

MARCH 2021

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

NUTLEY NEIGHBORS

**Around
the
World ...
... Around
the Town**

*Alexandra Isayev,
Huseyin, Mila Yucel*

Photograph by
Randall Kenneth
Photography



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Letter to Residents

One Year...and Hoping

March marks our one-year quaranversary! That is a newly coined word that combines quarantine with anniversary.

It was exactly one year ago that lockdowns became a way of life, face masks were mandatory fashion accessories, and everyone seemed to smell faintly of alcohol, thanks to the repeated use of hand sanitizers.

While I was putting this issue together, I thought of the expression 'one year and counting' but the word 'hoping' is a much better choice. I remember the early days of the pandemic when I would wake up and announce the number of days we were in lockdown.

As the number moved from double to triple digits, I figured I better stop keeping a record since it was making me depressed. That's when hoping replaced counting.

While numbers can give us a quantitative view of the pandemic, what we will all remember are the feelings we shared. Yes, fear and anxiety seem to be constant companions, but hope is still one of the most powerful human feelings we have.

Our March issue highlights the ways we have been expressing hope in our community. Nutleyites have accepted the challenge of living during a period of history that none of us ever envisioned. We have recognized that there is no 'game plan' for getting through this, so we have embraced practical survival skills (like social distancing and face masks) with creativity.

What exactly does this look like in our community?

For Linda Buset, it means getting her camera out. She gained time during the lockdown to take stunning photos right here in town. Be sure to check them out.

The Nutley Public Library is giving everyone a chance to think, make, and create through a week-long celebration of the maker culture. Read the Library Corner article to see how you can get involved with these virtual programs.

Nutleyites of all ages are busy creating masterpieces and memories. Our Kids Corner shows the big projects these little hands are making. (Be sure to notice the rainbow in one of the photos; that's our timeless symbol of hope!)

I know you will agree that it's been a busy and life-changing year. None of us are in the same place we were last year. Many are grieving the loss of family members or friends, others are worrying over unemployment, and quite a few of us are wondering when life will ever be close to normal again.

It's my sincere wish that as you read through this issue, you will see the hope that is scattered throughout the community.

Happy quaranversary! Perhaps someone will coin a new word for next March that means "we made it through one of the toughest times in history – together."

Joyce Corey Content Coordinator



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January 2021 Nutley Home Sales

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158 Raymond Avenue	\$425,000	\$450,000	13
111 Hawthorne Avenue	\$430,000	\$450,000	7
102 New Street	\$430,000	\$435,000	12
22 Laura Avenue	\$469,000	\$492,000	18
80 Church Street	\$469,000	\$492,000	12
18 Wayside Lane	\$485,000	\$485,000	48
348 High Street	\$499,900	\$540,000	7
70 Mapes	\$520,000	\$490,000	25
33 N Spring Garden	\$515,000	\$525,000	28
75 Plymouth Road	\$525,000	\$546,000	17
11 Nairn Place	\$675,000	\$590,000	79
169 High Street	\$600,000	\$630,000	15
30 Highland Avenue	\$669,900	\$669,900	15
499 Kingsland Street	\$685,000	\$690,000	21
16 Bank Street	\$699,900	\$680,000	12
161 Milton Avenue	\$749,000	\$740,000	15

SOURCE: GSMLS DATA



2020 Year End Data NJ Real Estate

Median Sales Price.....**\$350,000** (+14%)Number of Closed Sales.....**123,925** (+5.5%)New Listings.....**163,896** (-8.6%)Average Days on Market.....**56**

SOURCE: NEW JERSEY REALTORS (R) DATA

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Around the World Around the Town

By Joyce Corey

Photographs by Randall Kenneth Photography



From world travelers to town residents, Alexandra, Huseyin, and toddler, Mila, know there's no place like home. While pandemic restrictions may have curtailed their travel plans, this family is happily enjoying the sights and sounds right here in Nutley.

With almost 200 countries in the world in which to live, they decided our town was the best choice for them to put out a welcome mat and become part of a friendly community.

Although this family's story crisscrosses the globe, it all started here in New Jersey.

"We met in our hometown of Edison through mutual friends and started dating in college," Alexandra said. "After a couple of wonderful years, we decided to find ourselves and experience life separately."

"We ended up losing touch, then, one night, Alexandra was out with friends at Zeppelin Hall Biergarten in Jersey City, and she looked across the room and we saw each other for the first time in seven years," Huseyin continues the story. "We gave each other a hug and haven't let go since."

Three years later, in 2017, they were married at the Highlawn Pavilion in West Orange.

Their respective college degrees paved the way

for their current careers.

"I received my bachelor's degree in economics from Rutgers University and a Master of Business Administration in marketing and strategy from NYU Stern School of Business," Alexandra said. "Currently, I work at a Fintech firm in New York as a product manager. Huseyin received his Bachelor of Science degree in environmental and business economics from Rutgers and is a business relationship manager at a bank."

While their careers are important, family life and a variety of activities fill this couple's world in very meaningful ways.

"Our daughter, Mila, who is 17 months old, keeps us busy and laughing," Alexandra said. "We have a trilingual



household – English, Russian and Turkish—and she is learning to speak all three. She also loves dancing, listening to Russian and Turkish songs, climbing anything, helping me cook, and chasing our cat around the house.”

Khalessi the cat, (yes from the Game of Thrones!) is four years old and, thanks to Mila, gets plenty of exercise!

When not traveling, this family likes to hike all year round, grow their own vegetables in the garden, and can be spotted jogging and biking around town every weekend.

While they call Nutley home, their love of traveling has made many wonderful memories.

“We typically like to change things up each time,” said Alexandra. “Our most recent international trips (pre-COVID) were Barcelona, Paris, Amsterdam, Tanzania, and Zanzibar. For our babymoon, we flew up to Topanga Canyon, California and stayed in a beautiful tree house on a bohemian estate, where we hiked, listened to Fleetwood Mac, and meditated about our upcoming parenting journey.”



The family cat, Khalessi



Huseyin and Mila enjoying the view on one of their hikes

“Lately we’ve been taking small trips to upstate New York to go hiking in the Catskills,” Huseyin adds. “We took a trip to Aruba when Mila was five months old and had such a wonderful time that we are considering making it an annual trip.”

Huseyin’s musical talent, as well as the family motto, also became the basis of several family trips.

“We live by the idea of letting music soothe your soul,” he said. “We enjoy attending rock and California reggae concerts. I play the drums and was formerly in a metal rock band that performed in major venues around the Northeast like the Stone Pony.”

At home, Alexandra unwinds with a good book, yoga, and meditation.

“I took hot yoga and kundalini yoga classes in Jersey City and was thrilled when Good Vibes opened up downtown,” she said.

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Five Things the Yucel Family Loves About Nutley

- 1.** The charm
- 2.** Close sense of community
- 3.** Commute to the city
- 4.** The parks are top notch! We visit them every weekend to exercise, bike, visit the ducks (one of Mila's favorite activities), hang out by the waterfall, and go for walks with friends. We bring people from all of Jersey and the city to the parks and they're always impressed at how well-kept and beautiful they are.
- 5.** We also love the restaurants (shout out to Cowan's - our favorite!)

While the family has an active travel itinerary, Nutley became the place where they chose to call home.

"We've lived in Southwest Nutley for three years," Huseyin said. "We were looking for a compact home where we could ease into the suburbs."

"I had embraced apartment living in Hoboken and was skeptical of moving to the suburbs," Alexandra adds. "But we love the yard where we can entertain friends and the close commute to the city. Once we moved here, we realized all that Nutley offers. We can walk to the beautiful parks, bike to Montclair, quickly drive to our favorite hiking paths, and or spend time in the bustling downtown."

"We love how family-friendly, welcoming, and diverse our neighborhood is," Huseyin said. "Our neighbors are always inviting us over to their backyard parties. One neighbor even invited us to use her pool when they were away on vacation!"

Travel plans will always be on this family's to-do list, but Nutley remains their favorite destination. With an active lifestyle, a genuine appreciation of the town, and a variety of interests, they are all booked on a lifetime adventure right here in town. ■

We are always looking for fascinating residents to feature in Nutley Neighbors. If you are interested in being included or would like to nominate one of your neighbors please email jcorey@bestversionmedia.com.



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Nutley Family Service Bureau: Pantry Resource for Food Insufficiency

By Emma Cortese, NFSB Trustee

Nutley Family Service Bureau, Inc. (NFSB) is a local nonprofit mental health and social service organization working tirelessly to help our clients during the current pandemic crisis. Our Food Pantry is focused particularly on food insecurity at this time. The US Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as "limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods." Such insecurity can manifest in various ways along a continuum, from anxiety that food will run out before more can be purchased, to reduced size and/or quality of meals, to missing them altogether.

A recent report issued by The Community Food Bank of New Jersey highlighted the impact of the pandemic on increasing food insecurity across all socio-economic strata. The number of residents across the state who are struggling with hunger is projected to rise by nearly 60% as a direct result of COVID-19, 10% higher than the national average. Closer to home, Essex County had the highest food insecurity rate pre-pandemic and remains among the highest. It is in this environment that NFSB continues to be a community resource.

The Pantry impact numbers for 2020 reflect our responsiveness: number of households served has increased by 30%, including 350 households and 700 individuals served. We dispense groceries on a routine basis: on site at 169 Chestnut St. every other week alternating with deliveries to residents at Parkside Apartments and the Nutley Senior Manor. Despite increased demands, the Pantry has maintained high-value food staples including shelf-stable essentials such as canned tuna, beans, peanut butter, rice, cereal and pasta; a selection of fresh produce, dairy, eggs, and meat proteins are often available.

In addition to the mounting numbers, the landscape of food insecurity is changing. Temporary or episodic food insecurity is a stark reality for many households which never have faced such circumstances. Unexpected job loss or reduced income due to COVID-19 has forced budgetary trade-offs wherein essential expenses such as utility bills, car payments, and rent may compete with food purchases.

Katherine Carmichael, Executive Director, emphasizes "The NFSB Pantry is always open to meet the needs of a township member in crisis, may it be, for example, a loss of employment, domestic violence, medical debilitation, or fire. Additionally, anyone in Nutley who already receives Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and/or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) qualifies." Ever aware of prevailing township socio-economic factors, our Food Pantry participation criteria have reflected the higher cost of living locally and set the enrollment threshold accordingly.

The NFSB Food Pantry is an inclusive environment, which

guards client confidentiality and respects personal privacy. Pantry personnel assist with the enrollment process which has minimal administrative requirements and can additionally provide help in navigating government programs. Peg Conca, Food Pantry and Thrift Shop manager, emphasizes the Pantry's accessibility, "Individuals who find themselves in need of our services can walk in to start the process. Emergency situations are never turned away." For inquiries about how to participate in the NFSB Food Pantry program, call 973-667-1884 ext. 2 or go to www.nutley-family.org/food-pantry. In-person inquiries can be made Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm.

The mission of NFSB is to strengthen the emotional and social well-being of individuals and families through affordable counseling and social service programs. The support of community partners such as municipal, business, civic, and religious organizations, as well as generous township residents, has enabled NFSB operations to continue, even during this time of pandemic crisis. For more information please visit www.nutleyfamily.org/ ■

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Capturing The Moments

By Linda Buset

Photography is the delight of capturing moments.

Capturing a certain sunlit smile, a certain expression, a certain feeling, or an unexpected moment – the moments I refer to as serendipitous.

I am 70 years old now and photography has been a passion of mine since I was 16.

At the age of 16, I was working for a newspaper and I was surrounded by writers, artists, and photographers who became my friends. Each day I was inspired; each day I was living my best creative life.

In my late 20's life changed for me. I left the newspaper, married, and became Mom to three very creative, high-energy children. I put my camera aside to focus on raising them.

I began putting my energy into being a PTA mom, den mother, Sunday School teacher, and all things parent related. I even started my own business so I could work from home.

As these years moved along, my cameras grew dusty and rusty. My first camera was tucked away in a box somewhere in the attic with all my unused Kodachrome film.

I often thought about my thirst for photography during those years, but that was the extent of it, just



Linda Buset, photographer

Then something happened. The world was hit with something so unexpected it seemed like a nightmare.

COVID-19 was upon us and I was required to slow down.

I was furloughed from my job and not able to see my family. It was difficult, it was scary, and it was disheartening, but I gained something I had little of before.

I gained time.

Time to do things I once loved. My first thought was to find my camera. With the first photo, I remembered the feeling of joy when I would capture something stunning, or glorious, or that inimitable sunlit smile.

COVID-19 was here with a vengeance, but it brought me back to writing, photography, and all the books I never had time to read.

It is said that you can find something good in even the worst of situations. Maybe that is true. I found that girl who loved to photograph life; that girl who worked at the newspaper who would run



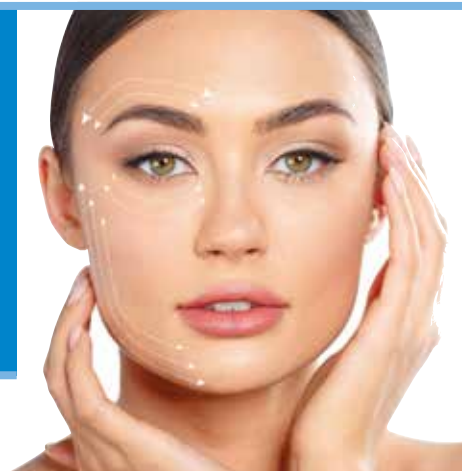
The path in early autumn

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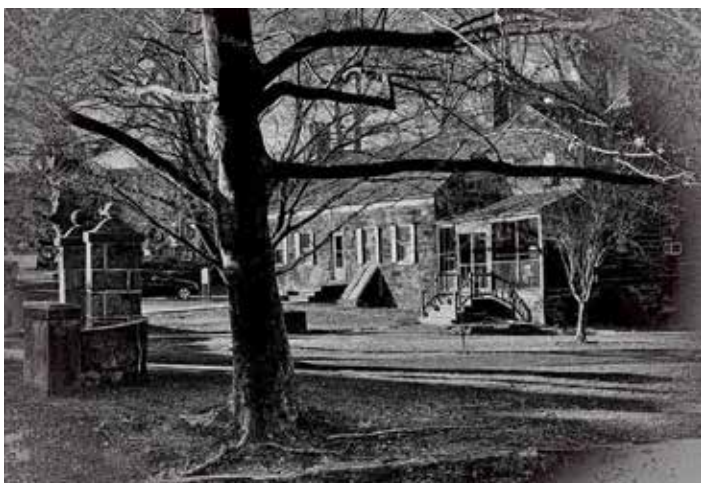
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Sunrise

outside to capture a beautiful moment; that girl always in search of serendipity. Yes, I found that girl again, right in the middle of a pandemic.

I hope you enjoy my photos as much as I enjoyed taking them. ■



Vreeland House ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY LINDA BUSEY

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Pet Corner

Adopt Us!

Submitted by Jersey Pits Rescue Inc

Although we featured Kane here last month, he is still looking for his forever home!

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Kane is about 8 years old and is great with other dogs. He would love to cuddle on the couch with you or go for a walk. Kane desperately craves companionship and will be the most loyal friend you could ever ask for. He is about 45 pounds and walks nicely on leash. He is eager to find his forever home and family. Could it be you? Apply today! www.jerseypitsrescue.com

Submitted by Yellow Brick Road Rescue NJ

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To apply for Dalila: www.yellowbrickroadrescuenj.com/cat-adoption-application/ or email us at yellowbrickroadnj@gmail.com ■

Jack Suffren: A Coach, Teacher, Friend, and Faithful Mentor to Students at Nutley High School

By Michael C. Gabriele

During his career of more than four decades as an educator at Nutley High School, John Edward "Jack" Suffren touched the lives of many students—inside and outside of the classroom. He was a beloved math teacher who retired in 2003. Most notably, he was an inspirational coach for the Nutley High School wrestling team—helping to launch the program as a varsity sport in the early 1960s.

Suffren passed away on Nov. 16, 2020, at Clara Maass Medical Center in Belleville at the age of 86. Many in town mourned him, especially members of the Nutley High School wrestling teams from the 1960s. But while these men reflected on their fond memories, they didn't speak much about their years in the wrestling program. Rather, they reminisced about Suffren as a mentor, a friend, and an enduring source of inspiration in their lives.

Wrestling is a rigorous sport that demands strength, skill, and mental toughness. Bonding between teammates and coaches occurs through long, intensive hours of training and the ups and downs of competition. The former Nutley wrestlers, now living in different parts of the country, shared the life lessons they learned from Suffren.

"Suff was like a big brother," said Art Zinicola, NHS class of 1967, who wrestled in the heavyweight slot. Zinicola recalled when Suffren invited a number of the wrestlers to spend a weekend with him at his parents' home in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania. "His mom and dad treated us like gold. There were no special events. It was just a fun weekend; lots of cookies and cake."



Carmen LoRe (left) and Jack Suffren were featured speakers at a program on the history of the Nutley High School wrestling program, held in May 2017 at the Nutley Museum, sponsored by the Nutley Historical Society. PHOTO BY M. GABRIELE

Zinicola, who lives in Kansas, also spoke about occasional Friday night pizza parties at Suffren's home in Nutley. "Eight or 10 of us would show up. We'd eat pizza, play cards, and watch TV. We all had a good time, but looking back on it, I think what Suff really wanted to do was keep us out of trouble."

Ray Ritacco, NHS class of 1967, said "Suff had a way of putting you in a good frame of mind. He introduced us to the aspect that it's not all size and strength that matters, but equally important is your mental preparation. He inspired me and gave me confidence to be a better wrestler. You didn't want to disappoint him."

As part of that inspiration and motivation, Suffren often shared a poem with his wrestlers titled "It's All in the State of Mind" by Walter D. Wintle, published in 1905. The last verse of the poem reads:

*Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man
But sooner or later the person who wins
Is the one who thinks he can*

Ritacco carried that inspirational message with him to West Point Military Academy in upstate New York, where he graduated in 1972, earned the distinguished "Army Athletic Award," and was inducted into the West Point Hall of Fame. Today, Ritacco resides in California. Ted Olivo, another member of the NHS class of 1967, said Ritacco



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and Zinicola were his best buddies on the wrestling team. They were also teammates on the Maroon Raider football squad. "You could go to Suff if you ever needed help with anything," Olivo said. "He was a good man, and he wanted his students to be good people."

Suffren instilled a strong sense of confidence, positive thinking, and persistence in all the members of the wrestling team, according to Doug Cunningham, NHS class of 1966. Suffren had a major influence in Cunningham's career; so much so that Cunningham served for 17 years as the head wrestling coach at Cinnaminson High School, located in Burlington County, NJ.

Cunningham recalled that Suffren, as an astute math teacher, "wrote on the blackboard at the speed of a machine gun." Cunningham, who lives in Virginia, served in the Marine Corps and then studied at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

"Teaching was his life," Ralph Cardinale, NHS class of 1969, said of Suffren, who was Cardinale's coach and math teacher. "He was in Nutley for over 40 years. He always tried to help people. That's just the kind of guy he was." Cardinale, who resides in Lafayette, NJ, was a district wrestling champ in 1968 and 1969.

Nutley resident Carmen LoRe, NHS class of 1965, first participated in wrestling when it started as a club sport in the fall of 1961. (Full disclosure: LoRe is a relative of this reporter). Barrie Beaver served as the head coach of the squad, which was elevated to a varsity sport in 1962, and Suffren assisted him. "Beaver and Suff were both math teachers at Nutley High School and they became good friends," LoRe said. "The team had a big learning curve, because we would compete against schools that had established wrestling programs. It was hard, but we all learned together."

The dedication paid off. Nutley soon gained a reputation of having a strong, competitive wrestling program. Beaver retired mid-1970s and Suffren took over as head coach. He coached John Monaco, who won the NJSIAA State Championship in 1981. (Barrie Beaver died on July 11, 2016 at the age of 76 at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.)

LoRe attended Minot State University, North Dakota, on a football and wrestling scholarship. Returning to New Jersey, he accepted a position as a physical education teacher and assistant wrestling coach at West Milford High

School and also went into the construction business. In the early 1990s, Nutley established a recreation wrestling program for junior high school students as a feeder system for the high school team—a program LoRe and Angelo Cifelli had long lobbied the town to install.

He coached the rec team for several years, then was asked by the township Board of Education to go to NHS "for a few weeks" to be an assistant coach and work with the young wrestlers he helped develop. Those few weeks quickly evolved into the head coaching position. LoRe led the program from 1994 to 2007. During that time, under his leadership, the team garnered 107 victories, along with many individual district and regional champs. LoRe said his biggest thrill as a coach was when Michael Bonora placed sixth and then first in the NCAA Division 3 national tournament held in Iowa.

"Suff was always honest with you and always there to support you," LoRe said. "He taught us to stay in control and stay positive. When I was coaching the team, he would come to the matches to cheer us on." In May 2017, Suffren, LoRe, and Cardinale were featured speakers at a gathering at the Nutley Museum, sponsored by the Nutley Historical Society, to honor the town's history of wrestling.

During his later years, while still residing in Nutley, Suffren became an author, publishing three books. He also used his musical skills as a piano player to entertain local charitable organizations and nursing home residents.

Suffren was deeply religious man and a member of the Methodist church where he grew up in Wanamie, PA. Interviewed in the January 2018 edition of *Nutley Neighbors* magazine, Suffren spoke about his faith and his philosophy of life: lifting up those who have fallen; being kind in word and deed; and making the pathways smooth for others, to help them succeed. He had the wisdom, courage and strength to make a difference in the lives of many people.

Well done, Jack Suffren. You were a faithful mentor to generations of students in Nutley. ■

About the author: Gabriele served as the editor of The Nutley Sun in the 1980s, and has written four books on New Jersey history, all published by The History Press. He is a member of the executive board of the Nutley Historical Society.



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Close to Home ... Where You Can See Murals by Nutley's Greatest Muralists

By Barry Lenson

You have probably heard that there was once an artists' colony located on a street called The Enclosure in Nutley. And I am here to let you know that is true. I should know, I grew up on the street. My father, Michael Lenson, was an artist who lived and painted on The Enclosure from 1941 until he died in 1971.

The Enclosure has been home to many well-known artists, who in many cases were highly accomplished mural painters. The first of them was a painter named Frank Fowler, who moved to the street in about 1880 from Paris where he had helped to paint the murals in the Medici Palace in the Luxembourg Gardens. They're still there. After his return to the U.S., he painted more murals in locations that included the old Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, now destroyed, that sat where the Empire State Building is now. After Fowler left The Enclosure in about 1900, his studio at what is now 16 Enclosure was bought by Frederick Dana Marsh, another painter who created murals, including some mosaic murals that were installed in the McAlpin Hotel on Union Square in New York in 1913. The McAlpin was considered the most luxurious hotel in the world at the time. When it was converted into an apartment building in the 1930s, the murals were saved and are now installed in a public



A detail of Reginald Marsh's maritime murals in the National Museum of the American Indian in New York



A detail of one of Frederick Dana Marsh's maritime mosaics in the subway station in New York

place in New York.

Where? Be patient, I will tell you in a moment. But let me also share with you the fact that Marsh had a son named Reginald, who grew up on The Enclosure and went on to become one of the most respected artists in America.

Then we come to my father, Michael Lenson (1903-1971), who lived on The Enclosure for the last 30 years of his life.

In his book *Art in America*, the art historian William Gerdtz called him "New Jersey's most important muralist." And that is almost certainly true. He was director of mural installations for FDR's Federal Arts Project for the state of New Jersey, and you can still go see his murals today. Where? I will tell you in just a moment.

But let me share a curious fact. The most visible mural in Nutley, *The Return of Annie Oakley* that is in our post office, was not painted by an artist from Nutley! It was painted by an artist named Paul Chapman, who lived on Long Island. So ... go figure.

But now we get to the good stuff - a list of murals by Enclosure artists that you can easily go and see for yourself.

■ **Maritime Mosaic Murals by FREDERICK DANA MARSH, Now Located in the Fulton Street/William Street Subway Station in New York** After they were removed from the McAlpin Hotel, they were saved and moved to this subway station, where commuters pass by them every day. Because they were located in a restaurant called the Marine Grill in the hotel, they all show nautical scenes - and they are spectacular.

■ **Murals by REGINALD MARSH In The National Museum of the American Indian (New York)** Between 1936 and 1937, Reginald Marsh painted a series of spectacular frescoes

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Join Us for Think Make Create Week at the Nutley Public Library

By Lucia Alvarez, Library Associate Youth Services

The maker movement in the United States isn't just a hobby; it's having a significant impact on school curriculum development and growing local economies. To celebrate making and maker culture, the library will be hosting a virtual Think Make Create week in conjunction with NJ Makers Day. Nutley patrons can come together virtually to celebrate the maker movement!

Think Make Create week is designed to be an event that celebrates, promotes, and in many cases, introduces maker culture, as well as the values associated with making, tinkering, and STEM-based learning. Think Make Create Week and NJ Makers Day allows communities to share programming opportunities, demonstrations and displays, and the expertise of the individuals and organizations that make, create, and develop right in their own backyards.

As a participating organization for NJ Makers Day, the Nutley Public Library will be offering this week-long maker program virtually from March 15 through March 20. Each day, the library will host special virtual workshops and upload video demonstrations for makers to participate in at home. NJ Makers Day will conclude Think Make Create week on March 20, 2021. Community members of all ages are invited to join us for an exciting week filled with activities focusing on maker culture.

The Nutley Public Library will be offering a variety of activities for all ages: sewing, engineering challenges, coding, crafts, and much more! For additional information and times, please visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org and the Nutley Public Library's Facebook page.

Find out more about NJ Makers Day at www.njmakersday.org. ■



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A view of the Enlightenment of Man in the lobby of Weequahic High School on Chancellor Avenue

in what was then the U.S. Customs House, located at 1 Bowling Green, in lower Manhattan. The building is now a museum. It's just north of the Battery and an easy walk from the World Trade Center site. You can still see these murals today - and believe me, they are worth the trip.



Michael Lenson on a scaffold while painting a mural

■ Murals by My Father, MICHAEL LENSON, in Newark

My father painted the eight-panel History of Newark murals located in the City Council Chambers in Newark City Hall. (Call the Newark City Clerk's office to schedule an appointment to see them.) He also painted *The Enlightenment of Man* murals in the lobby of Weequahic High School on Chancellor Avenue. And if you're in the mood for a real road trip, head to Mount Hope, West Virginia, where my father's mural *Mining* can be found in the U.S. Post Office. Also, through the end of January 2021, a study for that *Mining* mural is on display in the *Vida Americana* exhibition in the Whitney Museum in New York. My dad was a big deal. I am proud of him.

Nutley played a major role in the history of American art! Did it ever! I'd encourage you to go visit these murals and to let your heart swell with pride as you stand before these contributions that Nutley has made! ■

For more information, please contact me through the Nutley Historical Society at www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.org

Creativity in the Community!

By Michelle Palmer

Creativity and talent can be found all over the community! The children in town have been working hard on their unique skills while creating long-lasting memories. Their beautiful personalities shine through these projects and showcase some of the happiness they bring to their families.

Sabrina, age 3, worked on making handmade Valentine's Day themed crafts. These love bugs were created by using a heart shaped sponge dipped in paint. She learned about textures, color mixing, and counting. After stamping the shapes, she added googly eyes and legs. The project made her laugh and smile while she thought of the special people in her life



Mateo drawing his own comic books

Charles Marino-Myers, designed a Lego race car along with a hand-drawn track. His imagination, combined with his ability to plan and build, is truly amazing. He used materials he had at home to make this project very original. His grasp of math and science, as he uses it in his artwork, points to a bright future ahead for him.

Three-year-old Cordelia created some pretty designs while having finger painting fun. She painted these mini canvases by blending colors together. Her mom helped



Cordelia's Classic collection

her turn these small masterpieces into a big beautiful work of art when they were mounted into a shadow box frame. The young artist and her mom have named these the "Classic" collection and are currently working on the "Neon" collection.



An original racetrack created by Charles

Mateo, age 9, is super passionate about creating his own comic books. Drawing and writing bring him great joy and one look at his artwork shows the incredible talent he has. His wonderful work shows his dedication to writing and lots of effort to design detailed characters. This fun project he made will bring the community an instant smile!

Seven-year-old sisters, Grace and Bethany, are spreading happiness with their unicorn art. The girls painted these



Sabrina making Valentine's Day crafts

unicorns for fun, and they definitely make these winter days brighter and sunnier with their cheerful canvases. The vivid colors along with rainbows signal a lovely sign of hope. ■



Unicorns, by Grace and Bethany, as signs of hope

Did you just create an amazing piece of art? Whether you colored it, glued it, cut it, or even baked it, send us a photo with your name and we will print as many as we can. Let's make our world a bit more beautiful with your creations and smiles! Email me at: jcorey@bestversionmedia.com

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EVENTS CALENDAR **MARCH** 2021

At the time this magazine went to print, all event times and locations were accurate, but please check event websites for the most current information. Some events may have been postponed or canceled.

Mar. 2, 16, Tue.

Board of Commissioners Meeting

@virtual event

The regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Commissioners will take place via Zoom webinar for 2021.

Time: 7pm

For more information visit www.nutleynj.org/board-of-commissioners

Mar. 3, Wed.

Virtual Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Support Group

@virtual event from Clara Maass Medical Center

Are you a pregnant or new mom? Are you feeling like motherhood isn't what you thought it would be? Do you have feelings of anxiety, panic, rage, or sadness? You are not alone. You could be experiencing

one of the most common complications of childbirth, Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders. This is temporary and treatable, and this group can help. This is a safe and judgment-free group for new and expecting moms to connect online. During this time of COVID-19, increased isolation and greater concern about crowds and gathering may be preventing you from reaching out for help. This virtual community is led by a certified specialist in Perinatal Mood Disorders who can answer questions, validate feelings and concerns, or offer more resources. You will be sent the link to participate in the group after online registration.
Time: 11am-12pm
For more information and to register visit the Clara Maass Medical Center Calendar at www.rwjbh.org/events/

Mar. 4, Thurs.

Pregnancy Support Group

@virtual event from Clara Maass Medical Center

Being pregnant is amazing – and at times, amazingly stressful. Pregnancy can leave you with a lot of questions. This is especially true with the unprecedented challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Led by maternal health experts, this online community is a supportive and inclusive space to meet other pregnant women, ask questions, and form meaningful connections.

Time: 12-1pm

For more information and to register visit the Clara Maass Medical Center Calendar at www.rwjbh.org/events/

Mar. 6, 13, Sat.

All Recovery Meeting (Online)

@virtual event from Clara Maass Medical Center

Come with a Purpose, Leave with a Plan. All Recovery Meetings are non-denominational and offer an opportunity to focus on the hope found in recovery. Recovery does not happen alone. Join this group and connect with others who are initiating and maintaining a recovery lifestyle. All Recovery Meetings are facilitated by trained and certified IFPR Peer Recovery Specialists and provide social support for those seeking or maintaining recovery, as well as family members, friends, and supporters of those who have been influenced by substance use.

Time: 12-1:30pm

For more information, other dates and times, and meeting links, visit the Clara Maass Medical Center event calendar at www.rwjbh.org/events/

Mar. 9, Tue.

Managing Symptoms of Asthma

@virtual event from Clara Maass Medical Center

Elizabeth Rodriguez, RRT, BS Supervisor of Respiratory and Neurodiagnostic Services will offer an informative, online session on effective ways to manage symptoms of asthma.

Time: 12-12:30pm

For more information and meeting links, visit the Clara Maass Medical Center event calendar at www.rwjbh.org/events/

Mar. 10, 24, Wed., Mar. 11, 25, Thurs.

Food Pantry Distribution

@Nutley Family Service Bureau, 169 Chestnut St.

For information or to schedule an eligibility appointment call 973-667-1884. All calls and appointments are confidential.
Time: 2-5pm Wed., 10am-1pm Thurs.

For more information visit www.nutleyfamily.org/food-pantry/

Mar. 15, Mon.

Think Make Create Week: Sewing Workshop with Ms. Lucia

@virtual event from Nutley Public Library

For ages 7 and up. Join Ms. Lucia for a hands-on virtual sewing workshop where you can make your own unique project. Each registration includes a kit of supplies you can pick up beforehand. Register to receive Zoom program link and password.
Time: 3:30-4:30pm

For more information about this or other Think Make Create Week events call 973-667-0405 ext.

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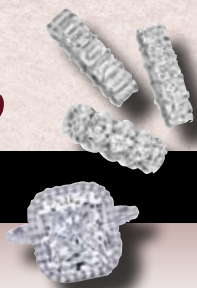
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EVENTS CALENDAR MARCH 2021

(Continued)

2623 or visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org/

Mar. 16, Tue.

Think Make Create Week: Origami Workshop

@virtual event from Nutley Public Library

For ages 7 and up. Learn the beautiful art of origami from expert Nobuko Okabe in a hands-on virtual origami workshop. Each registration includes a kit of supplies you can pick up beforehand. Register to receive Zoom program link and password. Time: 3:30-4pm

For more information about this or other Think Make Create Week events call 973-667-0405 ext. 2623 or visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org/

Mar. 17, Wed.

Think Make Create Week: Children's Healthy Cooking Class

@virtual event from Nutley Public Library

For ages 6-12. Make tasty treats and more with Nutley ShopRite registered dietitian Stephanie Bini. Register to receive Zoom program link and password. All ingredients and recipes will be provided to participants before the program. Please advise if your child has food allergies. Time: 3:30-4pm

For more information about this or other Think Make Create Week events call 973-667-0405 ext. 2623 or visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org/

Mar. 19, Fri.

Think Make Create Week: PropBox Players Presents

@virtual event from Nutley Public Library

For all ages. Join performer Michele Traina and her puppet friend Tessa for PropBox Players Presents: The Old Tree! This interactive virtual program will teach children about ecology and guide them as they plant a garden in their custom "propBOX." Register to receive the

Zoom program link and password. A list of suggested supplies for the activity will be sent to participants before the program. Time: 10:30-11am

For more information about this or other Think Make Create Week events call 973-667-0405 ext. 2623 or visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org/

Mar. 20, Sat.

Think Make Create Week: STEAM Story Time

@virtual event from Nutley Public Library

For all ages. Celebrate NJ Makers Day with Ms. D. in a fun and fabulous virtual STEAM Story Time! Listen to amazing stories that highlight science, tech, engineering, art, and math, join in some silly games, and follow along to make a special craft at the end! Each registration includes a kit of supplies you can pick up beforehand. A list of supplies and instructions for the craft will also be sent to participants. Register

to receive the Zoom program link and password. Time: 10:30-11am

For more information on this or other Think Make Create Week events, call 973-667-0405 ext. 2623 or visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org/

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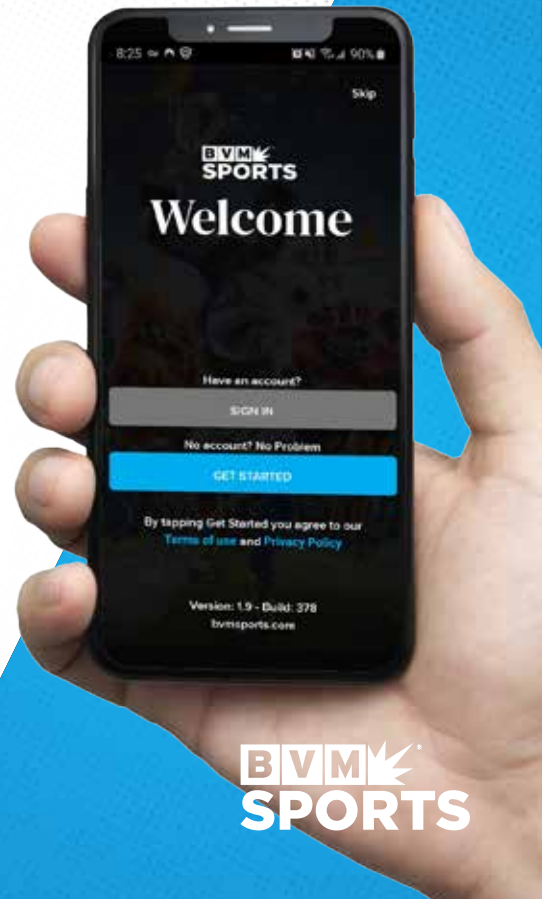
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