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MAY 2023

12th Year, Issue 5



St. John's turns 125

BY NICOLE FUENTES

For 125 years, St. John's the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Center Moriches has been inspired by their patrons with a mission to bring the light of Christ to a world in need.

"From the celebration of the Eucharist, we are sent forth to serve God and neighbor through ministries of formation, education and outreach," their mission reads.

Originally a Catholic church in the parlor of an East Moriches home, to a wooden church in the same town, the church we all know today was built on Montauk Highway 125 years ago.

The church's first Mass was celebrated on Aug. 1, 1897, although it was not a formal dedication because Bishop Charles McDonnell of the Brooklyn Diocese was in Europe at the time. The church was dedicated a year later on Aug. 7, 1897.

The church was built by architect R.L. Daus of Brooklyn, the president of the Brooklyn Institute Department of Architecture. Messrs. Stevenson and Company were the builders of

See **ST. JOHN'S** on page 4



Pictured is Annalina and Ariella.
Mt/Al Rashdan

Family fun in bloom

Waterdrinker Family Farm hosts Tulip Festival

BY KAT AL RASHDAN

There's nothing prettier than a field of freshly bloomed tulips, seriously. You can check it out for yourself at Waterdrinker Farm's annual Tulip Festival, which will likely extend to the first week in May.

This year there were approximately

two million tulips planted, more than ever before (the first festival took place in 2019). The nearly monthlong event is considered Long Island's largest tulip festival and it brings out thousands of people. This year, visitors were invited to pick their own tulip bouquets for \$1 per stem. Also new is an interactive tunnel designed to showcase the beauty and provenance of tulips.

"New this year is our tulip tunnel. It's kind of like a mini museum about

the Netherlands, so visitors can learn a little bit about what makes tulips so special," said Marc Weiss, manager at Waterdrinker Farm.

From the Netherlands to Long Island and everywhere in between, tulips seem to pop up everywhere this time of year. So, what makes tulips the flower of choice for so many local green thumbs? Brittney Weiss, manager at Waterdrinker Farm, has a theory.

See **TULIP FESTIVAL** on page 31

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**A look inside the library's
Writer's Table** PAGE 3

**CM student helps gather
letters for veterans** PAGE 10

**ESM alumni join St. Joe's
baseball** PAGE 22

Discover Hulse's Potting Shed in Center Moriches



Dave and Debbie Hulse have lived in the Moriches area all their lives. They are now celebrating their 25th year on 45 Bank Street. Like every other year they have been getting ready for Spring and their loyal customers that return seeking top quality plants including a wonderful selection of flowers, vegetables, herbs and more. They are welcoming on board their son Christopher and family to help continue "growing" the family business.



Coming this May, experience THE FARMSTAND at the BARN. Now you can get beautiful, fresh, top quality local produce right here in Center Moriches!

They will also be featuring Roasted Coffee from Christopher Hulse's new company "Deep Roots Roasting", where his goal is to search for the most interesting coffee from around the world and expertly roast each bag for your enjoyment.



Did you know that they have 8 large greenhouses on premises?

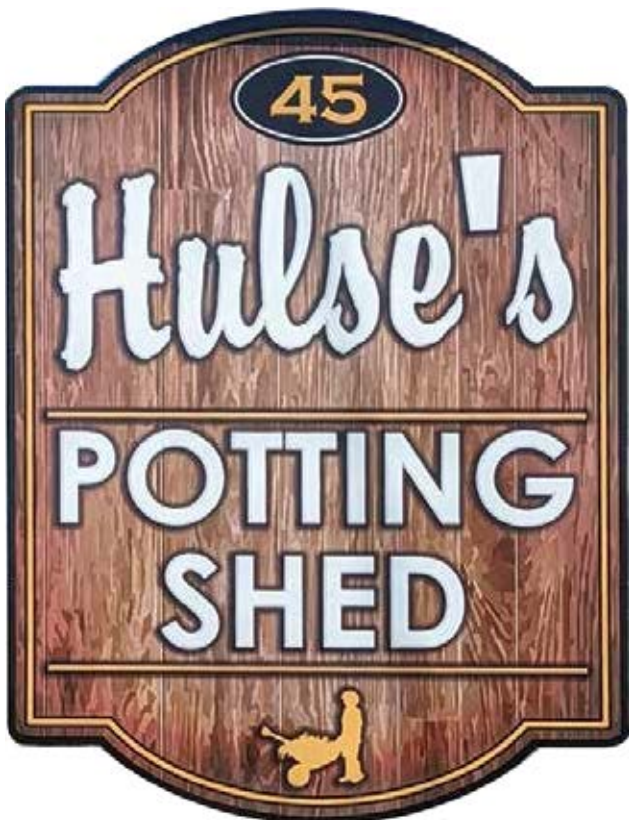
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At The Writer's Table, good writing is always up for discussion

BY GARY HABER

Words are having a moment. From spoken word open mic nights to poetry slams, to the popularity of "The Moth Radio Hour," good writing is all the rage. But for the members of The Writer's Table in Center Moriches, words have always been hip.

One Saturday a month, they gather at the Center Moriches Public Library to read their writing to each other. The group numbers about 10 people, who range in age from 60s to 80s. The Writer's Table offers a judgment-free space in which writers can share their work and receive appreciation, gentle feedback, and encouragement.

"You just feel like you're in the presence of a lot of talent," said Angela Werner, 61, of Center Moriches, the group's moderator for the past 10 years and a self-described "word person."

The group is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. It started more than 20 years ago, with a focus on poetry. These days, the work is as varied as the life experiences of the group's members. On a recent Saturday, the writing ranged from Lorna Coppola's science fiction to Betty Brown's autobiographical reminiscences of growing up near the Mississippi River, to David Fredette's poetry to Len Slatest's domestic drama between a husband and wife.

"Our writing deserves respect," said Jane Tintle, 76, an artist and recently retired real estate agent from Center Moriches. "Where else am I going to experience this? Nowhere else."

The work can sometimes be deeply personal and for some, a way of coming to terms with life's challenges. "Everything I experience in life, I write down," said Dorothy Mato of Hampton Bays, whose husband died four years ago. "I write about grief and self-discovery and living alone now."

Mato, 81, is working on a memoir about her life growing up in Jersey City, including the years she and her sisters spent in an orphanage.



The members of The Writer's Table pose for a photo. The group meets once a month at the Center Moriches Public Library to share work, which ranges from science fiction, to poetry, to memoir.

Diane Morelli, 60, of Hampton Bays, read her poem reflecting on her experience of working in Lower Manhattan in the weeks and years after the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center. She's hoping to have the poem published.

"I haven't found the right venue for it, but I will," said Morelli, who, like several members of the group, have had their work printed in various publications.

Other members have self-published their novels or short stories.

Several also belong to a writer's group that meets at the Hampton Bays Public Library.

Will Hill, 70, of Medford, read a short story he wrote about a condemned prisoner walking his last mile to his execution. The story packed an incredible amount of detail into two short pages.

"I don't want it to be too obvious," he said of the story's ending.

Writing can be a solitary pursuit, but being part of a community of writers makes it easier to keep putting pen to paper or fingers to computer keyboard.

"It gives us a push to get those creative juices flowing," said Werner. "Because you know you're going to get together next month." ■



Len Slatest reads his work as David Fredette looks on. Slatest, of East Moriches, self-published an anthology of short stories and poetry.



Dorothy Mato, of Hampton Bays, reads her writing, as Jane Tintle looks on. "Everything I experience in life, I write down," said Mato, who lost her husband four years ago. "I write about grief and self-discovery and living alone now."

All photos MT/Haber

ST. JOHN'S: Anniversary mass to be held

FROM PAGE 1

the gothic building and originally had a seating capacity of 400, 82 feet long by 46 wide. The stained glass was manufactured by Hensleiter & Company, also from Brooklyn.

By 1914, Fr. John Donlan was in his fifth year as pastor when St. John's was incorporated. At that time, the exterior was updated and a porch was added. Pastor Donlan then began a school building fund in 1920 and the school opened in 1926. The church continued to expand over the years with Fr. Thomas Scnlan, Fr. Stanislaus Kowalski and Fr. Andrew Klarmann.

In celebration of the anniversary, the church is hosting a cocktail dinner party at Rock Hill Golf Club on June 9. The church will also be holding an anniversary Mass on Saturday, June 11 at 5 p.m. with Bishop Robert J. Coyle, the vicar for the Eastern and Western Suffolk Vicariates.

HOURS

St. John's has parish office rectory hours in the blue house on Ocean Avenue. This is where people can make appointments to meet priests, pick up a Mass card, drop off materials, and is usually the first stop at SJE. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Monday-Thursday and from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. from Friday to Sunday. The staff closes each day at noon for break.



CONTACT

For more information email rectory@sjecm.org. Or visit the office at 25 Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches. The office of Faith Formation is located in the Red

Barn and can be reached at 631-878-0009 ext. 5. The parish Social Ministry is located in the Red Barn and can be reached at the same number but extension 4. ■

Courtesy photos



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College students form hot new band

Rib & The Bones to play at the LIMEHOF

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Rib & The Bones is an alternative rock band based in Oneonta, N.Y., with bandmember and drummer Mia Abazis formerly from the Moriches. Other band members include AJ Horton, lead guitar, from Albany; bassist Chris Alvarado, from Brooklyn; and vocalist and rhythm guitarist Bella Phinney, from Watertown. The band was formed by four SUNY Oneonta musicians known for their energy and dedication to the audience with their upbeat performances.

The up-and-coming band has opened for the nationally touring act Flo Rida and is currently on a New York tour promoting their recent singles. Rib & The Bones takes influence from The Strokes, Peach Pit, and Cage The Elephant, while adding their own funky grooves into the mix.

For those looking for a night of dancing and great music, you can catch the band back home at the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame on June 18. Part of LIMEHOF's mission is to spotlight up-and-coming local Long Island talent.

"I think it will be really cool," Abazis said of playing back at home for the summer. "Some of my friends that don't get to Oneonta will get to see us play, and my family. We're just really excited to be playing outside [Oneonta]; this will be the farthest we've gone."

According to venue promoters, to date, they will be the youngest band to perform at the newly opened LIMEHOF



Photo courtesy of Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame

museum in Stony Brook. Since opening a few months ago, local bands including Zebra, The Blue Oyster Cult, Gene Casey, Richie Canada, and Kenny Kearney have performed.

The Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame is open Wednesdays through Sundays from noon through 5 p.m. Admission prices are: Adult \$19.50, seniors (65 and over) and veterans \$17, students (w/ID) \$15. Children under 12 are free. Tickets and now gift cards can

be purchased online at the [LIMEHOF.org](https://www.limehof.org) website and at the door.

Most events during regular museum hours are free with general admission ticket (unless specially indicated). Events after hours require separate ticket purchases. More details and for tickets visit: <https://www.limusichalloffame.org/tickets-and-gift-cards/>.

For more information about the band find them on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ribandthebones/>.

ABOUT LIMEHOF

Founded in 2004, the Long Island Music Hall of Fame is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the idea that Long Island's musical heritage is an important resource to be celebrated and preserved for future generations. The organization, which encompasses New York State's Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, and Kings (Brooklyn) counties, was created as a place of community that inspires and explores Long Island music in all its forms. To date, the organization has inducted more than 100 musicians and music industry executives, and also offers education programs and scholarships, and awards to Long Island students and educators.

The first exhibit features replicas of clubs, with videos of artists performing, ads, posters, instruments, and an exact replica of a typical 1970s stage, with vintage equipment and sound system. There is also a permanent "Hall of Fame" with plaques and exhibits recognizing over 120 inductees, as well as areas for a library, classrooms for educational programs and master classes, a surround-sound theater and a gift shop with music and entertainment themed memorabilia.

There are a wide range of compelling visual elements and rare artifacts on display throughout the building. Inducted artists who have donated their memorabilia include Billy Joel, Joan Jett, Debbie Gibson, Blue Oyster Cult, Twisted Sister, and families and estates of Harry Chapin, Guy Lombardo, John Coltrane, and so many more. Donations include various musical instruments, performance outfits, rare posters and photos, handwritten lyrics, and much more. ■

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Shakin' it up!

Drama club musical a hit

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

The High School Drama Club recently held a production of "All Shook Up," an American jukebox live musical. Tickets were \$15 each. The musical was originally performed on Broadway in 2005 and features the music of Elvis Presley and the works of William Shakespeare.



Photos Courtesy of Center Moriches High School Drama Club

Mother's Day is May 14th

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‘Mail Call’



Senior Meghan Bukowski and mail call coordinator Jane Koropsak with some of the letters she collected.

CM student completes service project

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Center Moriches student Meghan Bukowski recently completed a community service project, collecting more than 100 letters from elementary school students for veterans traveling on the annual Honor Flight.

Bukowski said she decided to help because last spring, her uncle was one of the veterans on the Honor Flight.

“He was so impressed with the organization and the trip that he brought my cousins and I to the commemorative ceremony in August,” she said, noting they met several veterans he flew with and were presented with memory books from the trip. “I knew I would be working on a community service project this year, so I asked my uncle for their contact information.”

Once she got in touch, she offered to create letters for their mail call.

“I knew my uncle appreciated the letters he received. There are some veterans who don’t have family to send cards, and so I thought I could help fill that need,” she explained.

She also prepared a slide show about the organization and teamed up with her 12th-grade social studies teacher, Dr. Flynn-Trace, and her former third-grade teacher, Mrs. Volo. She then visited their classrooms and helped the students write thank-you cards for the veterans.

“She did an awesome job!” added mail call coordinator Jane Koropsak.

Koropsak coordinates “mail call” for the veterans flying on Honor Flights by contacting their family and friends and allowing them to write letters to their veteran. A mailbag is then created for each veteran to read during their flight.

Also, they collect photos of the veterans from their time serving. The photos are then shown on the bus as they travel around Washington, D.C.

The most recent Honor Flight event took place recently, on April 29. The flight takes veterans on an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the war memorials and Arlington National Cemetery, thanking them for their service. The organization currently accepts applications for WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and terminally ill veterans from other wars. Veterans are placed on the waiting list on a first-come, first-served basis. For more info on Honor Flight Long Island: honorflightlongisland.org. ■



Students from Mrs. Volo’s third-grade class at Clayton Huey Elementary who helped make some of the 100 letters to be used on future trips.

Courtesy photos

Now's the time to reserve library museum summer passes!

The Center Moriches Free Public Library's Museum passes allow members to reserve and print passes from home. Museum passes can be reserved for the current or following month, subject to availability, and must be handled by an adult.

Places include the AKC museum of the Dog, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Children's Museum of Manhattan and the East End, Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery & Aquarium, Cradle of Aviation Museum, Empire Pass, Fire Island

Lighthouse, Harbes Farm Barnyard Adventure and so many more.

Reservations can be taken online, at the Children's Desk, or by phone. Passes are available to CMFPL cardholders in good standing with no fines on file. Passes are for one day only and the date of visit is pre-printed on the pass. Also, there are no late fees or fines associated with print-on-demand passes. However, some passes are not print-on-demand eligible, and will require pickup/return at the library.

To reserve visit: Museum Passes - Center Moriches Free Public Library (centermoricheslibrary.org).

-Nicole Fuentes



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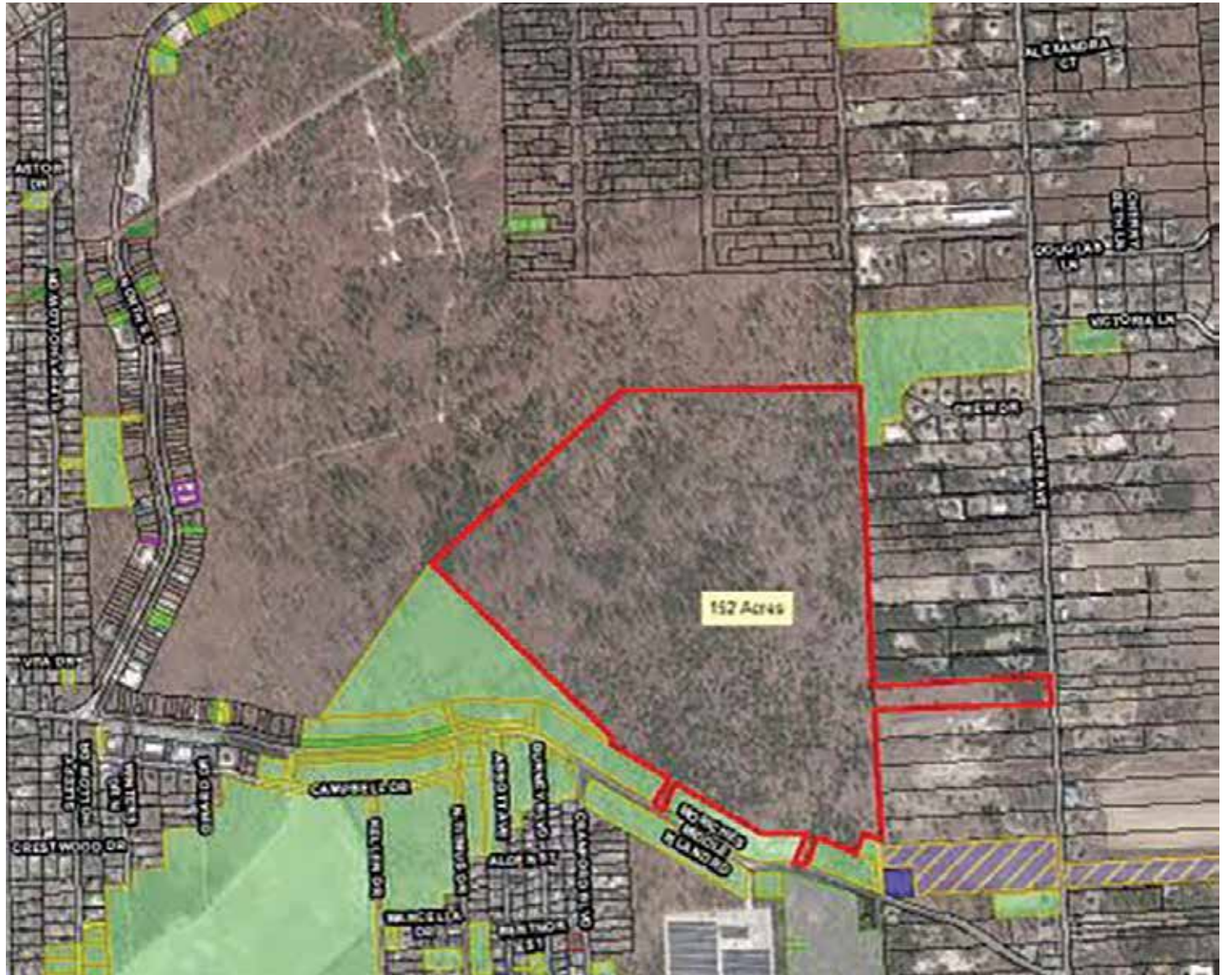
The Town of Brookhaven recently acquired 152 wooded acres in Manorville as open space. According to councilman Dan Panico, the preservation will help protect multiple species, including horned owls.

The parcel is located on the corner of Moriches-Middle Island Road and Weeks Avenue. The preservation came as a transfer of development rights trade with a developer for the Meadows project on William Floyd Parkway in Yaphank.

“If we’ve learned any lessons during the past few decades, perhaps the most important is that preservation of our environment is not a partisan challenge; it’s common sense. Our physical health, our social happiness, and our economic well-being will be sustained only by all of us working in partnership as thoughtful, effective stewards of our natural resources,” Panico said, quoting Ronald Reagan. “President Reagan said those words in 1984, and they remain relevant and true today. There is a value to open spaces and wooded property. Far too often, people are labeled as pro-development or pro-environment; however, the two goals are not mutually exclusive. You can achieve responsible development/redevelopment and preserve land for future generations by working proactively with a broader view and understanding of land use and zoning.”

Panico said he is proud to not only have preserved the large amount of land, but also to do so without costing the taxpayers money. ■

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Church celebrates anniversary with piano and organ concert

BY KRAIG KLEIN

The Presbyterian Church of the Moriches hosted a piano and organ concert performed by concert pianist Michele Garzo on Sunday, April 16, as part of a year-long celebration of the church's 275th anniversary.

"Longtime members of Presbyterian Church USA at Center Moriches have said [they] have never heard the organ pipes played like Michele plays—there are pipes that have never been heard before," said temporary supply pastor Mark Applewhite.

Garzo played selections written by classical composers such as Frederic Chopin and Franz Liszt on the church's piano in front of a crowd of parishioners. The last composition, Johann Sebastian Bach's "Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor," was performed on the church's vintage organ. The event was hosted by a special church committee tasked with organizing the anniversary celebration. The church hopes the concert and subsequent celebratory events will raise public awareness of the church's extensive history and longstanding role in the Center Moriches community.

"The church is a beautiful building with a rich local history at the center of the town," said Herb Fisher, a church member who serves on the 275th anniversary committee as well as the church's property management and finance committees.

Garzo, who hails from Calabria, Italy, has dedicated numerous years of his life to the pursuit of music. He was admit-

ted into a conservatory when he was 11 years old and graduated when he was 15 years old. Garzo has vigorously pursued his career as a concert pianist, but he has also invested his talent into the Presbyterian Church of the Moriches. He succeeded Kamilla Ozman, who played for the church over the span of five years, as the church's organist. Additionally, he also currently serves as the director of music for the church and plays music for the church's weekly 10:30 a.m. Sunday services.

"Coming halfway around the world, I am deeply thankful for the opportunity, the love, and the warmth I daily receive," said Garzo. "I [play] with my whole heart because I found a second family. I feel joy playing, I really do, and I hope to convey just as much of [that joy] to the attendees."

The organ Garzo played at the end of the concert has been a feature of the church for over a century. The instrument was designed by the Estey organ company in 1908; Applewhite and Fisher claim employees working for inventor and General Electric founder Thomas Edison installed the organ in the church. A series of refurbishments to the organ were made throughout the 1960s, and the whole construct was rebuilt in 1979. The organ is currently in the middle of a five-year refurbishment plan that will allow it to continue enthralling church Masses for decades to come.

"It is one of the very few church organs on Long Island that has not been converted to electronic," said Bill Phillips, a ruling elder of the church and



the chair of the property management committee. "The original bellows are in our basement."

"Our church has a deep relationship with the community," Phillips said. ■

The Presbyterian Church of the Moriches aims to emphasize its deep commitment to the Center Moriches community throughout its anniversary celebration. The church has begun the installation of display cabinets that will showcase antique documents illustrating the church's history with the community.

Other events will be hosted that aim to enrich the bond between the church and the community. An annual three-course Victorian tea will be hosted on May 13, and a fall celebration themed to the War for Independence will be held on Sept. 23. The church will also host a Christmas fair in November. Applewhite, who is the chaplain of the Sons of the American Revolution, will be involved with the dedication of a sign paying tribute to five colonial soldiers buried in Olde Beachfern Cemetery on May 7.



All photos MT/Klein

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Annual Memorial Day parade this month

The Moriches annual Memorial Day parade will take place on Main Street for a solemn remembrance. Veterans are asked to come and march, joining other organizations honoring all brothers and sisters who proudly served and have died.

The parade will take place on Monday, May 29 at 9 a.m., with lineup at 8 a.m., starting at Lake Avenue and Main Street. The parade will proceed east

along Main to Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. A ceremony will then be held.

“Memorial Day is a special day,” said Center Moriches VFW Post 414 commander Bobby Galbraith. “It’s a day to remember and honor all those who served and have now passed away. We honor them with this special ceremony so they’ll never, ever be forgotten.”

-Nicole Fuentes

File photo



Moriches chamber celebrates member of the year

On Thursday, April 20, the Brookhaven Chambers of Commerce Coalition hosted their annual outstanding member of the year awards reception at Stereo Garden in Patchogue. During the event, Joseph Colucci of the Mastic/Shirley Chamber was awarded as the overall BCCC chamber member of the year.

Also, the *Long Island Advance’s* publisher, J. Terry Tuthill, was awarded as the Greater Patchogue Chamber of Commerce’s winner. The choice, according to Patchogue chamber executive director David Kennedy, was a unanimous one by the board.

Other chamber members included: Daniel Haynes, of Bellport, Dean Denninger of Mastic Beach, Neil Marturiello of Medford, and Paul Quinn of Moriches.

Quinn has been a dedicated member of the Chamber since 2015 and a Board Member since 2017. He currently is the chair of their Summer Concert Series and is also a committee member for the Veterans Parade Committee and the St. Patrick’s Day Committee. He is also a drummer/singer for High Tide and The Sitting Ducks bands with performances across the tri-state area.

This year also marked the 23rd anniversary of the BCCC awards, which

included grants including the incentive grant for Treehouse Childcare in Mastic/Shirley; an incentive grant for L.I. Pro Nail in Farmingville Hills; an improvement award for 2nd Chance in Gordon Heights; and the Economic Stimulus Incentive Grant to the Gordon Heights Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber’s spring fair will be held on June 11. To be a vendor visit moricheschamber.org. The next chamber meeting will be held on May 9 at the Moriches Field Brewing Company at 6 p.m. It will be a networking meeting, so bring business cards.

-Nicole Fuentes

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES:

The Moriches Chamber of Commerce is again holding their summer concert series this July and August at the Clayton Huey Elementary School front lawn. There will be four different musical groups will be performing and we are offering sponsorship opportunities. Lawn signs for sponsors will be posted on the school grounds during the performances.

The dates: July 8 and 22 and Aug. 12 and 26. Performances will be from 7-9 p.m.



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Former ESM players help drive St. Joe's baseball to success

BY GARY HABER

St. Joseph's University's baseball team is competing for its second consecutive Skyline Conference crown, and four Eastport-South Manor alumni are a key part of that effort.

Pitcher Ryan Foran, second-baseman Joe Sanguedolce, infielder Derek Masino, and assistant coach Eliot Robles all honed their baseball skills playing for the ESM Sharks under head coach Jim McGowan.

Now, they're reunited at St. Joseph's in Patchogue, where the Golden Eagles are 19-3 (9-1 in the Skyline Conference) and riding a nine-game winning streak.

At a commuter school like St. Joseph's, where the roster consists entirely of players from Long Island, it's not surprising some would have played together in high school.

But having three players and a coach from the same school?

"It's not as common as you would think," Golden Eagles head coach Tom Caputo said. "But when you're recruiting, you have a tendency to recruit from good programs... You tend to gravitate toward programs where you've had success, where kids come in and they were successful."

Caputo's players have continued at the college level the hard work and team-oriented attitude they learned at Eastport-South Manor.

"It's team first, not me first," Caputo said. "They're willing to put themselves behind what the team needs."

"Coach McGowan does a really good job of getting everybody ready," said Robles, who graduated from Eastport-South Manor in 2016. "His attention to detail for all aspects of the game really gets you ready for college."

That attention to detail is paying off on the field at St. Joseph's.

Sanguedolce, an All-League selection in high school in 2019, was selected as the most outstanding player in last year's Skyline Conference tournament. He is hitting .342 this season, with 13 RBIs and 13 stolen bases.

Foran, a two-time All-County player in high school, is among the leaders in innings pitched for St. Joseph's and averaging more than six strikeouts per nine innings. Masino, a



St. Joseph's University teammates (L-R) Derek Masino, Joe Sanguedolce and Ryan Foran played at Eastport-South Manor High School, where they learned the importance of hard work and team play. MT/Haber

two-time high school All-League player, has seen limited playing time as a freshman, but blasted two hits and an RBI in a 15-4 win over Neumann.

Robles was working as an assistant coach for McGowan when Caputo called to talk about joining the

St. Joseph's coaching staff.

"We sat at the diner down the block, and as soon as I started really, really thinking about it, it was a no-brainer to bring him here," Caputo said.

The Sharks made it to the Suffolk

County championship game in 2018, losing 3-1 to West Islip.

Foran, who won the Paul Gibson Award that year as Suffolk County's top pitcher, was on the mound that day. Ironically, his St. Joseph's teammate and now good friend, Anthony Cinequemani, was playing for West Islip.

Foran said he's forgotten the outcome of the game, but says Cinequemani, who hit the game-winning double, hasn't.

"He won't shut up about it," Foran joked.

As to whether the Golden Eagles can bring home a second consecutive Skyline Conference championship, Foran is optimistic.

Asked what's ahead for the team, he said, "I don't want to get too overzealous, but big things." ■



St. Joseph's University assistant coach Eliot Robles played at Eastport-South Manor and was an assistant coach there, before joining Tom Caputo's staff at St. Joe's.

Photo courtesy of St. Joseph's University Athletics



Don't miss the Mother's Day Tea



In celebration of their 275th anniversary, the Presbyterian Church of the Moriches will be hosting their 25th annual Mother's Day tea. The event includes a three-course Victorian tea with tea, of course, fresh-baked scones, finger sandwiches, and pastries. The afternoon tea will take place on May 13 from 1-3 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

-Nicole Fuentes
File photos



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Library opens new satellite branch in the Moriches

The Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library opened the doors to a modern, new 7,000-square-foot Satellite Branch Library at 201 Montauk Highway in Moriches at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, April 15.

The public helped mark the launch of the new library by joining local officials at the event. The new satellite branch is, for the first time, providing convenient access to library patrons residing in the library district's northern section.

The opening of the new Moriches satellite branch represents this year's second milestone in an overall multi-project expansion of Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library services.

On Jan. 14, the district opened a new, 7,000-square-foot Mastic Beach Satellite Branch at 369 Neighborhood Road. That facility has quickly generated enthusiastic public support and patronage. Since its opening, 726 patrons have signed up with new library cards at the Mastic Beach branch. An additional 603 patrons have asked that Mastic Beach serve as their "home library."

The two new branches in Moriches and Mastic Beach now join the district's main branch in Shirley, which is presently undergoing code-mandated and safety renovations as well as technological modernization.

As a result, for the first time ever, a streamlined and easily accessible library experience is soon to be available to residents throughout the district.

"Our library system is achieving a level of geographic accessibility that's unprecedented in the district's history," said library director Kerri Rosalia. "We are confident that the new Moriches library will be warmly embraced by area



residents."

A library district-wide expansion and modernization program was set in motion by local voters on Dec. 10, 2019, through their approval 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—is 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 is curtailed due to lack of capacity. Moreover, the library has been forced to conduct hundreds of classes and meetings at off-site locations every year, which has proven to be costly, staff-intensive, and logistically cumbersome.

In addition to the creation of the two

new satellite branches, the referendum's passage also sets the stage for an extensive upgrade of the outdated main library in Shirley. Once it opens, the new Mastic Beach and Moriches branches will remain in permanent operation.

Main library services have been temporarily relocated to the Town of Brookhaven's Mastic Recreation Center at 15 Herkimer Street in Mastic.

"Library services play a major role in the life of a community, and the Town of Brookhaven is proud to make the Mastic Recreation Center available to the library district," said Brookhaven Town supervisor Ed Romaine. "We congratulate the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library upon its completion of two new satellite branches."

The new satellite branch library in Moriches, designed by H2M architects

+ engineers in Melville, was built in the same architectural style as the existing 95-year-old Little Red Schoolhouse, a neighborhood landmark standing adjacent to the new library. The Moriches site offers ample parking and incorporates an expansive outdoor area suitable for both small and large outdoor programming.

A collection of popular reading materials, such as bestsellers, children's books, and DVDs, is housed in the Moriches building. Items requested from the main library, the Mastic Beach branch, and through interlibrary loan are available for pickup.

The library's flexible space includes dedicated areas for children, teens, and adults. All furniture and shelving has wheels so they can be moved to rearrange space as needed. The adult area offers seating for individual quiet work, multiple computers, and three program rooms. The children and teen areas have tables and chairs for students to do homework or study. There are dedicated computers for students to use. A program room within the space is adjustable in size with moveable walls.

Moriches design elements emphasize both cost savings and energy efficiency, according to library officials. Just as in Mastic Beach, the overall Moriches site promotes sustainability by adhering to LEED standards set forth by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Construction work at the Moriches 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. ■ Courtesy photo



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5/7 to 5/13	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.
Moriches Bay	9:20 AM	9:36 PM	10:10 AM	10:26 PM	11:07 AM	11:24 PM	-----AM	12:09 PM	12:27 AM	1:11 PM	1:29 AM	2:12 PM	2:30 AM	3:13 PM
Moriches Inlet	8:41 AM	8:57 PM	9:31 AM	9:47 PM	10:28 AM	10:45 PM	11:30 AM	11:48 PM	-----AM	12:32 PM	12:50 AM	1:33 PM	1:51 AM	2:34 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	11:36 AM	11:52 PM	-----AM	12:26 PM	12:42 AM	1:23 PM	1:40 AM	2:25 PM	2:43 AM	3:27 PM	3:45 AM	4:28 PM	4:46 AM	5:29 PM

5/14 to 5/20	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.
Moriches Bay	3:31 AM	4:13 PM	4:33 AM	5:12 PM	5:31 AM	6:05 PM	6:25 AM	6:52 PM	7:14 AM	7:36 PM	8:01 AM	8:18 PM	8:46 AM	8:58 PM
Moriches Inlet	2:52 AM	3:34 PM	3:54 AM	4:33 PM	4:52 AM	5:26 PM	5:46 AM	6:13 PM	6:35 AM	6:57 PM	7:22 AM	7:39 PM	8:07 AM	8:19 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	5:47 AM	6:29 PM	6:49 AM	7:28 PM	7:47 AM	8:21 PM	8:41 AM	9:08 PM	9:30 AM	9:52 PM	10:17 AM	10:34 PM	11:02 AM	11:14 PM

5/21 to 5/27	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.
Moriches Bay	9:32 AM	9:39 PM	10:20 AM	10:23 PM	11:10 AM	11:09 PM	12:01 AM	11:57 PM	-----AM	12:51 PM	12:46 AM	1:39 PM	1:33 AM	2:26 PM
Moriches Inlet	8:53 AM	9:00 PM	9:41 AM	9:44 PM	10:31 AM	10:30 PM	11:22 AM	11:18 PM	-----AM	12:12 PM	12:07 AM	1:00 PM	12:54 AM	1:47 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	11:48 AM	11:55 PM	-----AM	12:36 PM	12:39 AM	1:26 PM	1:25 AM	2:17 PM	2:13 AM	3:07 PM	3:02 AM	3:55 PM	3:49 AM	4:42 PM

5/28 to 6/3	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.
Moriches Bay	2:21 AM	3:14 PM	3:11 AM	4:03 PM	4:04 AM	4:51 PM	4:59 AM	5:38 PM	5:52 AM	6:22 PM	6:42 AM	7:05 PM	7:30 AM	7:49 PM
Moriches Inlet	1:42 AM	2:35 PM	2:32 AM	3:24 PM	3:25 AM	4:12 PM	4:20 AM	4:59 PM	5:13 AM	5:43 PM	6:03 AM	6:26 PM	6:51 AM	7:10 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	4:37 AM	5:30 PM	5:27 AM	6:19 PM	6:20 AM	7:07 PM	7:15 AM	7:54 PM	8:08 AM	8:38 PM	8:58 AM	9:21 PM	9:46 AM	10:05 PM

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LI Game Farm open for the season!



The Long Island Game Farm will be offering season passes again, which are available on the website and the ticket booth. This Mother's Day, May 8, mom's entrance is free and on May 21, the farm will "Shellebrate" World Turtle Day. During the event, zoo educators will be celebrating their rescued tortoises at the sanctuary and visitors can learn all about these giant African tortoises. Then, on May 24, the park will go fully operational, seven days a week through Labor Day weekend.

As the largest combined children's zoo and wildlife park on Long Island, The Long Island Game Farm offers a natural environment to learn about wildlife and animals through education and entertainment. The game farm features hundreds of animals,

including an 18-foot giraffe, wallabies, bison, Barbados sheep, peacocks, and the only lemurs born and bred on Long Island. Their animal collections include both exotic and indigenous breeds, with various breeds of buffalo, parrots, zebra, camels, emus, tortoises, and more.

The Long Island Game Farm is open seven days a week and is located at 489 Chapman Boulevard, Manorville, N.Y. For further information, please contact info@longislandgamefarm.com or call 631-878-6670.

To book a private tour, donate or visit: <https://www.longislandgamefarm.com/contact-long-island-game-farm/>. Tickets can be purchased at the farm.

-Nicole Fuentes

MT/Fuentes

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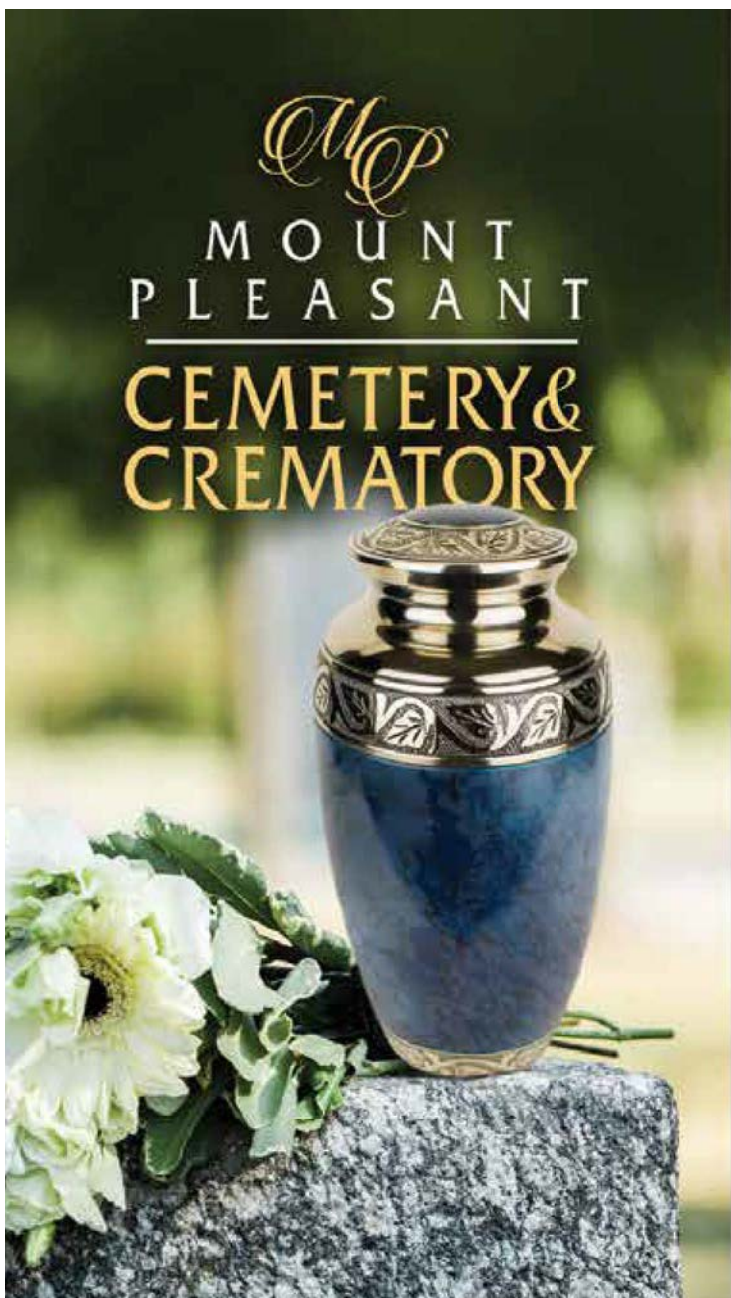
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KEITH'S CORNER

Remembering on Memorial Day

At Helping Makes U Happy, May is all about Memorial Day, which, of course, is a day for remembering those who have died in service to our country.

As in years past, prior to the start of the 9 a.m. parade on May 29, we will be offering our free breakfast to local veterans and their families at Local VFW Post 414. If you are a veteran who'd like to attend, please contact us so we know you're coming.

If you are a business or community member who would like to participate by donating a breakfast item or drink, or make a financial donation to help with expenses, please contact us at 631-848-9008, or by email at helpingmakesuhappy@gmail.com.

If you'd like to volunteer to help us honor our veterans by helping to set up, serve, and clean up, we'd love to hear from you! Setup is at 7 a.m., serving is no later than 7:30. After the breakfast, we go outside to watch the ceremony the veterans perform before the parade, and we stay to watch the parade, which progresses down Main Street and ends at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, where another respectful ceremony is held in remembrance of those who have died in service.

These events really bring home the true meaning of Memorial Day. Hope to see you there! ■



MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

Ready for a new gardening season

The earth has warmed up; everything is lush and green, and all our members are ready to get outside and start a new gardening season.

I hope you, too, have planned a new gardening project this year. And I hope that it includes some native plants. Natives are easier to grow, need less water and pesticides, tolerate drought and climate change better, and perhaps best of all, attract pollinators. A plant is considered native if it occurs naturally in a particular habitat without human intervention. Clematis, iris, violets, geranium, goldenrod, impatiens, and columbine are some native plants you might consider.

We have several activities planned this month. May 15 is the date for the annual Brookhaven Town Cleanup; we will be participating again this year. If

you want to be a volunteer, call 631-451-TOWN. On the May 18, we will have a private tour of a rhododendron garden in Flanders. The Center Moriches Memorial Day parade is scheduled for Monday, May 29, and we will be marching along with veterans, local businesses, and organizations.

The MBGC offers a \$1000 scholarship every year to high school seniors accepted at a college and plans to study horticulture, agriculture, environmental sciences, or other appropriate majors. Eligible schools are Eastport-South Manor, Center Moriches, and William Floyd. Applications are available at the guidance office.

We all enjoyed making St Patrick's Day arrangements in March and all turned out very nice.

-Maureen Pollack



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

For March, the Moriches Chamber honored Kaley Maxwell as the student of the month. Maxwell has been on the varsity girls lacrosse and tennis teams for the past three years while maintaining a GPA of 4.0. She is in several honor societies as well as DECA and Key Club. She will be studying criminal

justice at the University of Bridgeport and will continue her athletic career in lacrosse.

A look back on past students of the month:

Back in November, they chose Meghan Bukowski, a senior at Center Moriches High School. She is commit-

ted to SUNY Oswego in the fall with a major in zoology. She is a varsity tennis player and is on the varsity flag football team. She is also a member of the National Honor Societies and is on the Principal's Honor Roll.

And, last October, the Moriches Chamber of Commerce's student of the

month was Abigail Schaming, a senior at Center Moriches High School. She is committed to SUNY Oswego in the fall with a major in marketing. She is the president of the DECA club, a varsity tennis player, a member of the National Honor Societies, and is on the Principal's Honor Roll. ■

Courtesy photos



Kaley Maxwell



Abigail Schaming



Meghan Bukowski

the Tide

OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE

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

AROUND TOWN

Sunday, May 7

Islandwide Weather – Join Center Moriches Library and local Facebook forecasters Don and Glen from Islandwide Weather as they provide an introduction to the unique factors that go into creating a forecast for Long Island, 2-3 p.m. They'll talk about the tools and technology that help predict the forecast followed by what models say about the next 30 days. Register online or call 631-878-0940.

Monday, May 8

Starting Point – South Bay Bible Church's 8-week conversational small group designed from people curious about God or those returning to church after being away. Group meets at 7 p.m., 578 Montauk Hwy., East Moriches. For info or to sign up, visit www.southbaychurchli.org.

Saturday, May 13

Community Cleanup – Join Community Library in picking up litter in the Mastic Beach community, 9 a.m. to noon. Join a group or clean a site of your choice. Supplies and snacks provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. To register, call Lindsay Davis at 631-399-1511, ext. 1007 or email Ldavis@communitylibrary.org.

Sunday, May 14

Mother's Day – A day to honor mothers, motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society.

Mother's Day Hike – Celebrate Mom and spring with a Fire Island ranger-led walk from the Wilderness Visitor Center to the Old Inlet, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Dress for the weather, and bring water and snack. Center is located at the end of William Floyd Parkway, adjacent to Smith Point County Park. Park in the Smith Point County Park.

Saturday, May 20

Plant Swap – Bring healthy plants, cuttings, seedlings, or seeds, pest-free and labeled, to the Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library's first annual plant swap, 10:30 a.m. to noon. No registration necessary. Call Catherine Gorden at 631-399-1511, ext. 253.

Sunday, May 21

VFW Post 6249 5K – The Post's annual 5K "Spring Patriotic Run," on the roads, hills, and fields of the Rocky Point Conservation Area. Runners and walkers of all ability levels are welcome. Race begins at noon in front of Rocky Point High School, 82 Rocky Point-Yaphank Rd. Proceeds and donations go to support veterans impacted by PTSD from overseas combat. Register online at

www.strongislandrunningclub.com or call VFW Commander Joseph Cognitore at 631-744-8539.

Folkie Fest – An ongoing concert series with local acoustic artists in the spirit of folk music as envisioned by the late Pete Seeger. It supports live, local, singer/songwriters sharing their work. The events performed at the Moriches Bay Recreation Facility help support the Moriches Community Center. Tickets are \$15 and available at www.morichescommunitycenter.org/product/folkie-fest.

Of Note ...

Anthony Parlato Memorial 5K – The annual run/walk will take place at the Moriches Community Center, June 3, 9 a.m. Register online by June 2 to save \$5. Visit www.anthonyparlatomem5k.itsyourrace.com/register.

Mercy Haven Golf Outing – This year's golf outing, honoring the family of Tony McNulty, will be held on Monday, June 5 at Hamlet Golf and Country Club, Commack beginning at 10 a.m. with registration and breakfast. For information, visit www.mercyhaven.org.

Nature Classes & Camps – Join CEED (Center for Environmental Education and Discovery) throughout the year to connect with the abundant nature that graces Long

Island. Summer camp for children, birding classes for adults, nature art classes, therapeutic nature walks and more to help you discover and experience nature on preserve land in Brookhaven Hamlet. Volunteers welcomed and much appreciated. For more info, visit ceedli.org, email info@ceedli.org, or call 631-803-6780.

Prom Dresses – Through June 16, the Town of Brookhaven Youth Bureau will provide dresses and other accessories for young women attending prom at no charge and confidential. To make an appointment or for more information, call 631-451-8011.

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.

Family Services – Colonial Youth and Family Services offers many services for families in need: certified social workers for individual and family counseling; case managers to assist with accessing programs, completing applications, and referrals; day-care for children up to 12 years old; and a food pantry. Volunteers are welcome. Office hours are Monday through Friday; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 631-281-4461 or visit www.colonialyfs.com.

YEARS AGO

75 Years Ago

MAY 1948

Margaret Whitbeck was announced as valedictorian of the Class of 1948 at Center Moriches High School, with **Nancy Hallock** named as salutatorian.

Repeating its triumph of last year, the clarinet quartet of Center Moriches High School's music department received a rating of Superior at the New York State School and Music Association competition held in Riverhead. Others receiving a rating of Superior were **Carol Mae Bernstein**, soprano; **Peggy Whitbeck**, trombonist; and **Florence Smith**, clarinetist.

Barbara Olsen, of Center Moriches, was soloist in the Westhampton Beach Presbyterian Church on Sunday.

Richard Vail Brown has been accorded the honor of being the valedictorian of this year's graduating class of Eastport High School.

Ann Michna, of Mastic Beach, was awarded the Fannie Medal for her high bowling score of 210 and is the second person to receive this award.

According to **Mrs. H.H. Benjamin**, chairperson of the East Moriches chapter of the Red Cross, the amount of \$436.75 has been raised in East Moriches in the recent canvass.

The Laurence's Lassies, 4-H Club of the Moriches area, received commendations on their biscuits that were judged, baked by **Doris Burzwell**, **Carol Eintroch** and **Jane Byckiewicz**.

Richard Vail Brown, of Eastport, received official notice from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury that he has been tendered an appointment as cadet in the United States Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn.

At Talent Night, sponsored by the Susanna Wesley Circle of the Methodist Church, Center Moriches, first prize was awarded in the amateur competition to 10-year-old accordionist **Harold Steuerwald**, with second-place honors going to the Teen Town band, and third prize to saxophonist **Gwen Lukert**.

Playing in May at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: "The Adventures of Robin Hood"; "Miracle of the Bells"; and Irene Dunne in "Remember Mama."

50 Years Ago

MAY 1973

The new owner of the Osborne House, New York State and Long Island landmark that has stood on Montauk Highway in East Moriches for 270 years, is **Mrs. Lee Diamond**, who firmly believes that there are three ghosts who still plague the house. A favorite room of the ghosts is the master bedroom, where an attempted exorcism took place long ago.

The Center Moriches Fire Department celebrated its 85th anniversary at the fire headquarters. The new officers who were installed were second assistant chief **Joseph Townsend Jr.**, chief **Roger A. Titmus**, first assistant chief **Kenneth Johnson**, and assistant chief **Ronald P. Moore**. Awards were given to **Bruce Rumph** for Fireman of the Year; **Howard Johnson** received an award for 53 years of service; and **Seymour Davis Sr.** received his 50-year pin.

Suffolk County commander **John Pfalzgraf** presented **Mrs. James B.M. Bulloch** with a memento at the Frances Bulloch Testimonial Dinner held at the V.F.W. Post Hall in Center Moriches. Mrs. Bulloch was honored for her past services to the V.F.W. and other community groups.

The Restoration Committee of the Moriches Bay Historical Society have begun their work to restore The Havens House, located on the south side of Montauk Highway in East Moriches. Members of the hardworking restoration committee are **Mrs. Altamae Grimmering** of Eastport; **Mrs. Ann Smith**, **Mrs. Patricia Osip**, **Jean Lauer**, and **Mr. and Mrs. Merwin Lane**, all of East Moriches; **Mrs. Gordon Hackney** of Center Moriches; and **William Foote** and **Roger Allgeier**, both of Old Mastic.

The Moriches Bay Power Squadron installed this year's officers at its annual Installation Dinner-Dance held at



May 1948: Caught in the middle of their theme song are the members of the newly organized Teen Town orchestra of the Moriches area, the Bye-Bye Blues Boys. Beating the drums is Louis Skarka; on the sax is Bernie Bernstein; Teddy Rybickie toots the clarinet; and Donald Roth plays the trombone. Seated at the piano is Donald Johnson.

Mickey Felice's in Patchogue. Among the newly installed officers were commander **Al Szczepanski** and squadron educational officer **Robert Lindgren**.

Joseph Reaber, of Mastic Beach, was the winner of the Mastics Chamber of Commerce Shopping Spree, and was awarded a four-piece redwood furniture set. Second-prize winner was **Mrs. Robin Mittelsdorf**, of Shirley, who won a barbecue set.

Virginia Osborne, of Lake Avenue, Center Moriches, is an Alumni Scholarship winner for the 1973-74 school year at State University College at Oneonta. In her senior year at Oneonta, Ms. Osborne is in the band and mixed chorus and manager of the Women's Glee Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nolden, of Port Richey, Fla., formerly of Center Moriches, are visiting for two weeks with their

sons, **Robert** of Center Moriches, and **Arthur** of Patchogue, and their new grandson, **Richard Nolden**, of Patchogue.

Louis Ricciardello, principal of William Floyd High School, announced the valedictorian and salutatorian of the graduating Class of 1973 as **Adele Roberts** and **Christine Hansen**, respectively. Ms. Roberts will attend Cornell University's pre-medical school in the fall, and Ms. Hansen will continue her education at the State University at Stony Brook with a view toward a career in the health field.

Playing in May at local United Artists Theatres: Clint Eastwood in "High Plains Drifter"; Lawrence Olivier and Michael Caine in "Sleuth"; Peter O'Toole and Sophia Loren in "Man of La Mancha"; and "Bridge at Remagen."

Compiled by Vanessa Graniello

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TULIP FESTIVAL: Get there by the first week in May

FROM PAGE 1

“Tulips are the first to bloom in spring. You plant them in November before the first frost and you have to wait for them to come up. It’s the anticipation that gets people excited. It’s that first burst of color that really pops,” she said.

Also exclusive to the event is a spe-

cial Dutch pilsner brew, called the “Tulip Fest” beer. The beer is sold only at Long Island Farm Brewery, located on the Waterdrinker Farm property. The pilsner is sold on tap or in a can.

The Tulip Festival is expected to continue until the first week in May, depending on the health of the bloom,

according to Weiss.

“It’s really up to Mother Nature how hot it’s going to get,” he said.

A burst of heat will cause the tulips to wilt, but if it stays cool, the life of the flowers will be extended.

The field is open seven days a week and admission is \$20 per person. A

great time to visit is the weekend when there is live music and food trucks.

Next up is the Sunflower Festival, which will take place in the farm in July. For more information, check the Waterdrinker Farm website at www.water-drinker.com or on Instagram or Facebook. ■



Pictured is the Greehy family.
All photos Mt/Al Rashdan



This year you can pick your own tulips at the festival for \$1 per stem.



Two million tulip bulbs were planted before the first frost in November.

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