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JUNE 2025

14th Year, Issue 6

VFW Post 414 hosts Memorial Day parade



Part of the Memorial Day ceremony in Mount Pleasant Cemetery on May 26 involved a gun

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 414 held their annual Memorial Day parade in Center Moriches on Monday, May 26. The parade commenced at 9 a.m. at the King Kullen supermarket parking lot on Main Street and proceeded eastward to Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Participants included local organizations such as the Center Moriches Fire Department, the Moriches Bay Garden Club, Raynor

BY KRAIG KLEIN

Country Day School, the Center Moriches High School band, the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches, a Girl Scout troop, and East Moriches Volunteer Ambulance Company. At the cemetery, a special ceremony was held to honor the veterans laid to rest there for their service to the United States of America. The ceremony featured prayers, speeches from guest speakers such as Suffolk County executive Ed Romaine, and a gun salute.



The Memorial Day parade in Center Moriches on May 26 ended with a ceremony at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.



The Memorial Day parade in Center Moriches on May 26 marched down Main Street towards Mount Pleasant Cemetery.



The Memorial Day parade on May 26 in Center Moriches featured local organizations, such as a Girl Scout troop, marching down Main Street.



One of the participating groups in the Memorial Day parade in Center Moriches on May 26 was the Center Moriches High School band.



Suffolk County executive Ed Romaine (right) spoke at the Memorial Day ceremony at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Center Moriches on May 26.

All photos MT/Klein

Outdoor children's play area and community garden coming to your library

CM Library accepted for CREST grant

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Center Moriches Free Public Library plans to build an outdoor children's play area and community garden at no cost to the taxpayer.

In 2024, with the support of assemblyman Fred Thiele (now retired), the library successfully applied for and was awarded a \$125,000 CREST Grant (Com-

munity Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology).

The funds, according to library director Marcie Litjens, will be used to establish the Community Garden and an Outdoor Children's Area.

"[This will] further enhance the library's offerings and commitment to community engagement," she said, proud of the project. "Learning happens both indoors and outdoors. We are fortunate to have a beautiful outdoor space that presented an opportunity to expand our services beyond the library's walls."

This space was first utilized during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the library created a modest but functional outdoor play area.

"That was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback from patrons," she explained.

Then, encouraged by community interest, the library explored funding options.

"We were fortunate to secure a grant covering the majority of the project cost," she added.

The Community Garden, which will

consist of raised beds that are accessible to all abilities, will build upon the library's successful Seed Library that has run for the last eight years.

This project, according to Litjens, also fits into the Sustainability Libraries Initiative, of which they have been continually working towards their certification.

"The garden will serve as a hands-on educational resource that promotes sustainability and inspires curiosity—offering patrons the joy of planting seeds and watching them grow," she said.

See **COMMUNITY GARDEN** on page 6





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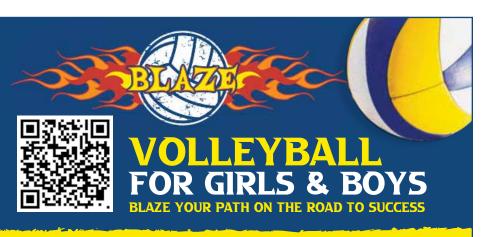
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CM schools passes vote PAGE 8

'The Soul of a Farmer' PAGE 10

Students participate in the Special Olympics PAGE 4



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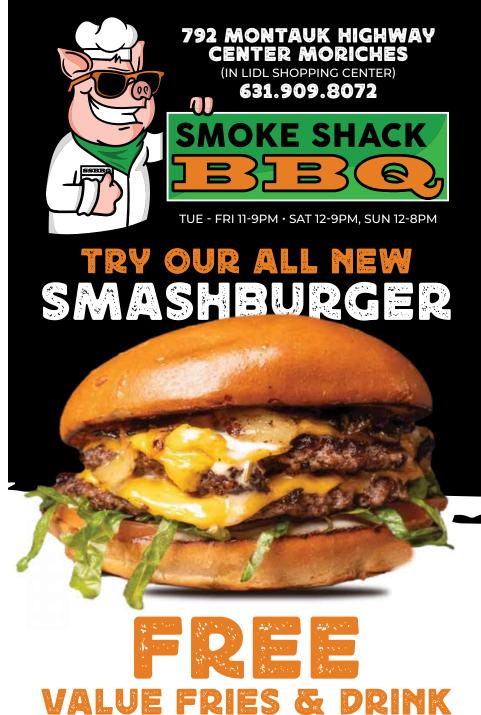
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the Tide SPORTS

CM varsity softball team hosts Little League Day

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches varsity softball team recently hosted Little League Day for the local baseball and softball players of the Moriches Bay Little League. The event was held at the ballpark on April 28.

The event, according to organizers, was "an opportunity to capitalize on the new friendships formed during the ongoing winter clinics, as well as to encourage young players to see the culmination of their local skill development, the varsity

During the event, players were encouraged to dress in their uniform or T-shirt and arrive prior to the start of the varsity home game. At that point, the players had a chance to meet-and-greet with some of their favorite players and then march onto the field of the opening ceremony.

Additionally, Moriches Bay Little League Major player Ava Andersen tossed out the "first pitch" to varsity catcher, Lilah Eten. Moriches Bay Little League Minors player Gracie Andersen donned her catching gear to make the "first catch" of the game, fielding a ball from varsity pitcher, Olivia Haney.

"During the game, the Little League players cheered on the older girls from the sidelines and took notes from their coaches," said Kerry Coonan, board of directors for Moriches Bay Little League.

The event, she said, was a great opportunity for the younger players to follow along with the senior player in their position, from infield to outfield, pitcher, to catcher.

"The younger players cheered loudly as the Center Moriches Red Devils squad went on to defeat their opponent, 17-1," she added.

Also, during the game, each Little League player entered a raffle where prizes were distributed each time the Red Devils scored a run. After the game, players joined the local Little League players during their own practice.

'The connection between Little League and the varsity softball team is so important because the varsity squad is made up of girls who have their roots in the Moriches Bay Little League. Programs like Little League Day and Winter Clinic allow us to give back to an organization that has given us so much," said Karly Coonan, junior shortstop. "It allows us to show the younger girls that we believe in them and that we are their 'big softball sisters,' prepared to help both on and off the softball diamond."

The relationship between the varsity softball team and Moriches Bay Little League, according to Coonan, dates back more than 10 years. High-school and junior-high-school players volunteer their time on Sunday afternoons working with the younger players.

"It was very special seeing our older girls on the varsity team collaborate with the true foundation of Center Moriches softball in the younger girls," said Lilah Eten, junior catcher. "I love seeing the young girls come out to the field to watch us play. Having the younger athletes there is as much fun for them as it is for us. Keeping the younger generation engaged and wanting to play this sport that we can all share a love for is a special thing in itself."

"Little League Day is a great opportunity for up-and-coming players to see what the varsity experience is like!" added Finnley Coonan, freshman utility. "Taking the field and shadowing their position was a great way for the younger players to better understand the game! I loved the younger players marching onto the field with our senior team, hand-in-hand.'

This summer, the varsity players will also host weekly developmental sessions. ■



Varsity players lead the Little League players onto the field for the opening ceremony.



Varsity players and Little League players line the first-base line of the Center Moriches Varsity Red Devils softball field.



"Catcher of the day," Gracie Andersen, fields a ball as the varsity coaching staff and umpire look on.



Players Karly Coonan, Finnley Coonan, and Ella Cerillo join the Little League practice immediately following the varsity game.



Little League "Pitcher of the day," Ava Andersen, prepares to toss the "first pitch" prior to the varsity game.



Varsity player Finnley Coonan works with a group of prospective catchers at the Moriches Bay Little League winter clinic series.



Varsity player Karly Coonan works with a group of Moriches Bay Little League players during the weekly winter clinics.



Moriches Bay Red Devils second-basemen Emma Vaz works with a future player during **the weekly winter clinics.** Courtesy photos



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the Tide SPORTS

Center Moriches students participate in the Special Olympics

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Center Moriches students recently participated in the Special Olympics Spring Games, for the 13th year in program history.

On Saturday, May 3, the team competed in the javelin throw, 50-meter dash, and softball toss.

"The team returned with renewed enthusiasm and determination," said coach LisaAnn Zlatniski. "Competing [in these] events has become a staple for the athletes each year."

Each spring season, the team typically includes anywhere between four to 11 athletes, each bringing their own story, passion, and strength to the field. This year, three standout athletes represented the program and came home with an impressive collection of medals.

Ryan Bacon, competing for his second year, showed off his speed and focus, winning gold in the 50-meter dash and bronze in the javelin.

Courtney Underwood, now a three-

year veteran, brought home bronze in the 50-meter dash and gold in the javelin, keeping her winning streak going strong.

Lea Underwood was a first-time competitor in the Special Olympics Spring Games, but she quickly made her mark, claiming gold in both the 50-meter dash and javelin.

These achievements reflect not just their talent, but the hard work and support from the Center Moriches community," said Zlatniski. "For these athletes, it's not just about winning medals—it's about pushing themselves, lifting each other up, and showing what they're truly capable of.'

Behind their success is the amazing coaching team: Tracy Sigerson, LisaAnn Zlatniski and Brian Tenety. The coaches support, encourage, and believe in the athletes.

'Every year we're blown away by what these kids achieve," said coach Sigerson. "They keep pushing boundaries and lifting each other up-that's what makes this so special." ■











Wishbone Day

Last school year, Sophia Resti took on a special project to earn the NYS Seal of Civic Engagement. She decided to organize "Wishbone Day" at school to raise awareness about brittle bone disease, or osteogenesis imperfecta (OI)—a genetic condition she lives with that makes bones fragile and more likely to break. Wishbone Day is recognized around the world, and its official color is yellow.

Sophia created a PowerPoint presentation about what OI is and what it's like to live with it. She visited every 12th-grade social studies class to share her story and help others understand the challenges she faces.

Sophia also held a "yellow" bake sale at school. But instead of keeping the money, she used it to help classmates in need. She bought prom tickets and gift cards for things like manicures, pedicures, and hairstyling so more students could enjoy prom. She also donated the leftover money to Ronald McDonald House, which has supported her family during hospital stays.

This year, Sophia made Wishbone Day even bigger. She added a new event by getting the Unified Basketball Team involved. The team dedicated a game to raising awareness for OI and encouraged everyone to wear yellow. During the school day and at the game, Sophia ran her bake sale again. Students with and without disabilities worked together to decorate the gym, make posters, and design T-shirts to show support.

Before the game started, Sophia spoke to the crowd about what it's like to live with OI. Her words made a big impact, and the event brought the whole school together in a powerful way. ■







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COMMUNITY GARDEN

FROM PAGE 1

Head of children's services, Margie DeCaro, agreed, noting that one of the highlights of the new space will be the community garden with raised, accessible planting beds. The raised beds, she said, will make gardening accessible for all, with children of all ages able to get involved in hands-on activities, regardless of their physical abilities.

"This garden is not just about planting seeds but about planting the seeds of knowledge," she said. "In partnership with the seed library, the community can take part in a rewarding cycle of growth, from selecting seeds, nurturing them, and watching them bloom."

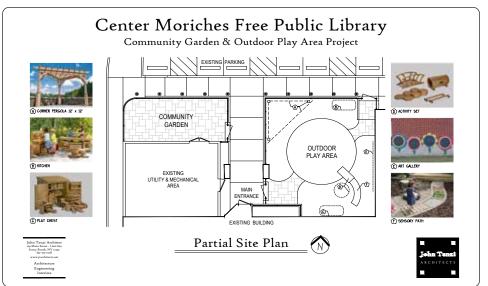
The outdoor area will also include a play area and relaxing benches.

'Outdoor play has long been recognized as an essential component of a child's development, promoting physical health, creativity, and social skills," added DeCaro. "Families will now have an opportunity to participate in planting, growing, and harvesting food, learning about the cycles of nature and the importance of sustainability.'

The project will be open for public bid on May 29. Once the bid is awarded, a timeline will be established. However, the estimated timeline for completion is approximately two months, contingent upon supply chain availability.

Community Survey!

The Center Moriches Library wants to hear from the community and needs your feedback for future planning. Until the end of June, there will be a short anonymous survey available for patrons to fill out. Go to the website at centermoricheslibrary.org to fill out an online form or paper copies are available at the Circulation Desk. ■





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Garden club names next president

BY NICOLE FUENTES

This year, past vice president Patti Chieffo took over as the new president of the Moriches Bay Garden Club. She succeeds former president Debbie Cannarelli, who will now serve as the vice president.

"Patti is doing an excellent job as president of the Moriches Bay Garden Club," said Cannarelli. "She is organized, timely, and relevant in her plans for our club.'

Chieffo has been a member of the club for five years. Her friend Rita, many vears ago, invited her to join; although it sounded enjoyable, she said, she didn't think she could manage another activity while working full time.

'So, when I retired, I joined the club," she said, noting she is so glad she joined. "I never expected to be the president, but I know that it's important for everyone to participate at least a little bit, so a few people don't have to do all the work."

As for the beauty of the club, she said, several of the members are master gardeners.

"They are a wealth of knowledge," she explained. "And many other members are very experienced gardeners, also with knowledge and experience and beautiful gardens. When I have a garden question, someone has a suggestion.'

As for why people should join, she said it's nice to be around people who share common interests and it's enjoyable attending various meetings and field trips.

Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of the month at 1 p.m., in Center Moriches, and usually include a speaker who presents information about certain kinds of plants, gardens, pollinators, animals, or the environ-

"It's a great way to spend a Thursday afternoon," she said.

The field trips are to local places the members like to visit, or new places they have never been before such as learning about the national seashore or exploring the Nature Conservancy. They also participate in civic activities like the Great Brookhaven Cleanup, the Memorial Day parade, and planting trees and plants in the community.

The club, Chieffo said, also hosts their annual fundraiser luncheon in September, though the date and place have yet to be finalized. Their annual plant sale was also held the last weekend in April, where many members brought flowers, trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials.

"They are reasonably priced and I always enjoy talking to the people who come to find out what they have growing in their gardens." Chieffo said of the event.

As for her new role, she said, though she didn't realize how much work was involved with planning everything, she is grateful to the many members who are willing to help get the job done.

Her goal as president, she said, is to bring in new members, share their love of gardening and community with others, and learn new ways to help keep the environment healthy.

If you are interested in plants and gardening and would like to join the club, call Chieffo at 631-878-4874. Soon, the club will also be on Facebook.

"A garden is always a work in progress. This year, at our first garden club meeting, I had Roxanne Zimmer from Cornell Cooperative Extension speak to our club about lawn alternatives. One of the things she suggested was to make some of your gardens larger and that will decrease the size of your lawn. Lawns consume lots of water, they rely on chemicals (fertilizers), and more lawns means fewer natural habitats. It was very interesting and made a lot of sense. So, my husband and I have added two new gardens to our vard and have increased the size of two others. We have some ideas for a different type of garden next year in a different part of our lawn. We have a small yard, but we're trying to utilize it to make us happy and make the birds, butterflies, bees, and other beneficial creatures happy, too."

-Patti Chieffo on her home gardens

Center Moriches High School to get refurbished auditorium after votes passes

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches school district passed a proposition to allow the district to draw from its capital reserve to fund a renovation of the Center Moriches High School's auditorium at no additional cost to taxpayers. The proposition passed with 745 ves votes to 222 no votes.

The auditorium seats, according to

musical theater director Nancy Harkin, are "years beyond repair" and need to be fixed.

"This is extremely meaningful for us and so important," she said. "It's important to come out and vote; it's definitely a necessity for the kids and everybody. The auditorium is a meeting place for the whole school community. It's something we should be proud of.'

The proposed project would include new auditorium seating, flooring, curtains, a fresh coat of paint, and a state-ofthe-art lighting and sound system. Prop 2 will be for the district to use \$1.2 million of the capital reserve to fund the renovation of the high school auditorium. The original reserve was approved by voters in May of 2022.

The reserve is funded with surplus

from the previous year's end and cannot exceed \$5,000,000 at any point in time. Last month, voters approved the district to use the capital reserve to pay for proj-

Additionally, the district is looking to fund a capital outlay project to renovate their fourth-grade girls' bathroom, which will be fully funded by the New

See **CM VOTE** on page 11



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A celebration of beauty and bloom at Waterdrinker

Lavender Festival now underway

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Waterdrinker Family Farms' popular Lavender Festival and French Market returns this June.

According to the farm, the plant promotes relaxation and eases tension, smells wonderful, and makes one of the best-tasting lagers.

The celebration takes place on June 7 and 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the farm on Wading River Road in Manorville. The festival includes Lavender Lane, with plenty of photo diplays in the raised Lavender Garden area.

Attendees are also encouraged to browse through an array of local vendors showcasing handmade crafts, artisanal goods, and unique treasures inspired by the beauty of Provence.

"Find lavender-infused products to handmade jewelry; there's something for everyone to enjoy," said Marc Weiss, owner. "From the French music to the festive food trucks, to the unforgettable photos. Lavender Fest is a must-see/ must visit!"

The adjacent Long Island Farm Brewery, located in a former potato barn, will also be featuring a special lavender-infused lager.

Lavender vendor market: Local vendors showcasing handmade crafts, artisanal goods, and unique treasures inspired by the beauty of Provence.

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Filmmaker Roger Sherman and Saveur founding editor Dorothy Kalins on Patty Gentry and 'The Soul of a Farmer'

BY C E PARRY

They both start with seeds: those planted in soil and those rooted in creative inspi-

And while few love stories feature dirt and tomatoes, or go on to inspire documentaries shown at The Hamptons Film Festival, Roger Sherman's "The Soul of a Farmer" is a portrait of Patty Gentry's love of the earth, its bounty, and how that love is shared with those around her.

On land rented from Isabella Rosellini in Brookhaven Hamlet, Gentry participates in a growing movement to improve farming techniques and food standards through cultivation, education, and research. And, as Sherman's documentary shows, the seeds of success rarely thrive without hard work and determination.

Gentry's "Early Girl Farm" (the name comes from a variety of tomato she favors as well as her workday) began as a small, organic venture on a rented plot off Woodlawn Avenue in East Moriches, where Sherman and his wife, Dorothy Kalins, were living before the pandemic. And "Early Girl Farm" is where their story begins.

"We fell in love with Patty, the way everyone falls in love with her," Sherman explained. "She's so passionate about farming, about what she grows, and about how incredibly delicious it is.'

A documentary filmmaker, Sherman and best friend Ken Burns each have produced outstanding PBS documentaries since 1976. Kalins, his wife, is a celebrated magazine editor and creator of Saveur, a magazine that revolutionized print media's approach to culinary stories. "Everything I know about food came from Dorothy," he said.

Over time, their friendship with Gentry grew beyond quick conversations at her vegetable stand. They learned she'd trained as a chef. But when a colleague's question challenged her to consider the source of her produce, the answer led to a personal evolution, from chef to organic farmer.

Any chef faces hard work and long hours, often under stress. But few would trade their challenges for the grueling, often back-straining labor and economic uncertainties of organic farming.

The East Moriches plot was part of her transition and might have remained a quiet, personal triumph, had it not been for the kind of serendipity that often touches the lives of artists.

Sherman had finished "In Search of Israeli Cuisine" (2016), his portrait of the Israeli people told through food and conflict and hosted by Michael Solomonov. "There was a sense of, what's next?" he said. He began to consider a film about their friend.

'My films are all about portraits," he said. "About telling a person's story. Someone who's really passionate about what they're doing. With Patty, it was a gradual process of getting to know her, thinking, and talking to Dorothy about what a great subject she'd be."

The film, which premiered at the Westhampton Arts Center in 2023 and featured the following month at The Hamptons Film Festival, is a beautifully packaged inconvenient truth.

And that, Sherman says, is by design.

A farmer's life is precarious, filled with risk and uncertainty. A newly seeded field swept away in a storm. Acres of crops scorched in a mid-season drought. An abundant harvest devalued by fluctuating demand. Sherman is quick to point out the paradox he explores in the film.

"It bursts the bubble of farm-to-table. For those of us who can afford a CSA (community-supported agriculture) or shopping in a farmers' market, it's an incredible thing. For the farmer, it's a constant struggle for survival."

"And so there's Patty, just so enamored with everything she's doing. Working so hard. Passionate about what she grows and how delicious it is. Her farm is a total extension of her. And yet, is she going to be able to survive and farm next year? She has a crisis of confidence each year, wondering, What's it going to be? How are we going to do this?" Kalins agreed. "We've had the same con-

versation with her about this time, right before she opens, every one of the last 10 years. It's such an uncertain life."

And, as the documentary makes clear, there is an emotional investment as well.

"Her vegetables are like prized jewels. At first, she was selling mostly to high-end restaurants, to really top chefs. Because she's worked in high-end restaurants, she prepares her produce to meet each chef's particular vision, thinking about what the client will create, knowing it will be something interesting. The vegetables arrive as a presentation, as if she's plated them, free of imperfections or grit. The presentation is as much a part of the process as if she were serving a meal.'

"Roger's done films on music artists, visual artists. Patty is in love with the process. It's the same thing," Kalins observed.

'On the other hand, she'll stand on a Saturday, helping a woman CSA member who's uncertain about what to do with arugula. And Patty will tell her, with patience and kindness. Because Patty, like the best cooks I know, is also a teacher. She wants people to get it, to inspire them."

To make the film, Sherman followed Gentry for two seasons, first in 2016 and again in 2018, often rising, as she did, at 4 a.m. Over time, the small plot in East Moriches became a 3-acre community resource in Brookhaven Hamlet, including a partnership with CM's Hope House to help those in recovery. "Once it became a CSA, it was transformative," Sherman said. ■





CM VOTE: Auditorium to undergo renovations

FROM PAGE 8

York State Education Department.

According to the district, the areas of enhancement in the overall budget will include technology upgrades (Chromebook charging stations, an advanced sound system for public meetings); sports intramurals during offseason and uniform replacements; funding for an elementary literacy program to enhance alignment and student achievement; and the development of an elementary report card that will improve parent-to-school communication and support.

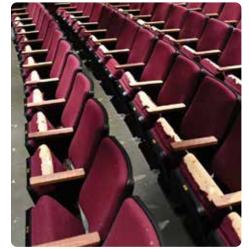
Additionally, the budget has safety and facility improvements, including additional cameras, replacement of exterior doors, a facility supervisor that will increase accountability and greater

oversight, and facility management software that will increase productivity.

CM and ESM Schools districts pass budgets

Center Moriches passed their budget with a total of 646 yes votes to 333 no votes. Board candidates Shawn Walsh and John Thoms were elected with 482 and 627 votes, respectively. Incumbent Lauren Slionski had 430 votes. The vote was at-large.

The Eastport-South Manor School district passed their \$119,194,650 budget with 492 yes votes to 308 no votes. Trustees Cristina Costanza, 503 votes; Francesco Ferraro, 449 votes; and David Samartino, 502 votes, were elected. ■







The Ketcham Inn: Jefferson and Madison slept here

Bert Seides and Diane Schwindt serve up another enjoyable tavern series at the inn

BY C E PARRY

On May 18, guests at The Ketcham Inn tavern enjoyed a lively evening of entertainment and authentic period food and drink, courtesy of innkeepers Bert Seides and Diane Schwindt and publican Rob, who were quick to remind visitors that in the 18th century, when Long Island was part of Connecticut and Connecticut was one of the British colonies. this tavern was the most public room in the Moriches. And it played a pivotal role in the American Revolution.

Eighteenth-century Britain had a population of about 8 million people to the approximately 2.5 million in its colonies. As the Enlightenment took hold, many in Britain congregated in coffee houses to socialize, hear news, and discuss issues of the day. The colonies' taverns, also known as Publick Houses, served a similar function. Centuries before the internet, radio or television, taverns were the social media platform of their time.

But since colonists lived mostly in

agricultural regions on farms or within here, they studied the Hessian fly, a pest small villages, taverns served additional needs as well.

At a time when the trip from Huntington to Mastic might take two to three days—an average horse could travel only 30 miles each day-overnight stays at taverns were the norm. Located every 5 to 6 miles along stage routes, they provided lodging to travelers seeking shelter for 1 to 2 shillings (about 20 to 40 cents) per night in shared bed accommodations and a meal prepared from seasonal ingredients, served family style.

While there, they might encounter other local patrons who came for a meal at the end of a workday-merchants, farmers, laborers. These local residents also came to the tavern to receive mail, collect wages, vote (white men only), enjoy a drink, and engage in gossip or political debate.

It is this latter feature that also plays a pivotal part in the rising opposition to British rule over the colonies.

Issues of taxation—then as now—were a source of contention, as were feelings of resentment over a lack of representation in Parliament. Men like Jefferson and Madison often traveled between colonies, on business, or as they did in 1718, to explore the Hudson River and the Connecticut coast and visit William Floyd, staying at the Ketcham Inn. While known to destroy crops; the language of indigenous Poospatuck people (Jefferson); and courted young Kitty Floyd (Madison, who was refused and later married Dolley).

Travelers like Jefferson and Madison brought with them news of events and opinions, circulating them throughout the colonies, helping to inform, and later unite, men with a growing feeling of

All three men would later go on to participate in the move to promote an extrication from Britain and establish a democratic system of government, free of kings.

Floyd was heavily involved with promoting independence and led a local militia once the war started. As the British army advanced across Long Island, Floyd was forced to evacuate his family to Connecticut when the redcoats took over the area and occupied his house.

Ketcham Inn publican Benjamin Havens stayed on, however, serving British soldiers, keeping their glasses full of warm ale and rum, and listening to their stories. He also drove a stagecoach between Moriches and Brooklyn. According to a story in Rivington's New-York Gazette, those trips to Brooklyn helped supply valuable information about British activity to Washington's forces. The inn's publican was a spy. And, according to a fascinating story in the Journal of the American Revolution, "James Rivington: King's Printer and Patriot Spy?," there is considerable evidence that Rivington was as well.

This is only one of many fascinating stories told at tavern nights at The Ketcham Inn. As we approach the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding, Bert Seides and historic cook Diane Schwindt continue to offer rich opportunities to learn more about life in our town and connect with details of our community's history.

Upcoming events include a delicious Fathers' Day Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on June 14, prepared in a 1693 open-hearth kitchen using authentic period utensils; a Juneteenth celebration from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on June 22, including a tour of the Mary E. Bell House on Railroad Avenue; a July 5 event where you can help make and enjoy ice cream using George Washington's favorite recipe from 12 to 1 p.m.; or, engage in a lively evening of conversation and history, libation and hearth-roasted pretzels at the tavern on July 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Additional events and more information: ketchaminnfoundation.org (631)

To register for events: Eventbrite.com Ketcham Inn Foundation ■

Tired of lawn maintenance?

Consider ground covers instead

BY C E PARRY

For those who would like to change up their turf management, or find a better alternative for those shaded areas where nothing grows, consider ground covers. Two early adopters of a trend away from high maintenance lawns, Center Moriches Free Public Library and John Kanas's Main Street field in East Moriches, both had impressive displays this spring of low-growing, easy-to-maintain ground covers that also attract pollinators.

In a small patch left of its rear

entrance, CMFPL has created a carpet of tiny white clover, inviting a busy bumble bee to work from flower to flower.

Drivers along Montauk Highway in East Moriches this spring were treated to

See **GROUND COVER** on page 18



HIGH TIDE TABLES FOR LOCAL WATERS **JUNE 2025**

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6/8		SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
to	Moriches Bay	6:14 AM	6:37 PM	7:00 AM	7:17 PM	7:42 AM	7:54 PM	8:22 AM	8:31 PM	9:02 AM	9:08 PM	9:42 AM	9:47 PM	10:25 AM	10:30 PM
6/14	Moriches Inlet	5:35 AM	5:58 PM	6:21 AM	6:38 PM	7:03 AM	7:15 PM	7:43 AM	7:52 PM	8:23 AM	8:29 PM	9:03 AM	9:08 PM	9:46 AM	9:51 PM
5 / 1 1	Smith Pt. Bridge	8:30 AM	8:53 PM	9:16 AM	9:33 PM	9:58 AM	10:10 PM	10:38 AM	10:47 PM	11:18 AM	11:24 PM	11:58 AM	PM	12:03 AM	12:41 PM
6/15		SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
to	Moriches Bay	11:13 AM	11:19 PM	AM	12:03 PM	12:11 AM	12:54 PM	1:04 AM	1:46 PM	1:59 AM	2:40 PM	2:58 AM	3:37 PM	4:01 AM	4:37 PM
6/21	Moriches Inlet	10:34 AM	10:40 PM	11:24 AM	11:32 PM	AM	12:15 PM	12:25 AM	1:07 PM	1:20 AM	2:01 PM	2:19 AM	2:58 PM	3:22 AM	3:58 PM
O/ ZI	Smith Pt. Bridge	12:46 AM	1:29 PM	1:35 AM	2:19 PM	2:27 AM	3:10 PM	3:20 AM	4:02 PM	4:15 AM	4:56 PM	5:14 AM	5:53 PM	6:17 AM	6:53 PM
6/22		SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
to	Moriches Bay	5:07 AM	5:37 PM	6:10 AM	6:35 PM	7:09 AM	7:28 PM	8:03 AM	8:20 PM	8:57 AM	9:11 PM	9:50 AM	10:02 PM	10:44 AM	10:54 PM
6/29	Moriches Inlet	4:28 AM	4:58 PM	5:31 AM	5:56 PM	6:30 AM	6:49 PM	7:24 AM	7:41 PM	8:18 AM	8:32 PM	9:11 AM	9:23 PM	10:05 AM	10:15 PM
	Smith Pt. Bridge	7:23 AM	7:53 PM	8:26 AM	8:51 PM	9:25 AM	9:44 PM	10:19 AM	10:36 PM	11:13 AM	11:27 PM	AM	12:06 PM	12:18 AM	1:00 PM
6/29		SUN A.M.	SUN P.M.	MON A.M.	MON P.M.	TUES A.M.	TUES P.M.	WED A.M.	WED P.M.	THURS A.M.	THURS P.M.	FRI A.M.	FRI P.M.	SAT A.M.	SAT P.M.
to	Moriches Bay	11:37 AM	11:44 PM	AM	12:28 PM	12:33 AM	1:16 PM	1:19 AM	2:02 PM	2:05 AM	2:48 PM	2:54 AM	3:35 PM	3:47 AM	4:24 PM
7/5	Moriches Inlet	10:58 AM	11:05 PM	11:49 AM	11:54 PM	AM	12:37 PM	12:40 AM	1:23 PM	1:26 AM	2:09 PM	2:15 AM	2:56 PM	3:08 AM	3:45 PM
-, -	Smith Pt. Bridge	1:10 AM	1:53 PM	2:00 AM	2:44 PM	2:49 AM	3:32 PM	3:35 AM	4:18 PM	4:21 AM	5:04 PM	5:10 AM	5:51 PM	6:03 AM	6:40 PM

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Special thanks to Suffolk County Legislator Jim Mazzarella & the Center Moriches Free Public Library for sponsoring these events

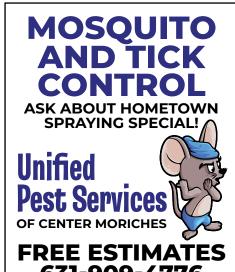






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GROUND COVER

FROM PAGE 12

a gorgeous purple-red vision of creeping thyme in bloom around the aged green farm truck in Kanas's field.

Among clover's many benefits is its ability to grow quickly, thrive in a variety of soil and weather conditions, including northeast winters, and add nutrients to the soil, eliminating the need for chemical fertilizers.

It's also a favorite of nectar-loving pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths. In large fields, clover helps support earthworms, a vital contributor to soil health. Once established, its carpeting effect helps suppress weeds and requires less water and weed killers, thus making it beneficial to environmental health as

In drought-prone conditions, creeping thyme is a better choice than clover since it can withstand limited moisture, doesn't require mowing and repels deer, mosquitos and rabbits. Its dense, carpet-like appearance also suppresses

However, beautiful as it is, creeping thyme is best suited to sunny locations with limited foot traffic, necessitating paving stones or other options. It can also take longer to establish than clover. For additional information about the benefits and disadvantages of growing clover and creeping thyme, consult our local co-operative extension.

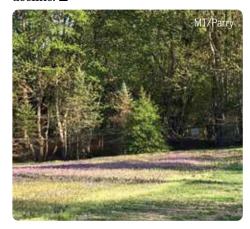
Other native plants which may be more suited to your needs are also available. White star creeper, woodland phlox, sweet woodruff, hostas, Roman chamomile, ajuga bugleweed, and creeping speedwell are some of the most popular

There are other advantages to growing ground covers instead of turf grass.

According to a report in USA Today by Doyle Rice (March 28, 2025), the National Academy of Sciences estimates "over one-third of native bee species are at risk of extinction; over 22 percent of native pollinators are at an elevated risk." Habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change are the chief agents of their demise.

Without them, we face a serious threat to our food supply since flowering plants, fruits and some vegetables rely on pollinators to produce what we eat. Without food sources, nectar producing plants, for example, and shelter and nesting areas provided by dead vegetation, pollinators like bats, birds, insects and some mammals-whose movements help distribute pollen across plants in fields and in the landscape—will continue to decline, placing our food supply in jeopardy.

Reducing our reliance on chemical herbicides and pesticides, incorporating more flowering native plant species into our gardens and landscapes, and leaving some dead vegetation for nesting and shelter will help alleviate pollinator decline.







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Long Island Game Farm hosts anniversary year kick-off

BY KRAIG KLEIN

The Long Island Game Farm Wildlife Park began the 2025 season and its 55th anniversary with a special kick-off event

"My parents started the park 55 years ago," Long Island Game Farm president Melinda Novak said. "We wanted to celebrate the 55th [year of operation] and talk about our growth [and] how we're [looking] into the future.'

The festivities started with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new nature trail specially designed to be accessible to individuals who need wheelchairs.

Additional events such as live music and an interactive environment-themed art exhibit were held as part of the event. The event served not only to celebrate the farm's anniversary, but also to exhibit the various activities offered by

The kick-off began officially at 10 a.m. with the ceremony for the new nature trail. The ceremony was hosted by Novak and former News12 anchor and journalist, Doug Geed.

The opening ceremony included a presentation from local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts about projects at the Long Island Game Farm that scouts worked on, such as the construction of a new structure for the farm's capybaras. Suffolk County Legis. Catherine Stark was invited to speak to the crowd during the ceremony.

"Every time I come here... it's another emotional hurdle," Stark said. "[Suffolk County executive] Ed Romaine will forever be behind this place. I will forever be behind this place. This trail isn't just for [people who need wheelchairs]; it's for everyone."

After the opening ceremony concluded, attendees were invited to walk along the wheelchair-accessible nature trail and explore the rest of the farm and park. Environmental artist and educator Tonito Valderrama hosted an interactive art exhibit slightly off the trail's path. Attendees were invited to build a giant bird's nest out of nearby branches.

'[The Great Nest of Hope] is [an] interactive nature sculpture where partici-

pants help build [it] branch by branch," Valderrama said. "It [has a] 10-foot circumference and serves as [a] symbol of hope that celebrates the return of the eagles, ospreys, and other birds to Long Island. Each egg is a hand-carved wood log sculpture, for visitors to sit inside the nest to connect. The nest materials can be utilized by local birds for their own nesting as a gift back to nature! These sculptures can be added on to each spring, just as the birds do. We will be 'feeding two birds with one seed' as the community works together, creating art and building environmental awareness!"

Well-being counselors Dr. Heidi MacAlpine and Noelle Grogan hosted a small table, themed around crochet, inside one of the Long Island Game Farm's halls during the kick-off festivities. They currently plan to host a "wellness retreat" for young girls on

"We provide wellness programs for the community," MacAlpine said. "Noelle does the crocheting, and we're doing... a wellness retreat here for girls... We work with the physical and emotional well-being of different... diverse populations."

'Crochet is a meditative art," Grogan "After you learn the basics, it becomes a very calming activity.'

Novak detailed some of the future events the farm plans to host as part of this year's season.

"We have Weekends with Nature Nick. starting on Memorial Day weekend," Novak said. "In August, we have Aim High Canines on our main stage, and then on Labor Day weekend on the 30th, we're having Pups in the Park."

According to the Long Island Game Farm website, the "Weekends with Nature Nick's Animal Adventures" program will be hosted on May 24, 25 and 26. The "Aim High Canines Presents: Stunt Dog Safari" program will begin on Aug. 1 and continue until Sept. 1. Additionally, a series of concerts called the "Songbird Sessions" will be hosted from June through August.

"My parents would have been amazed that we've become a Long Island tradition," Novak said. ■



Long Island Game Farm president Melinda Novak (center) speaks at the Woodland Trail ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Game Farm on May 3.



The Woodland Trail ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by Doug Geed (left) at the Long Island Game Farm on May 3 included a presentation from two Girl Scouts about a new structure being built for the farm's capybaras. All photos MT/Klein



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KEITH'S CORNER

June is such a busy and happy month!

Mom and I have once again been invited back to Camp Paquatuck to speak to incoming counselors about what it's like to be differently abled and her experience and tips in raising a differently abled person.

Most importantly, how to embrace the joy and lessons working with the differently abled can bring into your life. June is also scholarship month for Helping Makes U Happy.

This year we'll be awarding seven scholarships to graduating students—some of whom have performed extraordinary community service throughout their high school years, and some to students who have committed to join the military.

We are so proud of them all! We'll also be supporting the Community Counseling Outreach first manual basket auction on June 7, and we plan to enjoy strolling through the street fair and partaking of the CMFD's Strawberry Shortcake Festival on June 8.

June is the month we start to work on

our HMUH annual October Mega auction-it takes months of hard work to make that happen!

And it's always pretty amazing, thanks to all of you!

We hope you'll continue to support us! We'd like to wish a very Happy Father's Day to all who are celebrating on June



UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Chamber of Commerce Spring Fair-June 8

Streets will be closed from 10 to 5 p.m. as a day planned with vendors, food trucks, music and entertainment. Performing on Newins and Main Street: You Gotta Dance Dancers at 11 a.m; live music from Urban Acoustic at noon, 1:30 - 2:30; Chain Reaction Band at 1:30 p.m.; and Hot Water Street at 3 p.m. To become a vendor, please go to our website to register. https://moricheschamber.org/.

Chamber Summer Concert Series

The chamber is proud to present their summer concert series with the support of Legis. Jim Mazzarella, and Center Moriches Public Library for their generous donations. The concerts will be held in two locations: on the front lawn of Clayton Huey Elementary School in Center Moriches and The Sailors and Soldiers Park in East Moriches. Bring a lawn chair and sit under the stars listening to some great music.

For chamber events and news and how to become a member please go to the website https://moricheschamber.org/ and check out our Facebook page. Their next meeting will be on June 10 at Seacove Restaurant in Center Moriches.

March Business Student of the Month

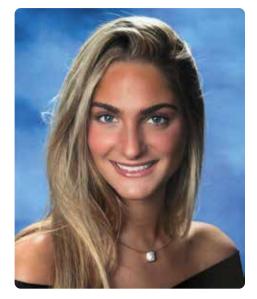
Sofia Scuria is a senior at Center Moriches High School and a proud nominee for Business Student of the Month. A dedicated member of the Center Moriches School District and community for 17 years,

MORICHES & MANORVILLE

Published Monthly at 20 Medford Ave.,

Patchogue, NY 11772 631-475-1000

Established 2011



Sofia has grown from a student at Clayton Huey Elementary School to a respected leader among her peers.

Sofia has been actively involved in athletics from a young age, beginning with MYO sports and continuing throughout high school. She has played on three varsity teams: she has been a member of the varsity soccer team since her freshman year, serving as team captain since junior year, and currently captains the varsity flag football team. She also played varsity basketball during her sophomore and junior years.

Her leadership extends well beyond the playing field. Sofia is a Girl Scout, a member of both the English Honor Society and the National Honor Society, and serves as

MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

Garden Club tours Moriches Field Brewing Co.

On Thursday, May 15, the Moriches Bay Garden Club met at the Moriches Field Brewing Company in Center Moriches. The owner, Rich Flynn, explained to us the process of beer brewing, as we toured his facility.

He mentioned that when he opened in 2020, he brewed four types of beer. Today, it's 70 different types! He spoke of the use of grains such as rye, barley, wheat, corn and hops that are involved in brewing. His are all from New York State.

We were impressed with the large kettles he uses to make his beers. Rich showed us his own hops plants, which take three years to mature.

The club enjoyed his talk, tour and tasting, and thanked him for his time and knowledge.

Our next meeting will be June 26 at 1 p.m. We will be visiting the Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge for a lecture on the plant life there.

June 1-7 is National Garden Week. If you are interested in plants and gardening and would like to join our club, call president Patti Chieffo at 631-878-4874. **■**

secretary for both the Class of 2025 and the Student Council.

Among her many initiatives, one project that stands out is the renovation of the school's girls' restroom, where she and a fellow student added motivational stickers to foster a positive and empowering environment. This project aligned with the school's annual P.S. I Love You Day awareness week, which promotes kindness and mental health awareness.

Sofia also led a meaningful community service project in eighth grade during the COVID-19 pandemic, where she connected with residents of Oasis through Zoom. These virtual meetings provided opportunities for conversation, companionship, and shared experiences during a time of widespread isolation.

Looking ahead, Sofia plans to pursue a degree in communication studies, with a concentration in broadcast journalism. Her time as an anchor for CMTV at Center Moriches High School sparked her passion for media, and she credits Mr. Michler for inspiring and encouraging her in this field.

Sofia extends her heartfelt thanks to her parents, Mr. Michler, and the chamber of commerce for their continued support and for the honor of being nominated.

April Business Student of the Month

Riley Schildt is a senior at Center Moriches High School who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, both in the classroom and on the athletic field. A well-rounded student and dedicated leader, Riley is an active member of the Science, Spanish, Math, English, and National honor societies, as well as the DECA Club. Her commitment to school leadership is evident through her involvement in organizing impactful events such as P.S. I Love You Week, the Turkey Trot, and the Mental Health Run Series—all designed to raise awareness for mental health causes across Long Island.

Riley's passion for business has played

a key role in developing her skills in teamwork, communication, and leadershipskills that extend far beyond the classroom and onto the lacrosse field. A standout athlete. Rilev has maintained a 4.0 GPA while excelling as an all-county varsity lacrosse player, earning recognition as one of Long Island's Top 100 Girls Lacrosse Players. Her talent and drive have led her to commit to playing Division I lacrosse at Fairleigh Dickinson University, where she will pursue a degree in biology with the goal of becoming a physical therapist.

In addition to her personal athletic achievements, Riley gives back by coaching youth lacrosse through MYO, helping young athletes learn the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, and leadership. She also stays involved in her community through fundraising efforts and babysitting, continuing to serve as a role model for those around her.

Through her diverse experiences in academics, athletics, business, and service, Riley exemplifies the qualities of a true leader. She looks forward to using the skills she has gained to make a meaningful impact in her next chapter and in the community beyond. ■



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

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

AROUND TOWN

Friday, June 6

Gun Violence Awareness – National day to honor the people shot and killed or wounded by gun violence. Day begins Wear Orange Weekend, June 6-8. Find out more at www.EverytownResearch.org.

Sunday, June 8

Spring Festival – Join the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches for their annual spring fair along Main Street, Moriches, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, June 15

Father's Day – A day to celebrate fathers, fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society.

Friday, June 20

Summer Solstice – The tilting of the Earth toward the sun, resulting in more hours of sunlight in the Northern Hemisphere. Since ancient times, this annual occurrence has been celebrated with feasts and festivities.

Saturday, June 21

Strawberry Picking - Families are invited to join Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library for a strawberry picking field trip at Glover Farms, 641 Victory Ave., Brookhaven, 10-11 a.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 2027.

Tuesday, June 24

Children's Author Talk - Families with children in grades 5 and younger will watch a virtual author talk with Newbery Medal winner Katherine Applegate at Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 4-5 p.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 2027.

Thursday, June 27

PTSD Awareness Month - Movement to raise public awareness about issues related to PTSD, to reduce the associated stigma, and help ensure those suffering from the invisible wounds of war or a traumatic event receive proper treatment. Effective PTSD treatments are available. Visit www. nimh.nih.gov/get-involved/digital-shareables/shareable-resources-on-ptsd or call 1-877-272-7337.

Saturday, June 28

Teens: Sorting Food Donations – Teens in grades 6-12 will earn an hour of community service by sorting food donated to the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, 10-11 a.m. Register online or call 631-399-1511, ext. 1029.

Of Note ...

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

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

visit www.suffolkcountyny.gov.

Pet Supplies Needed – RSVP Inc. Animal Welfare & Rescue Group is in the need of wet and dry dog and cat food, chews, blankets/towels, pens and crates, and flea/ tick preventatives. Please call 631-533-2PET (2738) or email info@rsvpinc.org to arrange a pickup.

Extreme Weather Safety - Be prepared for extreme weather. Save PSEG's 24-hour electric service number: 1-800-490-0075; follow PSEG Long Island on Facebook and Twitter for updates before and after storms; and make sure everyone in the family knows what to do in the case of an emergency. Visit www.psegliny.com/page. cfm/Home/Safety for video tips from You-Tube, Sesame Street and more.

Gamblers Anonymous – Are you or someone you know living with a gambling problem? Call 631-297-6166 for help. Covering all areas of Long Island, Sunday-Friday.

Flag Disposal – Have a torn or faded United States flag? Boy Scout Troop 800 will dispose of it properly with flag disposal protocol. Email the troop at TroopPack800@ aol.com or call Pat at 631-874-0531.

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.

Are You In Debt? – Debt Counseling Corporation will have personal finance counselors at Brookhaven Town Hall in Farmingville by appointment. Call 631-698-2074 for information.

War on Want Project – Help fight global poverty by getting involved with a project aimed to raise funds and awareness of poor families in northeast Brazil. To learn more about the project, visit www.waronwant.org.

Boating Classes – The United States Power Squadrons offers classes, free vessel safety checks and more. Visit www. WeBoatSafe.org or call 800-341-8777 to find a squadron location near you.

YEARS AGO

70 Years Ago

JUNE 1950

Charles Knight, commander of Moriches Post 929, received the gavel from Suffolk County Cmdr. Clarence Phelan at installation ceremonies held in Center Moriches.

Mrs. J.C. Raynor was chosen as president of the Women's Group of the East Moriches Memorial committee at an organization meeting at the East Moriches firehall.

Mrs. Eric Lemmen of East Moriches was initiated as a member of Silva Rebekah

Mr. and Mrs. George Schuyler, of Moriches, attended the fourth annual reunion of the 30th Construction Battalion of the Seabees held at the Hotel Touraine. Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Kenneth Carman, of East Moriches, commissioner of the South Suffolk Girl Scout Council, was the guest of honor and officiated at the investiture ceremonies of the Moriches-Mastic Brownie Troop 15 at the Mastic firehall.

The Center Moriches High School seniors held their final assembly in the school auditorium with the presentation of a program highlighted by a presentation of the class "will" and prophecy, read by Charles Ratigan.

Fred Klein, of East Moriches, graduated as valedictorian of St. Bonaventure's class, and will enter the Graduate School of Business Administration at Harvard

Jane Havens, of East Moriches, passed all the entrance requirements for New Paltz State Teachers' College and has been accepted for the fall semester.

Nick Chapman of East Moriches took top honors in three out of four outboard motor races at a meeting of the Greenwood Mercury Outboard Association. Greenwood Lake, N.J., piloting a Jacoby hull powered by a Mercury 10 outboard motor.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Hawkins of Crosby Street, Center Moriches, celebrated their 38th anniversary by visiting Radio City.

Scoutmaster J. H. Adams and Mrs. Adams enjoyed a fishing trip to Moriches Inlet,

where Mr. Adams hooked a six-pound fluke.

Playing in June at The Center Moriches Theatre: Ann Sothern and Jane Powell in "Nancy Goes to Rio"; Barbara Stanwyck and John Lund in "No Man of Her Own"; and Spencer Tracy, Joan Bennett and Elizabeth Taylor in "Father of the Bride."

50 Years Ago

JUNE 1975

Mastic Beach seniors celebrated their installation of officers held at the Bavarian Inn in Lake Ronkonkoma. On hand for the occasion were recreation club specialist Carmel Zein; treasurer Marion Crispano; second vice president Lillian Wilson; council delegates Aida Romeo and John Barget; corresponding secretary Mary Smith; president James Staiger; first vice president Catherine Canella; recording secretary Agnes Balsamo; and program supervisor Adelaide Silkworth.

The annual dance recital by the students of Turso School of Dance was held at the Center Moriches High School, given for the benefit of the Community Scholarship Association of the Moriches. The guest artists were Capt. and Mrs. George E. Mueller Jr., both graduates of Center Moriches High School. Capt. Mueller, a decorated Vietnam veteran, performed an impressive sabre routine.

Dr. William Dean, director of the Cornell University Laboratory in Eastport, accepted a \$350 donation from John Stra**buk.** manager of Beacon Feeds.

John Walters and Robert Havens spoke on the virtues of jogging at the meeting of the Rotary Club of the Moriches.

The honor guard for graduation exercises at Center Moriches High School comprised two salutatorians, Brian Lindgren and Margaret Strebel, alongside valedictorian Cynthia E. Malanchuk.

Concluding a week of Bicentennial activities in Eastport, a musical was presented at the Eastport Gospel Church entitled "I Love America," directed by Mrs. Mildred Hawes with piano accompaniment by Ms. Priscilla Downs.



June 1950: Featured as couples at the Tom Thumb nuptials performed by the kindergarten class at Center Moriches School are (left to right) Nancy Schmidt, maid of honor; Phyllis Betz, bride; Patrick Leary, groom; and Robert Michna, best man.

Eastport High School graduation honors were carried out by valedictorian Janissa Strabuk and co-salutatorians, April Northrup and Gregroy Maret.

A 39-year-old Shirley mother of six, **Lucy Gonzalez**, was among the proud students who received their diplomas during graduation exercises at Suffolk Community College in Selden, marking 10 years' worth of work in the nursing field with her receiving her pin and black strip of an R.N.

Robert E. Gaetjens, of Moriches, became the Bay Area's newest physician when he graduated from the State University of New York's Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse.

At William Floyd High School, top graduating honors will go to valedictorian Victor Gallo and salutatorian Maryann D'Amara. Mr. Gallo is planning to study actuarial science at the College of Insurance and Ms. D'Amara will enter a pre-medical program at the State University of New York in Oneonta.

East Moriches High School was thrown into a triple quandary when figures revealed that three students had qualified for the spot of salutatorian at commencement ceremonies: Mark Stewart, Catherine LeClair and Elizabeth Stampfl. The valedictorian is Clare Marie Ringhoff.

Among the East Moriches students involved in the publication, "Strolling Through East Moriches," in commemoration of the area's first bicentennial project, were Theresa Chrisopher, Donna Clark, James Clifford, Debra DiPierio, Thomas Griffith, Mark Irish, Cathy LeClair, Robert Summen, Cathy Muller, Alber Seltenreich, Elizabeth Stampfl, Claire Ringhoff, Tim Rahrer, Mark Stewart, Nancy Tuttle, Richard Zukcer and Donna Romanowksi.

Playing this month at local United Artists Theatres: Warren Beatty and Goldie Hawn in "Shampoo"; Tony Cutis and Anjanette Comer in "Lepke"; and Steven Spielberg's "Jaws."

Compiled by Vanessa Graniello

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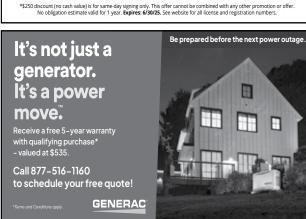


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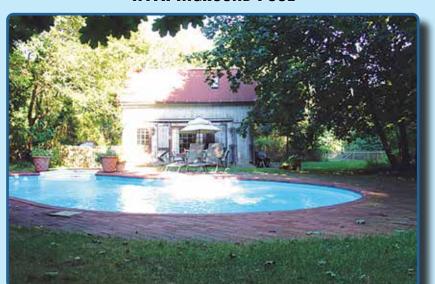
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Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting us at SCNY725@gmail.com

All interested firms will be required to sign for the proposal documents and provide primary contact, telephone, fax and email address.

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