

# NUTLEY

## NEIGHBORS



The Elsmore Family

# Placing Value Where It Counts

*Roberto, Jesse, James, Jimmy (back row)  
Sophia, Devon, Ava, Jackie (front row)*

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Photography by  
Miriam Dubinsky Photography



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Letter to Residents

# Resolutions or a Wish List?



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February 25.....	April 1
March 25.....	May 1
April 25.....	June 1
May 25.....	July 1
June 25.....	August 1
July 25.....	September 1
August 25.....	October 1
September 25.....	November 1
October 25.....	December 1

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It's January and that means it's time to make our resolutions for the new year. Or maybe we don't have to.

This year, I am flipping the script and creating a wish list instead. Hear me out.

A resolution is a commitment to take specific steps to reach a goal. That's all well and good but it seems like a lot of work. Hey, I am just being honest!

How about a wish list instead? We just went through the holiday season where we allowed our imaginations to run wild with thoughts of lavish gifts, the latest in electronics, or exotic vacations. Just the idea of speculating about what we could have was exciting, wasn't it?

Let's take that thought right into January.

Instead of resolutions, I am writing a wish list. I am going to ask myself what I really want to happen this year and then write it down. I know I may not be able to realistically do everything on this list, but just the act of imagining the possibilities expands my mindset. I can redefine my limits, ignite my curiosity, and activate creativity.

That's not a bad way to start the year!

Even though my wish list might have some bold and adventurous ideas, I will also include those familiar things that will make this year special.

On the cover is James and Jacqueline Elsmore who have found the most valuable things in their lives are right here in their home and community. With five adult children, two grandchildren, and their active membership and leadership with Sons of the American Legion, James and Jacqueline's wish list of a great life is reality.

If you want to make a bigger impact on the community this year, you could find out more about Sons of the American Legion or you could flip through the pages of this issue.

Spring Garden Elementary School has a beautification project they are working on. It involves personalized bricks!

Or maybe you would like to start off the new year by giving a dog or kitten a new home? Our calendar has a local blood drive that is happening on January 30. That would be a wonderful and personal way to give back to others!

Whatever you decide to do this new year—whether it's to make resolutions or a wish list—I hope these twelve months will be filled with all the amazing possibilities you can imagine!



**Joyce Corey** Content Coordinator

**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](mailto:jcorey@bestversionmedia.com).**

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# Real Estate Snapshot\*

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES SOLD NOVEMBER '24:

ADDRESS	LIST	SOLD	DIFFERENCE
2 Vail St.	\$849,000	\$927,000	\$78,000
180 Nutley Ave.	\$749,000	\$853,000	\$104,000
48 S. Spring Garden Ave.	\$749,900	\$830,000	\$80,100
168 Hillside Ave.	\$679,000	\$700,000	\$21,000
18 Howe Ave.	\$629,000	\$680,000	\$51,000
104 Mckinley St.	\$673,500	\$674,000	\$500
44 Friedland Rd.	\$599,117	\$645,000	\$45,883
75 Hastings Ave.	\$620,000	\$580,000	-\$40,000
72 Daily St.	\$575,000	\$540,000	-\$35,000
91 Nutley Ave.	\$475,000	\$535,000	\$60,000
41 Entwistle Ave.	\$435,000	\$485,000	\$50,000
288 Harrison St.	\$435,000	\$467,500	\$32,500
83 Raymond Ave.	\$399,900	\$450,000	\$50,100
18 Sargent St.	\$399,000	\$395,000	-\$4,000

**Average List:** \$599,999

**Average Sold:** \$629,000

**Median Days on Market:** 16

\*GSMLS Data: Single Family, Condominiums/Cooperatives, Town Houses January-November '24

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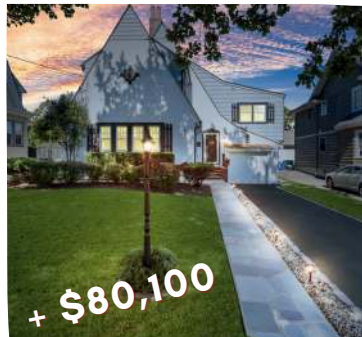
On average, our listings sold for **11.3%** above list.\*



2 Vail Street  
Sold: \$927,000



180 Nutley Avenue  
Sold: \$853,000



48 S. Spring Garden  
Sold: \$830,000



15 Glenview Road  
Sold: \$700,000

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## Feature Story

James and Jacqueline Elsmore

# Placing Value Where It Counts

By Joyce Corey

If we could see our lives as a map, there would be plenty of "X" marks where we could find treasure. But that cache of valuables might be different for every person. For some, the treasure might be found in a family, a career, or maybe on a vacation. It could be monetary or an accomplishment.

For James and Jacqueline Elsmore, they are finding the most valuable parts of their lives in their home, service to the community, and their *Nutley Neighbors*.

But first they had to find each other.

"I grew up in Alabama and later moved to Jersey City where Jacqueline and I met," James said. "It was at a dance club there. I had only recently moved from Mobile, Alabama. After dating a few years, we decided to get married. One of our best memories together was buying our home."

"We have been in Nutley on Oakridge Ave. for 27 years," Jacqueline added. "It's a quiet street and all our neighbors are great people."

Their blended family includes five adult children and two grandchildren.

"Some of our children live right here in town," James said. "Jimmy lives in our two-family home, and Michael and Jesse are also in Nutley. Colleen lives in Alabama and Devon, the mother of our two grandchildren, lives in Riverdale."

"Our granddaughters are Sophia (7) and Ava (3)," Jacqueline said. "A special tradition our family had for 36 years is going to Ideal Farm and Garden Centre in Lafayette, a pumpkin farm. We started taking our children there when they were very young and now our tradition includes our grandchildren."



James' 2007 Mustang GT CS



With the family dogs, Autumn and Charlie

Photograph by Miriam Dubinsky Photography

While their family is indeed one of the treasures in their lives, they have all bonded over a special connection to the veteran community.

"Jacqueline and I, and all of our children, are members of the American Legion," James said. "I recently became Commander of the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 105. Jacqueline is the chaplain for the auxiliary unit there. As an organization, this group does a lot of good work, not only for our veterans, but for our community as well."

The family's volunteer work with the American Legion began when James was introduced to the group through Rusty Myers, another member and Nutley resident. Jacqueline and the children later joined, and James recently received special recognition for his work there.

The American Legion, Squadron 105, was honored at the 52nd National Convention of the Sons of the American Legion in New Orleans and received four national awards in August. The awards were presented to Commander James Elsmore and Adjutant Rusty Myers at a state meeting in September at Somers Point, New Jersey, and later presented to the squadron membership at their general meeting on October 14.

While getting recognition for his work is important, James is most proud of helping veterans and impacting the



Colleen

community.  
 "One of the things we do is donate to the Fisher House Foundation, an organization which provides housing onsite at VA medical facilities to veterans and their families. This gives them a place to stay free of charge while a loved one is in the hospital."

Being able to help others is important to James and Jacqueline and two of those in their household—Autumn and Charlie—are most appreciative.

"We have two dogs that we rescued," James said. "They

truly are family. Both are medium-sized dogs. Autumn was part of a litter but wasn't getting adopted. We got Charlie when someone told us he was going to the pound. He was a bit crazy when we first brought him home, but he was afraid and wanted to get out. He tore up four window blinds, a small glass table, and a curtain. That was his first day here while we were at work. But I get it. He is fine now and both are great family dogs."

Another treasure for James is his hobby of working on his Mustang GT CS.

"It's a 2007 but has the 1970 body style," he said. "I've been modifying it, and I enjoy keeping up with it. I take it to car shows once in a while like the one the Rotary Club puts on. I even won a trophy!"

Perhaps one of the biggest treasures James and Jacqueline have is right there in their neighborhood.

"We are very grateful for having such nice

## 5 Things the Elsmore Family Loves About Nutley

1. Beautiful parks
2. Restaurants
3. Shopping
4. Very respectful police department
5. Small hometown feeling

Photograph by Miriam Dubinsky Photography



Roberto, Devon, Sophia, and Ava

neighbors," Jacqueline said. "That makes a big difference."

Sometimes, we don't need a map to show us where the best parts of life are. For James and Jacqueline Elsmore, their family, their home, and their community bring value into their lives every day. ■

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](mailto:jcorey@bestversionmedia.com).



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## Neighborhood News

# Proponent Federal Credit Union Shows Gratitude to Nutley First Responders

*Submitted by Meryl Rader*

**O**n Tuesday, November 19, Proponent Federal Credit Union hosted Nutley police and fire personnel, along with their administration, at its annual appreciation luncheon. This special tradition reflects Proponent's gratitude for the invaluable contributions of the town's first responders.

The luncheon was held at the Nutley Fire Station where attendees enjoyed a delicious meal catered by Custodi Caterers of Belleville. To commemorate the occasion, each attendee received a Proponent "NUT" cap. Styled in Nutley High School's signature maroon and featuring bold "NUT" lettering, these popular caps embody Proponent's commitment to celebrating the spirit of the Nutley community.

During the lunch, Mary Lewis, Proponent's Member Relationship Executive, shared updates on promotional



Photo credit:  
Mary Lewis

savings account options and loan offers available to police and fire department members. Nutley residents and workers interested in learning about Proponent's financial products—or in securing their own NUT cap—can contact Mary at 201-452-4415. ■

**About Proponent Federal Credit Union:** Proponent Federal Credit Union is committed to the town of Nutley, fostering strong community ties and celebrating the efforts of local heroes. Proponent has proudly served its members for over 50 years, offering a comprehensive suite of financial savings and loan solutions

that promote the well-being of the communities it serves. Because it is a credit union, Proponent can offer lower interest rates on loans and higher rates on savings accounts than traditional banks offer. For more information, visit [Profcu.org](http://Profcu.org).

## Nutley Organizations

# Van Riper House Awarded \$9,634 Historic Site Management Grant: Major Progress for Nonprofit Organization

*Submitted by Dante Intindola, President of Van Riper House, Inc.*

**T**he New Jersey Historic Trust voted to recommend a Historic Site Management Grant in the amount of \$9,634 to Van Riper House, Inc. at their annual meeting held on September 25. The funds will be used for the preparation of nominations to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places for the Van Riper House, an 18th century Dutch farmhouse in dire need of restoration, located in Nutley, New Jersey.

The balance of the plan's total estimated cost of \$12,845 will be funded by monies the organization has on hand in accordance with the grant's three-to-one matching provision. The grant award represents another major milestone in the organization's progress since its reorganization in 2019. It is the culmination of countless hours of volunteer work encompassing major fundraising, strategic planning, and grassroots community outreach.

The proposed nominations will be developed by Hunter Research, Inc., New Jersey's premier investigative history firm, led by Principal Architectural Historian Patrick



Harshbarger. Hunter Research's strengths in the area of nomination preparation are the result of the firm's more than 30 years of working in New Jersey, during which they have gained an intimate knowledge of how the listing process works.

The nominations will benefit from findings of a Preservation Plan developed by Hunter for the house over the last two years, also funded in part by a trust grant. Listing on the registers will avail our organization to capital funds for major restoration projects and is a key component of the Plan's proposed project schedule. Final acceptance of the nominations is expected to take 18 months.

If listed, the Van Riper House will join the Nutley Museum, Kingsland Manor, former Women's Club (Vreeland House), and the Enclosure Historic District on the New Jersey and National Registers.

Our organization thanks those who wrote letters of support for the grant application, and our many donors and fundraiser attendees who helped raise the matching funds. ■



# The Ghost in the Barn

By Maureen Saar

What inspires the creation of a story? For me, the inspiration comes unexpectedly and then my imagination kicks in. The idea for this story came from a request by my two youngest grandchildren (who are cousins) during a sleepover at my home. "Grandma tell us a scary story." At their impressionable young age, a ghost story seemed to fit the bill.

The main characters in the story are two young cousins, Ethan and Morgan, who are visiting their grandparents in Vermont during winter break. My mother was raised on a dairy farm in Vermont, and I have spent a lot of time in Vermont as a child and adult. This made it easy for me to envision the setting.

The incident that drives the story is the sighting of a ghost by Ethan, the younger character. He is convinced that he saw a ghost in their grandparents' old barn. He shares this news with his disbelieving cousin and convinces her to return to the barn with him and see for herself. Each time they approach the barn, a frightening event occurs which confirms that there may indeed be a ghost. At their third visit to the barn, "they heard a shrill whistle and looked up. A large white shape flew past the window."

At this point in the story, they run to

share the news with their grandparents and enlist their involvement. They wait until dark and head to the barn. The grandfather brings a flashlight and when he shines the light into the barn two bright

yellow eyes

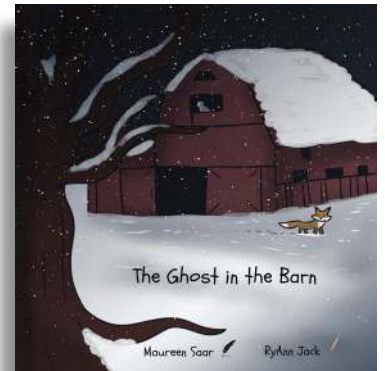
look out at them. Ethan thinks it must be the ghost, but his grandfather identifies the "ghost" as a snowy owl visiting for the winter. Ethan is embarrassed but he is assured by his grandparents that he's probably not the first person to be fooled. "As a matter of fact," Grandpa said, "lots of folks here in Vermont call it a ghost owl."

At the end of the book I've included fun facts about snowy owls and Vermont.

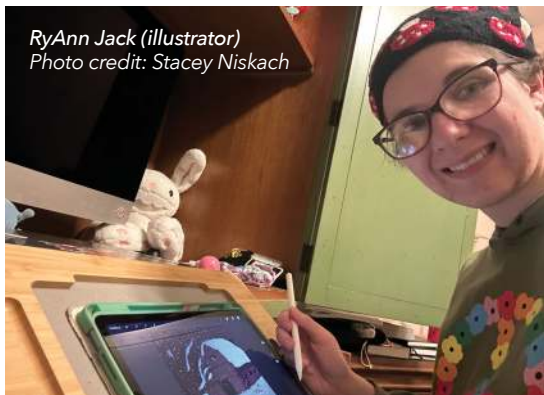
I appreciate the help of family and friends who made the publishing of this book possible. My husband, John, is an expert at formatting now. My niece and illustrator, RyAnn Jack, continues to amaze me with her ability to capture the mood of the story with her vivid illustrations. This is our third book together.

While I enjoy using my imagination to create stories, the greater reward is in sharing my stories with young children. I read my story at Nutley Public Library on December 11. Our library is very supportive of local authors, and I am grateful for the opportunity to share my latest book during storytime. ■

*The Ghost in the Barn* is available at Amazon or through the author at [MaureenSaar@gmail.com](mailto:MaureenSaar@gmail.com). Other titles by the author include, *Aunt Fab the Fabulous* and *Sam and the Family Tree*.



Maureen Saar  
Photo credit: John Saar



RyAnn Jack (illustrator)  
Photo credit: Stacey Niskach

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*Submitted by  
Nicole Milici, Jersey  
Pits Rescue Inc.*

**K**ip is an incredibly sweet 9-year-old pittie in search of his forever family.



Unfortunately, he was surrendered when his family had a change of circumstances that he could not be a part of. It breaks our hearts when older pups are surrendered and have to start over after only knowing one family their whole life. We hope that the silver lining for Kip is that he will find a forever family to spend his golden years with!

Kip weighs about 75 pounds and he is as easy going as they come! He is house trained and crate trained. He is a relaxed couch potato who will thrive in a calm household. He is friendly towards people and strangers. He does not interact well with dogs up close but is okay with dogs from a distance. He is good with children, but younger children should be respectful of him. He only needs a home to rest his head, an occasional walk and play session, and is very low maintenance.

If you are interested in adopting Kip, send us an email at [jerseypitsrescue@gmail.com](mailto:jerseypitsrescue@gmail.com)

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



**B**iscuit Betty was found outside near an abandoned building. She was trapped and ended up being super friendly. She loves to make biscuits, hence her name. Shortly after she was trapped, the abandoned building caught fire, so she was one lucky cat to be saved! She is safe and warm now and looking for a family that won't abandon her again as she was most likely dumped based on how clean and friendly she is. Biscuit Betty is about 2 years old. She is up to date on vaccines, microchipped, FIV/FelV negative and spayed. She is being fostered with other cats.

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# Proponent Federal Credit Union Hosts Chamber of Commerce Networking Mixer at New Kingsland Street Member Center

Submitted by Meryl Rader

On October 24, over three dozen Nutley Chamber of Commerce members and guests gathered at Proponent Federal Credit Union's new Member Center at 433 Kingsland Street for a networking mixer. Proponent's Director of Loan Centers Arlene D'Angelo welcomed guests, and each business owner had the opportunity to introduce their Nutley-based business. Attendees enjoyed refreshments in the lobby and conference room, and views from the Member Center's Green Roof Garden.



Proponent staff (left): Natasha Prendergast, Christine Notare, Gia Green, Mary Lewis, Joe Graziano Photo credit: Mint Advertising



**About Proponent:** Nutley-based Proponent Federal Credit Union has been a trusted alternative to for-profit banks for over 50 years. Proponent offers a comprehensive suite of products, including mortgages, loans, credit cards, and checking and savings accounts. Because it is a credit union, Proponent can offer lower interest rates on loans and higher rates on savings accounts than traditional banks. For more information, visit [Profcu.org](http://Profcu.org).

## Library Corner

# Be a Reading Machine During the 2025 Winter Reading Challenge at the Nutley Public Library

By Deidra Garcia, Head of Youth Services

The Nutley Public Library is joining other libraries and schools around the world for the 8th Annual Winter Reading Challenge: Be a Reading Machine!

This is a challenge to read, or have someone read to them, for at least 620 minutes total (or 20 minutes a day) from January 1 through January 31. This winter reading challenge, sponsored by Baker & Taylor, encourages participants of all ages to read through the winter season. The top-performing libraries and schools will be awarded book collections, virtual author visits from popular authors, signed copies, and more.

To participate, Nutley Public Library cardholders can register online at [nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org](http://nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org) or on the Beanstack mobile app. Once registered, participants can log their minutes read from January 1 through January 31 to complete the challenge of reading 620 minutes. All reading



during January counts, even if you register in January.

Readers who complete the 620-minute challenge will be entered into a random selection by age (babies/toddlers, grades K-5, grades 6-12, and adult). Grand prize winners selected from each group will receive

a gift card to a local Nutley business and their name on a bookplate in the library's collection. Children and teens will also earn a goodie bag just for signing up, and all participants who complete the reading challenge can collect a certificate of completion. All goodie bags and prizes are generously sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library. ■

For further information, please visit [nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org](http://nutleypubliclibrary.beanstack.org), contact Deidra Garcia at [deidra.garcia@nutley.bccls.org](mailto:deidra.garcia@nutley.bccls.org), or call the Youth Services Department at 973-667-0405 ext. 2623. #WinterRead2025 #ReadingMachine

Expert Contributor

# Why Your Back Pain Resolution Should Start with Us

By John Kaufman

**S**tart 2025 strong and pain-free! If you're one of the millions of people suffering from back pain, you're not alone—back pain is one of the leading causes of missed work and reduced quality of life. The good news? At CORE Physical Therapy we're here to help you make 2025 the year you take control of your pain and reclaim your life.

## Common Causes of Back Pain

The causes of back pain are as diverse as the people who experience it.

You might have:

- Spent too much time sitting at a desk or on the couch
- Developed poor posture while working remotely
- Overexerted yourself during physical activities or holiday tasks

Whatever the cause, untreated back pain can worsen over time, leading to limited mobility and reduced daily enjoyment.

## Why Physical Therapy Works

Physical therapy is more than just treating symptoms—it's about addressing the root cause of your back pain and preventing it from returning. At CORE Physical Therapy, we take a personalized approach to care, offering:

- **Targeted Strengthening Exercises** Build the muscles that support your spine to reduce strain.
- **Flexibility Training** Improve your range of motion to ease stiffness and discomfort.
- **Postural Education** Learn better habits to protect your back during everyday activities.
- **Pain Management Techniques** Experience relief with



hands-on therapy and other evidence-based methods.

Our goal is to empower you with the tools and knowledge to live pain-free, no matter your lifestyle or activity level.

## What to Expect During Your First Visit

Your journey to recovery starts with a thorough assessment. During your first visit, we'll:

- Discuss your medical history and current pain levels.
- Perform a movement analysis to identify the underlying issues.
- Create a personalized treatment plan tailored to your goals

We'll guide you every step of the way, ensuring you feel confident and supported throughout your recovery process

Take Diane, for example, a busy teacher and grandmother who came

to us after months of struggling with lower back pain. After just a few weeks of treatment, Diane regained her mobility and was finally able to return to her favorite activities, like going to her workout classes and playing with her grandkids.

## Your Back Pain Resolution Starts Here

Make this the year to prioritize your health and happiness. Whether you're looking to return to your favorite hobbies, keep up with your kids, or simply feel more comfortable in your daily life, we're here to help.

Don't let back pain hold you back in 2025. Schedule your consultation today at CORE Physical Therapy and let's take the first step toward a stronger, pain-free you! ■



**CORE Can Help  
You Live  
Pain Free**

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## Founded by Nutley Resident

John Kaufman PT, DPT.  
Our commitment extends beyond physical therapy. We provide acupuncture treatment for a holistic approach to wellness.

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**PARKING IN REAR**

# Yanticaw Park History

By David Wilson

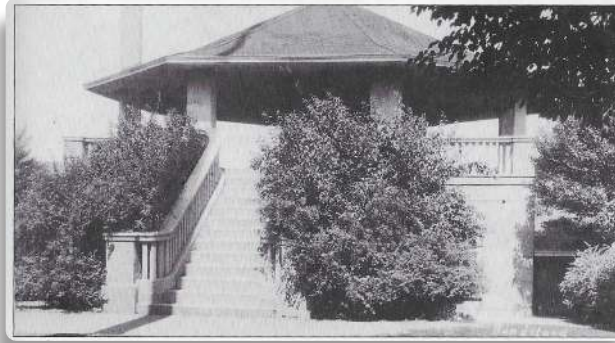
Nutley is known for the park system following the scenic Third River through the Township. Stretching from Harrison Street to Kingsland Street, it's our local version of manifest destiny. The vision started in 1895 when John R. Clark and Dr. Thomas E. Satterthwaite created a map of proposed parklands and began an intense lobbying effort with Nutley and Essex County commissioners to appropriate monies and acquire land.

The previous uses of this area included farmland, town dump, and the Yanticaw Cotton Mill. The Old Military Hall was nearby, and no doubt Nutley's militia groups used this area for drill grounds. Stitts mill owners built a meeting room for the Dutch Reformed Church. The Vincent Methodist Episcopal Church started construction of their new structure in 1909, while The Bank of Nutley built their first building on Chestnut St. in 1910, further spurring the park planners to action.

The small town of Franklin, soon to be renamed Nutley, could not afford to preserve so much land and developers were already encroaching on the envisioned park project. Leaders saw other parks being developed by Essex County and wanted Nutley to get the same benefit from county tax payments.

Charles Vroom and The Nutley Improvement Association joined the efforts, and in 1909, the first county appropriations bill included \$40K for land purchase and \$200K for development of 29 acres. The name Yanticaw stems from the Lenape words meaning "place of the wood boundary" and an early Native American ceremonial dance of thanksgiving called Yanticaw.

The land was purchased in 1911, and following an Olmsted Brothers design, construction was completed by 1914. Wetlands were drained, walking paths, terracing, stairways, footbridges, and a dam created a scenic lake area. Amenities included a playground with swings, seesaws, sandbox, and wading pool in the lower section known as Girl's Park. The upper section, known as Boy's Park, included ball fields, a wonderful



**Bandshell at Yanticaw Park.**

Photo credit: John Demmer, town historian of Nutley



**Yanticaw Lake soon after creation.**

Photo credit: Courtesy of the Essex County Parks Archives



**Original Olmsted Brothers 47-step stairway.** Photo credit: David Wilson

stand of European Lindens lining the pathways, lawn tennis, lawn bowling courts, horseshoe pits, a field house with showers, lockers, bathrooms, and band shell.

A great storm in 1962 damaged the lake and a plan funded by land sales to the NJ Highway Authority was implemented to remove the dam, drain the lake, add 850 feet of retaining walls, and reclaim recreational land.

The Lanape Trail that connects 18 parks and 11 towns passes through the park. The legend of Alligator Island was confirmed in a 1925 news article about Fire Chief Zimmerman lassoing a two-foot alligator in the river. High school sports teams, bands, twirlers, and gym classes use the park extensively. Gold medal Olympian Ollan Cassell

trained in this park. An outdoor classroom envisioned by the Walker Middle School Science Department was built for the students.

A recent history walk by Town Historian John Demmer and myself will be recreated indoors on March 18, 2025, at the Nutley Library. Featured will be pictures, some not seen publicly for decades, Demmer's vast postcard collection, and information and images from other local historical sources. ■

David Wilson is the author of *Fires in Your Life: A Fire Expert's Guide to Preventing and Surviving Fires in Your Home*. He shares true stories from his 40 years of experience as a fire inspector and includes a safety guide. His recent book, *The Gopher Tale*, is a story for young readers about working together to solve the global challenge of food insecurity through sustainability, cooperation, and harmonious living. Available wherever books are sold.

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PARKING IN REAR

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Nutley Sports

# Nutley High School Girls Tennis

By Julian Gruttadauria

The Nutley High School girls' tennis team hosted Servathon, their annual breast cancer awareness event on October 13. Students were tasked with getting pledges from friends, family, and the community.



People pledged to donate \$1 for every serve successfully made. The tennis players each hit 25 serves, and for every successful serve, the pledged amount was donated to the cause. This year, the students made enough to raise over \$1,000 in donations!

These proceeds were donated to the Nutley Thriving Survivors charity, a wonderful organization that supports local women that have battled breast cancer. Donations were delivered to the Nutley Thriving Survivors annual brunch at Glen Ridge Country Club on October 20. This is another amazing example of community support that Nutley provides, and the tennis team is excited to fund this incredible charity for years to come.



Nutley Tennis is always looking to give back to the community, and students are eager to help. For the first time this year, the boys' tennis team joined the fight against breast cancer even though their season does not begin until spring. The Nutley High School boys varsity tennis team will be hosting their first-ever Servathon event that will focus on mental health awareness this May. The girls' team is excited to be part of it as the high school tennis family continues to grow and support each other through their respective fall and spring seasons.

The tennis program is looking for more students to join this lifelong sport. Close to 40 students currently make up the program, and it is expanding year after year. Every summer, I run a week-long camp for students ages 10 and up, and we are looking to add more weeks and evenings throughout the year to develop young players to join in the future. Private lessons, camps, indoor training, and more are offered to all students of any age. Nutley Tennis thanks you for the continued support from the community and wants to do their part to give back. ■

School News

# Spring Garden School Brick Fundraiser

Submitted by MJ Bernard, SGS PTO Beautification

Be part of Spring Garden Elementary School's beautification story by purchasing a personalized brick. Your brick will find its place on the stunning campus of SGS, becoming a permanently etched fixture for years to come.



Imagine walking the grounds of our beloved school, knowing that your name or message is embedded in the very ground beneath your feet. Each brick will be meticulously installed, creating a pathway of pride and tradition that will be admired by students, alumni, and visitors alike.

**Brick pricing:**

- 4x8 brick \$75, 3 lines of text, 20 characters per line
- 8x8 brick \$145, 6 lines of text, 20 characters per line
- 8x8 corporate bricks for \$450

Please visit [www.fundraisingbrick.com/online-orders/sgs/](http://www.fundraisingbrick.com/online-orders/sgs/) to place your order online. Leave your mark and order a brick today! Engraved brick order deadline: **January 15, 2025** ■

**For additional information regarding our engraved brick campaign please email [bricks@sgspto.org](mailto:bricks@sgspto.org).**

# JANUARY 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

**Jan. 4, Sat.**

**S'mores n' More**

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

For all ages. Join an ECEC naturalist for a guided short walk on the trails and experience forest life in the wintertime. Afterward, practice fundamental fire skills and build a campfire in a safe and controlled environment. Once the fire is burning, roast marshmallows and make s'mores!

Time: 11am-12:30pm  
Cost: \$12 per child; \$15 per adult

For more information and to register visit [www.essexcountyparks.org/facilities/environmental-center/calendar](http://www.essexcountyparks.org/facilities/environmental-center/calendar)

**Jan. 18, Sat.**

**Anais St. Amant Artist Reception**

@Nutley Public Library,  
93 Booth Dr.

Time: 2-4pm

For more information visit the Calendar of Events at [www.nutleypubliclibrary.org](http://www.nutleypubliclibrary.org)

**Jan. 19, Sun.**

**Open House at the Kingsland Manor**

@Kingsland Manor,  
3 Kingsland St.

Come explore the rich history of the Kingsland Manor which is on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. The Manor is open on the third Sunday of each month (except August and November). Don't forget to check the Events page for other special holiday events!

Time: 1-4pm  
Cost: Free admission  
For more information visit [www.kingslandmanornutley.org](http://www.kingslandmanornutley.org) or call 973-661-3410

**Jan. 20, Mon.**

**Horticulture for Seniors**

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

For senior citizens. Join the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Essex County for this once-a-month horticulture class especially designed for senior citizens. Monthly topics vary. Advance registration is required one week prior to the program.

Time: 1-3pm

Cost: Free

For more information contact Anita by phone and leave a message at 973-661-0520 or email [anitagibaldi@gmail.com](mailto:anitagibaldi@gmail.com)

**Jan. 20, Mon.**

**Community Day Martin Luther King Jr: Stronger Together**

@The Newark Museum of Art, 49 Washington St., Newark

The theme "Stronger Together" reflects the shared commitment to working hand-in-hand across communities through service, where love triumphs over hate, peace over conflict, and unity over division—because we are truly Stronger Together.

Enjoy free general admission to the Museum all day during Community Day!

Time: 12-5pm

Cost: Free

For more information and to register visit [www.newarkmuseumart.org](http://www.newarkmuseumart.org)

**Jan. 30, Thurs.**

**Blood Drive**

@149 Chestnut St.

Donate blood to help others at this mobile blood drive.

Time: 3-6pm

For more information visit [www.nutleynj.org](http://www.nutleynj.org)

**Feb. 1, Sat.**

**Winter Nature Journaling**

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

For all ages. Participants will experience winter discoveries through hiking and bird watching, and explore the joy of phenology, the cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena. From the outdoor explorations, make nature journals and use them to write and draw the forest findings. Dress warmly for the weather.

Time: 10-11:30am

Cost: \$12 per child; \$15 per adult

For more information and to register visit [www.essexcountyparks.org/facilities/environmental-center/calendar](http://www.essexcountyparks.org/facilities/environmental-center/calendar)



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0526  
A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

### Important Phone Numbers - [www.NutleyNJ.org](http://www.NutleyNJ.org)

<i>Emergency</i> .....	911	<i>Parks and Recreation</i> .....	(973) 284-4966
<i>Police Department</i> .....	(973) 284-4940	<i>School District</i> .....	(973) 661-3500
<i>Fire Department</i> .....	(973) 284-4940	<i>Chamber of Commerce</i> .....	(973) 667-5300
<i>Town Hall</i> .....	(973) 284-4951	<i>Public Affairs &amp; Health Dept.</i> .....	(973) 284-4976
<i>Library</i> .....	(973) 667-0405	<i>Public Works</i> .....	(973) 284-4958



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