

APRIL 2022

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

NUTLEY NEIGHBORS

**Is Mark Borino
on Your Playlist?**



Best Version Media

Photograph by
Randall Kenneth
Photography

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July 25.....	September 1
August 25.....	October 1
September 25.....	November 1
October 25.....	December 1

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Letter to Residents

What Really Makes the World Go Round?

We have an abundance of 'people energy' and good leaders can direct that force in wondrous ways. When a mass is trapped in the gravitational field of another body, a set of equations from Johann Kepler tell us that certain stable orbits can result. When this happens, as is the case with our planet, the momentum that the planet had continues until something steals it away.

I really hope you are still reading this (my eyes glazed over a bit when I was typing all that scientific jargon!) because my answer is a little different.

I believe that music makes the world go round.

Think about it. The soundwaves from music reach our ears and our feet start tapping and our hands clap. The collective energy of all that movement causes the Earth to spin and circle the sun.

Surely you all see the resemblance between planet Earth and a disco ball!

Okay enough of my scientific musing. If I ever start a podcast to continue this discussion, I will let you know.

But if you want to try out my music theory, read about Mark Borino (he's on this month's cover) and listen to some of his music. Mark grew up here in Nutley and got his start in music in middle school. Fast forward to 2021, and he had his first label placement on Drake's album, *Certified Lover Boy*.

But that is just the beginning for this talented musician! Read the article, check out the photos, and head on over to Spotify to enjoy his music. I had a wonderful conversation with Mark and told him that all his *Nutley Neighbors* will be watching (and listening!) for his future successes.

Now, some of you may be wondering if it's *only* music that makes the world go round.

My scientific theory also includes some other elements (none of which are found on the Periodic Table!).

I think leadership and kindness is also necessary.

We have so much 'people energy' and good leaders direct that force in wondrous ways. Do you know who W.O. Davis is? He was born in 1853 and directed his energy into making Nutley a thriving township.

More recently, another community leader, Suzanne Hagert, tells us about her 20 years of service at the Nutley Historical Society. That is a place where the past is kept alive, so the future doesn't seem so intimidating.

Both community leaders, years and years apart, keep life as we know it spinning in a comfortable orbit.

Kindness, of course, is the sweet part of all that we do. Whether we give a home to one of the dogs or kittens on our Pet Corner page, or if we just take time to say something nice or encouraging to our neighbors, we direct our energy in the right place.

Whether you say it or sing it, we make music every day—electric guitars are optional.

Joyce Corey Content Coordinator



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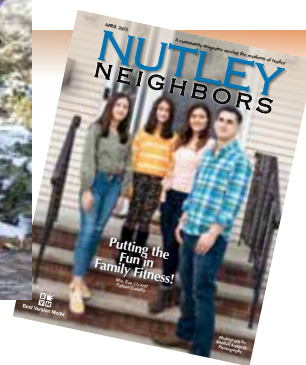


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2022 Nutley Closed Home Sales

Single Family:

Median List Price	\$499,000
Median Sale Price	\$510,000
Median Days on Market	23

Town Homes, Condominiums, Cooperatives:

Median List Price	\$268,000
Median Sale Price	\$268,000
Median Days on Market	17

SOURCE: GSMLS DATA

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February 2022 Single Family Home Sales

PROPERTY ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
103 Kierstead Ave.	\$340,000	\$377,500	23
44 Highfield Lane	\$435,000	\$440,000	114
91 New St.	\$479,000	\$490,000	44
20 Brookway	\$628,000	\$545,000	129
131 Glendale St.	\$542,000	\$551,000	11
46 Howard Pl.	\$549,000	\$591,000	11
487 Chestnut St.	\$598,900	\$606,000	99
116 Satterthwaite Ave.	\$1,299,000	\$1,160,000	72



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Feature Story

Is Mark Borino on Your Playlist?

By Joyce Corey Photograph by Randall Kenneth Photography

If you want to meet Nutleyite, Mark Borino, the best place to find him is at House of Rivero. That's the name of his record label that features over 30 tracks of original music which was all written, produced, mixed, and mastered by him.

Although House of Rivero doesn't have a physical address, Mark's love of music began right here in town.

"I joined the choir when I was in middle school," he said. "I took the class looking for an easy 'A' but found out I really love music. We also had a great teacher, Michael Cundari, who made the class fun. We need more teachers like him!"

But it wasn't a straight line from school choir to landing his first major label placement on one of the biggest albums of the year—*Certified Lover Boy*—with Drake in 2021.

"I sang in the choir up until tenth grade, when I quit," Mark said. He returned to music at the beginning of his senior year when he taught himself to play piano, took vocal training, and started to create his own music.

After graduating from Nutley High School in 2010, he briefly attended college.

"I went to William Paterson for a semester but realized I needed my education to go in a different direction," he said. "I enrolled in SAE Institute of Technology in New York where I interned at a music studio and earned a certificate in audio engineering."

"This is not the type of career that you break into with a standard resume," he said. "A lot depends on who you know and if you are in the right place at the right time."

Mark already had a loyal fan who helped him navigate the music field—his mother.

"My mother is amazing," he said. "Her name is Laura, and she has been incredibly supportive."

Laura's support came in many forms, including encouragement to tracking down the right people to hear Mark's music.

"My mom believed in me and my dream," Mark said. "She did everything possible to get my music heard by

the people who make decisions. She would call radio stations and look online for the contact info for record producers. I still wonder how she got Curtis Hudson's phone number!"

Curtis Hudson, songwriter and producer, co-wrote "Holiday," one of Madonna's big hits, with Lisa Stevens.

Laura gave Curtis Mark's music, and he gave it to his son, Eric Hudson, Grammy-award winner who plays with world-known artists like Kanye West, Chris Brown, and Mariah Carey.

Everything looked perfect; there was talk of signing Mark on but suddenly it all fell through.

"I felt devastated," Mark said. "I had to start all over again. But this is the nature of the music industry. It's not like a regular job and there are no guidelines to follow. You just have to be there and hope the right people hear you."

Mark continued to put himself and his music before an audience of insiders and fans, partly for the recognition he needed to get into this industry, but also because music is so important to him.



PHOTO CREDIT: NICCO DIRENZI

"My music is a mix of R&B, pop, hip hop, and dance, while at the same time signifying deep meaning," he said. "I never choose a song that I can't feel. My music will always reflect who I am."

And those reflections were finally seen by the right people.

"I made a sample for Drake's album, and at first, nothing came of it," Mark said. "Then one day I received a call from my friend, Yomi, at 5 a.m. and he told me we made history and our track was being placed on the album."

In 2021, Mark's song landed on one of the biggest album releases, *Certified Lover Boy*. He co-produced track #2 titled "Papi's Home" which peaked at #8 on Billboard's Hot 100 and landed him his first platinum record as a producer.

But that's not all. In that same year he received the Harold Adamson Lyric Award from American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP).

"I also just signed a joint venture, co-publishing deal with Mykah Music and Warner Chappell as a songwriter and

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5 Things Mark Borino Loves About Nutley

1. Huge fan of running through the parks
2. Having access to multiple soccer fields to play pickup games or to work out on
3. Everything is within arm's reach—NYC and Hoboken 25 minutes away, Jersey shore an hour or more, mall 15 minutes away
4. No shortage of great Italian food
5. A clean and safe neighborhood to grow up in

producer," he said. "I now work alongside two big power players in the music business, Mr. Morgan and Rich Christina."

As Mark's music is moving up the charts, there is one thing that stays the same: his appreciation for his family and those who have helped him along the way.

"This has all been a team effort," he said. "I want to thank my family and John Cinquino, who has been guiding and teaching me the music business these past couple of years. I couldn't have done this properly without him. Special thanks go to Yomi Ojelade, Supah Mario, Jarrel Young, and Yonatan Watts.

Naming his recording label House of Rivero also has a special significance.

"The name is a mix of my last name and my mother's maiden name, Rivera," he said. "I wanted to give her credit since she has been an amazing support to me."

Mark Borino's determination and his love of music is finally getting the recognition he dreamed about, and these stats show the increasing popularity of his music.

- "Big Time" is his breakthrough single with over 400,000 streams on Spotify and YouTube combined.
- "Kinda Like You" has accumulated over 150,000 streams on Spotify and YouTube.
- "Thrill Is Gone" has over 2 million views on YouTube

and over 850,000 Spotify streams.

- "You Got Me" peaked at #30 on the "Viral 50 - Netherlands" chart on Spotify and was streamed over 490,000 times.
- "Memories" reached #10 on Spotify's top dance playlist "mint," peaked at #11 on the "Dance Rising" Spotify playlist and has over 300,000 Spotify streams.

From middle school choir to the Billboard charts, Mark Borino and his music are moving in the right direction.

House of Rivero is the perfect address for this talented musician. ■

Visit Mark's website, www.markborino.com, to listen to his music and stay in touch through social media.

Instagram: @officialmarkborino YouTube: Mark Borino

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



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*Submitted by Christa Milici,
Yellow Brick Road Rescue NJ*



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*Submitted by
Nicole Milici,
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Although young, Dixie is an overgrown and strong pup who would benefit from an active owner. Dixie loves to play and go on walks and is currently spending time with our amazing trainer to brush up on her manners and leash walking skills. She has done well with other dogs her size but would also make a great solo companion for someone who is not looking to have more than one dog.

She is completely up to date on all vaccines and has already been spayed and microchipped. All this beautiful girl needs now is a loving home!

Visit the website www.jersey pitsrescue.com for an adoption application. ■



Why I Serve ... Suzanne Hagert Reflects on Her 20 Years of Service to The Nutley Historical Society and Museum

By Suzanne Hagert, Vice President of
the Nutley Historical Society



It's been 20 years since I joined the Nutley Historical Society. Originally, I was asked to be a liaison between the Nutley Historical Society and the third grade teachers in Nutley public schools. The third graders learned about Nutley and visited the museum in June every year. I grew up in Nutley and was delighted to be asked to join the Board of Directors.

One of my duties is answering phone messages and emails. Sometimes, I can answer inquiries but often pass them on to the director, who can help the best. I also refer questions to our town historian, John Demmer. I set up and give tours of the museum. When COVID is not

menacing, I work with our directors organizing events for the public. We have speakers and activities throughout the year, all of which we're planning on expanding.

I also coordinate our scholarship awards for Nutley High seniors. I, along with the other directors, enjoy reading the essays. The entrants write about Nutley and the importance of historical societies. We award three scholarships every June.

When I was still teaching at Radcliffe School, my class would learn about Nutley every week. A student told me once that "the last period Thursday is my favorite because we learn about Nutley." That made me realize the importance of historical societies. People's sense of identity often comes from their home, whether it's a town, state, or nation.

My mother was first in our family to graduate from Nutley High. Her family moved here in 1927. My parents bought a house on Grant Avenue just before I was born. I attended Washington, Franklin, and Nutley High. My mother was a secretary at the public library while I was across the parking lot. My father was a sales representative for Blue Cross.

Since I lived on Grant, I walked through the park behind the high school every day. This was before the basketball courts were built. The stream divided and there was an island in the middle, complete with trees and bushes. When I was in grade school it was an adventure to explore! Not a bad walk to school.

My sons also graduated from Nutley High. Mark is a musician and Scott has a post doc in neuroscience at University of Virginia. My husband, Steve Kilianski, is a Social Psych instructor at Rutgers, New Brunswick.

Now that I'm retired, I still sub at Radcliffe occasionally. It's nice to keep in touch with the faculty, staff, and students. I stuff Christmas and 5K Run giveaway totes for the Chamber of Commerce and also volunteer at the 5K Run every May. I help sort groceries after the Boy Scout Annual Food Drive. Since I love to sew, I belong to a quilt guild and have made many, many quilts which are donated to nearby organizations.

I look forward to continuing my service with the Nutley Historical Society and Museum. ■

Now is a great time to join or renew your Nutley Historical Society membership. For more information visit www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.org

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W.O. Davis

By David Wilson

Researching merchants who established businesses in Nutley's Olde Towne Centre has led to many fascinating accounts about how our little hamlet of two hundred and fifty evolved into a thriving township. Highfield Lane, Passaic Avenue, and Chestnut Street shops provided everything you needed for living and raising a family. Today, we focus on Wilson Orville (W.O.) Davis, a dry goods merchant, and his contributions to the community.

Born in 1853 on the Panther Ledge Brookdale Farm near Hackettstown, New Jersey, W.O. was the grandson of David Chambers Davis of Scotland who received a 3,000-acre land grant after the Revolutionary War. He started at age 17 as a store clerk before being recalled back to the farm. After a brief agricultural stint, he turned to carpentry until developing severe asthma in his early 20s. W.O. was advised to head West, seek better air in Wisconsin, and live out his life.

His journey detoured through Franklin so he could bid farewell to some friends. While there he was introduced to a Chinese physician who prescribed a cure of milk, quinine, and salt, along with the local air. Davis stayed and worked his first ten years as superintendent on Joseph Kingsland's farm and, in 1891, opened a shoe store at Passaic and Chestnut with his brother S.S. Davis. About 1902, W.O. bought a building at 350 Passaic Avenue and established a dry goods store that employed old friends Miss Bessie Thomas and Mrs. Margaret Thomas-Osmun.

The business thrived as inventory evolved with townsfolk's needs. Later the building was expanded to provide living quarters above the store. Fortunately, the historical storefront has remained intact through several renovations and businesses. Davis operated businesses for 54 years until retiring at age 92 after the death of his wife, Savilla Schenck Davis. His son, J. Milton Davis, established the Davis (later Davis-Taylor) Shade shop at that same location.

Davis took an active part in the community serving on the Franklin Building and Loan Association, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, Franklin Lodge of Knights of Pythias, First National Bank of Nutley, and several other organizations.

Early residents volunteered at the Fire Department where Davis served for 12 years starting in 1891. He was a charter member and treasurer of the Nutley Exempt Fireman's Association. We can most remember and thank him for preserving the 1865 C. Young and Company hose cart that was put into service in 1897 by the NFD. The department was modernizing with motorized apparatus, so the hose cart was obsolete and destined for the scrap



Clockwise from top left: W.O. Davis merchant and fireman, Store staff circa (1915), Dry goods store (1902), FD hose cart (1945) ready for museum



yard. W.O. realized the historical importance of this artifact and stored it in his barn for many years before passing it to the Nutley Museum in 1945. This cart was hand drawn in parades by many famous Franklinites known as the "White Glove Department."

After Davis's death at age 94, a closet was found that turned out to be a time capsule of early Nutley and store history. W.O. Davis was not one to throw away anything. ■

David Wilson is the author of *Fire in Our Lives*, a book containing stories, experiences, and advice from his forty-year career in public safety. Available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Google Play.

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Spring into Creativity!

By Michelle Palmer

As the flowers bloom and the colors of spring brighten up the town, our children's imaginations light up the world.

Art gives young minds the opportunity to express their love of learning. Michael, who is in first grade, has put his interest in animals and nature onto paper. His drawings show what a great artist he is as well as his unique characters brought to life.

Five-year-old Daria painted a peace tree in honor of Martin Luther King Day, but it is a work of art to be admired in all seasons of life. Her wishes for love and happiness are represented so beautifully in her design. She has reminded us that friendships come in all shapes, colors, and sizes.

The school year has been a challenging one and often the best lessons include laughter! Six-year-old Klaus worked with his mom to put together a memorable shirt for the 100th day of school. After attaching one hundred buttons, the shirt provides humor saying he's been pushing the teacher's buttons. He has certainly turned this fun milestone into a funny and enjoyable one.



Clockwise from left: Michael's Wild Masterpieces, Daria's wishes for world peace, Matteo's painting perfection, Klaus' 100 Days Smarter shirt



Five-year-old Beckham is incredibly talented at drawing cartoons. Some of his most recent projects include Ninja Turtles, Charlie Brown, Pokémon and Encanto characters. His ability to sketch and color these very much-loved cartoons is very impressive.

Matteo is a seven-year-old who loves nature and painting! His smile, along with this friendly cardinal, can brighten anyone's day. Through art, he has been able to express his appreciation for the different seasons and for learning new skills.■



Creative Cartoons by Beckham

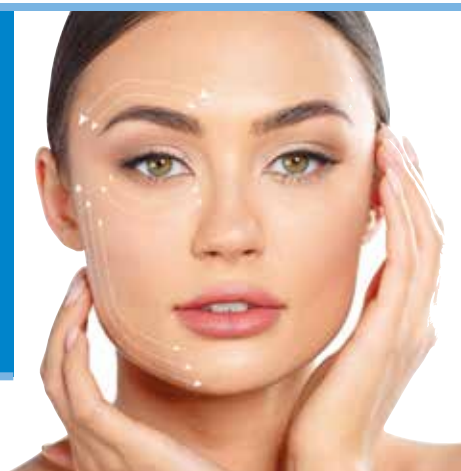
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Getting to Know Your Library Staff

By David Wilson

■ **What is your name, position, and responsibilities at the library?** I am Marisa Treglio, and as a library assistant, I am responsible for checking books and other materials in and out, retrieving patron requests, and creating monthly displays, among other things.

■ **When did you start working at the library and why?** I started working at the Nutley Library in July 2021 after a 15-year hiatus. Before I had kids, I was a children's librarian in Bloomfield and occasionally worked weekends in Maplewood. When I saw that a job was open in Nutley, I was excited to get back to a working environment that I love.

■ **What is your educational background?** I attended Rutgers University where I received a BA in women's studies. I earned my Master of Library and Information Science degree from Rutgers' School of Communication and Information.

■ **Do you have any childhood memories of visiting the library?** When I was young, I lived about two blocks from the public library in Bayonne. As soon as I was old enough to cross the street by myself, I would walk to the library, check out the maximum number of books (six), and take them home to read immediately. The next day I would bring them back and check out six more. It was heavenly.

■ **Tell us about your family.** I met my husband Chris at Rutgers. We have two sons: Joseph, age 18, is a senior at Nutley High School; Teddy, age 13, is in eighth grade at John H. Walker Middle School. We also have a dog named Penny.

■ **What are your hobbies, volunteer work or other leisure**



time pursuits?

I volunteer as a leader with Cub Scout Pack 142, which is based at Vincent United Methodist Church.

■ **What do you enjoy most about working at the library?** I love that every day is different! It's great to see familiar faces come in the door, and I love meeting new friends. I get to use my imagination and creativity to help with posters, book displays, and programs.

■ **Share a memorable story involving a library patron or program.** My most memorable day working in a library would

have to be when I started working in Bloomfield in 2002. I arrived and found out that Nickelodeon was filming commercials in the children's department all day! My first day on the job was spent dodging camera crews, and I wound up making an appearance in one of the commercials as well, sitting at the desk checking out books (my 2.5 seconds of fame!)

■ **What is your favorite book or author?** My favorite author is Neil Gaiman. He writes dark, humorous fantasy stories and novels.

■ **Your favorite motto or quote?** "Think before you speak. Read before you think." –Fran Lebowitz

■ **A closing message?** If it's been a while since you've visited the library, stop in and see what's new! It's so much more than just books – there are movies, music, clubs, programs, and even online services to stream videos and borrow e-books. ■

David Wilson is the author of *Fire in Our Lives*, a book containing stories, experiences, and advice from his forty-year career in public safety. Available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Google Play.



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Library Corner

Celebrating National Library Week, April 3–9, 2022 Connect with Your Library!

By Jeanne Sylvester, Supervising Librarian

National Library Week is an annual celebration highlighting the essential role that libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening communities. This year's theme is "Connect with Your Library," and the Nutley Public Library happily offers the community many opportunities to connect with books, media, programs, ideas, classes, and much more. Most importantly, libraries also connect communities to each other.

During National Library Week, the Nutley Public Library encourages all community members to visit their library in person or online to explore and access its wide variety of services and programs for all ages. The library offers almost 100,000 items in its book and media collections, as well as millions of digital eBooks, audiobooks, films, and music to be streamed or downloaded through Libby, hoopla, Kanopy, and more. Unique displays throughout the library highlight these collections, and encourage browsing, borrowing, and connecting.

The Nutley Public Library has returned to in-person programming for all ages and encourages community members to connect with each other at these events that promote learning, creativity, growth, and development. During National Library Week there will be many story-time programs for children, a Saturday drop-in craft for kids and their families, and special after school programs for kids and teens. For the adult community, there will be the monthly Cookbook Club discussion and a DIY jewelry making program. We look forward to seeing you and encourage you to "Connect with Your Library!" ■

For more information on the library and its programs, visit the library's website at www.nutleypubliclibrary.org.

COMMUNITY:

A Creative Girl Scouts Adventure!

By Janell Batiller

Girl Scout Troop #20450 had so much fun making their own personalized mugs and pins at Pretty Handy on 175 Franklin Avenue. They are grateful to have such a special business in our town of Nutley!



From left: Kelsey, Jenna, Isabella, Hattie, Brielle, Vivienne, Lana, Natalie P, Natalie B. and Holly.
Daisy Leaders: Karen and Janine

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APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Apr. 7, 14, 28, May 5, 12, 19, Thurs.

Aspiring Authors Class

@Parks and Recreation Dept., 44 Park Ave.

For Nutley students Grades 1-6. In this six-week program, Dr. Stephanie Dalianis-Antell will be heading a fun-filled class that incorporates both reading and writing to encourage young authors! Children will have the opportunity to read their favorite books and discuss the stories in a "book club" while also writing their own fictional works to share with their peers. This is a great opportunity for your youngsters to become enthusiastic about reading and creative writing in a casual, friendly environment.

Time: 5pm – Grades 1-3 | 6pm – Grades 4-6

Cost: \$50 per person

For more information and registration form visit www.nutleynj.org/news/post/14476

Apr. 9, Sat.

Chalk Art Festival | Nutley Relay for Life

@Memorial Park I, Passaic Ave. and Vreeland Ave.

All ages welcome to make art for a good cause. All proceeds benefit Nutley Relay for Life. Register upon arrival and don't forget to bring your own chalk.

Time: 1-4pm **Cost:** \$20 for a 10 ft. section of pathway

For more information call the Dept. of Parks and Recreation at 973-284-4966

Apr. 14, Thurs.

Flashlight Egg Hunt

@Reinheimer Park on Bloomfield Ave.

For Nutley residents Grades 2-6. Bring a flashlight and a basket or bag to collect your eggs! The flashlight hunt begins at dusk. All participants must be pre-registered to the event.

Time: 7-7:45pm **Cost:** Free

For more information visit www.nutleynj.org/calendar. To register visit <https://register.communitypass.net/nutley>

Apr. 16, Sat.

The Mountsier Garden Open Day

This year, the garden will be open to the public four times, so people will be able to see the beautiful changes throughout the spring. In April, the thousands of daffodils are in bloom! All visitors must make a reservation though the Garden Conservancy Open Days program.

Time: 10am-4pm

Cost: \$10

For more information visit www.gardenconservancy.org/open-days/open-days-schedule/essex-county-nj-open-day-9



Apr. 19, Tue.

ShopRite Children's Healthy Cooking Class

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.

For ages 6-12. Learn how to make tasty and healthy treats with ShopRite dietician Stephanie Bini! Registration is required.

Time: 11:45am-1pm

For more information visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405 ext. 2623

Apr. 20, Wed.

Paint-A-Pot

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.

For all ages. Decorate an adorable container and bring home a beautiful plant in this outdoor event!

Time: 10-11am | 11am-12pm

For more information and to register visit www.youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405 ext. 2623

The Community School in Nutley

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4-Star Rating from Grow NJ Kids

Infant Toddler Program
200 Highfield Lane

Full Day Program
100 Vincent Place

Half Day Program
10 St. Paul's Place

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- Summer Program

For further information:
www.communityschoolnutleynj.com
Email: csnutley@optonline.net
973-661-0789

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Important Phone Numbers - www.NutleyNJ.org

Emergency 911
 Police Department..... (973) 284-4940
 Fire Department (973) 284-4940
 Town Hall (973) 284-4951
 Library (973) 667-0405

Parks and Recreation (973) 284-4966
 School District..... (973) 661-3500
 Chamber of Commerce (973) 667-5300
 Public Affairs & Health Dept. (973) 284-4976
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