

the Tide

OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE



Long Island marine farmers diversify their crops

Sugar kelp—seaweed—can
save the bay and farmers

BY PATRICIA KALOSKI

Seaweed—boaters and beachgoers know what it is—that slimy, yet sometimes crunchy stuff that gets tangled between your toes as you debark your vessel, carefully navigating your way to the shore. It's what makes you scream "ewww" as it squishes beneath your feet, or in this reporter's case, was the reason she had to be carried to the beach by her dad for most of her childhood.

Unpleasant consistencies aside, seaweed has a myriad of beneficial uses, and for one East Moriches resident and bayman, has become somewhat of a passion.

Paul McCormick, founder and operator of Great Gun Shellfish, has been growing and harvesting sugar kelp at his oyster farm situated along the Terrell River in East Moriches since 2019. A bayman with a B.S. in environmental science from Cornell University, McCormick became involved with the initiative when he was

See **KELP FARMING** on page 10

A tradition in music

Celebrating 25 years
in the Moriches

BY NICOLE FUENTES

This month, Jimmy Osborne Music will be celebrating 25 years in business in Center Moriches.

Over 80 years ago, Jimmy Osborne's father, Chester G. Osborne, started passing on the tradition of music as direc-

tor of music in Center Moriches High School, and the high school dedicated the high school auditorium to him.

The entire family are music educators and performers and have devoted their lives to music. The family motto is "A Tradition in Music." In June of 1997, Jimmy and Jackie Osborne had a vision of continuing that tradition by opening the music school in their hometown of Center Moriches.

See **OSBORNE MUSIC** on page 8



Courtesy photo

Happy Father's Day to all Dads. Enjoy it, and know how loved you are!



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**Fun at the
Tulip Fest** PAGE 4

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Lucharitos** PAGE 18

**Rainbow Scoops opens
in Manorville** PAGE 20



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Boy Scouts clean up elementary gardens

Site honors the late Kim Hardwick

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Committee chair for Boy Scout Troop 23 Sean Spiller and his team of about seven scouts recently participated in a cleanup and rebuild of the garden beds at the Clayton Huey Community Garden. The project was made even more special being that the gardens were named in honor of the late former principal Kim Hardwick.

“It was great to spend the morning with my scouts, giving back to the community,” Spiller said, both as an employee of the school district and the committee chairman for the Boy Scout troop. “We look forward to this growing season and hope that the produce grown in this garden will help local families in need.”

Hardwick, who served as the leader and principal of Clayton Huey Elementary School, died in 2019. The community mourned the loss in May of that year, remembering the leader, mother, and friend, who died suddenly in April at age 50 due to complications from surgery.



On Saturday, April 31, seven Boy Scouts from Troop 23 led the cleanup and rebuild of the Clayton Huey Community Garden named for former principal Kim Hardwick. The topsoil was purchased and donated by Suffolk Soil.

Courtesy photos



self under the guidelines of the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

“Over the years, weathering caused the garden to deteriorate and a decision was made to reconstruct many of the beds,” he said. “We had the support of several Clayton Huey families, current board of education members and their families, as well as the members of Boy Scout Troop 23. Because of the hard

work of so many individuals at the same time, we were able to give this part of our school a fresh new look.”

Even though the project is no longer funded by Cornell, Spiller explained that the garden still operates under their guidelines by using no products containing pesticides or toxins, meaning the wood is not pressure-treated.

On Saturday, April 31, the boys led the cleanup and rebuilt the garden beds, also placing topsoil purchased and donated by Suffolk Soil. Rick Kleinman also provided the power tools. The adults measured and cut the wood for the frames and the older boys helped assemble.

The school, Ricci said, is now looking forward to the contributions of community members, classroom teachers and students, and some of Clayton Huey’s clubs as they begin planting this spring.

“We hope the garden can provide sustenance and learning opportunities for our community for many years to come,” he added. ■

Two more parcels preserved

Town continues to obtain land for open space

BY NICOLE FUENTES

As of last month, the Town of Brookhaven has officially obtained two more parcels for open space including: an 8-acre site on Bay Avenue in East Moriches and a 2.3-acre site in Center Moriches.

According to councilman Dan Panico, who can be credited with the preservation effort, the East Moriches property, known as the finger parcel, is located on the east side of Bay Avenue just north of Smith Street. The town board approved the preservation on April 14.

The total cost of purchase was \$2,200,000 and will be paid in three separate purchases over three years—2022 purchase, \$550,000.00; 2023 purchase, \$825,000.00; 2024 purchase, \$825,000.00—plus closing costs and real estate taxes. The Joseph Macchia Environmental Preservation Fund will fund the expense.

“We have made significant efforts throughout the area,” Panico said of preserving land in East Moriches, including a property on Atlantic Avenue.

The town also plans to close on the 3.2-acre wooded property in Center Moriches soon. The board voted to obtain that property located on Montauk Highway

on April 15. The total cost of the property is \$380,000 plus closing costs and taxes, and will be paid from the capital bond that enables the town to purchase and preserve open space in environmentally



The town also plans to close on the 3.2-acre wooded property in Center Moriches soon.

sensitive areas.

“In many ways, we are in a race against time because once a property is developed,

it’s forever,” Panico said. “We will continue to work on preserving properties in the area to maintain the character.” ■



The 8-acre property can be seen in this aerial photo colored red.

Courtesy photos



Happy Birthday, Bobo!

The Long Island Game Farm is celebrating Bobo the giraffe’s 2nd birthday on Sunday, July 3, with a rain date of Monday, July 4.

The party will start at noon as they present him with a special birthday “cake!” He will eat cake as everyone watches and learns facts about giraffes. A percentage of all admissions for the day will go to the Giraffe Conservation Foundation, as reticulated giraffe are on the endangered list.

“Through supporting the Giraffe Conservation Foundation and teach-

ing people about it, we can help save the giraffe species in the wild,” said farm owner Melinda.

Also, on June 21, the farm will be celebrating World Giraffe Day by spending the day with the tallest animal in the world on the longest day of the year!

“By supporting World Giraffe Day, you directly help save giraffe in Africa. With only approximately 117,000 giraffes remaining in the wild, the time is right to act now!” according to the Giraffe Conservation Foundation. ■

Photo courtesy Steve and Lori Biegler

Tulip Festival attracts thousands

Waterdrinker Family Farm celebrates another successful season

BY NICHOLAS GRASSO

Tulip season has come and gone, but for a brief moment, a million bulbs of multicolored beauty graced the island.

Thousands traveled across the island to Manorville, where they visited the Waterdrinker Family Farm's annual Tulip Festival this spring. The short-lived attraction opened April 17 and came to a close May 8. It provided memories for kids meeting the Easter bunny and moms who soaked in more flowers than a Mother's Day bouquet could ever possibly provide.

Since May 14, the farm invited those who plant gardens of their own to "dig

days," a chance to dig up and take home tulip bulbs to plant at home next season.

During the festival's four weekends, the family farm's parking lot filled up and cars parked along Wading River Road, stretching past nearby Lenny Bruno farms, reaching the entry ramp to the Long Island Expressway to the north.

Once inside, friends and families tiptoed through a nearly overwhelming field of multichromatic tulips bloomed from the million bulbs the Weiss family planted, enjoyed eats from food trucks and sipped beers from the Long Island Farm Brewery, all scored to live musical acts.

For children, the farm offered pedal race tracks, jumbo bouncy pads and jungle gym attractions to explore, as parents looked on and snapped memories. Guests could also visit petting zoo animals, play a round of mini golf, and take

a spin in a human-sized hamster-like wheel. With all the activities, families with children made the Tulip Festival a daylong affair.

"I work around the corner and I saw it the other day and I said, 'This would be beautiful for the family,'" said Frank Anyah, his daughter Anaya on his shoulders and his wife Rebecca—expecting their second child—by his side. "She loves it. She was a little upset when we had to leave the bouncy area, but she's enjoying herself."

From stationary bicycles and chairs, to a full-scale windmill and—of course—the polychromatic natural landscape of the tulips themselves, all those who descended on Waterdrinker were granted incredible photo opportunities. While most wore casual, comfortable clothes, some guests dressed their best to snap a unique photo in a delightful spring bloom. Others brought profession-

al-grade cameras, selfie sticks, and even accessories to capture a perfect moment.

"We're big picture people," Nick Flagg said, alongside his family. "There's a lot of photo ops here, so it's great to take pictures."

Simone Flagg, his wife, said she researched multiple farms to spend a day with the family, which also included their daughter, Melanie.

"I was on Instagram and I came across it," Simone Flagg said. "This one was just beautiful, a lot of colors. It's actually better than I expected it to be; I'm not going to lie."

Nick Flagg said the family will likely make the Waterdrinker Family Farm Tulip Festival a tradition after they welcome a new addition to the family.

"We're expecting another little one, so hopefully next year we'll bring the newborn back to have another good day at the Tulip Festival." ■

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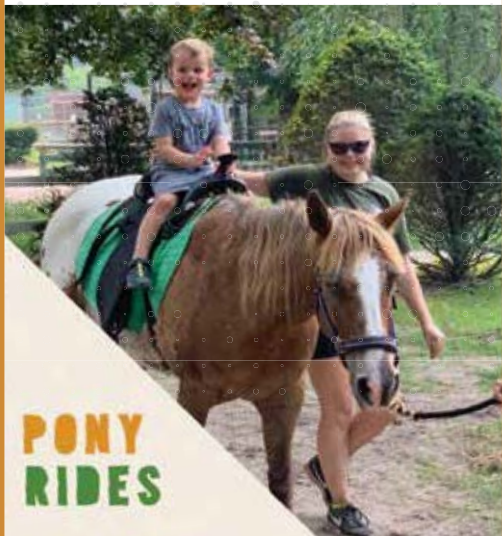
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What is Memorial Day about?

Center Moriches says it's a moment to reflect and serve our veterans

BY NICHOLAS GRASSO

Following the Civil War, regional remembrances for fallen soldiers of the Civil War commenced around the nation. The celebrations were dubbed "Decoration Day" for the act of placing flowers at soldiers' gravesites and memorials. In 1967, Congress officially dubbed this tradition "Memorial Day." The body then declared the federal holiday be recognized on the final Monday of each May in 1971.

Unlike Veterans Day, Memorial Day is devoted to those veterans who perished. When asked the meaning of the holiday, passersby on Main Street in Center Moriches cited honoring all the nation's military service members, not only those who are deceased. Many suggested the nation must now serve those who served in the armed forces, approximately 100,000 of whom reside in Suffolk and Nassau counties, according to the United States Census Bureau.

"It's to honor those men and women who have served in the armed forces to protect our liberty and the liberty of other people around the world," Mary Gullo, of East Moriches, said of Memorial Day.



"It's to celebrate them for all they have done for us," Diana Gullo, Mary Gullo's daughter, with whom she was enjoying a brew from Hampton Coffee Company, said. "And we should give them better health care."

"They should not close the VA hospitals," Mary Gullo added. "That's not right, it really isn't."

The mother and daughter pointed to an issue that made headlines farther west, when elected officials and veterans gathered outside the Northport Veterans Affairs Medical Center to protest a recommendation in an 82-page report from the VA's Asset and Infrastructure Review Commission. The plan proposed the Northport VA shutter its emergency room and shift various medical services to hospitals and rehabilitation facilities

throughout the island and the burrows.

The report stated the Long Island market has an increased demand for outpatient services and that the plan "is intended to provide veterans today and in the future with access to high-quality and conveniently located care in modern infrastructure."

Many others spending their cloudy Saturday morning in Center Moriches expressed concern for veterans' health care, including Brian Moloney, whose brothers, John and Jim Moloney, served in the United States Air Force.

"We should take better care of the veterans. I don't think we do enough for our veterans," Moloney, who was performing maintenance around his cousins' Moloney-Sinnicksons Funeral Home and Cremation Center, said. "They need

better health care, better mental care; all around, there's a lot of stuff we can do for them."

Down the road, filling up his motorcycle with gas, Dylan Hughes of Manorville agreed Memorial Day is the time to "celebrate our vets, everything they've done for us, all the sacrifices they've made for us."



"I have a lot of friends that have served, Marines, Army, and Navy," Hughes added. "It would be nice to see everybody stand up for them and get all the help that they need, especially with the VA. A lot of times, they have to wait to get into things."

Last year, the United States Govern-

See **WHAT IS MEMORIAL DAY ABOUT?** on page 9



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Air Force vet celebrates 100

Retired Air Force veteran and FDNY firefighter Chester Moscicki celebrated his 100th birthday. He was born in Brooklyn on May 2, 1922. He now lives in Center Moriches. He served during WWII as a tail gunner in a B-26 and was wounded during a crash landing on a Japanese island. He is also known for shooting down a Japanese airplane. After returning home, he joined the FDNY in 1945, where he became a captain. He served for over 30 years before retiring in 1976.

He is an avid reader and private person, who deserves the recognition.

Courtesy photo

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BY STACY KREY, LMT

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Ocean Spa Beauty & Wellness, established in 2015, is a family owned and operated day spa at 369 Montauk Hwy in East Moriches. Owners (and sisters) Stacy Krey, LMT and Virginia White, LE have over 20 years collective experience in the day spa industry. To speak with one of them directly, please call (631) 909-3810. A full menu of services can be found at www.OceanSpaLI.com.





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OSBORNE MUSIC: 25 years

FROM PAGE 1



In June of 1997, Jimmy and Jackie Osborne continued his family's love of music by opening Jimmy Osborne Music in their hometown, Center Moriches.



To celebrate their anniversary, for the month of June the music school, located at 377 Main Street, Center Moriches, will be holding an open house on June 18 from noon to 3 p.m. for anyone interested in coming.

Courtesy photos

"Jimmy and I love the feeling of family, friends, and community in Center Moriches," said wife and co-owner Jackie. "With Jimmy growing up in Center Moriches, we have a strong bond to our community. Giving back to our community is extremely important."

What do they love about their family business the most? Sharing the gift of music.

"It was important for us to carry on my father's legacy of giving music back to the community," Jimmy said. "We love the fact that many of our students have gone on to continue to give this gift of music as music educators, performers, composers, and some of our musicians have gone to compete in 'The Voice' and 'American Idol.' The feeling is so special when a former student comes back to visit and tells us how much music has made a difference in their lives."

Their students are everyone, from those just learning how to play music, those who want to learn to perform and become professional musicians and recording artists, to adults and children.

The business offers lessons on piano, guitar, bass, voice, drums, as well as woodwind, brass, violin, viola and cello, with a dedicated teaching staff of music educators and performers, including two specially dedicated managers, Josephine Fay and Lynn Dalen.

The couple, and business owners, are also involved with the Moriches Chamber of Commerce as well as several other community services. At the chamber, they help with the St. Patrick's Day and Veterans Day parades as well as the town fairs. Jimmy was also recently honored as this year's member of the year. Additionally, for the past three years, they have implemented a music program at OLQA Our Lady Queen of the Apostles

in Center Moriches.

"When you think of the Center Moriches' downtown business district, you think of Jimmy Osborne Music," said chamber president Art Gerhauser. "Jimmy and his family have been fulfilling the music needs of the community for 25 years. This includes lessons to children and adults. Jimmy and Jackie are longtime chamber members dedicated to serving and improving the community."

For the past 14 years, they were an integral part of the organization of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event held at Center Moriches High School, donating their time to raise money and organizing the event. They have also hosted annual events and fundraisers, including Relay Idol and Relay's Got Talent as well as the annual fundraising recital in which all proceeds are donated to local charities. In addition, their band Chain Reaction and their duo After Dark perform all over Long Island.

To celebrate their anniversary, for the month of June the music school, located at 377 Main Street, Center Moriches, be holding an open house on June 18 from noon to 3 p.m. for anyone interested in coming. They will also be hosting a summer program in July and August, with a ribbon-cutting dedication ceremony to be announced. For more information, call 631-874-7441 or visit <https://jimmyosbornemusic.com/>.

"We want to thank our community for all their support and love. It has been an honor serving our community for the past 25 years and carry on our family tradition by passing on the gift of music," Jimmy added.

During their next 25 years, they hope to continue to pass on their love of music to the next generations of musicians. ■

Fourth of July paddle under the fireworks

Watch fireworks as you paddleboard on the Moriches Bay. Amanda Bruno, a certified yoga and paddleboard instructor, will be hosting her annual Fourth of July paddle.

The event costs \$55 per person and includes equipment, a lesson, and a guided tour. Bruno, who owns a yoga studio in Manorville, hosts an early, 10 a.m. and sunset paddle on July 4, but said the sun-

set paddle is the most popular because of the fireworks.

Event-goers can either bring their own paddleboard or rent one. The event generally lasts for about an hour and 15 minutes. For more information about the Fourth of July event visit www.longislandvibes.com.

-Nicole Fuentes

WHAT IS MEMORIAL DAY ABOUT?: Q&A with locals

FROM PAGE 6

ment Accountability Office issued its annual priority open recommendations to the VA, which contained 28 priority recommendations for improvement broken into 12 key areas.

One area regarded veterans' access to timely health care and called on the VA to "improve the reliability of wait-time measures either by clarifying the scheduling policy to better define the desired date, or by identifying clearer wait time measures that are not subject to interpretation and prone to scheduler error." The section noted that according to VA officials, "the department is in the process of implementing a new scheduling

system for all VA health care facilities, with a targeted national completion date of 2027."

Another area of the report called for improvements to the Veterans Community Care program, which provides veterans with health care access from non-VA providers in their local community. The GAO recommended the VA "establish an achievable wait-time goal that allows it to monitor whether veterans are receiving VA community care within time frames that are comparable to the amount of time they would otherwise wait to receive care at VA facilities" and "design an appointment scheduling pro-



cess for community care that establishes time frames for processing, scheduling, and receiving care."

Other Main Streeters discussed additional ways to serve society's veterans, citing the struggle they face upon reentering civilian life. Some called for more programs that foster a sense of community and companionship among veterans.

"We have to give back," Amanda Fennell, who finished up a workshop as the Art Nanny at the Center Moriches Library, said. "We have to be able to have opportunities for them and have different incentives for them to be able to be more a part of the community. We owe a lot to them, and I feel like that's not even considered." ■



Parkinson's walk at Oasis

The Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center recently hosted a Parkinson's Walk on April 22 in Center Moriches. More than 100 patients, staffers, and members of the community came together at Oasis Rehabilitation & Nursing in Center Moriches to walk in honor of efforts to find a cure for Parkinson's disease. Walkers, who took laps around the building, walked more than

5,000 steps and raised \$675. They also raised awareness of current advances, therapeutic boxing, and other treatments and adaptive equipment for Parkinson's. Community volunteers also planted hundreds of tulips, the official flower for Parkinson's, that were donated by Kurt Weiss Greenhouses in Center Moriches. ■

Courtesy photo

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KELP FARMING: Seaweed being grown at oyster farms for harvest

FROM PAGE 1

approached by Stony Brook University about growing the seaweed at his farm as part of a research project.

According to McCormick, while the bay is home to seaweeds such as gracilaria, agardhiella, and the sea lettuce known as ulva, sugar kelp is not usually found in Moriches Bay, but rather in more northern places like New England and Nova Scotia, where it thrives in colder water temperatures and deeper waters. The idea of farming sugar kelp was especially exciting, McCormick said, because it would take place in the shallow waters that serve as home to his oyster farms.

“I wasn’t sure that it had ever been tried; the prevailing belief is that because sugar kelp grows to lengths of 15 feet, the blades would degrade as they came into contact with the bottom. For no good reason, though, I had a hunch that it would work on the farm.”

And so did Mike Doall, a scientist and researcher at Stony Brook University’s School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, who had been mulling the idea for more than a decade. An oyster farmer himself, Doall thought growing sugar kelp would be a great way to diversify his crop, so he gave it a try. With overall success at the Montauk site, Doall began thinking about growing it at other Long Island locations.

Meanwhile, McCormick was in the beginning stages of his foray into oyster farming, which led him to Doall and his Montauk oyster farm. As fellow scientists, baymen, and native Massapequa residents, the two hit it off immediately. As Doall continued to develop the sugar kelp research project, he could think

of no better place than McCormick’s Terrell River oyster farm to give it a go. Grant funding and a partnership with the nonprofit environmental organization Greenwave helped to make the project a reality.

“Mike and I were inspired to make this happen, and so it did,” said McCormick. “We came up with a simple system to help keep the kelp suspended off the bottom before it reached a stage of hardness, where it could endure the scouring sand while also being located just deep enough below the surface to avoid being destroyed by winter ice.”

The process of cultivating sugar kelp is a long one that begins in the fall, Doall said, when he and other members of the research team dive the waters off Montauk and Fisher’s Island to retrieve live kelp samples. After that, the samples are taken back to Doall’s research lab at Stony Brook University where tissue is removed, prepared, and kept overnight in a refrigerator before it’s immersed into a seawater tank. When the spores become large enough, they are wrapped around spools for planting in the oyster farm, sometime in December; sugar kelp crops are then harvested in the spring.

The system that McCormick and Doall devised to transplant the baby kelp was quite simple, both said. The kelp, after being wrapped around the spool of string, was stretched between two PVC pipes, and then installed in the water with anchors at each end, with the kelp being suspended about one foot above the sandy river bottom.

“Not only did it work, but the kelp at Great Gun oyster farm that initial

year outperformed 16 other farms participating in the study that were all deeper water farms where kelp had traditionally been grown. The shallow-water success was a paradigm-shifting result for the industry. The kelp had grown from millimeters in December to monstrous 6-to-9-foot blades by late March, and it’s been that way every year since,” said McCormick.

While McCormick is still growing sea kelp in a research stage, Doall is hopeful that by next year, aquaculture farmers will be able to get permits which will allow it to be harvested for retail. This means that farmers won’t have to rely only on their oyster farms.

“Oyster farming is a lot of work; you’re always in the water,” Doall noted. “This [sugar kelp farming] will enable Long Island marine farmers to diversify their crops and will add a revenue stream to New York’s aquaculture industry.”

“It’s an extremely low-maintenance crop; you essentially set it and forget it. You don’t have to flip it, clean it, cull it, tumble it, split it, or any of the other myriad cultivation tasks required in oyster farming,” added McCormick.

Which could mean significant returns for farmers, depending on what market they target. Doall said the prices for kelp can range: fresh baby kelp could sell for as much as \$10 a pound, while processed kelp could go for 50 cents a pound, Doall said. At Great Gun oyster farm, anywhere from 4 to 10 pounds of sugar kelp is harvested in a season.

But there’s more than just the economic benefit to sugar kelp farming: equally as beneficial is the positive impact on the

environment, said McCormick and Doall, especially when it comes to improving water quality in Long Island waterways, which has been greatly diminished over the years to due nitrogen pollution. And while there are land-based solutions currently in place or underway to mitigate the damaging effects of nitrogen, such as alternative septic systems, Doall said those benefits will take years to realize. Therefore, “in-water solutions” like growing sea kelp provides a more immediate solution, because as sugar kelp undergoes photosynthesis, excess nutrients and carbon dioxide are removed while oxygen is released. In addition, sea kelp provides the perfect natural habitat for the variety of sea creatures that live in Terrell River.

For now, the sugar kelp from Great Gun oyster farm is being used strictly for research purposes, said McCormick. Once harvested, the kelp is taken to Stony Brook’s facilities, where it is dried for research purposes. One of the studies includes using the kelp as a soil amendment, Doall said, and so it’s been ground into meal and applied to research gardens that grow carrots, spinach, and tomatoes.

When the time does come for Long Island aquaculture farmers like McCormick to obtain permits for commercial production, there are countless ways that the kelp can be used in a variety of industries, including food, cosmetics, fertilizers, bioplastics, and animal feed. “The list goes on,” McCormick said. In the meantime, McCormick and Doall agree that the sugar kelp is at its best when it’s fresh off the vine. ■

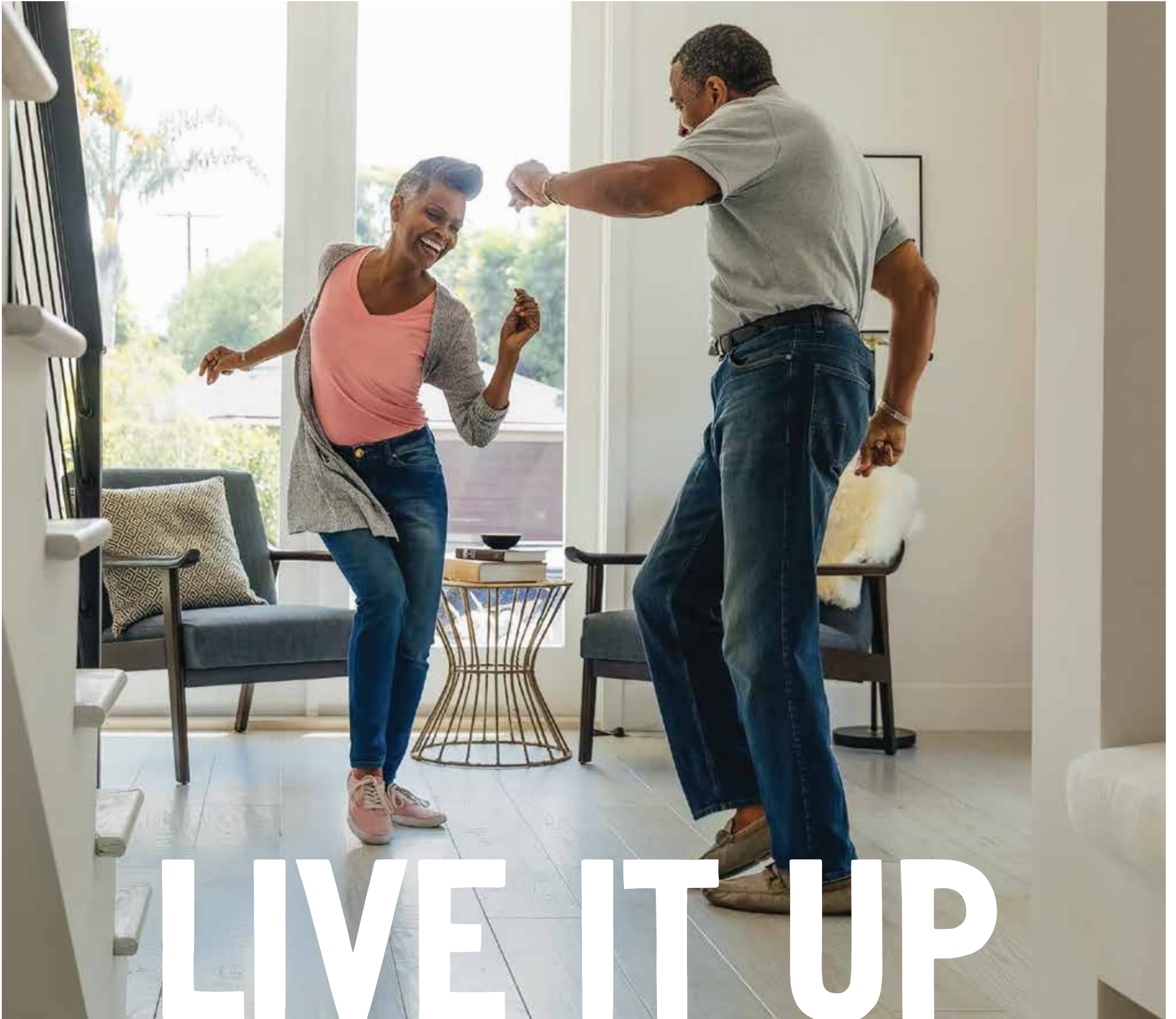


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Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing “Knocking Out” Parkinson’s Program

Kathryn Montgomery was successfully discharged from Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing on Monday, May 16th after several months.

When she was admitted, Kathryn was unsure if she would be able to return to her home due to her decreased ability to function independently secondary to Parkinson’s Disease. Parkinson’s Disease debilitated her and placed her at a high risk for falls. Her Movement Disorder Specialist recommended Oasis because of our specialized Parkinson’s program. With our multidisciplinary care team, we were able to develop a comprehensive and individualized treatment program. Parkinson’s specific strategies and exercises are taught in the Parkinson’s Program, and as a result of Kathryn’s hard work, her previous medical conditions no longer in-

hibited her function. By eliminating her fear of falling, increasing her strength, and improving her balance, her quality of life has improved. She is able to spend time with her loved ones at home. Kathryn’s progress won’t stop now that she has safely returned home. The Parkinson’s Program at Oasis provides a community support group and Rock Steady Boxing classes at no charge to the participant. Kathryn has successfully completed her rehabilitation and regained her independence. Had she not worked so hard with the Oasis team, she may have spent her golden years living in a Long-Term Care Facility due to her Parkinson’s disease.

#NeverGiveUp #FightBack



Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing is a proud affiliate of Rock Steady Boxing. For more information, please contact Amy Mahnken, Community Liason, 631-655-9928

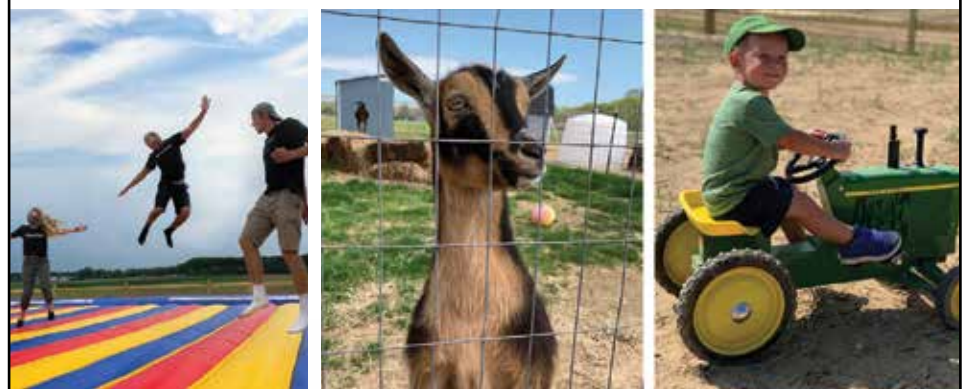


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BY NICOLE FUENTES

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REVIEW

A review from a Lucharitos first-timer

Where else is a mother of three to go for her honorary Mother’s Day dinner? Lucharitos was a no-brainer decision, being that to-go margaritas were at the top of the list. Admittedly, I couldn’t wait to try the place but have been putting it on the back-burner due to distance from Sayville to the Moriches. However, after getting a taste of the Mexican tequila bar, that will no longer be the case. The place is really trendy and fun; a bit pricey, but with a taste worth the expenditure. My family already has plans to return.

The Tacos

We ordered the barbecued pulled pork taco with pineapple salsa and pico and cheese on a double soft tortilla; the classic carne asada taco with flank steak cilantro, mint radish and salsa verde; and the fan-favorite coconut shrimp taco with pickled slaw, corn salsa and chipotle mayo. The tacos were out-of-this-world delicious—need to order every one on the menu, and there is quite the selection.



Carne Asada Burrito

This burrito was packed! So delicious and impossible to finish.



Mexican Ribs

These ribs were tender and tasty—the best selection of the night, hands down. Didn’t need any sauce, but their brown sugar sauce was a standout. They call them their “famous fried ribs” and I totally second that.



Mexican Street Corn

Came off the cob dressed in queso fresco, cilantro, lucha spice rub, and chipotle mayo. Really good corn side, small offering. We added ours to the nachos.



Demon de Pollo Nachos

The nachos were delectably salty and home-fried; we opted to top them with savory adobo chicken. The chicken was nearly shredded and came in large white-meat chunks. These nachos were loaded with guac, pico, sour cream, beans and slaw, with plenty to share. We took them to-go and they didn’t get soggy and were still perfectly crispy after the 20-minute ride. Ten of out 10, would order again.



Margarita, 32 ounces

The \$35, 32-ounce margaritas were reasonable and delicious—not too sweet and you could certainly taste the tequila. It also came in a really cool to-go glass, which will be fun to use at home year-round. Next time we will go for the mango flavor or the Lucha Punch.

Adv/Fuentes





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6/5 to 6/11														
Moriches Bay	----- AM	12:45 PM	12:29AM	1:29 PM	1:18 AM	2:15 PM	2:09 AM	3:04 PM	3:04 AM	3:56 PM	4:04 AM	4:50 PM	5:07 AM	5:44 PM
Moriches Inlet	12:06 AM	11:50 PM	----- AM	12:50 PM	12:39 AM	1:36 PM	1:30 AM	2:25 PM	2:25 AM	3:17 PM	3:25 AM	4:11 PM	4:28 AM	5:05 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	1:58 AM	3:01 PM	2:45 AM	3:45 PM	3:34 AM	4:31 PM	4:25 AM	5:20 PM	5:20 AM	6:12 PM	6:20 AM	7:06 PM	7:23 AM	8:00 PM
6/12 to 6/18														
Moriches Bay	6:07 AM	6:37 PM	7:03 AM	7:28 PM	7:57 AM	8:20 PM	8:52 AM	9:13 PM	9:49 AM	10:09 PM	10:48 AM	11:08 PM	11:49 AM	----- PM
Moriches Inlet	5:28 AM	5:58 PM	6:24 AM	6:49 PM	7:18 AM	7:41 PM	8:13 AM	8:34 PM	9:10 AM	9:30 PM	10:09 AM	10:29 PM	11:10 AM	11:27 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	8:23 AM	8:53 PM	9:19 AM	9:44 PM	10:13 AM	10:36 PM	11:08 AM	11:29 PM	----- AM	12:05 PM	12:25 AM	1:04 PM	1:24 AM	2:05 PM
6/19 to 6/25														
Moriches Bay	12:06 AM	12:47 PM	1:02 AM	1:43 PM	1:56 AM	2:36 PM	2:49 AM	3:29 PM	3:43 AM	4:22 PM	4:39 AM	5:13 PM	5:34 AM	6:01 PM
Moriches Inlet	----- AM	12:08 PM	12:23 AM	1:04 PM	1:17 AM	1:57 PM	2:10 AM	2:50 PM	3:04 AM	3:43 PM	4:00 AM	4:34 PM	4:55 AM	5:22 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	2:22 AM	3:03 PM	3:18 AM	3:59 PM	4:12 AM	4:52 PM	5:05 AM	5:45 PM	5:59 AM	6:38 PM	6:55 AM	7:29 PM	7:50 AM	8:17 PM
6/26 to 7/2														
Moriches Bay	6:25 AM	6:44 PM	7:12 AM	7:25 PM	7:56 AM	8:03 PM	8:38 AM	8:40 PM	9:19 AM	9:17 PM	10:01 AM	9:54 PM	10:43 AM	10:31 PM
Moriches Inlet	5:46 AM	6:05 PM	6:33 AM	6:46 PM	7:17 AM	7:24 PM	7:59 AM	8:01 PM	8:40 AM	8:38 PM	9:22 AM	9:15 PM	10:04 AM	9:52 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	8:41 AM	9:00 PM	9:28 AM	9:41 PM	10:12 AM	10:19 PM	10:54 AM	10:56 PM	11:35 AM	11:33 PM	----- AM	12:17 PM	12:10 AM	12:59 PM

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A multigenerational tradition

Presbyterian Church of the Moriches hosts its 24th annual afternoon tea

BY NICHOLAS GRASSO

At the Presbyterian Church of the Moriches' afternoon tea on Saturday, May 7, Richard Horton's scones were among the hottest discussion topics.

"I typically don't eat scones, but these are the best; I love the flavor of them," Dawn Viggiano, one of the church's deacons, said. "It's not like a traditional scone; sometimes you get a baking-soda flavor like an Irish soda bread, kinda dry, but these are nice and moist. Dick makes the best."

The church's 24th annual afternoon tea raised funds for its general fund and served as an outreach endeavor to the greater Moriches community. Admission to the Victorian-style event included a selection of seven different teas, scones with the cream and preservative fixings, and an array of eats stacked on tradition-

al tea towers.

The church's session and other members and volunteers pitched in to prepare and bake all the food, including Horton, who toiled over his scones in the church kitchen.

"What makes a good scone?," Horton said. "Love and care, don't be afraid to put sugar and raisins in it, pat it and love it, and put it in the oven."

Other members prepared the various finger sandwiches. Chicken salad with cherries on honey wheat, ham salad on wheat, cucumber atop pumpernickel and cream cheese-smeared date nut bread lined the tea towers' bottom tiers. Fresh-baked pastries and cookies adorned the top.

As for all the fine china fit for a proper tea, the churchgoers and tea attendees themselves have pitched in over the past two decades.

"Over the years, it's been given to us by friends who've attended the tea and members of our church," Nancy Horton, a church session member, said. "I can recall who gave us much of it, so it's a good memory when I unpack. I

can remember friends who aren't here anymore."

Among those friends fondly remembered is Blanche Laskee, a longtime Center Moriches resident who routinely attended the annual tea. Although she has passed, several members of her family attended this year's gathering.

"We've been coming here every year since I was little; I'm 30 years old now," Caroline Gilmartin said. "We always used to come here with my Great Aunt Blanche. This is our first year without her; she passed away in July. She was 95 years old."

"I think she liked the event because she saw a lot of her old friends that she went to Center Moriches High School with and would keep in touch with them at this one event each year," Danielle McHefey, Laskee's niece through marriage and Caroline Gilmartin's mother, said. "She was the one that got us started going to this over 20 years ago."

The family tradition may continue for another generation. Caroline Gilmartin and her husband, Zack, brought their two children, Hudson and Charlotte, to

this year's afternoon tea to expose them to the anachronistic experience.

"It's unique that you get to go to a tea party," Caroline Gilmartin said. "They have real tea, finger sandwiches and scones; you don't typically get to go to a tea party."

For some attendees, the tea party is a can't-miss event, regardless of how far they must travel. Such is the case for Diane Yarris, a member of the church for 32 years who now resides upstate in Carmel. She and her husband drove two and a half hours to make the event.

"It's a trip I love to make to support the church and see everybody," Yarris said. "After 32 years, you make friendships here, you don't lose them."

Yarris noted the event is open to the entire community and is defined by its welcoming atmosphere.

"Not everybody that comes is a member of the church, there are strangers," Yarris said. "But they make you feel like you are a family; they've known you for years and they treat you really good." ■

Mt/Grasso



Ice cream couple open new Manorville parlor

Rainbow Scoops opens Memorial Day weekend

BY NICHOLAS GRASSO

Evelyn and Rich Morales, the couple behind Rainbow Rolls in Center Moriches, are ready to expand their passion for ice cream.

The couple, married four years, plan to open Rainbow Scoops at 460 County Road 111, in the King Kullen Shopping Center in Manorville, Memorial Day weekend.

Since opening Rainbow Rolls last year, the couple's rolled ice cream has attracted a following. However, they met many community members not quite ready for the rather new novelty. During some downtime, they decided to tap into the old-school dessert market with Rainbow Scoops, which as the name suggests, will serve traditional scooped ice cream in a number of flavors.

The couple's new venture will also push the envelope yet again for their fans.

"The new location was inspired by kind of a slow winter here and being able to provide for our other clientele, for people who don't like rolled ice cream or are a little iffy about it," Evelyn Morales said. "Sometimes the community just wants to stick with the regular vanilla, fudge, whipped cream and cherry on top. We wanted to be able to provide that, and we also wanted to make it a little bit more exquisite by also having the cot-



Evelyn and Rich Morales introduced rolled ice cream to Center Moriches Memorial Day weekend 2021. If all goes according to plan and Rainbow Scoops opens on schedule, this Memorial Day weekend will be twice as special.

Courtesy photo

ton candy burrito and keeping with our unique Rainbow Rolls brand."

While Rainbow Rolls' specialty is its rolled ice cream served in a waffle-cone taco shell, the new Rainbow Scoops will serve scooped ice cream wrapped in a cotton candy burrito.

After a few weeks of experimenting with different layering techniques, flavors, and rolling methods, the couple cracked the code on their innovation.

When ordering these specialties, customers pick three scoops of any flavor of ice cream and three dry toppings. Wet

toppings are a no-go, as they could dissolve the cotton candy. The couple and their team spread the cotton candy onto a cookie sheet and carefully arrange the customers' selections.

"Then we roll it into a regular burrito and then you can just take a big bite out of it like a regular burrito," Evelyn Morales said. "When I first saw it, I thought it might be too sweet for me. But once you take a bite into it, the ice cream and the cotton candy complement each other so well."

Initially, Rainbow Scoops will stick

with pink and blue cotton candy, but may venture into different colors and flavors down the road. As for the ice cream, the shop will offer all the flavors the couple currently sells in pints in Center Moriches. Among the more unique offerings are strawberry cheesecake, blue cookie monster, and dulce de leche.

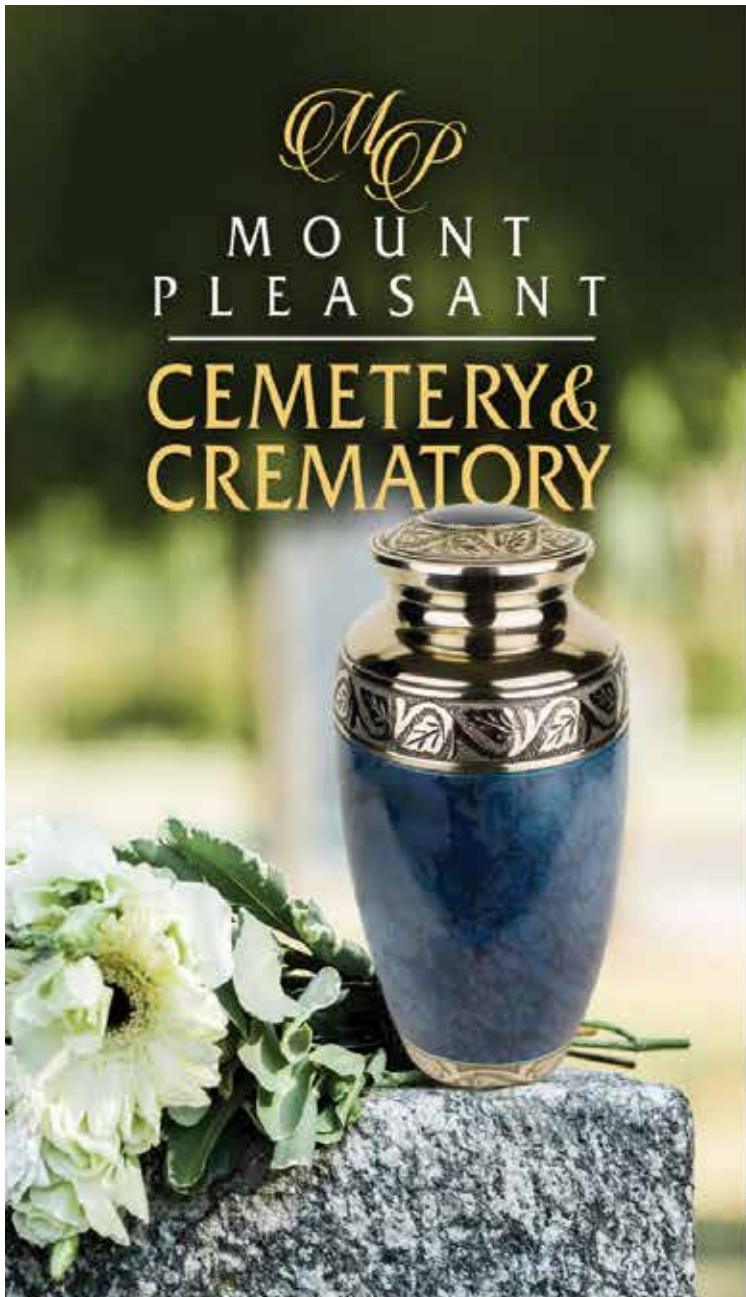
"We're going to have a lot of very similar flavors to here, but a couple of different ones," Morales said. "We should have a couple of sorbets, a couple of different vegan flavors, which will be good. We're going to have baked goods there, too. Over there, we have an entire display case where we're going to have cake pops and cupcakes and other fun stuff for people."

Both Evelyn and Rich Morales have sweet teeth and hunted novelty treats separately before they even met.

"We are big foodies and we will travel," Evelyn Morales said. "Before my husband and I met each other we were big rolled ice cream fans, and then once we got together it just became a passion that we would go every year to Florida and get that ice cream."

They introduced rolled ice cream to Center Moriches Memorial Day weekend 2021. If all goes according to plan and Rainbow Scoops opens on schedule, Evelyn Morales said that this Memorial Day weekend will be twice as special.

"There will be a whole party at both locations," she said. "It will be a year here and a grand opening over there." ■



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Now through June 12, you can purchase a Father's Day raffle ticket for a chance to win the Blackstone grill with hood, stand, and cover (pictured), plus a \$200 Chubs Meats gift card and \$50 gift card to Moriches Field Brewing Co.

Prize value is over \$500 and tickets are just \$5 each or six tickets for \$20. Call 631-848-9008 for more info, visit our Facebook page or our table at the CM Street Fair on June 12—the last day to purchase.

We are so excited for the street fair

and the CMFD Strawberry Shortcake Festival, both on June 12. June is also the month for prom, and we've passed along our collection of prom dresses to the Suffolk County Police Department's Prom Impact project. We'll be handing out all our scholarships at CM, ESM, and William Floyd high schools this month, too—one of our favorite things to do.

We look forward to seeing all the upcoming graduates and wish them all a happy and successful future! ■

MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

National Garden Week June 5-11



BY MAUREEN POLLACK

Last month, our members were so happy to welcome May, even though the first half turned out to be cold, rainy, and windy. However, the ground warmed up and the weather got better during the second half, and we accomplished a lot.

The Masury Estate remembrance garden got spruced up with some new deer-resistant plants: dusty miller, rozanne geraniums and petunias. We had to stop cleanup at Crystal Beach Park because a pair of ducks are nesting there.

Seven members volunteered for the annual Brookhaven Town Cleanup Parks on May 13. We weeded and picked up Bank Street Park, Neville Park, the little park behind the library, and a small section of the bypass. This was our first year participating in this civic and environmental program and we all had a good time; plus, we got neon-yellow size large T-shirts.

Our next meeting is June 16 at Landcraft Environments in Mattituck, 10 a.m. We will have a guided tour of the 4-acre garden, which includes thou-

sands of local and exotic plants. All are welcome; we are always looking for new members, or just come for the fun of it.

June 5 to 11 is National Garden Week, and I hope you do some puttering around your garden. You could remove the spent daffodil flowers and leave the stems in place for several more weeks so that they can nourish the bulb for next year's blooms.

Last year, after my daffodils were spent, I planted Virginia blue bells in their space because they bloom slightly after the daffodils and the blue flower rises just above the green stems and presents a very nice look. Or check out a public garden or park.

The L.I. Rose Society is presenting their annual rose show, "A Kaleidoscope of Roses," on June 12, 1-4 p.m. at Planting Fields Arboretum in Oyster Bay. And don't forget the Bayard Cutting Arboretum; they always have something blooming and great walking trails.

If you want to stay closer to home, take a walking tour of your neighborhood—you'll see peonies, rhododendron, azalea, iris, dogwood, plus a variety of annuals. ■

Moriches movie and concert nights are back!

Spring fair coming this June

BY NICOLE FUENTES

This year, the Moriches Chamber of Commerce will again be sponsoring movie and concert nights on the lawn at Clayton Huey Elementary. Last year, attendance was high and everyone had a great time!

The chamber suggests participants bring chairs and/or a blanket for seating on the grass and to dress appropriately for an evening outdoors. Parking will be available in the lot and movies will be played on a big screen.

This year Jim Mazzarella, Suffolk County legislator for the 3rd District,

is very generously sponsoring both the concert and the outdoor movie events.

Seating is limited and everyone should RSVP and reserve a time via the chamber's website. Movies and concert music have not yet been released. This is a free event for the community; attendees should bring a blanket, lawn chairs, and snacks. No Alcohol.

DATES:

Sat, 7/9 Concert Night 7-9 p.m.

"Just Sixties"

Sat, 7/23 Movie Night 8 p.m.

"Encanto"

Sat, 8/13 Movie Night 8 p.m.

"Clifford the Big Red Dog"

Sat, 8/20 Concert Night 7-9 p.m.

Jimmy Osborne & Chain Reaction Band

Spring Fair: The annual Spring Fair will be on Sunday, June 12. There will be no rain date. Main Street will be closed for the duration of the fair. Registration will be from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Allstate Office located at 369 Main Street in Center Moriches. The fair starts at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. Vendor spots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Spot assignments are not guaranteed.

Vendor spots are \$85. Nonprofit vendor

spots are \$45. Chamber member vendor spots are \$45. All mailed applications and checks must be received by June 8. After this date, all applications must be accompanied with cash or money order only, may be turned in at Moriches Bay Realty, 328-1 Main St., Center Moriches. The cutoff date to pre-register is June 11. To register the day of the fair the fee will be \$100 per spot, cash only. Do not call to reserve a spot. Spots are reserved with payment only. ■

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Publisher, 2018-Present

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

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

AROUND TOWN

Saturday, June 4

Live & Virtual 5K – The Anthony Parlato Memorial 5K will take place live in Neville Park, Center Moriches, 9 a.m. Participate virtually until June 15. \$25 day of race registration, 5K Walk/Optional Tee Shirt \$10. Find out more: <https://morichescommunitycenter.org/events/5k-run-walk/>.

Sunday, June 12

Strawberry Festival – The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches Spring Fair with food, crafts, and family fun, Main Street, Center Moriches, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 631-874-3849.

New Sermon Series – South Bay Bible Church's new four-week teaching series, "Relationship Playbook: Navigating a Difficult World with Difficult People," will be presented Sundays, 9 and 11 a.m. or Saturdays at 5 p.m. Visit www.southbaychurchli.org or call 631-909-8241.

Friend Sunday – South Bay Bible Church, 578 Montauk Hwy., East Moriches, will celebrate friends with outdoor services at 9 and 11 a.m. and a free catered lunch following the Sunday services. Visit www.southbaychurchli.org or call 631-909-8241.

Saturday, June 18

Giant Yard Sale – Shop household items, small appliances, electronics and more at Presbyterian Church at corner of Railroad Ave. and Main St., Center Moriches, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch available. Call 631-878-4480.

Monday, June 27

Bingo – The Center Moriches Library is hosting an adult-only, slow paced version of traditional bingo where all participants are winners from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Visit www.centermoricheslibrary.org or call 631-878-0940 to register.

Of Note ...

Mastic Peninsula – The Historical Society will meet every month at the Mastic Fire Department, 7:30 p.m. Call 631-281-7347 or visit www.mphistorical.org or email mastichistory333@gmail.com for more information.

COVID-19 Emotional Support – New Horizon Counseling Center and NY Project Hope provides free, anonymous, and confidential support. Call 855-818-HOPE (4673) or visit www.NHCC.US.

Abuse & Abduction Prevention – Parents for Megan's Law and The Crime Victims Center will hold educational workshops for children, teens, staff and adult community members. Call the helpline at 689-2672 for information or to schedule a workshop.

Conservation – Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE) along with the Sierra Club, RELI and National Wildlife Federation urge residents to support renewable energy goals for Long Island. To find out more, contact: David Alicea (Sierra Club) at 223-6330, Adrienne Esposito (Citizens Campaign) at (516) 390-7150 or Gordian Raacke (Renewable Energy Long Island) at (516) 313-6611.

Historic House Tours – Tour the John Scudder Haven Homestead (circa, 1755) located at 15 Main St., Center Moriches. Call Loren at 631-457-9763 to make an appointment. Visit the museum shop on the premises, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Antiques and collectibles. Follow them on Facebook.

Book Sale – Browse gently used and antique books at the Ketcham Farm Book Barn, 81 Main St., Center Moriches. Proceeds support Ketcham Inn restoration. Open Thurs.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.ketchaminn.org for details.

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

Volunteers Needed – Suffolk County Helen Keller Services seeks individuals to visit homebound blind and elderly people. Read mail, socialize and transport. For more information, call 631-424-0022.

Student Volunteers – Colonials Community Volunteers Corp is looking for students in grades 7-12 to help with graffiti removal, flowers for friends, tutoring, newsletter publication, youth council and community events. To get involved, call 631-281-4416 and ask for Ray.

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.

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

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

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

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

YEARS AGO

75 Years Ago

JUNE 1947

One of Center Moriches' oldest businesses, Murray's Department Store, added another year to its long and rich history with the celebration of its 41st anniversary. **Mrs. Nan Murray**, one of its founders, continues to head the business with the aid of her nephew, **John Bates**.

Pauline Latzke and her sister, **Tula Latzke**, are opening for the summer The Twin Stars Antique Shop, featuring antique bric-a-brac and furniture in the cottage on East Main Street, East Moriches.

Among the members of the Center Moriches High School band who journeyed to New York to attend a performance of "Great Expectations" at Radio City Music Hall were **Corrine Valenti**, **Bernard Bernstein**, **John Keane**, **Janice Wenzel**, **Anna Roth**, **June Liede**, **Robert Dayton** and **Juanita Langhorn**.

Three awards were presented to students in the Industrial Arts class of Eastport High School for outstanding work: **Gaspere Sanzone**, first place, for his model of a cabin cruiser; **Clement Tuttle**, second place, for his model of a stagecoach; and **Gordon Farlow**, third place, for his model of the Eastport school bus.

John Keane, of Manorville, a student at Center Moriches High School, received his rank of Eagle Scout, the highest in Scouting.

Janice Wenzel, president of the Class of 1947, was crowned junior queen at the prom held in the Center Moriches High School auditorium.

The combined choirs of the Center Moriches Presbyterian Church rendered a beautiful anthem at the Sunday morning service, with **Mrs. Jean Oakes** and **Mrs. Alice Lukert** singing a duet, accompanied by organist **Mrs. Gertrude Titmus**.

Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Warner, **Mr. and Mrs. Everett Crouse**, and **Mrs. Clara Crouse**, all of Center Moriches, enjoyed a trip through the New England states.

Mrs. John Moseley, of Manorville, attended the convention of the New York State chapter of the National Association of Postmasters at the Hotel New Yorker, where she enjoyed a trip around Manhattan Island and a tour of the General Post Office in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Gugel of South Street, Manorville, were hosts at a farewell party for their nephew, **Alexander Eckmann**, who will sail for France to study fine arts at L'Ecole de Beaux-Art of Fontainebleau, near Paris.

James Conaughty, **Richard and Harold Brambley**, and **George W. Crennan Jr.**, all of Eastport, enjoyed a day in New York, where they attended the St. Louis-Yankee game at Yankee Stadium.

Playing in June at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: **Humphrey Bogart** and **Barbara Stanwyck** in "The Two Mrs. Carralls"; **Shirley Temple** and **Franchot Tone** in "Honeymoon"; **Gregory Peck** and **Jane Wyman** in "The Yearling"; and **Anne Baxter** and **William Holden** in "Blaze of Noon."

50 Years Ago

JUNE 1972

Cyril Davis, chairman of the board of fire commissioners of the Center Moriches Fire Department, had the honor of breaking first ground for the addition to the fire department on Main Street.

Mrs. Gloria Loper was installed as the new president of the East Moriches PTA for the 1972-73 school year and was presented with the gavel by outgoing president **Mrs. Mary Shiminski**.



June 1947: A group of young people met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Layman of Ocean Avenue, Center Moriches, before going to the junior prom at Center Moriches High School. Pictured left to right: **Wilbur Layman**, **Joan Belli**, **John Keane**, **Dolores Loper**, **William Mooney**, **Joan Woodzell**, **John Royala**, **Lynn Layman**, **Victor Byczkiewicz**, **Carolynn Miller**, **Roland Sandburg**, **Faith Henderson**, **Robert Stafford**, **Hope Titmus**, **Seymour Davis**, **Sara Hamilton**, **Roger Titmus** and **Patricia Lukert**.

Nancy Skidmore and her dad, **Sid**, of Skidmore's Fishing Station in Moriches, caught two weakfish weighing 5 and 3 pounds, in Narrow's Bay.

The top students for the Class of 1972 at East Moriches High School are **Nancy Goldstein**, valedictorian, and **Debbie Richter**, salutatorian.

There was a double grand opening of A & N Heritage Ltd. Sales Service and R & K Quality Appliances Inc. at 380 Main Street, Center Moriches, when **Serge Doucette** of A & N Heritage decided to merge with **Paul Rima Jr.** and **William Krieger** of R & K. Also present at the ceremony was Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches president **Ronald Leonard**.

Two East Moriches schoolteachers with well over 50 years of experience were honored at a testimonial dinner at Mickey Felice's Steak House in Patchogue. District principal **Charles P. Tufano**

presented gifts to first-grade teacher **Mrs. Martha Huson** and fourth-grade teacher **Mrs. Harriet Johnson**.

The 59th annual Eastport Flag Day celebration sponsored by the Eastport Post 1545 of the American Legion was held in the Eastport High School gymnasium. The Eastport High School band, under the direction of **Michael Rosalia**, opened the program with a medley of marches, followed by a speech from post commander **Harry Brewer**.

Carter MacDonald, an industrial arts teacher at East Moriches School for the last seven years, was presented with a silver tray by the students in his classes.

Playing this month at local United Artists Theatres: **Marlon Brando** and **Al Pacino** in "The Godfather"; "A Man for All Seasons"; and "The Hot Box."

Compiled by *Vanessa Graniello*

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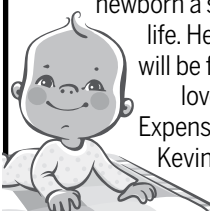
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Center Moriches baseball celebrates success

BY JORDAN STANKOVICH

Center Moriches varsity baseball has endured a plethora of success in the past decade, emboldened by their expert coaching staff and the aptitude of their varsity lettermen.

311 Frowein Road is the residence of the Center Moriches Red Devils, members of Suffolk County League VII, who since the middle of last decade have been a consistent mainstay of invigorating seasons every spring. In 2016, The Red Devils won the Suffolk County Championship, followed by falling in the Long Island Championship to Wheatly. Two years later, a two-year reign began.

In 2018, Center Moriches was crowned state champions with an immaculate record of 23-4. In the state title game and trailing Seton 7-3, Center Moriches poured it on effectuating 7 runs in the 6th inning, encompassing the victory.

The Red Devils defeated the Seton Saints 10-7 to capture the New York State Class B Championship. 2019 was a masterpiece season, as not only did it conclude in a back-to-back state championship, but Center Moriches was immortalized in perfection, vanquishing every opponent they faced, going 26-0 with the season concluding with an 11-1 win against Schuylerville for their second New York State Class B Championship in as many seasons.

Head coach Dennis Donavan led the team to victory in the three championship seasons. The current head coach is Paul Gibson III, son of the former pitcher for the Detroit Tigers, New York Mets, and New York Yankees. Gibson has a young, talented staff likely to succeed soon due to his ballplayers' virtuosity and athletic finesse on the diamond.

Three seniors who next year will take their talents to the collegiate baseball level are Louie Iannacchino, centerfield-



er, committed to SUNY Plattsburgh; third-baseman Jack Rupe, committed to Dominican College; and shortstop/pitcher Leyton Pulsipher, Central Connecticut State commit. Leyton is the son of former Mets pitcher Bill Pulsipher, who played 19 seasons of professional baseball. Some of these young men have potential for a brilliant future at Center Moriches High, such as eighth-graders Max Rayburn and Luke Reybor. Max plays first base, and Luke, a corner outfielder, starts every day in rightfield. Three adroit and polished freshmen are Christian Meadows, Joe Hiller, and catcher Brayden Hromada. Hiller is a pitcher and second baseman while Meadows catches and plays the outfield.

Two first-rate sophomores are left-fielder Gavin Derosa and first-baseman Andrew Foster. Some impressive wins for the Red Devils during the 2022 season consisted of winning the season opener at home against Babylon, 3-2, on April 4, followed by overpowering and shutting out the Southampton Mariners on the road, 11-0, on April 11, and a day later annihilating Southampton again, 11-1, at home, followed by a third win in as many

days dismantling the Mariners, 15-4, to post another road victory.

In an away game on Monday, April 25, the Red Devils contradicted their name as they fulfilled a heavenly miracle against Mattituck. The Mattituck Tuckers had a commanding 7-0 lead as Center Moriches slowly chipped away. On the precipice of defeat, trailing 7-3 with two men away in the sixth inning (they play seven innings in varsity), Center Moriches erupted with 7 runs, concluding the surreal comeback by a 10-7 score. Two days later, Center Moriches baseball executed another road victory again scoring double digit runs winning 14-8 at Mattituck.

On May 2, the big bats showed their poise again and conducted another win as Center Moriches narrowly tiptoed past Shoreham Wading River 10-9, adding another win in the column. On May 9, The Red Devils jousted the Elwood John Glenn Knights, grappling them in a tight skirmish and outshining their division rivals 8-6, putting a dent in the Knights' armor. Joe Hiller twirled six impressive innings on the hill and Riley Morris was ascribed the save in an 8-6 win after

sending down the final three batters of the ballgame in the home half of the seventh. Center Moriches put a bow on the final game of the regular season, prevailing over Elwood John Glenn 13-9, scoring seven runs in the second inning and tallying five in the third. The Red Devils posted a 9-10 record and earned a trip to the Suffolk County Class B Play-offs. In the postseason opener on May 18, they took a tough 1-0 loss to Mattituck, but implemented that loss two days later by shutting out Babylon 9-0 at Babylon. The victory advanced Center Moriches to the Suffolk County Class B Championship in a best of three series. Two adversaries who duked it out all year met for all the marbles: Mattituck Tuckers versus Center Moriches Red Devils. The Red Devils dominated in an 8-0 shutout, inching closer to a trophy. One more win was needed, and the Suffolk title would be theirs. And on Tuesday, May 24, the Red Devils lived up to the famous saying, "Good pitching beats good hitting." Riley Morris, Jake Rupe, and Leyton Pulsipher combined for a team no-hitter, crowning Center Moriches as Suffolk County Champions! Center Moriches beat Mattituck 2-1 completing, a two-game sweep in the county finals. Morris went five innings, striking out three batters earning the win; Rupe pitched the sixth inning with one strikeout; and Pulsipher closed it out in the seventh, credited with the save. Leyton sent the Tuckers down 1-2-3 in the home half of the seventh, concluding the game and Suffolk title with a strikeout, commencing a jubilant frenzy. The team rejoiced on the pitching mound, all smiles emanating, their repletion basking in the gratification in all the hard work this spring that culminated in a championship. Center Moriches will play Wheatley on June 2 for the Long Island Championship. ■

Courtesy photo

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