

the Tide

OF MORICHES & MANORVILLE

MARCH 2023

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12th Year, Issue 3
thetideofmoriches.com

Real estate in the Moriches

Three high-priced homes sold

BY NICOLE FUENTES

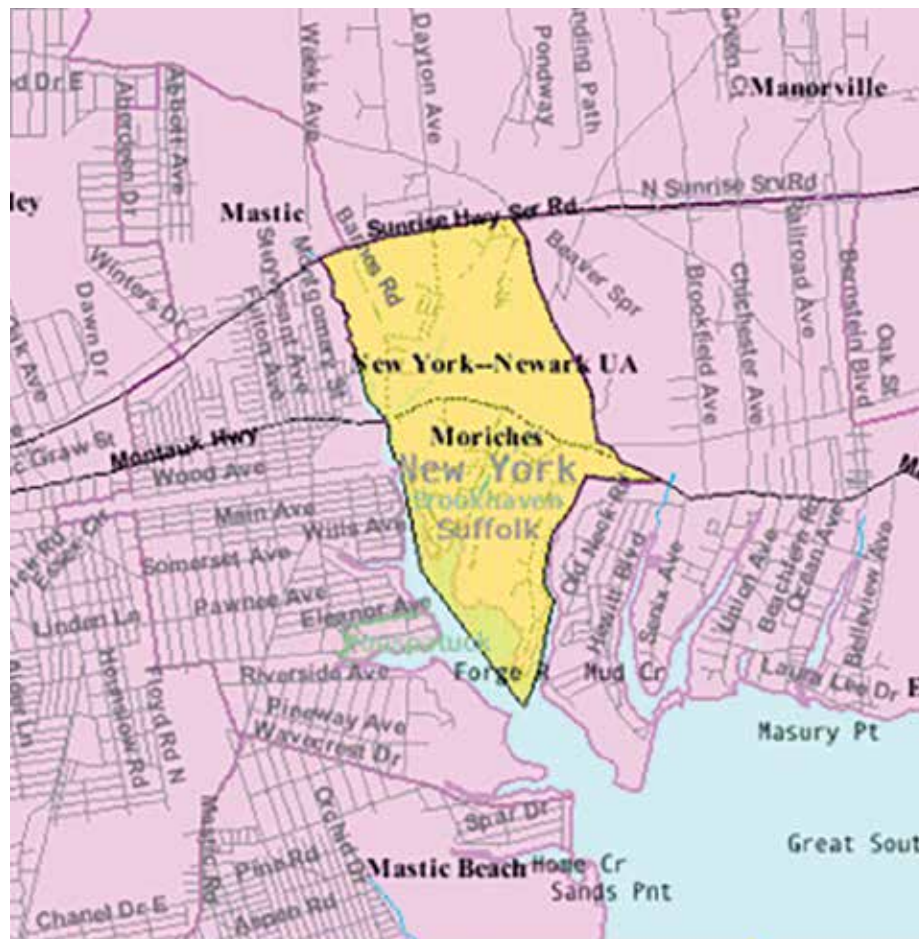
Moriches is a 2.3-square-mile hamlet (part of the tri-hamlet of the Mastics, Moriches, and Shirley) and is located in Suffolk County, on the South Shore of Long Island. The name “Moriches” comes from Meritces, a Native American who owned land on Moriches Neck.

According to Century 21 Cor-Ace Realty brokers and owners Tony and Barbara Liberti, the Moriches is a great place to live, with an urban and suburban mix.

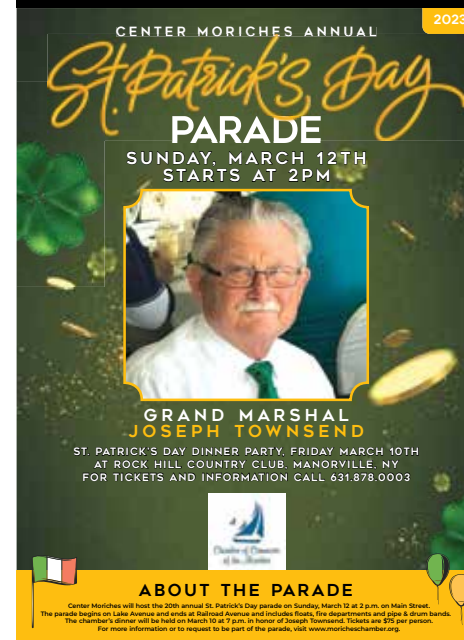
“Quiet and serene,” Tony Liberti said. “We are surrounded by nature—parks and preserves, ocean beaches. It has some great local places to eat and shop, and one of the best diners on the island: The Moriches Bay Diner.”

Also, there is plenty for both young people and families to do, from boating, swimming, fishing and hiking, to taking part in different sports such as baseball, football, soccer, and cheerleading.

See **MORICHES REAL ESTATE** on page 3



See our
St. Patrick's Day
guide inside



Center Moriches annual St. Patrick's Day parade

Sunday, March 12, 2023
at 2 p.m. on Main Street

Center Moriches will host the 19th annual St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 12 at 2 p.m. on Main Street. The parade begins on Lake Avenue and ends at Railroad Avenue and includes floats, fire departments and pipe & drum bands.

The chamber's dinner will be held on March 10 at 7 p.m. in honor of Joseph Townsend. Tickets are \$75 per person.

For more information or to request to be part of the parade, visit www.moricheschamber.org. ■

Center Moriches St. Patrick's Day grand marshal announced

High school security guard and retired sheriff honored

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Lifelong Center Moriches resident, sheriff, and Center Moriches High School security guard, Joseph Townsend, was selected as this year's St. Patrick's Day parade grand marshal.

“It's an honor because I have lived in this town all my life,” he said, excited for the big day.

Townsend, 78, is known for giving back to his community and loving his family. He is an Irishman, though he is more known for his Irish heritage from his wife, Patricia Townsend, who served as a Christmas parade judge; she died about three years ago. Patricia, a Bellport native, summered in the Moriches, where they met boating. They were married for 51 years. Together they had two daughters, Sandi, surname Dennis, and Sarah, surname Davis.

“She was the Irish one in the family. We always followed along with the things she did, like green carnations

and Irish soda bread contests,” said Sandi.

Sandi is a paraprofessional in the Center Moriches School District. She and her husband, Tom, have two children, Molly, 17, and Isabel, 11. Sarah and her husband, Alan, both went to Center Moriches High School and have one child named Andrew, 6. Both families stayed in Center Moriches, living only blocks away from Townsend, who still lives in the family home he built in 1976 on Bellevue Avenue.

Townsend grew up in Center Moriches. See **GRAND MARSHAL** on page 3

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Seals exhibit at the
community center PAGE 4

CM Library joins
sustainable program PAGE 12

New girls football
league opens PAGE 19



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GRAND MARSHAL: Townsend to be honored for his services

FROM PAGE 1

es and graduated from the high school in 1962. By 1967, he was hired by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, where he retired as deputy sheriff investigator in 1995. During his time with the Sheriff's Department, he held the title of president of the deputy sheriff investigator association for five years. He was also honored as Police Officer of The Year in 1984.

Townsend is also an active member of the Center Moriches Fire Department, which he joined in 1965. He also served as chief of the department from 1971 to 1978 and was honored as Fireman of The Year in 1991. In 1981, he was elected to the fire department's board of commissioners, where he served for 25 years, 10 as chairman.

In 1996, he joined the Center Moriches High School as a security guard. In 2007, he was appointed coordinator. In 2021, he stepped down from that position, but

continued as a security guard. A proud alum of the school, he has attended the prom for the past 25 years, including for both his daughters and his two granddaughters.

Townsend said he has had a great life and is proud to live in such a great community surrounded by so many friends and family. According to his daughter Sandi, his entire family is proud of him and plans to attend the party and the parade, then continue to celebrate him after.

Ahead of the parade, Townsend will be celebrated on Friday, March 10 at the St. Patrick Parade Party at Rock Hill Country Club, from 7 to 11 p.m. ■



Townsend was also honored by the school district in 2021 for 25 years of service with the district as a security guard.



Townsend, a proud CM firefighter, is pictured with his 6-year-old grandson, Andrew.

Courtesy photos



Bagpipers and Irish step dancers needed for St. Pat's parade

Center Moriches will host the 20th annual St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 12 at 2 p.m. on Main Street.

The parade begins on Lake Avenue and ends at Railroad Avenue and includes floats, fire departments, and Irish bands.

Currently, the parade is in need of bagpipe bands and Irish step dancers. The chamber's dinner will be held on March 10 at 7 to 11 p.m. in honor of Townsend. There will be Irish step dancers by M. Lynch School, live music from Jimmy Osborne & Chain Reaction Band, a four-hour buffet and open bar. Tickets are \$75.

For tickets contact Gerry Sapanaro at info@moricheschamber.org. For more information or to request to be part of the parade, visit www.moricheschamber.org.

Also, don't miss the 5k!

The Rotary Club of Seatuck Cove will be hosting a 4 Leaf Clover 5k Run/Walk on March 18.

The event will start at 9 a.m., rain or shine, at East Moriches Middle School, East Moriches. To register visit events.elitefeats.com/234leafclover.

For questions contact Rosann at Moriches Bay Deli 631-878-0254. Cost is \$20 for under 17, \$25 for over 17 and \$30 for day of the race.

MORICHES REAL ESTATE: About the local market

FROM PAGE 1

As for Moriches Bay Realty, broker/owner Gerry Saponara, she has been living in the area since 1957 and said it's her knowledge about the details of the area that makes her service special. Most people, she said, come to the area because of the waterfronts and soon discover the newly renovated public library and learn to treasure the history-rich marinas.

ABOUT THE MORICHES

According to Cor-Ace Realty, house styles and sizes vary throughout Moriches area, including capes, ranches, colonials, Victorians, post-modern/contemporary, from 1,100 square feet to 2,900 square feet. Moriches is part of the award-winning William Floyd School District. In the broader sense of the area, Saponara said that general-sized Moriches homes are anywhere from 1,000-2,500 square feet, with the larger homes in neighboring Manorville. Luxury homes up to 6,000 square feet are also available in the Moriches.

MORICHES REAL ESTATE STATS

As of February, there were seven homes on the market in the town of Moriches, with prices ranging from \$459,000 to \$895,000 and taxes ranging from \$4,440.70 (55-plus condos in The Waterways) to \$18,835.17. The average sale price of a home in Moriches was \$660,000 last month, up 35.3 percent since last year. If considering the Moriches area in whole, including Center and East Moriches as well, a total of 46 homes and land for sale were found listed from \$5 million to \$459,000. The rental market is also in high demand, though very scarce.

Center Moriches:
22 listings starting at \$489K

East Moriches:
20 listings starting at \$519K

Moriches:
Seven listings starting at \$459K

High-priced homes sold in the Moriches

SOLD BY Century 21 Cor-Ace Realty

1) 82 James Hawkins Rd., Moriches, sold on Aug. 8, 2022 for \$1,250,000. Waterfront, four bedrooms/three bathroom. Custom ranch on 1-plus acre. GeoThermal cooling and heating. Agents Anthony and Caryn Alfano.

2) 150 Crystal Beach Blvd., Moriches, sold on Feb. 4, 2020 for \$1,500,000. Waterfront, three bedrooms/three bathroom. Post-modern 3,300-square-foot living space. Green certified. Agents Gina Walter, Anthony Liberti and Alfred Walter.

3) 103 Crystal Beach Blvd., Moriches, sold on July 12, 2021 for \$710,000. Waterfront, three bedrooms/two bathroom. Completely updated split ranch with floating dock. Agent Tinamarie Hughes.

ABOUT CENTURY 21 COR-ACE

CENTURY 21 Cor-Ace Realty has been actively serving Moriches and the surrounding communities for over 55 years. They are a full-service brokerage who services both buyers and sellers. They are also an active part of the community and the William Floyd School District raising funds in excess of \$580,000 in scholarship money through their annual golf outing.

MORICHES CENSUS DATA

Total Population- 3,026
Median Household Income- \$66,762
Total Housing Units- 1,460
Total Households- 1,326
Zip Code- 11955

Ride the Tide!



Century 21 Cor-Ace Realty brokers and owners Tony and Barbara Liberti
Courtesy photo



A chance to see the seals

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

For generations, the beauty of Long Island's nature has inspired books, poetry, and films. It's also the inspiration for "Jamie & Bonnie's Great Seal Adventure," a photo exhibit that took place at the Moriches Community Center on Feb. 5, and is slated to continue with other exhibits across the Island.

The 16-photo environmental project showcased the photographic artwork of Jamie Ellin Forbes and Bonnie Bredes. The exhibit was designed to show audiences seals in their natural habitat, sun-

bathing on the shores of Long Island, with the overall goal of encouraging public stewardship toward the environment and especially local waterways.

While at the event, Forbes spoke to this reporter about the role that climate change has had on our natural ecosystems, particularly when it comes to the seal population.

"Unless we make changes today to stop the sea level from rising, there will be no sandbar for the seals to go on," she said.

For Forbes, part of the fun of photographing the seals is watching them in their natural habitat, being social with

other animals.

"They're part of a group. They like to hang out together—the seagulls, the seals, the ducks," she said.

While there were hundreds of photos taken for the exhibit and only 16 that made the cut, the duo spent hours watching and waiting, always at a distance of at least 150 feet, according to Bredes.

"We went out more than a few times and got nothing," she said.

The exhibit was made possible with the help of Kathleen Johnson, the former executive director of the Moriches Community Center, now retired. Johnson saw

the exhibit at the library and told Forbes she wanted to facilitate a viewing event at the community center.

In addition to the community center exhibit, Forbes and Bredes took local students out to view the seals in Cupsogue on Feb. 17.

"It's important to show our students the beauty of nature and get them to appreciate our local environment so they can become good stewards of our community," she said.

For more information on the exhibit, email the Moriches Community Center at Info@MorichesCommunityCenter.org. ■



One of the photos from the exhibit.



Pictured are (left to right) Jamie Ellin Forbes and Bonnie Bredes.



Courtesy photos

Networking tips from LeTip

BY KATHERINE AL RASHDAN

LeTip of Suffolk South Shore held a networking mixer at La Buena Vida, on Montauk Highway in Moriches, on Feb. 15. The evening event brought out more than a dozen current and potential members, who chatted and networked over a delicious array of empanadas, stuffed mushrooms, and other appetizers.

The Suffolk South Shore chapter is less than a year old and was started by real estate agent Tina Jahrsdoerfer, who said LeTip is a national networking organization that helps people grow their businesses through referrals. One member from every professional background is invited to join the organization. Once that member is in and the category is filled, no other professionals from that category are invited to join. For example, there is only one real estate agent, financial services professional, carpenter, etc.

For John Dinkelmeyer, an executive member of the club, LeTip is all about



LeTip Suffolk South Shore members at a networking event held at La Buena Vida. Mt/Al Rashdan

networking.

"Our purpose is to help each other grow in our respective businesses, through referrals," said Dinkelmeyer.

Dinkelmeyer explained that networking within his community is extra rewarding.

"I enjoy living in a small community. I like that small-town feel and I like to promote other local businesses. You want your own local community to succeed," said Dinkelmeyer. "I'm more likely to get business from another local business person, and they're more likely to get

business from me because we know each other because we're neighbors. We see each other out to dinner, we see each other out at the post office. That's part of the attraction to a local chapter. We all live in the Moriches, Mastic, Shirley area."

Joseph Furnari, vice president of the chapter, called it satisfying to be able to network and refer businesses in his community.

"I'm making connections with people in my area; I'm making lifelong working relationships, and part of the purpose is also to make personal friendships as well. It's the potential of adding to my personal network as well as my professional network," he explained.

Jahrsdoerfer explained that additional networking events will follow.

"We're going to try to do one every quarter," said Jahrsdoerfer, adding that the next event is slated for April or May of this year.

For more information on the group, call or text Tina Jahrsdoerfer at (631) 365-4231 or TinaJ@soldbyTinaJ.com. ■

the Tide

Long Island Game Farm ready for new season

The farm operators are currently working on putting their official schedule together, but have announced a reopening April 1 through 10 for spring break. The farm will be open to the public that week from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Throughout the winter, the farm is open by appointment only, and as of March will be open on weekends, weather dependent. Advance reservations include VIP tours, zoo-keeper tours, and pony experiences.

New this year, according to owner Melinda Novack, is a troop of three squirrel monkeys. However, because they like the warmer weather, they won't be on display until May. Events will also be announced for April.

The Long Island Game Farm also been rehabilitating and rehoming exotic animals for over 50 years. As the largest combined children's zoo and wildlife park on Long Island,

The Long Island Game Farm offers a natural environment to learn about wildlife and animals through education and entertainment.

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

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

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





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Another successful Folkie Fest

The Moriches Community Center hosted their first Folkie Fest of the years, "Slip Sliding Away," on Feb. 12. Billed as "Not your grandparents' folk," the annual concert series featured local acoustic artists, including Rob Europe, Kane Daily, Frank LaTorre, Shecky Tom Davis, and Kerry Kearney. Additional dates and performances for the 2023 season include March 5, "Unstoppable Women of Song"; April 23, "Getting to the Roots"; and May 21, "Living on LI." Purchase \$10 tickets by visiting www.morichescommunitycenter.org. \$15 tickets will be sold at the door.



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Moriches man wins presidential jackpot

Joseph DeSantis, of Moriches, won a very "presidential" sum of \$82,677.05 on a Quick Hit game, placing a \$5 bet at Jake's 58 Casino on Monday, Feb. 20, President's Day.



Photo courtesy of Jake's 58 Casino Hotel

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Stella turns 100!



Courtesy photos

Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing resident Stella Crennan turned 100 this past Feb. 8. She celebrated with a party surrounded by family, friends and music. Crennan was born on Feb. 8, 1923 in Middle Island, to Polish immigrants, Frank and Frances Kazel. She grew up on the family potato farm in Yaphank as one of eight children. During WWII, she worked at Camp Upton. She was married to George Crennan Jr. on Aug. 1, 1948. Together they moved to Eastport and raised two children, Cherie and Randy. After being a stay-at-home mom taking care of her children, she became a caregiver to the elderly and infirm at their homes, working well into her 80s.

George died in 1976; at that time, she moved to Manorville. Today, Crennan has three grandchildren, Mark, Matthew and Meredith; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews who all visit her at the nursing home. The key to a long life, she said, has been her love of faith, family and friends. And, of course, Polish genes!

"It was our pleasure to celebrate Stella's 100th birthday here at Oasis Rehab. We welcomed so many of her family and friends to share her special day. She is loved by so many people! Here's to many more birthday celebrations with Stella!" said Andrea Serie, administrator, Oasis Rehabilitation and Nursing. ■

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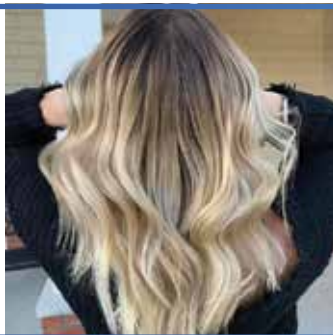
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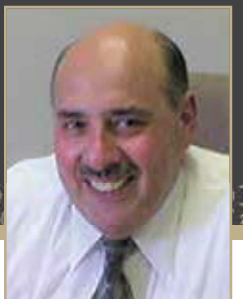
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Center Moriches joins sustainable library program

Saving taxpayer dollars and the environment

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Center Moriches Free Public Library recently joined the sustainable library initiative supporting their environmental efforts as well as saving taxpayer dollars. Library director Marcie Litjens said the library was happy to hop on the initiative and eager to get a committee started.

“It’s not just looking at energy efficiency,” said Litjens, “it’s also a commitment to the library getting the best value for what we do.”

The Center Moriches sustainability committee comprises staff members from various departments, including: Dominique Nason, Children’s Department; Jessica Ceramello, head of Teen Services; Christie Matheson, librarian I, Reference Department; Mary McNulty, librarian II, Reference Department; Robert Chesnut, assistant director; and Litjens, library director.

“Within the last several years, the Board of Trustees has embarked on several projects that have increased the efficiency of our library, such as replacing windows original to the building, retrofitting to LED lighting, and most recently converting to natural gas from oil,” Litjens said.

Last October, after a presentation about the Sustainable Libraries Initiative, the board agreed that it would be a long-term commitment that both their community and staff will benefit from.

The Sustainable Libraries Initiative is a nationwide organization with over 75



The Center Moriches Library Sustainability Team on their book bicycle, which they ride instead of driving throughout the community. This bicycle was gifted by their Friends of the Library group.

Courtesy photo

public libraries currently enrolled in the Sustainable Libraries Certification Program. With categories of actions focusing on each of the three pillars of triple bottom line (Environmentally Sound, Socially Equitable, and Economically Feasible) sustainability such as Energy, Indoor Spaces, Social Cohesion, and Resilience Planning, this comprehensive process leads a library toward institutional change that shifts the rationale for every decision to consider the local and global impacts.

Through the program, libraries work with their communities to listen and learn, allowing local needs to be identified and addressed. Strengthening the relationship between the library and the community they serve builds resilience through stronger connections with many organizations and increased access to information. The path to certification

through the Sustainable Libraries Certification Program is flexible for libraries of different types, sizes, and budgets and guided by the communities they serve. Each library that completes the program will select the benchmarks that best fit the needs of their library and community, resulting in a uniquely sustainable organization.

The mission is to empower library leaders to advance environmentally sound, socially equitable, and economically feasible practices to intentionally address climate change and co-create thriving communities. The program has collectively offset the equivalent of 8.15 million letter pages of paper consumption by reforesting 977.88 trees since joining PrintReleaf in August 2021.

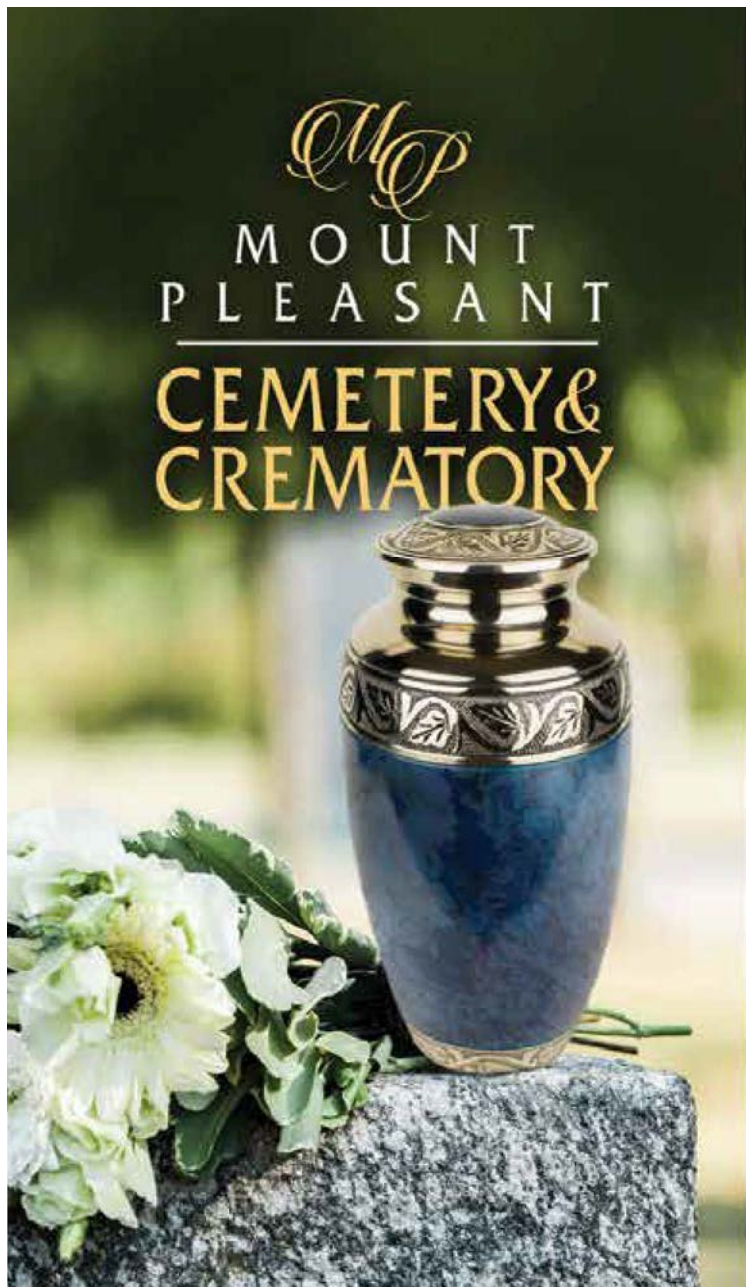
According to Roger Reyes, assistant director of the Suffolk County Cooperative Library System and co-creator of

the Sustainable Libraries Initiative, “The Center Moriches Library has demonstrated a commitment to sustainability at an impressive level. They are early adopters of this work in the field and in their community and are helping lead the way to create a vibrant, future-focused library that is contributing to community resilience both locally and globally.”

The Sustainable Library Certification Program and the SLI community of practice focuses on the individual library’s leadership to enable them. To become certified, the library must first survey their stakeholders and form a sustainability team. That team then takes a closer look at how things are done and/or consumed at the library. They then think about how to proceed differently with tips from the initiative. Finally, a presentation is required to both summarize the work done for the evaluation team as well as to assist the team in spreading the word locally. The certification process typically takes 18 to 24 months to complete.

As the Center Moriches team learns more and delves further into the certification process, Litjens said that they will include additional staff members to help promote, support, and achieve the goals of the initiative. Currently, the library is working on energy and waste audits. They are also planning a sustainability celebration on Earth Day that will focus on their organic, non-GMO seed library, home gardening and crafts and displays. The celebration will take place on Saturday, April 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

For more information about the program visit: <https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>.



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KEITH'S CORNER

Spring is around the corner



I can't believe it's March, and spring is right around the corner!

This month, Helping Makes U Happy is taking it a little slow to get ready for all the helping we'll be doing from April on. We are selling our green shirts and sweatshirts for St. Patrick's Day—the money we raise will help us to feed families at Easter. The shirts and sweatshirts are available in limited supply, so contact us on Facebook or by calling 631-848-9008 so you don't miss out on the wearin' of the green!

We are looking forward to the Chamber of Commerce's Cocktail Party honoring grand marshal Joe Townsend on March 10 and, of course, the St. Patrick's Day parade, starting at 2 p.m. on Main Street, Center Moriches, Sunday, March 12. I'll be waving to you all from the happy green golfcart as we drive down the parade route.

Helping Makes U Happy is also looking forward to sponsoring and attending the Spring Basket Auction and Food Extravaganza at Our Lady Queen of Apostles, in Center Moriches, on March 11. It looks like a great time!

We'd also like to remind high school students and their families that scholarship applications will be due soon, so watch for the Helping Makes U Happy Scholarship app at your school. Our scholarships are for \$1,000 each, and you must have volunteered with Helping Makes U Happy in order to apply.

We will have some upcoming events, so if you haven't volunteered yet, now's the time. Finally, look for us at the Spring Event, April 1 and 2, at Olish Farmstand in Eastport, so you can meet us and learn about those upcoming events!

Have a great month!

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The Rotary Club of the Moriches celebrated the January and February Students of the Month as Catherine Smith and Aiden McDonald, respectively. Pictured from left: Elise Allen, interact advisor, Aiden McDonald, Catherine Smith, and Deborah Brown Volkman, president, Moriches Rotary.



Courtesy photo

MORICHES BAY GARDEN CLUB

Back for another gardening season



The MBGC is back and ready for another gardening season. We had a fairly mild winter, so much so that at least one MBGC member planted daffodils in December. Well, why not? The bulbs were sprouting, the ground wasn't frozen, and the weather was mild. That's what I call "seat-of-the-pants gardening"—which is to do a chore when you have the time and you think there is a fairly good possibility for a successful outcome. We'll follow up to see how they make out.

Meanwhile, our new president, Debbie Cannarelli, and the rest of the board have planned an exciting and interesting program for 2023. Our first meeting is March 16 at the Center Moriches Library. After the meeting, we will have a design workshop demonstrating how to make a St. Paddy's Day centerpiece.

On March 20, some members are going to the Second District spring luncheon, "The Magic of March," at the Hamlet Golf and Country Club in

Commack. They will be treated to an excellent program, good food and lots of shopping.

Several events that you might be interested in are the Sweetwater African Violet Society's annual show at the Sayville Fire Department. Contact mkchelton48@gmail.com for more information.

For an overnight trip, you might consider The Philadelphia Flower Show, "The Garden Electric," March 4 to 12.

Next month, we will be able get out in our gardens, but for now we are enjoying the first burst of spring—snowdrops, crocus, squill, forsythia and witch hazel, just to name a few. While in Florida this winter, I shared a garden plot in a community garden, one of 90 plots. I was able to harvest radish, lettuce, and spinach during my stay. My gardening partner will be able to harvest tomato, eggplant, peppers, green beans, and zucchini very soon.

-Maureen Pollack

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AROUND TOWN

Sunday, March 5

Sermon Series – The South Bay Bible Church continues the teaching series, “I AM: Identifying the Man and His Mission,” presented Sundays through April 2, 9 and 11 a.m. Visit www.southbaychurchli.org or call 631-909-8241.

Wednesday, March 8

International Women’s Day – A global day celebrating the historical, cultural, and political achievements of women, and in support of taking action against gender inequality around the world.

Sunday, March 12

St. Patrick’s Day Parade – Center Moriches’ annual parade steps off at Lake Avenue and Main Street, 2 p.m. and ends at Railroad Ave. Visit www.moricheschamber.org.

Monday, March 13

National Good Samaritan Day – Also known as Good Samaritan Involvement Day, the day is celebrated every March 13 to encourage kindness and selflessness, despite our differences.

Tuesday, March 14

Caregiver Support Group – ADRC Support group for those providing care for someone with Alzheimer’s Disease or other dementia

disorder at Center Moriches Library, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month. For registration and meeting details, call Charon Reichman, LMSW, at 631-580-5100, ext. 302.

4-Leaf Clover 5K – Rotary Club of Seatuck’s charity run/walk at East Moriches Middle School, 9 a.m. Register at seatuckcoverotary.org. Pick up race packets Friday, 6-7 p.m. or on race day, as early as 8 a.m.

Friday, March 24

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

Of Note ...

Tell Us About Your Event – We print local events free of charge for the towns of

Moriches, Center Moriches, East Moriches, and Manorville, for our “AROUND TOWN” section. For inclusion, please submit information by no later than the 15th of the month prior to the event.

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

Moriches Civic Bay – The association meets every fourth Thursday at the Center Moriches Library, 7 p.m. Visit www.morich-esbaycivic.org for details.

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

Pet Supplies Needed – RSVP Inc. Animal Welfare & Rescue Group is in the need of wet and dry dog and cat food, chews, blankets/towels, pens and crates, and flea/tick preventatives. Please call 631-533-2PET (2738) or email info@rsvpinc.org to arrange a pickup.

Gamblers Anonymous – Are you or someone you know living with a gambling problem? Call 631-297-6166 for help. Covering all areas of Long Island, Sunday-Friday.

Flag Disposal – Have a torn or faded United States flag? Boy Scout Troop 800 will

dispose of it properly with flag disposal protocol. Email the troop at TroopPack800@aol.com or call Pat at 631-874-0531.

Are You In Debt? – Debt Counseling Corporation will have personal finance counselors at Brookhaven Town Hall in Farmingville by appointment. Call 631-698-2074 for information.

War on Want Project – Help fight global poverty by getting involved with a project aimed to raise funds and awareness of poor families in northeast Brazil. To learn more about the project, visit www.waronwant.org.

Food Pantry – The Presbyterian Church of the Moriches serves the community each Monday night, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Volunteers welcome. Call 631-878-1993 or visit www.pcusacm.org.

Free Counseling – The Brookhaven Youth Sanctuary Program Bureau offers individual or family counseling for town residents ages 12-21. Call 631-451-8011 to speak with a licensed social worker.

Pay Your Taxes Online – Brookhaven taxpayers can now access their Real Property Tax Statements. View, print and/or pay taxes. Choose online credit card or checking account payment. Visit <http://brookhaven.org> for details.

YEARS AGO

75 Years Ago

MARCH 1948

The Moriches Chorale Society, under the direction of **Mrs. Edna Kaler Gracey**, well-known vocal teacher and choral director, will present Alfred Gaul’s cantata “The Holy City” on April 12.

Eastport American Legion Post 1545 continues to lead its division in the Suffolk County Legion membership drive, in a report made by Cmdr. **James Mottola** at the regular meeting of the post held at the Eastport firehouse.

Mrs. Erick Lemmen is now choir leader at the East Moriches Methodist Church, replacing **Mrs. Hiram Reeve**.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Monzeglio, of Dayton Avenue, Manorville, and **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buckheit**, of Moriches, motored to New York City to see the popular Broadway play, “High Button Shoes.”

Robert O’Neal, former student at Center Moriches High School and now a senior at Elizabeth City, N.C., ranked among the top 10 percent in North Carolina and in the nation in the nationwide Pepsi-Cola Scholarship competition.

Several boys from East Moriches District 6 were made Eagle Scouts at a ceremony held in East Moriches. They are **George Dunlap Jr.**, **William McPhail Jr.** and **John Lowell**.

The Rev. and Mrs. Wendell Wollam, of East Moriches, are happy to have recovered their pet cocker spaniel, Padro, which ran away from home last week and in his wanderings ended up in Calverton. Padro met up with kind friends who located his owners through the town clerk’s office in Patchogue, and declined a reward.

Gerard Tuttle, **Clifford Tuthill** and **Lawrence Goldstein**, who have been members of the Eastport Fire Department for 25 years, were guests of honor at a turkey dinner given by the firemen.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Center Moriches Fire Department, plans were made to hold the first block party since before the war. A committee

consisting of **Frank Holzman**, **Louis Melanson** and **Charles W. Murdock** has been appointed to conduct the affair.

Members of the East Moriches Peg-a-Ways were guests of **Mrs. Howard Welch**. It was decided to have the church kitchen painted and to wash the dishes and clean the silver, thus making the kitchen ready for use.

Highlighting the regular meeting of the Moriches Grammar School Parent-Teacher association was a play presented by the members of the seventh grade under the direction of **Ms. Julia Tunnell**, entitled “Knave of Hearts.” Cast members included **Anne Fox**, **Joseph Toto**, **Lillian Petersen**, **Franklin Baker** and **Benita Dominguez**.

At the meeting of the Rotary Club of the Moriches, **Arthur Austin** was appointed director of the Rotary Health Camp.

Special music in the East Moriches Methodist Church included a saxophone solo by **Anna May Huson** and a duet by **Mrs. Erick Lemmen** and **Mrs. Charles Sweet**.

Those present at a St. Patrick’s Day card party at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Dan Yaeger**, of Manorville, included **Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pille**, **Mr. and Mrs. James Laird**, **J. Moseley**, **Mrs. Mary Munstedt** and **William Mullane**.

Playing in March at **The Center Moriches Theatre**: **Lilli Palmer** and **Sam Wanamaker** in “My Girl Tisa”; **Walter Pidgeon** and **Deborah Kerr** in “If Winter Comes”; and **Roy Rogers** in “On the Old Spanish Trail.”

50 Years Ago

MARCH 1973

The Chamber of Commerce of the Moriches is giving recognition to all local merchants to promote local businesses. This month’s spotlights include hardware stores **L.H. Smith Hardware**, located on Main Street, East Moriches, and owned by **Bob Shaw**; **Jonsey’s**, owned by **Richard and Janet Jones** and located on Main Street, Center Moriches; **Savage Hardware**, located on Main Street, Cen-



March 1973: **Leslie Chornoma Jr.** and his dog, **Sandy**, give thanks to **Glen Helwig** and **Eugene Smith**, of East Moriches, for saving **Sandy’s** life in **Tuthill’s Cove**. **Sandy**, a Chesapeake Bay retriever, could not get any traction on the icy water and was floundering when he was rescued by the two boys, who pushed a boat to the spot and pulled him safely aboard.

ter Moriches and owned by **Marvin and Sondra Mesnik**; and Eastern L.I. Appliance, owned by lifelong East Moriches resident **Ed Stypulkowski** and located on Main Street, East Moriches.

Debra Bruno, of Manorville, received the Paragon Oil Student Incentive Award as one of the top students of Nassau and Suffolk high schools.

Maurice E. Kelley Jr., president of the Eastport Board of Education, announced the appointment of **Carl B. Sparke** as school district principal.

The Moriches Bay Audubon Society conducted a field trip, led by **Leroy Wilcox**, to Morton National Wildlife Refuge, Mecox Bay and Shinnecock Bay, where they spotted pine grosbeaks.

Patricia Pfister, **Denise DeNobile**, **Gladys Bonilla** and **Marie Badalamenti** were among the students who participated in a luau in **Mrs. Haley’s** fifth-grade classroom at the William Floyd Elementary School as part of their unit on Hawaii.

Bruce J. Kronman, of Estate Road, Center Moriches, appeared on the Dean’s List at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he is majoring in the field of engineering.

Playing in March at local United Artists Theatres: **Steve McQueen** and **Ali MacGraw** in “The Getaway”; **Liza Minnelli** and **Joel Grey** in “Cabaret”; **Robert Redford** in “Jeremiah Johnson”; and **Burt Reynolds** in “Shamus.”

Compiled by **Vanessa Graniello**

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All-girls flag football league launches

East End Athletics opens registration

BY NICOLE FUENTES

As a first of its kind in the area, Ali Adlah, president of PAL CM Red Devils football, has plans to create an all-girls flag football league. And as if the launch of the league for girls isn't enough, Adlah will also be starting a Superstar League, which will include free registration for all children with special needs.

"There isn't anything for them until high school," said Adlah of his thinking.

East End Athletics Inc. is a not-for-profit sports organization that just started in January 2023. They will provide opportunities for all ages and abilities, including children and athletes with special needs. The Superstar League, which is a free league, was created for athletes with special needs and also gives them an opportunity to play organized sports.

"This will give everyone an opportunity to play flag football close to home and not have to travel up island," explained Adlah, excited to get started. "This league is meant to open up opportunity for all to play, without breaking the bank."

Members of the board consist of an occupational therapist, special education teacher, parents of children with special needs, and football enthusiasts. The

league also has a kids' board, which has the same responsibilities as the adult board.

"They have to plan programs for the organization, budget their finances, and make decisions about the future of the organization," he said of the inclusive nature of the league. "Who better to get ideas for an organization children play in than children themselves?"

Registration is now open and the first spring league will start in March. Currently, Adlah is seeking neighboring town parks and recreations to secure fields on the East End of Long Island to conduct practices, games, and tournaments. Once a field is secured as their home base, they will begin accepting donations to help keep the league affordable.

Additionally, the league reached out to Center Moriches Schools' athletic director, Jeremy Thode, to possibly help build a mentor program with their girls flag football team.

"We are looking for investors and sponsors to help us build a state-of-the-art sports complex for programs such as ours," Adlah added. "But without an indoor facility and/or a home base field, it's proving difficult to row these leagues. Donations are greatly appreciated in hopes of building our very own state-of-the-art sports complex to house our flag football league and other sports to come."

Their philosophy is giving opportunities to play instead of focusing on just winning. Within the league, players don't have to try out; they just have to register. He hopes the new venture will get kids out playing sports, building peer relationships and fostering a love of sports.

"But most of all," he said, "is to get them to be more active and part of organized sports, rather than sitting watching social media and in front of a screen."

For more information or to join, follow the league on Facebook and Instagram. Also, a website is on the way. For donations: Venmo @east-end-athletics. If anyone has access to a field to hold practices, games, and tournaments, please contact Ali Adlah at info@eastendathletics.com. ■

SOCIALS

Instagram east_end_athletics
Facebook East End Athletics
Twitter @east_end_ath
Venmo @EastEndRhinos

OPPORTUNITIES

All-girls flag football, Superstar League, co-ed and all-girls league for all ages 18 and over, and a first-responders league.

TO REGISTER VISIT

<https://eastendathletics.sportngin.com/register/form/873283428>



The league hosted a pre-Super Bowl flag football game at the Center Moriches turf field on Frowein Road last month. About 60 people attended. Courtesy photo

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2023

CENTER MORICHES ANNUAL

St. Patrick's Day PARADE

SUNDAY, MARCH 12TH
STARTS AT 2PM



GRAND MARSHAL
JOSEPH TOWNSEND

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AT ROCK HILL COUNTRY CLUB, MANORVILLE, NY
FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION CALL 631.878.0003



ABOUT THE PARADE

Center Moriches will host the 20th annual St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 12 at 2 p.m. on Main Street. The parade begins on Lake Avenue and ends at Railroad Avenue and includes floats, fire departments and pipe & drum bands. The chamber's dinner will be held on March 10 at 7 p.m. in honor of Joseph Townsend. Tickets are \$75 per person. For more information or to request to be part of the parade, visit www.moricheschamber.org.



The Chiefs, Officers and Members of the Center Moriches Fire Department



***Would Like to Congratulate
2023 Grand Marshal
Joseph
Townsend***



GRAND MARSHAL JOSEPH TOWNSEND



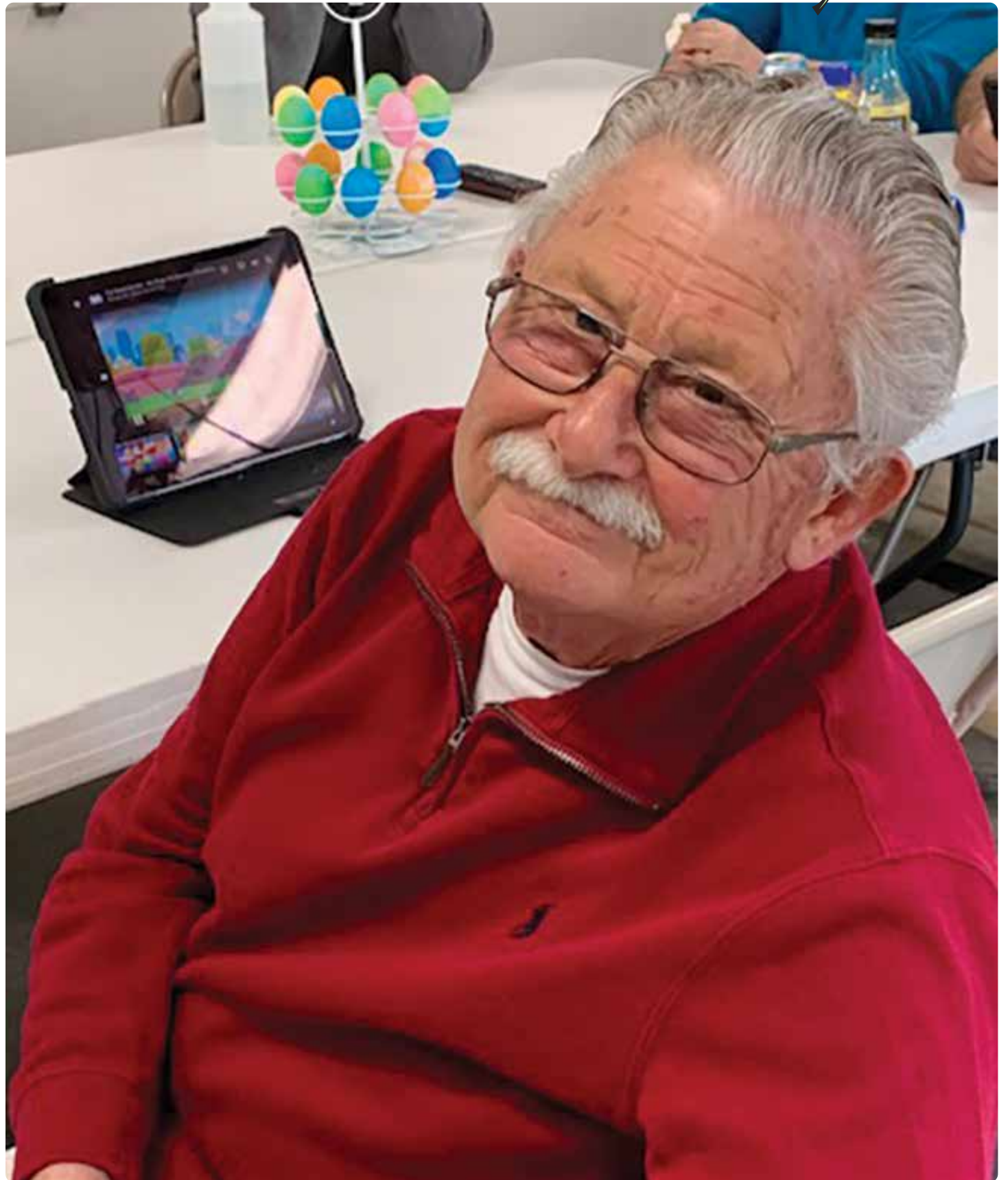
The Grand Marshal of the 2023 Moriches St. Patrick Parade is Joseph Townsend. A Moriches Bay area resident for his 78 years, Joseph "Joe" Townsend has a love and dedication of our community that few others have. Joe spent his youth in rural Center Moriches, a time when there was much less development and fewer residents. Joe attended the Center Moriches schools, graduating from the High School, which is the current Elementary School, in 1962. Joe worked locally until joining the County Sheriff's Dept. in 1967.

During Joe's career in the Sheriff's Dept. he was chosen as Officer Of The Year and for five years was the president of the Deputy Sheriff Investigator's Association. Joe retired from the Department in 1995 and in the following year started a second career providing security for the Center Moriches School District.

During his time with the School District, he became the Coordinator and Supervisor of Security. He stepped down from that position just a couple of years ago but remains with the District still ensuring the safety of our students.

While Joe Townsend has spent the last 56 years protecting the residents of Suffolk County and the youth attending our schools, he has also been protecting the lives and property of our residents since 1965 when he joined the Center Moriches Fire Dept. During Joe's 58 years with the Fire Department he was honored as Fireman of the Year, was the Department's Chief for eight years, and a Commissioner for 25 years. Joe continues to be an active member of the Fire Dept.

Joe has accomplished much in his professional and volunteer life, and he has accomplished much in his private life. Joe met his wife Patricia while boating on Moriches Bay. Joe and Pat were married for 51 years before Pat's passing a few years ago. During their long marriage Joe and Pat enjoyed their time together and their life in a community of "really great people". Together they raised two children, Sandi and Sarah, who with their husbands, Tom and Alan, have remained in the Moriches communities. Joe enjoys time with his three grandchildren, Molly, Isabel and Andrew. ■



Joseph Townsend has been selected by the Moriches Chamber of Commerce as this years 2023 St. Patrick's Day grand marshal. Courtesy photo

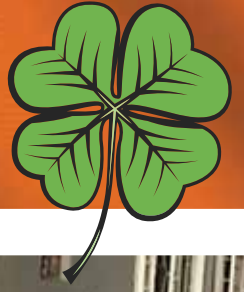


PAST PARADES





FAMILY PHOTOS





PAST GRAND MARSHALS



- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>2003 Buddy Mazzio
 2004 Vinnie O'Brien
 2005 Joseph McHeffey
 2006 Clayton Huey</p> | <p>2007 Arthur Rumph
 2008 Rev. John J. Corcoran
 2009 James Dineen
 2010 Hon. Edward Romaine
 2011 Miriam Gillies</p> | <p>2012 Lee W. Sinnickson
 2013 Edward Morris, Sr.
 2014 Gerry Sapanaro
 2015 Tony Parlato
 2016 Philomena Vigliotta</p> | <p>2017 Joe Maag
 2018 Keith Caputo
 2019 Arthur Gerhauser
 2020 Elsie & Tom Tebbens
 2022 Kenneth Johnson</p> |
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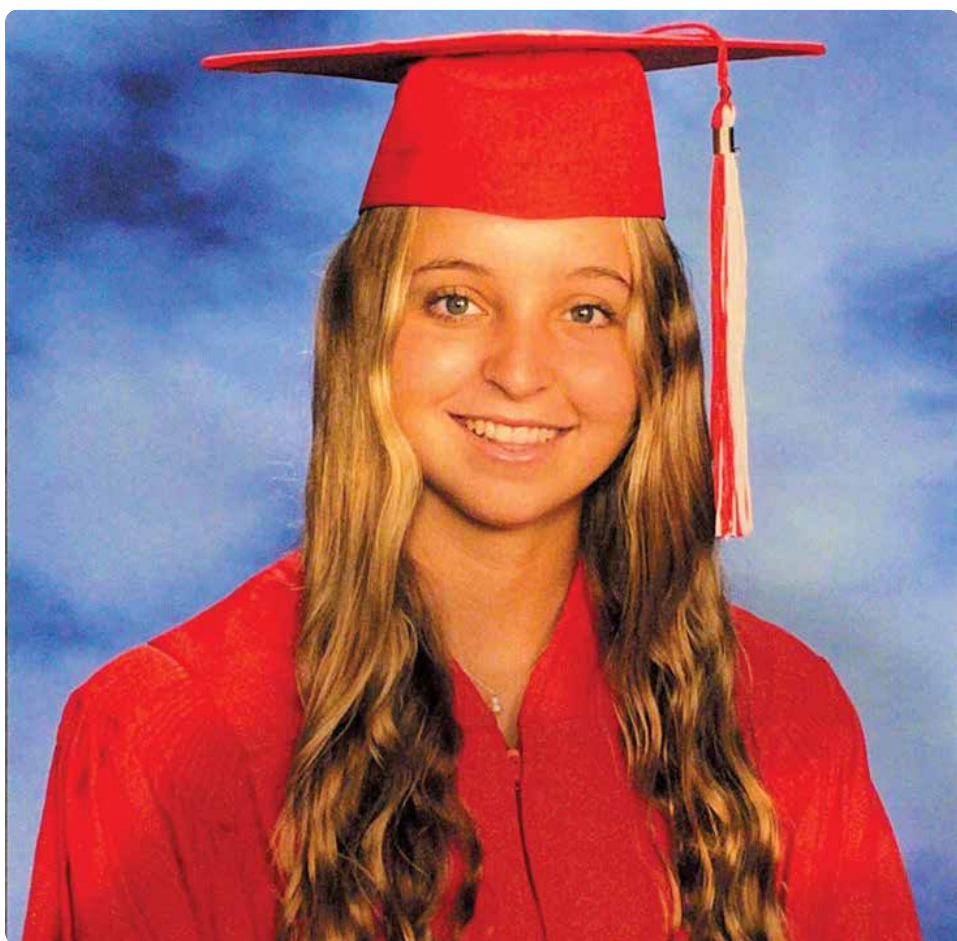
PAST PRINCESSES



2003 Cari Woolford
 2004 Amy Berdan
 2005 Aimee-Noelle
 2005 Hughes-Smith
 2006 Kristen Dagradi
 2007 Kaitlyn March
 2008 Eileen Harrigan
 2009 Nicolette Broda

2010 Krysten O'Hara
 2011 Catherine McHeffey
 2012 Amanda Guinta
 2013 Jill Almond
 2014 Mauren Miner
 2015 Abigail Lehr
 2016 Kelsey Debatto

2017 Kristen Renzetti
 2018 Staphanie Sunderman
 2019 Megan McLaughli
 2020 Cassandra Cosma
 2022 Lillian Babzien



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2023 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

IRISH PRINCESS JILLIAN RYAN

Hi, my name is Jillian Ryan, and I'm honored to be this year's Irish Princess! Here's a little about me! I grew up on my family's farm, and as a result, I've always enjoyed horseback riding, nature, and animals. This propelled me towards my interest in environmental science and my passion for protecting our ecosystems. I will be attending Cornell University in the upcoming fall, where I will major in Environmental Engineering and continue my education on this pertinent topic. In addition to my interest in the environment, I enjoy going to the movies with friends, traveling, and reading. I also strive to leave a positive impact on my community, which I accomplish by participating in clubs and student government, and by volunteering with various organizations!

**Best Wishes
to Our 2023
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Joseph
Townsend**

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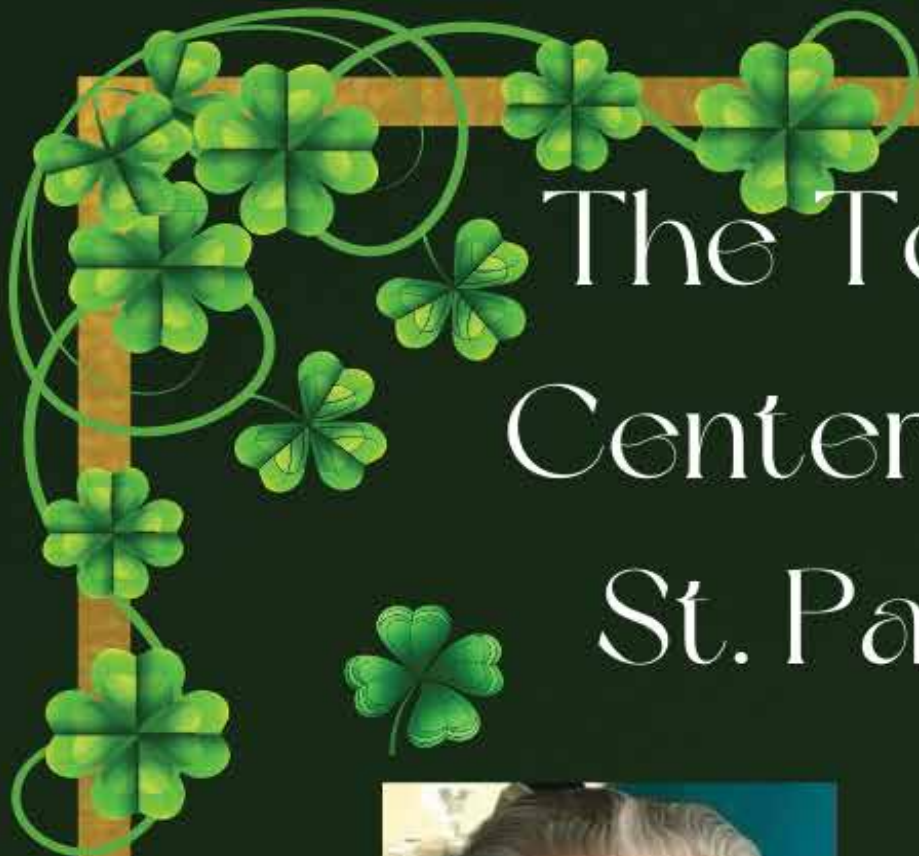
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Joseph



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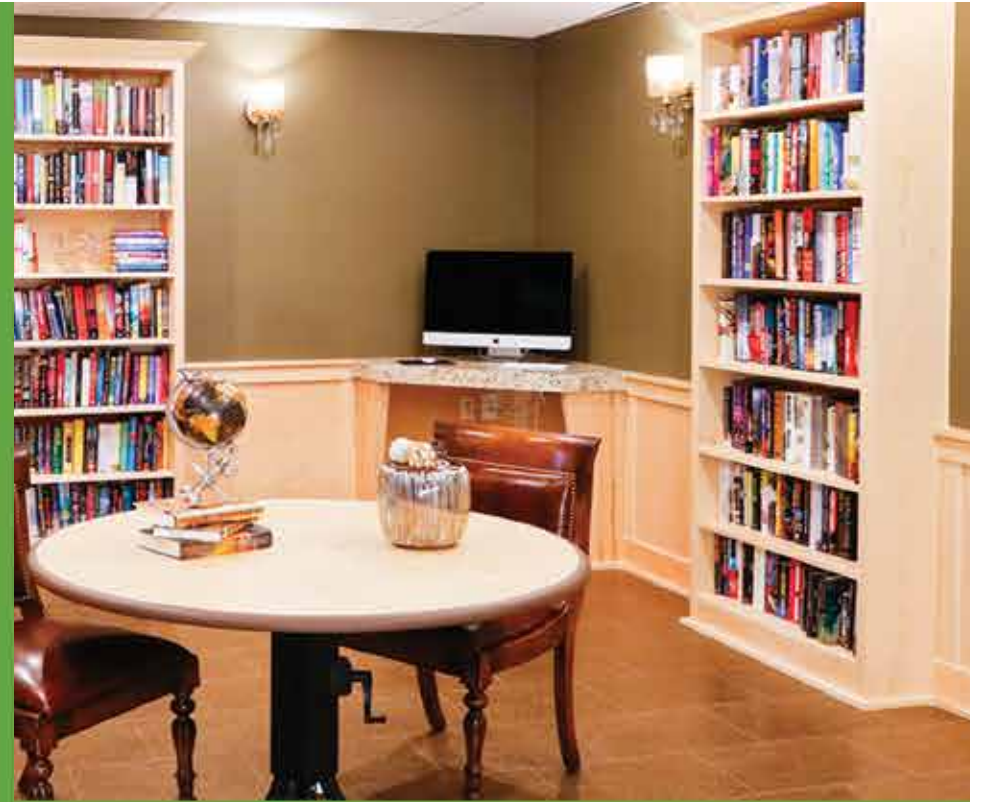
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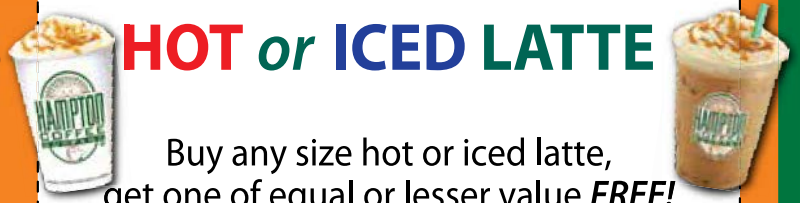


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St. Patrick's DAY

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Joseph Townsend

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May the wind be
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Happy ST. PATRICK'S day

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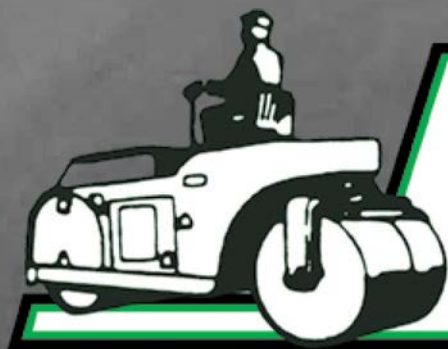
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