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FEBRUARY 2023

12th Year, Issue 2



Courtesy photo

## Local teachers fundraise and bring supplies to Ukraine

Last May, Center Moriches social studies teacher, peer group leadership, varsity lacrosse, middle school football and varsity winter track coach, Chris Winslow, and another history teacher colleague, Chris Charvat, started a non-profit called NY4Ukraine.

The duo recently launched their website and Facebook page to help drive fundraising for the campaign. They made their first trip to the Ukraine over the summer of 2022, where they made a lot of great friends and contacts. During that trip, they visited with 17 bags of aid.

In addition to providing clean potable water filters and first-aid supplies to the 250,000 civilians in the city of Mykolaiv, NY4UKRAINE also assisted in providing essential combat supplies to the Mykolaiv Regional Guard. These supplies included body armor, camouflage clothing, and ballistic helmets.

“We feel very passionate about our support, and we are hoping to gain

See **UKRAINE** on page 4

## Come for the food, stay for the love

Moriches Bay Deli is a  
community staple

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

Moriches Bay Deli is not only a great place to buy sandwiches like The Wrangler, featuring hot roast beef, cheddar cheese, and tangy barbecue sauce—on a roll, of course. It’s also a great place to meet friends and be part of the community.

In fact, that’s Roseann Gencarelli’s favorite part of owning the deli, where joking around is a sign of affection.

“When you have fun, you can bust chops with your customers, and they can bust them back.”

One such customer is Paul Sweeney, a lifelong resident of East Moriches and 26-year customer of Gencarelli’s (the deli’s been around for that long as of July 2022.) While Sweeney said he’s a fan of all the deli’s baked items, one item keeps him coming back.

“I like Ro’s egg sandwiches,” he said.

On a recent weekday morning, this reporter observed several egg sandwiches being made, but Gencarelli is most proud of another menu item: the Spooky Spider. In fact, as per the T-shirts, the deli is “home to the Spooky Spider.” Picture a rustic baguette filled with honey maple turkey, crispy bacon, melted Swiss cheese, lettuce, and tomato, all drizzled with more of that tangy barbecue sauce.

In addition to customers like Sweeney, the deli is also an institution for neigh-

borhood children to come in for a bite before and after class. It makes sense, as the deli is surrounded by schools, with the East Moriches Middle School and elementary school down the street.

“The kids come here every day,” said Gencarelli of her youngest customers.

For Gencarelli, who is also president of Seatuck Grove Rotary and a member of the Moriches Chamber of Commerce’s board of directors, the neighborhood children remind her of what

See **MORICHES BAY DELI** on page 8

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**Chamber welcomes new president  
and vice president** PAGE 10



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# Three sisters play football

Dad and coach is local PAL president

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Last year was Ali Adlah's first as the president of PAL CM Red Devils football, but he has been coaching since 2017, when his oldest daughter, Kaleesi, wanted to join the flag football team.

Kaleesi, now 10 years old and a student at East Moriches Middle School, currently plays on a youth PAL football team. Her team, the Center Moriches Red Devils Suffolk County Police Athletic League football team, recently won the Suffolk County PAL championship after completing an undefeated season, 8-0.

"I have been coaching flag football since 2017—she loves it. She is fast and great at it, too," her father Adlah said of Kaleesi, who plays defense and has since acquired nickname, Blitz. "That's what she loves to do—blitz."

Her sister, Myah, 8, an East Moriches Elementary School student, plays on a PAL youth football team, also with contact; and the youngest sister, Alia, is 4 years old and plays on the youth flag football team. Also, their 9-year-old brother, Mouhammad, played on the 8-year-old team as the captain and quarterback.

"Myah also loves the contact; she saw her brother play and wanted to join," Adlah said of his middle daughter. "She is the smallest one on the team, but goes after the ball intensely."

How did they get involved in the sport? Adlah, a Port Jefferson native, said he played the sport in high school, but went on to become a pediatric occupational therapist. He practiced for 15 years before moving on to geriatrics, and at that point, missed being around children.

"So, I started coaching, and I found my passion. It just resonated with me that this is what I want to do," he said.

Athleticism runs in the family, with his wife, Melanie, who played for her college softball and volleyball teams at St. Joseph's University. Their children also play a number of sports, including Kaleesi and Myah, who play lacrosse and soccer; Mouhammad, who also plays soccer; and Kaleesi is also a brown belt in karate.

Though Adlah doesn't currently coach his daughters' teams, he coaches his

PAL president Ali Adlah loves seeing his children play. Pictured is his son Mouhammad, 9, and middle daughter Myah, 8.



All photos courtesy of Long Island Sports Photo Network



Kaleesi, 10, was on the championship winning team last year.



Little Alia, 4, is following in her siblings footsteps on the flag football team.

son's youth team and is also the president of the PAL league in Center Moriches. The entire family is looking forward to next season, playing again in the PAL youth league. All the children will be on

separate teams due to their ages. Registrations have opened up to meet the needs of younger children with the flag football program, starting at 3 years old. ■

# Girls flag football added as a varsity team

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Last year, 2022, was the first year that flag football was offered as a girls varsity sport in Suffolk County (Section XI). Center Moriches was one of the first schools to participate. They had a dozen girls on the team.

The girls' sport is becoming increasingly popular, with The New York Jets and Nike sponsoring girls' teams across Long Island and New Jersey as of last spring. Nassau County schools that participated last year include Freeport, Hempstead, Locust Valley, Long Beach, Lynbrook, Massapequa, Plainview-Old Bethpage and West Hempstead. In Suffolk, there was Amityville, Center Moriches, Huntington Station, Longwood, North Babylon, Sachem East, Sachem North and Ward Melville. As of the new season, Suffolk County has 22 teams.

Last year, the Center Moriches team took home one win with six losses, as



The 2022 girls flag football team at Center Moriches.

Courtesy photo

did Sachem North. The top teams for the season were Walt Whitman, with an

undefeated season of 7-0, and Sachem East, with a 5-2 season.

"We were very proud because we played all big or very big schools," said Jeremy Thode, the head of health, PE, athletics and campus safety and management at Center Moriches High School. "This year there are more teams joining, and we have returning players with experience."

The school, he said, decided to add the sport in the first year to include another female team offering, which was largely funded by a grant. "We couldn't pass it up!" he said.

"I joined Center Moriches flag football because I love the game of football," said senior Julia Hromada, noting that her brothers played football growing up. "I was always surrounded by the sport. So when I heard that Center Moriches was going to have flag football, I thought it would be fun to give it a shot."

The coach of the team is no longer with the district, and they are currently finalizing the new coach for the new season. ■



# CM scout promoted to Eagle Scout



Local Boy Scout Eric Mathew Corn of Troop 414 was recently awarded Eagle Scout at the VFW 414 in Center Moriches under leader Dan Guastella. He is known around town for his work putting up American flags multiple times throughout the years and

always assisting the Moriches Chamber. Corn started his Scouting journey in 2013 as a Bobcat in Pack 2004. As a Cub, he earned numerous activity badges and the Arrow of Light before bridging to a Boy Scout. After Cub Scouts, he became a Boy Scout with Troop 414.

Additionally, almost every year he has earned a spot in the Top 10 for Scout of the Year based upon troop participation (including service hours, food drives, cleanups, assistance with Eagle Scout projects, etc.) and merit badges earned.

"I have countless memories over the years from all the activities I have participated in. I've been to every Calverton National Cemetery flag activity and on almost every campout," he said. "In October, we normally would have a campout and invite our family on one of the nights. Lots of laughs and good memories reciting and creating skits to perform." Corn loves to build things and is looking forward to going into carpentry. He is also already certified for OSHA 10. He will graduate high school in June.

"I'm happy I took this path acquiring these skills and being able to make all me," he added. "These [are] valuable relationships. Scouting has been an amazing journey for me." ■

Courtesy photos



*the Tide*

## Girl Scouts earn Silver Award

Troop 4000 Cadette Girl Scouts (pictured left to right) Audrey F., Makena W., Delaney M., and Rebecca R. earned their Silver Award by helping a local church in our community. Girl Scout Rebecca R. belongs to St. John the Baptist Episcopal church at 33 Railroad Avenue, Center Moriches. The church was looking for a new food pantry sign, so Rebecca told her sister Girl Scouts about the church's need for a sign, and they decided that helping the church would be a great Silver Award project. While the Girl Scouts were discussing with the church the need for the new food pantry sign, the church informed Girl Scout Troop 4000 of an increasing need for hygiene products within the community. Audrey F., Delaney

M., Makena W. and Rebecca R. raised funds by selling cookies and holding a car wash to purchase a new food pantry sign. They also held numerous hygiene drives at local shopping centers; they even placed collection boxes at Westhampton Beach and Center Moriches libraries to collect donations for the church's food pantry. The four Girl Scouts reached out to East End Sign Design, Curtis Campbell Dental Office, Blistex Inc., Stony Brook University, Pecking Bay Medical Center, and Kurt Weiss for help with their Silver Award. They were very pleased to learn we have such a supportive and loving community. We are all so glad we were able to help out a local church and community. ■



Courtesy photos

## UKRAINE: Their next trip back this month will focus on supporting the military

FROM PAGE 1



some traction promoting our mission," Winslow said.

Their next trip back to the Ukraine will be in February. About 90 percent of their first trip was funded after being federally reorganized as a nonprofit. Winslow is a former United States Marine and said he is focused on supporting military units fighting on the front lines. On their next trip, they plan on bringing at least 30 bags of aid and will travel with a group of five.

"This trip, we are expanding our aid and support to refugee camps inside the country, along with continuing to

support the military units we developed a relationship with," he explained. "We are having our school district art departments run an art campaign, where students will create art for the children in the camps."

They also plan to bring art supplies and have the children in the camps create art, which will then be sent back to Long Island and used for fundraising.

For more information, to get involved, or to donate visit [www.NY4Ukraine.com](http://www.NY4Ukraine.com). Or visit their Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ny4ukraine>. ■

-Nicole Fuentes

Courtesy photos



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# Rotary celebrates 85 years of service

## Camp Paquatuck celebrates 75 years

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The story of the Rotary Club of the Moriches and Camp Paquatuck starts in 1946, when a group of Moriches Rotarians came up with the idea to develop a special camp for special-needs children.

“This is an exciting time as we celebrate these amazing milestones for the Moriches Rotary, Camp Paquatuck, and the community,” said Deborah Brown-Volkman, president of the club.

The camp originally began with a few kids sleeping in tents under the stars and has now evolved into a state-of-the-art facility for children with disabilities. It was named after the creek (Paquatuck Creek), which runs into the Moriches Bay. This creek became known as Kalers Pond in 1802. By 1960, the camp was extended to about 120 campers for two to four weeks, and in 1968 land was donated to the camp at no charge. In 1968, another 18 acres was purchased by the camp for \$9,000.

Every summer, approximately 450 to 500 children attend the camp. The camp is fully run from the generosity of other Rotary Clubs and service groups like the Lions, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus, Camp and Paquatuck Squaws.

The current president of the rotary is Brown-Volkman, with Peter Traina as the vice president. Matt Crennan serves as treasurer and Dina Aponte as secretary. Other members include Elise Allen, Barbara Caldwell, Geraldine



The Rotary held their anniversary dinner last month at the camp.

Courtesy photo

Sapanaro, Muriel Corcoran, Maureen Klisey, Megan Noia, Nicole Stork, Laura Dunathan, Julia Pratt, Kiki McKeon, Steve Kronman and Newt Homan.

“I have been a member for five years; it’s been a great pleasure to be a part of the Rotary and the camp,” said Sapanaro, noting she is one of the club’s newer members.

The club started in 1937. Gus Stout Jr., a charter member of the Moriches Rotary, served as the president of the Board of Director of Camp PaQuaTuck till he passed in 1978. He was also pres-

ident of Moriches Rotary from 1942 to ‘43. In 1972, the Camp Paquatuck Squaws organized and helped raised money for the camp. They are the prime fundraisers for the camp, even still creating events like the Spooky Walk. In December, they gave the camp a check for \$285,000.

Though COVID interrupted the operations of the camp for the past three years, they were able to offer an online program for campers. During this time, over \$2 million was spent to help upgrade the camp’s cabins and

grounds. This summer, 2023, they can’t wait to serve the children again with their motto, “Summer Is For Everyone.” Their major project for the new year is to replace the in-ground pool.

The club’s anniversary dinner party was held last month on Jan. 21 at the camp. To donate to the camp visit: <https://camppaquatuck.com/>. Also, the Rotary is always looking for new members and meets Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. at the camp. For more information visit: <https://www.rotary7255.org/clubinfo/the-moriches.> ■


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# Moriches Bagel Deli under new ownership

BY PATRICIA KALOSKI

After 28 years of serving the Center Moriches community and beyond, Anthony and Carmen Dagostino, longtime owners and operators of Moriches Bagel Deli on Montauk Highway in Center Moriches, have turned in their aprons to spend time at their ranch in Texas, for some much-needed and well-deserved rest and relaxation.

A staple in the community for nearly three decades, the business was sold to Goldberg's Bagels, the family-owned-and-operated company that has been baking these round icons since 1949. Goldberg's Bagels officially took over on Friday, Jan. 13. The Center Moriches location joins a list of already successful stores in the Hamptons and on the North Fork.

Anthony purchased the bagel shop from Patty and Rich in Woodland in 1994. He was already operating bagel stores in nearby hamlets, but quickly fell in love with the tightknit community of Center Moriches. At that time, Moriches Bagel Deli was the only bagel shop in town, and one of the few places to get a cup of coffee, as 7-Eleven hadn't opened yet, said Anthony.

"It was truly a local deli where folks could meet and say hi," reflected Anthony on running the Bagel Deli in the early days.

Over the years, the Dagostinos would make changes to the deli that would include tweaking the menu, renovating the inside, and establishing their sister business, Moriches Catering. But one thing that remained a constant as the Bagel Deli evolved was the sense of place and community. It was a gathering place for area high school students to grab breakfast before school and a regular lunchtime spot for students with senior privileges, as well for the early-bird commuters and folks on their way to work.

Dave Kaloski, Center Moriches resident and owner and operator of Dockside Fabrics Inc., frequented the Bagel Deli at least three to four times a week for a medium coffee and a mini bagel. He appreciated the option of ordering a smaller-size bagel, but also the friendly



After 28 years of serving the Center Moriches community and beyond, Anthony and Carmen Dagostino, longtime owners and operators of Moriches Bagel Deli on Montauk Highway in Center Moriches, have turned in their aprons to spend time at their ranch in Texas, for some much-needed and well-deserved rest and relaxation.

Courtesy photo

service that he always received from Carmen, who was a mainstay behind the counter.

"It was a nice way to start off your workday," said Kaloski. "You always got service with a smile and good food."

Another Center Moriches resident, Jim Miller, had been a faithful customer at the Bagel Deli for years. A local bayman, Miller found himself going there in the wee hours of the morning before a day's work on Moriches Bay because the Bagel Deli was one of the only places open that early. "Plus, their bagels were much better than all the other bagel

stores around. Carmen and Anthony are good people, and I always like to do business with the townspeople... to keep it local," Miller added.

The Dagostinos admit that the decision to sell the bagel business didn't come lightly and was made before the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020.

"We purchased a home in Texas in hopes of spending winters there, but once COVID happened, we were forced to stop working. At that time, we started to reflect on where we had been and where we were headed, and decided it was time to slow down."

Just as equally difficult was breaking the news to the dedicated employees and loyal patrons. Some of their workers had been at the Bagel Deli for years, including their chef Rich, baker Marcos, and store manager Idalia, who all worked at the Bagel Deli for 20 years; Becca, Carmen's "right hand," was there for 14 years.

"These folks are family and deserve the credit for the success of the store," noted Anthony and Carmen.

Alex Berchin, another longtime employee, left his job at the IGHL Flower Barn to work at the Bagel Deli after seeing a Help Wanted sign in the window.

"With the help of Carmen and her staff, Alex was able to learn and experience a lot," said Alex's mother, Barbara Berchin. "He made great friends. Carmen always had his best interests in mind. Alex called her his second mother. Moriches Bagel Deli was a safe and happy place for him."

Owning a small business did have its ups and downs, said the Dagostinos, with many hurdles to jump.

"This business is 365 days a year; folks rely on you to be there for their morning routine. Now with prices going crazy, it was hard to make money and to get staff. The biggest obstacle of all is having some time to take off and relax."

But despite the challenges, Anthony and Carmen said they have enjoyed owning and operating Moriches Bagel Deli, noting that the best part of the job has been getting to know their customers.

"We've watched the people of the community grow up," said Carmen. "We had customers that were kids when they first came into the deli, and now they are parents, and some are even grandparents. It's all about the relationships you build. We had kids that came home that would meet at the Bagel Deli, prior employees who have become Air Force pilots, police officers, teachers and executives, who all come back to say hello."

Anthony added, "and the little kids who came in to see Carmen because they were excited to tell her about school or a gift they got. The most rewarding part of our business was the opportunity to be a part of all of the amazing people in our community." ■

## MORICHES BAY DELI

FROM PAGE 1

Moriches is all about.

"They show respect. The other thing you like about this town is that the children—and I'm talking fifth through eighth graders—show respect. They come in, they order their food, they eat, and then they clean up after themselves. You don't find that everywhere," she said.

Some things have changed over the 26 years Gencarelli has served her customers at the deli. One of them is that she's now running the business alone. Her former business partner, Mary Ellen, is no longer involved in day-to-day operations.

"It's strange, after 26 years, but she'll still help me," said Gencarelli.

For example, she still makes the deli's famous signature M.E.G.'s classic vinaigrette dressing, a secret recipe. (M.E.G.'s stands for Mary Ellen Gerhard). She also comes in to make the rice pudding.

But many things have stayed the same, like the old community-minded vibes of East Moriches. Reliable in their hours, the deli is open from 4 a.m. to 5 p.m., except for Sunday, when they close at 4 p.m. They are closed on Christmas only. ■



Roseann Gencarelli, owner of the Moriches Bay Deli.

MT/AI Rashdan

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# Chamber gets new president

Goulding moves up to VP

BY NICOLE FUENTES

As of 2023, former president Art Gerhauser passed the torch to incoming president, Jackie Osborne, and her new vice president, Lisa Goulding.

Osborne and her husband, Jimmy Osborne, have been the owners of Jimmy Osborne Music, celebrating 25 years of providing music to the Moriches area. She said she is proud the Osborne family has given the gift of music to their family for decades. They are also proud of all their students, some of which have moved on to be professional musicians and educators.

She has lived in the Center Moriches area for 30 years with her husband and son, James. They have a deep love for their community helping and supporting local charities, such as the Moriches Community Center and Helping Makes U Happy. She is also a singer in the band Chain Reaction and duet After Dark. She performs with her husband at local events, weddings, and corporate affairs.

Osborne has also served on the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Committee for Center Moriches for 10 years, where they raised in excess of \$1,000,000 for cancer research. She was also the founder of the Relay Idol Competition and Relay's Got Talent competition, which donated all their funds to Relay for Life.

Professionally, she has been a fourth-grade teacher at Eastport-South Manor for 22 years and holds a degree in elementary/special education as well as a master's in reading.

"I love teaching and helping children reach for the stars and believe in themselves," she said. "I hope to be an inspiration to my students and have a long-lasting impact on their lives."

At the chamber, she has been a member for 25 years and was honored to be named the new president. She said she hopes to continue the important work of community building and business networking that her predecessors, Gerry Sapanaro and Art Gerhauser, have done. The goal for the new board is to build their membership and provide support and business opportunities to their members. "We also want to continue to bring our community together through our many community events, such as St. Patrick's Day Gala March 10, and St. Patrick's Day parade on March 12," she added.



For the first time in a long time, two Main Street business owners will hold the position of president and vice president of the Moriches Chamber. Pictured are Jackie Osborne and Lisa Goulding. They said they are excited to bring their vision and ideas to fruition.

Courtesy photo

ed. "It takes a lot of time and energy to be involved in community organizations. I am proud to work with such a dedicated group of people who believe in their community and love it as much as I do." Goulding has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches since her daughter, Katie, opened AJ Sunflower Boutique, in 2019. Professionally, she was a social studies teacher in Riverhead for 30 years. She also served as the president of Riverhead Central Faculty Association for six years. "I am looking forward to using my teaching and leadership skills in my new role as vice president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches," she said.

She previously served as a director of the chamber in 2022.

## Board of Directors

Gerry Sapanaro, Gina Motisi, Amy Mahnken Directors: Florence Fournaris, Roseann Gencarelli, Miriam Gillies, Paul Quinn, Anne Montanez, Jenny Susskraut, Judy Eberhard.

For tickets to the gala email [info@moricheschamber.org](mailto:info@moricheschamber.org). The chamber is always looking for volunteers (members and non-members) to help them with their many projects and events. For more information or to become involved visit their website [moricheschamber.org](http://moricheschamber.org). ■

# Moriches Chamber plans for the new year

COMPILED BY NICOLE FUENTES

The following has been compiled for the upcoming 2023 chamber events:

## Friday, March 10, St. Patrick's Parade Party

The party honoring grand marshal Joseph Townsend will be held at the Rock Hill Country Club from 7 to 11 p.m.

## Sunday, March 12, The St. Patrick's Day Parade

The event will begin at 2 p.m. on Main Street.

## Sunday, June 11, The Spring Street Fair

## June, various dates, presentation of the Chamber of Commerce Citizenship Awards

The events will take place at graduations and/or at Award Nights for Center Moriches High School, Clayton Huey Elementary School, East Moriches Middle School, Our Lady Queen of the Apostles.

## July and August, Summer Lawn Concert Series

On four Saturday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., the chamber will provide family-friendly concerts, free to the community; just bring a lawn chair or blanket. The concerts will be held on the front lawn of the Clayton Huey Elementary School.

## July or August, date to be determined, Chamber of Commerce Summer Evening Cruise

A three-hour cruise around Moriches Bay.

## Oct. 15, The Fall Festival

## Oct. 31, March of the Goblins,

The downtown trick-or-treating event.

*the Tide*

# Knit a chunky blanket!

The VFW Post 414 is hosting a chunky blanket event on Feb. 11. The event will allow attendees to learn how to knit the blanket, which makes a perfect gift for Valentine's Day. The event will take place at the Center Moriches Post, located at 437 Main Street, from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is \$30, which includes four to six balls of Bernat Blanket Big Yarn. To register call Sara Luna at 607-283-1354. ■





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# Republican county executive candidate announced

Center Moriches native  
Pat Hahn

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Current county executive Steve Bellone is term limited and will leave office at the end of 2023. Early last year, the Democratic party announced former federal and state prosecutor Dave Calone as their candidate. As of December 2022, the Republican party released their candidate as Center Moriches resident Pat Hahn.



"We are proud to officially announce our candidacy for Suffolk County executive," the press release reads. "Our candidate/committee are officially registered with the New York State Board of Elections in Albany, N.Y., running as a Republican candidate."

Hahn's platform is to keep Suffolk County safe, protect the environment, address the mental health drug problems of the area, and lower residents' taxes.

Hahn, 68, is a proud son of a WWII Navy veteran and was raised a Christian as a pro-life candidate. He is a lifelong New Yorker now living in Suffolk County. He has two older brothers and lost his older brother in 1986. Hahn previously ran for United States Senate.

He graduated from West Islip High School in 1973. After graduation, he worked as a truck driver delivery person for the local Pennysaver. In 1975, he began working at Pilgrim State Hospital in the Housekeeping Department. He later moved to a supervising position, and then took a civil service test and was hired to work inpatient direct care as a mental hygiene therapy aide.

During that time, he was active in the CSEA labor union. He was soon elected as the president of the Local 418 and was elected to CSEA Inc. Board of Director in Albany, representing Long Island. He was also active and elected to serve on the Human Rights committee, which later became the Affirmative Action committee at Pilgrim.

He then attended St. Joseph's and Suffolk Community colleges, as a night student part-time, taking specialized courses in psychology, early childhood development, fundamentals of management and labor union.

"I'm conservative-minded and consider myself a constitutionalist," he said. "I believe in what America was founded under as a Constitutional Republic. I support our freedoms, liberties, and rights under the U.S. Constitution as written by our founding fathers. I will always stand and respect our American flag. I fully respect and support all our military and law enforcement. I support law and order and equal justice applied for everyone fairly."

Hahn is married and retired; his wife works in direct care with special-needs people. Together they have a son, who is a registered nurse. Personally, Hahn is a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and member of Long Island A.B.A.T.E.

"When elected, I will fight to restore transparency to our local government along with saving taxes—a county government that works for the people. I will answer to 'we the people,' not political parties or special interest groups," he promised if elected. "I will sponsor and support any bill for term limits. I will defend and protect all our constitutional rights, as written. I will strongly be advocating for federal funding for our county to establish long-term care facilities."

He also promised to fight for the military, law enforcement, small business, pro-life, the Second Amendment, freedom

## RUNNING ON THE DEMOCRATIC LINE

Former federal and state prosecutor Dave Calone announced his candidacy last year to be the next Suffolk County executive running on the Democratic line. Calone lives in Setauket with his wife, a Presbyterian minister, and three children.

"I'm running for county executive to make sure that everyone benefits from the same kind of opportunities that I have enjoyed growing up and living in Suffolk County. I'm eager to get to work for the people of Suffolk, to enable everyone to have the chance to get a good-paying job, to protect our clean air and water, to help families afford to live here, and to create safe, thriving communities," said Calone.

He served as both a federal and New York State prosecutor, where he prosecuted corporate fraud and terrorism and helped negotiate what was at the time the largest health care fraud recovery for taxpayers in state history. He is currently a business leader who helps start and build technology companies on Long Island and around the country. Calone served as chair of the Suffolk County Planning Commission for eight years, where he spearheaded the creation of Suffolk County's 2035 Comprehensive Master Plan. His work supporting renewable energy through unified solar permitting won Suffolk County a National Association of Counties Achievement Award. He co-founded the Suffolk County Forward program, the county's initiative to support local small businesses and workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and he served as chair of Suffolk County's Superstorm Sandy Review Task Force. Calone also created the Long Island Emerging Technologies Fund to help launch new companies based on innovations at Long Island's research institutions, and was the founding National Board chair of Patriot Boot Camp, a not-for-profit that helps veterans, active-duty service members, and military spouses to start small businesses.

Calone, a Democrat, has received the endorsement of RWDSU/UFCW Local 338, Iron Workers Local 361, IBEW Local 1049, and the New York State Iron Workers District Council. Also endorsing Calone at the start of the campaign are Long Island leaders: John Durso (president of RWDSU/UFCW Local 338), New York State assemblyman Steve Englebright, Suffolk County Legislature minority leader Jason Richberg, Suffolk County Legis. Kara Hahn, Southampton Town councilmember John Bouvier, and Brookhaven Town councilmember Jonathan Kornreich.

of speech, freedom of religion, smaller government with less controls, and more fiscal responsibility to lower the debt.

The candidate's website, [www.pat-hahn4suffolk.com](http://www.pat-hahn4suffolk.com), has more information. He can also be found on Facebook at Pat Hahn NYS. To reach him, contact [pathahn4suffolk@gmail.com](mailto:pathahn4suffolk@gmail.com). ■

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*the Tide*

## Republican candidate Kevin LaValle wins Brookhaven Town Clerk

BY SHANA BRAFF

Republican candidate Kevin LaValle won over Democratic candidate Lisa Di Santo at 6,396 votes to 4,940 votes, respectively, according to [brookhaven-republicans.com](http://brookhaven-republicans.com) in the special election to replace Brookhaven town clerk Donna Lent.

LaValle and Di Santo both vied head-to-head in a special election on Tuesday, Jan. 17 to replace retired town clerk Donna Lent.

Both LaValle, 45, of Selden, and Di Santo, 58, of East Patchogue, were chosen by their respective parties to continue the last three years of Lent's term. LaValle, who was endorsed by Brookhaven Conservatives, proved victorious in a contentious race.

A member of the Independence Party, Lent, 70, retired on Nov. 10, following a nine-year tenure in office, which coincided with her plans to relocate out of state.

Special election voting to replace Lent started

with early voting from Jan. 7 to 15, with voting coming to its conclusion on Tuesday.

LaValle, a mortgage loan officer, the ostensible winner of the election, has one year remaining in his four-year council term. His stated objective was to abdicate his town board seat if he proved victorious over Di Santo.

William Ferraro, co-chair of the Central Brookhaven Democratic Club, and erstwhile candidate for Brookhaven supervisor, said, "Lisa, against all odds, just pulled off the best performance of any Brookhaven Democratic townwide candidate in the last decade, against the most powerful Republican political machine in New York State. That's a testament to her hard work as a candidate, the relentlessness of our volunteers, and a superior organizing strategy executed by a Democratic Committee that will not give up the fight," he said at around 11 p.m. on Tuesday night, when Di Santo was hovering around 48 percent in the polls, which closed at 9 p.m.



At approximately 10 p.m. on election night, Di Santo took the time to thank all those who supported her with about 2,500 doors knocked on, thousands of calls made, and more than 1,300 voters obtained, mostly through canvassing. In addition, volunteers robo-called about 10,000 voters, texted 6,000 voters, and put out hundreds of lawn signs declaring their support for the underdog candidate during the fired-up five-week campaign.

"I am grateful and humbled by the tremendous outpouring of support I have received from voters across Brookhaven Town," she said of the hot-ticket race. ■

Republican candidate Kevin LaValle is the ostensible winner of the special election for Brookhaven town clerk.

File photo



*the Tide*

# Gettin' folkie in February

Fancy an afternoon of live folk music? Then come out to see the first Folkie Fest of 2023, "Slip Sliding Away," slated for Feb. 12 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Moriches Community Center, located at 313 Frowein Road.

Billed as "Not your grandparents' folk," the annual concert series features local acoustic artists, including Rob Europe, Kane Daily, Frank LaTorre, Shecky Tom Davis and Kerry Kearney, who are all slated to perform on Feb. 12. Additional dates and performances for the 2023 season include March 5, "Unstoppable Women of Song"; April 23, "Getting to the Roots"; and May 21, "Living on LI." Purchase \$10 tickets by visiting [www.morichescommunitycenter.org](http://www.morichescommunitycenter.org). \$15 tickets will be sold at the door.

-Katherine Al Rashdan



A past Folkie Fest performance. Additional performances will be held in March, April, and May.

File Photos

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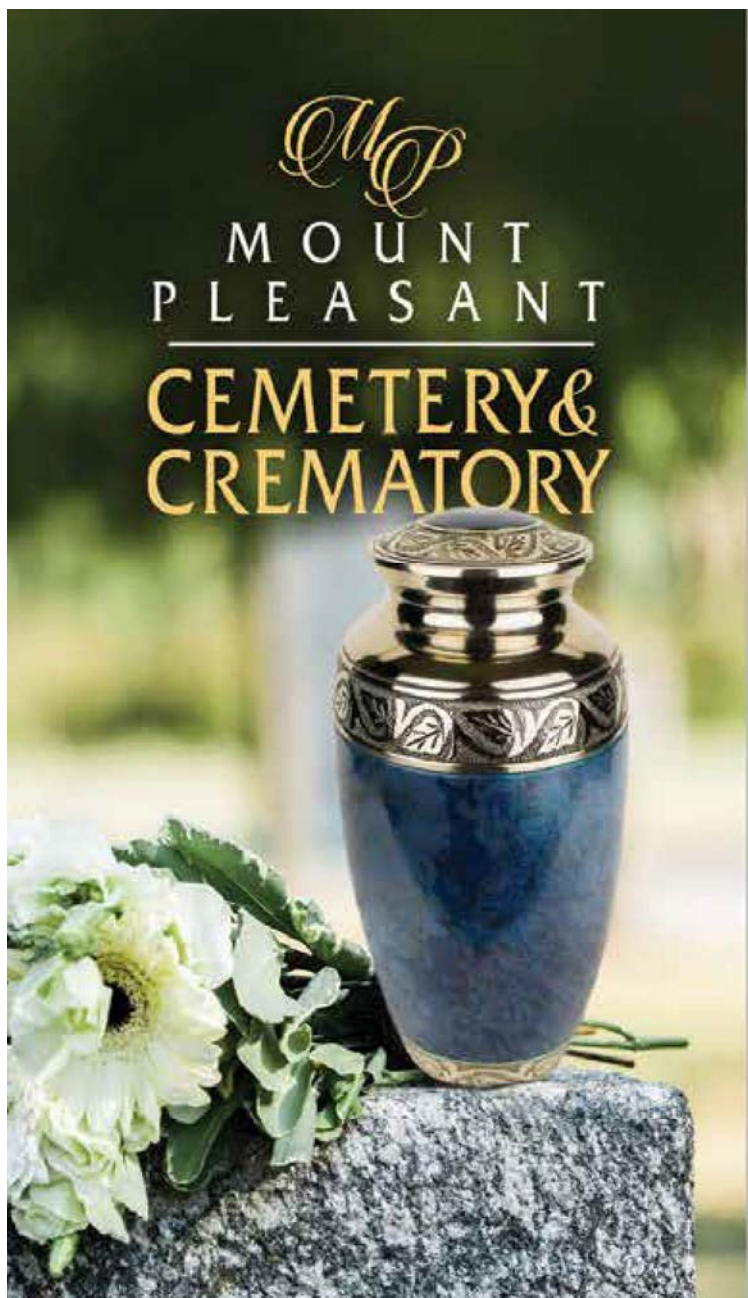
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# Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library opens new branch

## Former Mastic Beach Village Hall transformed

The Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library opened a new, 7,000-square-foot Satellite Branch Library at 369 Neighborhood Road, in Mastic Beach, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, Jan. 14.

Attended by local officials and members of the community, the opening of the new satellite branch represents a milestone in an overall, multi-project expansion of library services for patrons of the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library district by helping to offer a streamlined and convenient library experience for residents district-wide.

The new satellite branch library—situated within a short walk or bicycle ride for residents in the densely populated southern part of the library district—is expected to play a catalytic role in the revitalization of the Mastic Beach business district and to bring increased levels of foot traffic to businesses along Neighborhood Road.

“For decades, library patrons in the Mastic Beach area had expressed concern that our main library building in Shirley was located beyond reasonable geographic reach for significant portions of our community,” said library director Kerri Rosalia. “This new Neighborhood Road branch will significantly help residents obtain the library services they want and need.”

“The entire library staff deserves enormous credit for bringing this beautiful, new facility into existence,” said library board president Joseph Maiorana. “Our team is particularly excited about having the opportunity to help boost the economic vibrancy of the Mastic Beach area.”

Last year, Maiorana was appointed to the Suffolk County Downtown Revitalization Panel by Third District Legis. James F. Mazzarella.

A library district-wide expansion and modernization program had been set in motion by local voters on Dec. 10, 2019 through passage of a \$22.7-million bond referendum. At the time of the referendum’s approval, the district’s sole library—situated at 407 William Floyd Parkway in Shirley—was 28 percent smaller than the recommended library size for a community with the district’s population.

Underscoring the absence of adequate space, attendance at popular programs had to be limited due to lack of capacity. Moreover, the library had been forced to conduct hundreds of classes and meetings at off-site locations every year, which had proven to be costly, staff-intensive, and logistically cumbersome.

In addition to the creation of the newly opened satellite branch, the referendum’s passage set the stage for two additional enhancements in library services that, for the first time, would bring quality library services within close geographical reach for all residents of the community.

First, in addition to the new Mastic Beach facility, the district is erecting a new, 7,000-square-foot Moriches Satellite Branch on Montauk Highway, a construction project nearing completion. And second, the outdated main library in Shirley is closed for a period of technological modernization and renovations that would bring it into code compliance. Once the newly upgraded Main Library opens, the two new branches in Mastic Beach and Moriches will remain in permanent operation.

Currently, main library services have been temporarily relocated to the Town of Brookhaven’s Mastic Recreation Center at

15 Herkimer Street in Mastic. “The Town of Brookhaven is proud to be providing the district with a place to offer temporary library services to the public at the Mastic Recreation Center,” said Brookhaven Town supervisor Ed Romaine. “In addition, we are delighted about the role that the Mastic Beach Satellite Branch is certain to play in the revitalization of the local community.”

“Communities benefit in countless ways when they have access to top-quality library services.”

said Mazzarella. “I applaud the trustees and staff of the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library for an achievement that will benefit Mastic Beach for a great many years to come.”

Designed by H2M architects + engineers of Melville, the modern, new library in Mastic Beach represents the expansion and adaptive reuse of the community’s former village hall, a 4,000-square-foot structure. The new facility’s colonial-style exterior is compatible with the architectural style of the surrounding community.

With an abundance of natural light streaming throughout the building, the library’s flexible space includes dedicated areas for children, teens, and adults. It also features an outdoor area for children- and family-oriented programming. To complement the branch’s ample inventory of books and audio-visual material, items requested from the inter-library loan network are available for pickup.

The library design team emphasized cost-efficiency in its selection of building materials and structural elements. The ventilation system, for example, is energy-efficient. The overall site also promotes sustainability by adhering to LEED standards set forth by the U.S. Green Building Council.

In addition, directly across the street

from the new Neighborhood Road facility, the library has secured a 30-year lease for a parcel of county land at the nominal cost of \$10 a year. The lot will be upgraded for outdoor community programs and such activities as seasonal outdoor performances, concerts, children’s offerings, and other programming.

Construction work at the Mastic Beach site was undertaken through a competitive bidding process. The selected contractors were all based on Long Island. Sandpebble Builders of Southampton served as construction manager.

## About the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library

The Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library was established by the voters of the William Floyd School District in the summer of 1974. It opened to the public in June 1975, when it was located in two small, portable classrooms on the William Floyd School District property. Since 1982, it has been one of Suffolk County’s most utilized libraries, occupying a 44,000 square foot building on William Floyd Parkway in Shirley. Since its inception, the library has been a leader in providing innovative services that include automation; children’s and family programming; services for teens and seniors; cultural activities; literacy services; community outreach initiatives; digital services and technology support; career and college readiness assistance; lifelong learning opportunities; and partnerships with local businesses and community organizations. The recipient of numerous grants in support of its unique programs and services, the library has been recognized in such major media as Newsday, the New York Times, NBC’s Channel 4, and News 12. For more information, visit [www.communitylibrary.org](http://www.communitylibrary.org). ■

# Smith Point Bridge Replacement Project awareness

## Info session held at William Floyd High School

BY SHANA BRAFF

The Smith Point Bridge Replacement Project held a Construction Awareness Information Session on Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m., in the William Floyd High School auditorium, located at 240 Mastic Beach Road, in Mastic Beach. The public meeting was hosted by a panel including Suffolk County executive Steve Bellone, Suffolk County Legis. James Mazzarella, commissioner of Suffolk County Department of Public Works Joseph Brown, P.E., and representatives from project consultant, Hardesty & Hanover (H&H). After the presentation, there was a Q&A session where those in attendance were invited to voice their questions and concerns.

The meeting was held to help build a “bridge” with the community to discuss Suffolk County’s Department of Public Works (SCDPW) plan to replace the more than 60-year-old Smith Point Bridge with a new high-level fixed bridge, built to the west of the existing bridge. It was explained that adjacent construction would maintain continuous vehicular and pedestrian access to Smith Point County Park and Fire Island. The exist-

ing bridge will then be demolished upon completion of the new bridge. It will feature amenities for the community to enjoy, such as a pedestrian path and a fishing pier. The cost is set to come to \$112 million.

One of the most salient reasons for this meeting was to explain to residents why it’s so important to replace the existing bridge, despite the cost, and to assure them there would be minimal inconvenience during the duration of construction.

“It is really one of the lowest-rated bridges in the county. It’s one of the worst conditioned bridges in Suffolk County, and just from the photos alone you can see the amount of deterioration that’s out there,” said Brown during the presentation, which showed slides of the current bridge, as well as demonstrated plans for the new one.

Those in attendance learned that the plan requires a high bridge, which is west of the existing drawbridge in Shirley, connecting William Floyd Parkway to the local favorite spot, Smith Point County Park. Construction for the bridge is notable as the county’s largest infrastructure project, not including sewer and wastewater systems. The project, which is expected to be completed in 2027, will begin in mid-2024.

It was made clear that this major

construction project will not impede residents’ use of the existing bridge. “It’s a very important bridge for access, for recreational purposes, and really for the whole section of the Barrier Island. It’s right next to Smith Point Marina, which is a facility with a boat launch that those from the community know is a great way to bring a boat into the bay, and we’re going to keep that open during the construction as well. Some of our contractors might be working in that area, as it’s an area that we hope to use for loading work vessels and so on, but it is an area that’s going to be kept open to the public,” Brown said.

The project will now cost significantly more than was estimated, in 2021, which was \$75 million at the time, due to increasing construction costs, which have risen dramatically for such a short span. The addition of the 12-foot-wide pedestrian path will also add onto the total cost.

One of the biggest concerns for many residents was how travel and recreation would be affected during construction, so it was important to inform that construction could occur while the existing bridge is still in good enough condition to be used safely.

“The beauty of that is that by building alongside the existing bridge, we can put traffic onto the new bridge

before demolishing the old one, which means traffic keeps going the whole time. At the end of the project, the existing bridge is going to be demolished. It’s going to be removed to free up that area where the footprint of the old bridge is—not only to restore the environment and footprint underneath the bridge, but also to create an area for the Parks Department to have a new recreational facility that’s in the footprint of the old bridge,” Brown explained.

About \$90 million in federal funding is expected to go towards construction. While this is a sizeable cost, it certainly appears to be necessary. The Smith Point Bridge is one of the nine Long Island spans with a “poor” rating given by the state Department of Transportation. While a “Poor” rating doesn’t mean a bridge is unsafe to traverse, or at risk for a catastrophic collapse, it is indicative that it is likely to require more careful monitoring, and at more frequent intervals, as well as needing additional maintenance and repairs going forward. The bridge has already had a weight limit applied to it by the county to ensure safety due to deficiencies detected.

For more information about the Smith Point Bridge Replacement Project go to [suffolkcountyny.gov/departments/public-works](http://suffolkcountyny.gov/departments/public-works). ■





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## KEITH'S CORNER

# Showing the love!



February at Helping Makes U Happy is all about showing the love and sharing the helping.

Feb. 10 is P.S. I Love You Day, which is to bring awareness to the importance of mental health and decrease bullying. To show our support, HMUH will be donating a portion of funds received during the period Jan. 10 through Feb. 10 (exclusive of our scholarship fundraising) to a local organization whose focus is on suicide prevention.

On Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, we will be partnering with Brothers Four Pizzeria, of Center Moriches, and Ice Cream Cottage, Mastic, for the "Family Love Special." A large heart-shaped pizza,

a heart-shaped ice cream cake, and a stuffed animal (up to 100 orders), all for \$36.95 plus tax. Five dollars of every order will be donated to St. Jude Children's Hospital, and Helping Makes U Happy will match the donation. Please call 631-878-1770 to pre-order by Feb. 12.

Don't forget, Feb. 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day—one of Keith's favorite days of the year! It's so easy to be randomly kind and it doesn't have to cost you anything. Be kind to yourself, be kind to your family, to your neighbor, be kind when you're shopping... smile, say hello, make a phone call, text something nice, drop a card in the mail. I bet it will make you feel good, too! ■

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Moriches Chamber awarded Megan Magill, of Center Moriches High School, business student of the month. She will be attending Wingate University as a member of the women's NCAA Division II lacrosse team, studying education and psychology.



### She is a member of:

- National Honor Society
- Foreign Language Honor Society ~ Spanish
- Tri-M Music Honor Society
- Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society
- Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society
- Marvin Bell Chapter of the National English Honor Society ~ Treasurer
- New York State Science Honor Society
- Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches ~ Business Student of the Month
- Varsity Three Season Scholar Athlete Award
- Principal's Honor Roll

### Her athletic and other accomplishments include:

- Varsity Basketball (League VII Rookie of the Year 2020, All League 2021, Extra Effort Award 2021, Captain Junior and Senior Year, Class B County finalists 2022)
- Varsity Lacrosse (Suffolk County Class D Champions 2021 and 2022, Suffolk County Lacrosse Coaches Association Unsung Hero Award 2021, All Division 2022)
- Varsity and JV Soccer (JV Soccer Sportsmanship Award)
- Varsity Cross Country (Suffolk County Class C Champions 2022)
- Varsity Winter Track
- 2022 CBLaxers New York Showcase ~ All Showcase Team
- 2022 Back of the Cage Long Island Top 10 Leader in Assists for Girls
- 2022 Long Island Lacrosse Journal Class of 2023 Watch List

- 2022 Long Island Lacrosse Journal All Long Island Honorable Mention
- 2019 Maverick National Lacrosse Classic Team New York
- Student Athlete Leadership Conference Member
- Friends and Buddies Club
- Jazz Chorus
- DECA Club
- Ecology Club
- Future Teachers of America Club
- Fishing Club

"I like to say I am who I am today because of the sports and opportunities I have had growing up in the Center Moriches community," she said.

Over the summer, she spends her time lifeguarding and teaching swimming lessons at the Moriches Yacht Club. In the winter and spring, she enjoys volunteering and teaching kids how to play basketball and lacrosse with the Moriches Youth Organization.

"These opportunities have helped me realize the importance of giving back to the community I have grown up in and have learned from all these years," she added. ■

Courtesy photo

# IRS rules on the Suffolk County Septic Improvement Program

On December 2, 2022, the Internal Revenue Service issued an announcement providing an update on the taxability of grants. The Announcement 2022-26 can be found at the following website: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/a-22-26.pdf>. Taxpayers should be informed that pursuant to the Announcement, IRS has determined that payments made by Suffolk County under the Septic Improvement Program are not to be included in the grant awardee's gross income.

Grant Awardees who may have already reported the grant payments as gross income on their 2019, 2020 or 2021 Federal income tax return may file an amended return with Form 1040 X for the year(s) in which they reported the income, and decrease their adjusted gross income by the appropriate amount, or consult your tax advisor. The Explanation of Changes on Form 1040-X should refer to "Announcement 2022-26." Form 1040 X can be found at the following website: <https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-1040x>.

The IRS's announcement comes after the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided public notice on November 16, 2022 that in response to a request filed by the Suffolk County Commissioner of Health, the Secretary of Agriculture issued a determination that payments under the SIP Program are primarily for the purpose of conserving soil and water resources and protecting or restoring the environment,

therefore meeting the requirements of § 126(b)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code to be excluded. See *Determination of the Primary Purpose of the New York Suffolk County Septic Improvement Program (SIP)*, 87 FR 68669 (Nov. 16, 2022).

For further information about the Septic Improvement Program, please visit the website [suffolkcountyny.gov/SIP.html](https://suffolkcountyny.gov/SIP.html) or contact the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Office of Ecology, at [SepticDemo@SuffolkCountyNY.gov](mailto:SepticDemo@SuffolkCountyNY.gov) or (631) 852-5811. ■

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## AROUND TOWN

### Sunday, February 5

**Sermon Series** – The South Bay Bible Church continues the teaching series, “Fake News: Exposing God For Who He Is,” presented Sundays, 9 and 11 a.m. or Saturdays at 5 p.m. Visit [www.southbaychurchli.org](http://www.southbaychurchli.org) or call 631-909-8241.

### Tuesday, February 14

**Caregiver Support Group** – ADRC Support group for those providing care for someone with Alzheimer’s Disease or other dementia disorder at Center Moriches Library, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. For registration and meeting details, call Charon Reichman, LMSW, at 631-580-5100, ext. 302.

### Friday, February 17

**National Caregivers Day** – Across the nation dedicated health care professionals serve those who require long-term or hospice care. National Caregivers Day honors those men and women dedicated to providing these vital services. National Caregivers Day recognizes caregivers providing quality, compassionate care every day.

### Saturday, February 18

**Job/Career Counseling** – The Community Library program provides adults 18 years and older with resume writing, job search-

es, interviewing techniques, and exploring career options, 10-11 a.m. or noon to 1 p.m. Appointments will take place at the Mastic Beach Branch, 369 Neighborhood Road. For an appointment or more information, call 631-399-1511.

### Monday, February 20

**President’s Day** – This federal holiday is otherwise known as George Washington’s birthday and has been celebrated every third Monday of February since 1879.

### Of Note ...

**Marriage Conference** – The Extraordinary Marriage 2023 Weekend at Harbor Church, Center Moriches, Friday evening & Saturday, March 24 & 25. The in-House Marriage Weekend will provide sessions specifically to help couples grow and develop a Christ-Centered marriage. Whether you are in a healthy place and want to keep it that way or need a new perspective on why you are together, couples will leave with a renewed perspective of their marriages that will bring them closer. Early Bird \$95/couple through Feb. 14. After that, registration is \$115/couple due by Tuesday, March 14. For more info/registration, visit [www.theharborli.com/extraordinarymarriage2023](http://www.theharborli.com/extraordinarymarriage2023) or call 631-874-4180.

**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.

**Moriches Chamber of Commerce** – Meetings held at the Moriches Bay Diner, Montauk Hwy., every second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

**Moriches Civic Bay** – The association meets every fourth Thursday at the Center Moriches Library, 7 p.m. Visit [www.morich-esbaycivic.org](http://www.morich-esbaycivic.org) for details.

**Volunteer Tutors Needed** – Colonial Youth and Family Services Community Volunteer Corp. is seeking tutors at the Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library. For more information call Gary at 631-281-4461.

**Instructional Tutorials** – The Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library offers Lynda.com, an online library of instructional videos by professional instructors, free to all library patrons with a valid library card. Log onto [www.communitylibrary.org/learning/](http://www.communitylibrary.org/learning/) for more information on the types of courses offered and to register.

**Child Care Program** – Parents in need can reserve a spot for quality childcare programs offered by Colonial Youth and Family

Services, Moriches. To find out more, call 631-281-446 or visit [www.colonialyfs.com](http://www.colonialyfs.com).

**Domestic Violence** – Is a loved one attacking you physically, verbally or emotionally? Contact the L.I. Against Domestic Violence. 24-hour hotline: 631-666-8833. Tell them, they’ll listen. For more information, visit [www.liadv.org](http://www.liadv.org).

**Retired Volunteer Firefighters** – The New York Volunteer Firefighters Association seeks new members to stay connected with the companies and firefighters with whom they served. Yearly dues, \$25. For membership information, call 518-459-6332 or visit [www.nyrvfa.com](http://www.nyrvfa.com).

**Connecting with Seniors** – The RSVP Telephone Reassurance Program makes daily phone calls to seniors living in the community. If you have a loved one or know of someone living alone who could benefit from a daily phone call, call 631-979-9490 or visit [www.rsupsuffolk.org](http://www.rsupsuffolk.org).

**Free Food for Seniors** – The Commodity Supplemental Food Program is offering free food for seniors age 60 and over who meet income guidelines. Food packages include cheese, milk, starches, cereals, juices, canned fish, meats, vegetables and more. Call 631-491-4156 for information.

**Send Us Your Events** – The Moriches Tide prints community events for Moriches, Cen-

## YEARS AGO

### 75 Years Ago

FEBRUARY 1948

Commander **James Mottola**, of the Eastport American Legion Post 1545, announced that the Eastport post ranked first in its division in the current Suffolk County membership drive, with 112 percent of it quota, leading over 40 other legion posts in the county.

Boy Scouts **Paul Fuelling**, Troop 121, Mastic Beach, and **William McPhail, John Lowell** and **George Dunlap**, of Troop 29, East Moriches, were recommended to the National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America for promotion to Eagle rank. The recommendations have been forwarded to National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America for final approval.

**Geraldine MacDonald** and **David Sweet** were guest soloists at the fourth in a series of hymn sings, held in the Presbyterian Church, Center Moriches.

Climaxing 10 years of community service, members of the Rotary Club of the Moriches gathered at Sirko’s, Eastport, for the club’s annual Ladies’ Night. President **Harold Chapman** spoke a few words, and awarded immediate past president, **Joseph F. Zingale**, a plaque in recognition of his faithful service.

**Ted Janis**, a senior at Center Moriches High School, was named the highest-ranking student from the school in the annual Pepsi-Cola Scholarship tests, which are taken all over the United States.

**John Dosiak Jr.**, of Manorville, attended the Farmers’ Convention in Washington, D.C.

**John Kean Jr.**, of Manorville, and **Peggy Whitbeck**, of Center Moriches, gave a trombone duet at the Center Moriches Presbyterian Church.

The first prize in an amateur contest, sponsored by the Hampton Star Theater, Westhampton, was won by 11-year-old **Betty Lashuk**, of Eastport, for playing Tchaikovsky’s “First Piano Concerto” and the “Argonaise” by Massenet. Third

prize was divided between **Josephine Huson** and **Leonard Alden** for their trumpet duet.

The 4-H Club of Center Moriches presented a program demonstrating members’ various talents at the annual Founder’s Day birthday party held in the Center Moriches High School auditorium. Among the presentations was a demonstration, “A 4-H Girl Learns How to Measure” by **Anita Lettre**, and “A 4-H Girl Learns by Doing,” by **Janice Cassin**.

**Hudson W. Darrow**, of East Moriches, received two first prizes and two second prizes in the 100th annual Boston Poultry Show.

When looking out of her window, **Mrs. George E. Rosko**, of Eastport, discovered a young deer being chased by a hound dog between her home and the high school. Her sons, **Gordon** and **George**, and a neighbor, **Harry Pomosoff**, ran to the rescue of the fawn, and tended to it with warm milk until it was taken to Mastic Acres by the game warden.

A successful card party was held by the members of the auxiliary of the Center Moriches Fire Department for the benefit of Teen Town. Among the high scorers for the evening in 500 were **Mrs. William H. Young, Daniel Oldham, Florence Blind, Vickie Mulcahey** and **Mrs. John Stevenson**.

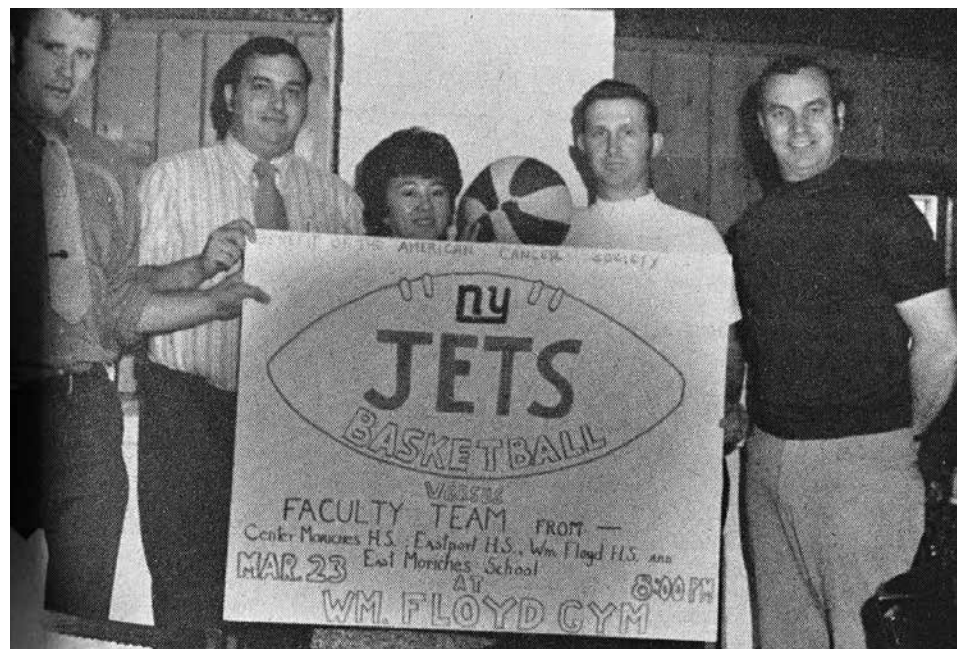
Playing in February at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: Tyrone Power in “Captain from Castile”; Franchot Tone and Janet Blair in “I Love Trouble”; Robert Taylor in “High Wall”; Ginger Rogers and Cornel Wilde in “It Had to be You”; and Deborah Kerr in “Black Narcissus.”

### 50 Years Ago

FEBRUARY 1973

Members of the charter committee of the newly formed East Moriches Merchant’s Association are **John Mesiano, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Diamond, Harry Ahl** and **John Kanas**.

The girls’ varsity volleyball team of William Floyd High School won the



February 1973: Helping to announce the kickoff of the New York Jets exhibition basketball game for the benefit of The American Cancer Society are **John Morris, Ronald Rozzi, Donald Perrier, Robert Hoyt** and **Mrs. May Yuen**, president of the Southeast Brookhaven unit. The Jets will be playing the faculties of William Floyd, Center Moriches, East Moriches and Eastport schools in March.

League V first place banner after defeating Comsewogue in a championship playoff match. Members of the team are **Gail Manico, Diane Lofsten, Bonnie Martinolich, Lillian Bilello, Cathy Mozer, Nancy Hall, Cynthia Schwarz, Mary Ann Mozer, Judy Finocchio, Viana Petrucci, Josephine Buono, Linda Marino, Binda Mascunana**. They are coached by **Mary Ann Izzo**.

Eastport School’s 1973 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow is **Karen A. Hindenlang**. Karen will receive a specially designed award from General Mills and is eligible for the state and national honors.

**Richard Jones**, of Jonesy’s True Value Hardware Store on Main Street, Center Moriches, attended a painting clinic conducted by experienced painters directly from their own paint factories.

New members who were installed at

the meeting of the Mastics Chamber of Commerce were **Daniel J. Reilly** of Reilly’s Funeral Home; **Fred N. Alfano III**, real estate fundraiser and consultant; **Greg Celi** of Custom Electric; and **Ray Farmer** of Rayme Realty.

**Babette Babich** and **Luanne Roberts**, juniors at William Floyd High School, were nominated for achievement awards from the National Council of Teachers of English as the best writers in their junior class. They will now compete in April in the NCTE Achievement Essay Award competition.

Playing in February at local United Artists Theatres: “Play it as it Lays,” “Snowball Express,” “Deliverance,” “Jeremiah Johnson,” and “Lady and the Tramp.”

- Compiled by Vanessa Graniello



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# Moriches Community Center director retires; new co-directors named

Longtime director and founding member Kathleen Johnson, of the Moriches Community Center, has announced her retirement after over 20 years. She plans to remain on the center's board of directors. The new co-directors were announced as Michael Valentine and Sonny Saguto. Both Saguto and Valentine have facilitated numerous youth programs for nearly 10 years. They will immediately assume the director's position. "This is an exciting new chapter for our agency," Johnson said. "Michael

and Sonny came through our programs and understand who we are and what we do. They share the same passion for our mission of promoting positive youth behavior choices, as well as helping neighbors most in need. I am confident that their leadership and organizational skills, their creative energies, and their strong community relationships will greatly enhance Moriches Community Center's ability to grow in our service to local youth and their families." ■



Left to right: Sonny Saguto, Kathleen Johnson, and Michael Valentine.

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