

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

Issue 102 • March 2024



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HAPPY 200-YEAR-OLD DOUBLE BIRTHDAY!

Submitted by Dr. D. Michael Hart

On Sunday, February 18, 2024, Marilyn Hart (98) and brother-in-law Joe Schott (102) celebrated their joint birthdays, totaling 200 years. Marilyn had married David Hart who had the same birthday as his sister Nancy Hart, who married Joe. The two couples only had two birthdays between the four of them, so they always celebrated together. David and Nancy have since passed away.

Forty-eight friends and family held a joint birthday celebration on Sunday, Feb 18, 2024 at Lantern Hill Retirement Community in New Providence, NJ.

Dr. Marilyn McGuire Hart was valedictorian of her high school class of 1944. After high school Marilyn worked for the phone company "Ma Bell" as a service representative. She eventually married David who was a teacher in Westfield, and they settled in Mountainside. After having 3 children, Marilyn started her college education. She finished her Ph.D. in Education 20 years later. Imagine 20 years of night school! During those wo decades, Marilyn was working, raising children, going to night school and volunteering in the community. She became a Full Professor, teaching Educational Psychology at Kean University, and was made Professor Emeritus upon her retirement. Her volunteer activities included serving as the Chair of the March of Dimes, Cub Scout Den Mother, Girls Softball League, Girl Scouts, and Mountainside Music Association. She was elected to the Regional High School Board of Education and served for 6 years, then subsequently ran for Mountainside Town Council and served for an additional six years. She was the first woman elected to the Council in 150

years, and eventually became the Council President. She advocated for women's rights including "equal pay for equal work" in the Township. Marilyn was married to David for 65 years. In addition to her 3 children, she has 7 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

Joe Schott was stationed overseas (Londonderry) in World War II, attended the same church for over 60 years, raised five children and was married to his wife Nancy for 66 years. He is very optimistic, has a good sense of humor, and is always looking at the bright side of life.

Joe served in the Navy during WWII, outfitting ships with radar in preparation for the D-Day Normandy Invasions. Joe is active in the VFW and served as Grand Marshall of the 2019 Fanwood Memorial Day Parade. His career after the Navy was in research at Bell Labs in Berkeley Heights, NJ, where he worked for time with a Nobel Prize laureate and met three others. During his lifetime Joe has done a lot of volunteer work, including 12 years of weekly visits with young boys at Children's Specialized Hospital, the Fanwood Recycling Center, several historical restorations in Fanwood, and as an Assistant Scoutmaster for the Fanwood Boy Scout Troop. One day, driving down the shore, Joe saw a young boy drowning. He stopped the car, swam out and saved the boy's life, and received accolades from the Township of Red Bank. After departing the Labs in 1984, Joe joined a group of retired men, which volunteers to help maintain the Boy Scout camps. The Boy Scouts of America have given him many awards including Trailblazer, Silver Beaver, and Camping Hall of Fame.





(above) Forty-eight friends and family held a joint birthday celebration for Marilyn Hart (98) and brother-in-law Joe Schott (102), on Sunday, Feb 18, 2024 at Lantern Hill Retirement Community in New Providence, NJ.

(above) Marilyn Hart (98) and brother-in-law Joe Schott (102) celebrated their joint birthdays, totaling 200 years.





Renna Media LLC, Publishers 202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

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Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (honor, award, etc.), send us your news! **Email: editor@rennamedia.com**

ADVERTISING Joe Renna: 908-447-1295 joerenna@rennamedia.com



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2024 WHARTON ARTS GALA - MARCH 7

On Thursday, March 7, 2024, Wharton Arts will honor award-winning jazz bassist, educator, and composer Rufus Reid with its Lifetime Achievement Award at its Annual Gala. An active presence in the jazz world since the 1970s, Reid has recorded over 500 albums and can be heard on recordings with Dexter Gordon, Andrew Hill, The Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Quartet, Kenny Barron, Stan Getz, J.J. Johnson, Lee Konitz, and Jack DeJohnette, among others. His reputation as an educator is equal to that of his musical achievements. Reid's book, The Evolving Bassist (Myriad Limited, 1974), remains the industry standard for double bass methodology. Reid and Dr. Martin Krivin created the Jazz Studies and Performance Bachelor of Music Program at William Paterson University, a program offering the first professional academically accredited Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies in the tri-state area.

The prestigious Wharton Arts Lifetime Achievement Award distinguishes individuals who, during their lifetime, have made creative contributions of outstanding artistic significance to the performing arts and represent a beacon of inspiration to Wharton Arts' students. Previous Wharton Arts Lifetime Achievement honorees were Jamie Bernstein, John Debney, Paul Shaffer, and Angel Blue.

Wharton Arts' Annual Gala will feature student performances and a live auction at the Westmount Country Club, 728 Rifle Camp Road in Woodland Park, NJ. To attend the gala and support Wharton Arts, including its silent auction, please visit WhartonArtsGala.org.

Wharton Arts' mission is to offer accessible, high quality performing arts education that sparks personal growth and builds inclusive communities.

Wharton Arts' vision is for a transformative performing arts education in an inclusive community to be accessible for everyone.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 12 counties. All of Wharton Arts' extraordinary teaching artists, faculty members, and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.



(above, l-r) Renowned Jazz Bassist Rufus Reid and The Discovery Orchestra's George Marriner Maull to be honored at the 2024 Wharton Arts Gala



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New Providence LanternHill.com

as per the Residence and Care Agreement.



Sunday Mornings 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Liturgies with Eucharist 8:45 a.m. Education Hour

Passion/Palm Sunday - March 24 8:00 a.m. Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy with Eucharist

Holy Thursday - March 28 12 noon Spoken Liturgy with Eucharist 7:30 p.m. Liturgy with Rite of First Holy Communion

Good Friday - March 29 12 noon Ecumenical Community Service 7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae

Holy Saturday - March 30 A Day of Silence, Prayer & Reflection

Easter Celebration - March 31 7:00 a.m. Memorial Garden Liturgy 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Liturgies with Eucharist

Visit our website or Facebook at Faith Lutheran, New Providence We practice an open Communion table. All are welcome!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



The Blanche M. and George L. Watts Mountainside Community Foundation annually provides one or more college scholarships to a graduating senior residing in Mountainside. The Foundation will also entertain applications from students applying to associate degree programs at community colleges and certificate programs at accredited technical or trade schools. The scholarship will be awarded based on financial need, academic competency (we are not necessarily looking for A students), community involvement and merit.

All applications must be completed and returned no later than April 1, 2024.

Visit **wattsmountainside.org** to submit a scholarship application & for eligibility requirements.

REGISTER FOR FAMILY COURSE ON COPING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

The Union County Chapter of The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI Union County) is offering its free annual 9-week course targeted towards families coping with mental illness. The course will start on Thursday, March 7, 2024 and meet weekly from 7:00pm – 9:30pm over a consecutive 9-week period. All necessary materials are furnished at no cost. This course is offered specifically to the parents, siblings, spouses, teenage and adult children, and significant others of individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The program is not appropriate for individuals who, themselves, suffer from one of the major mental disorders.

The course is taught by NAMI members who

have completed intensive training. Curriculum topics include schizophrenia, bipolar disorders (manic depression), clinical depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, etc., the clinical treatment of these illnesses and how caregivers can learn to copy more effectively. Attendees will learn about new research, medications, skills needed to successfully communicate with a relative, and how to deal with critical periods. Capacity is limited.

To register, or if you have questions, please contact Pat Roman at (732) 397-8123 or email at patroman2@aol.com. Please include "F2F Course" in the subject line. A F2F teacher will contact you with the details.



Hand-Tinted Vintage Photographs from Meiji Japan, 1880-1900

> March 14 - May 4, 2024 Liberty Hall Academic Center Gallery | Kean University 1003 Morris Ave, Bldg. 2 | Union, New Jersey Galleries.kean.edu | (908) 737-5301



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LANTERN HILL STAFF HELPS AT FOODBANK

Lantern Hill, the Erickson Senior Livingmanaged community in New Providence, NJ, provides a robust package of benefits that reflect its commitment to financial stability, health and well-being, and work-life balance. In addition to multiple health care plans and choices, Lantern Hill offers 40 paid community volunteer hours. Other benefits include tuition reimbursement, 401K with company match, generous paid time off, online training classes, advancement opportunities, and more.

GLHS PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE PERFORMS AT KEAN UNIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE CONCERT

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

Students from the GLHS Percussion Ensemble recently performed at a collaborative concert at Kean University recently. A video of the DHH (Deaf and Hard of Hearing) Percussion Workshop Ensemble was also shown to highlight the class.

The concert was a collaboration of students from Union County Public Schools, Kean University alumni/current students and faculty, as well as the Community Access Unlimited's Academy of Continuing Education. CAU provides support and gives a voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little support and no voice in society.

The event was a culmination of their musical experiences up until the event. It was a special evening for everyone involved and everyone in attendance. Congratulations to BHPS Staff Members Josef Ellis, Joseph Laurino, Scott Jonach (Student Teacher) and all of the student performers for being a part of this special event.



(above, l-r) Lantern Hill Business Office Manager Debra Vlahakis, Director of General Services Ed Zappile, and Housekeeping Manager, recently volunteered at the Community FoodBank of New Jersey in Hillside.



(above) GLHS Percussion Ensemble

Photo by Berkeley Heights Public Schools



Expires 3/31/24.





RENNA MEDIA LAUNCHES YOUTUBE PODCAST

Joe Renna

Renna Media has posted its first episode of "Mind Your Own Local Business," a podcast that gives advice on how to run a successful local business.

This is my 40th year in business and I draw from my experience and expertise to give advice. I have received so much help in my career from mentors and seasoned business owners, and this is a way to pay it forward.

I already offer free one-on-one consultation on putting together business plans and marketing plans. The show would be a way to reach many more people.

I started in business in 1984 as a graphic designer and grew into a full-service marketing and adverting company. Now, along with my wife Tina, we publish twenty-four community newspapers mailing out 160,000 to homes and businesses monthly.

Like the newspapers, the show will serve as a venue to support local community service organizations and events and production costs will be covered by advertisers. There are several marketing and advertising opportunities for businesses to be included with the freedom to be unique and creative.

I am looking forward to having a lot of fun doing the show. It is another application of my Do-What-You-Love mentality. The show is a free-form magazine format production that is flexible. I welcome business owners to join in the fun.

To learn more call me, 908-447-1295, or email joerenna@rennamedia.com.



Scan for First Episode of Mind Your Own Local Business on YouTube.



It would be a tremendous help if viewers Subscribe, Comment, Like & Share the shows.

LIBRARY PROGRAGMS

1 Constitution Plaza, Mountainside, NJ 07092 • 908-233-0115 • mountainsidelibrary.org Monday, Thursday: 9:30am - 8:00pm; Tuesday, Wednesday: 9:30am - 6:00pm; Friday: 9:30am - 5:00pm; Saturday: 9:30am - 5:00pm; Sundays: closed

Books and Bagels

March 1st at 10:30am. Join us to discuss what everyone is reading.

Enjoy coffee and bagels. Solar Eclipse Viewing

March 2nd from 3:00-4:00pm. Learn about space weather. John Miller of Pearl Observatory will be your guide. For ages 5 to

Adult. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Rain/cloud date is March 28th.

Book Club

March 4th at 6:30. The book this month is Crying in HMart by

Michelle Zauner. Zentangle Color Style

March 5th from 3:45-5pm.

Learn the building blocks of drawing and patterns and the techniques involved in creating Zentangle art. Materials will be provided.

Grades 4-8 (ages 9-4). Registration required.

After School Yoga

March 6th at 3:45pm. Grades K-2. Dress comfortably. Mats are provided. Register online, space is limited. Solar Viewing

March 7th from 3:45-4:45pm. Learn about space weather. See our sun from a safe solar telescope and view storms on its surface. View sun spots and solar flares. John Miller of Pearl Observatory will be your guide.

For ages 5 to Adult. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Register online.

Friends of the Mountainside Library **Book Sale Donations.** March 9th- 12th Friend of the Mountainside Library BOOK SALE March 13th-16th Cookbook Club at 6:30pm March 14th Rake and Hoe event from 1-3pm. March 19th **DIY Fiber Crafts** March 21st from 5:30-7pm. Read to a Therapy Dog. March 21st from 4-5pm Bring your favorite book to the library and read to Bubbles and Magnolia. Register online. Holi Event

March 23rd

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Mountainside Library will be having a Book Sale on the following dates:

- MARCH 13 12 NOON-5:30 PM
- MARCH 14 12 NOON-7:30 PM
- MARCH 15 & MARCH 16 10 AM 4:30 PM

Donations will be accepted during library hours only on March 9, 11 & 12.

Books and puzzles and games in good condition will also be accepted.

No reference books, dictionaries, textbooks or outdated travel books will be accepted.





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