

JANUARY 2020

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

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Maryann
Sacco Put
Family First

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Go to www.bestversionmedia.com and click "Submit Content." You may also email your thoughts, ideas and photos to: jcorey@bestversionmedia.com.

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August 25.....	October 1
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October 25.....	December 1

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With production deadlines coming well before this issue hits your mailboxes, I write this letter during the final hours of Thanksgiving as my kids are finally tucked away and sleeping peacefully. My family just wrapped up another holiday where all that's important is the blessing of just being with each other and enjoying the moments. It's not a secret anymore that starting or ending each day with gratitude is scientifically proven to have a positive impact on our well-being. I certainly am thankful for all life has given me and for what I am able to give to life.

As we begin another new year of *Nutley Neighbors* magazine, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity I have in being able to bring this publication to press. I get to interact with you, our loyal readers, friends, sponsors, and neighbors. There is so much good that happens in Nutley on a daily basis. Having this opportunity to highlight it within these pages makes my job a great one to have.

Thank you for the appreciation you show for our publication by reaching out and telling us. Our publication team is grateful for your contributions, ideas, and positive feedback. We will continue striving to be better and bringing more to the publication as we move forward. Call us, email us. We love hearing from you!

Thanks for another great year goes to Marti, our fantastic designer, and Joyce, for putting our wonderful content together. Thank you to Frankie, Dave, Barry, the Nutley Historical Society, the Nutley Public Library, and all of those throughout the community who continue to lend a helping hand in making our publication great. Last, but not least, thank you to our loyal sponsors, past sponsors, and future sponsors. Without you, we are not able to deliver this publication to the mailboxes for free. These are some great local businesses. Please think of them when considering the services they provide.

May you experience a wonderful new year. Have an attitude of gratitude. Don't focus on the challenges, look for the good in each and every day. May your Mondays be as good as your Saturdays. And when you look back on this upcoming New Year, may your memories be positive and filled with happy thoughts.

From my family to yours, wishing you all the best in 2020.

Michael Stefanelli Publisher



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

Investment Advice, and Insurance Planning for his clients. Mike is a graduate of Penn State University.

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



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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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Happy Sequel!

I bet you thought I was going to wish you a happy new year! Well, in a way, I am.

I finally got the 'hang' of this new year thing. Even though I need a completely different calendar and have to remember to write 2020 on my checks, all of the main things are pretty much the same. As in a sequel...



Whether it's the *Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter*, or the *Outlanders* series, every new year has the identical elements that made these books memorable. The same great characters return to those places that have become so familiar. Yet, there are some notable differences which is the reason why people stand in line to get the next book.

The sequel continues the story by revisiting the world with some added twists, turns, and hopefully, solutions. Think about how many times we left *Harry Potter* in a conundrum. The last page of the first book in any series makes us want to see how everything works out. Are our favorite characters going to overcome the challenges? Will truth win? Can everyone be saved from the (fill in the blank with the impending disaster)?

Even though *Harry Potter* and Frodo both returned home (to their respective abodes, of course) at the end of their first books, we all knew that they weren't the same because of what had happened in the all the pages before. They were different because of the knowledge and experience they received, and also because of the people they met along the way.

Now, do you see why the new year to me is more like a sequel?

Here we are in the same setting (Nutley) surrounded by the same main cast of characters (neighbors) and we are going to see how the events of 2019 continue and also to wait for the new plot twists in 2020.

This should be fun!

So, I wish all of you a wonderful sequel. May you be surrounded by the people you love and may you enjoy your neighborhoods. May your challenges be overcome and may you have the resources to persevere. May you laugh more than you cry. And most of all, may you find this sequel to be the best one yet!

Joyce Corey Content Coordinator

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Vinnie and Maryann Sacco Put Family First

By Joyce Corey

Photographs by Randall Kenneth Photography

It's a new year and a time for firsts, but for Vinnie and Maryann Sacco, they have a 'first' every day. Married for 35 years and the parents of twins, Vinny and Elena, they have a family motto that has become a way of life.

Maryann said, "We teach our children that family comes first."

This philosophy has set a tone in the Sacco household that has given them all a wonderful set of memories.

Their story officially started in 1987, when Vinnie and Maryann were married in Bloomfield at Sacred Heart Church. "I was from Newark," Maryann said, "and Vinnie was a Nutley native."



Lexi

We first met through a friend when I was 18 and he was 19."

They lived for a while in North Arlington but decided to move. "We both wanted to return to Nutley," Vinnie said. "That's where our roots are since both of us have family in town."

"Vinnie grew up in the Spring Garden section and we have been living in the Yantacaw section for the past 15 years," Maryann added.

Vinnie has worked in HVAC for 35 years and is a member of Pipefitters Local Union 274. Maryann works part time in the customer service

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Lexi, the family dog, loves to dress up.

department at a durable medical supply company.

Their family grew when they became the proud parents of twins, Vinny and Elena, who are now 23. "They both live at home," Maryann said. "Elena is a hairdresser in Montclair and Vinny graduated from William Paterson College with honors and is working at CNBC in Englewood Cliffs."

Lexi, an eight-year-old Westie who loves to dress up, is the family dog who brings a lot of smiles and happiness to everyone.

The Sacco family has high regard for the schools and the many sports programs offered in town. "Our children went to all the local schools and participated in sports both at the recreation department and in high school," Vinnie said. "Not many towns have all the sporting activities Nutley has especially at the grammar and middle school levels."

"Elena was involved in soccer through the recreation department, high school, and traveling teams," Maryann said. "Vinny tried wrestling when he was younger but was on the football and track teams in high school. It seemed

like we were always in the car going to tournaments or games every weekend, but we loved it."

Being the parents of twins made for many memorable moments. "When they were two, I went to take the garbage outside and they locked the door behind me," Maryann said. "They were just like Phil and Lil from *Rugrats*."

"Usually, one would run up the street while the other ran down the street," Vinnie said.

While the Sacco family may no longer be hosting Nickelodeon scenes, they are cherishing the moments and memories of today.

"Every weekend we invite people over to rent a movie or watch football," Vinnie said. "And the kids are there every Sunday afternoon for macaroni."

"We host the holidays, like Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are always the first on the block to get our Christmas decorations up and then the wives tell their husbands that Vinnie is already done and then all the other husbands have to get out and decorate their houses!"

"When the children were younger, we attended many activities in town, like Family Night and the tree lighting. Over time, we become more involved in our neighborhood which, in many ways, is an extension of family," Maryann said. "Everyone on our block helps everyone. We take in each other's mail, shovel snow, and if I cook too much, I am quick to share it with my neighbors."

Five Things the Sacco Family Loves About Nutley

1. Location
2. Great restaurants
3. Tight-knit community
4. Beautiful tree-lined streets
5. Excellent sports programs in the recreation department



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Twins Vinny and Elena, left, and with their parents, center.

"We love our neighborhood," Vinnie said. "It's a close, small-knit community and all of our neighbors are wonderful."

"This is a very picturesque area and we actually enjoy being here all year round. In the summer, we have pool parties and it seems that every season finds people

coming over to the house," Maryann said.

Whether is for a holiday or a stay-at-home day, the Sacco family truly enjoys being together, living in town, and being *Nutley Neighbors*.

Putting family first is a great way to begin and end every year. ■

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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Special Young Adults of Nutley

By Joyce Corey

In 1975, the Special Young Adults (SYA) program, located at 83 Franklin Avenue, first opened its doors. Since that time, many of our town's young people have gone into those doors and found life-changing and life-affirming opportunities.

Anne Rotonda, former director at SYA for 39 years shared some of the program's objectives.

"Handicapped young people, over the age of 21, come here for many reasons. They can learn practical life skills as well as participate in work activities. There are opportunities for them to interact within the community or enjoy recreational events. But perhaps the main, and best, thing that happens here is that these young people can socialize and find friends. That, in itself, makes life very rewarding."

Anne's first involvement with the organization was in



SYA building on Franklin Avenue



The Pecora family (l to r) Chrissy, Christine, Louis, Debbie, and Dr. Andrew

1968 when she volunteered there as part of a religious education program. In 1978-79, she helped raise money for the group, and on January 2, 1980 became a director at SYA. Her connection to the young people spanned a number of years, and combined with her genuine empathy, enabled her to make a difference in their lives.

"I loved and cared for them like they were my own kids. I treated them with respect and, if I had one wish, it would be that they would all

be safe in today's world," she said.

Anne would run a respite every other weekend for the



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young people. "We were together from Friday to Sunday and they could pick what they wanted to do, where they wanted to go, and what they wanted to eat," she said. "By giving them the option to make choices, they were learning to be adults while being in a place that encouraged them to grow into this role so they could take their place in the community."

The Arc of Essex County oversees SYA in Nutley. The in-center activities are varied and include recreational events, like Bingo, computer training, and crafting. There is definitely something there for everyone and ways to safely learn skills that can be applied in life.

The Township of Nutley has been especially generous to SYA. Former Mayor, and later Senator, Carmen Orechio, was instrumental in forming this group in Nutley and securing its location. Over the years, the town has upheld this organization in many ways. Nutley currently provides transportation for many of the young adults to the center.

The start of SYA in Nutley was also the result of the hard work and efforts of the Pecora family, particularly the parents of Debbie. The organization, as well as family, friends, and supporters, were very saddened by Debbie's passing in November. She exemplified the spirit of determination, hope, and happiness that is at the core of SYA.

The Special Young Adults have truly found a special place in Nutley, and it's not just the building. It's the heart of those who work there, support them financially, and especially for those who come to learn how to live in a community despite, and with, their differences. ■

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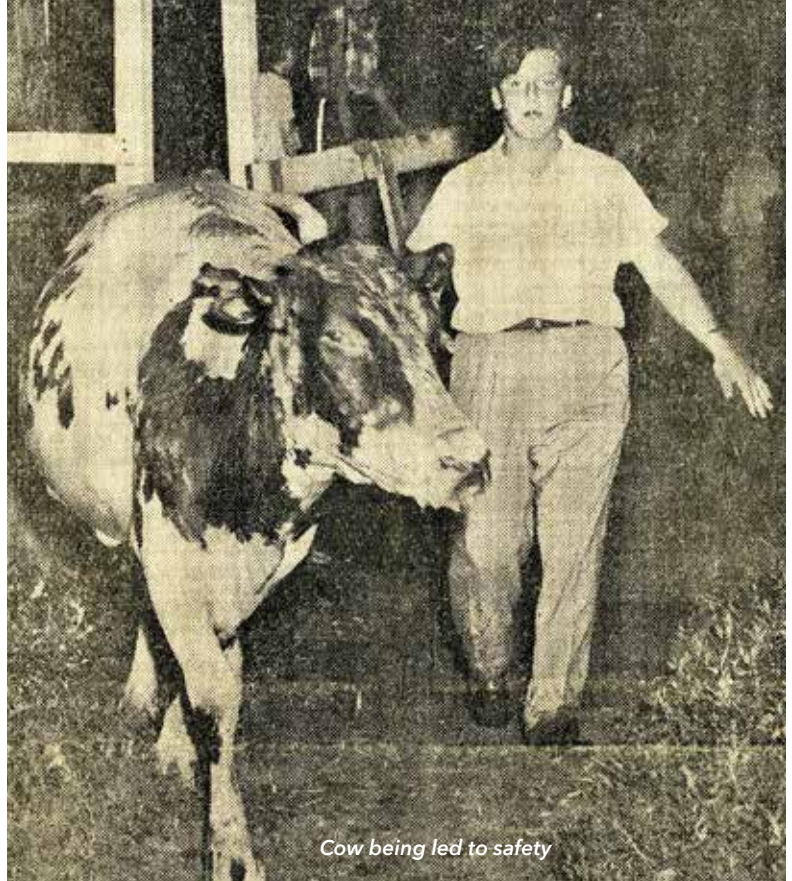
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Nutley Dairy Farms

By David Wilson

Milk, a widely consumed beverage, has been pasteurized, homogenized, flavored, and used as an ingredient in many recipes. Nutley had several dairies that were in business through the 1950s. The Nutley Dairy Farms at Park Ave. and River Rd. supplied 2,000 quarts a day to area restaurants, stores, and delicatessens. Manuel and Sidney Steinlauf managed a herd of 70 Holsteins and Guernsey cows on the five-acre property which included two barns and a small processing plant. The work was tedious, with long hours and manual labor needed to return cows from fields to feed and milk them.

On July 16, 1951 at 8pm, tragedy struck the dairy when an exhaust fan malfunctioned in the barn. Two employees at Aircraft Supplies Inc., 44 Park Ave., saw smoke emanating from the fan and immediately sounded the alarm. The flames were over the roof in a matter of minutes and 100 firemen under



Cow being led to safety



Main business plant

the leadership of Chief Andrew Hutch labored for an hour to control the flames at this two-alarm fire. To make matters worse, the entire herd had just been tied to their stanchions for the night. Each of the hysterical 70 cows, blinded by smoke and heat, had to be untied by hand and led out to the fields.

Employees, firemen, and neighbors all pitched in to help with the rescue operation, knowing that each cow was valued from \$400 to \$500 apiece. Some cows broke away and fled into the neighborhood; others panicked and ran back into the barn. Edward Munchebard sang and played his harmonica to calm the maddened cows. One more twist occurred as North Arlington launched a gigantic fireworks finale during the blaze and further upset the cows that had escaped. The 800 spectators saw fire, firemen, and fireworks all at one time!

Two firemen were overcome by smoke and had to be revived at the scene. The 60x100 foot barn

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with milking equipment was destroyed. Financial losses were set at \$100,000. The lives of 28 cows were lost either to the roof collapse or smoke poisoning. Remarkably, 17 cows were saved by veterinarians using modern drugs, including penicillin, terramycin, and streptomycin. 42 survivors were moved to other barns and the dairy met their delivery schedule two days later.

These Nutley Fire Department stories, while tragic, help us to appreciate the hardworking families that had businesses in town and the struggles they faced. We can further appreciate the sacrifices of our firefighters, both volunteer and career. Their time, energy, and planning helped keep families safe year-round. Factories, businesses, and the jobs within were saved numerous times. Innovations in equipment, staffing, fire prevention, and



Aerial view of Nutley Dairy complex late 1930s

firefighting techniques started over 120 years ago when we were called Township of Franklin.

Some of these stories come from the Captain John Frobose scrapbook that was recently digitized. Newspaper articles were clipped from

the *Nutley Sun*, *Passaic Herald-News*, the *Newark Star-Ledger* and the *Newark Evening News*. Some stories are one paragraph and others are multiple pages, but they are all part of Nutley history. ■

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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2020 Winter Reading Challenge at the Nutley Public Library for Children, Teens, and Adults *By Deidra Garcia, Senior Librarian*

The Nutley Public Library invites readers, once again, to participate in the nationwide 2020 Winter Reading Challenge. From January 1-31, children, teens, and adults are challenged to read (or have someone read to them) for at least 620 minutes (20 minutes or more a day) and keep track of their progress on our Beanstack site at nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org.

Upon completion of Nutley Public Library's Winter Reading Challenge, children and teen participants can collect a goodie bag and certificate. Top readers in each age category (babies/toddlers, grades K-5, grades 6-12, and adult) will also receive a Barnes & Noble gift card, sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

A record number of schools and libraries have signed up to participate, hoping to surpass last year's collective goals of five million minutes and 75,000 books during the month of January. Sponsored this year by Penguin Random House Publishing, the top performing libraries and schools will earn Golden Penguin awards, and Penguin Random House



pledges to donate \$50,000 in prizes, including author visits and new books, to be shared among the winners.

Registration for the national Winter Reading Challenge begins online Monday, December 2, 2019

at nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org and will continue throughout the month of January 2020. All reading during the month of January counts, even if you register in January!

For further information, please visit nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org, contact Deidra Garcia at deidra.garcia@nutley.bccls.org, or call the Youth Services Department at 973-667-0405 x2623. #WinterRead2020 ■

This contest is not sponsored by or endorsed by Best Version Media in any way.

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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Super Bowl Champions

By Frank DeMaio, Superintendent of Recreation

On November 9, 2019, the Nutley Jr. Raiders B-Team began their quest for the Super Bowl Championship. The B-Team, which consists of 5th and 6th graders, began as the number four seed and would face the undefeated top seed – the very good West Essex football team. During the regular season, Nutley lost 12-0 to West Essex.

In the first round of the playoffs the Nutley Raiders came alive, showing true team work in a very exciting game. Every single player on the field contributed to the win. The offensive and defensive line dominated the second half of the game. The defense came up strong to halt West Essex from scoring multiple times in the second half. The offensive line controlled the line of scrimmage, making way for the backfield to gain yardage each play. Jeremiah Tirado broke through, with minutes left to go, on a 55-yard touchdown run to tie the game 13-13. On the ensuing extra point, he broke through and Nutley had the lead, 14-13. With just under 3 minutes left to go, the Nutley defense came up big and stopped the Cowboys' final attempt at a game-winning drive. Next stop...Caldwell for the Super Bowl!

On November 16, 2019 the Nutley Jr. Raiders took the field once again for the final time this season to face the number two seed in the Super Bowl at Caldwell's home

field. Caldwell jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead in the first quarter. Nutley soon thereafter took the lead on a nice offensive series going up 7-6. After very good defensive plays by both teams, Caldwell scored on a fumble recovery for a touchdown, again taking the lead 12-7.

Nutley answered right back on the ensuing kickoff. Jeremiah Tirado picked up the ball and ran it back for a score and Nutley was back on top for good with a score of 13-12.

This was again another classic defensive battle for the remainder of the game. The Nutley offense did add one more score later in the 4th quarter to go up 19-12. On Caldwell's last possession of the game, the Nutley defense bent, but didn't break, and thwarted the chances for Caldwell to score in the closing seconds. Nutley would then be Super Bowl champions!

"For anyone who didn't get to catch a game this season, you missed out on a tremendous group of kids," said Commissioner Tucci. "I was lucky enough to see a couple of games and watch these boys. They always carried themselves with dignity and respect."

This group of coaches and players didn't always have it easy, but they managed to compete in each game they played. All teams face adversity at times, but this team managed through every bump in the road, with a close loss to Livingston in extreme heat to big wins such as Belleville.

"I am very proud of these boys, coaches, and families," said Commissioner Tucci. "Every time they stepped on the field, they gave their all, and without the families, none of this would be possible. This is a moment that all involved will remember forever! I look forward to a bright future for this group of players."

Congratulations Nutley Jr. Raiders B-Team, 2019 Super Bowl Champions! ■



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Adopt Us!

Submitted by Christa Milici



Runt Runt and Big Boy are 8-week-old brothers looking for a forever home together! They traveled to New Jersey all the way from Texas in hopes to find their furever family. These two boys are extremely sweet and loving (black cats are the best!). They are FIV/FelV negative, vaccinated, stool tested, dewormed, microchipped and will be neutered. They will make the purrfect addition to any family! Visit the website for more information and an adoption application: www.yellowbrickroadrescuenj.com.



Submitted by Tiffany Servidio

Zoe is a sweet senior who was an owner-surrender. Brick City Rescue couldn't let this pretty lady live out her senior years in a shelter. Zoe is 8 years old, but still has a ton of love to give. Zoe is very calm and loving. She enjoys daily walks, cuddles on the couch, and belly rubs. Zoe does need to be the only dog in the house as she likes to be queen of the castle. If you want to make Zoe your sidekick, contact Brick City Rescue to adopt her! Or you can fill out an application at brickcityrescue.com. ■



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NUTLEY, NJ NJHC #13VH04247100

Nutley Introduces Operation Reassurance For Seniors and Disabled Residents

Submitted by Joyce Corey

On December 4, 2019, Commissioner Alphonse Petracco and the Department of Public Safety hosted a holiday breakfast at Petracco's Deli on Bloomfield Avenue to celebrate Operation Reassurance.

This is a new program which was created for the safety and well-being of senior and disabled persons who live alone. Since maintaining independence can be increasingly difficult as people age, Operation Reassurance will help enable them to maintain their independence through a daily check-in call. Seniors and those with disabilities who live alone and would like to apply for the program should call 973-284-4930 and leave their name, address, and phone number for an application.

"Operation Reassurance will help to save lives," said Commissioner of Public Safety Alphonse Petracco. "There are many senior residents who have lived in Nutley for years and would prefer to stay in their own homes as they age. This program helps to make that possible."

Once the application is submitted, the resident needs to call 973-284-4930 between 8:30am and 10:30am every day and say that they are okay or need help. "If the police department does not hear from the applicant during the designated times, we will call you," Petracco explained. "If there is no answer at that home, a police officer will go to the applicant's house to make sure everything is okay."



Commissioner Alphonse Petracco and the Department of Public Safety hosted a holiday breakfast at Petracco's Deli on Bloomfield Avenue to celebrate Operation Reassurance, a wellness program for seniors who live alone. The Commissioner is flanked by members (left to right) Carol Gommoll, Maria Spafford, Fire Prevention Secretary, Cheryl DiAntonio, Volunteers Linda Grasso and Denise Roman, Members Betty Baer, Eleanor Keane, Lorraine Clark, and (standing) Program Coordinator Jan Zepka. Not pictured are members Lucille Califano, Marilyn Frazza, Carol Gabriel and Bill Klecak.

Seniors and disabled persons should call the number above for an application which will be dropped off at their home and picked up when completed. This program is free to all senior and disabled residents in Nutley. Volunteers are available to help those who need assistance filling it out. Residents can call Commissioner Petracco's office at 973-284-4935 for more information. ■

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5 Reasons to Buy Life Insurance, Even If You're Single and Debt-Free

Contributed by Michael S. Cocco, CFP®, ChFC®
Beacon Wealth Partners

Not every single, debt-free person needs life insurance. But the vast majority do, for a wide variety of reasons.

1 You don't want someone else to have to pay your end-of-life and funeral expenses.

Without some kind of protection, even a small term life insurance policy, your parents or other relatives will end up paying your funeral costs if you die unexpectedly. There can be other end-of-life expenses too, like hospital bills or other costs associated with your home, work, or personal life.

2 If you're young and healthy, you'll get the best rates.

Purchasing life insurance when you're young and healthy (and can breeze through underwriting) may also be cost-effective. That's because as you get older (and



potentially less healthy), the rates you'll pay will increase. Why not lock in low rates now? Buying young can also protect your future insurability; insurance companies often let you convert from one policy to another or add coverage at a later date without having to go through most of the underwriting.

3 You want to leave a legacy.

You may not have children, but what about nephews, nieces or someone else who depends on you? Make sure they're taken care of if you're no longer around. Or, for a small premium, you could leave a legacy to a favorite charity or cause. Life insurance benefits are typically tax-free to the beneficiary.

4 You may not be single or debt-free forever.

Many life insurance policies allow you to trade up or add coverage, so buying a small policy before you get married or buy a home may be a good idea. Again, the sooner you purchase life insurance, typically the lower your rates.

5 You make too much to qualify for a Roth IRA but still want to save more money for retirement.

If you make too much income to qualify for a Roth IRA, but have already maxed out your other retirement plans, you may want to consider life insurance. You can pay premiums and your money has the potential to grow tax-deferred, similar to a retirement plan. And, if you do it correctly, you can take loans from the policy income tax-free. ■



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Want help figuring out if you need life insurance? Contact Michael Cocco at 973- 667-8650 to review your specific situation. He can help you decide whether you need life insurance, and if so, what kind and how much you'll need.

Nutley Homes for Sale

ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	BEDS	BATH	SQFT
51 Terrace Ave	\$415,000	3	2	1420
23 E Passaic Ave	\$425,000	3	1	1280
617 Centre St	\$425,000	4	2	2052
61 Montclair Ave	\$425,000	3	2	1482
15 Edison Ave	\$439,000	3	2	1263
33 Highfield Ln	\$440,000	3	3	1790
90 Mount Vernon St	\$459,900	4	3	2574
21 Moore Pl	\$475,000	5	3	1870
57 Oakridge Ave	\$525,000	6	2	2498
11 Overlook Terr	\$559,000	3	3	1999
40 Roma St	\$585,000	5	3	2805
46 Carrie Ct	\$599,999	4	3	2070
78 Yantacaw Pl	\$699,000	5	5	
109 Mountainview Ave	\$799,000	5	5	4000



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The Franklin Avenue Station in Nutley in an old photo (above)

Wild Tales of Commuting from Nutley by Rail and Ferry in the Old Days

By Barry Lenson

The Highfield Lane Station in Nutley in an old photo (below)

Photos courtesy the Nutley Historical Society



We all know exactly what it is like to commute to New York City these days. We get on a train or a bus, flash the ticket on our phone, and ride into the city. Things were a lot different 100 years ago. One difference was that trains didn't run through tunnels into the city. Commuters could only ride a train to the Hudson River, where they had to board a ferry from Hoboken or Jersey City or find a way to Jersey City and take the Tubes (now called the PATH trains). Another difference was that a lot of people commuted by trains from Nutley back then, as many as 200 people a day. A monthly commuter ticket cost about \$5.00. But getting to New York could be a hair-raising adventure of major proportions.

Commuting was not for the faint of heart. Here are some stories from Nutley history.

"The sheet of ice, a city block square, raced toward the Narrows in the swift current of the Hudson."

Those words were written by Fred Young, who was once Nutley's Mayor. After he got off his commuter train and boarded a ferry one day in winter a century ago, things got bad quickly. His boat slid up onto a large sheet of ice that raced out of control across the New York harbor. The boat finally broke free and the pilot regained control. But Young and his fellow commuters had a lot to talk about afterwards.

"In telescoping each other, at great speed, the two locomotives sheared off the cabins. The engineers on both trains were killed. It took two days to clear the tracks."

This account describes what is probably the most horrific accident ever to occur in the town of Nutley. It happened in 1902, when a milk train traveling at 60 miles per hour collided with a commuter train that was pulling into the station at Franklin Avenue. Due to mixed signals, the locomotives met head-on. According to contemporary accounts, Nutleyites had to wade through cascades of milk to reach the victims. Service was disrupted for two weeks.

The photos that survive of the crash are harrowing. It is hard to believe that they were taken right in the middle of the quiet little town we know today.



The railroad accident that happened on Franklin Avenue in 1902

"We had to back up, fire away, wait, and try again several times before we made it."

This account, again from Mayor Young, describes a time in 1911 when Erie railroad workers went on strike. Young and his fellow commuters waited for two weeks for the strike to be settled, then they got impatient and started shoveling coal into the engines so they could get to work, and then get back home again.

"Union rules were more lax then than now," Young wrote, "and once we got up steam the engineers took the trains out. It was quite a lark for us young fellows who took pride in our muscles, but it was quite a workout to keep steam up as far as Jersey City. It is quite a knack to fire a boiler correctly."

"I recall stoking a tram on the return trip one night. I wanted to get off at Nutley, so I was not interested in getting up too much steam. But at Belleville, I had let it get down too low and we couldn't make the grade from Belleville to the Walnut Street station. We had to back up, fire away, wait, and try again several times before we made it."

Do We Have It Easy Today? Yes, We Do!

The historical accounts in this article are adapted from the book *NUTLEY Yesterday Today* by Ann Troy, 1961. This book is now published by the Nutley Historical Society. Copies are available at the Nutley Museum, 65 Church Street, Nutley. ■



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EVENTS CALENDAR **JANUARY** 2020

Jan. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 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

Jan. 1, 15, Wed.

Essex County Clerk Program

@Parks and Recreation Building,
44 Park Ave.

The Essex County Clerk's office is available at the Recreation Department to process Passports and Notary Public Oaths.

Time: 10:30am-4pm

For more information or current hours and dates visit www.essexclerk.com

Jan. 2, Thurs.

Nutrition Support Group

@Clara Maass Medical Center, Resource Room in the Cancer Center, 1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville
Medical Nutrition Therapy is essential for the treatment of chronic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and heart disease.

Speak with a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist about nutrition as it relates to a diagnosis or side effects from treatments. Refreshments are provided and your parking garage ticket will be validated. All are welcome, including friends and family members.

Time: 6-7pm

Cost: Free

For more information call Lizz Nossier at 973-450-2328

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Mon.

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

@Parks and Recreation Building,
44 Park Ave.

Time: 10-11am

For more information call the Recreation office at 973-284-4966

Jan. 11, Sat.

Hot Chocolate Hike

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

For families. Join us for a hike around the Environmental Center forest, build a winter campfire, sip hot cocoa, and make s'mores. Dress warmly.

Time: 11am-12:30pm

Cost: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10

per child and \$12 per adult
For more information and to register call 973-228-8776

Jan. 13, Mon.

Breastfeeding Workshop

@Clara Maass Medical Center,
1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville

Learn more about resources that can help you choose the best option for you and your baby. Clara Maass Medical Center nurses, who are trained lactation experts, will give expectant mothers information about the advantages of breastfeeding, maternal nutrition, breast care, and breastfeeding tips for the working mother.

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Cost: Free

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Jan. 19, Sun.

Blooms and Brunch Workshop

@The Nutley Historical Society Museum, 65 Church St. Whether your thumbs are green or gray, this event will be a welcomed treat. This workshop is a unique experience you will enjoy and cherish for years to come. Participants will create Pinterest-worthy centerpieces in a beautiful museum setting. This workshop is a hands-on horticulture experience. Come mingle, design, and let your artistic side blossom! All of the fresh flowers, foliage, vases, and floral shears are provided for you to create and take home your very own arrangement. Brunch includes fresh fruit, bagels, pastries, and coffee and tea. For people 18 years of age or older. Time: 11am-1:30pm Cost: \$85 per person For more information about the

event or registration visit www.idesignfloralevents.com/workshops

Jan. 19, Sun.

Kingsland Manor Open House Tour

@3 Kingsland St. Come explore the historic homestead of the Kingsland family and beyond, set within park-like grounds overlooking a pond and waterfalls. Time: 1-4pm For more information visit www.kingslandmanor.org

Jan. 22, Wed.

Infant Care Class

@Clara Maass Medical Center, 1 Clara Maass Dr., Belleville In two hours, learn what you need to know about parenting in an interactive "University" for parents-to-be. Learn about the basics on how to navigate parenthood

including topics such as newborn and post-partum care. Parents are welcome to attend at any time. Time: 7-9pm Cost: Free For more information and to register call 1-888-724-7123

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