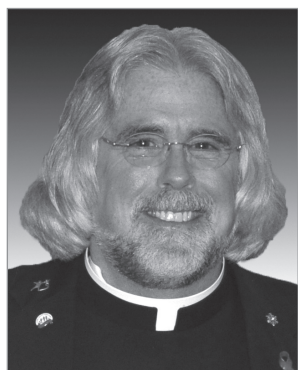


## A Ministry Supported by the Montfort Missionaries

Vol. 32, No. 1 SUMMER 2023



**Fr. Francis Pizzarelli**  
SMM, LCSW-R, ACSW, DCSW  
Executive Director-Founder/CEO  
Hope House Ministries

### A Message from Fr. Frank

Dear Friends and Benefactors:

On Wednesday, May 10, 2023, in the early afternoon, a local icon died of a massive heart attack at the age of 51; his wife found him sitting in his office chair. A local EMS worker who lives down the street came running and tried to revive him. He had already passed; I arrived just after he was pronounced.

Matthew "Matt" LoNigro left his lovely wife Julia, a local tenured schoolteacher and two extraordinary children: Matthew Jr., 20, and Abigail, a 16-year-old student at Miller Place High School. Matt was very actively involved in the Miller Place school district as the dynamic director of the Miller Place Boys Lacrosse.

Lacrosse was one of his many passions. For many years, he was actively involved on the Board of Directors for Suffolk County PAL Lacrosse. During his early career, he was actively involved with Port Jefferson Sporting Goods, a family business. He was a salesman for school districts seeking sports equipment and sports uniforms. He was such a dynamic salesman; he probably could've sold the Pope the Brooklyn Bridge.

Matt spent most of his adult life doing for others. He was actively involved with Christmas Magic, Backpack Pirates and countless other activities that reached out to the disadvantaged in our larger community. If somebody was in trouble and needed good advice and/or a helping hand,

Matthew was the go-to guy. He was a tremendous mentor for young athletes who wanted to be lacrosse players.

We have lost a powerful example of what community and reaching out to others is really supposed to be about. These are crazy times. We need more people with Matt's passion and commitment to helping others, with the purpose of giving back. His heart and random acts of kindness were the hallmark of his life.

I first met Matt when he was in middle school. As most know, he was part of a very large loving family. It was his family that taught him how to love and to be of service to others. Like many young men in their 20s, Matt

struggled. He spent time living with me at Hope House. Even during those struggling days battling conflict, he was a power of example for the men he lived with.

When Matt completed our program, he started giving back and has not stopped for more than 20 years. Before he passed, he would come by every week to encourage the men in our community; especially those who were struggling to stay the course. His power of example that life can be better and one can change inspired so many over the years to take the risk to embrace change and transformation.



**Matthew LoNigro**

*"Matt spent most of his adult life doing for others... If somebody was in trouble and needed good advice and/or a helping hand, Matthew was the go-to guy."*

cont'd. on pg. 3

# Hope House Ministries 32nd Annual **Charles R. Rampone Sr. Memorial GOLF CLASSIC** **RAISES OVER \$70,200!**

On Monday, May 8th, 124 golfers supported Hope House Ministries' 32nd annual golf outing. This year's event was held once again at the picturesque Port Jefferson Country Club. The dedicated players started the day with a delightful breakfast, then enjoyed a savory BBQ lunch and ended it with a luscious cocktail hour and dinner provided by the very professional staff of The Waterview at Port Jefferson Country Club.

The proceeds of the event were enhanced by the kindness of the golfers who generously participated in the exciting live auction bidding. We were also blessed by the kindness of the Promise of Hope Foundation as the Breakfast Sponsor, the Cruse Family as the Dinner Sponsor, Newmark as the Cocktail Hour Sponsor, The Rose Family Foundation and Clare Rose Inc. as the Beverage Sponsor, Ford of Port Jeff as the Hole-In-One Sponsor and Golfer Gift Sponsor, and Creative FX Graphic Design as the Printing Sponsor.

The Hope House Golf Classic Committee would like to thank our wonderful volunteers, the entire staff of the Port Jefferson Country Club, The Waterview at Port Jefferson Country Club, and the tee sign sponsors, as well as our corporate and other event sponsors. Without these kind and caring contributors, we could not have accomplished so much!

*As we gratefully acknowledge the contributions of all of our golf outing volunteers on that day, we especially note the passionate involvement of Golf Committee member Matt LoNigro who so graciously and exuberantly gave of himself to make the event a tremendous success.*

**MATT WILL ALWAYS  
BE REMEMBERED WITH  
GREAT LOVE BY ALL AS HE GAVE  
SO LOVINGLY TO ALL AT  
HOPE HOUSE MINISTRIES.**

## **THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS**

*We wish to thank all of our event sponsors for their kindness and generosity!*

### **Corporate Sponsors**

Arrow Steel Window Corp.

Christmas Magic

City Tire Auto Center

Clare Rose Inc.

Scott Colletti

Creative FX Graphic Design

Cruse Family

DiFazio Power & Electric, LLC

Dr. Print

Ford of Port Jeff

LoNigro Family

McCarthy Foundation

Milburn Flooring

New England Tours

Newmark

Pace's Steak House

Port Jefferson Ferry

Promise of Hope Foundation

Rampone Family

Renu Contracting & Restoration, Inc.

Richard & Mary Morrison Foundation

Rose Family Foundation

Russo, Karl, Widmaier & Cordano, PLLC

Ruvo Restaurant – Joseph DeNicola

Siliato Liquors/Casa Vino

Sunrise Installation Inc.

Mary Jean Tanner

The Pie

Michael VanDenburg

Dr. Mark Wasserman

# HOOPS FOR HOPE

7th Annual Jake Engel

## HOOPS FOR HOPE Fundraiser

3v3 Basketball Tournament (players 18+ only)

Food, Music, Baskets & Raffles!

**Friday, July 28, 2023**  
**4-8pm**

Cedar Beach Basketball Court, Mt. Sinai

To register for the 3v3 basketball tournament please

*Sign up on our website at [www.hhm.org](http://www.hhm.org).*

*For more information, contact Emily at (631) 473-8796.*

All are welcome to enjoy a fun, exciting night  
at Cedar Beach!

*All proceeds to benefit Hope House Ministries*

## BETA SIGMA PHI XI MASTER CHAPTER RAISES \$5,000 FOR HHM!

In December the Sisters of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority's Xi Master Chapter raised \$5,000 for Hope House via catalog sales and a Bowling fundraiser at Coram Country Lanes. We are in awe of their enduring commitment in support of the Ministry. Each member's strong sense of responsibility to aid those in need is nourished by the sisterhood, whose chapter dates back nearly 50 years. For a multitude of years, the Xi Master Chapter has embraced Hope House, bringing us the annual Fashion Show, Comedy and Magician Shows, through which they have donated more than \$100,000 over the years! Our gratitude is boundless!

### ***A Message from Fr. Frank - cont'd. from pg. 1***

There was not a week since Matt lived with our community that I have not received a text or visit always making sure he ended both with "thank you for saving my life!" The world is a better place because Matt LoNigro walked among us. His power of example and his profound gratitude will live on to inspire so many others to embrace the process of change and transformation and to realize that they too can make the world a better place.

Your generosity made it possible to have Matt reclaim his life and make such a powerful contribution to our community.

As you read our newsletter, another alumnus who was the salutatorian at Five Towns College last year is now teaching English to middle and high school students in Madrid Spain. He just prepared them to sing an English song at graduation.

He, too, is grateful for the life that he reclaimed but almost lost. Thanks to your generosity not only did Jay reclaim his life and his faith, he is giving back in gratitude what has been given him. He is touching hundreds of young people's lives halfway around the world because he was able to come to a place where hope lives.

These are challenging times. Your generosity inspires me to stay the course and continue to live our mission of reaching out to the most vulnerable and broken among us.

Forever Grateful,

*Fr. Francis Pizzarelli*

Fr. Francis Pizzarelli, SMM, LCSW, ACSW, DCSW  
Executive Director-Founder/CEO

*(A portion of this piece was originally published by TBR News Media on May 25, 2023.)*

## Outdoor Mass & Potluck dinner

### Hope Academy at Little Portion Friary

Our Lady of Hope Grotto  
48 Old Post Rd, Mount Sinai

Fr. Francis Pizzarelli

Once a month during the summer we  
celebrate Mass outside, then share a  
meal –you can bring a dish, donate  
money towards the meal or not, no  
worries – we just want you to join us.  
We call it the Loaves & Fishes Meal.

For More info, Contact  
Claudia C Friszell  
[cldfriszell@gmail.com](mailto:cldfriszell@gmail.com) or 631-445-3126







# BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS

## The 26th Annual Breakfast Club Raises over \$331,300!



For 26 years we have been very fortunate to hold our annual Breakfast Club Event! Once again, we graciously applaud the dedication and commitment of Frank and Jim Barker and their families, our exceptional Breakfast Club Committee and the generous donors who gave of their time and resources to benefit our Ministry!

The 26th Annual Breakfast Club Event, held on June 13th at the beautiful Oheka Castle in Huntington, New York, welcomed more than 60 guests and raised \$331,300! Since its first gathering this outstanding annual event has raised over \$6,088,300 for those in need! We extend our sincere gratitude to this extraordinary group of people who have given so much of themselves to support our Ministry.

### ***We would like to thank the Breakfast Club Committee for their overwhelming generosity:***

**Fr. Francis Pizzarelli**  
SMM, LCSW-R, ACSW, DCSW  
Hope House Ministries

**Frank Barker**  
The Barker Organization

**James Barker**  
Chairman, Breakfast Club Committee  
Roanoke Sand & Gravel

**Stephen Barker**  
The Barker Organization

**David M. Barnett**  
Merrill Lynch

**Thomas A. Callahan**  
IUOE Local 15

**John T. Cooney, Jr.**  
Construction Industry Council of  
Westchester & Hudson Valley Inc.

**Kevin Deasy**  
Links Trading LLC

**Gregory DeRosa**  
G2D Group

**John Duffy**  
IUOE Local 138, 138A & 138B

**James Haney, Sr.**  
Newborn Construction

**James Haney, Jr.**  
Rason Asphalt

**Marc Herbst**  
LI Contractors' Association, Inc.

**William M. Lynn**  
IUOE Local 30

**John Martinelli**  
Owen Petersen & Co., CPA

**Lucy Mazany**  
Flagstar Bank, N.A.

**James J. O'Donovan**  
New York Community Bancorp, Inc.

**Ken Tully, Jr.**  
Tully Construction Co., Inc.

**Louis Vecchia**  
Suffolk Paving Corp.

### **CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, HALSTEAD/METROFLOR AND A \$71,000 DONATION**

A few years ago, a childhood friendship and a chance encounter turned into fundraising events to benefit Hope House. Karen Sullivan, a local Certified Functional Medicine Health Coach, and an avid supporter of Hope House, was approached by her childhood friend Gena Rovira who is the Divisional Sales Manager of On-Line Business at Halstead/Metroflor. Gena and a team at Halstead/Metroflor were tasked to raise money for agencies that help people recover from Substance Use Disorder. Karen, as many supporters do, shared with Gena the amazing work that is done at Hope House. As a result, Gena and the team were committed to supporting Hope House Ministries.

The 2023 fundraiser by Halstead/Metroflor Addiction Crisis Team (HMAC) of HMTX Industries, resulted in a \$71,000 donation to Hope House Ministries, with other charities receiving a portion of the proceeds as well. Funds were raised to support nonprofit rehabilitation organizations, offering support to addicts and their families. Held Thursday, March 9th at their magnificent new Connecticut headquarters, the evening's tax-deductible net proceeds will help fund 501(c)3 tax exempt organizations to fund scholarships at the following rehabilitation and education facilities:- The Blanchard Institute, Charlotte, NC; Genesis Ministries, Kennesaw, GA; Hope House Ministries, Port Jefferson, NY; Thomas' Hope, West Babylon, NY; Davis Direct Foundation @ The Zone, Marietta, GA; National Alliance of Mental Illness, Arlington, VA; Center for Cognitive & Dialectical Behavior Therapy (CCDBT), New York, NY; Lakeville Health, Jacksonville, FL; and Midwestern Connecticut Council of Alcoholism, Danbury, CT.

The Hope House Ministries family is very honored & truly grateful to again be one of the recipients!



# BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS



## HOPE HOUSE PROJECT

I am Sean Costelloe, who is currently in Troop 291 based out of Hicksville NY, under the leadership of Scoutmaster John Feeney. I was given the opportunity to complete an Eagle Scout Project for the Hope House Ministries, a charity and recovery organization to help those who are poor, the marginal, and the wounded among us. I was given the chance to build six picnic tables to help with additional seating and comfort among those who are currently residing at Hope House. The project was completed on March 12th, and the tables were delivered on March 18. The residents were all very pleased with the tables, and found them very comfortable. I was very happy that I was given the chance to help those at Hope House, and would like to thank all who helped.

## Eagle Scout Future Ambitions

My goals and ideas for the future have really benefited and come from my years in Scouting. It taught me a lot and it really made me come to love my country and these opportunities that have been provided to me. This is one of the main reasons why I wish to become a member of the U.S Customs and Border Patrol, as I believe my time with the scouts has really prepared me for the position. The loyalty that Boy Scouts has taught, the leadership, listening and working with others has all been improved during my tenure. All of this will certainly help me with my future career goals. These are all great character traits that everyone should have, and they have only been heightened due to my wonderful troop and wonderful experience.



I thank all who have helped me during my long tenure with the Boy Scouts, as I only have positive memories from the organization and for everything that I have learned through Boy Scouts.



## 7TH ANNUAL 5K RUN/WALK TO END ADDICTION

On Saturday, May 20th, the 7th Annual 5K Run/Walk To End Addiction took place at Shorefront Park in Patchogue, with all proceeds to benefit Hope House Ministries. We are grateful to the 353 registered participants who came to support Hope House on a very chilly, rainy day! Many who were there remembered a loved one lost to addiction, or to celebrate time in recovery. Volunteers came from all over to support those who ran or walked, creating a memorable event for all. Thanks to the many sponsors, volunteers, and participants who helped us raise over \$17,800 for Hope House!

**Our tentative date for next year is  
Saturday, May 18, 2024.**

***We are truly grateful for our 5K Run/Walk sponsors  
for their kind and generous support:***

Bayport Athletic Recovery  
Bethpage Federal Credit Union  
Bohemia Track Club  
Brookhaven Town Elected Officials  
Bunster Family  
Casino Bar & Cafe, Davis Park  
Catholic Health Services  
Christmas Magic  
Ryan & Sara Colichio  
Davis Park Association  
Davis Park Fire Department  
Davis Park Ferry Company  
Stephen DeGore  
Federation Of Organizations  
Folks Insurance Group  
Michael Folks & Family  
King Kullen Grocery Co., Inc.

King Quality Construction  
Michael Sena Memorial Fund  
Charlene & Bill Lehmann  
Mike & Maureen Lehosky  
Long Island Precast  
Nissan 112  
Roanoke Sand & Gravel  
Ed Romaine, Supervisor  
Safeguard Roofing Company  
Saint Charles Hospital  
Sal & Mike's Barbershop  
South Country Ambulance  
South Shore Plumbing & Heating  
Swezey Fuel Company  
Victory Recovery Partners  
Village of Patchogue  
Walgreen's  
Winkler, Kurtz, LLP



# BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS

## 2023 - HOPE HOUSE 4X4X48 CHALLENGE RAISED \$56,462!



The 3rd Annual 48 Mile Run for Hope was held March 3-5th, 2023. The Run was organized & inspired by Ronan O'Brien & David Giaccone who completed the 4x4x48 in 2021 for the first time. In 2022 six gentlemen completed 32 MILES! This year we had 12 Hope House alumni & residents step to the plate for the challenge, which

had participants run 4 miles every 4 hours for 48 hours. Supporters made a per mile pledge with 100% of the proceeds funding alcohol & substance abuse treatment & many other human services provided by Hope House Ministries.

**Founding Inspiration:** Ronan was first introduced to David Goggin's via the internet and learned about his amazing journey of hardship, dedication, transformation, and inspiration. The power of his message is undeniable. We encourage everyone to look him up and read his book **Can't Hurt Me** — We were blown away. Some of the obstacles he overcame include an abusive childhood, a learning disability, racism, and obesity. He eventually became a decorated Navy

Seal, extreme endurance athlete, top motivational speaker for pro-athletes and business moguls, and someone who has PERSONALLY raised millions for various charities.

He has inspired us to be super-vigilant in maintaining a healthy body, mind, and spirit. Part of that involves doing things that are uncomfortable and stepping outside of our comfort zones to **discover what we are truly capable of**. That is what this 4x4x48 Challenge represents for us and that is also what Hope House has meant for us. We are NOT endurance athletes by any stretch of the imagination! It was a monumental CHALLENGE no doubt, but for a great cause in Hope House Ministries to which we can personally attest to the MIRACLES they provide every day!

As David has noted and Father Frank touches on often in his homilies: "In a time when there is so much divisiveness, this event is a rare opportunity to come together with people all over the world for some amazing causes!"

We extend our sincerest gratitude for all who supported this vital fundraiser — we cannot do this without you!

**STAY TUNED FOR NEXT YEAR!**



### Hope for the Future Society

is comprised of Hope House Ministries supporters who have chosen to name Hope House in their estate plans.

***These individuals will be recognized on the  
Feast of All Souls  
Thursday, November 2, 2023***

At this special Mass, founding members will be inducted and recognized. The name of a deceased loved one will also be read aloud and prayed for by the men of the Friary as part of the celebration.

If you would like to join HFS or receive more information, call (631) 473-8796 or contact Keith by email at [kdeisner@hhm.org](mailto:kdeisner@hhm.org).

The legacies of those who have gone before us forms our own life legacies.

***Help us hope for the future at Hope House Ministries.***



As a family at Hope House Ministries, we feel blessed to continue serving individuals, families and children in need. We invite you to **BE A LINK TO THEIR FUTURE** for those in need and those who come to us seeking a second chance at life. As we create a **CHAIN OF HOPE**, please be assured that your generosity and compassion is a direct link to their paths of growth, healing and self-sufficiency.

### The Community House

Since its founding in 1980, the Community House with 10 beds has grown to a 30-bed house that provides a compassionate approach to crisis intervention and a residential community for homeless young people in need. The program serves primarily youth between the ages of 16 and 21 years. It offers a creative living space where a young person can grow and develop.

### Hope Academy at Little Portion Friary

A long-term non-traditional residential treatment program for addiction (minimum 12-18 months).

### Pax Christi Hospitality Center

This twenty-five bed emergency center for men over 16, provides those in need on Long Island a compassionate, temporary residence offering three components: shelter and food, human needs and services, advocacy and networking.

### Project Hope

Project Hope, under the aegis of the Pax Christi Hospitality Center, is a program specifically designed to serve those considered to be chronically homeless. Project Hope offers a safe temporary refuge for those who live on the street or in places not fit for human habitation. Young adults, men, women, elderly and veterans are able to obtain food, clothing, access to a hot shower and a sense of community. The majority of those served experience a disabling condition such as a serious mental illness, substance abuse disorder or physical disability.

### The Human Services Center

Staffed by a host of highly qualified professional counselors, the Human Services Center serves thousands of adults and young people in the course of a year. Included in the counseling services are individual, marital and family counseling, addiction counseling including alcoholism, co-dependency, eating disorders and sexual abuse. The center also serves as a meeting place for various therapy groups and several twelve-step programs.

### The Sr. Jean Beagan, O.P. Family and Children's Center

The Family and Children's Center of Hope House Ministries is dedicated to the growth and development of children. It does this by enhancing the ability of parents to provide opportunities for children to live, love and work with a sense of mutual well-being.

### Montfort Therapeutic Residence/Our Lady of Peace Academy

This program, which began in 2007, is an intensive therapeutic treatment facility for children ages 11-18 who find themselves caught in the family court system. These children come to us at a time of great crisis in their young lives and we provide them with a healthy, stable environment, a school program, individual counseling, group dynamics and educational and recreational outings. Its greatest gift is providing aftercare services when a young person returns home.

### St. Louis de Montfort Academy

Montfort Academy is our free standing alternative junior-senior high school. Individualized instruction and private tutoring are provided by qualified teachers according to each student's needs. Montfort Academy's staff consists of a principal and volunteer teachers.

### Wisdom House

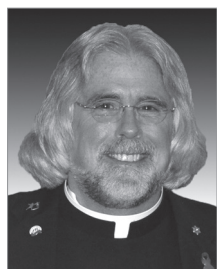
A residence designated for long-term needs of both men and women, 21 years of age and older, who find themselves in a situation of crisis or homelessness and are in need of a semi-structured living environment. The goal of Wisdom House is to help the individual make a transition into a state of independent living.

### Siena House

Siena House is a home for women and women with children, 21 years and older, who have suffered from domestic violence and/or are in crisis or transition. This program offers a safe, supportive environment while empowering women to move toward independent living and permanent housing.

### St. Maximilian Kolbe Outpatient Addictions Treatment Center

The St. Maximilian Kolbe Outpatient Addictions Treatment Center provides comprehensive outpatient services for people motivated to enter and sustain recovery. Through individual and group counseling sessions, each day struggling addicts reclaim their lives.



Your generous contributions today in support of those in crisis can **BE A LINK TO THEIR FUTURE**. It will help us to continue providing services to help each person build a solid foundation for their emotional and intellectual growth, and to give each one the life skills and encouragement they need to foster self-discipline, self-motivation and a greater independence. Your generous contribution today can unlock a new world for those in need.

Thank you for your consideration of our ministry and its efforts. It is truly because we believe "all life is sacred" that we ask for your help in assisting our mission. Please refer to the remittance envelope enclosed to support Hope House Ministries' **CHAIN OF HOPE** and **BE A LINK TO THEIR FUTURE**. Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and your families.

With heartfelt thanks,

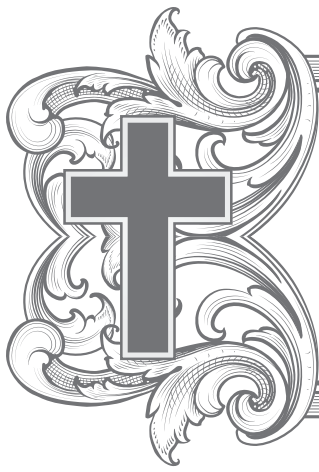
*Fr. Francis Pizzarelli, SMM*

Fr. Francis Pizzarelli, SMM



**The cost of housing one resident is roughly \$21,000 per year. This includes room, board, education, transportation, counseling services and more.**



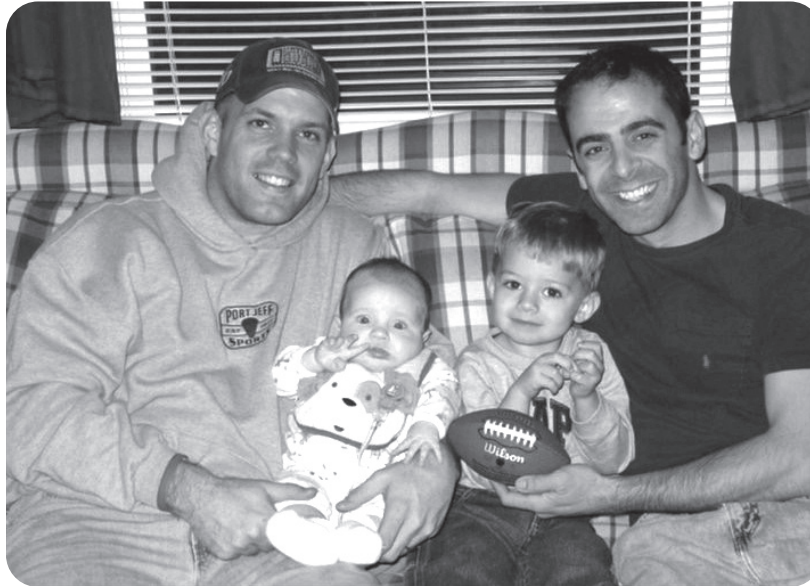


## In Loving Memory of *Matthew LoNigro*



To My Dear Brother Matt,

It's been a month since you passed away. Father Frank had asked me to write a reflection about the friendship we formed while living at the house. Since it still feels surreal that you are no longer here, I decided to write you a letter. My experience at Hope House and the brotherhood we shared are intertwined. I cannot think about one without the other.



*Matt LoNigro and Michael Chiappone holding each other's child*

When I first moved into Hope House, I never thought I would gain anything. I heard things like “turning my life around” and “getting a second chance,” but those ideas were foreign to me. I just knew everything about how I was living my life needed to change. I never thought I would gain anything, especially a family, especially a brother like you.

I remember when Father Frank told me you were moving into the house. I knew your family because of their generosity to Hope House. When we first met, I was soft-spoken, quite unsure of myself, and did not like any attention. You were, well, the exact opposite of all of that. You were loud, seemed to know everyone, and a little rough around the edges. I remember you told your ridiculous stories that I was sure you were making up only to learn they were all true.

In some ways we were polar opposites. In other ways, we were exactly the same. We wanted to change, we wanted to grow, and we knew that we could not keep living the way we were before moving into the house. I was thinking of that dynamic, of how different we were. Father Frank had “asked” me to

show you around. Like I could say no. Due to the nature of how everything was set up, we went everywhere together. I think that was a difficult dynamic for both of us. I was painfully shy, you were not. I was younger than you, and you were used to doing what you wanted, when you wanted, and how you wanted. In the end, you were really good for me, and I was good for you. We really helped each other grow.

We figured it out pretty quickly. You were the first person I really connected with at the house. It still amazes me that you have such a big loving family and yet you always had time for me. You were also dealing with many different circumstances, but you always made me feel important in your life. Although I have shared that with you, I don't know if you knew how much that really meant to me. I will never forget that.

I was just telling some friends about the trip we took to Maryland when you returned there for a few months. During that time, we exchanged letters and when re-reading them, I can hear your voice. Even then, you were so kind and supportive while saying many things that will not be repeated.

In those letters, you also shared how important it was to be able to speak to your parents. You shared updates about Julie and were very hopeful about your future together. You weren't even married yet, and even then, Julie seemed like a saint. You always knew family was most important.

*cont'd. on pg. 9*

Those experiences during those amazing years at Hope House will always be a part of who I am. When you returned from Maryland, I was glad to have my friend back. It seemed like every day, we were learning and growing. We both knew it even then, how incredibly fortunate we were to have a second chance at life.

Matt, you taught me many things. You taught me not to take myself so seriously and helped me to be OK with who I am. You taught me what it meant to be your brother. Soon I began to look at you as an older brother. I wanted you to be proud of the man I was becoming.

You were there at so many pivotal points in my life. You stood by my side when I graduated from college and when my children were born. You were the obvious choice to be Liam's godfather. And I was honored when you and Julie asked me to be Abby's. You never let me forget how loved I was, especially when I was struggling.

For anybody that knew you, it's safe to say that you were given a second chance at life (and probably a lot more than that), and you never lost sight of what that meant. You made each moment count. Matt, I feel so grateful to be a part of your journey. To see you grow into the man that your parents always knew, Father Frank always knew, and Julie always knew.

You made the world a better place, Matt. You truly did. I remember spending time with you when Matthew was first born. You were so proud to be a father. That feeling only multiplied when Abby was born. You were honest with me about struggling with a work/life balance because you knew Julie deserved the very best of you. It was amazing to see

you as a father and as a husband. You would always say how proud you and Julie were of something Matthew and Abby were doing.

In some ways, you were larger than life. You would light up a room. You would say something so funny but completely inappropriate, and even though most people were thinking it, only you could get away with saying it.

I hope you know how much you mean to me. I know you knew, I just wish I had said it more. Your love and the love of your entire family has meant so much to me and so many others.

I am grateful we learned early on how important it is to have strong, healthy relationships. We knew a big part of our wellness was connection with others, helping others, and holding each other up. We also knew if it wasn't for Hope House, none of what we had would be possible.

I believe you did know how loved you are. The outpouring of love for you is actually amazing. Everyone has stories, very specific stories, of who you were to them and what you meant to them. You shared your gifts with all those around you, and we all feel the loss of you not being here.

I do know that your spirit and love will continue through Julie, Matthew, Abby, your amazing parents, siblings, nieces and nephews, god-children, Hope House family, friends, and all the people you meant so much to.

Matt, I do not know how to say goodbye to you. So, for now, I love you, brother. Until we meet again.

*Love, Michael*

### HOPE HOUSE MINISTRIES: THE LIVING TRIBUTE PROGRAM

Enclosed is my gift of: ☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Memorial (Name of Deceased ) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Wedding ☐ Holiday ☐ Thank You

☐ Anniversary ☐ Get well ☐ Graduation

☐ Birthday ☐ To Honor Parents/Others ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name for above donation \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Your thoughtful remembrance will be acknowledged. A tribute card will be sent to the person or family you designate. The amount of the gift will not be disclosed.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address/Town \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF PERSON OR FAMILY TO SEND ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR THE ABOVE DONATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Town \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Send more envelopes

Mail to: Hope House Ministries, PO Box 358, Port Jefferson, NY 11777-0358

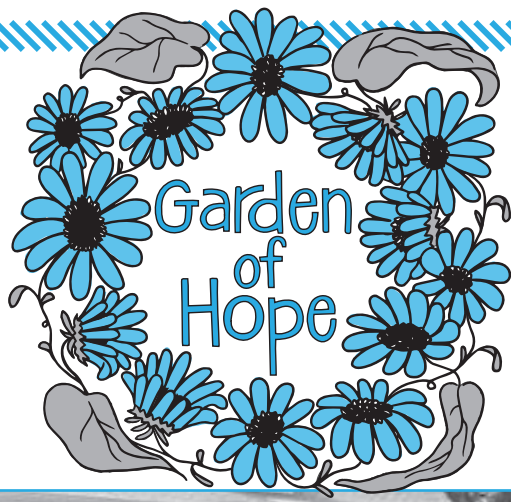
### HHM: the Living Tribute Program

Through the years an increasing number of families have found satisfaction in honoring loved ones by donations made to Hope House Ministries.

The memory of a loved one will live through the thoughtful gift donated by a friend, relative or associate. This gift will assist us in our mission to provide compassionate and competent care for the poor, the marginal and wounded among us.

Please make your check payable to Hope House Ministries or you may submit your donation online at [www.hhm.org](http://www.hhm.org). or by calling the Development Department at (631) 473-8796. All gifts are tax deductible.





## GARDEN OF HOPE SPRING PLANTING

Many thanks to everyone in the Garden of Hope Club who assisted with our Spring planting this year. We had a great turn out and managed to spruce up the space at the Guest House on the grounds of the Friary.

We hope to grow the club this summer with the intention of beautifying the grounds of not only the Friary, but other Hope House Ministries' facilities as well.

**If you have a green thumb or a willingness to learn, please contact Kurt at [khall@hbm.org](mailto:khall@hbm.org) and join our team of volunteers.**

## StB/OLH Aquinas Project: Visit to Hope House Ministries



The Aquinas group (a group of sixth and seventh graders) has been studying the issue of homelessness. On March 10, 2023, they visited Hope House Ministries at the Hope Academy at Little Portion Friary in Mt. Sinai, NY, and the Pax Christi Hospitality Center, a homeless shelter, in Pt. Jefferson, NY. The group toured the facilities at both locations and interviewed Stephen Brazeau, the Director of Pax Christi Hospitality Center.



**YouTube video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfAtB1fzJ-0&authuser=0>



**Dear HHM supporters,** For those not familiar with QR codes, now you can use your smartphone's camera to instantly reach the Hope House Ministries website.

**Do you own your own business?** Are you active on social media? If so, let your customers, family and friends know that you support the good work of Hope House Ministries in the community.

Simply copy and share this image in your marketing materials, emails, texts or social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and you can help put Hope House Ministries on the digital map! You never know who you might impact for the better.

**To receive this year's QR Code in a printed format, contact the Development Department by calling 631-473-8796 or email Emily at [emonaco@hbm.org](mailto:emonaco@hbm.org).**





## Prayer for the Addicted

God of Love and Mercy,  
ease my burdens, calm my  
anxieties, strengthen my  
faith, and increase my trust  
and confidence in Your  
caring goodness.

Bless me each day with  
Your healing grace, with  
health in mind and body,  
and a heart filled with hope  
and peace.

Grant me the courage  
I need, dear Lord, to face  
all difficulties, knowing  
that with Your help,  
miracles happen and lives  
are restored.

Amen

(from Companion Prayers –  
A Guide to Prayer from the  
Companions of St. Anthony,  
Ellicott City, MD)

# PIG ROAST

6th Annual

## FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT HOPE HOUSE MINISTRIES

### WEDNESDAY JULY 26TH

6PM - 8:30PM

### \$30 DONATION PER PERSON

INCLUDES 1 PIG PLATE AND SOFT DRINKS  
PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SPOT BY CALLING  
LA BUENA VIDA 631-909-1985

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Hope House Ministries  
Founded in 1980



## Andy Cooney's Christmas Celebration

Starring the New York Tenors,  
The Hibernian Festival Singers  
& The H.I.M.S.

**Monday, December 18, 2023**

Contact: Patchogue Theatre Box Office  
631-207-1313

[www.patchoguetheatre.org/events](http://www.patchoguetheatre.org/events)



# Montfort Therapeutic Residence



**Ekta Kohli**

As a young child, I can recall going to India to visit my family's home. I remember seeing children, the same age as me, roaming the busy streets of Delhi, begging for money and food in the middle of the day. Being naïve, I asked my mother why they are not in school and where their families are. The answer I received was one that kept me up for

many nights, continuously imagining what daily life for those children must look and feel like. As I grew older, you can imagine my surprise and sadness when I learned that we also have many of these “forgotten” children here in the United States. While their stories and lifestyles may be very different from the children in India, their pain and loneliness are far too similar. At this time, I made a distinct promise to myself, that when I got older, no matter what profession I chose, I would do something to make a difference in the lives of these forgotten children. As it turned out, the social work profession became my pathway to this dream, and Hope House Ministries made it come true.

I am currently the Assistant Director of Montfort Therapeutic Residence (MTR), a ministry of Hope House Ministries. Montfort Therapeutic Residence is a 12-bed facility for court mandated, juvenile males ages 12-21. Many of the young men we serve have difficulties with anger, substance use, mental health, family relations, peer relations, and education. Many of these boys were raised by separated, divorced, or estranged parents; most of them come from families with disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, who are often struggling to pay the bills and meet their children's needs; many of them have endured some form of abuse, whether it be physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse; some of them have become involved with unhealthy peer groups or gangs; and many of them are having difficulties with their schoolwork or have given up on school altogether. Overall, all

of them have endured significant trauma at a young age and have developed unhealthy coping skills to help them adapt to their experiences of abandonment, abuse, mental health issues, parental substance use, displacement, and/or other forms of trauma.

While the rest of the world generally classifies these boys as “bad kids” and hopes to dismiss them from society, Montfort Therapeutic Residence knows they are worth more than that. MTR provides the tools necessary to aid and guide these young men to grow and create a better pathway for themselves. While at MTR, youth receive daily schooling, weekly individual and family therapy, and daily group therapy to address anger management, life skills, trauma, substance abuse, and the 12-steps. MTR also provides ongoing case management, medication management, and individualized educational services for these youth, as well as weekly parent group sessions to help parents or guardians gain the skills they need to better help and understand their children. MTR's program model is built upon the belief that with the right support, guidance, and care these youth can, and often do, succeed. Our goal is to reunite these children with their families as quickly as possible, and then continue to provide support for them within their communities, to ensure a safe and effective transition into adulthood.

My journey with Montfort Therapeutic Residence began in 2016 as a student intern. I will never forget the first day of my internship, when I learned the most important lesson of my social work career—the importance of human relationships. What sets Montfort Therapeutic Residence aside from other youth programs is our passion and desire to build real and meaningful relationships with the young men we serve. We genuinely care and are committed to the growth and wellbeing of these youth. Their wins are our wins; their losses are our losses. Through the trials and tribulations that come with self-growth, we become, what I call, “the MTR family” and create bonds and memories that last a lifetime. Above all, we strive to create a safe haven to help these youth feel valued and seen.

I often think about a young man who reported how he “lost his way” after being discharged from the MTR program. Now, he often calls the program and continues to keep in touch. He describes Montfort as the “lighthouse” that is always there to help him find his way in the depth of his darkness. Personally, I hope to keep that light shining for every “forgotten” child, and I thank Hope House Ministries for being the lighthouse for so many youth who have lost their way, and especially those who may not even know it yet.



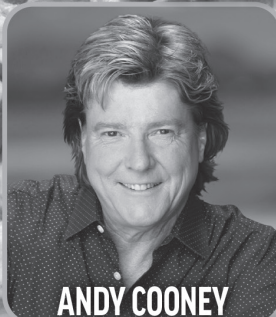


# Andy Cooney's Cruise of Irish Stars

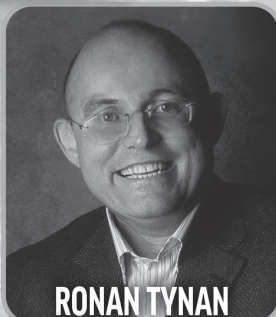
**FEBRUARY 3 - FEBRUARY 10, 2024**

**Roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to the Western Caribbean**  
Your Ports of Call include: Cozumel, Mexico; Roatan, Honduras; Belize City, Belize; Costa Maya, Mexico

## STARRING



ANDY COONEY



RONAN TYNAN

## WITH



THE NEW YORK TENORS



THE DRUIDS



THE SCREAMING ORPHANS



TOM  
COMERFORD



THE BYRNE BROTHERS



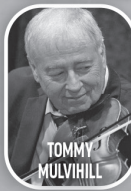
19TH STREET BAND



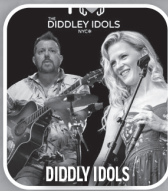
DEE REILLY



CATSKILLS CEILI BAND



TOMMY  
MULVIHILL



DIDDY IDOLS



BILL LEWIS



WILLIE LYNCH



CELTIC ROVERS



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**[www.cruiseofirishstars.com](http://www.cruiseofirishstars.com)**

**All performances are exclusive to those booked  
through Travel Professionals ONLY!**

*\*Entertainment and Itinerary are subject to change*



HOPE HOUSE MINISTRIES  
proudly presents

40th Annual  
*Celebration  
of Hope*

**MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER 27, 2023**

**AUCTION / RAFFLE  
SPONSOR COMMITMENT  
FORM**

CONTACT NAME

BUSINESS NAME

ADDRESS

PO Box (if applicable)

CITY

ST ZIP

PHONE:

(day)

(eve)

DESCRIPTION OF DONATION

VALUE OF DONATION

\$

*Please return completed form by  
October 12, 2023, with your gift to:*

**Attn: Theresa Zeis  
Development Office  
Hope House Ministries  
1 High Street/PO Box 358  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777  
www.hhm.org  
Phone: (631) 473-8796  
Fax: (631) 828-8818**



40th Annual  
*Celebration of Hope*  
**AT CHRISTMAS & THE HOLIDAY SEASON**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023  
7:00-11:00 P.M.**

**VILLA LOMBARDI'S, 877 MAIN STREET, HOLBROOK, NY**

*Just a reminder that as our Celebration is fast approaching, we  
would like to invite you to take part in our event this year by:*

- Donating auction prizes for the silent auction (new items)
- Donating large baskets for presentation of the auction prizes
- Purchasing event tickets
- Purchasing a journal advertisement in our annual journal

*Holiday Party Auction/Raffle donation suggestions by personal, family or corporate connections:*

**Gift Certificates/Gift Cards:**

- Restaurants
- Retail stores
- Spas/gyms
- Salons
- Amazon/Visa/Amex gift cards

**Sports:**

- MLB, NHL, NFL, MLS, Ducks game tickets
- Golf foursomes / golf lessons
- Autographed memorabilia

**Trips:**

- Resort/Hotel stays, timeshares, vacation homes, cruises
- Airfare or credit card mileage points

**Experiences:**

- Ax throwing
- Top Golf / XGolf
- Paint night packages
- Wine tastings
- Skydiving / Flying lessons
- Helicopter / Hot Air Balloon rides
- Casino packages
- Personal Chef dinner parties
- RV, limo, party bus
- Theme park tickets
- Broadway Show tickets / Concert tickets / Backstage passes
- Tickets to live tv shows

**Electronics:**

- Home Theater / Televisions
- Computers / Laptops / Tablets
- Fitness Watches
- Earbuds / Headsets
- Virtual Reality
- Bluetooth Speakers (indoor & outdoor)
- Electric Bikes / Scooters
- Karaoke

**Home & Décor / Garden Items:**

- Kitchen accessories & other small appliances
- Interior home decorating:
  - Bathroom items - towels, soap dishes/ dispensers
  - Bedding - blankets, pillows, sheets
- Outdoor decorating - landscaping / lawn décor
  - Wind spinners
  - Lanterns
- Outdoors games - cornhole / ring toss
- Outdoor pizza oven
- Yeti coolers
- Canopies
- Workout equipment: Peleton, TerraCore, Tonal, Streetstrider
- BBQ items
- Tools - blowers, drills, chainsaws

**Miscellaneous:**

- Jewelry
- Designer handbags
- Children's items
- Movie tickets

If you would like information on any of the above, please contact the Development Department at (631) 473-8796.

**Thank you for your support of our largest annual event!**



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**Theresa Zeis**

*Events & Individual Giving  
Manager*

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**Keith Deisner**

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**Hope House Ministries**

**PO Box 358**

**Port Jefferson, NY 11777**

**MAIN PHONE &  
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(631) 928-2377

hbmjanet@outlook.com

**DEVELOPMENT OFFICE:**

(631) 473-8796

FAX: (631) 828-8818

www.hhm.org

hbmdevelop@optonline.net

For questions regarding tax deductions,  
please refer to the Internal Revenue  
Service Publication 526 entitled  
Charitable Contributions

**If you no longer wish  
to receive our newsletter,  
please contact the  
Development Department  
at (631) 473-8796  
or e-mail**

**hbmdevelop@optonline.net.**

**Prefer to look at  
our news online?**

**Check us out at [www.hhm.org](http://www.hhm.org),  
use the "IN THE NEWS" Tab and  
select the newsletter issue  
that you'd like to read.**

## HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL SECOND CHANCE BOUTIQUE

Come visit us at 19 Chereb Lane, Port Jefferson Station, right next to the Port Jeff Bowl. Check out our amazing selection of gently used items, from furniture, to clothing, to collectibles, to knick-knacks and everything in between.

Our hope is to be able to raise \$150,000 annually to support the agency and those in recovery. Rest assured everything is cleaned and prepared for sale by a team of dedicated volunteers. Our Facebook page highlights our most recent items and Facebook Marketplace has become a great way for customers to connect with our store and mission.

God bless the work of Fr. Frank and his staff at Hope House Ministries! And God bless the young men at the Little Portion Friary residential care facility for their courage to change!

We look forward to seeing you at the store or having you visit us online. You won't believe how many wonderful items we offer of the highest quality that will keep you coming back. Questions or to donate, please call the Boutique at (631) 509-1101.

**See you soon,**

**The Hope Springs Eternal Second Chance Boutique Team!**



### Wish List...

Below are some items that HHM is in need of throughout our outreaches. If you are able to donate any of these items, please call the Development Dept. at (631) 473-8796. As always, thank you for your generosity and support!

**DROP OFF AT COUNSELING CENTER**

**1 HIGH STREET  
PORT JEFFERSON  
(631) 928-2377:**

- ☐ Paper Towels
- ☐ Toilet Paper
- ☐ Facial Tissues
- ☐ Copy Paper - 8 1/2" x 11"
- ☐ Garbage Bags (13 gal.)
- ☐ Liquid Hand Soap
- ☐ Men's Deodorant
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Shaving Cream
- ☐ Toothpaste
- ☐ Toothbrushes
- ☐ Disposable Razors
- ☐ Light Bulbs

**DROP OFF AT**

**PAX CHRISTI HOSPITALITY CENTER  
255 OAKLAND AVE  
PORT JEFFERSON STATION  
(631) 928-9108:**

- ☐ Men's Clothing
- ☐ Men's Socks
- ☐ Men's Underwear
- ☐ Deodorant (Men's & Women's)
- ☐ Bath Towels
- ☐ Soap
- ☐ Shaving Cream
- ☐ Disposable Razors
- ☐ Toothbrushes
- ☐ Trial Size Toothpaste
- ☐ Trial Size Shampoo
- ☐ Twin Sheets & Pillow Cases
- ☐ Twin Blankets

*Please note:*

**Please call Hope Springs Eternal Second Chance Boutique at (631) 509-1101  
to donate men's, women's or children's clothing.**

**Or call Pax Christi Hospitality Center at (631) 928-9108 to donate men's clothing.**

# Hope House Ministries Events – Mark Your Calendars 2023 – 2024

## July 2023

### 6th ANNUAL PIG ROAST

**Wednesday, July 26,  
6:00-8:30 P.M.**

La Buena Vida Restaurant  
Moriches, NY

Reservations highly suggested

Contact: La Buena Vida Restaurant  
(631) 909-1985

### 7th ANNUAL JAKE ENGEL HOOPS FOR HOPE FUNDRAISER

**Friday, July 28, 4:00-8:00 p.m.**

Cedar Beach Basketball Court  
Mt. Sinai, NY

Contact: Emily Monaco  
(631) 473-8796

### SUMMER MONTHLY 2023 OUTDOOR MASS & POTLUCK DINNER

Once a month during the summer

For dates & further information:

Contact: Claudia C. Friszell  
(631) 445-3126

cldfriszell@gmail.com

## November 2023

### CELEBRATION OF HOPE - ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY AT CHRISTMAS & THE HOLIDAY SEASON

**Monday, November 27,  
7:00-11:00 p.m.**

Held at Villa Lombardi's  
Holbrook NY

Contact: Theresa Zeis  
(631) 473-8796

## December 2023

### ANDY COONEY'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

**Monday, December 18**

Held at Patchogue Theatre

Contact: Patchogue Theatre Box Office  
(631) 207-1313

[www.patchoguetheatre.org/events](http://www.patchoguetheatre.org/events)

## May 2024

### 8th ANNUAL 5K RUN/ WALK & FUN RUN TO END ADDICTION

**TENTATIVE DATE:**

**Saturday, May 18, 9:00 am**

Held at Patchogue Shore Front Park

Contact: Joe Folks  
(631) 949-2442

**Self Help  
Meetings  
at  
Hope House  
Ministries**

**Call for times  
and locations:  
(631) 928-2377**



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special events  
during our  
43rd year!