

DECEMBER 2019

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

NUTLEY NEIGHBORS

Spending
Time with
James Biondi



Photograph by
Randall Kenneth
Photography



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What's My Age?

Sorry, that's a rhetorical question; no need to email me your best guess unless, of course, it's 30-something. Age is on my mind this month, especially after I talked to one of the town's residents who may very well have lived here the longest—in the same house.

James Biondi has been a Nutleyite for 94 years. He and his family moved here when he was seven and you all can do the math and figure out his age. I loved that he saw so many changes over time, from new buildings and paved streets, to black and white television (with no remotes!) and computers. Time always gives us a different perspective on life but there was one common theme that ran through all the time James has lived here: the caring community of Nutley.

How absolutely wonderful to live in a town among people you like! Hmmm...can I put all of you in that same category? When I work on the magazine each month, I am no longer surprised to meet new people telling me about their great neighborhoods or to write about events that help others or give back to the community. Being a Nutleyite is...well...nice. Just ask James Biondi. As you turn the pages in this issue, I hope you see the common theme that James saw: *Nutley Neighbors* making this town a home for so many people.

Can I say that Nutley has aged well over the years?

Enjoy this community feeling as you read our regular features from the Nutley Museum and the Nutley Public Library, two places that you should visit regularly (just saying!). Don't forget to read about this month's adoptable pets in the Pet Corner and see what's happening in our Calendar of Events.

Do you know what AAUW stands for? You will after you read about this great organization that empowers women and girls through education and advocacy.

UNICO celebrated a milestone anniversary! This very worthwhile organization has been putting "service above self" here in town for 60 years.

And let's not forget the businesses that help us deliver this magazine to your mailboxes each month.

While the calendar is about to turn over to a new year, it's comforting to know that some things, like good neighbors, community spirit, and good old-fashioned kindness remain the same throughout time and the town.



Joyce Corey Content Coordinator

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INSIGHT EYE & VISION CARE

Dr. Theresa Radtke is a 2016 graduate of the Arizona College of Optometry. Through completing a residency and clinical rotations focused in Ocular Disease, she honed her skills in diagnosing and treating a full spectrum of eye conditions. InSight Eye & Vision Care is a full

service optometric practice and optical shop she opened in 2017 with hopes of providing a one stop shop for excellent eye care, eyewear and personalized service for the community.



INVESTORS HOME MORTGAGE

Joe Isabella is a Certified Mortgage Planning Specialist (CMPS®). He has been with Investors Home Mortgage since 2010 and is a Circle of Excellence Award winner.

Since joining Investors, Joe has helped many families in Nutley and the surrounding area with their home financing needs. He was born and raised in Nutley and still resides in his home town. He is a graduate of both Nutley High School and Montclair State University.



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James standing in front of one of the houses he built.

Spending Time with James Biondi

By Joyce Corey

Photographs by Randall Kenneth Photography

James Biondi has a unique perspective of Nutley. He and his family moved here from the Bronx in New York when he was seven years old. Now, 94 years later, he still lives on the same street in the house next door.

"We moved into the house my Dad, John Biondi, built at 5 Howard Place," James said. "My oldest sister, Anna, who was married, stayed in the Bronx and later moved to Nutley. So, in the beginning, I lived there with my parents, my brothers Gerard (Charlie), Tony, and Louie, and my sisters Rose, Clara, and Adeline (Tillie). My youngest brother John was born on Howard Place."

"In 1951, I got married to Josephine, bought the property next to my Dad's, and built our own house. We raised

our four children here, and I still reside in that same house." (Josephine passed away in 2011.)

The couple had three sons: James, currently living in Arkansas with his family, John, a retired Nutley fireman who lives in North Caldwell, and Joseph, who lives in West Palm Beach, Florida. Their daughter, Donna Bolcato, remained in Nutley and is the assistant to the principal at Lincoln Elementary School. James has 12 grandchildren, eight boys and four girls, and four great-grandchildren, three girls and one boy.

James saw many changes in town over the decades. "When I first moved here there were only dirt roads and farms, and through the years I saw the main streets in

Nutley, Centre Street, and Bloomfield Avenue get paved and curbs put in," he said.

Yet, while the town was changing around him, James's life was changing with school, marriage, and a major world war. He tells us about some of these life events. "I went to Lincoln School and then to the junior high, which is where the high school is now. At the age of 14, I left school to go to a vocational school in Bloomfield so I could go to work and help my family. I became an apprentice carpenter until I was drafted in World War II."

In 1942, when he returned home after the war, his carpentry skills were put to good use. "I worked alongside my brothers and built many houses in Nutley on Howard, Povershon, Ridge, Fischer, Glenview, and Gerard Road (which was named after my brother). I witnessed Radcliffe School being built and my oldest son was enrolled in their second-year kindergarten class."

Besides homes and the school being built, his place of



James and Josephine Biondi

worship also received a new address after construction. "As a child, I went to church every Sunday at Holy Family Church which was on the corner of Harrison Street and Ernest Street. I have been a parishioner there up to now. I saw the church built on Brookline Avenue and then the new church built behind it. My wife and I were married in that church on January 7, and all my children

received their sacraments there."

Nutley, from the township level to the individual family lives of residents, seems almost unrecognizable in some ways since James first moved here. He tells us of some of the things he has witnessed. "The town hall was a silk mill and was turned over to the town to make a municipal building and a fire department that housed two fire trucks before they built the building across the street. My neighborhood is a great neighborhood with many houses that are owned by the children and grandchildren of the original owners.

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I have experienced many inventions through my years from radios, televisions (black and white and then color), telephones, record players, cameras, and now all this new technology."

Yet, despite all the changes James saw, there is an underlying similarity in Nutley that existed for the entire 94 years he has lived here. "Nutley was always a well-organized town that was run by commissioners that cared about the town and wanted to always keep it great," he said. "The parks in Nutley are beautiful with the stream going through them and paths for families to walk with their children and grandchildren."

Several years ago, James lost his eyesight, but he kept his connection to the people and town. "I can still call people on the phone and listen to the news. I have been blessed with a wonderful memory that makes me recall many things, and I am able to tell stories to my grandchildren and great grandchildren," he said.

Although time altered the appearance of houses, schools, and churches, and while the roads became paved instead of packed with dirt, there is one thing that remains constant: *Nutley Neighbors*, like James Biondi, are loyal to the people and this place. ■

5

Five Things James Biondi Loves About Nutley

- 1.** Parks
- 2.** His great neighborhood
- 3.** The fact that families stay for generations
- 4.** The tree-lined streets
- 5.** How the upkeep of the town is beautiful

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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Essex County Girls Participate in Tech Trek Camp

By Nina Del Collo

On October 3rd, three eighth-grade girls from various schools in Essex County were invited to speak about their STEM experiences at the opening meeting of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Nutley Branch.

Emma Cowley from Liberty Middle School in West Orange, Brianna Barnett from Pride Academy in East Orange, and Sydney Leong from John H. Walker Middle School in Nutley were selected to attend a weeklong residential STEM camp, Tech Trek 2019, hosted by Stockton University in conjunction with AAUW. They each discussed the positive impact that the camp made in thinking about their futures in the field of science.

Tech Trek provides hands-on experience for the young women who attend the daily science, technology, engineering, and math-focused classes. This year, campers had the opportunity to



Left to right: Emma Cowley, Brianna Barnett, and Sydney Leong

take part in activities such as flying drones, studying cyber-security issues, installing rain barrels at the Cape May Zoo, and visiting the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center. Girls also had the opportunity to interact with women who are STEM role models and network with them at a Professional Women's Night.

AAUW believes in the value of educational programs, such as Tech Trek, that encourage girls to pursue careers in the science fields. The young women who were selected to attend the camp represent a diverse group of female students from a variety of ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds. They demonstrate maturity and inclusion when interacting with peers, adapt to new situations, are responsible, embrace challenges, and have the potential to excel in

math and science disciplines. AAUW Nutley is very proud of the girls who participated in Tech Trek 2019 and support them in their future endeavors. ■

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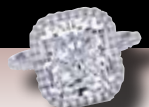
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Is *The Twenty-One Balloons* the Greatest – and Craziest – Book Ever Written by a Nutley Author?

By Barry Lenson

Many successful writers were born in Nutley. There was Frank Stockton, who wrote the classic tale "The Lady or the Tiger." Frances Goodrich grew up on Nutley Avenue, and she co-wrote the screenplay for the immortal movie *It's a Wonderful Life*. And then we have Martha Stewart, who has written bestsellers about elegant living.

But of all the books written by Nutley-born authors, the most imaginative of all could be *The Twenty-One Balloons*, written by the author and illustrator William Pene du Bois. When the book was published in 1948, it immediately won that year's Newbury Medal. Since then, it has never gone out of print. The amazing story it tells, both in words and in charming illustrations by Pene du Bois, is unique. If you haven't read this work by a Nutley genius, I suggest you visit the Nutley Public Library soon and take out a copy.

What Story Is Told in *The Twenty-One Balloons*?

The book tells the fictional story of William Waterman Sherman, a retired professor. In search of adventure, he climbs into a huge helium balloon. He plans to spend a year in the air. But would you believe it, just as he passes over the volcano Krakatoa, it erupts and Sherman's balloon falls onto a mysterious island. (In real life, Krakatoa erupted in 1883.)

Okay, that's enough of a story, you say? But actually it is only the beginning because on the island, Sherman discovers a group of strange people from San Francisco who live in a fabulous utopian society. They own a diamond mine, so they are rich enough to do anything they want. So they spend their time creating all kinds of strange inventions.

And just as Krakatoa is about to erupt again, these weird



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Yes, it is one strange book, but charming. If you read it, you will be delighted too.

William Pene du Bois, *One Unusual Nutleyite*

He was born in Nutley in 1916. His father was the artist and art critic Guy Pene du Bois, who lived on The Enclosure, Nutley's famous artists' colony. William's mother was Frances Sherman, a fashion designer. When William was eight years old, his family moved to Paris and then returned to live in Nutley several years later.

William headed off to college, but he couldn't stop himself from writing. When he was only 19, he wrote the children's book *Elizabeth, the Cow Ghost*, which was immediately published by Thomas Nelson and Sons. That book, also odd and imaginative, preceded *Otto at Sea* (1936), *The Great Geppy* (1940), *The Flying Locomotive* (1941), *The Twenty-One Balloons* (1947) and other books that are fantastical and beautifully illustrated. He also illustrated books written by other authors.

By 1953, Pene du Bois was living in New York. He became Art Director of *The Paris Review*, where he worked alongside George Plimpton and created one of the most influential journals published in America. He was traveling in top literary circles.

Up, Up and Away

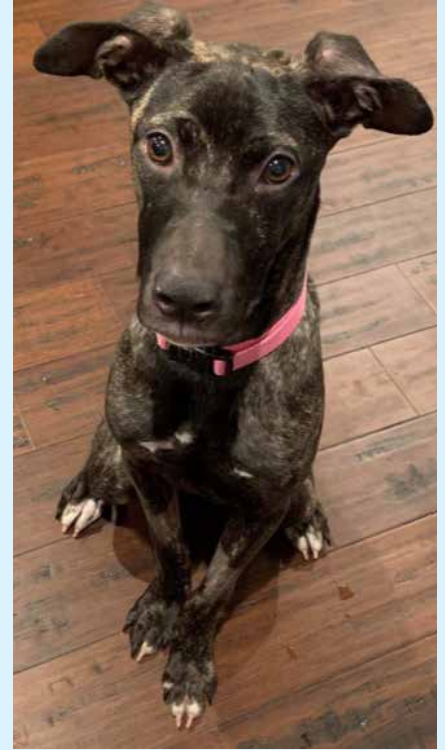
William Pene du Bois's life reminds us that our imagination can take us anywhere we want in life. So, where will yours take you? Like him, you're from Nutley. So blow up your balloon and set sail. ■

Schedule a tour or event at the Nutley Museum. For school groups and private museum tours, please call Kerry Flynn, caretaker, at 973-667-1528, or Suzanne Hagert at 973-667-4270. The Nutley Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to serve the educational, cultural, and historical needs of our community.

Adopt Us!

Submitted by Tiffany Servidio

Sweet little Melody was returned to the shelter by her adopters for being "too much puppy." After all, she is only 11 months old so she is high energy, needs to be taught manners, and learn what it means to be the perfect pup! She is in a foster home now where she is thriving and learning basic commands and house training. She will also start training with a trainer to learn how to be her best self. We believe she is a Dutch Shepherd mix so if you have experience with this breed, she will make a great addition to your family! Apply for Melody today as we are accepting applications and she will be available for adoption at the end of November, just in time to be home for the holidays! Email info@brickcityrescue.com for an application.



Submitted by Christa Milici

Buffy is ready for her forever home! She is about 2 months old now and may have a slight case of CH, meaning she walks a little wobbly, but it does not stop this cutie from getting around! She is still a very normal kitten. She is FIV/FelV negative, vaccinated, microchipped, stool tested, dewormed, and will be spayed. Visit the website for more information and an adoption application: www.yellowbrickroadrescuenj.com. ■

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Fall Festival in the Park By Joyce Corey

Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci and the Nutley Department of Parks and Recreation hosted Nutley's Fall Festival in the Park on September 29th. This event was held in Memorial Park and had food, fun, and events for the entire family.

"These family events bring our community together, encourage a sense of community and promote our local businesses" stated Commissioner Mauro G. Tucci. "It also showcases the products and services offered by some of our hometown vendors."

Relay for Life and Hope (both the bear and what it represents) were present, along with the artistry of Denise Costantino. ■



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The (not so) Happy Holidays - Integrative Medicine and Grief

Contributed by Dr. Shannon DiCarlo,
RN LAC DAOM

I struggled with how to begin this article and eventually decided that I'll just start by saying why I wrote it and why it feels important.

On January 3, 2018, my younger brother and only sibling died suddenly at the age of 37. The same brother that just days before, I laughed with over a game of "5 Second Rule" and scolded for drinking too much soda. His name was Danny. Actually, his name IS Danny. He's still with me, and I like to say his name.

Although I miss him terribly throughout the year, the holidays are more difficult. Holiday messages often include the idea of "joy" and "thankfulness", and it can be particularly disturbing to us when we don't feel like either of those is a possibility.

So what do we do?

From an integrative medicine perspective, acupuncture and other modalities can help regulate our stress response, which in turn can help with both insomnia, digestive issues, and more. Our immune systems take a big hit when we are in the midst of grief, and herbal medicine can give us the boost we need to withstand seasonal colds and flu. Additionally, lying down for 20 minutes in a quiet room while receiving an acupuncture treatment can help patients process life events. Living in our hurried,

busy environment, we don't often give ourselves the time and space to sit with what we are feeling. When it comes to emotions, what doesn't get processed, doesn't get resolved. Read that again.

It also helps to get comfortable with learning different ways to connect with someone you've lost. Someone once said to me that "grief is love with nowhere to go". I truly believe that. We are taught at a young age how to connect and be affectionate with those we love. We can say kind things, offer a hug, etc. But no one teaches us how to connect with someone you love who has died. I encourage my patients to seek ways to connect and give your love somewhere to go. How to go about that is a very individual decision, but all of us are capable of finding ways to continue to nurture a relationship with someone who has passed. For me, I found enormous comfort when I realized that my relationship with my brother didn't end. It just changed. We still love each other, and I do believe both of us find ways to express that even though he isn't here.

Finally, utilize your resources. Find a quiet spot in your house for when you need to sit with your grief. Be honest with people about what you need. This year, on my brother's birthday, a close friend called and instead of asking if I was ok (I wasn't), asked what I needed that day. They let me know that whether it was being alone, or meeting up for a drink, whatever I decided was right. And that it was also understandable if I didn't really know what I needed (I didn't) and I could change my mind at any time and we'd make plans. We don't often give ourselves the permission that others give us, and I think it's important to do that.

For the holidays this year, let's embrace the "joy and thankfulness" messages that come our way on the days we feel we can. On other, tougher days, let's give ourselves something else.

1. Permission to feel like garbage, at least momentarily. And then permission to feel better.

2. Courage to seek help when we need it, either from a doctor or friends and family.

3. Hope that even when we have a day where we can't seem to manage anything other than breathing in and out, tomorrow can and will be better.

As for me, I'll imagine Danny in his Eagles sweatshirt reading this article and hoping that it might help someone who feels the way his big sister feels. Wishing you all the best during this holiday season and into the new year. ■

New Jersey Natural Family Health



Dr. Shannon DiCarlo
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The Franklin

PART 3 of 3

By David Wilson and John Demmer

The final thirty years of the Franklin were a mixture of highs and lows. Many blockbuster movies attracted families and groups seeking flicks of all genres. Dating couples looked for that dark corner or back row seating. New sound systems and projectors enhanced our movie experiences.

The early seventies saw a closure of the theatre as profits dwindled due to competition from multiplex cinemas and film rental agreements not favoring independent venues. The control of movie houses dates back to the 1940s when film companies bought up many locations to ensure their movies had exclusive showings in high-profit areas.

The Vivian family purchased the building and Pete Vivian reopened the Franklin in 1979, after dividing the auditorium into three theatres. This practice was common for older structures as owners attempted to keep their clientele from visiting large complexes with



Marquee and ticket booth 1980



Donald Lee operates 1926 Simplex projector 1979

choices of six or more movies. To Pete's credit, he kept the main seating and stage area intact during the renovation. The seats were upgraded to a newer style and smoking was prohibited.

Around this time, Bob Lee of the Essex Film Club saw the theatre was reopening. His son, Donald, had movies in his genes and the background to run a projection room. We can credit

Donald for keeping the shows going and working with Pete to modernize the projectors and sound systems. The original carbon-arc Simplex projector was still in use into the mid-1980s. This technology gave way to xenon bulb projectors, a safer source of light. The all-too-common breaking of the film was solved with new table servers that fed the film in a smooth loop. Donald loved the movie house, films, and the history of it all. Fortunately for us, he has retained some of the few interior

pictures of the building.

Recollections for me come from my time as Fire Inspector. One of the benefits was access to private areas



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in the building. The small basement only had space for utilities and some storage. The first time in the projection room was amazing as I saw how it all worked to create my movie memories. A lightning strike in 1993 necessitated an evacuation and lengthy investigation. Here I was on catwalks above the ceiling dome I had only seen from below. Then onto the roof and behind the parapet walls that created the great façade. Electricians were summoned and the show went on that night as all systems passed inspection.

The final show on November 15, 2000 was the restored version of *The Wizard of Oz*. A death in the family and nearby competition made the business untenable. The theater sat vacant until 2001 when a contractor purchased

the building and quickly proceeded to repurpose it into residential rental units with a parking garage beneath.

John, Donald, and I are planning a library history talk in 2020. We ask anyone with pictures and stories to contact us or visit our Facebook pages (John Demmer Town Historian of Nutley or David Wilson) so we can include more fabulous Franklin Theatre memories in the show. ■

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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Big Sister Cheer Day

By Joyce Corey

The Big Sister program, made up of 7th and 3rd grade cheerleaders, was a big success at their first shared event. Frank DeMaio, Recreation Director, has high praise for the girls and their coaches, all of whom worked very hard to make this a special event.

"Something truly special happened at Owen's Field on Monday, October 14, 2019," said Frank DeMaio. "For the first time in program history, our cheer program put together a 'Big Sister' event. Our 7th grade cheerleaders, led by Coach Jaime Ardizzone, cheered beside our third grade cheerleaders. Ardizzone came up with this idea in the beginning of the season and had been working with third grade Coach Jaime Molinaro ever since. The two coaches worked tirelessly to use this as an opportunity to show the younger group what is possible with hard work. I would like to commend these coaches for their efforts and putting on a show that I am sure will not be forgotten by both groups of cheerleaders. I had the pleasure



of watching as the younger girls would turn and look up at their 'big sister' in awe. It was truly a sight to see. Both coaches have been a tremendous asset, but this idea, and seeing it through, is something that we would love to continue. I would like to applaud both squads, parents, and especially the coaches for a job well done. The bar is set high for future cheerleaders!"

Coach Jaime Ardizzone was very pleased with the event. She said, "My intention is to continue this program moving forward. It was so great watching these girls work together. There were 75 smiling faces on the sideline that night! I was both honored and humbled. I hope to make this program bigger and better year after year." ■



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Nutley UNICO Celebrates Its 60-Year Anniversary

By Dr. Frank Cocchiola, Jr.

Unico National Past President, Joe LiGresti (left) and, President, Dr. Frank DeFrank (4th from left), with Nutley, NJ past presidents at the Nutley Chapter's 60th Anniversary dinner. Left to right: Anthony Malfitano, Marie Solimo, current President Lorraine Kucinski, Gerard Tolve, Sal Ferrara, and Dr. Frank Cocchiola, Jr.



Unico National President Dr. Frank DeFrank and Mrs. DeFrank with Nutley, NJ President Lorraine Kucinski at Nutley Unico's 60-year anniversary dinner.

The Nutley, NJ Chapter of UNICO National celebrated its 60-year anniversary at the Oct. 10, 2019 dinner meeting. It was 60 years to the day that the chapter held its charter dinner, chaired by Frank Cocchiola Sr. Its first president, as a UNICO chapter, was Larry Varrone. The anniversary dinner was held at Mamma Vittoria's restaurant in Nutley. UNICO National President, Dr. Frank DeFrank, and past national president, Joe Agresti, joined the over 90 members

in attendance. Chapter President, Lorraine Kucinski, gave a summary of the history of the chapter since its inception. Past president, Anthony Malfitano, handled the chapter business at the meeting and Culture and Heritage Chair, Dan Marucci, coordinated the special dinner that consisted of Burrata salad, a bucatini pasta dish, Caesar salad, and surf & turf.

As the chapter enters its 61st year, the focus remains on celebrating and promoting Italian culture and heritage. This manifests itself through community activities, annual scholarships in excess of \$32,000, participating in Unico National activities, donations to local and national initiatives, and its monthly diner meetings featuring speakers from a variety of different areas. The chapter's past has been noteworthy and its future bright. ■

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Nutley Public Librarians Select Their Favorite Books, Movies, and Music for 2019

By Michelle Salimbene Albert, Senior Librarian

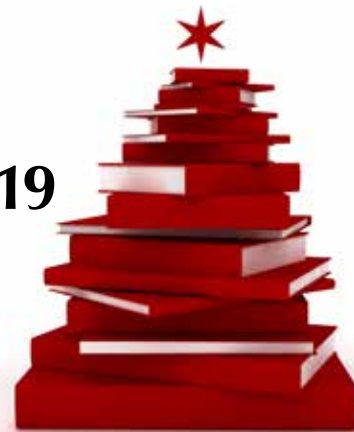
As the darker and colder winter days come upon us, it is the perfect time of year to curl up with a good book, get cozy, and watch a film, or relax to the sounds of music. The following is a list of favorite books, movies, and music suggested by your local librarians.

Curl Up With a Good Book

For fiction readers, *Blood Orange* by Harriet Tyce is a disturbing domestic thriller about a toxic marriage, motherhood, and a murder trial. Set in 1893, *Inland* by Téa Obreht tells a tale saturated with realism and magic in the lawless Arizona Territory of the American West. Kristina McMorris pulls at our hearts in *Sold on a Monday*, a World War II historical romance about family secrets and the impact of deceit, truths, loss, and forgiveness. Also set during World War II, *All the Lives We Never Lived* by Anuradha Roy, follows a boy as he journeys through India in search of his long-lost mother who fled with a German artist in search of passion and freedom. *Tangerine* by Christine Mangan is a chilling and unexpected portrait of a female friendship set in 1950's Morocco. The thirteenth book of the Royal

Spyness mystery series, *Love and Death Among the Cheetahs* by Rhys Bowen, takes the reader to the Kenyan highland's Happy Valley, where a newly married couple find themselves placed among a hedonistic world of drugs, alcohol, infidelity, and an apparent murder. Recently translated to English, *The Memory Police* by acclaimed Japanese author Yōko Ogawa, is a haunting, dystopian novel set in the future where objects and memories are disappearing forever under a mass government surveillance state. Manga fans will enjoy *The Way of the Househusband* by Kousuke Oono, a story that hilariously follows the everyday life of a legendary yakuza recently turned househusband.

For non-fiction readers, *Nordic Tales: Folktales from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, and Denmark* is a collection of sixteen traditional tales from the enchanting world of Nordic folklore with contemporary illustrations by



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Ulla Thynell. In *Three Women*, journalist Lisa Taddeo, who spent eight years with the subjects of her book, defines each woman's unique desires, relationships, and paths. Read about the amazing life of the Rocket Man written in his own words. *Me* by Sir Elton John is the award-winning singer, songwriter, pianist, and philanthropist's first and only official autobiography. In *Will My Cat Eat My Eyeballs: Big Questions from Tiny Mortals About Death*, Caitlin Doughty, mortician and creator of the web series "Ask a Mortician," comically answers questions about the human body and common misconceptions about death. Because *Internet: Understanding the New Rules of Language* by Gretchen McCulloch, linguistically explores how the digital world is changing the English language and the ways we communicate with each other. With easy-to-read recipes and photo-laden descriptions, America's Test Kitchen's *The New Essentials Cookbook: A Modern Guide to Better Cooking*, shares variations of technique, ingredients, and the basics for all cooking abilities. For those interested in pursuing their artistic side, Marie Boudon's *DIY Watercolor Flowers: The Beginner's Guide to Flower Painting for Journal Pages, Handmade Stationery and More*, teaches step-by-step how to paint beautiful, simple flowers.

Preschool-aged children will enjoy reading Mikela Prevost's debut picture book *Let's Have a Dog Party!* Using vibrant illustrations and starring a lovable dog, the storyline discusses friendship, empathy, and different personalities. Picture book, *A Boy Like You* by Frank Murphy, encourages every boy to embrace their unique self while being brave, kind, and true to themselves. A modern retelling of *Little Women* with a twist, full-color graphic novel *Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy* by writer Rey Terciero and illustrator Bre Indigo, follows four sisters from a blended family and their experiences and challenges of living in New York City. *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle, is a heartfelt story told in the voice of a sixth-grade boy who perseveres through the challenges of poverty, neglect, peer pressure, and domestic violence.

Get Cozy and Watch a Film

Starring Nicole Kidman, Kevin Hart and Bryan Cranston, view *The Upside*, a warm-hearted, drama-comedy based on a true story about an unlikely friendship between a recently paroled ex-convict and a wealthy quadriplegic. Set in 1303 AD medieval India, *Padmaavat*, the 10th highest-grossing Indian film worldwide, uses lavish sets and

strong performances to tell the historical story of a tyrannical sultan who tries to capture a beautiful queen. If you are a fan of action movies and Keanu Reeves, check out *John Wick 3!* The film costars Halle Berry and Laurence Fishburne. In *Shoplifters*, a dysfunctional band of outsiders living on the edge of Japanese society are exposed after a family member is arrested. Long-buried secrets become known after a wife dying from cancer finds a second wife for her husband in the visually stunning and musically enhanced Bollywood film *Kalank*. Families will enjoy watching Disney's live-action adaptation of the animated classic *Aladdin*, starring Will Smith, Mena Massoud, and Naomi Scott. With the official DVD release date for HBO's epic *Game of Thrones: Season 8* set for December 3rd, binge watch the entire fantasy series.

Relax to the Sounds of Music

Western Stars, which marks Bruce Springsteen's first studio album release in five years, blends elements of classic pop, country and folk, drawing inspiration from the sounds of Southern California in the late '60s and early '70s. *Weezer: The Teal Album*, performed by the alternative rock band Weezer, tracks a fun collection of covers such as "Take on Me" and "Mr. Blue Sky." *Wasteland, Baby!* the highly anticipated second studio album by Grammy-nominated and Irish musician Hozier, encompasses strong storytelling, soul, and a wide variety of instruments. Belonging to a family of life-long musicians, 17-year-old American singer-songwriter Billie Eilish, mixes alternative pop, electric, jazz and a whispery voice in her debut, critically-acclaimed and commercially successful studio album *We All Asleep, Where Do We Go?* Eilish is the first artist born in the 21st century to top the Billboard 200 album chart, with 12 of the 13 songs from the album topping the Billboard Hot 100.

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

For more information, visit the library's website at www.nutleypubliclibrary.org. 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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EVENTS CALENDAR **DECEMBER** 2019

Dec. 1, Sun.

Maternity Center Tour

@Clara Maass Medical Center,
1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
Prepare for the birth of your child by touring the Maternity Center. Following the tour, meet a member of our team to discuss the admission process and explore the various childbirth options available.
Time: 10am
Cost: Free
For more information and to register call 1-888-724-7123

Dec. 1, Sun.

Welcome Baby! Sibling Program

@Clara Maass Medical Center,
1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
Children ages 3 and up will participate in an educational, fun discussion about childbirth with a Certified Child Life Specialist. Children will also make a gift for the baby, and will receive a tour of the Maternity Center.
Time: 11am
Cost: Free
For more information and to register call 1-888-724-7123

Dec. 2, Mon.

DISH! The Monday Night Cookbook Club

@Nutley Public Library,
93 Booth Dr.
This meeting will be a cookie exchange! Choose a cookie to make from the book *The Perfect Cookie* by America's Test Kitchen or bake your own favorite recipe. Each person should be prepared

to make six dozen cookies for sampling, discussion, and exchange. The book is available to be borrowed at the Circulation Desk.
Time: 6:45pm
For more information contact Michelle Albert at michelle.albert@nutleybccls.org or 973-667-0405 x2632. To register visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/dish-cookbook-club or stop by the Reference Desk.

Dec. 2, Mon.

Informational Seminar: Weight Loss Surgery

@Clara Maass Medical Center,
The Learning Center,
1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
Instead of emphasizing short-term goals like reducing the size of your waist, Clara Maass Medical Center focuses on long-term benefits like reducing your risk of type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea, and hypertension. Beginning with a nurse navigator, every aspect of the program, including bariatric surgery, will be clearly presented so you can make the right choice. Immediately after the seminar, attend the Bariatric Support Group Session and meet patients that have achieved success after bariatric surgery.
Time: 6-7pm
For more information or to register call 973-450-2393.

Dec. 3, 17, Tue.

Board of Commissioners Meeting

@Township of Nutley Municipal

Building, 3rd Floor Commission Chambers, 1 Kennedy Dr.
Open to the public
Time: 7pm
For more information visit www.nutleynj.org/board-of-commissioners

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

All Recovery Meeting

@Clara Maass Medical Center,
The Morris Canal Room,
1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
All Recovery meetings honor all pathways to recovery, acknowledging that each person's path is unique and reflects their personal strengths. This group offers an opportunity for social support that focuses on the hope found in recovery and to connect with others who are initiating and maintaining a recovery lifestyle. Whether you are seeking or maintaining recovery for yourself

or have a family member or friend who has been influenced by substance use disorder, this group is for you.
Time: 6:30-7:30pm
For more information email Jenna Reidy at jenna.reidy@rwjbh.org or call 848-303-0277

Dec. 4, 18, Wed.

Essex County Clerk Program

@Parks and Recreation Building,
44 Park Ave.
The Essex County Clerk's office is available at the Recreation Department for residents to obtain Passports and Notary Public Oaths.
Cost: Free
For more information or current dates and times visit www.essexclerk.com

Dec. 4, 18, Wed.

Families Coping with Addiction Support Group

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Being caught up in a family member's addiction are at risk for life challenges like social isolation and mental health problems, among others. Destructive behavioral patterns such as enabling and codependency can reinforce and perpetuate this disease's debilitating dynamics. To learn how to break this dysfunctional cycle, join Staela Keegan, MSW, LCSW, LCADC, in this support group which provides a confidential, psychologically-safe place to learn about self-care, non-judgmental detachment, resource options, and other ways to foster positive mental health.

Time: 7-8pm

Cost: Free

For more information call 973-667-1884

Dec. 5, Thurs.

Annual Christmas Party at the Nutley Museum

@Nutley Museum, 65 Church St.
Enjoy Christmas carols, light refreshments, and old-time family fun at this cherished annual event! Music provided by Door Jam.

Time: 7-8:30pm

Cost: Free admission

For more information visit www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.com

Dec. 7, Sat.

Cookies with Santa

@Garibaldi Hall, 621-A Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland (next to the Essex County Environmental Center)
Bring your pets and come join the Essex County 4-H for a family picture with Santa.

Hot cocoa and cookies galore!

Time: 1:30-3pm

Cost: \$12 per family
For more information email Chrystine Gaffney at cg709@njaes.rutgers.edu. Direct registration is available by visiting www.tinyurl.com/4hcookieswsanta

Dec. 7, Sat.

Electronics Recycling Day

@Municipal Parking Lot 7, (Franklin Ave. behind Bella Luce)
Acceptable items for recycling include computers and laptops, fax machines, microwaves, monitors, printers, scanners, stereos, speakers, VCR and DVD players, and televisions.

Time: 9am-1pm

For more information call the Department of Public Works at 973-284-4984

Dec. 7, Sat.

Gary and Zeny Erbe Film Festival

@Nutley Museum, 65 Church St.
Old-time Christmas cartoons and movies for the whole family. Light refreshments will be served.

Time: 9:30-11:30am

Cost: Free admission

For more information visit www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.com

Dec. 7-8, 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

our gift shop, and enjoy holiday refreshments.

Time: 1-4pm

Cost: Admission is free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

For more information visit www.kingslandmanor.org or "Kingsland Manor" on Facebook.

Dec. 8, Sun.

Township's Annual Holiday Tree and Menorah Lighting

@John H. Walker Middle School, 325 Franklin Ave.

Mayor Dr. Joseph P. Scarpelli and the Board of Commissioners have announced plans to host one of Nutley's oldest traditions – the annual Holiday Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting. The entire community is invited to attend the Township's official kick-off of the holiday season. Activities are scheduled to take place both inside John H. Walker Middle School and areas in and around the Nutley Park Oval. Franklin Ave. will be closed between Chestnut St. and New St.

Time: 5:30-7pm

For more information call the Office of Mayor Scarpelli at 973-284-4959 or visit www.nutleynj.org/treelighting

Dec. 10, Tue.

Color and De-Stress with Vinyl Records

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.

Color from a wide and eclectic assortment of coloring sheets, listen to new and classic vinyl records owned by the Library, and sample pastries from local Nutley bakeries. Coffee and tea will also

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Nutley Neighbors - Best Version Media



@nutley_neighbors_magazine

be provided.

Time: 7pm

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

Dec. 11, Wed.

Parkinson's Disease Support Workshop

@Clara Maass Medical Center, Cancer Center Conference Room, 1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
This peer support group will help participants build relationships and share ideas about exercise, nutrition, medication management, medical resources, and how to treat the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease. Participants will be encouraged to talk openly and honestly about their feelings and to support each other. Registration is preferred but walk-ins and caregivers are welcome.

Time: 10-11am

For more information or to register contact Fabiana Alvarez, RN or Dhyana Velez, RN at 973-450-2631.

Dec. 14, Sat.

The Eco-Friendly Home

@Essex County Environmental Center, 621-B Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland



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EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2019 *Continued*

For families. Make and take a hand-made food storage wrap with eco-friendly materials. Learn how to customize your own stationary and recycle paper at the same time. Let's talk about how to reduce waste at home, be kind to our environment, and make special customized, usable, and fun crafts. Bring your family, friends, or just yourself.

Time: 11am-12:30pm

Cost: \$30 per family (up to 2 adults and 2 children) or \$10 per child and \$12 per adult.

Dec. 14-15, Sat.-Sun.

Story Time with Santa and Mrs. Claus

@Kingsland Manor, 3 Kingsland St. Come meet Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Kingsland Manor! Children will leave with a small token from Santa and everyone will leave with memories for years to come. Don't

forget your camera! Refreshments for children and adults will be served. Admission is by reservation. Space is limited to 30 guests per session.

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

Dec. 20, 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

For more information and to

make a reservation visit www.kingslandmanor.org

Nutley Department of Public Affairs FACEBOOK pages

Type these into the Facebook search bar to find:

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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. For more information visit www.nutleynj.org/health or call 973-284-4976

Nutley Corps

Nutley students from grades 6-12 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. For more information email Commissioner Rogers at commissionerrogers@nutleynj.org or visit www.nutleynj.org/nutley-corps





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Library (973) 667-0405

Parks and Recreation (973) 284-4966
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