

MARCH 2020

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

NUTLEY NEIGHBORS

The Parade Route of the Blum Family



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Feedback/Ideas/Submissions: Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 25th of each month.

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

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Going Green

Kermit the frog said that it wasn't easy being green but if he was in Nutley during the month of March, he might reconsider that statement. Of course, I am talking about that wonderful 'green' event when the St. Patrick's Day parade marches through town. This very well-attended and much-anticipated celebration has just about everyone wearing green and saluting the Irish. Kermit and his greenness would fit right in.

This year, one of the parade dignitaries is Brian Blum, who is also on the cover of this month's issue, along with his wife, Melissa, and daughters, Maggie and Kaitlyn. It was especially wonderful interviewing the family because not only did I learn more about the Nutley Irish American Association (NIAA) and the work here they do in town, besides organizing the parade, but I also realized something about parades and participation.

Both are contagious.

The excitement and happiness of a parade actually encourages people to participate. And conversely, participation in an event invites other people to join in too.

I saw this with the Blum family. All of them are actively involved in Nutley in different sectors, like education, religion, sports, and of course, Irish heritage. Their participation in these activities supports the quality of life here in town, as their efforts combine with other Nutleyites. Before long, there is a celebration of community.

This happens quite frequently here in town as people and organizations seek the betterment of others. The Nutley Family Service Bureau is one such place. The services they offer and the pantry and thrift shop all are in place to help others. The people who work at the library and the museum serve everyone in town. And let's not forget the local businesses, like Good Vibes Yoga Bar, who not only make this magazine possible but who offer their expertise in a wide variety of areas.

As we celebrate the 'wearing of the green' this month, please keep in mind that a parade of community service and spirit travels throughout Nutley every day.

Now that's something we can all cheer about!

Joyce Corey Content Coordinator



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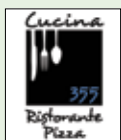


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Joe Isabella is a Certified Mortgage Planning Specialist (CMPS®). He has been with Investors Home Mortgage since 2010 and is a Circle of Excellence Award winner. Since joining Investors, Joe has helped many families in Nutley and the surrounding area 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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Doctor Dominick J. Ligresti is a Medical Doctor who is a Board Certified Dermatologist (which is the highest degree in medicine and dermatology). He is also an Adjunct Professor of Dermatology and Clinic Chief at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in NYC.

He teaches medical doctors from Hackensack University Hospital.

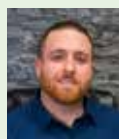
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24 Wilmington Dr	\$575,000	4	4	2170
49 E White Terr	\$579,900	4	4	2602
45 Chase St	\$599,000	6	3	2373
46 Carrie Ct	\$599,999	4	3	2070
377 High St	\$645,000	4	4	2500
99 Alexander Ave	\$649,900	4	4	3100
120 Kenzel Ave	\$649,900	4	4	1834
16 Sunset Dr	\$659,000	4	3	3770
145 Ridge Rd	\$689,000	4	4	2456
166 Walnut St	\$699,000	5	4	4200
78 Yantacaw Pl	\$699,000	5	5	
5 Maple Pl	\$769,000	4	4	3485
352 Park Ave	\$840,000	6	6	4150
832 Highfield Ln	\$895,999	7	5	4865



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The Blum family:
Brian, Maggie,
Kaitlyn, and Melissa

The Parade Route of the Blum Family

By Joyce Corey

Photographs by Randall Kenneth Photography

This year, as Nutley's much-anticipated and always well-attended St. Patrick's Day parade marches through town on March 7, you will notice Brian Blum as the Deputy Grand Marshal. You will also have noticed him on the cover of this month's issue, along with his wife, Melissa, and their daughters, Maggie and Kaitlyn. While being a dignitary in the parade, which is organized by the Nutley Irish American Association (NIAA), is quite an honor, the Blum family is active all year long in town in a variety of worthwhile activities.

This month I had the pleasure of tracking their personal 'parade' route through town as each member of the family interacts with our *Nutley Neighbors* while

giving back to our community.

Brian and Melissa met, post-college, while working at Morgan Stanley. He tells us, "I grew up in Rockaway Beach, New York and graduated from Iona College. I am part of a large family, being the sixth of eight children. My parents were very involved in our community and our parish while I was growing up and instilled in us the importance of giving back." After 22 years at Morgan Stanley, Brian has spent the last five with the National Futures Association (NFA).

"I'm originally from Union City, spent my teen years growing up near the Jersey Shore in Brick Township, and later graduated from Villanova University with a finance degree," Melissa tells us. She has been a real estate agent

for 17 years and is with Liberty Realty in Hoboken, serving Hudson and Essex counties and beyond.

They were married in 2002 and lived in Hoboken before moving to the Yantacaw section of Nutley in 2005. "We were ready to move to the suburbs but not willing to give up all of the conveniences of city living. This made Nutley the perfect choice for us. We enjoy the walkability of this town, along with the parks, the Farmers Market and the outdoor movies and concerts."

"Living in Nutley just 15 years still makes us 'newcomers' by many accounts, but we have found so many ways to get involved in our church, our kids' schools and teams, and other community organizations such as NEF and the Nutley Irish, that sometimes we feel like we've been here forever," Melissa said. "We love the sense of community and spirit of volunteerism in Nutley; someone is literally always raising money for a good cause. We have met many great people and formed wonderful friendships here; we honestly can't

imagine living anywhere else."

Melissa is on the board of the Nutley Educational Foundation (NEF) which helps enrich the educational experience for students. "I am very proud of the work we've done over the past few years. NEF has been instrumental in bringing the TREP\$ program to town, building the outdoor classroom, has purchased equipment for STEAM initiatives and has provided

resources to the music program and the program for special needs students," she said. "I am also on the finance committee at St. Mary's Church, was co-chair for the last three years for the church's Oktoberfest, and have served for many years on the Yantacaw Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)."

While Melissa's choices for community involvement highlight her interest in educational and spiritual areas, she also captains a team, the Pink Flamingos, for Nutley's Relay for Life. "The American Cancer Society is a charity near and dear



Left: Getting ready to march in the 2019 Nutley St. Patrick's Day Parade.
Right: 2019 Nutley Memorial Day Parade, Maggie drumming with the JHWMS Band and Brian with the South Park Pipes and Drums



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Left: Melissa and Kaitlyn at the Yantacaw Fun Run. Middle: The family enjoys vacationing in Ocean City, NJ every summer. Right: Brian running the 2019 NEF Color-A-Thon.

to me as I lost my mother to breast cancer in 2016," she said.

Brian's community involvement includes a position on the Lay Leadership Council at St. Mary's, serving as co-chair for the church's Oktoberfest, and being a long-time member of the South Park and District Pipe Band as a drummer.

The St. Patrick's Day parade has always been a special celebration for the family, and this year Brian is the Deputy Grand Marshal. He said, "I have been marching in the Nutley parade since I was part of the pipe band at Iona College, long before we decided to put our roots here in

town. Since moving here, we have attended the parade each and every year, now with me marching with the South Park band, and our daughters and Melissa marching with the Girl Scouts. This is one of the biggest parades of the year and a day the entire town looks forward to celebrating."

Brian is honored to be one of five dignitaries in this year's parade. "I am a member of the NIAA, which is a robust group that meets and plans activities to celebrate our Irish heritage all

year round," he said. "They also give scholarships and do many hours of community service." Brian is thrilled to represent them in this year's parade.

Their daughters, Maggie and Kaitlyn, are following their individual interests through school and town-sponsored activities. As a freshman at DePaul Catholic High School, Maggie just helped the varsity soccer team win a County Championship and its first ever State Sectional Championship. She has played with Nutley United Soccer,

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travel basketball teams, and Nutley East Little League.

Kaitlyn is in seventh grade at John H. Walker Middle School and has enjoyed being in five shows with the Parks and Recreation Theater Program. She is now doing competition cheerleading. When the family isn't busy attending a soccer game or cheerleading competition, they enjoy vacationing in Ocean City, Rockaway Beach and the Florida Keys.

Not only is everyone involved in many activities and events in town, but they are also exploring the history of Nutley. "Recently, we learned that the name Blum has a place in Nutley history since the first mayor was Abram Blum," Brian said. "But we don't think we are related to any past Blum families in town."

In the present, they have high praise for their neighbors. "Everyone is friendly and takes great pride in their homes. We help each other out whenever we can, shoveling snow, dog walking, taking out trash, borrowing and lending things. We love being a few short blocks from entering our magnificent park system."

This year, when the St. Patrick's Day parade passes through town on March 7, be sure to wave to Brian, Melissa, Maggie, and Kaitlyn. A parade is a celebration and this family certainly celebrates their lives together here in Nutley every day. ■



Five Things the Blum Family Loves About Nutley

- 1.** Sports and recreation programs
- 2.** Sense of community
- 3.** Proximity to New York City and many conveniences
- 4.** Spirit of volunteerism
- 5.** The St. Patrick's Day Parade!

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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Why Is Financial Planning Important?

Contributed by Michael S. Cocco, CFP®, ChFC®
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You need strategies to turn your financial dreams into realities. Empower yourself to make informed decisions by focusing on your goals, planning for each life stage and educating yourself.

To help you reach your goals, start by outlining each of them in light of your current situation, and identify the gaps and opportunities in your financial strategies. Ask yourself:

1. How do my assets compare to my liabilities?
2. Have I established an emergency reserve?
3. Do I know how I spend my money each month?

Armed with this knowledge, you can develop a plan to help you feel in control of your financial well-being and confident that you are doing all you can to prepare for your future. Ask yourself:

1. Have I adequately provided for my family in the event of a death, disability or long-term care need?
2. Do I know how much income I might need when I retire?
3. Will I have the freedom to enjoy the lifestyle I

worked so hard to achieve?

4. Am I properly planning to save for a specific expense such as my children's education or a new home?

Even if you have a sophisticated understanding of financial concepts, you can still benefit from the expertise and perspective of a professional. Ask him or her:

1. Does my investment strategy allow me to achieve my goals?
2. How does my taxable income impact my savings and investment programs?
3. How do I address my concerns about reducing potential federal and estate taxes?
4. What do I do to arrange for the efficient transfer of assets to my heirs?

Each decision you make affects the one thereafter. So, while it is important to address each concern individually, it is even more crucial to assess how they interact. Evaluate each of your goals in the context of one, integrated strategy--because with a comprehensive plan, your financial dreams will become a reality. ■

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Submitted by Christa Milici

How is this beautiful girl still available? Both of her siblings were adopted together months ago and this pretty girl still has not found a forever family of her own.

Aria is about 6 months old now but very petite and extremely sweet. She absolutely loves to snuggle and fall asleep on your chest. She would be perfect for any family with kids and is also cat and dog friendly. Aria is vaccinated, FIV/FelV negative, stool-tested, dewormed, microchipped and is spayed. Application and adoption fee apply.

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Submitted by Tiffany Servidio

Happy truly lives up to his name with a wagging tail that makes his whole body wiggle! He loves everyone he meets! Happy has evaluated well with other dogs, even small ones. He is about 2-3 years old and 45 pounds. Happy is located at the East Orange Shelter, 133 Midland Ave., waiting to meet you! For more information about Happy or to set up a meet and greet, please email info@eoanimalalliance.org



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Join Us for the Sixth Annual NJ Makers Day

By Lucia Alvarez, Library Associate

NJ Makers Day is a celebration of maker culture across New Jersey. This all-ages event connects individuals with libraries, schools, and independent makerspaces that support making, tinkering, crafting, manufacturing, and STEM-based learning.

The maker movement in the United States isn't just a hobby; it's having a significant impact on school curriculum development and growing local economies. To celebrate making and maker culture, residents throughout New Jersey will come together Saturday, March 21, 2020 in libraries, schools, museums, colleges, makerspaces, businesses, and other community locations.

NJ Makers Day is designed to be a statewide event that celebrates, promotes, and in many cases may introduce maker culture, as well as the values associated with making, tinkering, and STEM-based learning. In 2019, events were featured at over 290 participating locations in 20 counties in New Jersey with a reported attendance of 110,000. Participating locations included schools, colleges and universities, libraries, museums, and other educational organizations.

Makerspaces across the state are having a significant impact on education and job skills development by providing access to people, information, resources, and tools that facilitate making to a wide variety of skill levels. NJ Makers Day allows communities to share hands-on programming opportunities, demonstrations and displays, and the expertise of the individuals and organizations that make, create, and develop right in their own backyards.

We are ecstatic to be able to bring this type of programming to the Nutley community. The Nutley Public Library is proud to be a participating site for New Jersey Makers Day on March 21, 2020 from 11am-3pm! Community members of all ages are invited to join us for an exciting day filled with activities focusing on maker culture.



The Nutley Public Library will be offering a variety of activities and demonstrations for all ages. Hands-on maker stations include paper circuits, sewing, Ozobots, Oculus Rift virtual reality, 3D Printing, drawing, coding, Sphero, marble mazes, engineering challenges, crafts and much more.

For more information, please contact Lucia Alvarez at 973-669-0405 or visit youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org and the Nutley Public Library's Facebook page. Find out more about New Jersey Makers Day at www.njmakersday.org. ■

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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Nutley Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards

By Dianne Wilson

There are many people who help to make Nutley a great township. Each and every person who volunteers, works without fanfare, or goes the extra mile needs to be thanked publicly for their community service. The Nutley Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards (DSA) program has been identifying and recognizing five individuals each year for the past 49 years. After receiving nominations from community groups and people, the judges sort through their stories and pick the top five outstanding people. There are always plenty of choices as people continue to add their talents and time to the betterment of Nutley.

Five individuals who live or work in Nutley will be honored for their outstanding contributions to the quality of life in Nutley. The awards are presented for commitment and excellence in the areas of business, education, civic affairs, public health and safety and to one outstanding young adult between the ages of 21 and 40.

The past winners' list is a who's who of Nutleyites, with many familiar family names, husbands and wives, beloved educators, second and third generations of families and some with less name recognition, but all who contributed in a big way. The awards dinner is a fun event and a real rah-rah, must-attend Nutley night. Each winner is



introduced by a judge or close friend followed by a short speech. This is when you get to hear about their efforts to make Nutley such a great place to live, work, and be involved. To date, a total of 251 people have been honored!

"I have been involved with the dinner since the beginning," stated former Commissioner Walt Smith. "It is always gratifying to see the winners being honored for their unselfish efforts to make our community a better place to live. The evening is more than an awards dinner, it is a celebration of Nutley," continued Smith.

The awards will be presented at the Nutley Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards Dinner on Thursday, April 2, at the Valley Regency on 1129 Valley Road in Clifton. Last year's affair attracted hundreds of Nutley supporters. Reservations for the dinner can be purchased for \$45 per person from Dr. Steven Clarke at 973 235-1515. Businesses, families, and individuals can purchase advertisements and congratulatory pages in the program book; contact Dianne or David Wilson at 973-667-4690 for more information.

"The Distinguished Service Awards program has, since 1972, recognized those individuals who have helped make Nutley one of the most highly regarded and respected communities in our state," said Jaycees Chairman Dr. Steven Clarke.

Nomination forms are sent to charitable organizations in town and are also available at Township Hall and the library. You may email nominations to Chairman of Judges Walt Smith at waltbeau@aol.com or fax to 973-661-9270. This year's DSA Committee includes Dr. Steven Clarke, Walter Smith, Andy Garruto, David Wilson, and Dianne Wilson. ■



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Good Vibes Yoga Bar

By Joyce Corey

When Michael Giaimo was asked why he opened a yoga studio in Nutley, he said, "To me, a place that can well receive something that encourages self-discovery, community, peace, and faith is where I want to be. This town is full of amazing people. They really bring the vision of this studio to life, not me!"

Located at 237 Franklin Avenue in Nutley, Good Vibes Yoga Bar offers Vinyasa Yoga, Restorative Yoga, Yin Yoga, and other mindfulness practices. The Kombucha Bar extends the healthy vibes of the yoga studio by featuring refreshments that hydrate while supporting the digestive system.

Kombucha is fermented probiotic tea which contains live cultures with many health benefits. "We choose the most simply produced and what we feel are the best tasting Kombuchas and serve them either in bottles or on tap for practitioners to enjoy before or after practices," Michael said. "Our bar also offers a variety of teas, virgin cocktails (or mocktails), snacks, and more to replenish and satisfy oneself."

Before opening Good Vibes Yoga Bar, Michael spent 11 years working in the food industry. "But I felt compelled to make a life change." Through his own personal discoveries, he said, "I found yoga to be a very effective support system on several levels—physical, mental, emotional and spiritual."

His mother recognized that he had the makings of a good teacher, while college and his work experience gave him knowledge into the management side of a business, all of which pointed to his potential success as an entrepreneur.

His decision to open Good Vibes came about in a very

natural way and included his life experiences and skills.

"I had been practicing and guiding yoga with friends and family members who pointed out the serious possibility of teaching yoga to a lot more people as a vocation," he said. "Then, maybe a string of some divine intervention,



Owner
Michael
Giaimo

you could say, made the whole concept of Good Vibes Yoga start."

Now, he is thoroughly enjoying being in the yoga studio and especially interacting with the people who come through the doors. "No matter what the class is, there's always the element of getting on the same level," he said. "For me, it's like that moment in church when we exchange a sign of peace with each other. Also, the underlying discovery about ourselves that can happen in a yoga practice is quite amazing. It's hard to put in words. Being part of that and seeing these discoveries is powerful!"

Michael brings a lot to his yoga studio on a personal level as well. "I was brought up in a very rich Italian culture and part of a loving family upbringing." He grew up in Fairfield and went to West Essex High School where he was part of the ice hockey team that captured the title of State Champion. He majored in business and marketing at Montclair State University, and then worked for an Italian company, based here in the United States, for 11 years.

"My family manages the Robert P. Giaimo memorial foundation giving out three scholarships each year to students of West Essex High School and Ramapo College in honor of my brother, who had passed in 2004," he said.

Because of all of these influences and experiences, Michael has developed a philosophy that has served him well in the both his personal and business life. "Keep it



real, keep it sincere, don't water it down, but don't take it way too seriously either."

A wonderful, and humorous, example of keeping it real shows up in his yoga studio quite regularly. "One of the topics that often comes up in yoga practice, is farting, yes, farting, also known as flatulence," he said. "Practice enough and you'll know exactly what I mean. So, fart humor can be common and maybe a good way to 'break the ice' and make things less tense. But I

always reassure people not to worry, because we burn incense often, you'd never know."

Michael's philosophy of keeping it real also has a serious and very worthwhile application. "There's one mantra that comes out of Hinduism, that I use, that translates: All evil vanishes from life for he who keeps the sun in his heart. The sun's only purpose is to give warmth, light, and life. For any of us to just work at being like the sun is to aspire to, not only to know, but to be the divine."

Those are definitely words to live by, and Michael Giaimo's Good Vibes Yoga Bar is the place to learn more and to develop that healthy connection between mind, body, and soul. ■

Good Vibes Yoga Bar is located at 237 Franklin Avenue in Nutley. They can be reached at 973-320-2670 or through email info@goodvibesyoganj.com





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Mark Jacobson's Very Personal Goodbye to the ITT Tower, with Snapshots

By Barry Lenson

The ITT Microwave Tower, built in 1947, was the most visible landmark that ever existed in Nutley. More than 300 feet tall, it stood on the ITT research campus that was once located on Washington Avenue on the same land where the Cambridge Heights residences are now. The tower served as a research facility where scientists worked on microwave communication systems. When it was no longer needed, it was loaded with explosives and demolished in April 1996. The fall of the tower was quite an event. Nutleyites watched in awe as it leaned slowly to one side, picked up speed, and then hit the ground with an impact that felt like an earthquake underfoot. You can find videos online.

OUR TOWN TOWER

The ITT Tower and the surrounding ITT facilities were part of Nutley life. Class trips went there. In winter, we went skating on the reflecting pool at the foot of the tower. In summer, the Nutley Symphony (now defunct) gave Pops concerts by the pool. And generations of kids took swimming lessons in the ITT swimming pool, once part of the Youantakah Country Club that once occupied the same land, and which is now enjoyed

The vacant tower in December 1995, four months prior to its demolition

*Below from left:
The once-elegant conference room, now littered with old office furniture. The staircase leading to the conference room high in the tower. View from the conference room, looking south toward Newark*



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A photo of the tower falling taken in April 1996

by residents of Cambridge Hill.

When Nutleyites visited the observation deck at the Empire State Building in New York, we looked west and saw the tower. When we were flying to or from Newark Airport, the tower let us pinpoint our home town. And when we

were kids on our way to school, the tower seemed to be watching over us.

One of those kids was Mark Jacobson. Mark was born in 1960. Because his family lived on Highfield Lane, the tower was a constant presence in his life. In 1995, when Mark heard the news that the tower was going to be demolished, he took action. One cold Sunday afternoon in December, he took his little Kodak 110 flash camera and paid a final visit to the tower, which was vacant.

"I was an urban explorer," Mark says. "I found one low unlocked entrance door that had no padlock. So I went in."

Inside, he found himself in total darkness. There was no electricity to power lights or the elevator. He found the foot of a spiral steel staircase and began to climb.

"It was pitch dark and if a stair was missing, I could have been hurt," Mark recalls. "Yet as I climbed, occasional pinpoints of light came in from small holes in the tower's outer aluminum skin, and that helped."

Mark reached the top of the tower and went into the conference room, then littered with old furniture, with its glass windows and panoramic views. He also went out on the open-air observation deck. And he took pictures.

Mark, who lives in New Hampshire now, recently gave those pictures to the Nutley Historical Society, and we reproduce some of them for you here. They offer an important historical record of a town landmark that is no more. They also chronicle one man's very personal farewell

to the tower that meant a lot to him when he was growing up in our town. Thanks to Mark, we can relive what that tower once meant about living in Nutley. ■

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.

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Do's and Don'ts of Donating

By Eileen Painter, Executive Director
Nutley Family Service Bureau

Community support for The Pantry and The Shop at Nutley Family Service Bureau makes both operations possible, and for that the organization is tremendously grateful. The Pantry and The Shop (formerly known as the Food Pantry and the Thrift Shop) depend not only on the items donated, but on the time and energy of volunteers that make donations available for sale or distribution.

■ What are the DO's & DON'Ts of donating?

Common sense is a good guide for donations to both enterprises. For The Shop, ask yourself if the item is sellable or if you would give the item to a family member, neighbor, or friend for re-gifting or as a hand-me-down. Generally, if the answer is yes that item qualifies as a 'do donate.' If the item is stained, soiled, torn, chipped, cracked, broken, or malfunctioning, it does not qualify, and is a 'don't donate.'

For The Pantry, ask yourself if the item is healthy and nutritious. Protein and staples are always a 'do donate' for most food pantries. Canned tuna, chicken, peanut butter, and canned or dried beans are high-value nutrition items and are always in need; hot and cold cereals, shelf-stable milk, canned fruit, and tomato products round out the list. Two primary 'don't donate' categories are goods that are past 'Best By' dates or do not have an intact seal. Nutritional value is another consideration. Foods low in sodium and low in processed sugar are part of a quality donation, as well as hearty soups and pasta. Fun foods for children are also encouraged, like individual packets of raisins, pretzels, and fruit cups that are perfect for lunch boxes or after-school snacks.

Since 2016, The Pantry at NFSB has been the recipient of food items collected from the Annual Scouting for Food Drive, as part of the Scouts' long-time commitment to the Nutley community's hunger needs. The donations from the Scout Drive comprise close to 90% of The Pantry's food supply. In 2019 over 38,000 items were accepted by over 200 volunteers on a single Saturday in March. Over several weeks, another 200 volunteers, sorted, dated, organized and transported the items from the collection site to The Pantry facilities. Unfortunately, close to 20% of the donated items are discarded due to the fact that they are damaged, open, or well past the manufacturer's 'Best By' date. Paying attention to the dates on the donated items will increase the percentage of usable donations and decrease waste.

The Shop at NFSB is unique among local thrift shops

Items We CAN Accept

- ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
- Clothing**
- Shoes**
- Accessories**
- Housewares**
- Linens**
- Home décor**
- Small furniture items**
(lamps, end tables, etc.)
- ✓ **Seasonal items** (holiday décor, costumes, etc.)

Items We CANNOT Accept

- ✗ **Computers**
- ✗ **Electronics**
- ✗ **Medical supplies**
- ✗ **Large pieces of furniture**
- ✗ **Mattresses**
- ✗ **Beds & cribs**
- ✗ **Children's walkers**
- ✗ **Car seats**

in that its focus is on the family. A diverse range of items like household goods, linens, and small furniture items, as well as an array of items from clothing to accessories for men, women and children are on our 'do donate' list. However, cribs and car seats are not acceptable



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due to possible safety risks or associated recall hazards. Electronics, computers, and large furniture items are not accepted, and removal of such items uses resources that could be better used in the community. Additionally, criteria for non-acceptable donations include: stained, soiled, torn, broken, malfunctioning items. For example, outdated small electrical appliances, incomplete board games, and opened toiletries are among some of the items on the 'don't donate' list. Never donate hazardous household items, like out-of-date fire extinguishers or items containing dead batteries.

A small army of volunteers is involved in turning donations into merchandise. Bagged and boxed items that are dropped off in our easily accessible double-door shed at the rear of the 169 Chestnut Street site are hauled into The Shop. Security cameras now monitor the NFSB drop-off area for the safety of donors and patrons. Initially, items are evaluated for retail quality. Items undergo a final inspection in a second sorting process, then are priced, hung, arranged, and placed on the sales floor. The effort to make The Shop a successful enterprise is time-consuming and labor-intensive. For example, for every 10 bags of clothing that is donated, The Shop realizes only one bag of resaleable merchandise. Careful consideration of the items being donated will increase NFSB's storage space, save volunteer time, and increase potential revenue.

When wondering about the do's and don'ts of

donating, please consider the following, and you will be on the right track:

The Shop at NFSB welcomes new or gently used items that patrons are pleased to purchase and proud to own.

The Pantry at NFSB accepts wholesome and shelf-stable items that enhance nutrition and well-being.

And as always, NFSB is appreciative of the generous community partners and individual support for all our services and programs. For more information, please go to www.nutleyfamily.org ■

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Eaton Stone Circus Grounds

By David Wilson

Many charity events have been held in Nutley over the past decades including the well-documented Nutley Amateur Circus benefitting the Red Cross League in 1894. Eaton Stone owned quarry property on Kingsland Street, where ON3 is currently being developed, and was famous for being able to throw a somersault from a bareback horse. His love for the circus led to construction of a wooden pavilion with a sawdust floor and electric lights supplied by the Nichols power plant across the street.

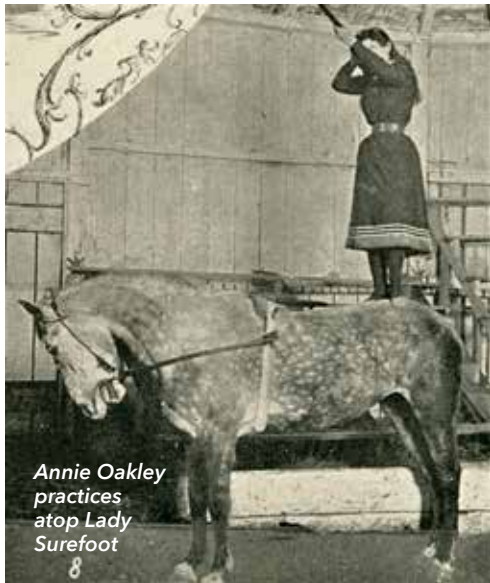
The Red Cross was fresh off Johnstown Flood relief and was expanding their disaster and medical supplies services. Nutley's talented residents formed a committee to hold a one-day, one-ring circus utilizing local amateur and professional show people. March 20th would be the date for an afternoon children's show and a three-hour nighttime adult event. People would sit on the soft side of

pine boards that chilly day. Three hundred children accompanied by bonafide nannies would be shuttled in stage coaches and carriages.

Publicity was by H.C. Brunner, editor of *Puck* magazine, whose reputation ensured press releases appeared verbatim in New York publications and wealthy neighborhoods. Stockbroker Conrad H. Ray was called upon

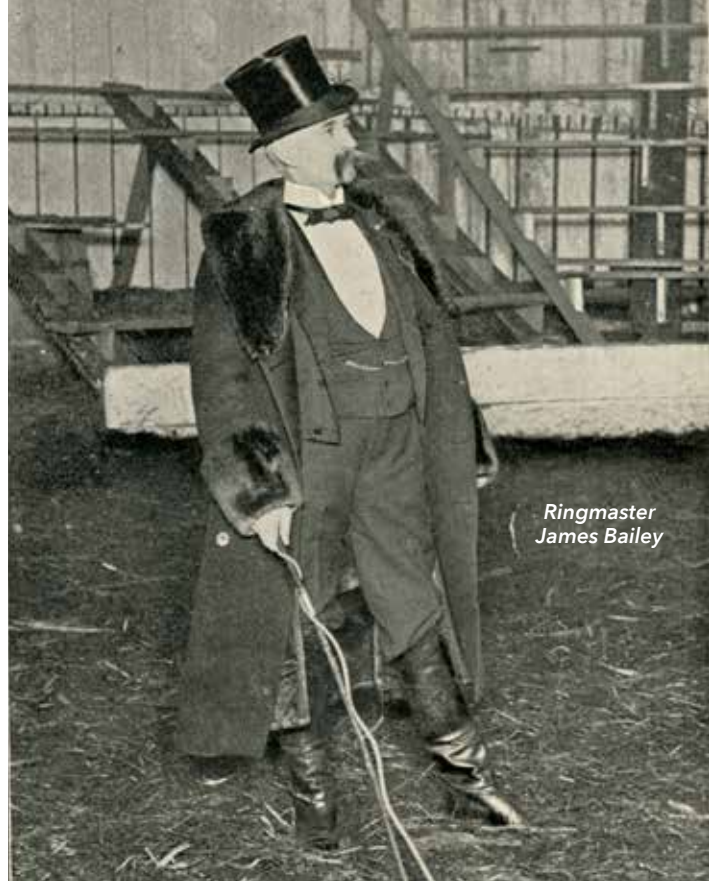
as a lightning fast ticket-seller, skills not needed when six hundred tickets sold out in advance. A special train ran from NYC and Newark to meet up with Montclair's society people. Nutleyites could be seen practicing acts on their front yards and attending daily meetings at the now white-washed and festooned tent. With Clara Barton in attendance, organizers insisted the one-thousand-dollar goal be met, so no free passes. Peanuts, pink lemonade, and candy were sold by vendors using long sticks with baskets.

The show began with Professor Robinson's Original Circus Band leading a cavalcade of horses, acrobats, clowns, animal acts, trick riders, and performers. The lady and gentlemen riders were Nutleyites, proud to show off their steeds and outfits. The New York and



Annie Oakley
practices
atop Lady
Surefoot

8



Ringmaster
James Bailey

Orange Athletic Clubs performed ladder and trapeze acts. National Turnverein of Newark provided tumblers. Dr. Savage's gym sent hand balancers. Nonstop action

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included bareback riders displaying their prowess with Robert Whittaker, the best in the country. Marah Young appeared atop Magic and Monte Carlo driving them in tandem and performing acts of Haute 'Ecole (dressage movements).

Clowns kept people laughing with antics and jokes. Local children dressed in animal outfits. A fencing exhibition wowed the audience. Al Geer and instructor Mike Donovan boxed a few rounds. Professor Hugh Leonard wrestled a well-known citizen billed as 'The Unknown.' Al Stirrat showed off his trained dog Sing Boo.

Famous Nutleyite Annie Oakley displayed her world-renowned shooting abilities atop Lady Surefoot, one of the all-time top circus horses. Annie showered the crowd with glass particles and gunpowder soot as she performed trick shots using glass balls. The performance ended with the introduction of Professor Ducrow's trick mules, Nip and Tuck. He challenged anyone in the world to ride them.



Sketch of pavilion

These accounts and pictures are taken from the files of Town Historian John Demmer that include articles from *Harper's Weekly*, *New York Times*, *The Evening World*, and uncredited sources. Nutley continues to be an eclectic collection of personalities and talents coming together to create a community. ■

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.

RIBBON CUTTING

Submitted by Nutley Chamber of Commerce



The Nutley Chamber of Commerce welcomes, **PRETTY HANDY LLC**, 175 Franklin Avenue, Suite 202, Nutley, 973-798-2300, www.prettyhandy.org/, prettyhandypeople@gmail.com, as a member.

Founded by a resourceful graphic designer and a hard working handyman, Pretty Handy is a makerspace and gift shop intended to bring local crafters, vendors, and DIY-ers together.

Pretty Handy's mission is to support and promote small businesses giving them a venue to showcase their product and an opportunity to tell their story. They offer quality products crafted by talented makers, artisans, crafters, DIY-ers and more.

Their shop prides itself on improving the community and environment through collaboration and sustainable practices. ■

ATTENDING:

Family, friends, chamber members, and the Nutley Volunteer Emergency Rescue Squad (NVERS) were on hand to help celebrate the Grand Opening of Pretty Handy and their new member status within the Chamber at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Women's Networking Group/Nutley Rotary attorney Frank Costenbader
Neil Conlan of Investors Savings Bank owners Joyce & Rob (center)
Rob's dad, John Chamber President Dan Leon of Eastwick College
Neil Henning of Fortress Financial
Nancy Shaulis of Valley National Bank
Nutley Volunteer Emergency Rescue Squad (NVERS)

PICTURED:

Cynthia Batista of Capturing Beauty Photography
Joyce's parents, Chao and Agee
Dorothy Huey of Nutley

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 2020

Mar. 2, Mon.

DISH! The Monday Night Cookbook Club

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.

Each month, patrons will choose, prepare at home, and share a DISH! from a selected cookbook. Then, gather to sample each other's recipes, discuss cooking techniques, and share stories. The selected cookbook will be available to be borrowed from the Circulation Desk. Registration required. Time: 7pm

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.

Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 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

Mar. 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

Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25, 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

Mar. 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 to process Passports

and Notary Public Oaths.

Time: 10:30am-4pm

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

Mar. 4, 18, Wed.

Families Coping with Addiction Support Group

@169 Chestnut St.

Individuals 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

Mar. 5, Thurs.

Nutley Historical Society 75th Anniversary

@65 Church St.

Come see what they've been up to lately, beginning with a brief ceremony and concluding with a special tour of museum highlights by Museum Director John Simko.

Time: Doors open at 7pm

Cost: Free

For more information visit www.nutleyhistoricalsociety.org

Mar. 5, 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 illnesses 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.

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Mar. 9, 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.

Time: 7-9pm

Cost: Free

For more information and to
register call 1-888-724-7123

Mar. 14, Sat.

Techsplorers

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth
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Time: 10:30am-12pm
For more information and to
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Mar. 15, 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

Mar. 16-20, Mon-Fri.

Drop-In Maker Program

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth
Dr., Children's Room
Open to all ages. Try out a new
maker project each day of the
week as we lead up to NJ Makers
Day 2020!

Time: 2-4pm

For more information visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/calendar

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Mar. 21, Sat.

NJ Makers Day 2020

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth
Dr., Children's Room
Open to all ages. Explore the world
of makers with fun activities, crafts,
experiments, and more!
Time: 11am-2pm
For more information visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/calendar

Apr. 2, Thurs.

Nutley Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards Dinner

@Valley Regency, 1129 Valley Rd.,
Clifton
Five individuals who live or work
in Nutley will be honored for their
outstanding contributions to the
quality of life in Nutley. The awards

are presented for commitment and
excellence in the areas of business,
education, civic affairs, public health
and safety and to one outstanding
young adult between the ages of
21 and 40.

Time: 6:30pm

Cost: \$45 per ticket with cash bar
For tickets, call Dr. Steven Clarke
at 973-235-1515. For ad book, call
David and Dianne Wilson at 973-
667-4690



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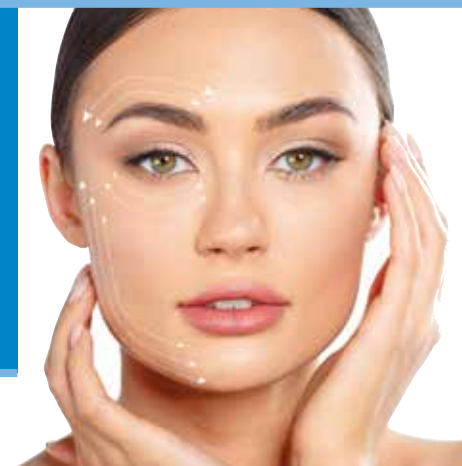


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Important Phone Numbers - www.NutleyNJ.org

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

Parks and Recreation (973) 284-4966
 School District..... (973) 661-3500
 Chamber of Commerce (973) 667-5300
 Public Affairs & Health Dept. (973) 284-4976
 Public Works (973) 284-4958



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