

Appearing Nightly (and Daily!) in Nutley: The Petillo Family

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No Fooling, It's April!

April (and this issue!) is packed with amazing events!

As I was preparing these articles for publication, I was impressed with the interesting, creative, and empathic Nutley community. The issue you are about to read truly has a cross section of everything that makes this town special.

April is Autism Awareness Month and we have three articles that will offer different perspectives. Two are written by parents of an autistic child and their words are heartfelt and memorable.

April is also National Volunteer Month. The staff at Nutley Family Service Bureau is applauding all the people who help at the thrift shop and food pantry. This organization benefits our community daily and each and every person who volunteers or donates to this group is a treasure to our entire town.

These pages also highlight residents who are musical. Yes, that is our own Tom Petillo on the cover. As a member of the group, the Duprees, his voice has been heard by fans all over the world. Yet, we also have a hometown hero, David Gilbert, whose music was heard by presidents and dignitaries across the globe.

But Nutleyites also paint and write books. Gary Erbe is truly a great American artist and his paintings have been seen by people across the United States and Europe. His book, Footprints: The Art and Life of Gary Erbe details the work of this Trompe L'oiel artist. (Be sure to check the Calendar of Events to see when he will be signing his book at the library.)

And yes, we have another author here in town. Brian Ostrowski recently published his fourth children's book and it is delightful! (It made me think of Dr. Seuss!)

Are you ready to read about all these great people?

No fooling—April's issue of *Nutley Neighbors* will make your day and month!







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Expert Contributors





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Michael S. Cocco, CFP®, ChFC® is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional with AXA Advisors, LLC where he provides Financial Planning, Investment Advice, and Insurance Planning for

his clients. Mike is a graduate of Penn State University and a lifelong Nutley resident.

Salvatore Cocco, Jr. CLU has been with AXA Advisors, LLC since 1995 and has practiced as a generalist in all disciplines of the financial planning services including Investment Planning, Retirement Planning, College Savings, and Insurance. He is a 1977 graduate of Seton Hall University and was inducted into their Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame



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Dr. Steven Clarke is a nationally acclaimed chiropractic physician who has practiced in Nutley since 1983. He has had extensive experience with virtually every type of pain condition and has worked with tens of thousands of patients throughout the

tri-state area. He was elected and served as the state president of the chiropractic association for four consecutive years and has been a strong advocate of patient rights speaking in Trenton and Washington, DC. He was named New Jersey Chiropractor of the Year for 2006



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still resides in his home town. He is a graduate of both Nutley High School and Montclair State University.



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122 Hawthorne Ave	\$436,000	4	2	2183
533 Coventry Dr	\$440,000	2	3	1966
135 Stratford Dr	\$450,000	2	3	1578
154 Coeyman Ave	\$455,000	3	2	1585
349 Wilshire Dr	\$508,000	2	4	2000
43 Church St	\$510,000	3	2	1560
23 Cottage Pl	\$529,000	3	3	
73 Cathedral Ave	\$530,000	3	3	3780
63 Plymouth Rd	\$560,000	4	4	2792
138 Spatz Ave	\$648,880	5	4	3700

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Appearing Nightly (and Daily!) in Nutley—The Petillo Family

By Joyce Corey Cover Photograph by Photo Arts Productions

"Have you heard?"

If that question made you hum, yes, you have heard - about the Duprees and lead singer, Tom Petillo. ("Have You Heard?" was one of the group's big hits and Tom's voice as lead singer was memorable!) In 1978, Petillo auditioned for the group, was immediately accepted, and performed the following week at the Walker Theater in Brooklyn.

"As I walked out on the stage, it was surreal but felt very natural at the same time," he recalled. "I knew I belonged there," he said. Tom and his family also belong in another special place - right here in Nutley. "Marina and I met in 1995 while working together at her family's restaurant the Gondola in Nutley and married in August 2000," he said. The Riverview Court Apartments have been their home since 2010.

Tom has high praise for his neighbors. "We like the location as well as the interaction with other residents and enjoy a 'meet your neighbor party' annually sponsored by the property owners. Marina is a hands-on gal who loves what she does including being a wife, mother,

homemaker, business woman, my personal manager, while being self-giving to family and friends."

"We moved here when Marina accepted a job as a property manager and is currently a regional manager for Petrucci Development," he tells us.

Tom has three sons, Tom Jr., age 35, Mike Migliorati, age 31, and Luciano Petillo, age 19. Tom Jr. works on the

New York Stock Exchange. Mike is a regional maintenance supervisor and Luciano is a maintenance technician, both with Petrucci Builders.

His parents settled here in Nutley in 1965 and Tom enjoys the atmosphere of this town. "Although the town is changing, it still has a small community feel. There are many community support groups for seniors, great parks from one end of town to the other, and the Department of Public Works is outstanding." Tom currently works for the Township of Nutley.

But how did Tom go from a Nutley neighborhood to



Left to right: wife, Marina Moroni Petillo; son, Luciano Petillo, 19; mother-in-law visiting from Italy, Ada Moroni; son, Michael Migliorati, 31; Tommy Petillo

behind the microphone with the Duprees?

We Need More Love Songs is not only the title of Petillo's book but may answer that question. It will also explain why he chose doo-wop as the focus of his musical career. "I was born a decade too late for the music I longed for," he said. "The book is about my journey in an era and style of music much underrated. It's been said the connotations of

the word 'doo-wop' undermine respect for the music they said would never last. What they didn't count on were the hearts and fans of the doo-wop community who have kept the music alive. This book is not meant to be an intellectual or psychological x-ray into the music business but more a diary into my lifelong passion for singing in a vocal group on the oldies circuit."

Tom's choice of music growing up included the icons of the 1950s, particularly vocal harmony groups, such as the Ink Spots, the Coasters, and the Platters. Music played a big role in his life and he harmonized with

Feature Story Sponsored by Pro Staff Institute of Physical Therapy



friends every chance he got.

He graduated high school in 1969 and joined the Army Military Police, after serving his time in Okinawa during the Vietnam War. When his service ended in 1972, he and four other men formed a vocal harmony group called Parkway. They played the nightclub circuit during the 1970s.

In 1978, he joined the Duprees and left a lasting legacy. Tom Petillo was the last lead singer to perform with the original Duprees. The group has been performing onstage for 40 years.

The official website for the group says this about him: "Tommy's dynamic vocals are the true essence of what have always been the heart, soul, and voice of the Duprees." (www.duprees.com)

The Duprees are known for their romantic interpretations of the most beautiful love songs every written. They have made a career out of giving new life to old hits. This is in complete harmony, not only with Tom's musical talent, but his personal view on life.

His book, We Need More Love Songs is Tom's hope as well as his philosophy. He said, "I invite people to read my perspective of what it took to make a lifetime of music in the doo wop community." Yet, this story also shows the influence of a man whose favorite words to live by are: "Treat everyone as we would want to be treated" and "Don't give in to negativity."

Tom Petillo has put a lot of love in his family life, his neighborhood, and his musical career. He has hit all the

high notes and continues to touch audiences with his amazing and heartfelt vocals.

Be sure to check out Tom Petillo's book. We Need More Love Songs is available on Amazon.



Things the Petillo Family Love About Nutley

- 1. Small community feel
- **2.** Many community support systems for seniors
- **3.** Great parks from one end of town to the other
- 4. Clean community
- **5.** Great snow removal and Department of Public Works

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 jhandzo@bestversionmedia.com





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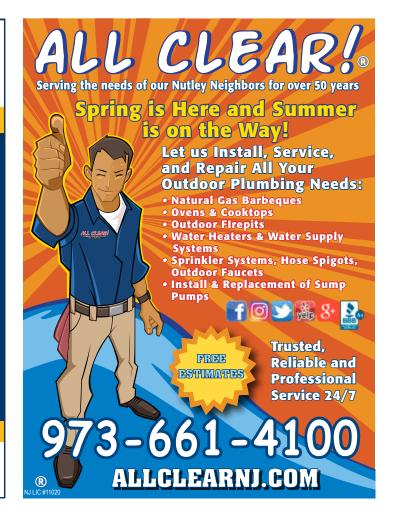
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The Nutley Chamber of Commerce 19th Annual 5K Fun Run



By Joyce Corey

n Sunday, May 6, 2018, more than 300 runners from across the Northeast will line up at the Start line for a race in which everyone wins. How is that possible? Mike Zippo, local business owner since 1974 and Chamber member for 20 years, tells us about the 'real' goal line for this event.

Mike said, "Our goal is to help support the community by giving the event proceeds each year to a local charitable or civic organization. This year we will be donating the money to benefit our local veterans through AMVETS, the VFW, the American Legion as well as to disabled veterans in Nutley and Belleville."

This group of people is especially close to Mike's heart. "We have supported many causes and I think on our 20th anniversary, nothing could be better than for us to honor our veterans," he said. "It's great to see people come out along the race route to root for their family members and friends."

The 20th anniversary of this event coincides with the length of time Mike has been coordinating it. "I have been a runner most of my life and even competed in the New York City Marathon, the Marine Corps Marathon and Philadelphia Marathon. I thought it would be a good idea to start a 5K here in town to bring in visitors who can enjoy the great atmosphere and support our community."

This turned out to be an excellent idea and the event is now seen as a springtime

township tradition that attracts runners from across the Northeast. "I also want to thank all the volunteers and local businesses who have helped with the race throughout the years and made it so successful."

Mike is very enthusiastic about the expected turnout for this year's race. And he also gives us the perfect insight into how everyone wins.

"Whether you run or whether you walk the 3.1 miles across town, you will be enjoying a fun day in Nutley," he said.

This will also be a great family day with special events for children. Mike tells us, "There will be a Kid's Run for children 6 to 8 years old and a short sprint for those 5 years and younger."

To further honor our veterans Mike is asking all runners to "to come dressed as your favorite branch of military. We will also be offering trophies, door prizes, and T-shirts."

For more information regarding the 5K Fun Run and Kids Fun Run, call 973-667-5300 or visit NutleyChamber.

Hope to see many of you at the Start line! All of us in Nutley 'win' when we support our community.



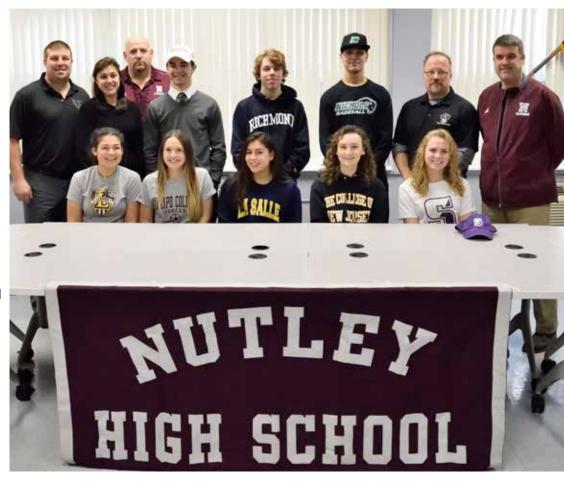
Nutley Student Athletes on **National Signing Day**

By Michael Stefanelli

his past February we celebrated National College Athletics Signing Day.

Congratulations to the Nutley High School's senior student athletes who signed binding national letters of intent to play collegiate sports at these schools.

Back Row From Left to Right: Coach Mike DiPiano, Assistant Coach Adina Corasiniti, Athletic Director Joe Piro, Frank DeMaio, Jimmy Quinn, Dan Caraballo, Coach Bill Harbison, Principal Denis Williams. Front Row From Left to Right: Jillian DeSantis, Maisie Jelley, Isabella Gonsiewski, Ellie McCreesh, Lauren Holden





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Dr. Seth Queler specializes in the treatment of foot and ankle disorders including ankle arthritis, flatfoot deformity and bunion deformity, and performs arthroscopy and arthroplasty of the ankle.



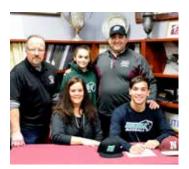
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Lauren Holden. Coach Mike DiPiano, parents Tom and Jen. Lauren will be attending Scranton University and playing soccer.



Dan Caraballo. Coach Bob Harbison, parents Ozzie and Lori. sister Jessica. Dan will be attending Nicholas College and playing baseball.



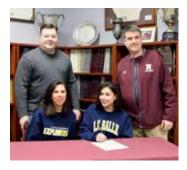
Maisie Jelley, Coach Mike DiPiano, parents Jon and Kara. Maisie will be attending Ramapo College and playing soccer.



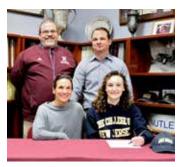
Jillian DeSantis, Coach Mike DiPiano, father Cesare, Jillian will be attending LaSalle University and playing soccer.



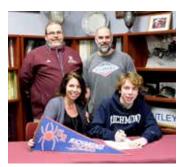
Frank DiMaio, Coach Mike DiPiano, parents Frank and Jodi. Frank will be attending Delaware Valley University for Wrestling.



Isabella Gonsiewski, parents Rick and Yvonne, Principal Denis Williams. Isabella will be attending LaSalle University and playing soccer.

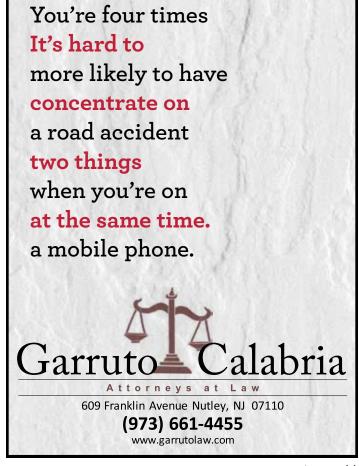


Ellie McCreesh, Coach Gerald Ryan, parents Jeff and Loren. Ellie will be attending The College of New Jersey for track & field.



Jimmy Quinn, Coach Gerald Ryan, parents Jim and Jen. Jimmy will be attending the University of Richmond for cross country





Blessings from Challenges

By Kathy Meyer-Crane

aving a child with special needs may be one of the most difficult challenges a parent has to face. I have learned many life lessons from my third son, Ben, who was diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum disorder at the age of three.

He was just the most beautiful baby. My husband and I, along with our first two sons, were thrilled to have a chubby new addition to the family. There was no indication anything was wrong at his birth. It was a complete and total shock to hear at

age two that he was showing signs of autism and to eventually receive that diagnosis.

After many years of working with therapists, he has come a long way and we are so proud of him, but he continues struggling to learn and especially to speak. It is amazing how easy and natural it is for typical children to learn to speak, and how excruciating it is for Ben. I will never forget when he finally said "I love you" at around age eleven! In fact, whenever he says anything it makes us all so happy. That was one of the first life lessons: take nothing for granted. Because of Ben we are able to appreciate the little things in life.

Benjamin brings us joy every day in the little accomplishments he makes, and in his sweet and gentle nature. Like all people, he has many gifts and one of the most cherished right now is his ability to be "in the moment." He is not worried about the future or hanging on to the past with resentment. He is right here, right now. If he could talk he would be the perfect teacher of "mindfulness." He brings us all back to the moment which I am told is all we really have anyway.

People ask me all the time "How do you do it?" regarding raising Ben. What they don't know is that my typical kids are the tough ones right now. For any parent dealing







with teenagers I say, "Don't feel bad for me, I am blessed by Autism." Being a parent is demanding no matter how you look at it. It has been the greatest joy and definitely the greatest challenge of my life.

I did not know that this would happen to my family, but to be honest, I would not change a thing. We don't always get to choose what life hands us, but we do get to choose how we handle it. I choose to be grateful for the gift of my differently-abled son who has brought such joy to my family. Ben blesses all who meet him too. So perhaps he is a gift to the world?

Please visit Kathy Meyer-Crane's website: www.thejourneyspiritualcenter.org

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Traveling with Benjamin

By Dave Wilson

This article is based on an interview with his niece, Kathy Meyer-Crane.

raveling with an autistic child presents many hurtles and planning is a must. A change of housing, bedding, food, clothes, and new

exposures may cause anxiety in the child or upset their balance and routines. This is the story of Benjamin, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who is high functioning physically and mechanically, but low functioning conversationally and emotionally. At home, many areas interest him and damage is quite frequent to bathrooms, walls, switches, and anything that can be broken, clogged or flooded. He figures out many deterrent devices. "Evolving childproofing" is what we call our efforts to stay one step ahead of his abilities!

Ben likes being in the minivan and associates trips with good times and fun. Food treats, picture books, talking, and music keep Ben entertained and content. He wears his seat belt, but is quite capable of unlatching it and moving about the car. A locking seat belt kit does exist and a seat belt cutter must be available in case of an emergency requiring escape. The electric windows and

door locks must be disabled so he can't escape or open windows and throw things out. A vehicle placard alerts emergency responders in the event of a crash or other

> calamity. Wristlets imprinted with "Autistic", similar to a medical alert bracelet, are helpful.

Vehicle keys can never be left in the ignition or laying around for him to pick up and use or throw away. Spare keys and remotes are a must

when traveling. Baby wipes and toilet paper are always onboard. Traveling potty-chairs and urinals help prevent accidents between rest stops.

Motels and hotels with common hallways, parking lots outside the door and people, are less desirable for lodging. Rental houses with fenced yards are best to control elopement and provide privacy. Non-damaging travel locks secure exterior doors and mechanical rooms. Keeping the house damage-free to avoid security rent forfeiture is a benefit to a good plan.

Swimming poses a huge challenge. Beach outings are being curtailed as Ben has become a stronger swimmer venturing too far out and for too long. Lake trips that limit the swimming area and allow for a boat or kayak escort return a level of safety and peace of mind for the family. Protected swim areas require check-in and familiarization so the lifeguards are aware that whistles, shouts, or hand signals are not understood. Ben will not wear a PFD or other safety item, but knows how to float and swim while conserving energy. The return to shore must be coordinated with a "receiver person" who intercepts Ben, so he does not run towards other bathers' blankets, food, and toys. His mother recommends all parents take water safety

The recreation areas they use are family-friendly with kind, understanding, and helpful people. Ben's parents have been amazed that Special Ed teachers and foster parents offer to help when Ben has a meltdown. Parental relaxation is hard to come by, but the change of scenery is good for the entire family.

Every special needs person acts differently. This story is meant to raise your awareness and instill compassion for autistic people and their families.



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Nutley Embraces Autism All Year Round By Kimberley Donohoe

his magazine celebrates Nutley and there is a lot to celebrate. It's evidenced by monthly articles about why our town is a great place to live and work. Autism, that complex word that evokes so many emotions and guestions, is also a huge part of our fabric as a wonderful community.

If you take a good look around you will see so many people coming together to welcome the autism community into the fold. As the parent of a teenager with autism, I have a front seat to all that goes on. Yes, we have the autism program in our public schools, which

is successfully run by many caring people, as well as the Phoenix Center which does the insurmountable job of teaching and training those with the most difficulties. We have the Scarpelli Civic Association, which fundraises and supports our schools. The Nutley Family Service Bureau supports mental health and embraces people's differences in many tangible ways, helping people of all backgrounds and capabilities to cope in an otherwise chaotic world. Those groups alone, and trust me there are countless others (such as the Special Young Adults and the Fun For All Program run by Parks and Recreation) do a

lot for our autism community on a daily basis.

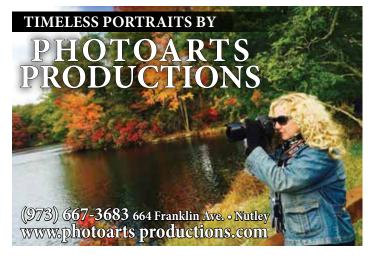
But beyond those groups Nutley has local businesses willing to train and employ our kids. Nutley Public Library not only puts on programs for kids with autism, they have patience and compassion to help them when they come into the children's room to explore and learn. Restaurants in town not only support fundraisers, they allow us to bring in outside food so that we can enjoy a meal as a family. They have never said no when my son wanted to order from the kids' menu because he just has to have chicken nuggets or grilled cheese, and of course the free ice cream or kids'

dessert.

It's the clients I have who come to me because of my personal and professional experience with autism. A lot of times I learn from them as much as they do from me. Or they may come to me for something entirely else and then share their experiences surrounding autism. They ask questions, they show compassion, they connect me with other people struggling with autism. They want to help.

Our community of school teachers, counselors, aides, administrators, support staff, first responders, and everyone who lives and shops in Nutley are the people the kids see in their neighborhoods. They are familiar faces in a loud world. They are excited to see our kids on Saturday morning at the grocery store, walking their neighborhood and carrying on with errands. They take the time in this busy world to stop and give that person with autism just that extra couple seconds so that they can process and respond, all the time teaching them social skills and coping mechanisms, many times without even realizing it. They touch our lives every day naturally, not because they are paid to do it but because they have compassion and a sense of community.

The way our community embraces our challenges and supports families struggling with autism is just one more way this town is a great place to live and grow up with the struggles of autism. It's Autism Awareness Month every month in Nutley.





The President's Musical Marine: Staff Sergeant David Gilbert By Frankie Turano



I consider anyone who has served our beloved country in some capacity to be my hero. The sheer audacity to place yourself in a position to help others, strangers no less, so that the element of peace can blanket the land of the free, is at the very least, admirable. The quest in this issue is to define the word 'service.'

I want to tell you about a Marine who never had basic training. He never fired a machine gun or maneuvered a tank. He never stormed a beach or parachuted out of a plane. How, do you ask, is this even remotely possible?

Staff Sergeant David Gilbert is not only a close family friend, but he is also a brilliant and distinguished musician, a gentleman above all other men, and a very wise and astute human being. He had the esteemed honor of serving in the prestigious Marine Band, also known as "The President's Own."

Marines have the distinction of being the best of the best and this applies to musicians as well. The flute was



his weapon of choice and he discovered it at a very young age. Between the ages of ten and thirteen, he was winning state contests and eventually, a full scholarship at Eastman College. After receiving his Master's degree, he traveled to Washington D.C. and was accepted into the Marine Band. It is the only group of military personnel who do not have to partake in basic training.

"All of the Marine Band members are sergeants, although you can get promoted up the ranks, all the way to full colonel," David explained. "Our barracks were located in Washington D.C. since we performed at the White House often. At the time it was just men, but times have changed, thank goodness, and many well deserving and qualified women now serve as well."

I asked David what the environment at the White House was like. "It was fascinating. To be a part of something so historic, not only the building in which we performed, but to be a part of an organization that once had the great John Philip Sousa as an early conductor, was sometimes beyond comprehension. I arrived when President Eisenhower was occupying the White House. His wife, Mamie, was a lovely person, very friendly and gracious. Then John F. Kennedy was elected president. I performed at his inauguration and had the honor of appearing in the photo during his iconic speech."

During his years in the Marine Band, David said he had met astronaut John Glenn, French general and statesman Charles de Gaulle, First Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Nikita Khrushchev, and many other dignitaries. It was one of the benefits while performing light diner music nightly at the White House. Afterwards, the Kennedys would move the gathering from the dining room to a formal room, and the musicians were able to sit down for coffee and ice cream. David said, "It was the finest coffee and ice cream that I had ever tasted."

I asked if there were any traditions amongst the musicians. "Yes," he stated. "On New Year's morning, at precisely 7:30 am, the band would stand outside the commandant's house and serenade him and his wife as they stood on their balcony. We would all be invited in afterwards where other top brass were waiting for us, and we would then be served hot buttered rum as a thank you and recognition."

David Gilbert retired from the Marines and went on to be the principal guest conductor of the Beijing Central Philharmonic. He was the first American musician to hold a position of prominence in China, and he was instrumental in rebuilding that nation's major symphonic orchestra. He also won first prize in the 1970 Dimitri Mitropoulos International Conducting Competition and was Assistant Conductor of the New York Philharmonic from 1970 to 1979.

The adjective "impressive" does not do justice in defining Staff Sergeant David Gilbert.

Your country, your town, and I salute you sir.

Frankie Turano Jr. is the owner of American Made Custom Cabinet Company located at 95 Stager Street. He has been in business for over thirty-seven years. He designs and sells all wood cabinetry, stone countertops, and knobs and handles for kitchens and bathrooms. www.amccc.us.



Let's Hear It For—and From—the Volunteers at NFSB By Joyce Corey

utley Family Service Bureau (NFSB) responds to the needs of those in the local community.

Since April is National Volunteer Month, the staff at NFSB wants to take a moment to celebrate the work of their volunteers who tirelessly donate their time at the thrift shop and food pantry. The recent move to the temporary food pantry at St. Paul's Church has required a little extra dedication from this team of volunteers.

Here are some of their thoughts about the valuable work they do for their community...

ADULT VOLUNTEERS

KEN: Providing food for others is bedrock human nature. Friends reconnect over food. Mourners celebrate lives with it. The pantry is an extension of this provisioning process. There is a great deal of work behind the scenes to collect and sort the donations. Everyone has a share in the conclusion: seeing the clients come and go with groceries.

ROB: The purpose of the NFSB Food Pantry, to serve others less fortunate than ourselves, is what keeps me

coming back on a weekly basis. That, and the staff, makes it very easy to play a small role in helping the Nutley community in a worthwhile enterprise.

ANGEL: I've been with the food pantry for three years. Food is distributed every other week and people are so grateful to receive the food. It's a wonderful opportunity for me to do this.

ERIN: My family became involved with the Nutley Family Service Bureau after my daughter and I took a tour of the food pantry a year ago. I was amazed at the breadth of work that the NFSB does and the steadfast support they provide to our community. The volunteers' dedication and tireless effort are an inspiration.

MARGIT: Until March 2017, the only thing I knew about the NFSB Food Bank is that I filled a bag with groceries and it magically disappeared. Last year, for the first time, I volunteered on the day the entire effort came together and I was in awe of the well-organized, productive, and enthusiastic team that processed more than 20,000 food items in a relatively short period of time. To have been a part of this food drive was truly a rewarding and heart-warming experience that I plan to repeat.

JAIME: I have been a volunteer at the Nutley Family Service Bureau Food Pantry since December of 2017. Although only a short period of time, I already feel part of the NFSB family with both the volunteers and the neighbors we are assisting.

The amount of time and effort that goes into





maintaining the food pantry was eye-opening to a newcomer like myself. There are so many moving parts and challenges including our temporary location at Saint Paul's Church. Yet by the time a distribution week rolls around, everything runs as smoothly as a well-oiled machine. NFSB truly has a remarkable set of volunteers that want the food pantry to prosper and help those in need and I am glad to be part of its family.

BILL: I have been with the NFSB since Christmas and have helped in the food pantry, and even went to the food bank to assist. I help when I can and it makes me feel good to help those in need.

CHANTAL: I enjoy interacting with the clients when I get a chance and suggesting recipes appropriate for the available goods.

BOY SCOUT VOLUNTEERS

RONAN: Volunteering at the NFSB gives me an opportunity to help and inspire others that are in need.

BRENDAN: It feels good to assist people in getting the food and help that they need.

PARENT PATRICK: I'm always happy to help those that are in need. Hours well spent, seeing a positive impact in the community.

CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS VOLUNTEERS

SISTER LARSEN: I have absolutely loved volunteering at the Nutley Family Service Bureau. It has been a great experience! From the first day I started, I felt a part of the team.

As a volunteer I am given responsibilities and people trust that I will get them done. I am able to use my talents, strengths, and abilities to help others and also learn and grow from other's talents, strengths, and abilities. We help each other and support each other in all we do. I am grateful for the opportunity I have been given to volunteer in the Nutley Family Services Bureau.

SISTER RICHARDSON: When you are volunteering here, you are not only meeting the needs of the community, but supporting a great worldly cause of unifying one another together. It is truly, truly, amazing to see people utilize their time, talents, and energy to support the community and those who are in it. What I love about my volunteering at the Nutley Family Service Bureau is serving people face to face and showing them that we care as well. When people come to pick up food bags they are always grateful for what they are given. If you have ever thought of helping people in need or who may need you, this is definitely the place to serve at.

ELDER FINDLAY: I am a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. I'm from Idaho and have been serving my mission here in New Jersey in the Spanish language for the last twenty months. I've been here in Nutley for the last six months and during that time have been volunteering at the Nutley Family Service Bureau. I love it here! Within my 20 months of my mission I've served in many organizations where service is provided for the public, and out of all of them I feel like the NFSB actually helps the individual live a better and fuller life.



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Nutley's Own Gary Erbe, Great American Artist, To Sign His New Book at The Nutley Library

By Barry Lenson



Gary Erbe, a leading artist who lives in Nutley, will be at the Nutley Public Library on April 14th at 2:00 P.M., where he will sign copies of his magnificent new book *Footprints: The Art and Life of Gary Erbe*. The book is hardcover, 300 pages with over 250 full-color illustrations. Published by the Butler Institute, it

will be available for sale at the discounted price of \$100, with half of all proceeds to benefit the library. It is the most comprehensive book written about Gary Erbe, one of America's foremost artists.

Honors and attention keep increasing for this artist and his unique paintings. The Reading Public Museum in Reading, PA, will hold a 50-year retrospective exhibition of his work this year from May 6 through August 5. Motiva, an award-winning film producer, is creating a major documentary about him. He is represented by the Gerald Peters Gallery in Manhattan. And as you may remember, he honored the Nutley Museum in 2012, when he unveiled *Little Sure Shot*, his major painting about Annie Oakley, there. His book signing at the Nutley Library on April 14th is only his latest contribution to the cultural life of Nutley.

ABOUT GARY ERBE

Gary Erbe, a self-taught painter, was born in 1944 in Union City, where he maintained his studio from 1972-2006. He then moved to Nutley.

Unable to attend art school, he worked as an engraver from 1965-1970 to support his family, painting at nights and on weekends. In 1967, Erbe discovered Trompe l'oeil painting and its masters. Trompe l'oeil, which means "fool the eye" in French, is a rich tradition in American painting in which painted objects appear three-dimensional. It was





Gary Erbe unveils his painting Annie Oakley Little Sure Shot at the Nutley Museum. Gary Erbe unveils his painting Annie Oakley Little Sure Shot at the Nutley Museum.

then that he recognized his particular place. He conceived a way of creating paintings that would be more contemporary and a departure from the 19th century Trompe l'oeil masters. By freeing objects from their natural surroundings via the illusion of levitation and the juxtaposition of unrelated objects, he could create thought-provoking paintings. In 1970, he decided to pursue his art full time and began to actively exhibit his work.

Erbe has exhibited extensively since 1970 with solo exhibitions at museums and galleries throughout America, Asia and Europe. His work is owned by The Nutley Museum, The Phillips Collection, The Philadelphia Museum, The Pennsylvania Academy, The Crystal Bridges Museum, the Heckscher Museum, the Butler Institute of American Art, and many major institutions. He has garnered many awards and honors over the years, including an unprecedented six Gold Medals at Allied Artists of America. He also received the Medal for Lifetime Achievement in American Art from the Butler Institute of American Art, and awards from the National Museum of Sports, Audubon Artists, The Peto Museum, and many other institutions.

COME TO THE NUTLEY LIBRARY ON APRIL 14TH TO MEET GARY ERBE.

The next time someone tells you, "A lot of famous artists used to live in Nutley," you can reply, "No, great artists still live here. Gary Erbe is foremost amongst them."

Bring your family to the Nutley Library on April 14 to meet him and see his work. You will see for yourself.



Inside the Mind and Books of Brian Ostrowski

By Joyce Corey

B rian Ostrowski tells a great story. As the author of four children's books, he has mastered the fine art of appealing to a young audience with eye-catching illustrations and characters that connect to their lives.

He recently published his fourth book, *The Ugly Dog*, and he said, "It's my favorite so far. It started as a screen-play for a class I was taking and I had envisioned it as a type of Pixar short. But when I read it to a class at the Yantacaw Elementary School, the students loved the story so much I decided to make it into a book."

And who wouldn't love a story about a not-so-pretty dog who wants a forever home? The rhyming narrative leads this tale along at a pace that keeps young readers interested and hopeful.

Brian's leap into the literary world is also a story. "I am a full time graphic designer," he said. "I liked to write since I was a child, and now I see writing as an alternative creative outlet."

This outlet has proven to be very successful for him with each of his books earning high praise. They have also left readers with a positive thought that lingers long after the last page is turned.

And that is the real secret to Brian's success. He writes like a father. "My children are my motivation for everything," he said. "I want my children to be confident and to try new things."

The ideals he instills in his son and daughter are seen in his books in a gentle and loving way.

Blip The Bit: And His Adventures in Retroville was Brian's first book and it was his way to share "my love of playing arcade games." The characters are in an 8-bit universe and the story is about fun and friendships. (Interestingly, he wrote the story on Post-It note paper.)

His second book, When I Was Little (Just Like You) paints a word picture of his own days growing up so the current generation can see the changes and marvel at the common themes.





Brian Ostrowski showing off his four children's books and his "Ugly Dog" stuffed animal.

The Kid Who Wasn't Good At Anything was inspired by his son. Brian's goal was to encourage "children to try new things since there is always something they can do well."

His children are proud to have an author for their dad and they even help him out. "They proofread my stories and, in fact, my daughter caught an inconsistency that I corrected. They give me their candid views and I listen to their opinions and value their perspective," Brian said.

So what's next for this full time graphic designer who writes with a father's heart?

My guess is we will see more of these delightful books. And who knows—maybe Brian Ostrowski will quit his day job and become the next Dr. Seuss. With his positive attitude and sincere desire to connect to young readers, it just may happen.

Brian Ostrowski's books can be found at Amazon and you can visit him at his website: www.brianostrowski. com/author.



EVENTS CALENDAR APRIL 2018

Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Mon. Self Help Program: Tai Chi, Qigong, Yoga, Stress Technique & Meditation

& Meditation
@Parks and Recreation Bldg.
44 Park Ave.
Time: 10-11am
For more information contact the
Recreation office at 973-284-4966

Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Mon.
Senior Art Program

@Parks and Recreation Bldg.
44 Park Ave.
Time: I-2:30pm
For more information contact the
Recreation office at 973-284-4966

Apr. 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 Tues. & Thurs.

Pulmonary Rehabilitation @Clara Maass Medical Center Cardiac Rehabilitation Department Clara Maass Medical Center, I Clara Maass Drive, Belleville, NJ Time: 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program at Clara Maass Medical Center helps individuals with moderate to severe breathing problems overcome physical limitations resulting from Pulmonary disease. Participants in the program include patients recovering from an acute pulmonary episode, people with lung disorders and anyone whose activities are limited by chronic lung disease and shortness of breath. For information or to register for an appointment, call 973.450.2263. Parking validation will be available.

Apr. 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20, 23, 25, 27, 30 Mon., Wed. & Fri.

Pulmonary Function Testing

@Clara Maass Medical Center

Pulmonary Function Lab at Clara Maass Medical Center I Clara Maass Drive, Belleville, NJ Time: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call for Appointment: 973.450.2263

Chest x-rays and CT scans shows abnormalities affecting the lungs. Pulmonary Function Tests (PFT) indicate how the lungs are functioning; specifically, whether the lungs able to bring enough oxygen into the air sacs and allow the oxygen to get into the blood for use by other vital organs. PFTs are usually performed in order to follow for the progression of lung disease and are also used to determine if surgery is appropriate. They consist of a battery of measurements and are designed to measure the volumes and flow of air that enter and leave the lungs, as well as how efficiently the gases are able to pass from the air sacs into the blood. Once you have a prescription for PFT, call for an appointment 973.450.2263.

Apr. 3, 17, Tue. Board of Commissioners Meeting

@Town Hall, 3rd Floor Commission Chambers Time: 7pm Open to the public For more information visit www.nutleynj.org/board-ofcommissioners

Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, Tue.
Bridge

@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr.
Time: I-4pm
For more information visit
nutleypubliclibrary.org or call
973-667-0405

Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24, Tue.
ESL Classes
@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr.
Time: 6:30-8:30pm
For more information and other
class times visit nutleypubliclibrary.
org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 3, Tue.

Rick Mikula, The Butterfly Guy
@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr., Children's Room
Performance for all ages.
No registration required.
Time: 2-3pm
For more information visit
nutleypubliclibrary.org or call
973-667-0405

Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25, Wed.
Bingo
@Recreation Department
44 Park Ave.
Time: 12:30-3pm
For more information contact the
Recreation office at 973-284-4966

Apr. 4, Wed.

Essex County Clerk Program
@Recreation Department
44 Park Ave.
On the first Wednesday of each
month the Essex County Clerk's

month the Essex County Clerk's office is available at the Recreation Department for residents to obtain passports and Notary Public services.

Time: 2-8pm Cost: Free For more information visit www.nutleynj.org/recreation

Apr. 4, Wed. Paint-a-Pot/Plant a Flower @Nutley Public Library 93 Booth Dr. For all ages. Registration online

is required and begins Mar. I. Sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library. Time: 10:30am-12pm For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25, Wed. Wednesday Afternoon Knitters @Nutley Public Library 93 Booth Dr.

Come share your love of knitting and crocheting with both beginning and experienced knitters. Meet fellow knitters, brush-up on your skills, and learn some new techniques. Please bring your own supplies.

Time: I-3pm For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 5, Thurs.
Spring Craft Day
@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr., Children's Room
For all ages. Various crafts will be

Time: 1-4pm For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

provided.

Apr. 7, Sat.
Freestyle Video Game
Tournament
@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr., Children's Room
For all ages and skill levels.
No registration required.
Time: 12-3pm
For more information visit
nutleypubliclibrary.org or call
973-667-0405





Apr. 9, Mon. Hooked on Books Reading Club @Nutley Public Library 93 Booth Dr., Story Time Room Grades 4-6. Registration required. Time: 6:45-8pm For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 9, Mon. Surgical Options for Weight Loss @Clara Maass Medical Center The Learning Center I Clara Maas Drive, Belleville, NJ Time: 6PM-7PM Visit the New Jersey Bariatric and Metabolic Institute (NJBMI) at Clara Maass Medical Center for a free information seminar. Find out if you, a family member or a friend

would be eligible for weight-loss surgery. The seminar will cover what you can expect before, during and after Bariatric surgery. Visit our campus and meet acclaimed Bariatric Surgeon Naveen Ballem, M.D., Director of Bariatric Surgery at Clara Maass Medical Center, and former Bariatric surgery patients. Immediately after the seminar, participants have an opportunity to stay in The Learning Center

to attend the Bariatric Support Group Session. Parking validation will be available. (This program is also offered in Spanish.)

Apr. 9, Mon.
Bariatric Support Groups
@Clara Maass Medical Center
Time: 7PM-8PM
Each month, our Support Group
focuses on a different topic to

Each month, our Support Group focuses on a different topic to help Bariatric patients maintain weight loss and receive support from others. Friends and family are encouraged to attend. For more information or to register, call 973.450.2393. Parking validation will be available.

Apr. 10-11, Tue-Wed.
Bone Density Screenings

@Public Affairs/Health Department,
149 Chestnut St.
An ultrasound of the forearm
identifies women and men at risk
for osteoporosis. Registration is
required.
Time: 10am-12pm
Cost: \$12 per person
For more information call
973-284-4976 or email
dfeaster@nutleynj.org

Apr. 11, Wed Living Well with Parkinson's Disease Parkinson's Disease Support Group and Workshop @Clara Maass Medical Center Cancer Center Conference Room I Clara Maas Drive, Belleville, NI Time: IOAM - IIAM Living with Parkinson's Disease can be challenging, however participating in social and recreational activities can improve your overall wellness. Joining a peer support group can help you learn to cope with stresses, build lasting relationships, and







EVENTS CALENDAR APRIL 2018

gain a sense of empowerment and control. This monthly meeting provides an opportunity to talk openly and honestly, assist in finding resources and answers to important questions, and allows one to be a significant participant of a meaningful group. Essential information regarding symptoms, treatments, and medication management will be discussed. Sessions will also offer opportunities to share your experiences and help others throughout this journey in a safe and caring environment. For information or to register, please Contact: Dhyana Velez, RN at 973.450.2559. Parking validation will be available.

Apr. 14, Sat.
Gary Erbe Book Signing
@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr.
Meet renowned Trompe L'Oeil
artist and Nutley resident Gary
Erbe as he presents his book,
Footprints: The Art and Life of
Gary Erbe. Mr. Erbe is a self-taught
painter in the medium of oil and

has been painting professionally for over 40 years. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Fifty percent of the proceeds will be donated to the library. Time: 2pm Cost: Free For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org

Apr. 15, Sun. Kingsland Manor Open House Tour

@3 Kingsland Street Time: I-4pm Come explore the historic homestead of the Kingsland family and beyond, set within park-like grounds overlooking a pond and waterfalls.

For more information visit www.kingslandmanor.org

Apr. 16, Mon.
PJ Story Time & Craft
@Nutley Public Library
93 Booth Dr.,
Story Time Room
For all ages.
No registration required.
Time: 7-7:45pm

For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 21, Sat. Bike Right – Learn to Ride @Environmental Center, 621-B

Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland For children ages 5 and older. Meets is Garibaldi Hall. Bike Right Learn to Ride will teach children the safe, easy and effective way to learn to ride. Using this "balance first" method, parents help get their children rolling while the child does most of the work. Participants learn the basics of balancing, starting, stopping and steering a bike, as well as proper helmet fit and adjustment. Please bring a helmet and bike (without training wheels). Advance registration and minimum number of participants required. Time: 10:30am-12:30pm Cost: \$10 per child For more information call 973-228-8776

Apr. 21, Sat. Saturday Story Time @Nutley Public Library 93 Booth Dr., Story Time Room For all ages. Story time and craft. No registration required. Time: 10-10:45am For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 26, Thur. Comprehensive Blood Screenings

@Clara Maass Medical Center The Cancer Center (Located in the Continuing Care building) I Clara Maas Drive, Belleville, NJ Time: 7AM – 9AM Screening includes a

comprehensive full metabolic panel. Fee: \$40.00. To register, call 1.888.724.7123. Parking validation will be available.

Apr. 27, Fri.
The Fifth Annual Nutley FMBA
Local 44 Golf Outing
@Wild Turkey Golf Club,
Hamburg, NJ
Enjoy a day of golf, Included in



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the cost is a continental breakfast, driving range prior to tee off, 18 holes of golf with cart, closest to the pin, longest drive, and hole-inone contests, and lunch. Time: 7:30am registration and breakfast. 9am shotgun start. Cost: \$125. All money must be in

For more information call Chris Lohman at 973-418-1930 or email nutley44golf@gmail.com

Apr. 28, Sat. In the Mix: Open Mic and

Community Art Show @St. Paul's ÚCC, 10 St. Paul's Place People of all ages, skill levels, and abilities are invited to share their talents or come and appreciate others'. Musicians, visual artists, poets, actors, and more are welcome to share their talents at

Time: 7-9pm Cost: Suggested donation of \$10 per person or \$25 for a family For more information or to sign up email coleen@tempotherapy.com

Apr. 28, Sat. Jane Stuart Jazz Concert @Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr. Time: 2-3pm

For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Apr. 28, Sat. **LEGO Play Time**

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr., Children's Room For ages 5-12. Free play time with LEGOs and sets. No registration required.

Time: 10am-3pm For more information visit nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

May 6, Sun. **Nutley Chamber of Commerce** 19th Annual 5K/Fun Run @Nutley Park Oval, corner of

Franklin Ave. and Chestnut St. 5K Fun Run and Kids Fun Run with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Veterans Associations of Nutley.

Time: 8:50am for Kids Fun Run. 9:15am for 5K.

Cost: 5K - \$25 before Apr. 23. Kids Fun Run - \$5 or free with adult registration.

For more information call 973-667-5300

Nutley Department of Public Affairs

FACEBOOK pages Type these into the Facebook search bar to find:

Nutley NJ Public Health **Resource Center**

Nutley NJ Young Women's Initiative Nutley NJ Military & Veteran's Affairs Bureau Nutley NJ Department of Public Affairs Pet Health Resource Center Nutley NJ Bernie's Club

Nutley Health Department

They conduct a number of health workshops throughout the year as well as provide resources to some of the finest health service organizations in New Jersey. These resources include home care planning, family/caregiver

support and respite, medication management options and home safety. They also conduct screenings for skin cancer, adult vision, and colorectal cancer. Immunizations and a children's clinic are also available. Call for more information: 973-284-4976

www.nutleynj.org/content/publichealth-hursing.html%20

Nutley Corps

Nutley students from grades 6 to 12 are invited to assist the Department of Public Affairs with a number of our senior citizens, health and veteran programs, and other community services. Nutley Corps is a very rewarding and educational experience for all the students who participate. **Email Commissioner Rogers** for more information: commissionerrogers@nutleynj.org www.nutleynj.org/content/nutleycorps.html

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to naturally relieve negative symptoms within the body, treat the underlying cause, and restore proper balance to maintain optimal health. Whether you are experiencing pain or other symptoms from a recent issue or a chronic illness, we can help. Combining her western medical knowledge with traditional Chinese Medicine, Dr. DiCarlo will develop a treatment plan to address any medical concern.

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The Community School in Nutley

By Joyce Corey



he Community School in Nutley, Inc. has been providing quality care and education for young children since 1967. Children between the ages of three months and six years are encouraged to explore their interests and express themselves in a healthy stimulating environment.

The school uses The Creative Curriculum® program which is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum that features exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and lifelong critical thinking skills. It is designed to help teachers implement a developmentally appropriate, content-rich program for children with diverse backgrounds and skill levels. Community School's enrichment program includes music, movement, art and yoga.

Motor skills and all five senses are fully engaged during play time in their spacious gym and large indoor and outdoor play areas. Their aim is to provide a comprehensive education that will enhance a child's understanding of the world around them and prepare them with skills they will need in elementary school and beyond. They

work together with families to help children acquire the skills, knowledge, and confidence they will need to do well in school and throughout life.

This year, the Community School celebrates 50 years of service to the Township of Nutley and surrounding communities. The late Norma Hall, a member of St. Paul's Church had a dream of a non-

profit school devoted to providing enriching experiences, high quality education and childcare for young children. She invited four other churches in the area to help fulfill her dream: Bethany Presbyterian, Franklin Reformed, Grace Episcopal, and Vincent Methodist. Later, Holy Trinity joined the group. In September 1967 the Community School, a half day preschool, opened its doors at St. Paul's Church to serve young children ages 3 through 5 years. With tremendous growth, the school expanded opening a full day childcare center in 1988 at Vincent Church and then in September of 1994 the Infant-Toddler center opened at Grace Church.

Besides priding themselves on the high quality of childcare and education for children in their early learning years, The Community School also distinguishes itself by having teachers who all have degrees and experience specifically in the field of Early Childhood. They have an exceptionally low staff turnover and their teacher-to-child ratio is well above the state requirements and thereby provides an atmosphere of safety and security for young children.

As children move on to local elementary schools, they



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- Summer Program

For further information:

www.communityschoolnutleynj.com Email: csnutley@optonline.net

973-661-0789

NR-0004215639-01



excel in kindergarten thanks to the skills and knowledge they acquired at The Community School. The learning environment here stimulates and engages the curiosity of young learners. Children learn to integrate developmental knowledge with attitudes, skills, and concepts that they need to succeed socially and academically.

The Community School has been honored to be involved with and serve the local community in several ways. The school is licensed by the state of New Jersey and is participating in Grow NJ Kids, a state-wide initiative. The school is sponsored by five churches in Nutley: Grace Episcopal, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Vincent United Methodist, Franklin Reformed and St. Paul's Congregational.

Special activities they have during the year include an annual Christmas pageant, an International Family Night, a visit from a petting zoo, and real world science programs, such as learning about the life cycles of chicks and butterflies.

The Community School also offers a summer program for children ages 6 to 13. This summer camp has a full range of team and individual sports as well as arts and crafts, culinary arts, weekly trips and science workshops conducted by Mad Science. The camp directors are certified teachers who have been with The Community School for years.

For more information about the school, visit their website www.communityschoolnutleynj.com, email them at csnutley@optonline.net or call at 973-661-0789.

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Submitted by Tiffany Servidio

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Dutch

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Brick City is also always looking for fosters. If you are willing to open your heart and home to a dog in need, please e-mail us for our Foster Application. You provide the food, shelter, and love, and we will provide everything else!



Libraries Lead: Celebrate Your Library and National Library Week April 8-14, 2018

By Kiran Patel, Supervising Librarian



April 8-14 is National Library Week, an annual celebration of the life-changing work of libraries, librarians, and library workers. Libraries are not just places to borrow books or study, they are also creative and engaging

community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies and develop their skills and passions. Today's libraries lead their communities and transform lives every day. Libraries level the playing field for people of any age who seek information and access to technologies to improve their quality of life.

The Nutley Public Library is a dynamic community organization dedicated to the evolving needs of our patrons. Diverse groups, including elected officials, small business owners and students, depend upon the Nutley Public Library. We lead by advocating for widespread access to crucial services and lifelong learning for all patrons.



From education to job resources to leisure-time goals, the Nutley Public Library provides access to the programming and services you may need to reach your personal and professional potential. Our patrons develop leadership skills through our eResources portal, the gateway to academic, business and career databases such as Gale Literature Resource Center, ReferenceUSA and Job and Career Accelerator. The library also offers access to Lynda. com, a vast online library of instructional videos covering the latest software, business, and creative skills.

National Library Week is the perfect time to celebrate your library. Enjoy access to a variety of resources like eBooks through the Cloud Library, our vinyl record collection, graphic novels for children, teens, and adults, materials and classes for English-language learners, museum passes, and the latest fiction and nonfiction bestsellers. Join us throughout the year for exceptional children's and adult programming, workshops, and activities featuring music, dance, yoga instruction, art projects, book clubs, movie nights, local history, and more. Sign up your child for the Babygarten, Preschool and Two Year Old Story Times, Reading Bingo and Drop-In Craft. For young adults, join our Hooked-On-Books Reading Club and Manga/Anime Club. For adults, join us for our Bridge Group, Knitting Group, and the Saturday Afternoon Book Club.

Join us for a special National Library Week event on Saturday, April 14, at 2pm, when the library hosts Gary Erbe, nationally known trompe l'oeil artist and Nutley resident, for a book discussion and signing. Mr. Erbe will be presenting Footprints: The Art and Life of Gary Erbe, published by The Butler Institute of American Art.The Nutley Public Library is the perfect platform for patrons to develop their own leadership skills, and to pursue their professional and personal goals. Come visit us during National Library Week and join the celebration! You will find the right answers and a whole lot more @ Nutley Public Library.

For more information about our print and digital collection and the different programs that we offer stop by the library, check out our website at nutleypubliclibrary.org, or give us a call at 973-667-0405. The library is located at 93 Booth Drive and is barrier free. Hours: Mon. Tues. Thurs. 9am-9pm/Wed. Fri. Sat. 9am-5pm.





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Our Story

edication to customer service has been at the forefront of our dealership since Dominick Tozzo founded Lynnes Auto Group in October 1953. Dominick's determination and entrepreneurial spirit started when he was only 12, as he began working as much as possible to save money while also

attending school every day.

Dominick's early dedication to work laid the foundation for what would become Lynnes Auto Group. He wanted to create a car dealership that combined the comfort of a home with the relationships he witnessed between the local butcher shop owner and his customers. In 1953, Dominick began selling used vehicles on Bloomfield Avenue in Bloomfield, NJ.

Today, Dominick's daughter Julie leads one of

his dealerships. There's no job at Lynnes Nissan City that Julie hasn't worked, as she started out answering phones and then helped customers on the lot. This experience has given her a full understanding of the true value of our customers. Simply put, without you, we wouldn't be here.

Not much has changed

Mr. Tozzo about Lynnes Nissan City since it first opened in 1953. It's still in the same location, and we still maintain the hard-working and dedicated attitude that Dominick Tozzo instilled in us all those years ago.





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