TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hereby Issue This Proclamation on **May 3, 2016**

PROCLAMATION

Declaring May as Mental Health Awareness Month

Whereas Tens of millions of Americans face mental health conditions like depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia or post-traumatic stress disorder. During National Mental Health Awareness Month, we reaffirm our commitment to building our understanding of mental illness, increasing access to treatment and ensuring that those who are struggling know they are not alone; and

Whereas Over the course of a year, one in four adults will experience a mental illness, yet less than half will receive treatment. Too often mental health is regarded as different from other forms of health, yet like any disease, mental illnesses can be treated. However, left untreated mental illness can become worse; and

Whereas By building an open dialogue we can encourage support and respect for those struggling with mental illness; Part of that dialogue involves training Police Officers who are often the first responders to a situation involving a person in psychiatric crisis. Essex County Crisis Intervention Team ("CIT") training provides participants with knowledge and de-escalation skills which may decrease the necessity to use force in certain situations, thus protecting both the officers involved and the person in crisis; and

Whereas The Nutley Police Department has been active in CIT training, with Officer Mathew Canova, Sergeant Michael Kraft, Sergeant Tiffany McDermott, Detective Tom Perrota, Officer Gerard Tusa, Officer Carla Vitale and Lieutenant Kevin Watts receiving instruction in CIT procedures; now therefore

Be it Resolved, by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, does hereby proclaim May 2016 as ***MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH*** and recognizes the important contributions made by the Essex County Crisis Intervention Team and the Nutley Police Department working to improve and possibly save lives affected by mental illness.

Issued by Commissioner Joseph P. Scarpelli May 3, 2016

Township of Nutley

The Board of Commissioners Hereby Issue This Proclamation

WHEREAS, Alfred Charles Welenofsky was born in 1937 and moved to Nutley in 1940, graduating from Nutley High School in 1955.

WHEREAS, in October 1949, Al joined Nutley Scout Troop 147 at the age of 12, under the leadership of Scoutmaster James Swan; and

WHEREAS, he entered the United States Navy and served as a radioman, advancing to Second Class petty officer. Discharged in 1958, at the age of 21, Welenofsky began planning his first great adventure which included a cross continental canoe trip with his partner Ted Nothaft; and

WHEREAS, in April of 1959 he started his trip from the mouth of the Columbia River which took one year and four days canoeing 4,300 miles. On April 9, 1960, they paddled their canoe **Endurance** up the Passaic River to the Dock Street Marina boat landing in Nutley, where Mayor Harry W. Chenoweth presented the canoeists Keys to the Town of Nutley followed by a parade up Centre Street with Scouts and Nutley Citizens. Welenofsky has canoed 11,027 miles throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, after his enlistment in the Navy, Welenofsky earned a bachelor's degree in special education and a master's degree in reading specialization. He started teaching handicapped students in 1965 and last taught at the MLK School No. 6 in Passaic before he retired in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Welenofsky is also an avid mountain climber. He has reached the highest point in 49 of 50 states, two territories, Washington DC and the highpoints of 12 countries, including 19,340-foot Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa and Japan's Mt. Fuji; and

WHEREAS, he is a recipient of the Nutley Jaycess Young Man Award and the Virginius D. Mattia Distinguished Community Service Award for his commitment and service to Scouting. In 2011 he was inducted into the Nutley Hall of Fame. In April, 2014 Al received the Unit Leader Award of Merit from the Northern New Jersey Council, Boy Scouts of America. He has also been the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award, the highest Council recognition; and

WHEREAS, he never lost his passion for scouting. In 1965, he became the Scoutmaster of Troop 147 and held that position until February 2000. In February 2008, he again became Scoutmaster and has totaled more than 43 years in this position. His lifetime dedication to scouting has brought him through over 60 years of his life; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of Commissioners, Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that Alfred Welenofsky be recognized and congratulated on his lifelong achievement and commitment to the Boy Scouts of America.

Issued by Mayor Alphonse Petracco May 3, 2016