

**Top golf players  
place in tournament** PAGE 16

## Spring Thoughts from Okula Tree Care of Center Moriches

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# ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE: Danowski serves as grand marshal

FROM PAGE 1

Danowski described his reaction to learning he had been chosen as this year's grand marshal.

"[I was] very honored and humbled to be chosen [as grand marshal], as we have had some very exceptional past [grand marshals] who have done so much for our town," Danowski said.

Danowski was accompanied by past grand marshals as he marched in the parade. Grand marshals both past and present climbed to the podium in front of the Center Moriches Fire Department to watch the rest of the parade pass by.

Past Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches president and current parade chairperson Arthur Gerhauser explained the origins of the parade.

"In 2002, Buddy Mazzio, then owner

of Buckley's Irish Pub on Main Street in Center Moriches, came to the chamber directors and suggested a [St. Patrick's Day] Parade," Gerhauser said. "The directors embraced the idea, brought [it] to the chamber membership, who [then] voted to support the parade. We set the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day as our parade day."

Buckley's Irish Pub participated in this year's parade and also hosted a St. Patrick's Day-themed party. Pub co-owner Jason Sheridan explained the theme of the pub's float.

"[We decided] we're [doing] a Notre Dame theme," Sheridan said. "[It has] an 8-foot Notre Dame helmet, [it has] green turf... marked like an NFL field, [it has a] Buckley's sign on it and a bunch of shamrocks and stuff like that."

Sheridan also described the pub's party, which began at 11 a.m. and concluded at 8 p.m.

"We open the doors [before noon], and we have all the Irish favorites," Sheridan said. "We have a full dining room, we cook corned beef and cabbage, we have a menu with Irish items on it. [We have] a pipe band, [Roisin Dubh Irish Pipe Band, who actually play] in the parade."

Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches member Geraldine Sapanaro described how the chamber prepared for the parade.

"We have a committee and start to prepare months in advance," Sapanaro said. "[We] put together a journal which contains photos of past parades, past grand marshals, and past princesses, in addition to a [biography] of the grand

marshal along with photos of their family. The journal [also] comprises many advertisers. The committee puts together the parade: floats, fire departments, children's groups, pipe bands, et cetera. The names of possible candidates [for grand marshal] are submitted to the committee."

The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches currently plans to host a street fair for the spring season in June. It is also scheduling a series of concerts during the summer, with Gerhauser writing that eight concerts have been proposed so far.

The Notre Dame-themed float crafted by Buckley's Irish Pub waits alongside other parade vehicles before the St. Patrick's Day Parade begins in Center Moriches on March 16. ■



The Irish princess Caitlin Hyers and the grand marshal with chamber members and past grand marshals.



St. Patrick's Day Parade grand marshal Mark Danowski (left) tips his hat to parade attendees watching the parade as it proceeds through Main Street in Center Moriches on March 16.



One of the floats in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Center Moriches on March 16 was themed around a local Cub Scout troop.



An Irish pipe band performs in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Main Street in Center Moriches on March 16.



A float featuring an individual dressed up as St. Patrick waves to a podium featuring multiple parade grand marshals outside the Center Moriches Fire Department during the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Center Moriches on March 16.

All photos MT/Klein



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# When Duck was King: Part II

## Time brings change to Long Island duck farms

BY C. E. PARRY

While some would argue that Suffolk County's first executive, H. Lee Dennison, was largely responsible for the decline of duck farming here, the story is more nuanced. Despite his expressed dream of a county without duck farms, other factors—asphalt, environmental activism and population growth—are largely responsible for snuffing them out.

From 1900, when many duck farms originated, until 1960, Suffolk County's population grew at an average rate of 100,000 people per year, or 28.4 percent. By 1960, that rate had increased to 666,784, or 141.5 percent, over the previous decade. Much of the increase was a result of access and affordability.

Prior to 1957, Sunrise Highway ended at Phyllis Drive, in Patchogue. Drivers took Montauk Highway farther east, through small towns and villages that lined the road.



According to NYRoads.com: "When the NYSDPW announced the proposal [to extend Sunrise Highway], new suburban developments were replacing duck farms along the South Shore of LI... work began in 1958, on the initial limited access segments, the first one from Phyllis Drive to Exit 61 (County Road 51) in Eastport."

The popularity of suburban living and cars made home ownership farther out from NYC desirable. Meanwhile, duck farmers, especially those in Eastport, had grown prosperous. As reported in "Historical Profiles of Eastport and Speonk/Remsenberg and Westhampton," by Ronald A. Michner, and his son, many of the grandest homes lining Eastport's Main Street were owned by duck farmers. Auxiliary income derived from feed, feathers, and processing gave them an edge.

Tuttle Brothers, Henry Baker, Gordon's Duck farm, Hallock's Atlantic Duck Farm, and Chester Massey were among the most prominent. Several farmers formed a co-op to improve business.

Then came the 1960s. Five factors were at work, according to Michner: increasing population and tourism; high costs for pollution management required by the government; higher property taxes and costs for utilities; loss of local sources of grain production; competition from duck farms outside NYS; and population expansion that made it more profitable to sell their land than continue farming.

Adding to their challenges was a reframing of what constituted acceptable farming practices, and with it, an outcry over those who labored on them.

In 1957, Newsday writers Jack Erlich and Francis Wood published a series of articles on LI slums, focusing first on the squalid conditions on the Hollis-Warner duck farm in Riverhead.

Workers, many of them Black and poor, endured life in tin shanties without running water, plumbing or heat, other than a coal stove or portable kerosene heater in unvented spaces.

Two documentaries, "Harvest of Shame" (1960) and "Got to Move" (1964), showed the country how migrant laborers worked as "rented slaves," following crops over the growing season from

Florida to New York, including 300 of them on Cutchogue's Potato Growers of Long Island's farm. Edward R. Murrow, a trusted and familiar face of news since World War II, narrated "Harvest of Shame" for CBS, which aired the day after Thanksgiving. "Got to Move," David Hoffman's first film, was underwritten by CORE and appeared on PBS. In it, the plight of Warner duck farm tenants was laid bare.

Federal and county governments got involved, but it took a fire and the death of 11 people, including infants and children, to force Warner to close. Legal segregation was part of the equation. Black families had few options for housing on Long Island. Once Suffolk County acquired the Warner property, it began the process of finding tenants "suitable housing" in North Bellport and Huntington.

Thus began the period of "blockbusting," where real estate agent Gerald Kutler used scare tactics to buy homes in white neighborhoods, offering as little as \$300 to \$500 to "take over the mortgage," later selling the house for much higher amounts and profiting off the proceeds.

Using flyers and letters announcing "They Are Coming," a reference to the soon-to-be relocated farm tenants, he offered appraisals to owners far under the actual value of their home, claiming the house couldn't be sold for more because of the stain of the racial integration.

Eventually, his tactics caught up with Kutler: he was stripped of his real estate license after a legal battle against real estate bias in North Bellport, but not before he'd sold over 50 houses and helped create another slum.

The 1962 publication of Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" helped raise concerns about chemical pollution and the toll it takes on the environment, leading many to demand better control of animal waste being deposited in local creeks and the bay. These demands found a willing ally in H. Lee Dennison.

Suffolk County acquired the Hollis-Warner duck farm, turning it into Indian Island, a recreational park and golf course. Over time, more farms closed or moved farther west to states with lower costs. By 1986, only 17 were



left. Too many closed and left the Eastport co-op to make its existence feasible; of the 40 members of the Eastport LI Duck Farmers Co-operative, only 15 remained. Soon it would dwindle to eight.

A 1994 report in the New York Times observed the opening of Harts Cove, a 75-unit condominium development on a former duck farm off Woodlawn Avenue, in East Moriches, as farmers sold out to developers paying \$50,000 to \$100,000 an acre for the space. The Waterways graced another in Moriches.

Jurgielewicz, one of the last to close, was sold off in bankruptcy in 2011, under claims that required effluent remediation had not occurred, leaving Save The Forge River to clean up the damage. The previous year saw the opening of a county dog run park on the Robinson Duck Farm, in Southaven.

Finally, one of the last two remaining farms, and the last in Eastport, Chester Massey and Sons, closed in 2014, leaving the Corwin family's Crescent Duck Farm the last remaining duck farm on Long Island. ■



## As bird flu spreads, veterinarians see casualties among cats

BY C. E. PARRY

While there haven't been any reports of bird flu in companion animals like dogs and cats on Long Island, veterinarians are urging caution as infected cats have died in NYC, New Jersey, Oregon and Washington. They warn that cats are especially vulnerable to H5N1, or "bird flu." And there are concerns among infectious disease experts that cats can become sick from contact with humans who work around infected cows, and in the reverse, that cats could become a vector for cow to human transmission as well.

A study mentioned in the CDC February "Morbidity and Mortality Report" describes two Michigan households where a member of the family worked in a dairy and cats died from the virus. In the first case, one of three cats in the home liked to sleep and roll around on the worker's discarded work clothing, on which unpasteurized milk had splashed during the course of the workday.

The cat soon sickened and died. A sec-

ond cat got sick but recovered. The third remained healthy. In the second home, the cat became sick a few days after the worker had eye irritation, a symptom of bird flu. Although the cats tested positive for the H5N1 virus, neither worker agreed to be tested.

Since cats of all kinds—wild and domestic—are highly susceptible to the virus, it is also possible that cats living in or around dairy farms could transmit the virus to humans. And, because of this, health care officials are concerned there are more undiagnosed, asymptomatic cases among humans who experience only mild symptoms and don't recognize them as bird flu.

A sub-type of influenza A, "bird flu," or H5N1 symptoms include pinkeye, irritated eyes, fever, cough, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, body aches, nasal congestion, shortness of breath.

Anyone experiencing these symptoms should be tested for avian influenza as soon as possible since it is very contagious, especially to cats.

To help protect your cat, veterinarians

recommend limiting opportunities for exposure to the virus. Keep up to date on vaccines. Avoid feeding them raw cat food or raw milk. Remove standing water around your yard since it could contain bird excrement or have sick birds drinking and splashing in it. Keep a close eye on bird feeders and observe the health of the birds in your yard. Are they eating, drinking, behaving normally, not having diarrhea?

If you keep chickens, make sure to wash your hands thoroughly after feeding, handling or cleaning up after them. Center Moriches Veterinary Hospital will treat single chickens if they become sick, but call in advance of seeking care. For larger numbers of chickens or poultry, a large-animal practice is advised.

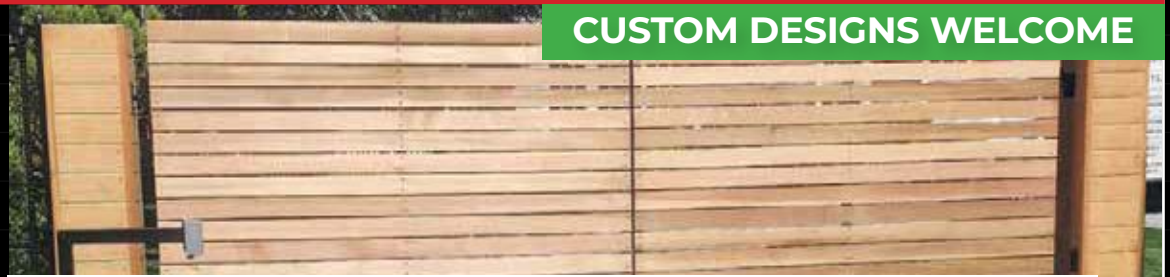
Monitor your cat(s) for any signs of illness, lethargy or behavior as early diagnosis and supportive care are crucial. A cat showing signs of illness should be kept separate from any other pets since there is risk of cat-to-cat transmission. The virus is often fatal and there is no cure. ■



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# Business student of the month

Meghan Harker is a senior at Center Moriches High School who has demonstrated exceptional leadership both in school and the community. Growing up with four brothers, Meghan learned the importance of leading by example and maintaining a positive attitude—qualities that have shaped her into the driven and compassionate individual she is today.

Meghan is an active member of the National Honor Society, English Honor Society, Deca Club, and serves as a Student Leader. In her leadership role, she has helped organize impactful events such as PS I Love You Week, The Turkey Trot, ALS Ride for Life, and The Mental Health Run Series, which has now expanded to three other districts on Long Island, raising awareness about mental health among students and the community.

Through her business courses, Meghan has developed strong skills in leadership and teamwork, which she has applied not only in academics but also in athletics. As a Varsity Athlete, Meghan is an all-county flag football player and was recognized as a Top 25 Player on Long Island. She is also a varsity volleyball player, helping her team secure the county title this year.

Beyond the field, Meghan dedicates her time to volunteer work with local youth sports programs. As a former gymnast, she has also taken on the role of coach at Hampton Gymnastics, where she instills valuable life lessons in young athletes, including teamwork, problem-solving, and communication.

Inspired by her love for sports and helping others, Meghan is eager to pursue a career in physical therapy, where she hopes to empower others and guide them toward success. She looks forward to embracing new opportunities and making a positive impact in the next chapter of her journey. ■



# TRESTLE: County requests flashing lights

FROM PAGE 1

“The flashing lights on the bridge when approaching will grab your attention,” he said, noting they have already submitted a request to the MTA.

The MTA has confirmed they received the county’s request for flashing lights on the trestle and said they are currently evaluating that request.

“Numerous signs posted before drivers reach the trestle warn about a height restriction. Striking the trestle puts Long Island Rail Road riders and employees at risk,” said MTA spokesperson Ray Raimundi.

Additionally, the county and town DPW plan to continue to cut back trees and brush to make existing signage more visible.

“We’re going to do all we can to make the bridge itself more visible,” Mazzarella added. ■

Courtesy photo



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# To mow or not to mow?

That is the question in May

BY C. E. PARRY

As clocks spring ahead and we have the benefit of warmer weather and more daylight, many of us are gearing up for the annual rites of spring: mowing and raking the lawn. And Jane Corrarino, one of the team of master gardeners at the Ketcham Inn and the Havens estate, has some thoughts to help us get started.

Among her suggestions: wait.

“The reason to wait to do spring clean-up is that many beneficial pollinators lay eggs in debris—leaves, stems from flowers, etc.—in the autumn, and these eggs hatch in spring when it’s above 50 degrees at night,” she said. “So if you do cleanup now, you’re destroying beneficial bee, butterfly, moth larvae/eggs and working against Mother Nature.”

And these insects are pollinators, and play a crucial part of our food source.

“Fewer pollinators leads to less pollination of essential crops, as well as weaker biodiversity, an important part of a healthy environment. The goal is to do as little as possible until these bene-

ficial pollinators have a chance to wake up and do their jobs!” she added.

“The volunteers at the historic Ketcham Inn and Havens properties are putting down compost, planting spring crops like kale and peas, pruning bushes and shrubs, applying layers of wood chips to bare garden beds to keep down weeds, and transplanting hardy perennial plants. We’re taking advantage of the remaining winter and early spring to work together as a group to build our gardening skills so we’ll be more proactive in helping our community be a better place.”

Birds, also, as year-round inhabitants and returning migrators, rely on the emerging insects to replenish energy after often flying long distances returning from their winter habitats. They will need strength to rebuild nests and hatch their young. The dead plants and leaves provide shelter for some ground-favoring birds, as well as nest materials.

Advocates of No Mow May recommend that we allow the lawn, or at least a part of it, to grow without mowing, through the month of May to help support these birds and insects. Another benefit they cite is that mowing less frequently, every two weeks instead of weekly, allows roots to grow deeper, reducing the amount of water a lawn needs to stay green. Permitting “weeds” like buttercups, clover, and dandelions to remain in the lawn helps support pollinators and reduces reliance on so-called “weed killers” that are toxic to animals and people.

More information and advice on raising local plants is available through our local Co-operative Extension service. ■



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# Sign up for Camp Zoo!

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Long Island Game Farm will be hosting Camp Zoo, presented by Wildlife Sustainability, which they call the perfect adventure for kids who love animals, prefer to be outdoors, and thrive on learning more about the environment.

All camp days during the seven-session camp week will be spent exploring the Long Island Game Farm and its animals, learning about what makes them unique. Campers will also explore the Woodland Trail for hidden clues of wildlife, engage in age-appropriate games, activities, and creative crafts to round out the day.

The zoo will be hosting seven week-long camp sessions for each camp, running simultaneously beginning July 7.

Patricia Snyder, executive director of Foundation for Wildlife Sustainability, suggests campers sign up for multiple weeks.

“There are new experiences every week!” she said, noting that multiple week and sibling discounts available. “A summer surrounded by the natural environment is impactful for children immediately, but also guides their decision making in later life. We want every child to become an environmental advocate.”

To register visit: [www.wildlifesustainability.org](http://www.wildlifesustainability.org) or [www.longislandgamefarm.com](http://www.longislandgamefarm.com).

## Young Explorers ages 5-8

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# CM resident continues to protest animals' plight at Holtsville Ecology Site

BY C. E. PARRY

Few remained in the Brookhaven Town auditorium on March 6 following a presentation of citations and certificates of appreciation to two town residents.

Those who stayed witnessed what soon became a contentious display, as frustrated activists again voiced concerns over neglect at the Holtsville Ecology Site, including John Di Leonardo, who was ordered removed from the room by supervisor Dan Panico.

Center Moriches resident and wild animal care professional Grace De Natale was joined by several former employees of the site turned whistleblowers. At the Feb. 13 meeting, she reminded those present of the site's origins as a landfill and waste dump prior to 1974.

At this meeting, she reiterated her appeal to Panico and councilmembers to improve the animals' lives, citing cases of blatant neglect, lack of proper housing, enrichment, proper diet and medical care, calling it "a prison."

De Natale cited as examples Melina, a skunk that wasted away from cancer; Wilber, a pig suffering from abscesses; Clover, the opossum that spent days suffering from rectal prolapse and urine burns from standing in her own urine for long periods; to a 3-foot-5 Florida sand crane with a 6-foot wingspan, confined to a space the size of a closet, without adequate shelter against the harsh winter weather.

Previously, a 120-page document, including photographs compiled by cur-



rent and former Holtsville employees, was the basis for Newsday's Dec. 23, 2024 front-page story, "Holtsville Animal Preserve: Allegations of Neglect."

Their report detailed insufficient or non-existent medical treatment/pain management by qualified veterinarians, inadequate shelter, animals showing signs of stress, overgrown hooves, untreated dental disease, bumble foot, poor diet, as well as six citations over 10 years from the USDA over the poor condition of its pens.

In response, Panico called for an independent investigation by Suffolk district

attorney Ray Tierney's office.

"This is disturbing and will be investigated independently," he said. "We take these allegations seriously. There will be zero tolerance for any animal neglect in this town."

However, the site remains open nearly three months later. Speakers against the site were heckled, booed, and catcalled by a line of people standing across the rear wall, even though there were seats available. Some of them held signs in violation of stated town policy that no photographs or signs are allowed during the meeting.

Speakers who spoke in defense of the site received loud cheers and applause from the group along the wall, identified by Brookhaven Town Highway Department supervisor as "brothers and sisters from highway." The Holtsville Site is under the Highway Department's supervision.

Three Holtsville supporters were given more than the allotted 3 minutes to finish their remarks, including Kristin Layer, Brookhaven Town zookeeper who spoke for an additional minute. De Natale believes the town's failure to halt these behaviors is evidence of its tacit support of the Highway Department.

Citing these irregularities, including boorish, bullying, and harassing comments made at whistleblowers who spoke on Feb. 13, as well as his frustration after months of negotiations with the town to transfer Honey the bear to a sanctuary more suited to its care, Di Leonardo castigated officials on March 6 for the perceived special treatment afforded to Highway Department supporters.

"There is nothing humane about Holtsville," he said.

The council heard comments from two additional speakers, after which supervisor Panico closed the session with a reminder about the need for civility and decorum in government.

Neither Panico nor director of communications Drew Scott responded to a request for comment on the meetings.

There was no reference to the public comments March 7 on "Brookhaven Today." ■

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# Join the Rotary Club of the Moriches

The Moriches Rotary Club was formed in 1946 by a group of local Moriches businessmen to further the mission of Rotary International, an international service organization. The mission is dedicated to service to the local community and the national and international communities at large. Rotary is dedicated to the furtherance of peace, understanding, and international cooperation.

The Moriches Rotary Club has owned and operated Camp PaQuaTuck, The Moriches Rotary Health Camp Inc., since its founding in 1947. A summer camp dedicated to serve the needs of special-needs children and young adults, it is located on 38 acres on the shores of Kalers Pond in Center Moriches. The camp was originally conceived to provide a summer camp experience for children and young adults afflicted with the polio virus. It has since evolved to accommodate the entire spectrum of special needs including autism, spinal bifida, muscular dystrophy and all other special-need afflictions.

In addition to Camp PaQuaTuck, the Moriches Rotary is involved in many other community projects. During the winter months, the club holds a Stuff A Bus event at the local King Kullen in Center Moriches, collecting food and donating it to local food pantries in the area. We also have a pancake breakfast with Santa at the camp with the proceeds going toward scholarships at the Center Moriches, East Moriches, Eastport-South Manor, and Our Lady Queen of Apostles Schools. At the end of September each year, the club holds an Oktoberfest celebration, with the proceeds going toward the operation of Camp PaQuaTuck and various community outreach projects.

The motto and motivating mantra of the Rotary members is "Service Above Self." Rotary is an organization of fellowship and friendship.

The Moriches Rotary Club meets twice a month on the first and third Wednesday for dinner at Sunsets at Senix Creek Marina Restaurant from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Meetings are open to all that would like to attend and enjoy fellowship with like-minded members of the community and enjoy the rewarding experience of giving back to the community. Membership is open to all community members and business owners and employees. The Moriches Rotary Club is always looking to welcome new members to join the club and enjoy fellowship and fulfillment.

For more information check us out at: [morichesrotary.org](http://morichesrotary.org) or call Tom Chieffo at 631-294-5365. ■



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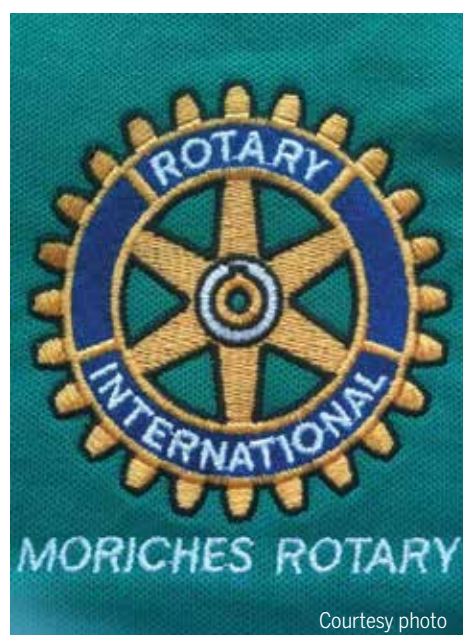
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# Seed library returns, with over 100 varieties in stock

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Library clerk and seed library organizer Tina Mavrotheris has been hard at work with her fellow clerks, sorting, packaging and filling the seed library shelves with over 100 different varieties of fruit, herbs, flowers and vegetables at the Center Moriches Library.

"A seed library works like a traditional library, the benefits being it's a way to build a community with fellow gardeners and support those who are new to gardening, all while having fun," she said.

The more seeds that are shared within the community, she explained, the more that can be grown and the more the seed library grows. "The mission of our seed library is to provide information, instruction, and education on sustainable gardening," explained library director Marcie Litjens.

The C.M. Library's seed program began in 2016, and since the inception over 10,000 patrons have "checked out" seeds for free with their library card. The program is funded in part by the Friends of the Library group.

"If you are inspired to try gardening, get dirty and have some fun," Mavrotheris suggests, "you visit our Center Moriches Free Public Library seed library."

She added that among the benefits of getting seeds through the library is that it can help save money and provide gardeners with organic, non-GMO options.

"Not to mention, a few native to Long Island," she added.

The library also helps connect like-minded gardeners who often share the same passion.

"All you need is a handful of seeds, a small patch of soil, a window box, or perhaps a pair of old rain boots filled with soil," Mavrotheris said of how easy it can be.

To become a part of the seed library, all you need is your library card to start planting a variety of seeds, provided by your very own local Center Moriches Library.

Also, the library does not require that harvested seeds be brought back to the library, but they do encourage patrons to send in photos to show them what they have grown.

## WHAT IS A SEED LIBRARY?

It is a collection of seeds that you can "borrow" for planting at home or in a community garden. All of the seeds are organic and are purchased through Seed Savers or High Mowing Organic Seeds.

## HOW TO GET STARTED?

Simply fill out the form on the library's website and choose up to five packets of seeds. Then, you will receive a package from the library with seeds to plant in your garden. Slips are also available at the library. And, no, you don't need to return the seeds! However, they do love to see photos from local library members' success.

## WHAT KIND OF SEEDS ARE THERE?

As for herbs, there are basil, mint and thyme, to name just a few. For veggies, there are options for cauliflower, zucchini, and squash, and for flowers there are options for marigolds and sunflowers. For a complete list of options, visit the drop-down menu in Selections on the library website. ■



Library clerks Tina Mavrotheris (left) and Donna Evans (right).

Courtesy photo

# Center Moriches student is a National Merit Finalist

## Christopher Russo one step closer to prestigious scholarship

Center Moriches High School student Christopher Russo has been named a 2025 National Merit Finalist. This prestigious recognition is bestowed on only around 15,000 students nationwide among 1.6 million applicants.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation seeks to identify academically talented students throughout the United States. Factors in the selection process include students' academic records, PSAT/NMSQT scores, an essay submission, demonstrated leadership and contributions to school and community

activities, and a school official's written recommendation.

Russo's recognition as a finalist means he is in the running to be one of around 6,870 students to receive a National Merit Scholarship of \$2,500 for 2025.

"Christopher Russo has always demonstrated major dedication to his academics and to his community," said Center Moriches High School principal Marissa Mangogna. "We are so proud of Chris, who epitomized our Districtwide focus on success in and out of the classroom."

For more information on the Center Moriches Union Free School District, visit the district's website at cmschools.org. Happenings in the district can also be found on the district's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cmschools.org/> #CMSchools ■



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# Unified Top Golf competes in final competition

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches Unified Top Golf program recently finished in their final competition. Special Olympics New York provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-style sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. In the Unified sports program, students with and without intellectual disabilities will train and compete together as Unified pairs in the Special Olympics sport of Topgolf.

The second-annual Unified Top Golf program included 11 Long Island school districts in the season. Athletes and Unified partners trained for eight weeks at Topgolf's Holtsville location to develop their golf skills. The season concluded with a final tournament on Thursday, Feb. 13, with over 175 students competing and going for gold! In the final competition results, Center Moriches students Megan Nguyen won first place in singles; Courtney Underwood and Erin Baldock, Cole Weigand and Logan Weigand, and Lea Underwood

and Casey Ennis all took first; Philip Bechtold and Michael Langhorn took second; Molly Pantol and Peter Nizza took fourth; and Ryan Bacon and Nolan Tenty took fifth, all in the doubles divisions. In the C.M. District alone, 16 students participated—eight athletes with eight partners, including a pair of brothers training as a team to compete. The team also included seven Special Olympic-certified coaches and support staff consisting of four paraprofessionals. Teachers involved in the program include LisaAnn Zlatniski, the program's golf coach and high school physical edu-

cation teacher; Katie Ross, the C.M. middle school and high school health and physical education teacher and assistant top golf coach; and Tracy Sigerson, the high school special education teacher, who also helps coach as an assistant. "Athletes practiced with their assigned partners weekly in a setting in which they could thrive; designed to help them succeed emotionally, socially, and physically," said Zlatniski, proud of the team's accomplishments. The Center Moriches team trained on Wednesdays, one day a week, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at TopGolf in Holtsville. ■



Brothers Cole and Logan Weigand.



Courtesy photos Megan Nguyen with Coach Maag.

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|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>4/6 to 4/12</b>  | Moriches Bay 2:58 AM      | 3:41 PM  | 4:02 AM  | 4:43 PM  | 5:03 AM   | 5:39 PM   | 5:55 AM  | 6:26 PM  | 6:40 AM    | 7:07 PM    | 7:20 AM  | 7:44 PM  | 7:58 AM  | 8:19 PM  |
|                     | Moriches Inlet 2:19 AM    | 3:02 PM  | 3:23 AM  | 4:04 PM  | 4:24 AM   | 5:00 PM   | 5:16 AM  | 5:47 PM  | 6:01 AM    | 6:28 PM    | 6:41 AM  | 7:05 PM  | 7:19 AM  | 7:40 PM  |
|                     | Smith Pt. Bridge 5:14 AM  | 5:57 PM  | 6:18 AM  | 6:59 PM  | 7:19 AM   | 7:55 PM   | 8:11 AM  | 8:42 PM  | 8:56 AM    | 9:23 PM    | 9:36 AM  | 10:00 PM | 10:14 AM | 10:35 PM |
| <b>4/13 to 4/19</b> | Moriches Bay 8:34 AM      | 8:52 PM  | 9:09 AM  | 9:24 PM  | 9:45 AM   | 9:55 PM   | 10:22 AM | 10:28 PM | 11:03 AM   | 11:07 PM   | 11:48 AM | 11:55 PM | ----- AM | 12:40 PM |
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|                     | Smith Pt. Bridge 10:50 AM | 11:08 PM | 11:25 AM | 11:40 PM | ----- AM  | 12:01 PM  | 12:11 AM | 12:38 PM | 12:44 AM   | 1:19 PM    | 1:23 AM  | 2:04 PM  | 2:11 AM  | 2:56 PM  |
| <b>4/20 to 4/26</b> | Moriches Bay 12:51 AM     | 1:36 PM  | 1:50 AM  | 2:34 PM  | 2:53 AM   | 3:36 PM   | 3:57 AM  | 4:37 PM  | 4:59 AM    | 5:34 PM    | 5:58 AM  | 6:27 PM  | 6:51 AM  | 7:16 PM  |
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## Moriches Coast Guard Auxiliary recognized enhancing waterway safety

The East Moriches Coast Guard Auxiliary 18-06 was awarded first place in Auxiliary District 1 South (D1SR) for identifying the most discrepancies with the Aids to Navigation (ATON) system on local waters. Auxiliarist commodore Vincent Pica identified the most discrepancies earning a first-place award, and Auxiliary Division 18 received second place.

D1SR serves the Coast Guard and boaters across eastern New York, New York City, the Hudson River Valley, Lake Champlain, Montauk Point, parts of Connecticut, western Vermont, and northern New Jersey. East Moriches Flotilla patrols the waters from Smith Point to Shinnecock Canal. Together with three additional Flotillas in the division, the Auxiliary patrols the waters through the Peconics to Shelter Island.

Aids to Navigation (ATON) include lights, buoys, and markers that help boaters navigate safely. These aids can

shift or malfunction due to weather, water conditions, and vessel strikes. The U.S. Coast Guard is responsible for verifying about 49,000 ATONs and 47,000 PATONs (private aids) nationwide. The Coast Guard relies on the Auxiliary to assist with verification reports.

Commodore Pica explains: "It's crucial that private aids marking our creeks, coves, and rivers remain reliable. This responsibility is overseen by active-duty personnel and carried out by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Our work begins in early spring and can extend into late summer under the direction of Station Shinnecock."

In 2024, Commodore Pica and the Auxiliary Boat Crew identified discrepancies with 17 percent of the aids inspected. Their diligence helps address ATON issues promptly, preventing maritime incidents.

The Auxiliary is recruiting new members. For more information, contact [MorichesAuxiliary@gmail.com](mailto:MorichesAuxiliary@gmail.com).



## Person killed in house fire

Suffolk County Police Homicide Squad and Arson Section detectives are investigating after a person was killed in a house fire on Tuesday, March 18, in Manorville.

Police and firefighters responded to 434 Village Circle North at approximately 6:35 a.m. after a 911 caller reported a fire at the location. After the fire was extinguished, a person was found deceased in the home.

The identity of the victim will be determined by an autopsy performed by personnel from the Office of the Suffolk County Medical Examiner. The victim was alone inside the residence at the time of the fire and no one else was injured.

At this time, detectives believe the cause of the fire to be non-criminal in nature.

File photo



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# 'Using Our Voices' Mental Health Run series

BY NICOLE FUENTES

On Saturday, March 15, Center Moriches Schools hosted the first event of the third annual Using Our Voices Mental Health Run Series, at Neville Park.

The student-led 5K series is inspired by P.S. I Love You Day and aims to spread awareness for mental health by sharing positive coping skills of the impact of movement and helping others.

The event is entirely student-run, with Center Moriches students taking the responsibilities of planning, promotion, and acquiring the proper permits.

"Personally, I think this run is more than just a run. It's about spreading awareness for mental health," explained

Center Moriches High School senior Meghan Harker. "As a student-athlete, mental health is a big factor for me. I was struggling and didn't even realize. So being able to help other student-athletes be heard really made me feel proud that we are breaking the stigma for something more than ourselves."

This year's theme is "choosing to include," as the event will be unified for the first time, inviting individuals with and without disabilities to participate together.

"It is our third annual run series, and each year we grow substantially with participation, sponsorships, and donations," said student organizer Austin Faller.

At the run, there are options to run,

walk or volunteer, and this year, not only is there a 5K, but also a one-mile option. This year, they also included opportunities for unified participants.

"It truly is a great experience for all ages with food, music and more," Faller said.

This year, the founders of P.S. I Love You day were also in attendance at the run, speaking to the crowd, as well as organizations including the Christopher Coluccio Foundation, The Neighborhood House, and Suffolk Response offering giveaways and mental health resources.

"For me, this is so important because I was struggling with my mental health and I didn't even realize," added Gabby Deangelis, Center Moriches senior.

"When I first joined student leadership, I wasn't sure what mental health actually was. But now being able to break the stigma around mental health with the run and letting other student-athletes feel heard really made this all feel real. We are doing this for a reason and it's important. Every one struggling deserves to be heard."

Throughout the Mental Health Run Series, all children and students from Long Island run for free. Center Moriches is hosting the first event of the 2025 series, followed by Patchogue-Medford, Connetquot, and North Babylon over the coming months. Last year, the series raised more than \$22,000 for mental health organizations. ■

Courtesy photos



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## KEITH'S CORNER

## It's Easter time at Helping Makes U Happy

HMUH is hippity-hopping through April! With the help of three middle school girls who've made helping us their MYP project, we'll be putting together approximately 80 Easter baskets, along with breakfast bags for children in need referred from school this month.

The girls have set up a box at Brother's Four Pizzeria in Center Moriches to collect cereal towards this effort. For anyone who might like to help make Easter happier for these children who often never get baskets, we will still be collecting Easter basket fillers through April 7: medium chocolate bunnies, four-pack Peeps, small bottles of bubbles, small boxes of chalk, gummy bunny fruit snacks, ring pops, and other candies (nothing containing nuts, please).

Helping Makes U Happy will also be donating to the following worthy causes in April: the Team Jack annual basket auction benefitting Mothers Against Drunk Driving, held on April 5 at East Moriches Elementary School; and the Chamber of Commerce of the Mastics & Shirley Spring Fest, held April 12 at William Floyd HS from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., which is a great, free family event.

Also, please come out on May 3 and support the Mastic Beach Ambulance Pasta Night Fundraiser from 5 to 8 p.m.,

which HMUH is sponsoring. We are honored to do this for these amazing volunteers who do so much to help others.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door (kids under 6 free) for dinner, cake, coffee, tea, music, food, fun! Contact the ambulance for more info. And please follow our Helping Makes U Happy Facebook page for information on our upcoming Trifecta Casino Night, celebrating 10 years of happy helping and two very important birthdays.

This will be held May 16, 7 to 11 p.m. at La Buena Vida in Moriches.

Please contact us at 631-848-9008 if you're interested in sponsorships or tickets!

Happy Easter, all! ■



## MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

## Happy spring, everyone!

BY PATTI CHIEFFO

Our first meeting of the year was held on March 20, the first day of spring, at the Center Moriches Library.

Roxanne Zimmer, a horticulture specialist, was our speaker from Cornell Cooperative Extension. The topic was lawn alternatives.

We learned about the environmental cost as well as the monetary cost of growing and maintaining lawns in our yards.

I have a front and back lawn, and the thought of changing that to something else is overwhelming. One thing I learned from Roxanne's presentation is that replacing your lawn may not be something you want to do, but downsizing your lawn is a great way to reduce the environmental impact.

She offered suggestions and showed us pictures of different ways to reduce your lawn. Adding additional shrubs and native plants is a great way to reduce lawn and add color and beauty. Ground covers and mulch, ornamental grasses and

perennials are some suggestions to consider when rethinking your lawn. These are some of the ways to make your garden more sustainable, more biodiverse, and reduce cost.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is having a master gardener plant sale on May 3, at Suffolk County Farm, 350 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank. All are welcome to attend. Doors open at 8 a.m.

Our next meeting is April 17. We will be meeting at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum for tea and a walk around the daffodils.

On Saturday, April 26, our garden club will have its annual plant sale on the grounds of Havens House, 15 Montauk Highway in Center Moriches, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come and check out our plants and our prices!

If you would like more information about the tea, the plant sale, or joining our club, contact Patti at beachbaby4894@gmail.com, or 631 838-6656. It was great to see some new faces at our first meeting. It's going to be a great year to watch our gardens grow! ■

## Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches hosts St. Patrick's weekend events

The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches had a fantastic St. Patrick's Day weekend, filled with excitement and community spirit. The festivities kicked off with the St. Patrick's Gala on Friday, March 14, followed by the St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 16.

This year, we proudly honored grand marshal Mark Danowski and Irish Princess Caitlin Hyers, who led the parade with great pride and enthusiasm.

Our talented pipe bands showcased their skills, with Roisin Dubh Pipe Band AOH Division 7 taking first place and a strong second place Suffolk County Police Emerald Society Pipes & Drums Band. The parade also featured a variety of creative and vibrant floats reflecting the theme of "Famous Irish Americans."

### Float Winners:

- **First Place:** Cub Pack 221 from Manorville
- **Second Place:** Buckley's
- **Third Place:** Moriches Field Brewery
- Congratulations to all the pipe band and float winners! The chamber extends heartfelt thanks to all the participants, volunteers, and the entire community for making these events such a success.

Be sure to check out our web-

site and Facebook page for photos capturing the excitement and memorable moments from both events. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!



### Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches Member of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches is proud to announce Amy Mahnken as the Member of the Year!

Mahnken's dedication and service to the chamber are truly immeasurable, and her commitment to the community is deeply appreciated by all. She will be honored at the Brookhaven Coalition of Chambers event on April 16 at The Meadow Club.

If you would like to join us in celebrating Amy's well-deserved recognition, please email us for more information.

### Amy Mahnken – Dedicated LPN and Community Liaison



Amy Mahnken is a licensed practical nurse (LPN) with nearly 30 years of nursing experience and has served as the Community Liaison at Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing for almost 12 years. In this role, Mahnken plays a key part in promoting the facility to the local community through

a variety of unique and engaging initiatives. She organizes and hosts events such as bingo nights, luncheons, and informative presentations featuring health care professionals and specialists. Mahnken also facilitates community support groups for individuals with COPD, Parkinson's disease, and is developing a new group for caregivers and their loved ones.

Mahnken is highly involved in local street fairs, networking events, and community initiatives aimed at supporting

the aging population. She is passionate about raising awareness and support for Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and Parkinson's disease and actively participates in sponsorship opportunities to further these causes.

Mahnken holds certification in rocksteady boxing, a specialized program designed to help slow the progression of Parkinson's disease and serves as a co-coach for "A Matter of Balance," a fall prevention class. She also teaches "Otago," another fall prevention program.

In addition to her work at Oasis, Mahnken has been a dedicated member of the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches for many years and currently serves on the Board of Directors as recording secretary, a position she has held for the past four years. She generously volunteers her time to assist with various chamber events and continues to make a positive impact on both the health care and local business communities.

Their next meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be on April 8 at the Moriches Field Brewery at 6 p.m., catered by Buckley's! Residents as well as business owners are welcome! ■

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## AROUND TOWN

### Sunday, April 6

**Folkie Fest: Blues to Bluegrass** – Concert at Moriches Community Center, 313 Frowein Rd., Center Moriches, 2-5 p.m. Admission: \$15 at the door or \$10 for advance sales. For information, contact folkiefest@gmail.com or call 631-400-9525.

### Thursday, April 10

**Spark the Night** – Join Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing, 6 Frowein Rd., Center Moriches, 5:30-8 p.m. for festivities as they illuminate their building along with others across the globe in support of the millions of people living with Parkinson's Disease. RSVP by April 8 to Linda Cody at 631-953-1095.

### Saturday, April 12

**Children's Theater** – Families with children grades 5 and younger will enjoy a show related craft before a performance of "The Wizard of Oz" at the main building of Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 9 a.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 2027.

### Friday, April 18

**Afternoon Movie** – The Center Moriches Library will show "Wicked" in the community room, 1 p.m. Register online or call 631-878-0940.

### Sunday, April 20

#### Happy Easter!

### Monday, April 21

**Paper Tulips** – Join paper artist Casey to create a set of 3 paper tulips at Center Moriches Library, 6-8 p.m. Register online or call 631-878-0940.

### Tuesday, April 22

**Earth Day** – An annual day to demonstrate support for environmental protection. For action ideas, visit [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org).

### Friday, April 26

**Arbor Day** – A day of observance highlighting the importance of trees, renewing forests for future generations, and encouraging individuals and groups to plant trees. For more info, visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

### Of Note ...

**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.

**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 [www.LIFairHousing.org](http://www.LIFairHousing.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](http://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](http://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/](http://www.ketchaminnfoundation.org/book-barn/) for details.

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

## YEARS AGO

### 70 Years Ago

APRIL 1950

Center Moriches High School delighted an audience of nearly 100 when they presented three one-act plays at the school. Among the cast were **Laura Bruno** and **Bruce Callahan**, stars of "Getting Pinned."

Hamsters, cats, rabbits and dogs were on parade when the East Moriches Scout pack held a contest featuring their pets dressed in various costumes held at the East Moriches firehall. Among those who received awards were **David Rogers**, whose dog was dressed as a Scout; **Billy Hetzel** for his dog's clown costume; and **Clifford Blount** for his rabbit.

Aided by the choirs from Riverhead and Westhampton Beach, the Choral Society of the Moriches gave an impressive performance of "The Crucifixion" at the First Presbyterian Church of the Moriches. **George Harrup** directed the performance and was heard in the tenor solo parts, with **Joseph Lemmen** and **Rev. A. Ray Lewis** sharing bass solo parts.

**Edward Snedecker** was nominated for presidency at the meeting of the Rotary Club of the Moriches held at the Lindemere, Center Moriches.

**Mrs. Morris Kronman** was presented with a pair of silver candlesticks in honor of her silver wedding anniversary celebrated at a meeting of the Star Workers of the Sunrise chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, held in the home of **Mrs. Abe Bernstein** on Union Avenue, Center Moriches.

**Clifford Udell**, of Center Moriches, who is a freshman in the Health and Physical Education division of the State Teachers College at Brockport, was honored by the college's faculty when his name was included on a scholastic honor roll.

**The Rev. and Mrs. John Vignali**, of Moriches, are the parents of twins born at Mather Memorial Hospital, **John Lewis** and **Janet Edna**.

**Mrs. Eleanor Smith**, of East Moriches,

and **James Hoyt**, of Center Moriches, were married at the Methodist parsonage, East Moriches. The couple is residing in Center Moriches.

**Janet and Clair Kaznowski**, of Eastport, entertained with vocal and piano duets in the amateur finals at the Westhampton Star theater.

**Mrs. Helen Howell**, *The Moriches Tribune's* correspondent in East Moriches, sighted a young fawn dashing through her garden before jumping the fence and into the yard of **Clinton Raynor**.

Playing in April at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: Kirk Douglas and Lauren Bacall in "Young Man With A Horn"; Walt Disney's "Cinderella"; Ginger Rogers and Dennis Morgan in "Perfect Strangers"; and Clifton Webb and Myrna Loy in "Cheaper by the Dozen."

### 50 Years Ago

APRIL 1975

**Rev. William Bird and Mrs. Bird** showed slides of the Holy Land at the Center Moriches Public Library as a compilation of three trips Rev. Bird and his wife have taken. Featured were Jerusalem, Hebron, and Jericho.

Among the members of the Palette and Brush Art League of Mastic Beach who are exhibiting their paintings in the Chemical Bank of Mastic Beach in April are **Evelyn Edwards**, **Kay Minardi**, **JoAnn Maroldo**, **Janet Franklin** and **Rita Donahue**.

A 100th birthday celebration was held for **Bridget Sonesson**, a resident of the Cedar Lodge Nursing Home in Center Moriches. The party was topped off with a presentation of a special cake, gifts including perfume, an Easter lily, a quilt, corsage, and a gold crown made by the recreation department.

**San Santorelli**, faculty advisor from William Floyd High School, and **Dennis Yuen**, Floyd Key Club vice president, accepted trophies on behalf of the school's participation in the Southeast Brookhaven Unit of the American Cancer Society's



April 1950: Alan Roecklien at bat and Robert Lindgren behind the plate during a warm-up ballgame at the Center Moriches High School field are heralding in the spring season.

Teenage Dance Marathon.

The long-awaited and twice-postponed opening of the Moriches-Mastic-Shirley Library is now being planned for late May, according to library director, **J. Robert Verbesey**.

New officers installed as members of the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches are **Jack Reynolds**, president; **Kathy Cavanaugh**, treasurer; **Louise Barret**, secretary; and **Jack Walters**, vice president.

**Mrs. Arthur Cooley** was the guest speaker at the April meeting of the Moriches Bay Garden Club, where she discussed dried flower arrangements.

**Frank Gibbons Jr.**, of Center Moriches, was rescued at sea by the U.S. Coast Guard when he developed engine trouble while bringing his father's clam boat from Mastic Beach to Orchard Neck Creek in Moriches.

**Paul Gunzelmann** was the guest speaker at the April meeting of the Moriches

Women's Club on the topic of "Numismatics," which is the hobby of coin collecting.

William Floyd P.T.A. members **Carol Nigrelli** and **Susan Valone** presented a \$398.50 check to **Kathleen Torre**, librarian at the soon-to-be-opened Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, towards funds to purchase sets of reference books for the Children's Services Department of the library.

Camp Paquatuck president **August Stout**, Suffolk County Organization American Legion youth chairperson **Valerie L. Read**, and past county commander **Harry Murch** helped break ground for a new cabin at the camp in Center Moriches.

Playing in April at local United Artists Theatres: Ben Gazzara in "Capone"; Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway in "Chinatown"; "The Towering Inferno"; and "The Godfather Part II."

- Compiled by Vanessa Graniello

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*100 vehicles will be auctioned which include SUVs,  
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**For additional information go to [www.suffolkpd.org](http://www.suffolkpd.org)**  
*Current Impound Auction Information: ALL VEHICLES SOLD AS IS  
It is not the responsibility of the Suffolk County Police Department  
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Help Wanted

### Eastern Suffolk BOCES

#### School Nurses / RNs for Summer 2025

#### Registered Nurses

**Salary: \$ 240.00/day**

**Certification/Requirements:** School Nurses/RNs to work with special education students in our Summer Services Programs

**Program Dates:** July 7, 2025 – August 15, 2025

**\*\*\*Positions available at various locations\*\*\***

*Applicants should demonstrate commitment to valuing diversity and contributing to an inclusive working and learning environment.*

Reply by:

Please submit a job specific cover letter and resume by April 30, 2025


Reply to:

<https://esboces.recruitfront.com/JobOpportunities>

Start Date:

July 7, 2025

Studies show that women and members of some groups are more likely to underestimate their qualifications for a position. At ESBOCES, we are on a journey to create a more inclusive and equitable organization, which includes our commitment to shape a more inclusive and diverse work and school community. We recognize that a diverse representation in our organization is an essential step. All are encouraged to apply, applicants who identify with a historically underrepresented group, including but not limited to BIPOC (Black/African American, Indigenous/Native American, Persons of Color), Hispanic/Latinx, LGBTQ+, Women, and/or individuals with disabilities.



Educational Services That Transform Lives

### Eastern Suffolk BOCES

#### Department of Special Education Vacancies


- Registered Nurses** Salary: \$62,671  
(May 2025 Graduates encouraged to apply)  
**Certification/Requirements:** School Nurses/RNs to work with special education and/or vocational students. BS/BSN preferred. Special Education experience preferred. **Additional compensation for Bachelor's or Master's degree.**
- School Psychologists** Minimum Starting Salary: \$63,427  
**Certification/Requirements:** NYS School Psychologist Certification and/or with bilingual extension. Experience with special education students in an educational setting preferred.
- School Social Workers** Minimum Starting Salary: \$63,427  
**Certification/Requirements:** NYS School Social Worker License, LCSW required and/or with bilingual extension. Experience with special education students in an educational setting preferred.

Please submit a job specific cover letter and resume by March 31, 2025

Reply to: <https://esboces.recruitfront.com/JobOpportunities>

Start Date: As soon as possible

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Educational Services That Transform Lives

### Eastern Suffolk BOCES

#### Department of Special Education Vacancies


- Special Education Aides** Salary: \$26,427
- Special Education Teachers** Minimum Starting Salary: \$58,469  
(May 2025 Graduates encouraged to apply)  
**Certification/Requirements:** NYS Special Education Certification, or:
  - > Students with Disabilities 1-6
  - > Students with Disabilities (All Grades)
  - > Students with Disabilities – Generalist 7-12Students w/Disabilities 7-12 Biology, Earth Science, General Science, English, Math, Social Studies

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Reply to: <https://esboces.recruitfront.com/JobOpportunities>

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Educational Services That Transform Lives

Sr. Marketing Specialist (Deer Park, NY) Conduct window product/mkt data analysis using Stata, MySQL. Gather data from mktg automation tools, CRM system (Hubspot, Marketo & Salesforce). Conduct predictive analytics, prep forecasting report on impact on various pricing strategies w/ advanced statistical modeling tools, RStudio. Advise mgmt on mktg/pricing strategy w/ pricing analysis report. Dsgn/execute mktg strategies, provide mktg reports/projects/reviews to guide business dvlpmnt w/ knowl of statistical data analysis, data modeling/evaluation. Provide mkt insights. Pay \$79,789/Yr. MS + 2 yr rltd exp. Contact Okana Inc at hr@okanausa.com

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Please send resume to: employment@devonyc.com

### Eastern Suffolk BOCES

#### Department of Special Education Vacancies


- Speech & Language Disabilities Teachers** Minimum Starting Salary: \$63,427  
**Certification/Requirements:** NYS Certification as TSHH or TSSLD and/or with bilingual extension. NYS Speech & Language Pathologist license required. Experience with special education students in an educational setting preferred.
- Teaching Assistants** Minimum Starting Salary: \$28,840  
**Certification/Requirements:** NYS Level I Teaching Assistant

Please submit a job specific cover letter and resume by March 31, 2025

Reply to: <https://esboces.recruitfront.com/JobOpportunities>

Start Date: As soon as possible

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Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting us at SCNY725@gmail.com  
  
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Bids will be accepted until 5pm on May 16, 2025 and work is to be completed by the end of August 2025

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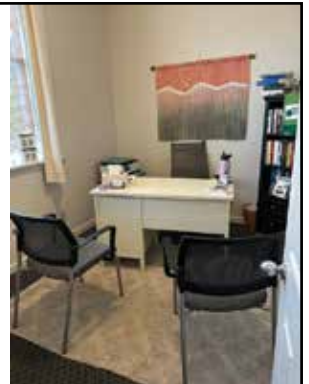
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