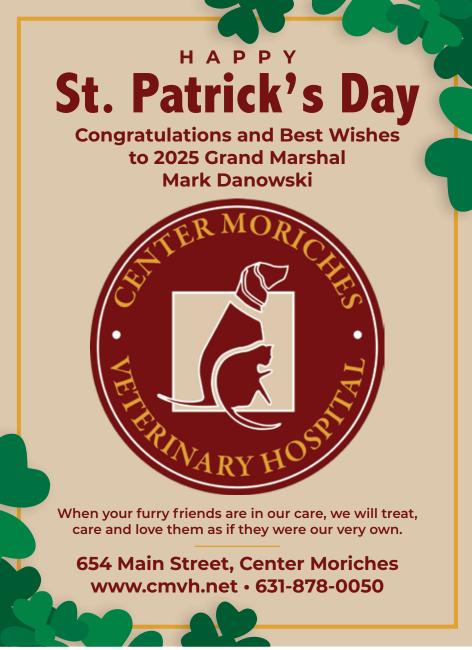


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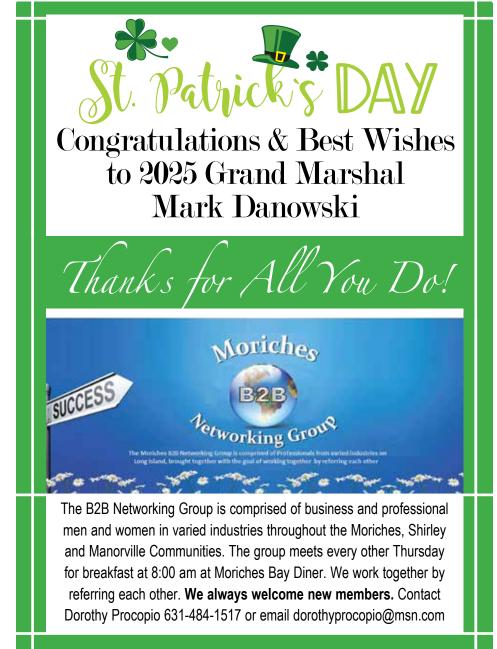
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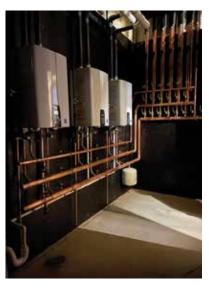


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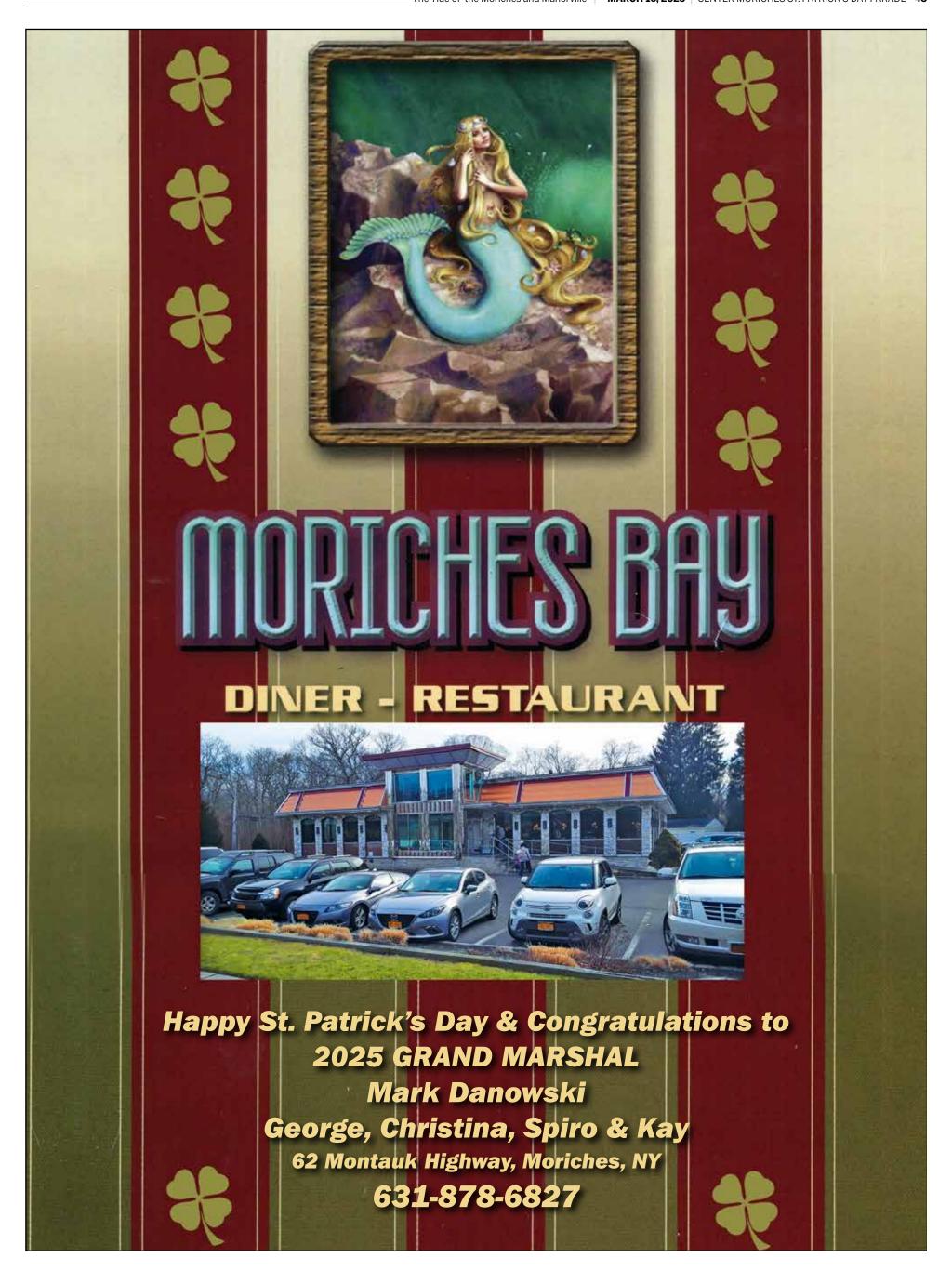
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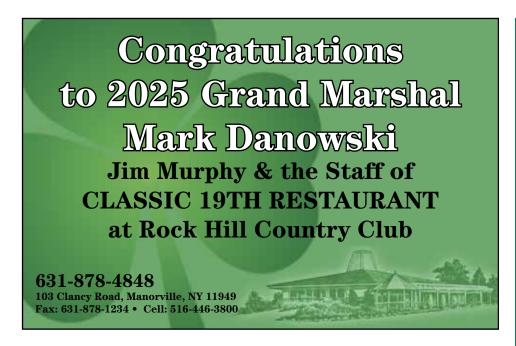


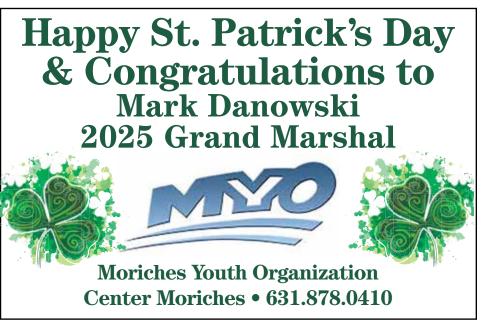




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THE 2025 GRAND MARSHAL

Mark Danowski





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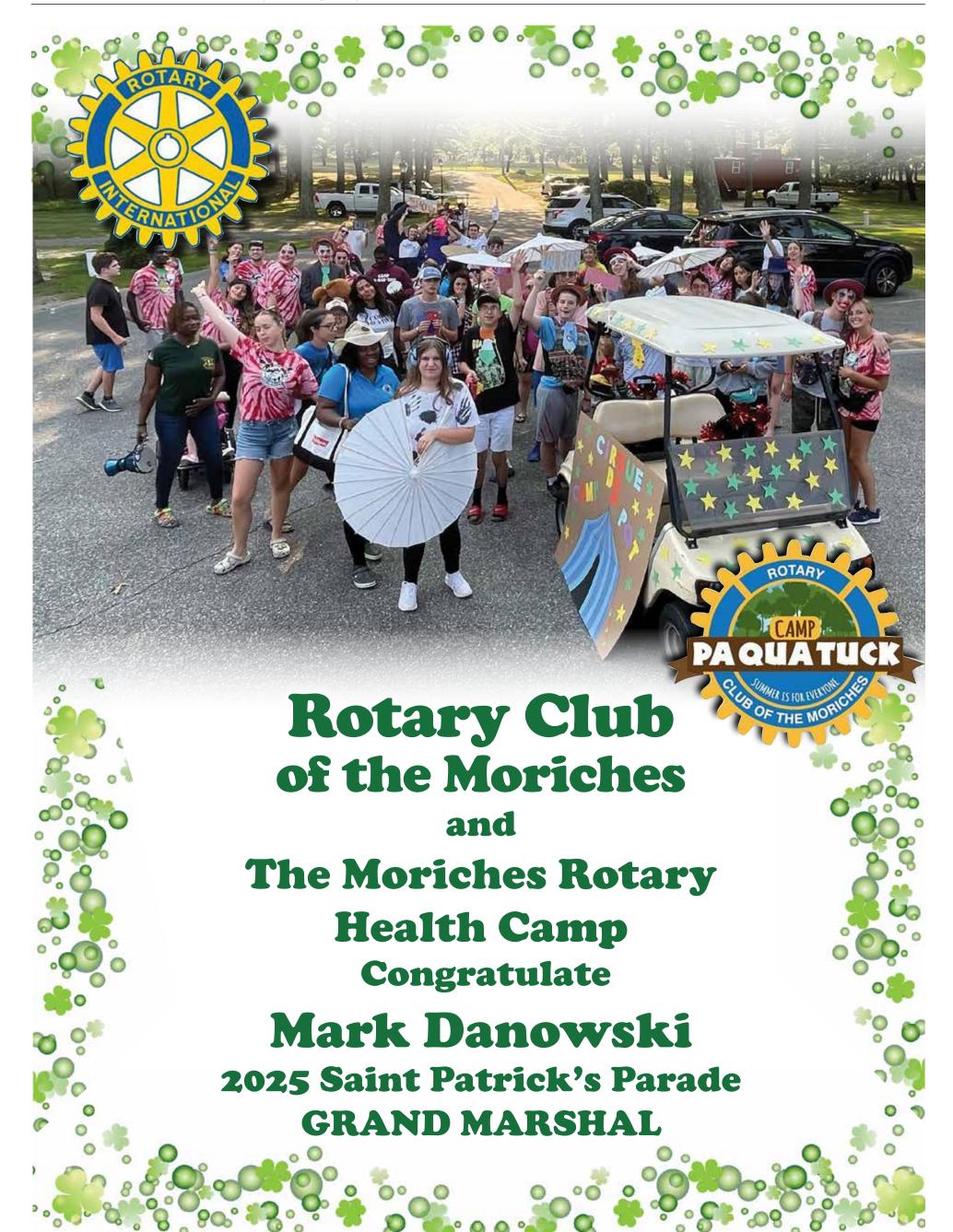
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