

DECEMBER 2018

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

NUTLEY NEIGHBORS

The Dauksis Family Leaves Room for Dessert

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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The End or Just the Finish Line?

December is a month I look forward to and also dread a little. On the happy side, it's filled with holidays, but it also has that end of the year thing going on. It's a time of reflection on all that has happened in the previous months, which causes nostalgia and a bit of sadness.

Auld Lang Syne seems to be on everyone's playlist but how about trying the theme from *Chariots of Fire* instead this year? I now see December as just the finish line and not the end.

In every issue of *Nutley Neighbors*, we bring you stories of people, events, and businesses in town. Each article is small glimpse into a family's life or a view of an organization that impacts the community. Although the pages turn and the stories end, there is an ongoing sense of continuity.

Nutley, and everything that makes it an especially wonderful town, will continue beyond midnight of December 31. When we turn over the calendar page for 2019, we are merely waving the starting flag for a new year.

I like that thought.

In these pages, meet the people who contribute to Nutley in our neighborhoods, organizations, schools, and businesses. On the cover is Frank and Sheila Dauksis and son, Leo. They chose this town to raise their family and genuinely enjoy being here. They are also exceptional *Nutley Neighbors*.

We also have a couple articles inspired and written by residents. Christina Mosca appreciates the teachers in town and tells us about visiting her former fifth grade teacher, Miss Carpenter. Dorothy Huey, a relatively new member of Nutley Rotary, explains why she joined and how this group is committed to making a positive impact in this community. Mary Tenore shared a wonderful story about a childhood friendship her daughter had and an unusual series of events that brought the two young women together about 20 years later.

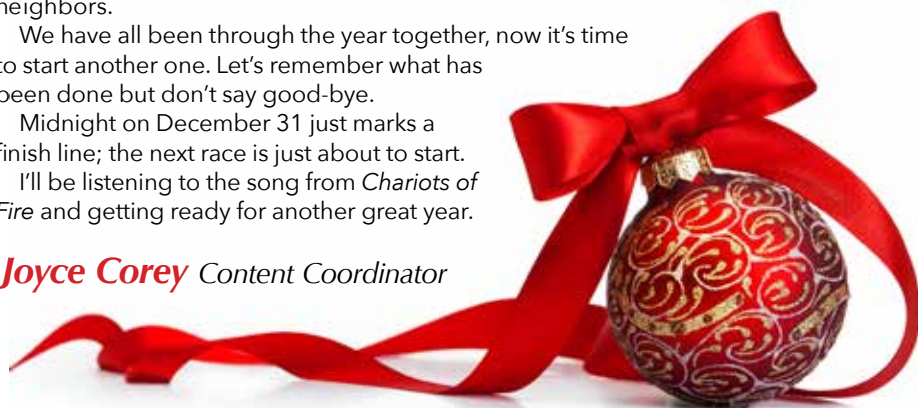
We sincerely appreciate when residents write articles about people, places, or events that are important to them. Please consider each page a look at some aspect of Nutley, whether past or present, that brings us all together as neighbors.

We have all been through the year together, now it's time to start another one. Let's remember what has been done but don't say good-bye.

Midnight on December 31 just marks a finish line; the next race is just about to start.

I'll be listening to the song from *Chariots of Fire* and getting ready for another great year.

Joyce Corey Content Coordinator





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The Dauksis Family Leaves Room for Dessert

By Joyce Corey

Photographs by Randall Kenneth Photography

If you ask Frank Dauksis what's for dinner, he may consult the menu at the restaurant he owns, Michael's Roscommon House in Belleville. If you ask his wife, Sheila, she may say a peanut butter sandwich, a glass of milk, and a bottle.

The difference, of course, is the diners. Frank's Irish-American cuisine keeps a steady stream of patrons happy, while Sheila is planning meals for their son, Leo, who is three, and their newborn daughter, Riley.

To say that the Dauksis family is busy is an understatement, but they have a philosophy that keeps them grounded.

Frank said, "Our family motto is 'Work hard, play hard' and because of that outlook, we do a lot and have a lot of fun along the way."



Leo enjoying his favorite park:
Yantacaw "Digger" Park

The Dauksis family officially started in May 2015, when Frank and Sheila got married. "I met Sheila at Costco," Frank said. Both had grown up in the nearby area; Frank went to Seton Hall Preparatory School and Sheila attended DePaul High School.

"When we started to look for a house, we knew we wanted to stay close to my family's restaurant," Frank said. "We found our house in the Spring Garden section almost by accident. I didn't even know such a perfect neighborhood existed."

Frank and Sheila have high praise for the town and their street. "It's everything we ever wanted in a neighborhood," Frank said. "There's a ton of kids there who are Leo's age. I almost feel like we are living in a Hallmark movie. Everyone waves and

is friendly. At Christmas, we all decorate our houses and the children love it. There is a nostalgic 1950s feel to where we live. It's amazing."

They moved in on September 1, 2017 and had probably one of the best meet-and-greets ever. "The week after we moved in, the neighborhood had their annual block party," Frank said. "We were introduced to all the neighbors, had a great time, and felt really welcomed."

Meeting people and sharing stories over good food has always been part of Frank's world. "My family owned the restaurant, Michael's Roscommon House, for 36 years. I started working there when I was five," he said. "When my dad died, I was 17, so my mom and I ran the restaurant. She retired a few years ago. Our goal remains the same: good food and an 'at home' appeal."

Working at the restaurant is challenging with long hours. "We are very busy there from the start of football season to



Leo's third birthday

St. Patrick's Day," Frank said.

The restaurant features Irish-American cuisine and Frank is pleased to say that he represented the Irish as the Grand Marshal in the St. Patrick's Day parade in 2017. "I was the youngest Grand Marshal ever chosen," he said.

He is a member of the Nutley Irish American Alliance which is a group that supports the community in many ways, one of which is organizing the parade in town.

Family is important to Frank and Sheila and one of the ways they relax is at their shore home in Long Beach Island. "We spend about three nights a week there during the summer," he said.

Another way they spend family time is on Sundays. "That's the day we all have dinner together," he said. "Both sets of grandparents come over and it's a special time for us."

Not only do Frank and Sheila love their Nutley neighborhood, but Leo is enjoying several activities. "Right now, he is in Pre-K at Spring Garden School," Frank said. "He was in the recreation department's soccer program which

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was a lot of fun for him and us. His games were usually scheduled in the afternoon when the temperature was in the 90s. But the kids had a great time and no one even noticed the weather. Another favorite activity is going to the Nutley library with Sheila."

Leo, and the rest of his family, love the parks in Nutley. "He has names for each park," Frank said. "He calls Yantacaw 'digger park' because of the work they were doing on the bridge. Kingsland Park is called 'tree park' which is pretty accurate."

He is also very excited to be a big brother to his new sister, Riley. *(At the time of this writing the Dauksis family is waiting for her arrival in mid-November.)*

The birth of their second child carries with it the happiness every parent feels, but for Frank and Sheila, there is an added layer of joy.

"My wife is a breast cancer survivor," Frank said. "She was diagnosed with breast cancer only one week prior to giving birth to Leo in 2015. Because of this, since we've moved into Nutley, she's become a proud member of the Nutley Thriving Survivors Group, an organization for breast cancer survivors who live or work in Nutley. We also organize a 5k Breast Cancer Awareness Walk from my restaurant which we created while Sheila was going through chemotherapy treatments in 2015. All of the money we've ever raised goes directly to help current breast cancer patients with mounting medical bills."

Life for the Dauksis family is definitely busy, but fun, family, hope and happiness are always on the menu.

5

Five Things the Dauksis Family Loves about Nutley

1. Parks
2. Old-time neighborhood feel
3. Center of town shops and stores
4. Schools
5. All of the many activities for the families and children

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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My Rotary Journey

By Dorothy Huey

When we answered the knock on our front door, Barbara Hirsch and Bob Peters were there with a surprise for us: Nutley Rotary had named our son Tyler as their 2012 Rotary Scholar and granted him a generous college scholarship! That personal touch, as well as the honor, was a special Rotary moment.

Over the next few years, I thought about joining Nutley Rotary, but it wasn't until I met Barbara Hirsch at the Nutley Farmers Market Civic Pride Day that I started to discover how amazing Rotary is.

I learned that Rotary is a service organization which provides help for the community and the world through small and large projects. Nutley Rotarians are people of action who had a part in two water projects in Mexico and Africa! That's when I decided to join, as I have a big interest in helping with the water crisis in the world.

Locally, we donate a Camp Merry Heart campership for a Nutley youth, sponsor a Little League team, offer college scholarships and, most recently, our new member John Monaco spearheaded our first annual car show, benefitting Nutley police and firefighters.

Rotary has six focus areas: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies. Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for over 30 years, and our goal of ridding the earth of this disease is close to being achieved. We started in 1979 with vaccinations for six million children in the Philippines. Today,



Nutley Rotary celebrates the installation of the 2018-19 President Ro Costa and her board at Nanina's in the Park.



World Water Day Nichols Park cleanup - Linda Buset, John Lee, Chris Masullo, Roberta Ducci, Bob Peters, James Huey, Dorothy Huey, Ben Costa, Ro Costa

Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan are the only countries where polio remains endemic, with only 22 cases in 2017.

There is so much going on in Rotary, so, as a new member, I attend as many events as possible, including Leadership and District Assembly and social events such as our New Teacher Welcome Dinner at the Nutley Library, the installation dinner at Nanina's in the Park, and the President's Ball at Mayfair Farms.

One of my favorite things to do with Rotary is Dictionary Day; we visit public and private elementary schools in town and deliver a special gift to all the third graders—a paperback dictionary! They are so joyful and excited to receive this gift and eagerly look up words, United States presidents, sign language, Braille charts and more!

Since joining Rotary, I have participated in several projects. We created a butterfly garden at the Nutley Public Library in memory of

Grace Viola, and will have a ceremony there announcing this soon.

In honor of World Water Day, we cleaned up Nichols Park, which raised our awareness of how much plastic is in the world. As part of this cleanup, we had a speaker from the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission who taught us that all plastic anywhere ends up in the water.

This past summer, my husband and I attended our first Rotary District Conference, which just happened to be on a cruise to the Bahamas! We had a wonderful time and learned so much. One takeaway for me is that there is a critical mass of goodwill and people are willing to help; they only need to be asked.

We also were very excited to attend our first International Convention in Toronto, which was a



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whirlwind of fun, learning and socializing! I was excited to learn more about the Rotary area of focus in growing local economies. I learned about Launch Detroit, a Rotarian program which partners aspiring entrepreneurs and mentors, along with banks that offer microloans, schools that teach the business skills needed to succeed, and Rotarians who bring it all together.

Do you think violence in the world has increased or decreased? General Secretary John Hewko showed us that political conflict is declining and that our world is healthier, more prosperous, and more peaceful than at any time in history. He referenced the fascinating book *Factfulness*, which is an examination of how we cling to our beliefs, even when we are presented with opposing facts.

World Polio Day falls on October 24th, and we scheduled a cleanup at the Outdoor Classroom in honor of this day. We also got together with Meredith Blank of the Public Affairs office in town to weed the Community Garden, and we are going back there soon to continue that work.

If you have questions about Nutley Rotary and what we do, please contact Walt Smith at waltbeau@aol.com or 973-661-2783.

Visit our website: www.nutleyrotary.org, and find Rotary of Nutley Official on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Adopt Us!

Submitted by Tiffany Servidio

Meet blue, beauty Kayla! She was rescued from the Newark shelter about a year ago and has been thriving in her foster home ever since. Kayla's only Christmas wish this year is to find a forever home in time for the holidays! Kayla is about 4 years old, housebroken, crate trained, and knows her basic commands. She is very smart and loving. Kayla loves people and children of all ages! Kayla enjoys her walks and play time in the yard, but also loves resting on the couch. She prefers to be the queen of her castle, so no other pets please. If Kayla sounds like the perfect match for you, contact Brick City Rescue at info@brickcityrescue.com to get her home for the holidays!



Submitted by Christa Milici

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Teacher Appreciation

By Christina Mosca

"Good morning Mr. Walker!"

was the greeting at Yantacaw School in the 1980's. What a wonderful experience I had, going through the Nutley school system. My parents spoke about their experience attending Lincoln School, and my daughters are looking forward to their experience going through Yantacaw School.

I, myself, am currently a teacher in Kearny and I have been teaching for 20 years. I often think back on my predecessors and there is one teacher that always comes to mind, especially when I am teaching grammar. Her name is Miss Carpenter.

Miss Carpenter taught 5th grade at Yantacaw School. She was energetic and very creative. To this day I could name all the helping verbs she taught us. Miss Carpenter had us recite, in song, many grammar rules. She would write in several different colored chalks and made beautiful diagrams, taking up most of the large chalkboard that spread across the wall. I could hear her deep voice, tender yet stern. She had her pointer stick with an apple on top in one hand and a teddy bear in the other. That visual is symbolic of her character. She was tough but loving.

As a fifth grader, at that time and I still believe today, you need some TLC. Fifth grade is the beginning of adolescence and there is a lot of pressure that comes along with that. In her class, you had to take responsibilities for your actions and be prepared. Miss Carpenter also made



Miss Carpenter

the experience unique for her students. Her love for bears! She had us bring in our own bear, give him/her an identity and take care of them. We would write about them and even had a teddy bear parade. In a way, it was preparing us to take on challenges, but in an empathetic way. It was teaching us to remember to care and love for one another.

Miss Carpenter still lives in town and I was lucky enough to visit her with my two daughters. I also had the chance to see my 6th grade teacher, Miss Aiello, who was making her weekly visit. It was so heartwarming to show them pictures of our class, naming each student, and talking about who I am still friends with 30 plus years later. I loved sharing the stories with my daughters and seeing the smiles on their faces.

Our small community of Nutley has so much to offer and makes such an impression on every generation. Our educators hold an important role in the development

in our children, and we are lucky to have teachers like Miss Carpenter.

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From Grade School to Graduation

By Joyce Corey

Jenna Tenore and Amy Beronio were childhood friends until a block of time and several neighborhood blocks separated them. But true friendships continue despite years and distance apart as they discovered in an unusual way.

Mary Tenore, Jenna's mother, tells us about the start of this friendship.

"We moved to Nutley from Belleville in 1996 when Jenna started kindergarten because my husband, John, and I had heard wonderful things about the Nutley school system," she said. "Jenna met Amy right away since she lived across the street and both girls attended Spring Garden School."

The girls had fun together as neighborhood friends and saw each other in school until Amy's family moved.

"Although they didn't move out of town, it was only a few blocks away; the distance was large enough that the girls didn't see each other anymore. Since Amy is a year older they weren't in the same class either," Mary said.

The years went by and although Mary said "I would see Amy's parents, Joe and Carol, in local stores or in town from time to time," the girls' friendship was at a standstill.

Until, that is, the lives of Jenna and Amy intersected in an unusual way.

Mary tells us about how the now, young women, reconnected their friendship.

"Jenna enrolled into the Masters of Science in Occupational Therapy program at Kean University. She was accepted into the program under slim odds because only 10% of applicants are accepted per year."

This program is intensive as it provides a broad education in this field but it is also very selective. Only 35 students are admitted each September even though over 300 submit an application.

Another student who was accepted into the program at the same time as Jenna was her childhood friend, Amy.

Mary describes this coincidence as "surreal."

Mathematically, the odds were against this. There was almost a twenty year separation from their kindergarten days and playing together in the neighborhood. Also interesting is the likelihood of both Jenna and Amy pursuing the exact same degree at the exact same time in the exact same college. Kean University's enrollment policy, which limited the class size to only 35 students also contributed to the odds against the women being reconnected in this type of setting.

Mary said, "At the start of the program, Jenna and



Amy Beronio (left)
and Jenna Tenore

Amy recognized each other from Nutley and were equally excited that their paths crossed again.

Jenna and Amy graduated in January 2018 and the ceremony was held in May of that year. They also both completed the certification exam administered by the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Jenna currently works with special needs children and will be joining the staff at Kessler Institute.

Amy was recently married to Brian Neilan, also of Nutley, and she is currently employed as an occupational therapist in the adult population.

The lives of Jenna and Amy have a heartwarming parallel that highlights the continuity

of true friendship. From Nutley neighbors to classmates in college, time and distance did not erase their bond. Although it seemed the odds were against them reconnecting, true friendship is always a sure thing.

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Nutley's Historical Citizens Come to Life in *Nutley Notables Volume Two* by Anthony Buccino

By Barry Lenson

In 2014, Nutley author Anthony Buccino published his book *Nutley Notables: The men and women who made a notable impact on our home town, Nutley, New Jersey*. The book has since become a classic work about Nutley history. Now Anthony has published a second volume, *Nutley Notables, Volume Two*, that profiles even more fascinating people who have made a lasting impact on our town.

I recently chatted with Anthony about his new book. We know you will learn a lot from these excerpts from our conversation.

■ What motivated you to write your new book?

When we held our book signing for volume one, we asked readers to nominate candidates for volume two. We were able to track down information on most of them and they appear in our latest issue. As for the rest of the suggestions, we have nearly 100 possible candidates for volume three. We're hoping it takes less than four years for volume three. We're open for suggestions!

■ Did you make any interesting or unusual discoveries as you researched your new book?

The irony of being a historian is that you think you know things no one else knows and then you turn over a rock and discover something that surprises, entertains, and creates 'new history'.

For instance, the Women's Club existed in town for 100 years, but who knew it rose from the humble beginnings of a book readers group?

NUTLEY NOTABLES:
The men and women
who made a memorable
impact on our home
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ANTHONY BUCCINO

Also, the Rheinheimer Boys Club may be a distant memory for many here, but it was started in "a small room described as a shack" by one Nutley woman. She wrangled and cajoled our town's leaders to expand and support the group 85 years ago.

We were pleased to finally document the mixed memories we heard about Yankees pitching ace Mel Stottlemyre living in Nutley. We shared a wonderful first-person piece from that era written by their Alexander Avenue neighbor Helen Maguire (profiled in volume one). It makes me wonder how many old-timers in our town still have their Stottlemyre autographed photos and baseballs.

■ Could you describe two or three important or unusual Nutleyites you added to your new book?

The artists and musicians who hail from Nutley continue to surprise me. Part of that was the influence of The Enclosure Artists Colony about a hundred years ago. For instance, Arthur Elder studied under James Whistler, moved to San Francisco and, after one earthquake, settled at 90 Vreeland Avenue, just a walk through the park to the Enclosure where he could hang around with art notables such as Frederick Dana Marsh, Guy Pène du Bois, Albert Sterner, Earl Stetson, and Arthur Hoeber. Now there's a crowd any artist would pay to be a fly on their wall.

Thomas Lovell grew up on the other side of town (in Mel Stottlemyre's neighborhood 60 years apart) on Alexander Avenue and is widely known for his cowboy

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art. Maybe he ran into and was inspired by Annie Oakley at Eaton Stone's circus around the corner?

And then there's Nutley artist Dick Kramer who worked as the art director at ITT, and later struggled as a freelancer until found his niche in military art prints which are highly sought.

Many folks in Nutley fondly recall their accordion lessons with Oakley Terrace resident Charles Nunzio at his Franklin Avenue music store, but who knew he made his Town Hall debut in 1933, or that in 1941, he published *The Complete Hanon for the Accordion* paperback, the essential book of finger exercises for accordion players. His 70-year career left a permanent mark on many Nutley musicians.

■ **Do you see any patterns or trends? Is there something that motivated all these people to live in Nutley and contribute to the town?**

The most common pattern in the folks we've profiled is their motivation to serve, to give back, whether that's to Nutley or the world. Many of them take their lessons learned growing up here in Nutley and apply that to their lives. While we've profiled many professional folks, we also have a great share of salt-of-the-earth people who volunteer. Some have volunteered for decades and their



Nutley's own, Anthony Buccino

contributions have made a difference, or, as we like to say, they made a memorable impact on our home town, Nutley, New Jersey.

■ **Is there something to say about the particular role that women have played in the history of our town?**

I give a lot of credit to former mayor Joanne Cocchiola, not only for her public service, but for bringing to everyone's attention the contributions of women to our town with two projects, the Nutley Women's History Month Committee in March 2002, and the Women's History Panel in March 2014. The groups graciously shared their research - literally, a sack of folders handed from Nancy Greulich to Vicky Chalk to Joanne and to

me - and it helped complete nearly half of volume two. These women's stories would otherwise have been lost to obscurity but now help form the narrative of Nutley history from the 1800s to today. (Cocchiola and Chalk were profiled in volume one, Greulich is in volume two).

■ **How can people order your new book?**

Currently, it's available only through Amazon. The Nutley Museum plans to have a launch event early next year. Visit the Nutley Historical Society website at www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.org to learn more.

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Gaetano "Tom" Nicastro

PART 2 OF A 3-PART SERIES

By Frankie Turano

Gaetano "Tom" Nicastro was born in Newark on Littleton Avenue. His father, Philip, and mother, Florence, immigrants from Sicily, owned and operated an Italian grocery store during Gaetano's early years. A description of the fulfilling and generous life of our hometown hero has been written by his son, Fr. Tom Nicastro, in an obituary that I quote:

"After graduation from West Side High School in 1950, he enlisted in the U.S. Army attaining the rank of corporal, and serving in the 7th Infantry, 17th Regiment, Charlie Company, from April 22, 1952 until July 28, 1954. He attended and completed a course at Eta Jima Specialist School APO354 receiving a certificate of proficiency as a Medic aid man in March of 1953. He participated as a medic in the Battle of Old Baldy, Hill 266 and the famous Battle on Pork Chop Hill. He was one of a very few infantrymen to survive. He received two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star with Valor device, a Good Conduct medal, and the crowning achievement was receiving a citation from his commanding officer, General Arthur G. Trudeau, commander of the 7th Division, for bravery under fire. As a medic, he was injured rescuing others while under heavy artillery fire on Pork Chop Hill. He remained on reserve from 1954 until his honorable discharge in 1960."

"Being an accomplished dancer, Mr. Nicastro entertained the troops during the war, highlighted by dancing with Marilyn Monroe when she entertained the troops in Korea. After the war, he continued dancing most evenings during the week, giving lessons as well. It was during this time that he participated in many shows, competitions,

and some dances sponsored by Columbia Hospital. He was also an accomplished musician, playing the saxophone and clarinet."

"Mr. Nicastro was employed by Celentano Brothers, Inc. headquartered in Verona.

From 1954 to 1970 he was the general manager of the Roseville Avenue store location."

"During the years 1970 to 1978 he operated the Canterbury 5 & 10, Inc. in North Arlington. In 1979, he began a career in real estate. He graduated from the Vale School of Real Estate and was licensed in New Jersey. In 1981, Mr. Nicastro received

the Relator Association Community Service Award."

"Since 2005, he had served as advisor to the Nicastro-owned Castle Realty of Nutley. After his death, Domenick, the broker-owner of the agency and his daughter, Lisa, one of several agents, continued the tradition begun by their father."

"Mr. Nicastro was a member of the V.F.W. Newark Police Post 1439, The Nutley Amvets, the Federation of Italian American Societies of N.J. and the Catholic War Veterans Fr. Owens Memorial Post 1187."

"During his active years with the Catholic War Veterans, he served as post adjutant, one year as 1st vice commander and five years as the commander of the post, and Essex County adjutant from 1979 till 1980. He served on several committees in the State Department of Catholic War Veterans as well. In 1989, he was formally inducted into the Catholic War Veterans Hall of Fame."

"Since 1981, he has been a very active member of the



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West Essex Chapter of UNICO National, giving himself totally and completely to promoting the ideals of UNICO. He truly embodied UNICO's motto "Service above Self" in his interactions with other members."

"During his tenure with UNICO, he was president of the chapter from 1986 to 1987 and again from 1996 to 1997. In 1997-1998 he received the UNICAN of the Year award and was a member of the board of trustees as well."

"He was the head usher for Sunday Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church, where he spearheaded fundraising events. For the past 50 years, he was the president of the "Golden Dozen" married couples club which he and his wife, Phyllis, actively participated in with friends they grew up with. He was also a long-time member of the St. Gerard Men's Society of Newark."

Besides having a lovely wife and three wonderful children, Lisa, Father Tom, and Domenick, how could you possibly top this list of achievements?

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To be continued next month ...

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Nutley Librarians Select the Best Books, Movies, and Music for 2018

Submitted by Joyce Corey

As the darker and colder winter days come upon us, it is the perfect time of year to curl up with a good book, get cozy and watch a film, or relax to the sounds of music. The following is a suggested list of the best books, movies, and music by your local librarians.

CURL UP WITH A GOOD BOOK.

For fiction readers, *The Air You Breathe* by Frances de Pontes Peebles is a haunting musical tale about a deep and volatile friendship between two girls in 1930's Brazil. *Tangerine* by Christine Mangan tells a chilling and unexpected portrait of a female friendship set in 1950's Morocco. *Where the Crawdads Sing*, written by Delia Owens, is a heart-wrenching story about a young girl ostracized by her community, and is now the prime suspect in a murder investigation. In *State of Freedom* by Neel Mukherjee, five characters in very different circumstances find the meanings of dislocation and the desire to get more out of life. Set in 1974, *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah, reveals a dramatic tale about a Vietnam



veteran who, upon his return from war, moves his family to the wilds of Alaska to start their lives anew. And in *An Absolutely Remarkable Thing*, Internet culture icon, Hank Green, debuts his first science fiction story of Amber May. While on her journey to uncover the truth about mysterious sculptures, she discovers a powerful message about the dark side of Internet news, fame, and humanity.

Teens searching for an adventure-fantasy story with monster hunting, deep character development, and video game play, should try the *Witcher* series by Andrzej Sapkowski. Teens looking for a historical, Wild West, fast-paced thrilling story with twists will enjoy *Retribution Rails* by Erin Bowman. And for graphic novel loving teens, Ngozi Ukazu brings her popular webcomic and coming-of-age stories to print in *Check, Please! #Hockey*, where a former figure ice skating champion discovers



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himself while exploring hockey and bros during the best years of his life.

Non-fiction readers of spiritual exploration will be enlightened with *Stalking God: My Unorthodox Search for Something to Believe In* by the pragmatic Google lawyer, Anjali Kumar. For music lovers, *Twilight of the Gods: A Journey to the End of Classic Rock* by Steven Hyden, takes a bold look into the lives of rock stars over generations and the real messages they leave behind. For those interested in medical history, *The Sawbones Book: The Hilarious, Horrifying Road to Modern Medicine* by Justin McElroy breaks down the weird and wonderful way we got to modern healthcare. *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life: A Sortabiography* is an honest and funny memoir by Eric Idle of Monty Python and Spamalot fame. And *Robin*, by New York Times reporter Dave Itzkoff, is a detailed look into the life of the late and beloved comedian, Robin Williams.

Preschool-aged children will have a giggle-fest while reading *Did You Eat the Parakeet?* by Mark Iacolina, as a little girl's cat defends himself of accusations. Children will also smile while reading *Square* by children's literature duo Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen, as Square copes with the pressures of being labeled an artistic genius. In *Norse Myths: Tales of Odin, Thor and Loki* by Kevin Crossley-Holland, gods of the Vikings come to life in this illustrated anthology. And in the powerfully moving graphic novel *Illegal* by Eoin Colfer, two young brothers set out on a dangerous journey in the hope of a new life.

GET COZY AND WATCH A FILM.

Won't You Be My Neighbor? is a documentary that explores the life, lessons, and legacy of everyone's favorite neighbor, Fred Rogers. *Isle of Dogs*, directed by Wes Anderson and voice-acted by iconic actors such as Bryan Cranston, Bill Murray, and Jeff Goldblum, is set in a dystopian future that follows a boy's odyssey for his lost dog. *I, Tonya* is the Academy Award winning film about national figure skaters Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan and one of the most infamous scandals in sports history. *Judwaa 2*, an Indian Hindi-language action-comedy, is about twin brothers who are separated at birth but uniquely connected to each other via their reflexes.

RELAX TO THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC.

The Who Live at the Fillmore East 1968, a 50th anniversary double CD album of their live performance at Bill Graham's Fillmore East Theatre in New York. *An American Treasure*, is a career-spanning box set containing unreleased recordings and rarities that spotlights the late Tom Petty's legacy. And *The Greatest Showman* movie soundtrack provides feel-good music with powerful lyrics that will resonate with the entire family.

In addition to the above suggestions, there are thousands of items to choose from at the Nutley Public Library that will satisfy interests across all ages. As always, be sure to ask your librarian for additional suggestions throughout the new year.





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Things to Consider When Planning Your Estate

By Melanie L. Ryan

Estate planning can be very confusing and emotional. The following items can be helpful in making important decisions about having your final wishes carried out properly and avoid undue stress on your loved ones.

■ What is the difference between estate tax and inheritance tax?

Estate tax is paid by your estate and depends on the value of the estate at the time of the decedent's passing. NJ follows federal IRS guidelines about estate taxes. As of 2016, the federal exemption for taxation of an estate was \$5.45 million. Persons with assets in excess of these thresholds should seek tax and accounting advice in conjunction with preparing their last will and testament.

Inheritance tax is paid by beneficiaries of your estate and it depends upon which class the beneficiaries fall into and the amount of their inheritance. In NJ, Class A beneficiaries (spouses and most family members) are exempt and the other classes pay 0 to 16%.

There is no federal inheritance tax.

■ What is part of my estate? What is not?

Included in your estate will be your personal and real estate property, bank accounts and securities accounts held in your name, and gifts made within 3 years prior to death.

Excluded from your estate are things with a named beneficiary like life insurance and annuities, 401K and other retirement plans, and certain trusts, business interests and property held jointly.

■ What is the difference between an executor and a trustee?

An executor's job is to see that your wishes in the will are carried out properly, file final tax returns, pay expenses and debts, and probate the estate in the courts. Often this person works with an attorney. These duties are set forth by law.

A trustee is someone you have put in place to oversee assets intended for someone in the future. For example, you may choose to leave certain assets to a minor and appoint a trustee to handle the assets until the minor is of age. A trustee's duties are set forth by you in your will and/or in the trust documents.

Often the executor and trustee is the same person, but they do not have to be.

■ What is the difference between joint tenants and tenants in common?

In a joint tenancy, upon the death of one tenant (owner), their share of the property passes to the other surviving tenant. Most marital assets are held as joint tenants. If a husband and wife own a home as joint tenants and the husband dies, the husband's share of the home transfers automatically to the wife.

With tenants in common, when one owner passes,



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their share goes to their estate and is distributed their heirs. Joint tenancy and tenants in common is especially important for business owners to understand. If John and Bill own a restaurant property as joint tenants and John dies, John's heirs take John's 50% of the restaurant and Bill keeps his 50% interest.

■ What about a healthcare directive/living will?

End of life decisions are very personal and require much consideration. A healthcare directive is advisable for everyone as it can alleviate stress on family members faced with decisions and ensure that those decisions are made in accordance with your wishes. Knowing that they are acting in accordance with your wishes, your health care proxy can feel comfortable with giving directions as to your care, which may conflict their own or others' beliefs.

A living will is different from your last will and testament - they are two separate documents with two distinct purposes. Your last will and testament addresses the disposition of your real and personal property; your health care directive ("living will") addresses your end of life care, anatomical gifts and final disposition of your remains.

The law office of Melanie L. Ryan LLC offers a free consultation to anyone considering drafting or changing their estate documents and Melanie can be reached at 917-346-6547 or by email to melanie@melanieryanlaw.com.



Class of '53 Valedictorians

Submitted by Nutley Neighbors Staff

In our November issue, we had an article about the 65th reunion of Nutley High School's Class of '53. It has recently been brought to our attention that there were two valedictorians that year. Sharing the role with Bernell Irish was Helen Del Sordo Watson.

Helen had a perfect 100 percent grade point average and also spoke at the podium on the day of graduation.

Special thanks to her daughter, Laura, for bringing this information to our attention.

The photo above was taken at the 1953 Nutley High School graduation ceremony in Boy's Park. The class officers and valedictorians were the last of the class to enter the procession to the bleacher seating, as they were the speakers, and class officers were seated in the front row. In this photo, one of the faculty members was coordinating the procession giving each of the "tail enders" the signal when to proceed. Bob Watts is leading this mini-parade, and right behind him are Helen Del Sordo and Burnell Irish, the two Class of 1953 valedictorians.

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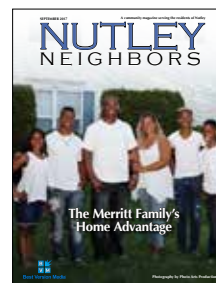


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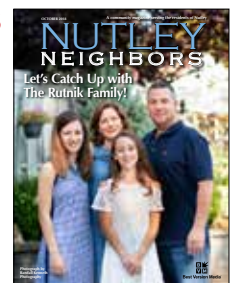


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EVENTS CALENDAR **DECEMBER** 2018

Dec. 1, Sat.

Electronics Recycling Collection Day

@Municipal Parking Lot 8, William St. and Franklin Ave. (behind Woroco gas station)
Acceptable items for recycling are computers and laptops, fax machines, microwaves, monitors, printers, scanners, stereos and speakers, VCR and DVD players, and televisions.
Time: 9am-1pm
For more information call the Department of Public Works at 973-284-4984.

Dec. 1-2, Sat.-Sun.

Essex County Historic Holiday House Tour

@Kingsland Manor, 3 Kingsland St. The 1700s brownstone Dutch Colonial is steeped in history and beautifully decorated for the holidays. Come explore the historic homestead of the Kingsland family and beyond, set within park-like grounds overlooking a pond and waterfalls. Take a tour, shop in the gift shop, and enjoy holiday refreshments.
Time: 1-4pm
Cost: Free admission but donations gratefully accepted.
For more information visit www.kingslandmanor.org

Dec. 1, Sat.

Gingerbread House Making Workshop

@Essex County Environmental Center, 621-B Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland
Stop by the Essex County Environmental Center and the resourceful staff will get you started on your own unique creation. All gingerbread projects must be completed by 1pm to be

considered for the contest. Some materials will be provided, however, you are encouraged to bring your own items. This is the last day to register for the contest. Advance registration is required.
Time: 11am-1pm
Cost: Free
For more information about this event or the contest call 973-228-8776.

Dec. 1, Sat.

Saturday Afternoon Book Club

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.
Presenting Before the Book: Workshops for Aspiring Writers, a series of four workshops led by author Hillary DePiano. Part 4 is Now What? Taking Your New Novel Through Editing, Publication, and Beyond.
Time: 2pm
For more information call 973-667-0405 or visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org

Dec. 2, Sun.

Tour of the Maternity Center at CMMC

@Clara Maass Medical Center, 1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
Prepare for the birth of your child by touring the Maternity Center at Clara Maass Medical Center and learn about the parent education series. Following the tour, meet a member of the team to discuss the admission process and explore the various childbirth options available.
Time: 9am, 10am
For more information visit www.rwjbh.org/events

Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Mon.

Self Help Program: Tai Chi, Qigong, Yoga, Stress Technique, & Meditation

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

Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Mon.

Senior Art Program

@Parks and Recreation Bldg., 44 Park Ave.
Time: 1:00-2:30pm
For more information contact the Recreation office at 973-284-4966

Dec. 4, 18, Tue.

Board of Commissioners Meeting

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

Dec. 4, 11, Tue.

Infant Massage Class

@Clara Maass Medical Center, 1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
Parents and caregivers will learn the benefits of massage as a way to improve bonding and communication, improve sleep and digestion, and reduce stress and depression in both parents and babies. Parents-to-be and those with children from 2 weeks to age 1 may participate. For expecting parents, a doll will be provided for in-class practice.
Time: 6-8pm
For more information visit www.rwjbh.org/events

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Wed.

Essex County Aerobic Exercise Program

@Parks and Recreation Building, 44 Park Ave.

Time: 9:30am
For more information and to register call 973-735-6228

Dec. 5, Wed.

Essex County Clerk Program

@Parks and Recreation Building, 44 Park Ave.
On the first Wednesday of each 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

Dec. 8, Sat.

A Saturday Morning of Classic Christmas Cartoons and Films

@Nutley Museum, 65 Church St. The program will include Christmas short films from the 1930s-1950s that include "The Little Drummer Boy," "A Christmas Dream," and "The Night Before Christmas," as well as classic cartoons like "The Christmas Visitor" and "The Little King Christmas Night." The showing will also include "The Little Match Girl," an immortal cartoon from 1937. All Nutleyites are invited to attend. Admission is free.
Time: 9:30-11am
For more information contact Barry Lenson, Nutley Museum Art Historian at 973-715-2691 or barrylenson@aya.yale.edu.

Dec. 8-9, Sat.-Sun.

Story Time with Santa and Mrs. Claus

@Kingsland Manor, 3 Kingsland St. Come meet Santa and Mrs. Claus! Admission is by reservation. Space is limited to 30 guests per session. Children will leave with a small



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Time: 10am and 12pm on Sat. 11am on Sun.

Cost: \$15 for one parent and child. \$5 for each additional adult or child.

For more information and to make a reservation visit www.kingslandmanor.org

Dec. 10, Mon.

Breastfeeding Workshop

@Clara Maass Medical Center,

1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville

For new mothers considering breastfeeding, this workshop offers the assurance and knowledge needed to establish successful breastfeeding. A certified lactation consultant will share with new parents the advantages for both mother and baby of lactation, preparation, nutrition, and breast care. Dads-to-be and partners are also welcome.

Time: 7-9pm

For more information visit www.rwjbh.org/events

Dec. 14, Fri.

A Candlelight Reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"

@Kingsland Manor, 3 Kingsland St. Join Mr. Dickens as he tells his timeless yuletide tale in the home of the Kingsland family, surrounded by holiday decorations, flickering candles, and period furnishings. Light refreshments will be served. Recommended for adults and young adults (ages 12+). Reservations are required.

Time: 7-10pm

Cost: \$15 per ticket

For more information and to make a reservation visit www.kingslandmanor.org

Dec. 18, Tue.

Graphic Novel Club for Adults

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.

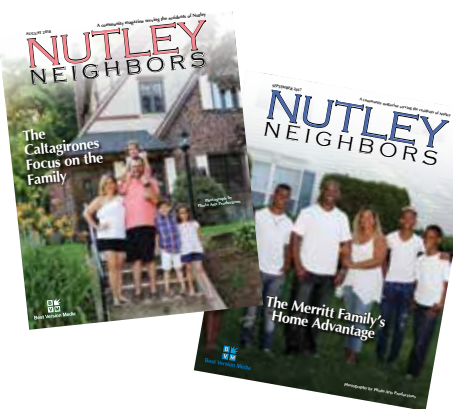
Discuss graphic novels and sample pastries from local bakeries. Copies of each book are available at the library one month prior to each meeting. This month, the group will be discussing *The Best We Could Do* by Thi Bui.

Time: 7pm

For more information and to

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register call 973-667-0405 x2604, visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/graphicnovelclub, or stop by the Reference Desk.

Nutley Department of Public Affairs FACEBOOK pages

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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

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Nutley Corps

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20 Fitting Pl	\$485,000	3	2	1431
12 Shepard Pl	\$499,000	4	2	2150
59 Prospect St	\$517,500	3	2	1888
190 Highfield Ln	\$520,000	3	2	1580
136 Columbia Ave	\$525,000	5	4	1950
274 Prospect St	\$530,000	3	2	2108
429 Prospect St	\$539,000	6	4	2143
9 San Antonio Ave	\$566,000	3	4	2096
86 Oakley Terr	\$569,000	5	3	3712
14 Brookway	\$570,000	3	3	2084
427 Centre St	\$570,000	9	3	3291
499 Prospect St	\$589,000	3	3	1822
54 Kenzel Ave	\$895,000	4	5	3922

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