

#### **Postal Patron**

PRSRT STD U.S. Postage PAID Bayport, NY Permit No. 9



# A Merry Meadow Croft Christmas

#### By Ezra Powers

Garland and lights glistened up the wooden banisters of the grand staircase while music continued to filter in from the Roosevelt piano, mingling with the sounds of dozens of visitors as they shouldered their way inside the foyer and out of the cold.

Christmas had finally returned to Meadow Croft, and it's presence glowed throughout every corner of the former John Elis Roosevelt estate.

The unmistakable smell of vanilla grew stronger the closer you came to the kitchen, where on the dining room table, a set of festive place settings waited for the arrival of Christmas dinner. It's the very same table, Head Docent Jerry Mc-Cluskey is bound to mention, that once sat the 26th President of the United States Theodore Roosevelt as he dined with his cousins. The attention here paid to the historical details are matched with an effort to create a warm and inviting atmosphere, complete with artificial flames glowing in the cast iron stove. The result makes Meadow Croft feel more home that



makes Meadow Croft feel more home than museum, as if it's still lived in today. All the more so, on the first weekend in December when Christmas trees adorned nearly every room and laughter filled the halls as it once must have.

Situated a stone throw from the Sayville-Bayport border along Middle Road, these days the historical building and grounds of the estate are a part of the Suffolk County Parks Department and home to it's caretakers, the Bayport Blue Point Heritage Association, who have carefully restored the Isaac Green original. A Christmas at Meadow Croft is the Heritage Association's largest undertaking of the year, bringing through its doors an estimated 800 people over two days.

It's no small feat. The entire weekend is the product of a dedicated army of volunteers, led by Heritage events chairperson Leanne Berg and President Mary Bailey, who clean and decorate over 21 rooms, the exterior, the auto house, and carriage house. It's there continued on page 16

## Phantom Football



Karen Costa

Before the 2021 season even started, there was an anticipation that the BBP football team would have a strong team. With some great talent, and lots of hard work and dedication, it became a season to remember. For the first time in almost 2 decades, the Phantoms football team made it to the county championship.

Helmed by junior Brady Clark at quarterback, and seniors Jameson Smith at wide receiver and Gavin LoCascio at running back, the team finished the regular season with only 1 loss and went into the playoffs as the #2 seed in Division IV. Big crowds turned out to watch the games including a huge homecoming upset of the first place Shoreham-Wading River team. Of the fans that turned out this year, Coach Mike Zafonte said: "community turnout always helps. There is no doubt about that, the '12th person' is definitely a thing."

After playoff wins against John Glenn and then Mt. Sinai (the only team that beat them in the regular season) the Phantoms earned their way to the Suffolk County Championship game. Once again, they had to face their division rival Shoreham-Wading River. On a cold Friday night, BBP fans packed LaValle Stadium at SUNY Stony Brook and cheered on the team for a nailbiting 4 quarters. However, the Wildcats were not going to give in that easily and the game ended with BBP trailing by 3 points. While the loss still stings a bit, Coach Zafonte had nothing but praise for this team. When asked what made this group special, he said that "they were incredibly talented. continued on page 19

### **South Shore Market Comes to Bayport**



experience the South Shore Market, Bayport's newest home for artisanal foods and products by local vendors. Operating inside one of the Bayport Flower Houses iconic greenhouses every Saturday through March 12, the new market features everything from locally sourced honey to homemade dog treats. You'll be sure to spot familiar favorites from this summer's Sayville Farmers Market, like Laurel's Butter and Fancy Nancy Soap, among the booths. We grabbed a cup of steaming coffee and strolled through on opening day to report back on all the goodies to be found. Check out our gallery below and be sure to stop in on December 18th from 10am to 1pm for a visit with Santa



All photos by Kate Beruh





# **Thinking About Selling Your Home?** Here Are 7 Great Reasons To Call Bryn:

💮 Wishing You & Yours 🛞

A Very Happy Holiday Season

- ✓ BBP Schools Alum
- ✓ Advanced Internet Strategy
- ✓ Extensive Print Marketing
- ✓ Experienced Negotiator
- ✓ Life-Long Neighborhood Resident
- ✓ Active Chamber of Commerce Member
- ✓ Douglas Elliman's Pinnacle Award 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020 (Douglas Elliman's Highest Recognition)





16 Alexander Court Bayport, NY 11705 Sold- \$659,000 55+ Private Community Luxury townhouse



Manhattan Avenue, Centereach, NY 11720 In Contract - \$663.500 New Construction Custom Luxury Build



38 Little East Neck Road, Babylon, NY 11702 In Contract - \$599,990 First time Home Buver **Babylon Village Location** 







#### SILVANA LEWIS LICENSED REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON Locally Born, Results Driven 631.664.8002

silvana.lewis@elliman.com



REAL ESTATE





#### **Christmas Boat Parade**

The Saturday after Thanksgiving saw the return of the Patchogue River Christmas Boat Parade, the first of its kind on Long Island when it began 28 years ago. Thousands showed up despite the cold, lining the banks of the Patchogue River, to wait for the decked out sea vessels that signify the start of the holiday season here on the South Shore. The holiday mainstay originated with the Oar Steak and Seafood Grill's Dick Blakeslee. This year's parade theme was "A Christmas Movie", and boy did our nautical community deliver.

## Walter Found Another Cool Bird

I first submitted this photo of a Northern Cardinal for the October issue of the Gazette. But the month of September was so filled with loss in our community that the issue never came out.

The Northern Cardinal, as most know, it is a year-round resident on Long Island. However, it has become a symbol of our winter holiday season. Perhaps this is because it's bright red colors stand out against the backdrop of snow laden evergreens. However, there is a legend that says that when you see a Cardinal, it's a visit from a departed loved one. Whenever I tell my niece that I saw a Cardinal in my yard, she always responds with, "Did you tell Grandpa I said, 'Hello'?". I guess I am blessed, because I have quite a few Cardinals living around my house and they are frequent visitors to my feeders. My problem is that, while I can tell the bright red male Cardinal from the grayish/ brownish red female, I can't tell which of my departed loved one's is visiting me: they all look the same. So I find myself going through the list of those who it might be: is this my father or one of my grandparents? my aunt or uncle? Maybe it's a friend or one of those loving persons who was like another parent to me. It could be a deeply missed neighbor or a cherished mentor. There are so many people who have flown into my life, caught my attention as they sang their song for awhile and have since flown on. And maybe that's the point of the tradition of the Cardinal, that seeing one grants us the opportunity to remember all of those who have touched upon and helped shape our lives.

Back in September, when I first submitted this photo, the slogan often spoken was "Never Forget". Perhaps the slogan for the Cardinal should be "Always Remember". So let us vow this holiday season to remember those who have passed through our lives bringing us joy, love and happiness. Though we wish that they could still be with us, let us celebrate they precious time we had with them and be grateful for all that they were to us.

By the way, I saw a Cardinal today.



Photo Walter Petrule

## A Global Real Estate Network, At Work Locally

#### Welcome to another beautiful holiday season

Whether you are buying, selling, or looking for a place to call home, partner with an agent in our Sayville Office.

Contact the Sayville office today to discuss how to get the highest price for your home.

Sayville Office 150 Main Street, Sayville 631.589.8500



#### elliman.com



Oakdale | 36 Riverview Court | \$799,999 | 4 BR, 2.5 BA Dawn DeGirolamo: M 631.827.1991 | Web# 3360977



Sayville | 15 Twin Court | \$650,000 | 4 BR, 2.5 BA Joanne Sturchio: M 631.294.3628 | Web# 3359396



Oakdale | 21 Katherine Place | \$499,99 | 3 BR, 1.5 BA Lisa Hendrickson: M 631.478.1003 | Web# 3352734

©2021 DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE. ALL MATERIAL PRESENTED HEREIN IS INTENDED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. WHILE THIS INFORMATION IS BELIEVED TO BE CORRECT, IT IS REPRESENTED SUBJECT TO ERRORS, OMISSIONS, CHANGES OR WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT NOTICE. ALL PROPERTY INFORMATION, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO SQUARE FOOTAGE, ROOM COUNT, NUMBER OF BEDROOMS AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN PROPERTY LISTINGS SHOULD BE VERIFIED BY YOUR OWN ATTORNEY, ARCHITECT OR ZONING EXPERT. FOUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY A



You better not pout, you better not cry, you better not shout I'm telling you why Santa Claus is coming to town!

Chauffeured by the south shore's bravest, each year everyone's favorite jolly old elf travels throughout the town for his famous Santa Run to let us know that Christmas is almost here! So be sure to keep your ear out for those fire truck sirens on the dates below for a chance to wave hello to St. Nick before his big night.

Blue Point: Due to the forecast of rain on Saturday, December 11, the Blue Point Fire Department's Santa Run has been rescheduled to Saturday December 18th starting at 1pm.

Bayport: Sunday, December 19th starting at 9am

Sayville: Saturday, December 18th starting at 10am Look for updates and a link to Santa's live location on the Sayville Fire Department's Facebook page

West Sayville: Saturday, December 18th

Streets located west of Locust Ave starts at noon

Streets located east of Locust Ave starts at 1pm

You'll be able to follow along on the West Sayville Fire Department's Facebook page for live tracking

#### Patchogue:

Northeast Sector - December 11th starting at 5:30PM Northwest Sector - December 13th and 14th starting at 5:30PM Southeast Sector - December 16th and 17th starting at 5:30PM Southwest Sector December 18th starting after 3PM

Each of the sectors are broken down using the 4 corners at Main Street and Ocean Avenue

A special thank you to our local volunteer fire departments for this wonderful tradition.



**BBP** Cares

As the holidays are about giving, we'd like to share local highlights of some of the great work being done around town and ways you can get involved.

Kris Kringle is celebrating it's 17th year of helping families in our community this holiday season! Started in 2004 by Mark Miller, Frank Mills, and Brain Kearns the fund has given over \$1.1 million in cash, gifts, used cars, oil tank refills and other necessities to make sure families have everything they need for their children this winter. Be sure to head down to Harbor Crab Restaurant in Patchogue on December 15th for their annual Kris Kringle Christmas Party fundraiser.



The Bayport Civic Association conducted its 18th Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway thanks once again to the generosity of Bob Venero, President of Future Tech Enterprise and many community donations. Over the past eighteen years the BCA has handed out over eight tons of free turkeys and \$15,000 worth of supermarket gift cards to those in need in our community. This year distributions were made at the Svlvan Ave. Elementary School, the Our Lady of Snow Food Pantry, the Chestine Coverdale Sayville Food Pantry

and the Bayport United Methodist Church Outreach.

The Leo Club of Bayport-Blue Point, led by current President Connor McNeill and made up of local high school students, ran a successful food drive just in time for the holidays.

Johnny Mac Foundation in partnership with the BBP Library is once again collecting mittens, gloves, hats, and winter weather accessories for their annual Mitten Tree drive. The collection will decorate the library's Christmas Tree after December 18th and then be distributed to various children throughout the community.

Suffolk County Legislator Anthony Piccirillo is collecting for his second annual toy drive from now until December 22nd. You can drop off unwrapped toys at 1609 Grundy Avenue, Holbrook Monday through Friday from 9am until 5pm.

The festive holiday decorations around town are the work of the Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee, who are currently selling Winter Raffles to help fund their winter and spring community beautification efforts. Each raffle ticket gives you a chance to win a \$100 gift card to multiple businesses around town. Winners will be chosen on December 20th, so get your tickets today.

Bayport-Blue Point High School Student Council is currently running a Pajama and Book Drive. Each student in the high school receives a PJ request for a specific kid size during their homeroom.

Who We Are Bayport-Blue Point Gazette Contact Us The People Involved

Publisher: Tom Reid Chief Editor.

Art Director: Gala Scibelli Associate Editor: Kate Berube Writers: Diana Reid Kate Berube Reid, Rich Vatalaro, Bayport-Blue Point Schools, Danielle Golden- Giglio, Lenore Ringer-Prezioso, Fred Keating (Retired)

Photographers: Kate Berube, Walter Petrule, Tom Reid, Belinda Randolph Mills, Danielle Golden-Giglio, Linda Mittiga, Ed Neale, Tim Butler, Lenore Ringer-Prezioso, Diana Reid

email: gazettecentral@yahoo.com

snail mail: 207 Atlantic Ave Blue Point, NY 11715

phone: 631-363-0154 631-363-3615 fax:

Produced & Designed by Printmaxx II, Inc. Printed by

AGC Printing & Design, Inc. Blue Point 631-363-0154 Printed in USA

6 NOW www.bayportbluepointgazette.com Holiday 2021



## SEA-BBS Christmas Caroling

The night was brisk and clear, as a group of teenagers assembled on a suburbar front lawn broke out into Jingle Bell Rock for all to hear. Clad in jackets and Santa hats, the carollers belted out the classic tune to the delight of the dozen neighborhood elementary children bundled up against the winter cold to see the show. Accompanied by BBPHS senior Riley Clare on the guitar, the festive singers were a collection of BBP arts department students and their supporters, who turned out as part of SEA-BSS newest fundraising initiative.

The \$20 donation delivered 15 minutes of straight holiday cheer right to your doorstep, with some gifting the show to their neighbors and friends. The fundraiser ran for 4 evenings in early December, and as word spread through the town the time slots quickly filled up. The generous community support was particularly heartwarming for our student musicians, many of whom were the last to be able to resume activities since the beginning of the pandemic. The cancellation of vital fundraising opportunities over the last two years have created lingering hardships for organizations like SEA-BBS, both monetarily and logistically, who's yearly events fund important resources for the district's arts department, including senior scholarships. But despite challenges, the group showed that a little ingenuity coupled with a dash of Christmas magic, gave way to what we hope will continue as a new BBP yuletide tradition and a wonderful way to support our student artists for years to come.

> We are your neighborhood funeral home ...

> > Owned and operated by your friends and neighbors.



245 Montauk Hwy • West Sayville 589-2345 683 Montauk Hwy • Bayport 472-0122

www.raynordandrea.com



## **Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting** Not even the call for windy and wet winter weather could put a damper on the tri-

umphant return of the Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce annual tree lighting. Held at Blue Point Elementary on December 6th, this year's event featured live music by the BBPHS band and chorus. While volunteers handed out hot chocolate and candy canes, generously donated by the Fish Store and Bayport Flower Houses, community members gathered together once more to celebrate the start of the holiday season. Chamber President Carol Seitz-Cusack was on hand to officially light the community Christmas Tree. Shortly after the tree was lit, the sound of Blue Point Fire Department engine sirens making its way down Blue Point Avenue signaled the arrival of Santa Claus to the delight of the crowd. The young and the young at heart clamored around for a chance to take pictures with the North Poles most famous elf.







Always around to lend a paw, Ginger Smith helped St. Ann's Church set a record with over 500 trees sold on the very first day of their annual Christmas Tree sale!

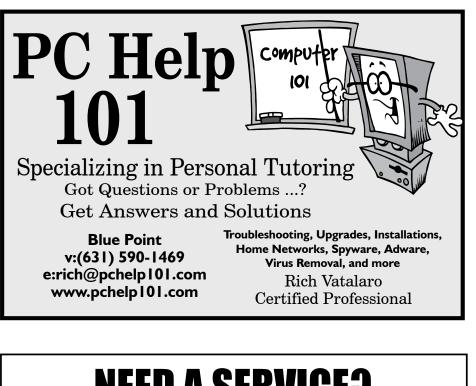


5th annual Turkey Bowl. Bayport-Blue Point kids join together Thanksgiving morning at 10am to play a quick game of flag football. Most boys are 4th and 6th graders.





On Saturday, November 20, the Town of Brookhaven and Special Olympics New York hosted the 12th Annual "Polar Plunge: Freezin' for a Reason" at Cedar Beach in Mount Sinai. The donations raised from the event go toward funding year round sports training and competition, as well as heath and inclusion programs for individuals with intellectual disabilities in your local community. Brookhaven Councilman and Blue Point resident Neil Foley, pictured here after his frigid winter swim, said "Congratulations to the Special Olympics of New York for another successful Polar Plunge. I commend the volunteers, plungers, Town employees, police, fire and ambulance staff who worked so hard to help make this event a big success."









## **Reflections of a Snow Queen** By Katherine LaFountain

As the curtain closes on my final performance of The Nutcracker with the American Dance Theatre of Long Island, I can only hope that I have something in my life for the next fourteen years that is half as fulfilling as the previous fourteen has been. From a petrified 4 year old in my first role as an angel to a now confident Snow Queen, the countless hours, the friendships, the lessons, the tears and the laughs have all helped make me the person I am today. The Nutcracker has been such a large part of my life for so long, I will be forever grateful to ADTLI for all the wonderful memories and training. Christmas time won't feel the same without pointe shoes on.

Katherine LaFountain is a Bayport-Blue Point High School senior and student of Bayport's American Ballet Studio for the past 14 years. She'll star as the Snow Queen in this year's The Nutcracker production running December 10-12 at Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Wishing you and your family peace, love and joy this Holiday Season.



Brookhaven Town Clerk Donna Lent **Chief Deputy Town Clerk Lauren Thoden** Deputy Town Clerk Patricia Ryan-Correa





The Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce, with the help of Rabbi Jessica Rosenthal, began the Festival of Lights on the evening of November 28th, with the lighting of the Menorah at Chamber Park. Hanukkah Sameach!

This Holiday Season, Plan ahead...

**RESPONSIBILITY HAS ITS REWARDS**.







Check us out on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram Bayport Blue Point Gazette



hanukkah!

GazetteCentral@yahoo.com

# IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL *Time Of The Year*

### **\$10 Off** Your Purchase Of \$40 Or More

bayport flower houses not valid with other offers or past purchases. not valid with 12 Days of Christmas Sale or on gift cards. in-stock items only. expires 12/24/21 code: GAZDEC1 Delivery Available Seven Days A Week



Merry Christmas From The Above All Fence Family To Yours

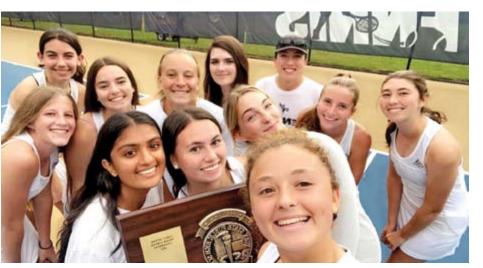
"For the Above Average Home"

HIGHEST QUALITY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE Serving Bayport-Blue Point & Sayville proud to support our community since 1985

3310 Sunrise Highway, East Islip, New York 11730 631-224-7905 www.AboveAllFence.Com

Residential & Commercial Licensed & Insured Suff Lic #10789HI Nass Lic #302810000 Contractors & D.I.Y. Welcome At All Locations





#### **BBP Girls Tennis Takes the County Championship** By Karen Costa

Building on the last few seasons, the BBP girls tennis team started this season with high expectations. By the end of the season, they won the league and county championships and earned their way to the Long Island Championship. The team went undefeated during the regular season and was the #1 seed heading into the playoffs. After beating Shelter Island/Greenport, they then beat Shoreham-Wading River to win the Suffolk County small schools title. The next step of their journey was to face Friends Academy for the Long Island Championship. Despite their efforts and talent, they couldn't pull off that win against a very tough FA team.

Coach Keith Scharf explained some history of the girls tennis program. In 2019 and 2020 (played in spring 2021) BBP's girls tennis team had won the division III title for the first and second times in the school's history. At that point there was only 1 playoff bracket for all the county schools, large and small combined, and they had to play against schools like Ward Melville and Sachem, so it was an even bigger hurdle for a small school like BBP to win those titles. Starting in fall 2021, they broke the county into a small school division and a large school division.

According to Coach Scharf, the secret to the team's success is commitment and support. "After the 2020 season (played in spring 2021), there was never really an off-season for this team because either players were training every day on their own, or they were working at our Learn & Play Camp, teaching tennis and playing before and after camp," Coach said. He also stated that the support that the girls give each other is also key to their accomplishments. He said, "a lot of tennis teams tend to be a bunch of individuals who are concerned with their own match and that's it. The girls on our team care as much about their teammates' matches as they do their own." He receives many compliments from opposing coaches and parents regarding the support the girls show for each other.

The future of the program is promising. Both the boys and girls tennis teams are the #1 seeds going into their next season. Between the summer Learn & Play camp for the younger players in town, the building of the new courts at the middle school and the addition of a middle school team, the BBP tennis program looks to be strong for many years to come.

Many honors were awarded to the team after the season:

All-County Singles: Emilia Romano, Tessa Orgonas, Ella Romano and Ava Duras All-County Doubles: Riley Duerr/Grace Blanchard, Ciara Kirby/Amilia Volpe and Shreya Makavana/Charlotte Volpe.

Congratulations to the team on a great season.



#### **Bayport-Blue Point students win** in the Lion's Club Peace Poster Contest

James Wilson Young Middle School students Kailey B. (winner), Dillon B. (first place) and Ava C. (second place) were named winners in the 2021 International Lions



(Front, l-r) James Wilson Young Middle School students Kailey B., Dillon B. and Ava C. were winners in the Brookhaven Great South Bay Lions Club Peace Poster Contest and are pictured with (back, l-r) Principal John Andruszkiewicz, librarian and Brookhaven Great South Bays Lions Club member Susan Henke Brinkman and art teacher Samantha Burns

tha Burns and Samantha Raiten worked with librarian and Lions Club member Susan Henke Brinkman to enter students into the contest, who designed posters based on the theme, "We Are All Connected."

"The imagery produced was very diverse and centered around ideas of nature, love and human connectedness from a global perspective," Ms. Burns said. "The word 'human' was a buzz word, helping us see and portray universal connections."

**Club Peace Poster Contest** and were recognized during the Nov. 23 board of education meeting.

The Lions International Peace Poster Contest was created for youth to promote peace, tolerance and nternational understanding. It encourages children ages 11-13 to think about peace, creatively express what it means to them and share their unique visions with the world.

Sponsored by the Brookhaven Great South Bay Lions Club, the contest was a collaborative effort between the club and the district. Middle school art teachers Saman-



Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday The price of all entrees include soup or salad and dessert *Excluding all restaurant holidays* 

**Closed Sunday and Monday** 

825 Montauk Highway, Bayport, NY (631)472-9090 www.lesoirbayport.com



Start your path to a healthier you with the team at True Potential Physical Therapy, P.C.

You can start physical therapy without a prescription from a doctor (or a doctor's appointment).

Schedule your FREE CONSULTATION (631) 823-0600

899 Montauk Highway, Bayport NY 11705 WWW.TRUEPOTENTIALPT.COM

> We accept most major insurance plans (call to inquire)

We accept all Worker's Comp and No Fault cases.



NYS Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant MARK WILLENBACHER, LPT A





with you all!

John Auwaerter Grower

windows.



## **A Season for Poinsettias**

Ah... the holiday season. Nothing gives you a more joyful and merry feeling than hearing Christmas music on the radio, twinkling lights, and beautiful holiday decorations. Oh, and how could I forget our favorite Christmas icon... the Poinsettia! As a 4th generation greenhouse grower, I've had the pleasure of growing up alongside



Poinsettias my entire life and like many of you their arrival each year invokes nostalgic memories of Christmas past. At Bayport Flower Houses, year after year, we grow our Poinsettias right here in Bayport after we receive them as cuttings (young plants with a few roots) each July. So right about when everyone is

busy soaking up the sunshine at the beach, our Christmas crop has just kicked off it's 24-30 week journey to bloom into the holiday decoration you see today.

Native to Central America, poinsettias are the namesake of former congressmen Joel Poinsett, the first U.S Ambassador to Mexico, who introduced the festively colored shrub to the States during a visit back home in the late 1820s. In the years following, he gifted them to his friends and family, sparking the tradition we carry to this day. "Why is a sub-tropical plant our staple Christmas plant?" you ask. Well it's all about bloom time. While every Poinsettia starts off green regardless of the variety, their foliage transitions to its full vibrant color just in time for the start of our holiday season. Though Poinsettias give off the appearance of a "flower", those beautiful colors are actually a Bract, or modified leaf. And over the years, they've come a long way!

If I were to ask my grandfather what Poinsettias looked like, he would say "They're mostly red with some white colored ones available." Ask me, and I'd tell you we now have about any variation you could imagine from bright pinks, to peach, to cream, to pure white and multiple shades of red in between. Growing and selling our plants locally, without having to ship them, allows them to fully mature into the larger, fuller, and healthier product you recognize around town all season. To see what I mean check out the Gazette's gallery of some of our most popular options below and stop into our greenhouses to be introduced to the full range of our poinsettia crop. We look forward to seeing you in our store and sharing our multiple generations of Poinsettia knowledge

Have a Happy holiday season, and we will see you soon!

Bayport Flower Houses Inc

Helpful Care Tips for keeping your poinsettias looking beautiful all winter long: Keep indoors (65 to 72 degrees) near a window with bright light (south facing is best). Water with a heavy soaking once a week. Be sure to keep away from any drafty





## Meadow Croft from page 1



you'll find a merry ole fashioned St. Nicholas to snap photos with and a steaming cup of hot chocolate to warm your hands. For the first time this period piece Santa Claus is played by Tom Maher, who took up the mantle this year from his father, the original Meadow Croft St. Nick. For those still in



need of holiday presents there were raffle baskets up for grabs and gifts available to purchase. The yearly holiday open house has taken place for over 30 years, with the notable exception being 2020, and serves as both a fundraiser for the association and a farewell for the winter, after which guided tours won't return until June. Despite the opulent trappings of wealth, being in Meadow Croft during Christmastime tells the tale of a simpler time. On display in one of the seven upstairs bedrooms were painted miniature houses made from cigar boxes, just the thing a child might unwrap on Christmas in 1910 and a far cry from the new iphones many of us asked for this year. The first artificial christmas trees, crafted out of split goosefeathers dyed

green to resemble pine needles, are scaled down versions of their modern day counterparts.

Many of these holiday antiques were generously shared by Heritage member Erich Haesche, whose vast encyclopedic knowledge of historical









## **By Karen Costa**



Post-season honors: Emily Cortese - All State Julia Fusco - All County

Tristan Breaton, Christian Gabriel Ross. Post-season honors:

all-county honors. Post-season honors: Jenna Vazquez - All-League Jill Jaeger - All-League





16 NOW www.bayportbluepointgazette.com Holiday 2021

facts endlessly entertains

anyone lucky enough to

boil point, was particularly

a history buff, an art enthu-

stast, or simply filled with

holiday spirit, Christmastime

at Meadow Croft proves to

be charmingly timeless.

impressive. Whether you are

### **Phantoms Fantastic Fall**

was an impressive and hard-fought season for this team with a very bright future ahead.

Kate McKillop - All State, Defensive Player of the Year

Maggie Kennedy - All County & All Tournament

Kendal Woolley - All County

Caroline Lewkowicz - All County, Goalie of the Year

Lily Moller - All County Honorable Mention Emma Shanahan - All County Honorable Mention

All Classification - Maggie Yost

Kayla Vazquez - All Tournament Aubrey Eisfeld- Unsung Hero

Karen Gick - Coach of the Year

Boys Cross Country team won the league championship for the second year in a row this fall. They also went undefeated both years and the team placed third in the county for Class B. The entire team was invited to the county championship those who participated were:



The Varsity Field Hockey team had an

incredible season. The team went undefeated.

clinched the Division

II championship and

the #1 seed in the B

bracket. They faced a tough East Islip team in their first playoff round

and lost at the very end of double overtime. It

entered the playoffs as

Capitano, Nick Gelsomino, Chase Lessing, Ryan Mattimore, Trevor Orgonas and

Ryan Mattimore - 3rd team All-County, All-Division, 1st team All-League

Nick Gelsomino – All-Division, 1st team All-League

Chase Lessing: All-Division, 1st team All-League

Trevor Orgonas: All-Division, 1st team All-League

Bayport/Sayville/Blue Point Girls Swim team went undefeated this season and won the league 3 championship. 2 of our swimmers, Shannon Swezey and Haley Hendershot were invited to participate in counties.

Girls Cross Country finished second in their league this season. Eva Morris was invited to compete at counties. Eva came in 8th in all of Suffolk County and also won

Eva Morris - All-League and All-County

Emily Clayton -All-League Jenna Vazquez -All-Division

**Boys Varsity** Golf finished their season 7-3 and made it to the league championship where Jacob

Brand finished first overall for individual scoring. 6 players were invited to compete at counties: JJ Dobson, Jacob Brand, Brendan Most, Will McCarthy, Finn Capozzi and

Kaiden Capurso Post-season honors: Jacob Brand - All-League, 1st in League Qualifier, the lowest average in League V Brendan Most - All-League Kaiden Carpuso - All League, placed top 10 in League Qualifier

Girls Varsity Volleyball ended their postseason as Suffolk County Finalists after falling to rival John Glenn in the county championship game. The girls played a fierce season, finishing 7-3 overall.

Post-season honors:

Andi Swedborg - Suffolk County Elite 8, Class B - All County Tournament Team, League 5 Player of the Year Erin Wuestmann - All Classification, Class B - All County Tournament Team Ave Meyn - All League Sydney Leigh-Manuell - All League Renee McGowan - All League

The following players received post-season honors for varsity Boys and Girls Soccer:

Boys soccer: Niko Gianakis - Academic All-County Ryan Costa – All-Conference Brendan Lessing – All-Conference Cian Love – All-League Chase Nasca – All-League

Girls Soccer: Kacey Hession - All-Division Isabella Juliano – All-Division Mairead Kelly - All-Division

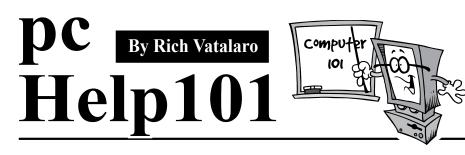
Girls Varsity Gymnast Lola Kiesel competing at Connetquot HS finished her first varsity season with a 8.0125 overall average. She competed in all four events (beam, bars, floor, and vault) throughout the season and advanced to the Suffolk County championship on bars. Her team placed 2nd in counties for the year.







Business pc By Rich Vatalaro Directory Help101



Hello readers,

My door is open ... Call me for all your Real Estate needs **BAYPORT VILLAGE** ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER **Julie Poidoman** LIC. BROKER ASSOCIATE 631-881-5957 C 516-996-5615 Now is the Time ... I can help get you out of your current HOME into your DREAM HOME. One phone call to ME and you'll see why the RIGHT agent DOES make a difference. Call today and let's get started ... Now is the time 631-881-5957 600 Middle Road • Bayport, NY 11705 or visit www.julie 631-419-1002 • Fax 631-419-1047 RealtyConnectUSA Dr. D. Dougherty Aladdin Aladdin **Petroleum Corporation** Fuel Service Inc. Retail & Bulk Delivery of Gasolines. Diesel Fuel **Full Service • Fuel Oil Sales** & Kerosene • Propane Tanks Filled & Service 806 Montauk Hignway, Bayport, New York 11705 (631) 472-0024 EMPRESS TRAVEL **CRUISE SPECIALIST • GROUPS** Without a Travel **HONEYMOONS • TOURS • AIRLINES** Agent You're On **Personalized Professional Travel Consultants** Your Own Serving Our Community Over 35 Years 965 MONTAUK HWY., BAYPORT 631-363-9522 CRUISES INC Your America's Cruise Specialists All Lines Ad All Regions All Cruises Could Toll Free: 1-888-363-9794 Phone: 631-363-9794 John Weissman **Be Here Cruise Consultant** www.cruisesinc.com/jweissman HOL/1 Like us on Facebook

#### http://www.facebook.com/ **BayportBluePointGazette**

With the holidays fast approaching most of us are scurrying around our homes making sure the house is all clean for decorating and for all the company we'll be having. One item you need to be careful about when cleaning is your flat screen TV and computer monitors and laptops.

TVs can be dust and fingerprint magnets. It's only natural to grab some paper

towels and some Windex and start to clean. STOP, never ever use Windex on your TV screen as it's an easy way to permanently damage the screen. All modern TVs have special coatings on their surface that can be ruined by strong cleaners.

The short

version- don't use liquids, don't press too hard, and don't use any traditional cleaners. Microfiber cloths are good but be gentle. Modern TVs are predominantly plastic and therefore easier to scratch than windows or even your phone screen. Many new TVs ship with a soft cloth for cleaning the screen. If you've tossed or lost this cloth, it's similar to the kind that comes with pairs of glasses and sunglasses.

Want the long version? Here's what three top TV manufacturers say about cleaning their screens.

LG Cleaning your 4K, OLED or LED TV screen with a soft dry cloth is recommended. The goal is to avoid scratching the screen. Gentle circular motions tend to give better results since the circular motion hits each area from several angle in a single swipe. Never use chemicals such as alcohol, thinners or benzene and don't spray water or other liquids on the TV as electric shock could occur. SAMSUNG Turn the TV off and let it cool down before unplugging it. (This is a good practice with any brand of TV.) To clean the frame and screen very gently wipe it with a microfiber cleaning cloth. Screens are fragile and can be damaged when pressed too hard. If you don't see the desired results use distilled water, not tap water on the microfiber cleaning cloth and very gently wipe it in a circular motion. Let dry completely before plugging it back in.

SONY Gently wipe the screen or exterior with a dry, soft cloth such as an eyeglass cleaning cloth. If ink from oil markers is on the screen use a very diluted non-soap synthetic cleanser with water. Do not use excess liquid and dry immediately with a clean, soft cloth.

So why do I tell you not to use Windex? Windex is formulated for glass windows and contains ammonia and alcohol., two no-no's for TV screens. If you don't have luck with a simple soft dry cloth, there are many companies who make cleaners for screens and are 99% water and 1% other stuff (presumably safe to use.) Always read the ingredients making sure to never use ammonia or alcohol. The bottom line never use any type of window cleaner, soap, powders, abrasives. Never spray water directly on screen only wet the cloth if necessary and wipe gently and in a circular motion.

Well, we've come to the end of another year and hopefully we have managed to stay safe and healthy. I hope all my readers have a very Merry Christmas and happy holiday season and that the new year continues to bring us good health. In retirement, please keep in mind that my work at PC Help 101 continues stronger than ever. I'm always available to offer advice, answer your questions, and access your PC remotely for repairs and tutoring. I continue to make house calls with necessary safety precautions if needed. I have added many new services as well. Any situation you encounter or to simply answer a question via an e-mail or phone call I am available. Simply send your questions to: Rich@PCHelp101.com or call me at 631.590.1469.

Thanks for reading, Rich Vatalaro

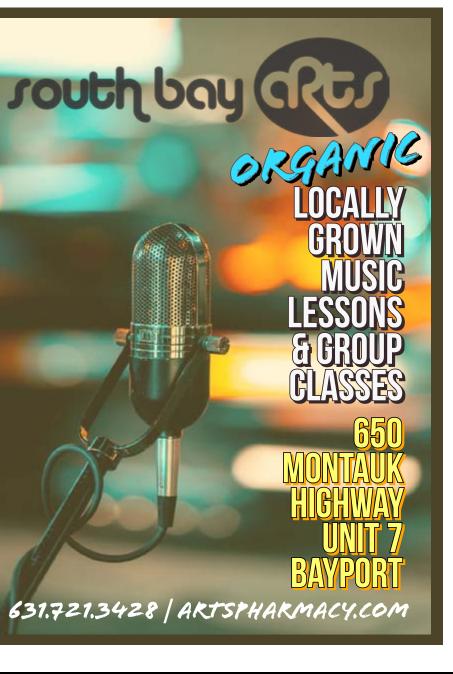


#### FOOtball from page 1

Everyone put the team first before themselves. they are extremely coachable, super dedicated" athletes. He also said, "they are a great group of young men, vou know they were a special group from just being around them.'

While the seniors will be missed, there is a lot of talent coming up through the ranks of the program





and the next few years look to continue to be successful. After the last game, Coach Zafonte sent out an email to the team congratulating them on their impressive season.



In the email, he makes note that they only lost 2 games by a combined 4 points. He also urges the team to not dwell on the loss, but to move forward. 'we will use this last game as fuel for the intense drive that is about to take place. The future is bright.

It is time to start climbing back up the mountain.'

Many well-deserved honors for the players came after the season as well. Senior Jameson Smith was chosen as a finalist for the Hansen Award. Only 7 players in Suffolk County were

nominated for this award which goes to the most outstanding football player. He was also awarded the Division IV MVP award and the All-County award. Other award winners: All-County: Brady Clark, Gavin LoCascio All-Division:



Derek Varley, JJ Aiello, Calvin Dickinson, Dylan Spano, Logan Robertson 2nd Team All-Division: Sean Druckenmiller, Anthony Alfieri, Danny Aiello Academic All-Division: Logan Robertson

It was an exciting season for BBP and will be remembered for some time. Congratulations to the entire team on a job well done.







