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AUGUST 2021 | 10th Year, Issue 8

the Tide

OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE

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the sunflower fest

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Your guide to local thrifting

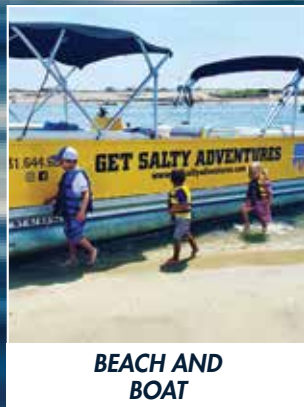
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Local couple Carolyn and Michael DeMonaco run Get Salty Adventures on Moriches Bay. Michael grew up in East Moriches and spent his entire childhood on Moriches Bay. The DeMonacos travelled around the world, many trips by ship, but were always drawn back to the special waters of the bay. They combined their love for entertaining with a desire to expose people to the beauty and relaxation of their local waterways. Now in their fourth season, Get Salty Adventures, builds custom boat, beach and paddleboard adventures for many return and new guests.

WE ARE FAMILY (REUNIONS/CUSTOM EVENTS)

Whether it's locals entertaining out of towners or people returning to their roots, guests are always amazed at what exists (or how much has changed) on the bay, beaches and homes on the water. The DeMonacos share local history, wildlife facts, marine knowledge and more with guests. They work to customize each experience from pickups from private docks to surprise sandbar parties.

Cynthia Drivas was looking for a way to make this year's family reunion the best one ever. "I wanted this one to be extra special because Covid kept us apart last year. The family loves coming to my house because we're on the water in Center Moriches, so I thought,

PINK SKIES FOR DAYS (SUNSET CRUISES)

Picture it. You come aboard what guests have referred to as "a living room on the bay". You kick off your shoes. You breathe in the salt air. You hear the birds passing. You converse with friends or stare out at the blue water. The sun begins to set and myriad colors fill the sky and you cruise along the bay. You leave feeling refreshed and serene.

TOUR BY SEA (BEACH & BOAT CRUISE)

One of Get Salty's most popular offerings is the three hour boat cruise and beach adventure. Great for families, couples, girls' day out, birthdays and general entertaining. A make your own, hop on and off experience tailored to the desires of your group. Dip your toes in the sand. Walk on the beach. Cruise by sea gull colonies. Search for horseshoe crabs and clams. Take a nap on the beach under an umbrella or be lulled by the gentle rocking of the boat and the fresh ocean air.

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From beginners to avid paddleboarders, we believe confidence is the key to

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HERE COMES THE BRIDE (BACHELORETTE)

"We've lost count as to how many bachelorette parties we've hosted", said Carolyn, co-founder. It can certainly be a challenge for the organizer to get all the schedules and activities planned and straight. The goal is always to make the process as easy for the organizer as possible. The process is truly collaborative - brainstorming creative ideas from matching outfits to the right mix of activities based on what else the bride envisions.

"Each year we keep coming back to Get Salty because they are such tremendous hosts and always provide flexible and creative experiences.", says Cynthia. "Everyone in our group raved about what a wonderful and special experience the day was. We can't wait for our next adventure!"

GETSALTYADVENTURES.COM

Center Moriches Library goes mobile

Book Bike is on the move from Main Street and beyond

BY PATRICIA KALOSKI

The Center Moriches Free Public Library has taken the show on the road, and library patrons may have seen a shiny, green bicycle filled with library books and material at local beaches, along Main Street, or other outdoor locations, thanks to a generous donation made by the Center Moriches Friends of the Library.

The Center Moriches Book Bike took its maiden voyage from library headquarters on Main Street, to the chamber of commerce's annual Spring Fair, held on Saturday, June 12, on the grounds of Our Lady Queen of Apostles in Center

Moriches. Margie DeCaro, head of Children's Services, operated the bike, and said that the reception at the fair was overwhelmingly positive.

"People were intrigued," said DeCaro. "They had a lot of questions."

The evolution of the Book Bike started with a Facebook post, DeCaro explained. An avid cyclist, DeCaro said she ran across a post about "librarian bikers," and thought that it was about librarians who, like her, enjoyed cycling. After further investigation, DeCaro found that the post was actually about libraries using Book Bikes in their respective communities to help promote library services and programs. DeCaro approached library director Marcie Litjens with the idea, who then discussed it with the Friends of the Library, and the rest is history.

"The library is always looking for innovative ways to reach out to the com-

munity," she said. "A Book Bike is fun and inviting, and an easy way to begin a conversation about how our library offers a variety of services."

The Book Bike is manufactured by Icicle Tricycles, a company based in Portland, Ore. While every Book Bike has the same frame, different accessories are available, such as a cooler. The library staff chose the book basket with the chalkboard finish and the dark-green color for the bike itself. The books, which will be selected based on the audience and location that the Book Bike is visiting, are also donated by the Friends of the Library.

The Book Bike will be on the move this summer, with planned appearances at Kaler's Pond, Webby's Beach and at chamber-sponsored events, just in time for National Book Bike Week, being observed Aug. 2-6, said Litjens. The bike

will be operated by DeCaro and other librarians. Litjens hopes to have a go at the wheel as well.

"I may have to convince Margie to let me have a turn," she quipped. ■

WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF THE CENTER MORICHES LIBRARY?

Friends of the Center Moriches Library is a non-for-profit, charitable group of civil-minded neighbors formed to support the Center Moriches Library, explained Friends of the Library president Nadine Livoti. The group works in conjunction with library staff to inform the public about the wide variety of programs and services available at the library.

The Friends of the Library was established in 1951, and was incorporated on April 24, 1982, said Livoti, and over the years, has sponsored and supported numerous events and initiatives. Most recently, the group sponsored a Haunted Halloween Tea, a pumpkin-decorating event and the printing for the "Welcome" pamphlets for the Center Moriches Library's welcome bag; purchased a new book drop for the library; and donated the Little Library that was recently installed at the Moriches Bay Recreation Center on Frowein Road.

Livoti said the group is always looking for volunteers and encourages patrons to visit the Center Moriches Public Library's website at <https://centermoricheslibrary.org/>, and click on the Friends of the Library link. Monetary donations are also welcomed and be mailed to Friends of the Center Moriches Library; PO Box 704, Center Moriches, NY 11934.



Margie DeCaro, head of Children's Services, said the evolution of the Book Bike started with a Facebook post.

Courtesy photo



Robertaccio renovations are complete

The former Wesche Funeral Home has been newly renovated into a comfortable and contemporary funeral home in Center Moriches by Robertaccio Funeral Home. For over 120 years, Robertaccio has been helping families honor and celebrate the lives of their loved ones. The

funeral home owners promise to maintain their service as the most affordable choice. The public is invited to visit the fully renovated funeral and cremation center located at 495 Main Street in Center Moriches. For more information call 631-878-0007. ■

Courtesy photo

Oktoberfest to delight again

13th annual Oktoberfest slated for September and will benefit Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

Grab your beer steins and lederhosen, Moriches Rotary Club's 13th annual Oktoberfest festival is coming back to town after a year hiatus due to COVID-19—and they expect this year to be their biggest celebration ever, according to Peter Traina, vice president of Moriches Rotary and chairperson of the Oktoberfest event.

"We've all been cooped up for basically the past year and a half, so we think it will be a good year. We are in hopes that this will be our best year to date," said Traina.

Oktoberfest will take place at Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck in Center Moriches on Sept. 24 from 6 until 11 p.m.; Sept. 25 from noon until 11 p.m.; and Sept. 26 from 2 until 6 p.m. The family-friendly event costs \$15 per person over the age of 21 and includes a free beer, wine or soft drink. Anyone under 21 is free; and children are encouraged to attend.

According to Traina, the event will

feature local vendors, carnival rides and games, as well as a biergarten featuring German beers, German dancers and German bands.

Moriches Rotary's Oktoberfest is modeled off of the original Oktoberfest in Germany, which started in 1810 in celebration of the marriage of the Prince of Bavaria, according to "Encyclopedia Britannica." Traditionally, the mayor of Munich taps the first keg, prompting two weeks of activities and amusements. It is estimated that 2 million gallons of beer are consumed during the two-week span.

When Traina joined the Rotary 15 years ago, he got the idea to host an Oktoberfest festival as a fundraising opportunity, motivated by his mother's German heritage and by his love of the German festival. Since then, it has grown into an event that people in the community look forward to each year.

"Oktoberfest in Germany is done at a much larger scale—six million people attend Oktoberfest in Munich from places all over the world. My mother is German and I've been going to Germany since I was a kid. I thought the community would embrace this type of event, and they have. It's gotten bigger and bigger each year," said Traina.

But while the Oktoberfest in Center Moriches will be held again this year, the one in Munich will not. Lord Mayor Dieter Reiter announced earlier in the year that the 187th Munich Oktoberfest would not take place in 2021, saying that the decision to cancel amid a third wave of COVID-19 was one he grappled with.

"It wasn't an easy decision, but I have to make it now and I have done so," said Lord Reiter in a statement on the official website of German Oktoberfest.

Being forced to cancel last year in 2020 was devastating to Rotary members because of the impact it had on fundraising for the year.

"It was very difficult because the funds we raise go to Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck. We normally gross \$60,000 for this event



Rotary was created with a mission to eradicate polio, but has expanded to help many causes throughout the world. Courtesy photo



and then donate the proceeds to the camp, but we couldn't do that. That was the most heartbreaking part of last year for me, personally," said Traina.

Proceeds from Oktoberfest go to support Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck, which has been owned and operated by the Moriches Rotary for 80 years, since opening in 1941 with a mission to help special-needs children on Long Island, according to the camp's website. The camp still focuses on its mission, but has expanded to provide camp services for children and adults with disabilities and now

serves the community on Long Island and beyond, inviting campers for a summer of fun on the 37-acre stretch of land along the shores of Kaler's Pond in Center Moriches.

"Everything from Oktoberfest goes to the day-to-day operations of the camp. The budget is \$1 million a year. We get nothing from the government, it's all run by private donations and fundraising," said Traina.

For more information on Oktoberfest visit Morichesrotary.org, www.camp-paquatuck.com or call (631) 878-1070. ■



Fireworks for Independence Day paddlers

Patriotic paddlers participated in a sunset paddle to watch the fireworks in Moriches Bay this Independence Day. The paddleboard excursion brought out 13 participants and was led by Amanda Bruno, a paddleboard instructor and owner of Long Island Vibes. According to Bruno, the paddleboard event treat-

ed participants to 360-degree views of fireworks from every angle. Participants paddled out to the middle of the bay and then waded as the fireworks show occurred overhead.

-Katherine Al Rashdan

Photo Courtesy of Amanda Bruno, Long Island Vibes

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Great Gun Anglers' second annual fishing trip

The Great Gun Anglers hosted their second annual Take a Veteran Fishing Trip last month on July 24. The event was a huge success, said president Evan Goldstein, noting everyone caught a fish; but, the highlight was Mike Flynn and his team catch-

ing a 413-pound thresher shark. About 50 veterans participated and all the bait was donated by local tackle shops, Harts Cove Bait and Tackle and B&B Tackle. The trip was made possible by the Moriches Chamber of Commerce and private donations. ■



Jack Malone, Korean War veteran.



John Corona, one of the group's oldest veterans, aboard the K-9.



Capt. Mike Flynn and mate Bob Abel, on the quest with three vets that caught a thresher shark, which took a little over four hours to bring in.

Courtesy photos



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Joining That Motown Band is Garfield Fleming. Garfield is a Soul Singing Vocalist of legendary status, having been a member of The Delfonics for 25 years with William Hart. Garfield’s obvious resemblance to David Ruffin makes people look twice but when he sings fans get lost in time! He channels the greats like Bobby Womack, Ruffin and many other legendary artists.

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Always-art-sea

Q&A with artist Danielle Bergh

BY MARIANA DOMINGUEZ

Danielle Bergh is a science teacher who grew up in Center Moriches and now lives in Manorville. In addition to her teaching, she also owns alwaysartsea, a small business that specializes in sea-glass jewelry. The Tide recently caught up with Bergh to talk about her small business. The interview has been edited slightly for length and clarity.

The Tide: How long have you been running alwaysartsea?

Bergh: I actually started it in 2019. In 2019, I did my first craft fair at the Center Moriches fair, and then unfortunately, because of the pandemic I wasn't able to do anything last year as far as craft fairs, and then this year I've been doing a few. But last year, actually, during the pandemic, I decided to use that time to actually open a website because I couldn't do craft fairs.

The Tide: Where did you come up with the idea?

Bergh: It kind of all started when I got into finding beach glass, and I got into that hobby actually from seeing a page on Instagram. So, there was this lady that I just kind of stumbled on that lives in Hawaii and collects and finds beach glass, and she would post some of her findings and I just thought that it was the coolest thing. And we're also on

an island and I was like, Why couldn't I look for beach glass around here? So, I started collecting beach glass and then I had a friend's birthday that was coming up and I thought, I think it would be nice if I make a necklace for her. So, the first-ever item that I made was a necklace for my friend. And then I made another necklace for another friend and they came out kind of good, so I thought I could turn this hobby into a little bit of a side business.

The Tide: Did you have any experience making jewelry?

Bergh: I kind of just went for it. I learned along the way. Made mistakes here and there, and learned from it as I went.

The Tide: How much beach glass do you have at any one time? I feel like now on Long Island it can be hard to find.

Bergh: It's really hard to find the beach glass. I feel like I'll go and I'll find beach glass and it's not necessarily jewelry quality, so I'm not really able to use them. I do have quite a bit of a collection. When I go and I travel, I'll go and I'll go look for beach glass. I went to Michael's and got myself a stacking set of containers and I have it all separated by color. I would say I have a pretty decent collection.

The Tide: Where was the best place you've traveled to be able to find it?

Bergh: I went to California in the summer of 2018 with my fiancé and we did a road trip from San Francisco

down to San Diego, and I found some really cool and interesting pieces along the way there. But I've heard that other places like Puerto Rico have great beach glass, but I've just never been there myself. I also feel like the best time to look for sea glass is in the winter because there's fewer people looking for it. In the summer, there's a lot of people on the beach, there's a lot of foot traffic, and I'll go to the beach and find nothing because there have been other people looking for it [sea glass] already.

The Tide: How did you come up with the name alwaysartsea?

Bergh: I toyed around with a lot of different ideas, and I actually went back and forth with my best friend on some names, and she actually helped me come up with the name. I thought it was fun and would cover what I was making. The name goes right along with the types of things that I make.

The Tide: How important is it for you to find your sea glass naturally?

Bergh: That's definitely really important. I'm pretty particular about making sure that everything I'm making is with genuine sea glass and it's not something that was purchased at a store. I just feel that it makes it so much more special that it is authentic and that I found it myself. I feel like I have a memory of each piece. I just feel like each piece is special to me and hopefully, the necklaces themselves are special to the people who buy them.

The Tide: How long does it take you to make pieces? What is the entire process like?

Bergh: The longest part would probably be finding them [the sea glass]. I feel like out of 100 pieces of sea glass, there's only a handful that are actually jewelry quality. So, I'll find other pieces that are super, super small, or they have really jagged edges and are not the ideal shape. I drill them myself and that takes a little while, and unfortunately, during the drilling process the pieces will break, and that's heartbreaking for me because they're just so hard to find. So, I drill them and usually I add some sort of bead component, and I'll add a pinch bail, which holds it together, and then I'll put the chain on it.

Bergh's jewelry and more can be found at alwaysartsea.com or her Instagram @alwaysartsea. Her prices range from \$5 for a trinket dish to \$50 for a driftwood chandelier. ■



Some of Bergh's necklaces from alwaysartsea.

Photo courtesy of Danielle Bergh.

Art on the farm

Artist residency at the Long Island Game Farm

The Long Island Game Farm, located at 489 Chapman Boulevard, Manorville, recently announced the introduction of an artist residency program, Art on the Farm.

In keeping with the mission of the Long Island Game Farm to honor and respect animals and the natural environment, the residency program is designed to welcome artists of all disciplines whose work reflects a commitment to animals and the environment.

The Long Island Game Farm has a long history of presenting programming for schools and the public to encourage a better understanding of wild animals. Art on the Farm introduces arts integration to its educational format with art experiences and creative placemaking in a natural environment. Art on the Farm gives artists a unique venue for creation

of their work and provides more opportunities for access to the public.

The inaugural artist is Karen Noack, a Suffolk County artist specializing in murals. Noack is recognized for her window mural "The Language of Flowers," a project through East End Arts' JumpstART program; her murals at Safari Adventure; and her work with Splashes of Hope. She has begun painting an African landscape on the game farm's tortoise building, reflecting the sulcata tortoise's origins. Progress on her mural will be documented on the LI Game Farm's website, www.longislandgamefarm.com.

"Working at the Long Island Game Farm has brought me to another level of creating public artwork. During the times I paint on location, I not only hear the expressions of curiosity and enjoyment of people passing by, but also the many sounds of nature and the 'resident' animals' chatter," she said. ■

Courtesy photos



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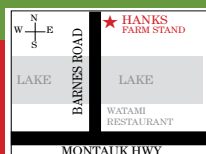
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The thrift shop hop

A guide to thrifting in Center Moriches and Manorville

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

As the old adage goes, “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure”—and our local thrift shops truly embody this, selling donated goods at a low price. Whether you thrift to save money, to save the environment or to support your local community, treasures abound. Below are thrift shops located in the Center Moriches and Manorville area. We’ve let you know where they’re located, when they’re open and what you may expect shopping there.

*Before reading further, it should be noted that the items found in a thrift shop differ every day and are based on donations—the best way to know what one thrift shop is selling is to go visit.

Center Moriches

Center Moriches United Methodist Church Thrift Store
464 Main Street
Center Moriches, NY 11934

Open: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This thrift shop is located in a white house with a large open-air porch, next to the United Methodist Church in Center Moriches. Each room houses a different category of items like men’s clothing, women’s clothing, children’s clothing and so on. There is also a small section of hard goods in the area in the back of the shop with items like plates, cups, mugs, candle holders, picture frames and so on. On a recent Wednesday, the thrift shop hosted a Christmas in July sale, with Christmas tchotchkes, wrapping paper, crafts, snowman figurines, angel figurines and more.



A sign for the United Methodist Church Thrift Store

St. John the Evangelist Thrift Shop
25 Ocean Avenue
Center Moriches, NY 11934

Open: Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

This thrift shop is part of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church; all proceeds go to the church and its various outreach missions. The shop is chock-full of shoes, clothing, jewelry and hard goods – each category has its own highly organized section with some clothing items hanging up and some in labeled bins.

The COVID-19 pandemic greatly impacted the thrift shop’s income, and therefore, the missions it supports. Since COVID-19, Sue Diragi, a volunteer in charge of the thrift shop, says fewer people come to shop since they’ve reopened. As a safety measure, the thrift shop only lets four people in at a time; once that number is exceeded, patrons get a number and are let in to shop once their number is called. Diragi said they give out about 20 numbers now, but in pre-COVID times, double or triple the amount of people would shop.

“We made double the amount before COVID,” said Diragi.

On a recent Wednesday, the thrift shop had American-cut glass, a vintage crystal necklace, a trio of Corningware casserole dishes and a bottle of barely used Marc Jacobs perfume for \$5.

The thrift shop sells some items outside, but the nicest stuff is located inside the red, barn-like boutique, according to Diragi. More than three volunteers man the boutique at a time, at least one volunteer per section, including Caroline Mezza, who works at the jewelry counter.

“If it’s going to be in here, it has to be in good shape,” said Diragi of the boutique.



Volunteers sort through the donation bins every Monday and Tuesday in preparation for Wednesday’s sale. Pictured (left to right) are volunteers Marianne Vanderzanden, Zaida Rinaldi, Susan Matesic, Trudy Rank, Sue Diragi, Debbie Satrianoi, Anne Ruggiero and Pat Ranigan.

Manorville

Manorville Historical Society Thrift Shop
50 North Street
Manorville, NY 11949

Open: Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The thrift shop is run by the Manorville Historical Society and a source of income for them. It is located in the basement of the historical society. The shop is filled to the brim with donated items for sale, including adult and children’s clothing, glassware, baskets, kids toys and stuffed animals, appliances, bedding, crafting items, tchotchkes and more.

The shop is located in one large room and organized by category. It can be tough to navigate through because of an overflowing amount of items on each table—but for veteran thrifters, the layout is a positive because hidden gems can be found while digging. On a recent Wednesday, they had Corningware and glass bake casserole dishes, bags full of vintage sewing accessories and barely used spools of holiday ribbon.

On the same recent Wednesday, a steady flow of customers could be seen coming and going, usually leaving with a bag or two in their hands. In other words, the shopping was good.

For customer Jeff Cronin, of Eastport, the decision to go was prompted by an online advertisement and a need for camping equipment for an upcoming trip with his kids.

“I saw an ad for the thrift shop online and I needed camping gear, and the ad said that they had it,” said Cronin.

While he didn’t find any camping gear, he did find a microscope, still in the box.

“I was looking on Amazon and these are going for like \$80 there. I figured, even if it is broken or defective, it was only \$5,” he said. ■



Agnes Pearo, president of the Manorville Historical Society and the thrift shop’s usual volunteers.

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From pen to paper: a writer's tale

Author MJ Hayes, a former Center Moriches teacher, writes children's books from her Florida home

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

Former Center Moriches teacher Mary Jane Viaggio Hayes, who goes by the pen name MJ Hayes, is the author of more than nine children's books. Though she finds inspiration in the world around her, it's her own life that reads like a story at times.

The year was 1966, and Hayes was young, fresh out of Adelphi College and working as a third-grade teacher at Center Moriches Elementary School (now known as the Clayton Huey Elementary School), when she was hit by a drunk driver. The accident was horrific, according to Hayes. She was thrown 30 feet into the air and went into a coma vigil, which is an ongoing vegetative state. According to mayoclinic.org, coma vigil is rare and happens to only about 20,000 people per year; a person can come out of it or may remain in a vegetative state forever.

Hayes said her mother was instrumental in her recovery, working tirelessly to "revitalize" her brain by reading stories and reciting math problems and other facts. After 11 months, Hayes miraculously recovered and went back into the field she loved so much, teaching—but no longer in Center Moriches.



Author MJ Hayes with her book "Dakota, Help Me See the Light."

Photo courtesy of MJ Hayes

However, the accident would stick with her for the rest of her life, long-forgotten bits of her memory reemerging like letters in a cloudy bowl of alphabet soup.

One such memory reappeared years later, while reading through the chapters of her own book, "Dakota, Help Me See the Light," about a blind child named Gavin. Hayes realized that she had gone blind for a period of time after her accident. Her father had come to visit her in the hospital and she remembered hearing him and wanting to see him but only seeing blackness, which is what Gavin sees in the book.

"My dad came in and he made it known that he was there with me. I heard his voice and I can remember saying to him, 'Daddy, I wish I could see what I hear,' but I couldn't see. My dad was there, but I couldn't see him," she said.

Even before the accident that changed her life, Hayes enjoyed writing. It wasn't until she became a teacher that she decided to start writing books; at first, they were class projects.

"I've always loved writing. As a kid, I would write stories and then draw the pictures, too. Always writing and drawing. Then, once I got into teaching, I started writing as like a class project. 'Ollie the Octopus' was a class project. It wasn't published, but everyone loved it," she said.

When Hayes moved to Florida after a divorce in 2007, she decided to double down on writing.

"I'm not going to go to the bars and drink. I stayed home and worked and wrote and researched. I worked a lot, as in like 24/7. And I spent a lot of time in writing classes learning how to become a better writer. I was always working on proposals, typing away—always typing," she said.

Hayes attended conference after conference and writing class after writing class, always working to become a better writer, developing her voice and style. Then, she attended a Highlights conference and met Patricia Gauch. Gauch is well known in the world of children's writing as an author and the former editorial director of Philomel Books.

At a breakfast breakout session, Hayes told Gauch about her latest idea, a children's book about a deaf girl named Emma who puts on a silent concert, picking up instruments and playing them but without any sound coming out, and at the same time teaching a bully the true meaning of silence. Gauch thought the idea was unique and interesting, Hayes said.

"She told me, 'When you're finished writing, I want you to contact me,'"

A blood drive in memory of Zachary Powell

The fourth annual blood drive in loving memory of Zachary Powell will be hosted on Aug. 28 at the East Moriches Fire Department. Powell was a beloved member of the East Moriches community. **For more information see below:**

In Loving Memory...

4th Annual ZACHARY POWELL Blood Drive

Sat., August 28
9:00am – 3:00pm

East Moriches Fire Dept.
9 Pine St., East Moriches



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<https://tinyurl.com/Zachary-Powell> [Enter zip code: 11940]

If you donated on or before July 3, you are eligible to donate at this drive.

Please eat a meal & drink plenty of water before & after donating.

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said Hayes.

When Hayes finished writing "Emma's House of Sound," she sent the manuscript to Gauch and Gauch sent back two pages full of edits and constructive criticism, which Hayes said she was incredibly grateful for. Hayes kept on writing and editing, but now had something new to research: how to get published.

According to Hayes, there are three different ways to get published: by finding a traditional publisher; hiring a company to help you publish; or self-publishing.

Hayes decided that she wanted to do it all herself.

"I hire my illustrator, my editor. I'd still be waiting to be published if I hadn't done it myself," she said.

Hayes said doing it all herself has given her greater creative control so she can delve into subjects she enjoys. Doing it herself also means she has had to do her own publicity.

Hayes promotes herself with a website

and on social media. She also stays active doing school events and appearances, and has won writing awards on Long Island and in St. Augustine, Fla. Though, her goal is always to bring awareness to the type of children she writes about.

"I never thought I would be where I am now. I always wanted to write and become famous. But I didn't want to get awards just because I want to put them on my wall. I want to get awards to bring substantive help to a child. That's what makes me write," said Hayes.

As for what is next for Hayes, she says she's always coming up with new book ideas.

"There's a lot of spontaneity. I saw a squirrel eating a nut and got an idea for a book. I lost a shoe and got an idea for a book. My books are cute and they always have an educational and philosophical slant," she said.

To find out more about MJ Hayes visit www.mjhayesauthor.com. ■

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KEITH'S CORNER

Still hard at work



The dog days of summer don't slow us down at Helping Makes U Happy!

We are still hard at work providing food to 22 families a week, with the assistance and donations of awesome community members. We also provide backpacks and school supplies to all the students of the families—57 total—and Lulu Romaine, pictured with Keith, has been doing a school supply drive for us as her summer service project. Thanks, Lulu!

On Aug. 3, we will be participating in the National Night Out, a nationwide initiative to fight crime. The event is free to all, has fun activities for all ages, and is being held at the William Floyd High School football field from 5-8 p.m.

Don't forget that the HMUH drop closet on Neville Street, Center Moriches, is a collection spot for the LI Sharks 10u Baseball Shoe Fundraiser up through Aug. 7. On Aug. 28, we will be participating in the Longwood SEP-TO Resource Fair and Family Fun Day at Camp Paquatuck from noon-5 p.m. There'll be food, music, many vendors, shopping, a Chinese auction—lots of fun things to do for all, in addition to great information on resources for special needs, all available in one location.

Speaking of Chinese auctions—many have asked if we are hosting our big annual one in October, which raises most of the funds for all the helping we do. Sadly, the answer is no. But we are planning a smaller Casino Night at Rock Hill in November, so feel free to call us at 631-848-9008 for more info. Prize basket and gift certificate donations are gratefully accepted. Table sponsorships are also available.

Have a great rest of your summer, friends!

MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

The dog days of August

Welcome to the dog days of August, which, by the way, gets its name from Sirius, the Dog Star. Sirius is one of our brightest stars and is at its brightest in August. Someone determined that dogs suffer more from the heat than humans; hence, we have the dog days.

In July, we had the “raining cats and dogs” days. These rainy days caused our club to cancel meetings and garden tours. And so, we are playing catch-up in August.

In addition, on Aug. 17 we will have the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial that was installed at the Banks Street Park, Main Street, Center Moriches, last year as an Eagle Scout project. It's at 1 p.m. and all are welcome.

Also, this month we are presenting a National Garden Club small standard flower show, Celebrate at the Masury Estate. The show is open to the public and free, Friday, Aug. 20, 12 to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 12 to 4 p.m. The Masury Estate is located at 67 Old Neck Road, Center Moriches.

In between the raindrops, I visited Betty Roston's garden (pictured). Her garden runs around the perimeter of her property and continues all around her house. She has a wide variety of flowers and shrubs all arranged in a whimsical, cottage style. I left with a ruffled lavender and white hollyhock, all



potted up and ready to plant in my own garden. Betty is a MBGC board member and is a volunteer gardener at the Lady of the Island Shrine. By the way, she is always looking for volunteers to help at the shrine—you can contact her at 632-878-1784.

Take a minute to share a plant with a fellow gardener.

-Maureen Pollack

About the front cover

Feed mini goats at LI Game Farm

The goat nursery at the Long Island Game Farm is open at 11 a.m. and is included in admission. But for those who want to feed the mini goats, a bottle can be purchased for \$5 at the gift shop.

Owner Melinda Novak suggests

going in and finding some goats to hang out with.

“You can sit on the ground and pet them,” she said of her favorite part of the zoo. “They may climb on your lap. It can be a very peaceful and relaxing experience.”

As pictured on the front cover, many of the goats have a range of beautiful eye colors! They are African pygmy goat mixes. Pictured are the yearling trio, Fonzie, Potsie and Richie.

If you decide to feed them, be ready, because they do get excited.

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

-Nicole Fuentes

MT/Fuentes

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AROUND TOWN

Saturday, August 7

Book Sale – Friends of Center Moriches Library will hold a Pop-Up Sale under the library's tent, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shop books, DVD sets, CDs, and other special items, all priced to sell.

Movie Night – Join the Chamber of Commerce for a free family movie, "The Croods: A New Age," at 8:30 p.m. on the lawn of Clayton Huey Elementary School, 511 Main St., Center Moriches. To RSVP, visit www.simplenetix.com/e/free-movie-night-the-croods-a-new-age-spon-tickets-73888.

Wednesday, August 18

Mastic Peninsula - The Historical Society meets the third Wednesday of every month at the MMS Community Library, 7 p.m. Call

631-281-7347 or visit www.mphistorical.org or email mastichistory333@gmail.com for more information.

Friday, August 20

Community Event: Depression Workshop – South Bay Bible Church is holding a one-hour virtual workshop, "Getting Free from the Stubborn Darkness of Depression," with internationally acclaimed author and counselor, Edward T. Welch, Ph.D., 7 p.m. The program is designed to give those struggling with depression perspective, practical help, and increased hope. Register by Aug. 11 using the form online at www.southbaychurchli.org/depression. For questions, call 631-909-8241.

Flower Show – The Moriches Bay Garden Club's NGC Small-Standard Flower Show

at the Masury Estate Ballroom, 67 Old Neck Road So., Center Moriches, Aug. 20 and 21, noon to 4 pm. Free admission. Visit www.morichesbaygardenclub.org.

Saturday, August 21

BBQ, Brakes, & Bros – Free community event for men and boys at South Bay Bible Church, 578 Montauk Hwy, East Moriches. Join the church for a night of FELLOWship, an authentic Kansas-City-style BBQ dinner with live music, a car show, and an encouraging talk by former Marine Corps Sergeant Adam McClendon, 4-7 p.m. Free event, but attendees must register by Aug. 8 at www.southbaychurchli.org/bbb.

Concert Night – Enjoy a free concert of '60s, '70s and '80s music performed by

High Tide at 7 p.m. on the lawn of Clayton Huey Elementary School, 511 Main St., Center Moriches. Concert sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Visit moriches-chamber.org/news-events/calendar.

Of Note ...

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

YEARS AGO

75 Years Ago

AUGUST 1946

One of the grand old ladies of Center Moriches, **Mrs. Carrie Terry**, more familiarly known by family and friends as "Aunt Caddie," was pleasantly surprised with a lawn party given in honor of her 85th birthday.

The East Moriches Peg-a-Ways presented the Bay Shore Players in the three-act comedy hit, "George and Margaret," in the East Moriches firehall, which raised \$300 for the organ fund of the Presbyterian Church. Among the talented cast members were **Robert Swigart, Mathilde Tepper, Florence Cook, Hiliard Thurber and Edward Pomerantz, Charles Leach, Ruth Thurber and Will Crist.**

The Moriches Women's Club met at the clubhouse on Lake Avenue, with **Mrs. Joseph O'Connell**, president, presiding. The committee for the successful bridge parties was **Mrs. B.C. Sprague, Mrs. John Sprague, Ms. Anita Cleveland, Mrs. Donald Portser, Mrs. Bayard Fenner, Mrs. Percy Spedick and Mrs. Walter Donovan.**

John Nekerman, of East Moriches, who was made a colonel in the U.S. Army, sailed on the U.S. Army Transport, Robert F. Burns, for Germany.

A beach breakfast party was enjoyed by several Moriches youths: **Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Moore, Ms. Joan Herrick, Mrs. Edith Yeomans, Mr. and Mrs. William Tuttle, Mrs. William F. Howell, Ms. Patricia Tuttle, John Nummy, Ms. Helen LaCarva and Mrs. Walter O'Brien.**

The following East Moriches Boy Scouts are enjoying a vacation at the Baiting Hollow Scout Camp: **John Lowell, Carl Olson, Harold and George Dunlap and Edward Granatella.**

Alvah Bosworth was reelected commander at the annual meeting of the Moriches American Legion of Post 929, held on Senix Avenue.

Mrs. M.E. Raynor, of East Moriches, was



August 1971: Center Moriches High School students Mark Costich, Hope Roesch, Barbara Plante, Denise Costich and Howard Anderson prepare to board a hand-made Roman chariot to go around the community urging residents to approve the proposed 1971-71 school budget.

hostess to the Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church. In charge of the business program was **Mrs. Oliver Hammond**. Plans were made for the filling of the society's allotment of supplies, which will be sent to the Rocky Ford community center at Flag Pond, Tenn., and the hospital in Santo Domingo.

Ms. Doris Shirley Raynor, of Eastport, and **Kenneth V. Howell**, of East Moriches, were married in the East Moriches Methodist Church.

Ms. Emma Louise Wilson, of Moriches, became the bride of **Lawrence F. Schliessman**, of Hempstead, at a ceremony performed at St John's Episcopal Church, Center Moriches.

Mary Gayles, of Eastport, who graduated from Adelphi College in June, is attending a conference in Canada with several members of her graduating class.

Thirty members attended the regular meeting of the Eastport American Legion. The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of an American flag by **Herbert S. Sorrell Sr.** and **Herbert S. Sorrell Jr.**, to the Eastport post. The colors were accepted by vice commander **Joseph Babbkewich** on behalf of the post.

Dr. Gordon Whaley, of East Moriches, has accepted a position as associate professor at the University of Texas and has been asked to write the biology section of a revised edition of "Nelson's Encyclopedia."

Playing in August at the **Center Moriches Theatre**: Claudette Colbert in "Without Reservations"; Danny Kaye in "The Kid from Brooklyn"; Kathryn Grayson and June Allyson in "Two Sisters from Boston"; and Olivia de Havilland in "To Each His Own."

50 Years Ago

AUGUST 1971

Nancy Skidmore, of Skidmore's Fishing Station, East Moriches, presented a set of tickets donated by the fishing station to **Mrs. Charles Giardino**, of East Moriches, and her children, **Charles, Kevin, Theresa and Anthony**, for the George Matthews Great London Circus.

Paul Runyan was the first 18-year-old to register to vote ever in a Center Moriches election. Runyan voted on the proposed school budget, which was approved. Paul has also been accepted as a member of the September freshman class at Clarkson College of Technology, where he will major in engineering.

Nina Tamara, a Mastic Beach ballet teacher and choreographer, has been on tour with various dance groups from Europe.

Mike Mellinger, with a catch of 15 pounds, one ounce, has taken over the lead in the private boat division in the eighth annual Moriches Bay Fluke Championship.

The Snapper Fishing Contest was held by the Mastic Beach Property Owners Association on their marina. The winners were **Michael Tombsco** of Mastic Beach, first prize, a radio; **Jim Geeson**, Shirley, second prize, a fishing rod; and **Christopher Colby**, of Mastic Beach, third prize, a fishing rod.

Gus Frahm of Lakewview Drive, Mastic Beach, has 136 self-built birdhouses surrounding his home. He has been building them as a hobby since he retired 11 years ago.

Playing in August at local **United Artists Theatres**: Sean Connery in "The Anderson Tapes"; George C. Scott in "The Last Run"; and James Stewart and George Kennedy in "Fool's Parade."

Compiled by Vanessa Graniello

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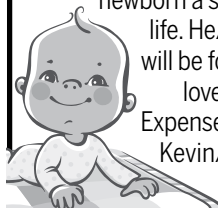
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Thomas Valva case documentation decision

On Jan. 17, 2020 Thomas Valva died after authorities said his father, Michael Valva, and his fiancée, Angela Pollina, forced him and his brother to sleep in an unheated garage overnight as the outside temperature fell to 19 degrees.

The Suffolk County Legislature responded and convened the Special Legislative Committee to Investigate the Untimely Death of Thomas Valva to analyze the circumstances that led to his tragic death.

On Feb. 4, 2020, the special committee approved the issuance of a subpoena for all pertinent case records from the Suffolk County Department of Social Services. The department refused to comply, citing NYS Social Service law, resulting in the special committee commencing litigation to compel production of the documents. The motion was filed on April 2, 2020, as an Article 78 proceeding.

Child Protective Service files remain confidential in most cases. However, these materials can be released if a child dies and if their release would not endanger any surviving children. On Monday, NYS Supreme Court Justice Joseph Santorelli issued a non-final decision authorizing an in-camera review of these documents by the court. After the in-camera review, Santorelli will render a final determination regarding whether or which documents shall be released to the special committee.

“The legislature is a co-equal branch of government and has a right to understand what led to this unimaginable tragedy. We need to address any shortcomings in our county departments to

ensure something like this does not happen again,” said Suffolk County Legislature presiding officer Rob Calarco. “These documents are essential to this process and I am pleased that the court is reviewing them for potential release to our special committee for analysis. Nothing can bring Thomas back. But by diligently examining all facets of this case, we can honor his memory and find solutions that will better protect our most vulnerable population.”

Calarco, deputy presiding officer Kara Hahn and Legis. Tom Cilmi are the three members of the Special Legislative Committee and will continue to seek answers as it relates to this case. ■



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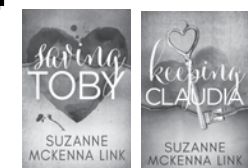


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The farm is also now open for sunset hours on Saturday and Sundays for photography. The sunflowers are expected to remain in bloom through September.

The farm has about 15 acres open to the public but sits on a larger 70 acres, including flower fields. According to Weiss, the farm is currently growing sweet corn for late-summer and fall roasting.

The farm also boasts tons of activities for the kids, including a large play set, photo ops, barnyard animals, mini-golf holes and bouncy pads. This is the place to go for photo ops with tons of idle vintage cars, a windmill, and other cute spots. The farm is also pet-friendly and has food trucks on site for refreshments.

Waterdrinker Family Farm is located at 663 Wading River Road in Manorville. ■



The owners' baby daughter, Penelope Jane Weiss, also enjoys the fresh flowers.

Photo credit/Ewa Skapski



Owner Mark Weiss's nephew, Oliver, also loved stopping to smell the flowers.

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August 1 - 7														
Moriches Bay	2:22 AM	2:51 PM	3:14 AM	3:41 PM	4:11 AM	4:33 PM	5:09 AM	5:26 PM	6:03 AM	6:15 PM	6:51 AM	7:00 PM	7:34 AM	7:40 PM
Moriches Inlet	1:43 AM	2:12 PM	2:35 AM	3:02 PM	3:32 AM	3:54 PM	4:30 AM	4:47 PM	5:24 AM	5:36 PM	6:12 AM	6:21 PM	6:55 AM	7:01 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	4:38 AM	5:07 PM	5:30 AM	5:57 PM	6:27 AM	6:49 PM	7:25 AM	7:42 PM	8:19 AM	8:31 PM	9:07 AM	9:16 PM	9:50 AM	9:56 PM
August 8 - 14														
Moriches Bay	8:14 AM	8:19 PM	8:54 AM	8:57 PM	9:35 PM	9:38 PM	10:18 AM	10:22 PM	11:05 AM	11:11 PM	11:56 AM	—	12:05 AM	12:48 PM
Moriches Inlet	7:35 AM	7:40 PM	8:15 AM	8:18 PM	8:56 AM	8:59 PM	9:39 AM	9:43 PM	10:36 AM	10:32 PM	11:17 AM	11:26 PM	—	12:09 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	10:30 AM	10:35 PM	11:10 AM	11:13 PM	11:51 AM	11:54 PM	—	12:34 PM	12:38 AM	1:21 PM	1:27 AM	2:12 PM	2:21 AM	3:04 PM
August 15 - 21														
Moriches Bay	1:02 AM	1:43 PM	2:02 AM	2:41 PM	3:06 AM	3:44 PM	4:15 AM	4:50 PM	5:23 AM	5:52 PM	6:24 AM	6:48 PM	7:18 AM	7:38 PM
Moriches Inlet	12:23 AM	1:04 PM	1:23 AM	2:02 PM	2:27 AM	3:05 PM	3:36 AM	4:11 PM	4:44 AM	5:13 PM	5:45 AM	6:09 PM	6:39 AM	6:59 PM
Smith Pt. Bridge	3:18 AM	3:59 PM	4:18 AM	4:57 PM	5:22 AM	6:00 PM	6:31 AM	7:06 PM	7:39 AM	8:08 PM	8:40 AM	9:04 PM	9:34 AM	9:54 PM
August 22 - 28														
Moriches Bay	8:07 AM	8:25 PM	8:53 AM	9:09 PM	9:38 AM	9:53 PM	10:22 AM	10:38 PM	11:07 AM	11:23 PM	11:51 AM	—	12:10	12:35 PM
Moriches Inlet	7:28 AM	7:46 PM	8:14 AM	8:30 PM	8:59 AM	9:14 PM	9:43 AM	9:59 PM	10:28 AM	10:44 PM	11:12 AM	11:31 PM	11:56 AM	—
Smith Pt. Bridge	10:23 AM	10:41 PM	11:09 AM	11:25 PM	11:54 AM	—	12:09 AM	12:38 PM	12:54 AM	1:23 PM	1:39 AM	2:07 PM	2:26 AM	2:51 PM

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