

# the Tide

OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE

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thetideofmoriches.com

SEPTEMBER 2023

12th Year, Issue 9

## Summer snapshots

Below are compiled photos from community members enjoying their summer. See more on page 15



Harry (age 4) and Tommy (3 months) of Center Moriches enjoyed their first summer as brothers, with many nights of fun and chips down at Silly Lily! Photo credit: Allison Boyle

## New roof, updated auditorium, dedicated music space, upgraded locker rooms and possibly a turf field

### Center Moriches Schools to put forth a bond vote

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches School District will be proposing a just under \$45 million bond vote for two phases, including major building upgrades as well as a turf football field. The vote will take place on Oct. 24.

"We are really excited for this," said superintendent of schools Dr. Ronald Masera, noting the continued aging of the school buildings, including Clayton Huey Elementary School, the middle school and high school.

The project, according to Keri Loughlin, assistant superintendent for busi-

ness, has a main focus on health and safety, with roof replacement and sidewalk repair. Also part of the proposal is the bus loop construction for 559 Main Street, which was purchased after last year's referendum passed.

This year, the bond will include two propositions:

The first proposition will be for infrastructure including the roof replacement, door replacements, sidewalk repair, new boilers, library upgrades, an auditorium revamp, a dedicated space for the music department and as well as family consumer science classroom upgrades and new locker rooms at both the middle and high schools.

"The lockers are over 50 years old," Masera said. "Sometimes they are unusable, it's so old."

The auditorium, for example, he said has been in extreme disrepair.

"That is exciting, and will strengthen our arts department," he added.

The second proposition is for a new turf field. The district currently uses the nearby Town of Brookhaven turf field, though there are no bleachers. The installation of a turf field, Masera said, provides for a safer and lower-maintenance playing surface for students, in line with most other schools in the region. The new field would include the existing, already replaced lighting as well as new bleachers for viewing and a press box.

"Also, we could host more games at the same time on both turf fields," Loughlin said.

The total cost for the field would be

about \$3.6 million. However, Proposition 2 is contingent on Proposition 1 passing, and cannot pass unless Proposition 1 passes.

"Our neighboring districts, West Hampton and Eastport-South Manor, have [had] major facility upgrades, and our kids deserve the same quality 21st-century learning environment," Masera said, also noting that some residents have choice in which district to send their children. "This is a sizable project for us, but will benefit a generation of Center Moriches students."

However, he said, "on the plus side of it," the district is entitled to 75 percent state aid on any parts of the project that is considered worthy of assistance. "That is less than 25 cents on the dollar

See **BOND VOTE** on page 22

Remember... It's Back To School Time - DRIVE SAFELY!



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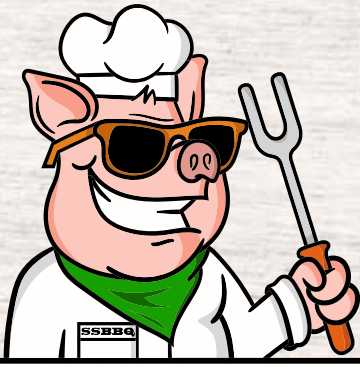
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Check out these  
restaurant spots PAGE 3

Center Moriches Fire Dept.  
sets revote PAGE 4

ESM football looks to  
improve season PAGE 20

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Buy 1 of any quesadilla,  
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Buy 1 of any SANDWICH,  
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Each Wing 99 Cents  
In your choice sauce served  
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FREE LOCAL DELIVERY**  
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## PETEY'S CATERING PACKAGES

**WING'S PACKAGE  
\$79.99**

Up to 10 People  
Wings (50) Lg Fries (2)  
Choice of 1 lb: Macaroni Salad  
Potato Salad • Coleslaw Served  
with Celery & Blue Cheese

### SHACK FAVORITES

Served with homemade potato chips  
& macaroni salad or fries

#### The Mother Load \$14.51

Pulled pork topped with flank steak\*  
& an egg cooked medium

#### Grilled Chicken Sandwich \$11.40

Grilled chicken topped with bacon,  
mozzarella cheese, lettuce & mayo

#### Pulled Pork Sandwich \$14.00

Slow smoked pulled pork topped  
with homestyle coleslaw

#### Smoked Brisket Sandwich \$14.51

Slow smoked, thin sliced brisket topped  
with signature BBQ sauce  
& homestyle coleslaw

#### Spicy Chicken Sandwich \$11.92

Grilled chicken tossed in Hot As Hell sauce  
topped with bacon, mozzarella cheese,  
lettuce & blue cheese

#### Crispy Chicken Sandwich \$13.80

Breaded and fried Chicken topped with  
bacon, mozzarella cheese, lettuce & mayo

### PETEY'S PICKS

#### Porky Mountain Fries \$13.48

Fresh hand-cut fries topped with slow  
smoked pulled pork, signature BBQ sauce,  
nacho cheese, sour cream & scallions

#### Loaded Knish \$9.85

Potato knish topped with slow smoked  
pulled pork, signature BBQ sauce, nacho  
cheese, sour cream & scallions

#### Loaded Baked Potato \$9.85

Baked potato topped with slow smoked  
pulled pork, signature BBQ sauce, nacho  
cheese, sour cream & scallions

#### Nacho Explosion \$13.48

Nacho chips topped with a mountain of  
slow smoked pulled pork, nacho cheese,  
sour cream, salsa, jalapeno peppers &  
scallions

#### Philly Cheese Steak \$18.00

Thin sliced prime ribeye & American cheese  
topped with sauteed onions, add green  
peppers & mushrooms if desired.  
Served with homemade potato chips

### SALADS

#### House Salad \$8.29

Fresh hand-cut fries topped with slow  
smoked pulled pork, signature BBQ sauce,  
nacho cheese, sour cream & scallions

#### Proteins

Crispy Chicken +\$5.99  
Grilled Chicken +\$5.99 • Flank Steak +\$6.99

#### Dressings

Balsamic Vinaigrette • Blue Cheese  
Honey Mustard • Italian Ranch  
Thousand Island

**BURGER'S & CHICKEN  
\$179.99**

Hamburgers (12)  
Add Lettuce & Tomatoes \$5.18  
Add Bacon \$10.38  
Add American Cheese \$12.45  
Whole BBQ Chicken (2)  
Tossed Salad (½ Tray)  
Choice of 2 lbs: Macaroni Salad  
Potato Salad • Coleslaw

**RIB'S  
\$264.99**

15 - 20 People  
Smoked BBQ Ribs (6 Racks)  
Baked Beans (½ Tray)  
Corn on the Cob (24 Halves)  
Cornbread (24)  
Choice of 2 lbs: Macaroni Salad  
Potato Salad • Coleslaw

**3 MEAT'S  
\$264.99**

Choice of 3 Meats: Smoked Beef  
Brisket (½ Tray) Sausage & Peppers  
(½ Tray) BBQ Beef Meatballs  
(½ Tray) Pulled Pork (½ Tray)  
BBQ, Buffalo or Grilled Chicken  
(¾ Tray) Served with Tossed Salad  
(½ Tray) Macaroni Salad (1 lb.)  
Potato Salad (1 lb.) Coleslaw (1 lb.)

## PETEY'S FAMILY MEALS

**Petey's Family Meal #1  
\$62.99**

2 Cheeseburgers  
2 Pulled Pork Sandwiches  
All burgers and sandwiches are served  
with your choice of homemade macaroni  
salad and potato chip or small fries  
10 Wings-any sauce flavor  
2 Large Fountain Beverages

**Petey's Family Meal #2  
\$61.99**

10 Wings-any sauce flavor  
1 Porky Mountain Fry  
1 Whole Rack of Ribs  
1 Chicken Quesadilla  
2 Large Fountain Beverages

**Petey's Family Meal #3  
\$31.99**

1 Chicken Wrap  
served with potato chip and  
macaroni salad.  
1 Pulled Pork Taco Trio  
1 Cheeseburger

### WINGS

(4) \$7.25 (6) \$9.33  
(10) \$13.48 (20) \$24.89

Bone-in chicken wings tossed in your choice  
of sauce Served with celery & blue cheese

### Shack Bites \$11.71

Boneless chicken bites tossed in your choice  
of sauce Served with fresh hand-cut fries

Teriyaki  
Petey's BBQ  
Garlic Parmesan  
Brook's BBQ  
Sweet & Sour  
Buffalo  
Golden BBQ  
Sweet Chili  
Tiger's Blood  
Hot as Hell  
Go Cry To Ya Mama

SWEET



HEAT

### SMOKED BBQ RIBS

(3) \$9.55 • (6) \$15.22 • (9) \$20.69  
(Whole Rack) \$25.75

Served with fresh hand-cut fries

### TACO TRIOS

#### BBQ Chicken (3) \$11.40

Chicken, BBQ sauce, 3-cheese blend,  
tomatoes & scallions

#### Pulled Pork (3) \$12.44

Homestyle coleslaw & slow smoked  
pulled pork

#### Brisket (3) \$13.48

Brisket, BBQ sauce, 3-cheese blend & onions

#### Flank Steak\* (3) \$14.51

Flank steak, 3-cheese blend,  
lettuce & tomatoes

### QUESADILLAS

Served with sour cream & salsa

Pulled Pork \$11.40 • Steak \$12.44  
Chicken \$10.36 • Brisket \$11.92

### BYO PLATTERS

Served with Cornbread

1 Meat Platter\* \$15.55 with 1 Side  
2 Meats Platter\* \$20.74 with 2 Sides

#### Meat Choices

3 Ribs • Brisket • Pulled Pork  
¼ BBQ Chicken • BBQ Pulled Chicken

#### Side Choices:

Baked Beans, Baked Potato +\$1.03  
Coleslaw, Corn on the Cob, Green Beans  
Fries, Macaroni Salad, Potato Chips,  
Potato Salad

### BURGERS

All burgers are served with homemade  
potato chips + macaroni salad or fries  
\*All Burgers are Hand-Pressed Daily\*

#### Cheeseburger\* \$11.40

American cheese, lettuce, tomato,  
pickles, onions & signature Petey's sauce

#### Bacon Cheeseburger\* \$13.48

American cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato,  
pickles, onions & signature Petey's sauce

#### Moon Burger\* \$13.48

Swiss cheese, sauteed onions & mushrooms

#### BBQ Bacon Burger\* \$14.51

Mozzarella cheese, bacon &  
signature BBQ sauce

#### Brunch Burger\* \$15.55

Topped with slow smoked pulled pork,  
bacon & an egg cooked medium

#### Rodeo Burger\* \$14.51

Mozzarella cheese, bacon,  
BBQ sauce & an onion ring

### SIDES

Potato Chips \$1.03  
Baked Beans \$2.06

Corn Bread \$2.06

Mozzarella Sticks (5) \$7.25

Hand-Cut Fries Sm. \$3.62 / Lg. \$5.18

Hand-Cut Cheese Fries Sm. \$2.06 / Lg. \$4.13

Onion Rings \$6.21

Mac n' Cheese or Mac n' Cheese Wedges \$5.18

Baked Potato \$3.11

Corn on the Cob \$2.07

Green Beans \$2.06

Potato Salad Sm. \$2.06 / Lg. \$4.13

Macaroni Salad Sm. \$2.06 / Lg. \$4.13

Coleslaw Sm. \$2.06 / Lg. \$4.13

### WRAPS

Wraps are served with homemade  
potato chips & macaroni salad

#### Pulled Pork Wrap \$11.40

Slow smoked pulled pork, bacon,  
lettuce, tomato & homestyle coleslaw

#### Chicken Wrap \$12.44

Grilled chicken, bacon, Swiss cheese,  
lettuce, tomato & ranch

#### Brisket Wrap \$12.96

Slow smoked, thin-sliced brisket, bacon,  
lettuce, tomato & homestyle coleslaw

#### Steak Wrap\* \$13.48

Thin marinated flank steak\*, American cheese,  
lettuce, tomato & Thousand Island dressing

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\*Consuming raw or undercooked eggs or meat can increase your risk of a foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions

## LOCAL RESTAURANT HOT SPOTS

# From lobster to bar food

Try these eats this fall

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Summer has come and gone, and though the heat might linger a bit longer, we can sense fall is near. But before we cozy up and start nesting, head out for some local fall menus. We compiled the following restaurants as some of our top picks.

## Loco Lobster

223 Montauk Highway, East Moriches

It's crazy good seafood with a promise of quality and freshness. According to the owners, their effort is to source ingredients from trusted local suppliers for the best possible seafood.

It's a charming place, with plenty of options for the whole family, even those land lovers.

The Uber app is also currently offering a BOGO deal for Loco Lobster, including orders of items such as seafood fried rice, crab cakes, snow-crab legs, chicken and lobster sandwiches, seafood trios, platters, stuffed shrimp, and sea scallops. The deal is available for customers to pick up, dine in, or for delivery.

**MENU:** The extensive menu includes lobster, of course, but also chicken fingers and wings, clams, crab legs, fish and chips, fried shrimp, lobster mac and cheese and mashed potatoes, coconut shrimp, lobster fries, calamari, clam strips, seafood fried rice, clam strips, seafood lo mien, mussels, mozzarella sticks, dip and chips, pastas, salads soups, tacos and quesadillas, rolls and sandwiches, sliders, pizzas and a kids menu. The menu also offers seafood platters. Prices range from \$9 to \$40.

**HOURS:** Open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; closed on Tuesdays.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** call 631-909-3737 or visit [www.locolobsterseafood.com](http://www.locolobsterseafood.com)



## Sunsets at Senix

50 Senix Avenue, Center Moriches

The recently renovated and opened waterfront restaurant offers a place to relax and enjoy lunch and dinner. The family-owned-and-operated location boasts a different atmosphere and experience for the community. The name is inspired by the view to the beautiful sunset.

"We will pride ourselves on supporting local businesses, so you can always expect a fresh, hand-crafted meal that caters to our concept," said CEO and owner, Joseph Hand, and VP/owner, Ci-Gee Sciarratta. "Fresh seafood on the water is a must, and that will be our commitment to you."

In addition to great food and views, visitors can expect local brews and great music. The team also promises to represent the community by hosting special nights for local teachers, health care workers, and first responders.

Don't miss Sunset Hour: Sunsets at Senix's "happy hour" will be from 3 to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. The hours will feature specialty drinks and plates that are only available during sunset hour. There is also live entertainment on the weekends.

**MENU:** Starters include over a dozen options, such as a charcuterie board, street corn, beef tartare, prawns, salads, panzanella toast, and grilled octopus.

Two chip and dip options also include blue cheese and lump crabmeat. There are three burger options with blue cheese and bacon jam, smash burgers, and a classic cheeseburger. Grilled dinners include pork chops, a hanger steak, and a whole sea bream. Then, their mains offer half chickens, lobster roll (Tokyo style), clams, striped bass and tacos. Don't skip on dessert, with s'mores éclair, peach cobbler, and a banoffee pie. Prices range from \$12 to \$40.

**HOURS:** Monday through Thursday from noon to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from noon to 1 a.m.; and Sunday from noon to 10 p.m.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** [www.sunsetsatsenix.com](http://www.sunsetsatsenix.com)



## Ita Kitchen

215 Atlantic Avenue, East Moriches

Boasting the perfect location for a night out, ITA Kitchen offers Italian-American cuisine as an option for a date night, time spent with friends, or family dinner. In addition to full brunch and dinner menus, ITA Kitchen also offers catering and party options, with customizable selections for both large and small parties.

**MENU:** The menu includes starters with tableside mozzarella, pesto risotto balls, baked clams, crab cakes, mussels, scallops, hot and cold antipasto and egg rolls. Dinners include shrimp, branzino, scallops, a lobster roll and chicken options, as well as veal. There are also add-ons for salads and a skinny options menu with salmon, a full pasta menu, and a wide range of side options including fries, broccoli rabe and lobster mac and cheese. The brunch menu includes french toast bites, eggs, and waffles. Dessert includes cannoli crumb cake, fried rainbow cookies, pistachio cheesecake, tiramisu, affogato and gelato. Owner Salvatore Sorrentino runs all the locations, including the East Moriches location with head chef Matthew Sorrentino.

**HOURS:** Monday through Saturday, noon to 3 p.m. and 4 to 10 p.m.; Sunday brunch from noon to 3 p.m. and dinner from 4 to 9 p.m. The restaurant will be

closed for regular service as of Nov. 1. However, from Nov. to April 1, customers can rent the space out for family parties.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Call 631-973-4548 or visit <https://www.ita-kitchen.com/location/ita-restaurant-east-moriches/>



## Buckley's

386 Main Street, Center Moriches

The local favorite Irish pub has great food and a fun atmosphere. The restaurant proudly boasts food above bar food at a fair price.

Buckley's was designed after the traditional Irish pubs in Manhattan in the early 20th century. Etched glass behind the bar showcases three of Ireland's most beloved whiskeys, and gold filigree painted into the walls gives it a warm and classical feeling.

"Our comfortable and casual atmosphere includes friendly staff, good food (including traditional Irish dishes), and an extensive selection behind the bar," the website reads. "Those looking to sample Irish brews and whiskeys have several to choose from, and we take pride in our Guinness taps, guaranteed to be one of the best you've tasted this side of the Atlantic."

Daily specials include Monday burger nights, Wednesday's wine nights, and Thursday's prime rib night as well as a Sunday brunch.

**MENU:** The menu includes mozzarella sticks, chicken wings and fingers, a Bavarian pretzel, steak fries with cheese and gravy, soups salads, burgers, sandwiches, wraps, and hot plates with their famous roast beef, fresh hot ham, meatloaf and turkey breast. The dinner menu also offers pasta, chicken

dishes, shrimp scampi, fried shrimp, steaks and chops, and shareable sides. They also have a special tavern menu with appetizers, burgers, and a full beer list. Brunch includes mimosas, screwdrivers or Bloody Mary's with options for soups, eggs, omelets, and a roast beef platter, and a "build your own omelet" option. Also, the restaurant hosts a dart league on Mondays and shows all NFL games.

**HOURS:** 11 a.m. to close, seven days a week

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Call 631-909-8330 or visit <https://www.buckleyspub.com>



# Center Moriches Fire Department plans a revote

Building in need of renovations to meet requirements

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches Fire District failed a \$17.9 million bond proposition by slim margins on June 20, with a total of 221 no votes to 201 yes votes. The board has decided to set a revote on Sept. 12 for the original bond proposition that would pay for the renovation and expansion of the department's firehouse. Due to the larger size of modern fire trucks, the present firehouse fails to meet federal and fire industry codes.

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

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

The passage of the bond will increase



The \$17.9 million bond would be supplemented by \$500,000 in reserve funds, bringing the total project to \$18.4 million.

Center Moriches Fire District residents' taxes from \$24.188 per \$100 of assessed valuation to \$35.212. This, according to fire department officials, equals less than \$6.50 per week, less than \$1 a day, for a typical home assessed at \$3,000. It also keeps the cost of fire and EMS services well below that of nearby districts such as Coram, Brookhaven/Shirley, Middle Island, and North Patchogue. Fire district taxes make up less than 7.5 percent of the average Center Moriches property tax bill.

"We're proposing an expansion, not an entirely new structure," stressed John DeLong, chairman of the board of commissioners. "At less than \$1 a day, this is a very affordable option. And this expansion is needed to protect the com-

munity's safety."

The district's fleet of vehicles has expanded from 10 to 19—almost double—including five fire trucks, three ambulances, two fire police vehicles, an advanced life-support first responder, and two rescue boats. The plan will allow for the department to bring their communications system, which is currently in the basement, to the ground level to provide better protection from the threat of flooding.

Additionally, the new space will provide the firefighters with a separate gear storage space, improving conditions by minimizing exposure to carcinogens. The current overcrowding is also a violation of NFPA standards.

Lastly, according to the department,

the renovations and expansion will be less costly than building a new facility. The \$17.9 million bond will be supplemented with \$500,000 in reserve funds, bringing the total project to \$18.4 million. Sandpebble Project Management of Speonk, N.Y., is to serve as construction managers.

"Our volunteers freely give a substantial amount of their time to protect the safety of Center Moriches residents," said commissioner Edward Stypulkowski, "yet, both they and their equipment are crammed into a substandard, undersized, and obsolete firehouse."

"These essential renovations will bring us into compliance with current fire safety codes and standards," he said. "They'll also help protect the health and safety of our volunteer firefighters and the community at large."

"Our volunteers—your neighbors—are saying to the community: 'Help us help you.'" ■

Rendering

## THE VOTE

Polls will be open between noon and 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at the firehouse, located at 301 Main Street in Center Moriches.

## ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

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

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[LaVolpeRestaurant.net](http://LaVolpeRestaurant.net)



# bay gardens

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# FAMILY COUNTRY

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**FOR MORE INFO**

# Get involved in the NexTrex challenge

Library seeks to collect 500 pounds in plastic

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches Free Public Library has been successful with the NexTrex® Community Recycling Challenge, though they need the community's help to reach their goal of 500 pounds of collected plastics within six months.

As part of the program, which eventually scores the library a free a high-performance composite bench donated by Trex, library-goers are asked to drop off eligible soft plastics in the corresponding bin, located in the library's corridor near the inside entrance to Hampton Coffee Café.

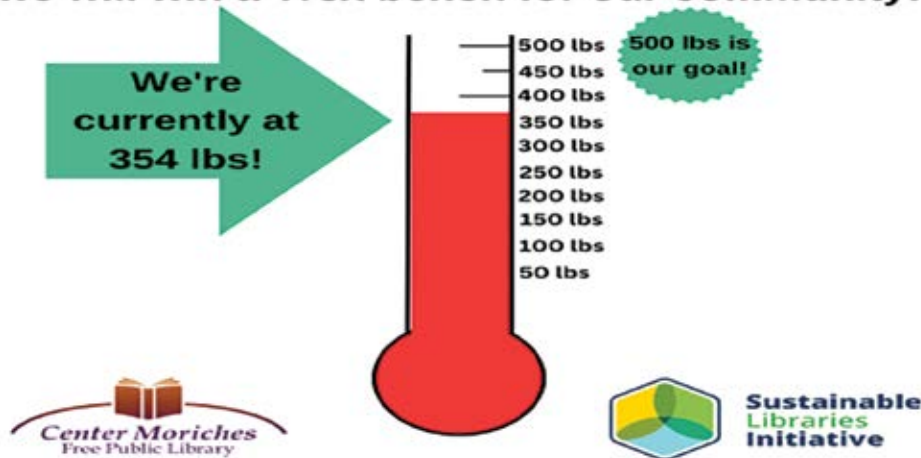
The sustainability team charged with the efforts includes Christie Matheson, Mary McNulty, Jessica Ceramello, Dominique Nason, and Marcie Litjens, as well as newcomers, Joanne Garofolo, Nadine Livoti, and Lisa Ferguson.

Earlier this year, in April, the original team noticed other libraries participating in the program and they discussed that the program might be a good way to solve and recycle some of the library's plastic waste.

"We had just done our waste audit in April and we had determined that we have plastic ending up in our dumpster that could be recycled by using this program," said library director Litjens, explaining why they decided to join.

The trash audit, done in March, found that one full week of collecting the garbage produced at the library (excluding restrooms) included 83.95 pounds of waste, with 17.6 percent recyclable and

**NEXTREX PLASTIC CHALLENGE!**  
Recycle your clean plastic bags by dropping them off at the library! If we collect 500 lbs we will win a Trex bench for our community!



3.3 percent compostable. However, the library only had one glass bottle, which can be attributed to the partnership with the Town of Brookhaven that has provided a glass recycling container on-site. A total of 4,084 patrons visit the library, with an approximate daily average of 510.5 patron visits.

"We receive so many packages and deliveries for everyday operations that are wrapped in plastic, and we never had an avenue to recycle," added Litjens. "This program allows us to prevent this waste from entering a landfill and gives staff and the community a fun and exciting incentive to participate."

After deciding to begin the program, Matheson took the lead in investigating, contacting the Trex company, and set-

ting up the library as a participant. Once staff was educated on the guidelines for the program, the library began to advertise it to the community. Soon, the collection box started to be filled. Once filled, the team empties, weighs, and delivers to the designated drop-off point, which is the Stop & Shop in Shirley.

"The simplicity of enacting the NexTrex Challenge was a key factor in our decision to become a participating organization, in addition to the fact that our coastal communities here on Long Island have a vested interest in keeping plastic pollution out of our oceans and waterways," Matheson said. "Many patrons have stated that they hadn't realized how much plastic film waste they accumulate on a regular basis, until learning

about and participating in this program. Researching the initiative was easy, as the program website clearly outlines every step and detail, and collection bins and resources were provided free of charge. Members of our in-house Sustainability Team have been bagging, weighing, logging, and dropping off all donated plastic to be recycled at local corporate partner locations every week. We are so proud of the overwhelming support and participation in this impactful program; the community response has been incredible!"

After two months of collecting, as of June, the library collected 145 pounds of recyclable plastic. By July, four months in, a total of 354 out of 500 pounds was collected, leaving only 146 pounds to reach their goal.

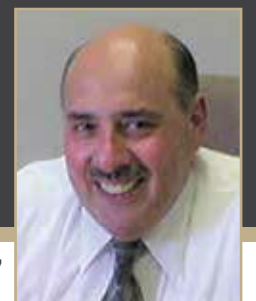
If the goal is met and the bench is donated, Litjens said she is unsure where it would be placed, but the placement would be discussed with the entire team.

For more information visit: <https://nextrex.com/view/educate>. ■

## WHAT QUALIFIES FOR RECYCLING

Items eligible include: plastic bags, store bags, produce bags, ice bags, Ziploc bags, cereal box liners, case overwrap, bread bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap and plastic e-commerce mailers. Members of the community are asked to bring their eligible plastics, clean and dried, to the library for recycling. Simply drop the items to the drop box. Plastic bags and film packaging should not be recycled in most curbside collections.

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# Local pens guide for college-bound students

College applications workshop offered to seniors and juniors

BY NICOLE FUENTES



Center Moriches resident Trish Portnoy, CPA, MS Ed., has been teaching CTE subjects at West Islip Public Schools since 1997. In 2007, she revamped the curriculum for the course for College Freshman Seminar and by 2012, over half the graduating class were enrolled as graduating seniors.

Her background in accounting, she said, allowed her to divide large projects into smaller, more understandable components that, combined with her outcome-oriented curriculum, enabled her to structure a course and compose a book: "How to Help Your High School Senior Apply to College."

Her first book, "College Apps: Selecting, Applying to, and Paying for the Right College for You," was a textbook useful to school districts and their students who were interested in offering the course she created.

In 2022, she then published an e-book, booklet/quick-read titled, "How to Help Your High School Senior Apply to College." Why did she write it?

"The magnitude of the student loan debt crisis was caused by a lack of awareness/education during this critical time, as well as not using data-based decision-making prior to selecting and attending college," she said of her passion to help.

In response to her new book, she will also be hosting "Applying to College with Trish," a 10-week workshop that will assist high school seniors and motivated juniors through the college application process. The group will meet weekly for two hours to review topics related to higher education, college applications, financial aid, and decision-making strategies.

The workshop fee includes 20 hours of small group instruction, plus the College Apps Binder reference sheets and exercises, and the parents' resource, "How to Help Your High School Senior Apply to College."

Her course, she said, intends to reduce stress and anxiety around the college application process for both students and parents. In addition, the workshop activities allow students to have a vested interest and ownership throughout this sometimes-daunting process.

"The course hopes to reduce the potential for a challenging working relationship between parent and child through a detailed structure of organization and time management," she said. "Ultimately, the student, with input from their parents and high school guidance counselor, is the lead on this project."

The workshop runs this fall from September through November for high school juniors and seniors and again in the spring 2024 for high school juniors only. Locations will vary according to enrollment. To pre-register for the workshop visit [www.ApplyingtoCollegewithTrish.com](http://www.ApplyingtoCollegewithTrish.com).

For more information about Portnoy or her book visit [www.TrishPortnoy.com](http://www.TrishPortnoy.com). To purchase her book visit <https://amzn.to/3Ohvqc5>.

Courtesy photos

**How to Help Your High School Senior Apply to College**  
A Parents' Guide to the College Application Process  
Trish Portnoy, CPA, MS Ed.



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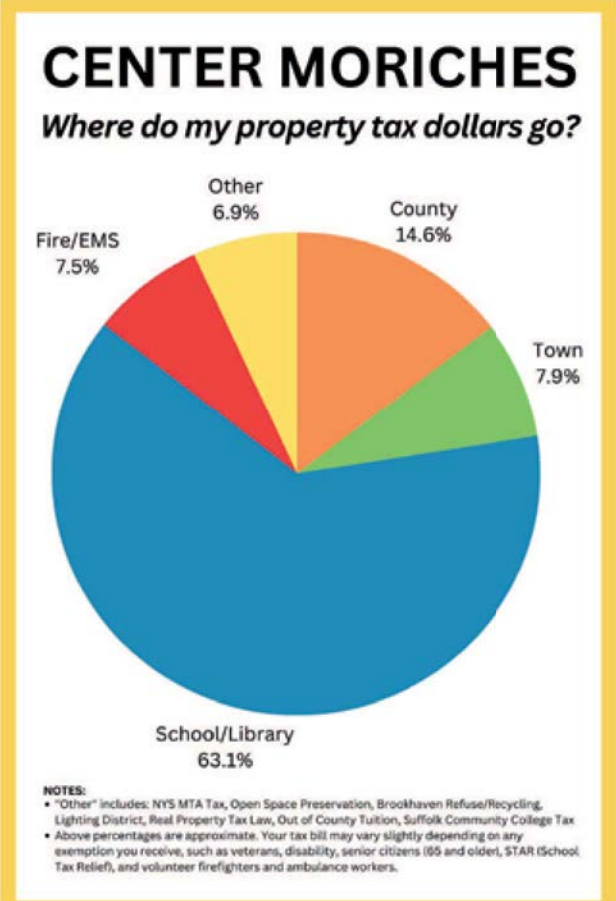
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### Taxpayer Impact

The proposed \$17.9-million bond would be supplemented with \$500,000 in reserve funds. The increased fire district taxes would amount to less than one dollar a day for the average home, still lower than many fire districts in our area.

# Pinning held for Vietnam vets

Center Moriches VFW Post 414 hosts event

BY KRAIG KLEIN

Center Moriches Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 414 and Rep. Andrew Garbarino presented a tribute to Vietnam War veterans on Saturday, Aug. 9.

“It is my privilege to [give] these lapel pins to our veterans,” Garbarino said.

Memorial lapel pins and official certificates were distributed to military veterans, as well as the families of deceased veterans. The ceremony was offered as part of the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration program. The tribute serves to remind the public of the sacrifices made during the Vietnam War nearly five decades ago.

“[Garbarino] partnered with the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration to host this pinning because [he wants] to honor those Vietnam vet-

erans that call [his] Second Congressional District home and make sure they know they have the thanks of a grateful nation,” a statement released by Garbarino’s communications director Kristen Cianci read.

Attendees assembled before 11 a.m. inside VFW Post 414’s gathering hall, on Main Street in Center Moriches. Veterans and their families were seated at tables inside the hall by VFW Post 414 and local service organizations such as Boy Scout troops. Garbarino officially began the ceremony at 11 a.m. with a speech. Col. William Stratemeier spoke after Garbarino finished.

“As a member of Congress, being able to honor veterans for their service is an honor,” Garbarino said. “I am committed to fighting for them in Congress... I will always stand by our veterans.”

“Vietnam was a very difficult time in American history,” Stratemeier said. “We need to do everything to honor and protect our [dying] veterans. Our vets

did not return to a hero’s welcome... they were labeled baby killers.”

Names of veterans, living and dead, were read off a list after Stratemeier ended his speech. Surviving veterans were invited to step forward and receive the lapel pins, along with certificates from Garbarino and the organizers of the event. If a named veteran was deceased, surviving family members could claim the pins and certificates in their stead. Lucy Rivera accepted a pin and certificate for her husband, who died in 2021 on Veterans Day.

“[My husband] belonged to the 12th Tactical Fighter Wing,” Rivera said.

Garbarino said his father and grandfather were also military veterans. VFW Post 414’s own commander, Robert Galbraith, is a Vietnam veteran. He had been serving in Germany when the armed forces ordered him to transfer to the Vietnam campaigns.

“I was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division—that was an artillery unit,”

Galbraith said. “I spent six months out in the field, and I drove in convoys. They would put a battery of infantry and artillery at the top of a mountain [in order to create] a firebase. I’m 100 percent disabled because of Agent Orange, like so many veterans.”

The final lapel pin and certificate recipients received their honors almost exactly at noon. Event attendees were then invited to partake in refreshments, including wraps and beverages.

“We had vets come from Northport VA in a bus,” event attendee Miriam Gillies said. “We used to have dinners for them.”

VFW Post 414 has hosted other ceremonies honoring veterans in the past, along with events designed to support the Moriches community. The post currently plans to host a health screening event in September and a Halloween dance.

“All the tables were filled [for the pinning],” Galbraith said. ■

All photos MT/Klein



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# Fun at the fluke fishing tournament

Great Gun Moriches Anglers hosts annual vent

BY KRAIG KLEIN

The Great Gun Moriches Anglers hosted their annual fluke fishing tournament at the Union Avenue dock in Center Moriches on Saturday, Aug. 5.

“We’ve got it down, how to handle a tournament properly,” Great Gun Moriches Anglers member Frank Lapinski said.

The Chet Wilcox Memorial Fluke Tournament lasted from 6 a.m. until 5 p.m. Anglers sailed into Moriches Bay and surrounding waters in order to catch the largest fluke possible. Each of the anglers who caught the three largest fish was awarded a cash prize. The Great Gun Moriches Anglers hope that the fishing tournament helps the Center Moriches area become more aware of the local fishing community.

“We wanted to bring a local tournament to the forefront of our community [and promote] Moriches Bay’s most popular fishery,” Great Gun Moriches Anglers vice president John Bunai said.

The Great Gun Moriches Anglers posted flyers advertising the fluke fishing tournament. The flyers displayed the tournament’s official rules and the prizes. Participants signed up at Harts Cove Bait & Tackle, in East Moriches, and Sharks Bait & Tackle, in Mastic.

Originally, prizes were based on the assumption that 100 anglers would register for the tournament. Finishing in first place had a cash prize of \$1,875; second place’s reward was \$1,125; and third place’s prize was \$750. On the morning



MT/Klein

of the tournament, around 50 anglers had registered, so the first-place prize was changed to \$935, second place’s prize was altered to \$560, and third place’s prize became \$380.

“In the interest of promoting conservation, our minimum size [for a fish] to be eligible for a prize is 21 and 1/2 inches,” Bunai said. “A legal-sized fluke to keep is 18 and 1/2 inches in New York State.”

For the past two decades, the fluke tournament was originally known as the Moriches Anglers Fluke Tournament. However, the tournament was renamed this year in honor of Chet Wilcox. Wilcox had owned B & B Tackle and Sports in Center Moriches. He died in May 2022.

“He was a local legend [and] very active in the community,” Great Gun Moriches Anglers member Tim Markart said. “[He was] just an overall good man

[and] good person.”

“He was considered a talent in his family, [who] were big duck farmers,” Bunai said.

“He was a mentor to everyone who fished here,” Lapinski said. “He was the only guy back [in the day] who advertised freshwater tackle.”

Additional competitors entered the tournament at the last moment by signing up at the Union Avenue dock around 6 a.m. the day of the tournament. Fishermen spent the next 10 hours scouring local waters, like Moriches Bay, for fluke. The Great Gun Moriches Anglers started weighing submitted fish at the dock at 4 p.m. All tournament participants were expected to return to the dock by 4:30 p.m., so that all fish could be properly evaluated by 5 p.m.

The judging of the fishes, known as the “weigh-in” among the anglers, was

accompanied by a barbecue. Hamburgers and hot dogs were offered to fishermen returning from their 10-hour quest for the largest fluke. The Great Gun Moriches Anglers also sold T-shirts to tournament attendees in order to spread awareness of the club. Russel Werthner won first-place prize of \$935 with a fish that was 24 and 3/4 inches and weighed 5.65 pounds, while Tom Kaucky won second place with a fish that was 22 and 1/2 inches long and weighed 4.15 pounds. As Werthner and Kaucky’s fluke were the only submitted fish that fulfilled the length requirement of 21 and 1/2 inches, third-place’s cash prize was raffled off and given to a random tournament participant.

“I’ve won a few [tournaments] so far in my time,” Werthner said, “so it felt really good [to win], especially with a 5-pounder. [There] was one [fish] we didn’t think would make it in, but we had three keepers.”

The Great Gun Moriches Anglers desire to continue hosting the tournament annually in order to both strengthen their ties to the community and to honor Chet Wilcox. Their next event will be a striped bass tournament at the end of October. The tournament is currently planned to start Oct. 25 and end on Oct. 29.

“That wraps up [our] stuff for the year,” Great Gun Moriches Anglers president Evan Goldstein said.

Lapinski added that the Great Gun Moriches Anglers is planning to create a Chet Wilcox Youth Tournament for local youth. The club is still drafting plans for the youth tournament and has not yet announced a potential date for the new event. ■

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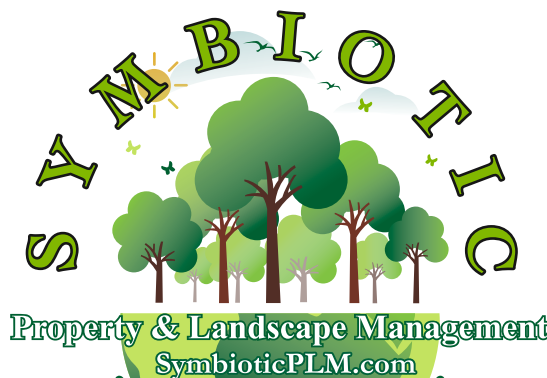
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# Summer snapshots



Angelina and Branden, from Center Moriches, at Meschutt Beach. Courtesy photo



A photo of Branden also at Finks Farm. Courtesy photo



A Center Moriches pool at night in the summer. Courtesy photo

## Don't miss the annual Snapper Derby!

The Town of Brookhaven will be hosting the fourth annual Keith Romaine Memorial Snapper Derby. The event will take place on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Union Dock on Union Avenue in Center Moriches.

Co-sponsored by the Montauk Surf-casters Association with support from the Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches, the friendly competition in honor of Romaine, the late son of Brookhaven supervisor Ed Romaine, has attracted support from families and friends throughout the community since its 2020 inception.

Prizes will be awarded for age groups 14 and under and ages 15 to 18. Bring your own pole, bait and bucket. There is a suggested \$5 donation per participant to benefit the Joseph Rera Memorial Scholarship Fund. Rera died on Nov. 6 at Cupsogue Beach County Park, in Westhampton Beach.

Last year, 79 children from Center Moriches and surrounding communities signed up for the catch-and-release tournament. The winner for the 4 to 12 age group was Grace Scalezi with a 10-inch snapper, while Nick Hristidis was the 12- and 1/2 to 18-year-olds winner with his 10-and-3/4-inch catch.

For more information call 631-451-6502 or visit [brookhaven.ny.gov/derby](http://brookhaven.ny.gov/derby) for registration. ■

-Nicole Fuentes

File photo



# waterdrinker

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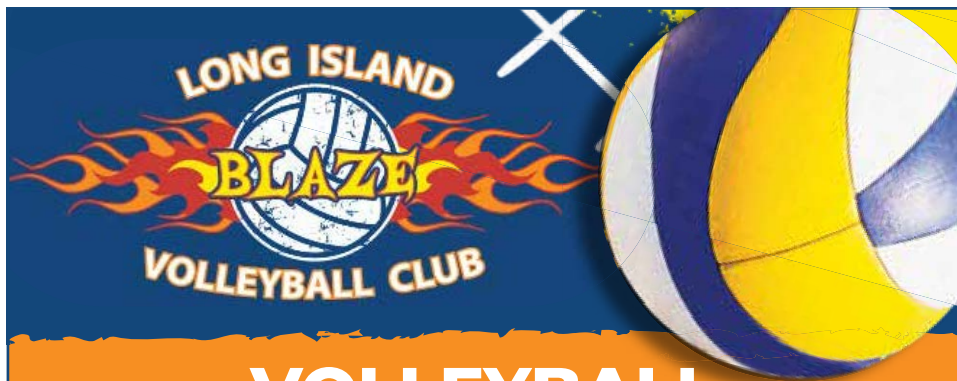
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Session #2: Feb. 8, 15, 29, March 7, 14

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# Chain Reaction performs at Clayton Huey



BY AIDAN PELLIGRINO

Last month, the third concert in the Center Moriches Summer Concert Series took place on the front lawn of Clayton Huey Elementary School.

The featured act of this concert was local band Chain Reaction, which has the Center Moriches Chamber of Commerce president Jackie Osborne as the lead singer. Her husband, Jimmy, also plays the piano in the band, and together they have been performing for around 25 years. They run a local music shop, Jimmy Osborne's Music, which sells instruments and provides music lessons.

When asked about why the band performs locally, Jackie said, "We just love. The band mostly covers music from the 1970s to the present day, and the crowd in attendance was very excited about the performance."

People of all ages were dancing to the music at several points throughout the night. Concert attendees also enjoyed

concessions provided by the CMPTO and Center Moriches Music Booster Club members, since they were still fundraising for their Music in the Parks trip to Disney. Members of the Center Moriches Chamber of Commerce were also present at the concert and provided a \$20 e-bike raffle and had sponsorship support from Suffolk County Legis. Jim Mazzarella. Karen Dunne, a Brookhaven Town Council candidate, was also present at the concert and purchased a sign showing support towards both the concert and the Center Moriches Chamber of Commerce.

Currently, there is going to be one final concert at Clayton Huey Elementary School for the Summer Concert Series on Aug. 26, with the featured performance being the band High Tide. If readers are curious about the concert or any other community events, they can visit the Center Moriches Chamber of Commerce website for more information. ■

All photos MT/Pelligrino



# Town honors Manorville Soccer Club



At the July 20 Town Board Meeting, deputy supervisor Dan Panico, supervisor Ed Romaine and the town board recognized the Manorville Soccer Club for winning the Long Island Championship in their age group for the first time. Pictured in the front row (left to right) are coach Mary Krupinski; Emmet Aherns; Luke Krupinski; Porter Faulk; Greyson Patrick; assistant trainer Jake Krupinski; Thomas Heaphy; assistant coach Dan

Aherns; trainer Tony Chernis and councilman Michael Loguercio. Back row (left to right) are councilmember Jonathan Kornreich; councilwoman Jane Bonner; supervisor Ed Romaine; deputy supervisor Dan Panico; councilman Neil Foley; and town clerk Kevin LaValle. Go to [www.manorvillesoccerclub.com](http://www.manorvillesoccerclub.com) for more information about the Manorville Soccer Club. ■

Courtesy photo

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# ESM football looking for improvement this season

## Varsity team gets new head football coach

BY GARY HABER

Eastport-South Manor has a new head football coach, and he's looking to turn around a program that went 2-6 last season.

"Improvise, overcome, and adapt has kind of been our motto," coach Chris Prokesch said during the recent Media Day for Conference III teams.

The Sharks, a ninth seed going into the season, have faced their share of challenges. They lost access to their weight room while the high school is being renovated, and have had to find a place to practice while their practice field is being converted from grass to synthetic turf, said Prokesch, who has been with the program for 11 years, mostly as offensive and defensive line coach.

There are plenty of reasons for optimism, according to Prokesch, who was interim coach in 2018, the last season the Sharks posted a winning record.

The roster is deeper—about 40 players compared to about 25 last season—with more seniors, including more in the starting lineup.

"We're going to be a lot more experienced and have a lot more manpower on our roster," Prokesch said.

Talk to the Sharks' tight-knit core of seniors and you can feel how much they've made it their mission to finish their high school careers on a high note.

"For the guys who are seniors, we have a lot of motivation for the season," said tight end John Izzo. "We don't want



Eastport-South Manor head coach Chris Prokesch and his players are looking to return the program to its winning ways. Left to right: Prokesch and seniors Matt Pompei, Daniel Odell and John Izzo.

Mt/Haber

to end on a bad note. We're leaving. We want to end with a bang. We're not trying to lose. We're going to win. We're going to dedicate ourselves to practice. We're going to work hard and put everything we have into it."

The Sharks return four offensive line-

men, including senior Matt Pompei. They'll be called upon to protect sophomore quarterback Max Ferraro and open holes for Daniel Odell, who will be the primary running back.

Pompei said he and the other seniors have been working to motivate the

underclassmen.

"We're very confident in how we're going to perform this season," he said.

The Sharks open the season with road games at Amityville on Sept. 1 and Kings Park on Sept. 13. Their home opener is Sept. 23 against Rocky Point. ■



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<b>9/3 to 9/9</b>	Moriches Bay	10:49 AM	11:11 PM	11:41 AM	-----PM	12:05 AM	12:34 PM	1:01 AM	1:26 PM	1:56 AM	2:20 PM	2:54 AM	3:17 PM	3:55 AM	4:16 PM
	Moriches Inlet	10:10 AM	10:32 PM	11:02 AM	11:26 PM	11:55 AM	-----PM	12:22 AM	12:47 PM	1:17 AM	1:41 PM	2:15 AM	2:38 PM	3:16 AM	3:37 PM
	Smith Pt. Bridge	12:34 AM	1:05 PM	1:27 AM	1:57 PM	2:21 AM	2:50 PM	3:17 AM	3:42 PM	4:12 AM	4:36 PM	5:10 AM	5:33 PM	6:11 AM	6:32 PM
<b>9/10 to 9/16</b>	Moriches Bay	4:56 AM	5:14 PM	5:50 AM	6:05 PM	6:37 AM	6:48 PM	7:18 AM	7:27 PM	7:56 AM	8:02 PM	8:30 AM	8:35 PM	9:03 AM	9:07 PM
	Moriches Inlet	4:17 AM	4:35 PM	5:11 AM	5:26 PM	5:58 AM	6:09 PM	6:39 AM	6:48 PM	7:17 AM	7:23 PM	7:51 AM	7:56 PM	8:24 AM	8:28 PM
	Smith Pt. Bridge	7:12 AM	7:30 PM	8:06 AM	8:21 PM	8:53 AM	9:04 PM	9:34 AM	9:03 PM	10:12 AM	10:18 PM	10:46 AM	10:51 PM	11:19 AM	11:23 PM
<b>9/17 to 9/23</b>	Moriches Bay	9:34AM	9:39 PM	10:056AM	10:13 PM	10:41 AM	10:55 PM	11:24 AM	11:47 PM	-----AM	12:17 PM	12:47 AM	1:17 PM	1:53 AM	2:23 PM
	Moriches Inlet	8:55 AM	9:00 PM	9:27 AM	9:34 PM	10:02 AM	10:16 PM	10:45 AM	11:08 PM	11:38 AM	-----PM	12:08 AM	12:38 PM	1:14 AM	1:44 PM
	Smith Pt. Bridge	11:50 AM	11:55 PM	-----AM	12:22 PM	12:29 AM	12:57 PM	1:11 AM	1:40 PM	2:03 AM	2:33 PM	3:03 AM	3:33 PM	4:09 AM	4:39 PM
<b>9/24 to 9/30</b>	Moriches Bay	3:02 AM	3:32 PM	4:13 AM	4:41 PM	5:19 AM	5:43 PM	6:17 AM	6:38 PM	7:08 AM	7:29 PM	7:56 AM	8:17 PM	8:43 AM	9:04 PM
	Moriches Inlet	2:23 AM	2:53 PM	3:34 AM	4:02 PM	4:40 AM	5:04 PM	5:38 AM	5:59 PM	6:29 AM	6:50 PM	7:17 AM	7:38 PM	8:04 AM	8:25 PM
	Smith Pt. Bridge	5:18 AM	5:48 PM	6:29 AM	6:57 PM	7:35 AM	7:59 PM	8:33 AM	8:54 PM	9:24 AM	9:45 PM	10:12 AM	10:33 PM	10:59 AM	11:20 PM

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## Center Moriches soccer players play in Spain



Five Center Moriches soccer players, Guilherme Augusto Dos Santos, William B Roache, Jhimmy Alexander Lopez, Mateo Joan Muoz, and Xavi Naelson Hernandez were all selected to play in Spain for the Vanguard Soccer Experience.

The Vanguard Soccer (football) experience allows young players to learn the Spanish or European style of playing football. The camp is based in Barcelona, Spain. The players also get to experience the many attractions that Barcelona has to offer. So far, they have visited a water

park and enjoyed a day at Barcelona Beach. The boys were picked because of their talent and love of soccer. The whole experience lasted 10 days, from July 20 to July 31.

Pictured from left to right are Jhimmy Alexander Lopez, Xavi Naelson Hernandez, William B Roache, Guilherme Augusto Dos Santos and Mateo Joan Muoz.

All of the boys are 11th-grade students at Center Moriches High School and are playing on the varsity soccer team this year. ■

Courtesy photos



## ESM student places at Quarterback Challenge

Alexandra DaEira-Loccisano, of Eastport-South Manor High School, placed second overall in the inaugural Long Island Girls Quarterback Challenge on July 23. Quarterbacks from 10 girls flag football teams took part in the competition, which was held at Kings Park High School. Quarterbacks were measured on accuracy and anticipation. DaEira-Loccisano won the anticipation competition.

Photo courtesy of Ray Nelson



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# BOND VOTE: Upcoming informational meetings

FROM PAGE 1

taxpayers have to pay to get the work done.”

The work will most likely be done in phases over the course of three to four years, spreading the costs and making the cost to taxpayers “more palatable,” Loughlin said.

Also, the board, Masera said, is considering utilizing the capital reserve to offset some of the costs in the amount of about \$1.5 million. However, to utilize that funding would also require a refer-

endum vote.

The project has been created by a committee comprising over 20 community members, including a diverse crowd of administration, teachers and residents, with students and without. The first presentation was held in late June.

In 2020, the district approved an Energy Performance Project at no cost to the taxpayer. The self-funding project implemented energy savings by adding solar among other additions, including

updated lighting throughout the district, univents and film on windows. That project was a total of \$6 million.

Also, the district passed a bond in 2015 in the amount of \$8 million for roof work at Clayton Huey, door replacement, security cameras and science labs.

Following a yearlong development process, the Center Moriches School District Board of Education approved a resolution at its July 5 meeting to move forward with a proposed bond project and sched-

uled a community vote on the proposition for Oct. 24, 2023.

The board held a presentation on Aug. 30 during their regular board meeting to go over what was included in the project, though numbers on increases to the taxpayer were not available as of press time. Several other meetings will be held throughout September to October ahead of the vote. The district’s website includes additional information. ■

Courtesy photos



The sidewalks, locker rooms and auditorium will see major repairs



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## Open house to celebrate church's anniversary

Presbyterian Church of the Moriches will continue celebrating its 275th anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 23, with an open house. The free community event will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; rain or shine.

The open house will include a tour of the church, which was formally established on Oct. 12, 1748, and documents of that period will be on display.

The theme of the day will be "colonial times." There will be soups, chowders, biscuits and breads, all made from period

recipes. There will also be lawn games for guests and performances by the Harbormen Barbershop Choir and Fife and Drum performers as well as other musical groups.

Both self-guided and informational tours will be made available.

"Our first building was on this very spot on Railroad and Main Street in 1809 and has been enlarged many times since," said church organizers of the historic building. ■

MT/Fuentes

## Center Moriches Library's third annual touch-a-truck event

Trucks, trucks, trucks, and more trucks!

Have you ever wanted to know what the inside of a firetruck looks like? Or maybe how a police car turns on those flashing lights?

Come see these vehicles up close and learn from community helpers about how they use them every day in their jobs!

On Saturday, Oct. 21, the Center Moriches Library will be hosting

its third annual Touch-a-Truck event between 10 a.m. and noon. Come down for a fun and educational morning in the library parking lot and get up close and personal with some really awesome vehicles.

The SLED, from Suffolk County Library System, will be here, along with a police car, firetruck, a tractor, construction vehicles and so many other fun trucks, including Mister Softee. ■

## NOAH KALINOWSKI

Noah Kalinowski of Sayville and Moriches passed away on 6/29/23 at the age of 50. He was the loving son of Gerald (deceased) and Sandra Kalinowski. Noah graduated from Sayville High School and Cortland College. Following graduation, Noah spent over a decade as a U.S. Border Patrol Agent in the San Diego/I Centro area. Noah enjoyed many summers racing his Sunfish as a member of Sayville Wet Pants Sailing Association.

He is also survived by his sister

(Heather), Brother-in-law (Ben), and four nephews, Kylan, Harrison, Haydn and Ashton of Australia, and Uncle Michael and Aunt Leanne of Maine.

Caregivers Cathie and Chris, with whom he grew very close, will remember him fondly.

Noah had a gentle heart and a smile of pure joy. He possessed a kindness that touched many--some unknown to them. His star will shine brightly forever.

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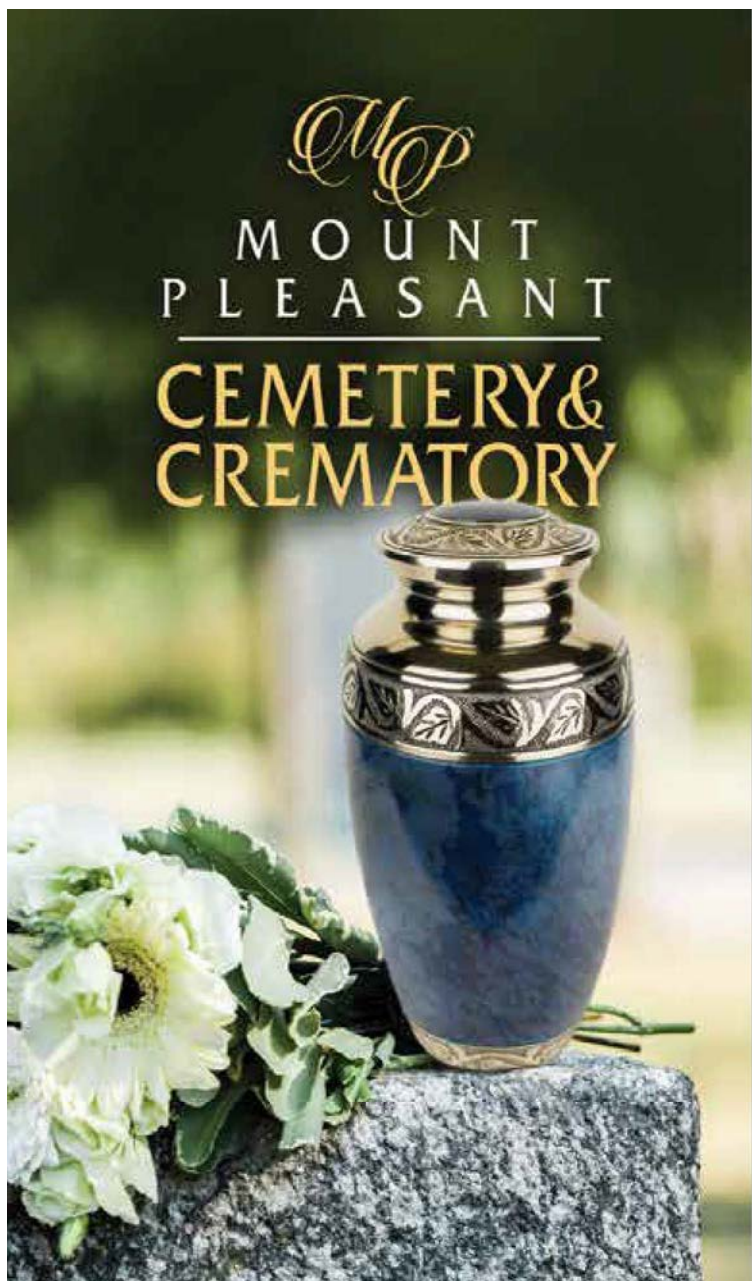
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## KEITH'S CORNER

# Gearing up for fall!

After a busy summer, Helping Makes U Happy is gearing up for one of our favorite seasons—fall! With the help of our local communities, we've outfitted hundreds of kids with new backpacks and school supplies.

Our next event will be a "Thankful Thursday" fundraiser on Sept. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Wendy's! A portion of the sales during those hours will be donated to Helping Makes U Happy in order to provide Thanksgiving food for local families in need.

We will also be collecting nonperishables at the Wendy's location in Center Moriches during the event, and holding a raffle for two great prizes: a lottery board and a big basket full of new Barbie items.

With every nonperishable donation, you get an extra entry for the raffle. More information about that will be forthcoming.

The annual Keith Romaine Snapper Derby will take place on Sept. 17 from 11 to 3 p.m., at the Union Avenue Dock in Center Moriches. This event, organized by the Town of Brookhaven and Montauk Surfcasters, is a fun day of fishing for kids and also funds the Thomas Rera Memorial Scholarship. Please come down and support this!

We are looking forward to CMHS homecoming weekend, Sept. 22 and 23; the Brookhaven Fire Department's

100th anniversary parade and open house on Sept. 23; and the ninth annual Give Kids the World Village Chinese Auction in Riverhead on Sept. 24.

Helping Makes U Happy is also currently collecting and sorting new and gently used Halloween costumes for our annual free Halloween Costume Giveaway. This year, the giveaway will be held on Oct. 7 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Brookhaven Fire Department Station 1 open house, 10 Camp Upton Road, Shirley (behind Zwanger-Pesiri).

Come on down, rain or shine, because we will be inside, and save yourself some money—we have lots of amazing costumes!



## MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

# All about lavender

We cancelled our walking tour of Connetquot Park last month and replaced it with a presentation by Deb Cannarelli, all about lavender.

Lavender dates back 2500 years, mostly found in the Mid-East but also in Spain, Portugal and Croatia. We are most familiar with *lavandula augustifolia*, or English lavender.

Oddly enough, it doesn't originate in England but in the Mediterranean, and is the lavender you would find in Provence, France. For us, this lavender is great because it likes full sun, alkaline, and sandy soil with good drainage.

You can buy it or propagate from cuttings. Trim it down after the first bloom and you'll get a respectable second bloom. It is great for hedges (grows up to 24 inches) and is lovely in rock gardens and herb gardens. You can dry it and make little sachet packets to put in your closet.

Best of all, it is rabbit and deer resistant, and butterflies love it. Some say it repels mosquitoes and moths. It comes in white, blue, violet, pink and of course, lavender. Consider it for your garden.

Later this month we have a guided tour at the Baiting Hollow Winery and Brewery scheduled. We are also planning to start working on the native plant garden with the Town of Brookhaven.

In the meantime, some of us gardeners

are planning and rearranging flowerbeds, since we found it too hot or too rainy to work in the garden last month.

Enjoy September; it's the best weather to be out in the garden.

-Maureen Pollack



## Keith Caputo receives NYS Senate Commendation Award

NYS Sen. Dean Murray presented Keith Caputo, founder of Helping Makes U Happy, with the NYS Senate Commendation Award, which recognizes exceptional people who have made a lasting contribution to their community. Helping Makes U Happy is a not-for-profit organization that aims to demonstrate how every human is capable of making a difference through volunteering and inspire others to make a difference in their community. Caputo and his board of directors are dedicated to helping others and demonstrating how good that makes you feel. They host several fundraisers and community service projects that always involve community participation, as they strive to be family-friendly and provide a positive volunteer experience for anyone who participates. Not only is Caputo paying it forward; he is also providing a positive effect for everyone involved. "This is just one great example of how one person can affect the lives of many.

Thank you, Keith, for being a constant reminder that we can all make a difference," said Murray.

Courtesy photo



## Moriches Chamber monthly update

According to Moriches Chamber of Commerce president Jackie Osborne, the chamber summer concert series, held on the lawn of Clayton Huey Elementary, was successful.

There was a total of four concerts, including 95 South (July 8), Milagro (July 22), Chain Reaction (Aug. 12), and High Tide (Aug. 26).

Also, the members of the chamber enjoyed a sunset cruise in August.

The chamber is now preparing for their Fall Festival planned for Oct. 15; vendor registration is available online. Main Street in Center Moriches will be closed off from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be vendors, food trucks, and of course, the Main Street merchants displaying their merchandise as well as the Main Street eateries serving up tasty snacks and meals.

Become a member! The chamber is always seeking new members. According to Osborne, there are many benefits of belonging to the chamber, including business exposure. The next chamber meeting is scheduled for Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. at Sunsets at Senix.

### SAVE THE DATE

The chamber will also be hosting the annual Veterans Day parade on Nov. 5 starting at 3 p.m. on Main Street in East Moriches. If you or someone you know is a veteran and would be interested in participating in the parade, please call Miriam Gillies at 631-878-1111. If you are unable to walk, the chamber will drive. For more information visit: [www.moricheschamber.org](http://www.moricheschamber.org).

-Nicole Fuentes

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

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

## AROUND TOWN

### Wednesday, September 6

**Mastic Peninsula** - The Historical Society will meet at the Mastic Fire Department, 7:30 p.m. Call 631-281-7347 or visit [www.mphistorical.org](http://www.mphistorical.org) or email [mastichistory333@gmail.com](mailto:mastichistory333@gmail.com) for more information.

### Saturday, September 9

**5K Run for Literacy** - Registration is open for this year's "Bridge to Beach" 5K Run/Walk for Literacy at Smith Point County Park. For more information and to register online, visit the registration page: <https://events.elitefeats.com/23literacy>.

### Tuesday, September 12

**Caregiver Support** - Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center (ADRC) offers a monthly support group at Center Moriches Library, the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Group offers caregivers the opportunity to discuss challenges and share feelings about the many challenges of caring for a person living with cognitive decline as well as gain emotional support. For additional information, contact Sharon Reichman, LMSW at 631-580-4416 or by email at: [sharon.reichman@adrcinc.org](mailto:sharon.reichman@adrcinc.org).

### Saturday, September 16

**Huge Vendor Fair** - Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 495 N. Ocean Ave., Patchogue, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 631-475-4739.

### Saturday, September 23

**Anniversary Party** - The community is welcome to join the Presbyterian Church of the Moriches at 263 Main St., Center Moriches, in celebrating its 275th anniversary, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This free event will feature a colonial times theme with foods prepared from period recipes. Enjoy live musical performances, free food, self-guided tours of the historic building, and lawn games. Rain or shine. Call 631-878-1993.

### Tuesday, September 26

**Stroke Support Club** - Peconic Bay Medical Health holds free in-person and virtual meetings in the multipurpose room by the front lobby at 4 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month to discuss topics of interest, rehabilitation, mindfulness exercises, physical therapy and guest speakers. Survivors and caretakers welcome. To find out more, contact [dlyburt@northwell.edu](mailto:dlyburt@northwell.edu), [csaxtein@northwell.edu](mailto:csaxtein@northwell.edu), or 631-548-6422.

### Thursday, September 28

**Library Book & Media Sale** - Browse a wide selection of books and multi-media items for sale at Center Moriches Library, Thursday through Saturday. Call 631-878-0940.

### Friday, September 29

**Oktoberfest Celebration** - Enjoy the sights and sounds of a traditional Oktoberfest at Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck, 2 Chet Swezey Rd., Center Moriches, Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Traditional German food, beer garden, vendors, rides, and live entertainment. Proceeds will benefit the camp. Rain or shine. For more info, visit [www.camppaquatuck.com/event/15th-annual-oktoberfest/](http://www.camppaquatuck.com/event/15th-annual-oktoberfest/).

### Of Note ...

**Golf Outing** - Peconic Bay Medical Center's Golf Classic at Westhampton Country Club, Monday, Oct. 2. For information, contact Candace Porter at 631-548-6166 or [cporter3@northwell.edu](mailto:cporter3@northwell.edu).

**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.

**Brookhaven Veterans** - Those needing information regarding VA compensation, pensions, health care, employment or other benefits can call Sam Stahlman at Town Hall, between 9-10 a.m. at 631-451-6574.

**Free Food** - Word of Life Ministries opens its food pantry every Tuesday at 6:30-8:30

p.m. for those in need. Sunday service is at 11 a.m. Bring photo I.D. for your first visit. Pantry located at 15 Frowein Rd., Bldg. F4 in Center Moriches. Call 631-208-4050 for more information.

**Retired Seniors** - RSVP helps partner volunteer adults 55+ with local organizations that need help. To find out what opportunities exist, call 631-979-9490 or visit [www.rsvpsuffolk.org](http://www.rsvpsuffolk.org).

**DVDs for Military Personnel** - AMVETS Task Force DVD is an appeal to patriotic Americans to donate their new and used DVDs to be shipped to our fighting men and women overseas. If you have a family member and/or friend deployed anywhere around the world, AMVETS will send them a box of DVDs for their personal and/or unit's use. You may make your request by providing their complete military mailing address, name, APO, etc. in an email addressed to [thilton@amvets.org](mailto:thilton@amvets.org).

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

**Project Warmth** - Program assists eligible families and individuals with heating emergencies. For more information or to apply for the program, dial 2-1-1 (or 1-888-774-7633) or visit [www.unitedwayli.org](http://www.unitedwayli.org).

## YEARS AGO

### 75 Years Ago

SEPTEMBER 1948

Competing against 100 contestants, **Ann Nardi** of Mastic Beach won the diving event of the first annual water safety carnival at Still's Peconic Beach, sponsored by the American Red Cross. **William J. Presley** of Eastport, water chairman of the chapter, was general chairman for the program.

**Wendy Barbara Skarka**, 8-month-old daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Skarka** of Main Street, Center Moriches, was selected as the winner of the baby contest held at the second annual church fair held on the lawn of the Center Moriches Methodist Church. Wendy's mother was presented with a \$25 gift certificate donated by the Comfort Store of Center Moriches.

**Mr. and Mrs. Chester Wilcox Jr.** and **Ralph Wilcox** of Center Moriches attended the ball game between the Yankees and Detroit at Yankee Stadium.

**Gwen Lukert** of Moriches was the guest saxophone soloist at the Westhampton Beach Presbyterian Church on Sunday.

**Harold L. Chapman**, former president of the Rotary Club of the Moriches, was presented with a plaque from the club for his tireless effort and devotion to subjects of Rotary.

Beautiful babies were the order of the day at the baby contest held by the Susanna Wesley Circle of the Methodist Church of Center Moriches. Among the winners were **David Schmidt**, 3-year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. B. Schmidt** of Center Moriches, who was crowned king; and **Karen Ann Skarka**, 5-year-old daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Martin Skarka** of Eastport, who was crowned queen.

**Mrs. Bertha Scott** of East Moriches represented the YWCA of Moriches and Mastic at a dinner and meeting held at the Patchogue Hotel.

Postmaster **Chester A. Pitney** reports that the Eastport post office is showing a rapid gain in postal receipts, with a \$664.50 increase over a like period last year.

**S/Sgt. Lawrence C. Biesel** of Center Moriches has been selected to attend the GCA Gilfillan Factory Training School at the March Air Force Base, Riverside, Calif., after passing a qualifying exam in order to be accepted.

**Janice Marion Alfred**, of Eastport, and **Eugene Martin Crouse**, also of Eastport, were united in marriage in a double ring ceremony at the Eastport Gospel Church. Both bride and groom are graduates of Eastport High School.

The Moriches Choral Society opened its session at the Mill House in Center Moriches under the direction of **Mrs. Edna Kaler Gracey**, director and founder, where **Erick Lemmon** of East Moriches was elected president.

**Carol Bernstein** of Union Avenue, Center Moriches, has begun her studies at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City, where she will study music theatre.

The weekly dress award given by Murray's Department Store of Center Moriches was given to **Antoinette Cappazola** of Eastport.

**Anthony Michna** of Center Moriches was elected commander of the Moriches Post 929, American Legion, at a meeting held at the Legion clubrooms on Senix Avenue.

**Erick Lemmen** of East Moriches reported to town police that 50 bushels of potatoes were missing from his farm along Riverhead Road.

Six 1948 graduates of Eastport High School are attending college in the fall. Among them are **Richard Brown**, United States Coast Guard Academy; **Elizabeth Lemmon**, Oneonta State College; **Alice Osman**, Adelphi College; **John Siskind**, Oneonta State College; **Will Weatherbee**, General Motors Technical Institute; and **Priscilla Tuttle**, Flower Hospital Nurses School.

Playing in September at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: Cornell Wilde and Linda Darnell in "The Walls of Jericho"; Joel McRea and Frances Dee in "Four Faces West"; Alan Ladd and Donna Reed in "Beyond Glory"; and Randolph Scott and Anne Jeffreys in "Return of Bad Men."



September 1973: Pictured are children who built a Native American village during the Children's Summer Program at the Center Moriches Public Library, who were encouraged in their craftsmanship by (left to right) assistant director Janet Warkowski, director Arlene Strongin, and aides Gregory Dutcher and Joan Nizza.

### 50 Years Ago

SEPTEMBER 1973

**Chris Stiven Jr.** and his dad, **Chris Stiven Sr.**, of Mastic Beach, were fishing together when younger Stiven landed an 18-pound, 8-ounce fluke, clinching him first place in the 10th annual Fluke Tourney, sponsored by the Moriches Bay Fishing Stations Association.

The East Moriches Queen of All Hearts Council 4126 held its first antique flea market, attracting over 20 dealers from all over Long Island. Among the council members working behind the scenes were **Carol Tuzzeo**, **Barbara Prestia** and **Mary Brooks**.

The Long Island Game Farm in

Manorville has introduced the Zoomobile, a unique conservation effort that brings animals and understanding directly to the community. The concept was announced by **Stanley Novak**, director of the game farm, who said that the Zoomobile will feature a number of live animals, including llama, skunk, box and red turtles, raccoons, monkeys, as well as a qualified animal conservation lecturer.

**Mr. and Mrs. Maurice E. Kelley** of Montauk Highway, Eastport, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 22 with an open house.

Playing this week at local United Artists Theatres: Marlon Brando in "Last Tango in Paris"; and Paul Newman in "The Mackintosh Man."

- Compiled by **Vanessa Graniello**

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6208-0721

**More classifieds on the next page**

# Man on the Street

What was your favorite memory from this summer?

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

Summer memories hold a special place in our hearts and minds, etched into the fabric of our lives for years to come. These cherished recollections of vacations, sunny beach days, and movie nights with family fuel our childhoods and become stories we pass down to our own children someday. We reached out to the residents of Moriches to uncover their best moments from the summer of 2023. And now, we'd love to share these delightful memories with you. Do you have an opinion? Let us know. What were your greatest memories from this summer? Share your thoughts on Facebook and join the conversation.



**Leila Magci**  
"I went to my niece's wedding in Atlanta. It was beautiful."



**Steven Bukenfeld**  
"My son's wedding in Catskills was my summer highlight. It was the day my son married the love of his life."



**Alex Parker**  
"The Eastport Fireman's picnic is always my favorite summer memory. I've been going my whole life and look forward to it each year."



**Nicole Lescu**  
"I had my third child on May 31. We named her Summer Rose because it's our favorite season. It's a time when our family can relax and unwind. That's why it's special."

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