Save the Mural
Painted by Michael Rex

In anticipation of the upcoming library renovation, some residents have asked what will happen to the library mural.

In 1994, funding for the Ida Benigno Children’s Room was given to the library in memory of Ida Marie Benigno by her husband Russell and daughters Rosemary Fuss and Valerie Olpp. A Chatham resident, Mrs. Benigno was a teacher at the Fairmount Avenue Elementary School and later a volunteer at Library of the Chathams.

Author/illustrator of Goodnight Goon, Michael Rex was commissioned to create original art in the Benigno Room where library programs and community meetings have been held ever since. Mr. Rex is the creator of more than 40 delightful books for children. He learned to draw in Chatham and studied at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Over the years, the walls and mural have been damaged, and they will be further affected by the planned renovation. The images will be preserved and moved to a new children’s program room on the upper level of the library through digitization. The library has initiated a Kickstarter campaign to raise funds for the project at chathamlibrary.org/save-the-mural/. We are excited for the opportunity to preserve this artwork for the enjoyment of current and future generations.
Programs and Events

Adults

JANUARY

C.A.L.L.: Art and Architecture of Rome
Mondays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27
11 am to 12:30 pm
See back cover for details.

Vaccines for Good Health
Tuesday, January 7 – 7 pm
Health Educator Amy Lewis from the Westfield Regional Health Department will provide an overview of new vaccine recommendations for adults. Included in this presentation will be a discussion concerning different flu vaccines, pneumonia vaccines, the updated shingles vaccine, and others.

Mahjong Lessons and Club
Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 – 1 to 3 pm
Would you like to learn how to play Mahjong? Here is your chance to learn from two experienced players. Class size is limited to 8, so please register early. Mahjong sets will be provided, but all players will need a 2019 Mahjong card. If you don’t have one, you can buy it at the library for $9. If you are already a Mahjong player and are looking for somewhere to play and partners to play with, come with your own set and card and enjoy the game!* 

Women’s Fight for Voting Rights and the 19th Amendment
Tuesday, January 14 – 7 pm
Attorney Sharon M. Hallanan, an active member of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation’s Speakers Bureau, will present a lecture on voting rights and the struggle for women to obtain the right to vote in the 20th century. New Jersey’s own Alice Paul, who was instrumental in advocating for the passage of the 19th Amendment, will be highlighted.

Keep This, Toss That for a Clutter-Free New Year
Wednesday, January 22 – 7 pm
Professional organizer and author Jamie Novak will present a workshop on getting organized this winter. You will learn simple strategies to get things together after the holidays, how to clear the closets, get the top of your table back and more.

C.A.L.L.: Watercolor Painting with Peggy Dressel
Thursdays & Fridays, January 24, 31; February 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21 – 10:30 am to 12 pm
See back cover for details.

ABCs of DNA: Introduction to Genetic Genealogy and Genomics
Monday, January 27 – 7 pm
Former science teacher Walter Choroszewski will discuss DNA testing and how to discover hidden information in one’s DNA. Walter decodes the confusing science of DNA and translates it into common language. He compares genetic testing companies and explains how to find your genetic relatives, biological origins, and more.

Book Group: The Overstory
Wednesday, January 29 – 1 pm
The group will discuss The Overstory by Richard Powers. You may pick up a copy of the book at the Information Desk.

* Sign up at www.chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

English as a Second Language

Thursdays, January 9 through February 27
1:30 to 2:30 pm
Registration required

For those wanting to improve their English language skills, we are starting our next cycle of ESL classes. The program will be conducted by LEARN Associates and volunteer tutors for 8 weeks. Students will be divided into small groups by skill level. Books and other learning materials will be provided. The program is free – all you need is a commitment to learn! Register online, in person, or call 973-635-0603.
## January 2020 Programs

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<td>Library Closed</td>
<td>Yoga Storytime 10, 10:45 am (C) Blood Pressure 11 am-12 pm (A)</td>
<td>Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)</td>
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<td>Stories with Librarian 10-10:30 am (C) Art and Architecture of Rome 11 am-12:30 pm (A) ShopRite Nutrition: Snow Day Snacks 4-5 pm (C)</td>
<td>Vaccines for Good Health 7 pm (A) Italian Conversation Group 7:15 pm (A)</td>
<td>Mahjong 1-3 pm (A) Gen Y Networking Group 7 pm (A)</td>
<td>Music with Carolyn Dempsey 10, 10:45 am (C) ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A) Movie Night 7 pm</td>
<td>Arcade Weekend 3-5:30 pm (All Ages)</td>
<td>Arcade Weekend 9:30 am-4 pm (All Ages) Super Smash Bros. Tournaments Ages 10 &amp; Under 11:30 am Ages 11 &amp; Up 2 pm</td>
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<td>Stories with the Librarian 10-10:30 am (C) Art and Architecture of Rome 11 am-12:30 pm (A)</td>
<td>Miss Jolie 10-10:45 am (C) Culinary Adventure: Poland and Ukraine 5-6 pm (C) 19th Amendment 7 pm (A)</td>
<td>Mahjong 1-3 pm (A) Homework Helpers 3-30-5 pm (C) Read Aloud to Therapy Dogs 4-5 pm (C)</td>
<td>Miss Carol Dance 10, 10:45 am (C) ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A) Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)</td>
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<td>Mahjong 1-3 pm (A) Gen Y Networking Group 7 pm (A) Keep This, Toss That 7 pm (A)</td>
<td>Jumpin’ Jamie 10, 10:45 am (C) ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A) Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C) Movie Night 7 pm</td>
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<td>Legopalooza! 2:30-4 pm (C)</td>
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### WINTER STORYTIME

Storytime is a progressive program for preschoolers and their caregivers. Registration is required and opens on Monday, January 13.

**Mondays, January 20 through March 9**
- 9:45 - 10:15 am: 24 months & younger
- 10:15 - 11 am: 3½ - 5 years
- 11 - 11:30 am: 2 - 3 years

**Tuesdays, January 21 through March 10**
- 10 - 10:30 am: 24 months & younger
- 10:30 - 11 am: 2 - 3 years

**Drop-In Storytime**

No registration required

January 25 through March 14
- 11 - 11:30 am: All Ages (Families)

### ATTENTION: FGWQG

214 Main Street • Chatham • NJ • 973-635-0603 • www.chathamlibrary.org

Mon-Thu 9:30 am - 9 pm • Fri 9:30 am - 6 pm • Sat 9:30 am - 5 pm • Sun 2 pm - 5 pm
## February 2020 Programs

<table>
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<td>Yoga Storytime 10, 10:45 am (C)</td>
<td>Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)</td>
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<td>Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)</td>
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**For preschoolers and their caregivers...**

**EVERY THURSDAY IS LIBRARY DAY!**

Choose either 10 - 10:30 am or 10:45 - 11:15 am  
No registration required

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yoga Storytime with Miss Rachael</th>
<th>Music with Carolyn Dempsey</th>
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<th>Jumpin’ Jamie Music and Puppets</th>
<th>Drop-In Crafts</th>
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<td>January 2</td>
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For more information, visit: [www.chathamlibrary.org](http://www.chathamlibrary.org)
**FEBRUARY**

**Income Tax Assistance**
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) will be held on **Wednesdays, February 5 to April 15 from 10 am to 2 pm.**
Appointments for this free service may be made in person or by calling the library at 973-635-0603. Please bring all your financial records from 2019, copies of your 2018 Federal and State tax returns, photo ID, all printed and blank forms from the Internal Revenue Service, and proof of Social Security Number for all dependents.

**The Beatles: The Beginnings**
**Friday, February 7 – 7 pm**
Liverpool native John Groom will speak about the Beatles before they became famous. Mr. Groom lived in the same village as John Lennon and George Harrison and went to the same high school as John Lennon and Paul McCartney. His presentation will give a description of Liverpool during the 50s and 60s, the Beatles’ families, musical influences, as well as The Quarrymen, the group formed by Lennon which evolved into the Beatles.

**Essex Water Color Club Art Show**
**Opening reception Sunday, February 9 – 2:15 to 4 pm**
The Essex Water Color Club, the oldest watercolor club in New Jersey, will hold its annual show through February. **Reception sponsored by Friends of the Library**

**Medicare Basics for Boomers**
**Monday, February 10**
(***snow date Monday, February 24) – 7 pm***
Neil Berger, advisor and educator, will discuss Medicare issues including the impact COBRA will have on Medicare, working past retirement age, how Medicare coordinates with group health insurance, and other concerns. A question and answer session will follow the lecture. *

* Sign up at www.chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

**Emily Dickinson’s Gardening Life with Marta McDowell**
**Sunday, February 23 – 2:30 pm**
Marta McDowell, Chatham resident, Master Gardener, author, and instructor of landscape history at the New York Botanical Garden, will speak about her recent book *Emily Dickinson’s Gardening Life.* She will describe the flowers Emily Dickinson grew at her family home in Amherst, Massachusetts, and how they were an inspiration for her poetry.

**Book Group: *Mrs. Everything***
**Wednesday, February 26 – 1 pm**
The group will discuss *Mrs. Everything* by Jennifer Weiner. You may pick up a copy of the book at the Information Desk.

**Programs and Events**

**Teens**

All Teen programs and events sponsored by Friends of the Library, unless noted otherwise

**JANUARY**

**Video Game Club**
**Fridays, January 3, 17, 24 & 31; February 7 & 21 – 3 to 4:45 pm**
**Grades 6 to 12**
Stop by to play Super Smash Bros. Ultimate for Nintendo Switch on the big screen! Feel free to bring your own Joy-Cons or Switch Pro controller.

**Arcade Weekend**
**Friday, January 10 – 3 to 5:30 pm**
**Saturday, January 11 – 9:30 am to 4 pm**
**All Ages**
This event is for all gamers out there – teenagers, children and their parents. There will be many systems set up to play, from the original Atari, Nintendo, and Sega consoles to newer systems like the Nintendo Switch. **In Memory of Alexander Butta**

**Super Smash Bros. Tournaments**
**Saturday, January 11**
Registration opens Friday, December 27
**Limit: 16 players per tournament**
**Ages 10 & Under – 11:30 am**
**Ages 11 & Up – 2 pm**
Prizes will be awarded in each tournament: $25 GameStop gift card for 1st place and $15 GameStop gift card for 2nd place.
**Sponsored by Friends of the Library**
Programs and Events

Children

All Children’s programs and events made possible by
Friends of the Library

JANUARY

**Stories with the Librarian**
Mondays, January 6 & 13 – 10 to 10:30 am
All Ages
No registration required
Children and caregivers can enjoy stories and songs.

**ShopRite Nutrition: Snow Day Snacks**
Monday, January 6 - 4 to 5 pm
Ages 5 to 8
Limit: 15 children
Registration opens Thursday, December 26
Join Tory, ShopRite Registered Dietitian, to celebrate winter and make some healthy snow day snacks.

**Arcade Weekend**
Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11
See Teen section for details.

**Winter Move & Groove with Miss Jolie!**
Tuesday, January 14 – 10 to 10:45 am
For preschoolers and their caregivers
No registration required
Join us for a Winter Move & Groove with Miss Jolie! We will celebrate the winter season by singing, dancing, twirling, clapping, and more! Miss Jolie will be performing interactive songs with her ukulele along with other musical instruments and props for the children.

**Culinary Adventure Around the World: Poland and Ukraine**
Tuesday, January 14 – 5 to 6 pm
Ages 8 & Up
Limit: 20 children
Registration opens Thursday, January 2
Come and learn how to make desserts from two Eastern European countries - Poland and Ukraine. You will make and taste babka (sweet bread) and sour cream poppy seed cake. We will also listen to the countries’ music and learn a bit of their culture.
This Cultural Committee of the Chathams program is presented by Deirdre Rajoppi.

* Sign up at www.chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

FEBRUARY

**Free SAT Practice Test**
Saturday, February 1 (snow date February 8)
10 am to 2 pm
Registration required
Take this free, full-length practice test administered by Princeton Review. See how you would do if you took the test without it appearing on your official record. You will get your score in 2 weeks. Arrive at 9:45 am, bring a calculator and #2 pencils. *

**Jacob Mathews Concert**
Saturday, February 1 (snow day February 8)
2:30 pm
Jacob launched his musical career in 2016 with the release of his EP *Roads Unknown*. 2019 was a big year for Mathews with the release of two seven-track original albums, *A Fool’s Paradise* and *Inspire*. Jacob has played Chatham’s Relay For Life, National Night Out, Colony Pool, and many other town events. He is coming back to the library to perform for the fourth time with brand new originals and sing-along covers of classic rock songs for all to enjoy!

**Teen Anti-Valentine’s Day Party**
Friday, February 14 – 3 to 4:30 pm
Grades 6 to 12
Not in the mood to celebrate this Hallmark holiday? Whatever reason you have for not loving Valentine’s Day, from heartbreak to just not liking the color pink, we have a party to help you forget all of that. Bring your friends and join us at our Anti-Valentine’s Day Party for snacks, crafts, games, and fun!
CHESS FOR KIDS
Thursdays, January 16 through February 20
Registration opens Thursday, January 2
Register only if you can attend all 6 classes.

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<th>Group 1:</th>
<th>Group 2:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Players with little or no experience with chess</td>
<td>Players who can finish a game with checkmate</td>
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<td>4 – 4:45 pm</td>
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<td>Suggested ages 6 to 8</td>
<td>Suggested ages 8 &amp; Up</td>
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<td>Limit: 12 children</td>
<td>Limit: 16 children</td>
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Chess instructor and Class A player Max Farberov will lead this series of Chess for Kids.

Library Cinema
Monday, January 20 (MLK Day) – 2 pm
All Ages
Bring a mat or a pillow to get comfortable. We’ll provide the popcorn.

FEBRUARY

ShopRite Nutrition: Heart Health Month
Monday, February 3 – 4 to 5 pm
Ages 5 to 8 Limit: 15 children
Registration opens Monday, January 20
February is Heart Health Month! Join Tory, ShopRite Registered Dietitian, to talk about red fruits and vegetables, how they are beneficial to your heart and to make a nutritious and tasty red treat!

Cheerful Hearts
Monday, February 17 (Presidents’ Day) – 2 pm
All Ages
Bring a mat or a pillow to get comfortable. We’ll provide the popcorn.

Culinary Adventure Around the World: The Netherlands
Tuesday, February 18 – 5 to 6 pm
Ages 8 & Up Limit: 20 children
Registration opens Tuesday, February 4
February is Heart Health Month! Join Tory, ShopRite Registered Dietitian, to talk about red fruits and vegetables, how they are beneficial to your heart and to make a nutritious and tasty red treat!

Paper Mill Playhouse
Children’s Theater on Tour Performs Seussical Jr.
Thursday, February 6 – 4 to 5 pm
Ages 4 & Up Audiences limit: 100
The Cat in the Hat narrates the story of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing tiny people called the Whos. Horton must protect the Whos, and although he faces ridicule and danger, ultimately the powers of friendship, loyalty and family emerge triumphant!

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Homework Helpers
Wednesdays, January 15 & 29
February 12 & 26 – 3:30 to 5 pm
Grades K – 5 Limit: 6 children per session
Registration opens two weeks prior to each session
Two Chatham High School students will provide homework help for children in grades K to 5. All subjects welcome!

Read Aloud to Therapy Dogs
Wednesdays, January 15 & February 19
4 to 5 pm Grades K & Up
Sit down and read your favorite book to a gentle and loving therapy dog certified by St. Hubert’s.

Legopalooza!
Sundays, January 26 & February 23
2:30 to 4 pm All Ages
Build your own LEGO creation from our enormous collection of LEGOs. Creations will be displayed in the Children’s Room.
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Featured Programs

Art and Architecture of Rome
Mondays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27 – 11 am to 12:30 pm
Rita Keane, Associate Professor of Art History at Drew University, and Margaret Kuntz, Professor of Art History at Drew University, will present this four-part course. The course will consider the art and architecture of the city of Rome from its origins to the seventeenth century. We will discover a history of Rome through the study of its monuments and how works of art and architecture reflected and created ideological currents (political, religious, and social) in the ancient, medieval, Renaissance and Baroque city. A fee of $40 will be charged for the series or $10 per individual class.

Watercolor Painting
Thursdays & Fridays, January 24, 31; February 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21
10:30 am to 12 pm
Back by popular demand, Peggy Dressel will teach this course in watercolor painting. This series of 8 lessons will cover the basics of watercolor, such as picking a palette, how to mix colors, and different watercolor techniques. You do not have to know how to draw to take this course. A demonstration will be given at each class. A fee of $80 will be charged for the course. In addition, students will need to purchase supplies. The list of supplies will be available on the library’s website and at the library.