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NEIGHBORS



Watching Time

The Demmer Family

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Letter to Residents

Time in a Bottle



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Time is elusive. We can't grasp it—and put it into a bottle—or control it. I have always been fascinated with time since I first read this quote from Albert Einstein: "The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once."

It's the element of time that causes events to happen in a sequence, bringing a sense of order to our lives. Without time, things would happen simultaneously, making it impossible to determine cause and effect.

Time is always with us—our mornings start with the alarm going off, but throughout the day, we can pause to remember the distant or recent past and to hope and plan for the future. I think it's amazing that we can experience past, present, and future with this kind of ease.

Even though we can't capture time, there are some people who can 'hold' time. They're the historians among us and you will see a familiar face on this cover of this issue.

We had the opportunity to visit Town Historian John Demmer and his family this month. He is always busy uncovering and preserving the town's history, so we felt it was time to get to know him and his wife, Cindy, as our *Nutley Neighbors*. John even wrote an article telling us about the historical significance of their home!

While Nutley's past is fascinating, there are many people and organizations who are making an impact right now in the present. David Wilson has compiled a very handy resource listing these organizations and groups. This information is a keeper, and we sincerely thank him for his time.

As the past lays the foundation for the present, everything we do today is shaping the future community. Here at *Nutley Neighbors* magazine, we are honored to be part of the cosmic timeline. Although we can't put time in a bottle, we don't really have to when we share our stories, memories, and experiences with those around us. Through conversations and photographs, time lives on—not trapped—but carried forward in meaningful ways. Like right here in these pages.

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.

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August 25.....	October 1
September 25.....	November 1
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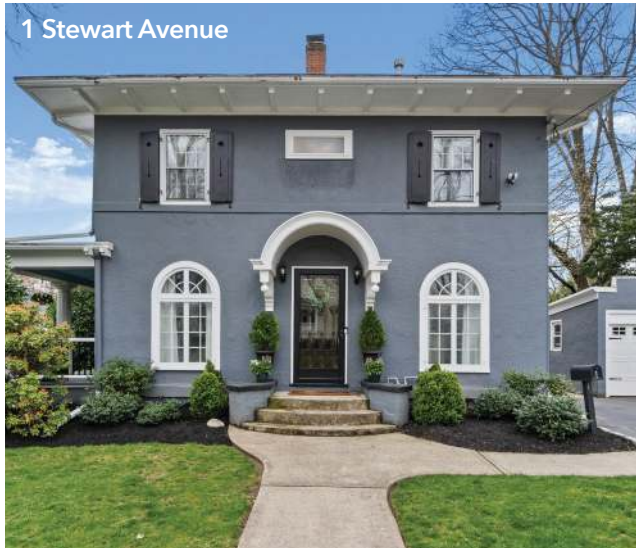
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SINGLE FAMILY HOMES SOLD JANUARY 2024

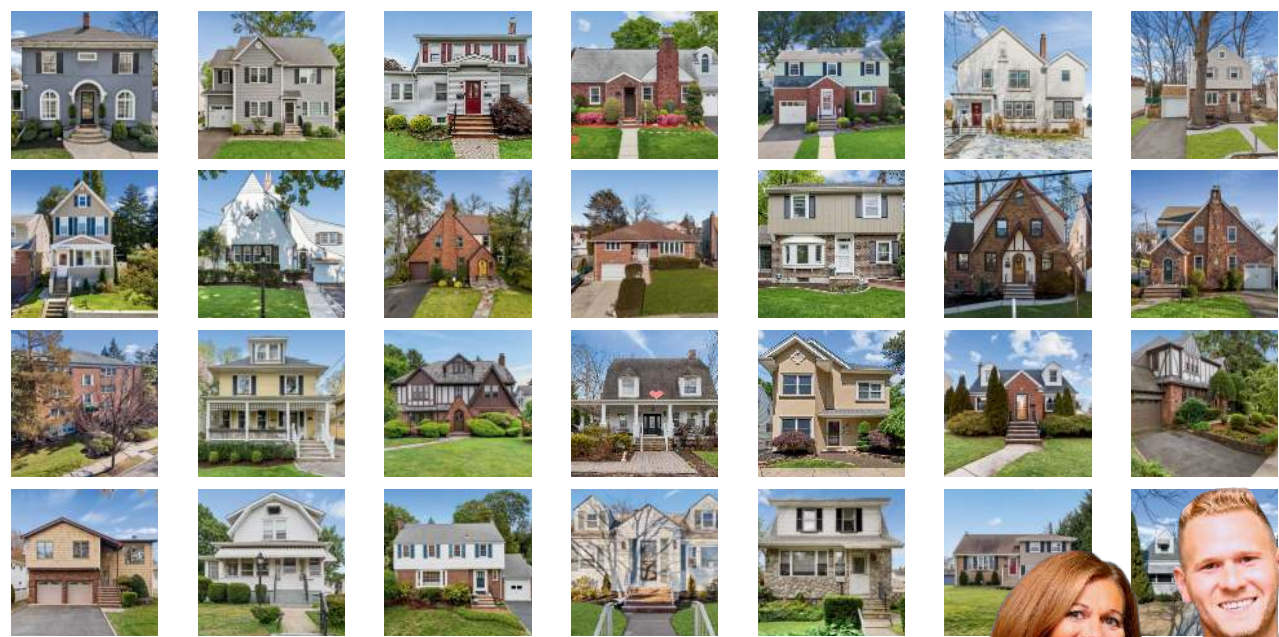
ADDRESS	LIST	SOLD	DIFFERENCE
272 Nutley Ave.	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$0
92 Joerg Ave.	\$849,000	\$875,000	\$26,000
533 Washington Ave.	\$749,900	\$817,500	\$67,600
522 Coventry Dr.	\$599,000	\$620,000	\$21,000
229 Swathmore Dr.	\$580,000	\$651,000	\$71,000
141 Passaic Ave.	\$579,000	\$631,500	\$52,500
24 Clover St.	\$500,000	\$585,000	\$85,000
727 Bloomfield Ave.	\$499,000	\$480,000	-\$19,000
624 Bloomfield Ave.	\$460,000	\$550,000	\$90,000
5 Briar Ln.	\$399,900	\$430,000	\$30,100

Average List: \$600,000
Average Sold: \$630,000
Median Days on Market: 16

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*GSMLS Data: Single Family, Condominiums/Cooperatives, Town Houses January '24-January '25

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Feature Story

The Demmer Family

Watching Time

By Joyce Corey

Photograph by Miriam Dubinsky Photography (right)

Clocks. Calendars. Sundials.

All these measure smaller amounts of time from seconds to a year.

Newspaper articles. Eyewitness accounts. Artifacts.

All these preserve larger amounts of time that tell a story. While John Demmer, town historian, uses all these ways to capture time, the second set of items allows him to give us accurate narratives and insights about Nutley's past.

John Demmer has spent almost three decades uncovering and preserving the town's rich history. His work centers around piecing together fragments of the past. Whether he's poring over brittle pages of a century-old newspaper or cataloging artifacts unearthed during a local construction project, Demmer's goal is to give voice to those who came before us.

He also knows that history is not just a collection of facts and figures, it's the people and their stories. This month, John gave us some of his time so we can tell the story of the Demmer family as one of our *Nutley Neighbors*.

It all began in Newark.

"That's where my wife, Cindy, and I met," he said. "We were teenagers at the time and interestingly, each of us was dating the friend of the other when our paths first crossed!"

The couple recently celebrated their 39th anniversary.

John grew up in Essex County, attended grade school in Newark, and later graduated from Essex Catholic High School in East Orange.

"I have been a carpenter my whole life and currently work at Showcase Kitchen and Bath in Bloomfield," he said. "I also do side work creating replication moldings and details for Victorian-era homes."

"We have two children," Cindy said.

"John III and Emily both went through the Nutley school system, attending Lincoln School, the middle school, and the high school. John works alongside his father at Showcase Kitchen and Bath and has a talent for computers and machinery. Emily, who works at the Nutley ShopRite, is highly creative and has helped her father with historical research in the past."

Prior to moving to their current home on Harrison Street in the Lincoln School district in 2002, the family lived on Passaic Avenue and then an apartment on Bloomfield Avenue for three years. Not surprisingly, their home has historical significance.



"Our house is adjacent to the old Essex Film Club building, listed on the local register of historic places," John said.

(John shares a little more about the club, with a few photos, in this issue.)

Besides the historical aspect of their home, John was able to use his carpentry skills.

"My whole family basically did our own three-story addition to the house which took over a year to complete!" he proudly tells us.

History doesn't stop outside the front door of the Demmer home.

"John and I are avid antiquers," Cindy said. "Our house is like a museum filled with treasures. John is also a collector of rare New Jersey books and maps."

"My family completely supports my history-related activities," John said. "I also have a passion for the movie *A Christmas Story*, and I have an extensive collection of autographs and movie-related props. Our family's annual Christmas card is inspired by the movie and our shared love for this classic film!"

Their household includes three cats, Max, Daisy, and Little Girl, and three birds, including an African Grey parrot named Mama's Boy, who mimics their voices and whistles famous movie tunes.

In 1997, John wrote a book *Images of America - Nutley*, in which he chronicled



John in his research room that is filled with hundreds of pieces of Nutley memorabilia and some very rare antiquarian NJ books and maps



5 Things the Demmer Family Love About Nutley

1. Family friendly town
2. Excellent school system
3. Access to elected officials is incredibly easy
4. Homes and neighborhoods are some of the best in the state
5. A park system that runs from one end to the other



the changes the town had undergone, as well as the life of its residents through the years.

"This is what lead me to becoming the second official town historian," John said. "The first one being Ann Troy who was a founder of the Nutley Historical Society and served as museum director 1954 to 1972."

John has been the town historian for Nutley for over 27 years. He is deeply involved in the community, serving as the current vice president of the Van Riper House and a board member of the Nutley Historic Preservation Committee. He is a former board member of the Nutley Historical Society and organizes a yearly history walk with Dave Wilson. Throughout the year, John also gives presentations and displays on various aspects of Nutley's history.

"When we leave town for a vacation, we are frequent visitors to Cape Cod, a tradition that began decades ago thanks to the kindness of the late Ruth and Stanley Bedford of Nutley," John explains. "Our family has created some of our best memories there, and Cindy and I continue to visit regularly."

John's dedication to preserving Nutley's history has not gone unnoticed. He has received numerous awards for his work, but for him, the greatest reward is the support he feels



from the community.

"I have never felt more accepted and appreciated anywhere than I do in Nutley," he says. "My neighbors are all friendly and helpful, and it's much like what neighborhoods used to be in the past."

John also makes himself available to answer Nutley-related questions and enjoys connecting with residents through history walks and demonstrations several times a year.

Through his meticulous research and unwavering passion, John Demmer has become more than just a historian; he is a storyteller, a teacher, and a guardian of Nutley's collective memory. Thanks to his work, future generations will have the opportunity to connect with the stories that shaped their community—and perhaps be inspired to uncover stories of their own.

We sincerely thank the Demmer family for their time as they gave us a glimpse into their lives as our *Nutley Neighbors*. ■

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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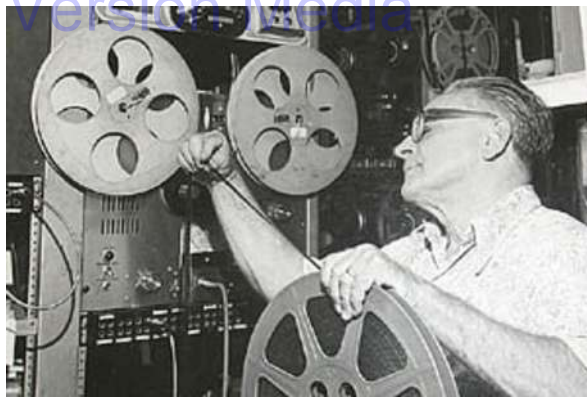
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Community

The Essex Film Club

By John Demmer



The Essex Film Club is the oldest private film club in the United States. Bob Lee founded the club in 1939 and was the owner for over 53 years. Currently, it's registered under Don Lee, Bob's son, making the club over 85 years old today.

Bob was a cinema buff, film historian, and for many years, worked at WOR radio in New York as an audio engineer. In 1939, he decided to start a club for other fans of early films and rented a place in Livingston for club meetings. In 1948, Lee purchased what would become the theater of his dreams.

Located behind the house at 263 Harrison Street in Nutley was a 16x50 foot structure that Lee turned into a private movie theater with salvaged movie palace seats and light fixtures. It had a small lobby with a ticket booth and photographs of dozens of stage and screen performers, many of whom visited the club. The Lees bought the house mainly for this outbuilding. Its construction seems to predate the 1911 house.

In the 1950s, a case against Lee, filed by the town, almost made it to the New Jersey Supreme Court as the town considered this club to be an illegal business and wanted it shut down. A compromise between Lee and the town was finally reached with the addition of some safety guidelines and the club continued its shows. A rider to the property still exists, which prevents any future owner of the property from ever showing films in the building.

Bob Lee restored films, and not just their images, as he accompanied some of the silent films he showed with recordings made from sheet music he found. For many showings, a pianist that played for silent film theaters performed in front of the film club theater stage. The stage was set up with fake cylindrical columns and a set of curtains that hid the



screen. These curtains could be opened remotely by Lee in the projection booth. Lee's film collection was so extensive that a good portion of them were donated to a university after his passing in 1992.

Photos provided by Don Lee

Since 2002, the film club theater and house are owned by myself and my family who saved the condemned theater building from being demolished after learning about its illustrious past. The building has been a jam and jelly factory, motorcycle repair shop, and for 44 years, the Essex Film Club.

Today the building is used as my own private carpentry workshop, and I had the building registered on the Nutley Historic Preservation Committee's list of protected places. ■

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Exploring Nutley History

By David Wilson

History is a fascinating look at the many influences, events, and people that shaped our world, country, opinions, and towns. Local history is important to help us understand and appreciate the development of our localities and the



Kingsland Park Tour Group Photo credit: Lisa Zitola

luminaries who guided that evolution. Longtime Nutley residents, some sixth generation, revel in their connections to the past and the many nuances of the neighborhoods. Newcomers want to know the who, what, where, and when Nutley became the oasis it is and how they can preserve it.

Nutley is fortunate to have folks and organizations who

endeavor to preserve and share the colorful accounts, pictures, and artifacts of a time long past.

Many books and articles have been written, displays assembled, buildings preserved, signs erected, walking tours organized, and videos recorded.

Joining organizations as a member or sponsor and subscribing to their newsletters and mailing lists are the best ways to know about upcoming events. Social media, window flyers, township websites, library displays, and mailers are also ways to stay connected.

Here is a list of those organizations and contact information.

■ Nutley Public Library nutleypubliclibrary.org

Local history vertical files, Nutley Sun and Nutley Journal digital archives, live and recorded events, books, art displays, in-person and online assistance, website.

■ Nutley Historical Society nutleyhistoricalsociety.org

Extensive research website, fantastic museum, events, rentals, local artwork collection. A Walk in the Park with Museum Director John Simko on Memorial Day weekend explores the history of Memorial Park and the Yantacaw River.

■ Kingsland Manor kingslandmanornutley.org

Restored 1768 Brownstone farmhouse with extensive exhibits revolving around the Kingsland family and other occupants, special events, restored speakeasy, research archives, rentals. House tours third Sunday of month from 1-4pm.

■ Nutley Farmers Market nutleynj.org/farmersmarket

Local produce, events, walking tours in September with Town Historian John Demmer and Author/Historian David Wilson. Vendor and organization displays.

■ Van Riper House vanriperhouse.org

1788 Dutch-style Brownstone, special events, tours, and volunteer opportunities. Up and coming historical site with lots of development momentum.

Email: vanripernj@gmail.com

■ Historic Preservation Committee nutleynj.org/historic-preservation-committee

Volunteer board to review and recommend preserving historic buildings and sites. Want to preserve your historic home for future generations? The Committee is actively seeking new properties. Email: historicpreservation@nutleynj.org

■ Town Historian John Demmer

Appointed by township, maintains memorabilia collection and archives, research of local files, live events and videos, history walks.

Email: TwnHstNut@aol.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NutleyHistory

■ Essex County Parks Archives archives@parks.essexcountynj.org

Extensive digital archives of Essex County Parks including Yanticaw Park

■ Facebook

Discussions, memories, and pictures of local places and people.

Upcoming events announcements and post-event pictures.

Facebook pages: Nutleyites,

You know you're from Nutley N.J. when

Speakers for schools, meetings, and private events are available from all the organizations. New members, especially young people, are most welcome to 'join the cause' and attend events. Come out to these locations to learn local history and meet our hardworking preservationists and story tellers.

Next time, a list of all the local author's books and printed material covering Nutley's fabulous history. ■

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.

Pet Corner

Adopt Us!

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

Rogue is about 4 months old, and she is honestly one of the prettiest dogs we've ever seen. She gets along great with kids, dogs, and people. She walks nicely on leash and she is working on house training. She is a perfect little sidekick and prefers a family that is home often to keep her company.

Ideally, Rogue would love a home with another resident dog to learn from, although it isn't required for the right family. She will need to be spayed and micro-chipped when she is 6 months, which will be done at our vet in Union, New Jersey. Adopters may use their own vet; however, it will be at their own expense. ■



If interested in adopting Rogue, send us an email at jerseypitsrescue@gmail.com

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

Pietro is a 3-year-old male. He is sweet, but right now scared and confused, because he was returned by his family. He was adopted as a kitten and 3 years later, his family said they are too allergic to keep him. If



you are looking for a single cat he's your guy but he does get along with other cats. We are unsure about dogs, but he may be fine with a calm or mellow one. We are hopeful that his forever home is out there! He just needs someone to give him the patience to warm up and let him know he is safe.

He is micro-chipped, FIV/FelV negative, stool tested, dewormed, UTD on vaccines, and neutered. \$150 adoption fee and application apply. ■

To apply for Pietro email us at yellowbrickroadnj@gmail.com

Library Corner

Join Us for NJ Maker's Day at the Nutley Public Library

By *Lucia Alvarez, Librarian, Children & Young Adult Services*

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, the Nutley Public Library will be hosting NJ Makers Day on March 22, from 11am-3pm. Nutley patrons can come together to celebrate the maker movement!

NJ Makers Day is designed to be an event that celebrates, promotes, and in many cases, introduces maker culture, as well as the values associated with making, tinkering and STEM-based learning. NJ Makers Day allows communities to share programming opportunities, demonstrations and

displays, and the expertise of the individuals and organizations that make, create, and develop right in their own backyards.

As a proud annual participant in NJ Makers Day, the Nutley Public Library will host a variety of maker activities and demonstrations for all ages, including 3D printing, sensory experiences, DIY crafts, engineering challenges, robotics, and more. No experience is needed—just bring your curiosity and enthusiasm for learning new skills!

Nutley High School students have also partnered with the library for this event and will feature Girls Who Code, the STEM Club, and the robotics team, Raid-X. They'll be demonstrating their projects, sharing knowledge and experiences, and inviting attendees to engage in hands-on activities like controlling robots, writing code, and taking on fun challenges.

Registration is not required for the event. Community members of all ages are invited to join us for an exciting day filled with hands-on activities focusing on maker culture!

For more programming information

and times, please visit the Nutley Public Library's Facebook page or youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org ■

Find out more about NJ Makers Day at www.njmakersday.org

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March is National Oral Health Month!

By *Shefali Pilar, DDS*

March is the month dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of dental care and promoting good oral health. Many people may not realize the impact that oral health has on overall health and wellbeing. Our mouth is filled with bacteria. While most oral bacteria are not harmful, poor oral hygiene can foster an environment where the harmful bacteria can flourish. This bacterium then enters your digestive and respiratory tracts and can cause or contribute to diseases.

Inflammatory processes in the gums or active decay in teeth can lead to systemic issues such as diabetes, endocarditis, cardiovascular disease, dementia, and even complications in pregnancy or birth.

Here are some tips to practice good oral hygiene and improve or protect your oral and overall health:

- Brush twice daily for at least 2 minutes each time.
- Make sure to brush the outer, inner, and chewing surfaces of all teeth by holding the toothbrush at a 45-degree angle to the gums.
- Brush your tongue to remove bacteria and to keep your breath fresh.
- Using an electric toothbrush is more effective than a manual toothbrush.
- Use fluoridated toothpaste to remineralize and strengthen enamel.
- Floss beneath the gum line between all teeth daily.
- Use adjunct tools such as a Waterpik™, bridge aides, and interdental picks.
- Rinse with alcohol-free mouthwash to minimize oral bacteria.
- Avoid tobacco use and excess alcohol use.
- Limit sugary foods and drinks and eat a healthy, balanced diet keeping in mind that even fresh fruits and vegetables have sugar.
- Replace toothbrush heads at least every 3 months.
- See your dental professional regularly for exams and cleanings.

Teeth are meant to last a lifetime so value them and their contribution to the quality of your life. Good oral hygiene habits are the best investments you can make when it comes to your health. ■



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Community

Dirty Stay Out Night

By Ellie Slomkowski

At a time when most seniors are getting ready for bed, several of us are sitting at a dining room table having coffee or tea and enjoying a delicious dessert or two—often until midnight or later!

I named our weekly get-togethers Dirty Stay Out Night, and this is the story of our amazing friendships and camaraderie that has lasted for years. Originally there were ten of us who began a ‘club’ on the block. Each month one of us would host a little get-together at our home. Our club continued this tradition of meeting for many years. We shared family barbecues, Wildwood Crest summer vacations, Christmas cookie exchange parties, and even coordinated several block parties. However, our busy family and work lives interrupted our monthly meetings for several years but never the friendships.

There remain five die hards on this block who meet weekly for Dirty Stay Out Night.

■ **Ellie Slomkowski**

When my husband, Michael, and I moved to Plymouth Road in November 1971 with our six-week-old daughter, I began to meet some of the most wonderful people I could ever imagine. Many of us were young moms raising our kids, so we had a common interest. We started meeting weekly in each other’s homes where we shared stories, news, jokes, and whatever came to mind.

One summer, we met in Karen Stewart’s backyard to do some banjo sing-alongs with Margie Baumann and sang our hearts out. To commemorate our jamming talents, Karen had mugs made and named us the Plymouth Road Rockers. One night I conducted a lesson in how to fold a fitted sheet and



Margie Baumann, Ellie Slomkowski, Kathy Madden, Karen Stewart and Virginia Ugliarolo



another time brought some of my poems and stories I wrote. During COVID, we brought folding chairs to Virginia’s house and sat scattered on her front lawn to chat. That alone was a part of our salvation of getting through the pandemic.

■ **Virginia Ugliarolo**

She and Nick were sweethearts from their Nutley High School years. They have been married for 62 years and have three children and five grandchildren.

■ **Kathy Madden**

Kathy and Bob have been married for 58 years and have been living on Plymouth Road for 56 years. They have two children and four grandchildren.

■ **Margie Baumann**

She and Rich share a second marriage with six children and ten grandchildren between them. We think of them as the Brady Bunch without an Alice.

■ **Karen Stewart**

She is a second-generation member of our get-togethers. She and her two brothers grew up on Plymouth Road. After her mom, Sandy, passed away, Karen moved back into her mom’s house, and we invited her to join us at our weekly get-togethers.

Although each of us interact with other neighbors on our block, there is that special bond between the five of us that we all treasure and hope to continue for many more years. I like to think of us as the Plymouth Road Golden Girls and the theme song from that show “Thank You for Being a Friend” says it all. ■

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CREDIT UNIONS:

Financial Benefits Worth Knowing

Submitted by Meryl Rader

Proponent Federal Credit Union, a longstanding financial resource in Nutley, conducted a survey* in 2024 to identify ways to better serve the community. The survey found that nearly half (44%) of Nutley residents who are not Proponent members don't know what a credit union is. This underscores the need to raise awareness about the advantages offered by these financial service providers.

The main distinction between credit unions and banks lies in their purpose and structure. Banks are for-profit institutions owned by shareholders while credit unions are not-for-profit cooperatives owned by customers who are members. Because credit unions exist to serve members, they reinvest profits to benefit them, while banks distribute profits among shareholders. This fundamental difference translates into tangible rewards for members

■ **High Rates and Low Fees** Credit unions generally offer higher interest rates on savings accounts and share certificates, along with lower rates on mortgages, auto and personal loans. They also tend to charge lower fees for services such as account maintenance, ATM usage, and overdrafts.

■ **Personalized Service** With a focus on long-term relationships, credit unions prioritize individualized service. Proponent encourages members to schedule one-on-one consultations with service representatives to help them take advantage of special offers and appropriate products.

■ **Community Focus and Local Decision-Making** Credit unions like Proponent actively support local events,

charitable initiatives, and financial education programs. Additionally, loan decisions are often made locally, enabling greater flexibility and faster approval times compared to large, centralized banks.

Proponent's survey also found that a large majority of Nutley non-member residents (70%) don't know how to become a member. This is actually a very simple process. Membership is generally open to anyone living, working, or worshipping in a specific area. Enrollment can be completed quickly, either in person or online.

Some people surveyed expressed concern about access to financial services since credit unions don't have as many branches as major banks. In fact, surcharge-free ATM co-ops provide access to hundreds of ATMs, rivaling the convenience of regional or national banks.

Credit unions also offer the same level of safety and security as banks. Deposits are insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), providing the same protection that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) offers banks.

For individuals seeking a financial institution that prioritizes their well-being, offers low fees, and reinvests earnings to benefit members, credit unions present an excellent option. Proponent invites people to schedule a free one-on-one consultation by calling 973-798-4891 or to visit profcu.org to learn more about what the credit union has to offer. ■

About Proponent Federal Credit Union: Proponent Federal Credit Union has been a trusted financial partner in Nutley, NJ, for over 50 years. As a not-for-profit, member-owned institution, Proponent is dedicated to helping its members achieve their financial goals through personalized service, competitive products, and reinvestment in member benefits. For more information, visit profcu.org.

****The online survey, targeting Proponent members and non-member residents of Nutley, was conducted from May 8 to June 6, 2024. The online platform SurveyMonkey was used.**

Kids Corner

Filling Our Hearts with Special Art

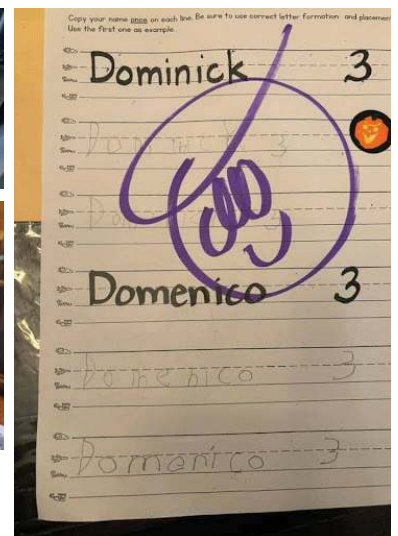
By Michelle Palmer

Emily, age 9, loves to craft. Creating something colorful and fun always brings a smile to her face. She made this very long and beautiful rainbow loom necklace. Her pride and sense of wonder is incredible as she displays her creation for her mom to see.

Julian, age 6, combined his love for reading and art with this awesome craft. He turned his pumpkin from this past fall into Bumblebee from Transformers. He learned how art, literature, and nature are all connected through his book report project. Even though the season has passed, the joy in creating this pumpkin will continue in memories.

Dominick is a kindergartner who is making his parents so proud of his writing skills. He has been practicing his letters this school year and has mastered writing his name in both English and Italian. It is a very impressive moment when children begin to write their names so achieving this milestone in two languages is a double "Wow" moment to celebrate! ■

Michelle Palmer is the author of a children's book, *Brinco Finds His Way Home*, which is available at Amazon.



Emily's rainbow necklace (top left)
Julian's book report art adventure (left)
Dominick's dual-language milestone (above)

Nutley Organizations

Nutley Family Service Bureau Expands Social Services to Meet Record Demand

By Katherine Carmichael, MSEd., MSW, LSW, Executive Director

"The evolution and growth of NFSB during the past four years has been extraordinary. We're grateful for the support of our neighbors, local businesses, individual and corporate donors, and our volunteers. We look forward to continuing a century-old tradition of service and meeting demand for mental health and social services across the community we're proud to call home." - **KATHERINE CARMICHAEL, NFSB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Although Nutley Family Service Bureau (NFSB) is now in its 112th year serving the community, the increased demand for our programs and services since the pandemic has sparked perhaps the largest expansion in our proud history.

We continue to grow our mental health services, providing 10,011 counseling sessions in 2024. This is more than double the number of sessions just four years ago. We also introduced psychiatry, which allows us to offer medication management services under the same roof.

This year, we're offering in-person and telehealth appointments with English- and Spanish-speaking counselors in 12 offices in two licensed buildings at 169 and 155 Chestnut Street. Hours have been expanded to 9am-9pm from Monday-Friday and 9am-5pm on Saturday.

The Food Pantry serves about 300 families at any given time. In addition to offering choice shopping by appointment every other week and one Friday night per month, we now bring a mobile pantry to our two senior buildings - Nutley Senior Manor and Parkside Apartments. This creates a grocery store experience for residents who are unable to come to the Pantry for food.

We currently serve 50 people through NFSB's case management program, which connects clients with local, state, and federal social service and assistance programs. Rather than referring clients elsewhere, our team will learn about client needs and help them navigate complex applications and requirements.

Launched in 2022, the grant-funded Inclusive Healthy



Food Pantry Manager Joan Roake, Executive Director Katherine Carmichael, Commissioner Evans, NFSB Trustee and Pantry volunteer Mike Evangelista (above) Pantry volunteers (below)



Communities initiative has identified opportunities to make Nutley a more accessible, equitable community. This spring, NFSB will host a virtual symposium to help educate mental health and disability professionals and increase their expertise.

In addition to expanding our programs and hours, NFSB is committed to raising the organization's operations and services to a best-practice standard. We expect to complete our two-year accreditation process with the Council on Accreditation this year to meet this important goal.

NFSB now hosts four community fundraising events - Casino Night, Rock Hunger, the Garden Party, and the Harvesting Hope Gala. Each event has a unique vibe, energy, and environment, but all are designed to bring the community together and raise awareness of NFSB programs. In addition to annual signature events, we host free events through our newly created Community Advisory Board. For example, the Board organized a Trunk or Treat in October that attracted 500 people.

Of course, significant expansion requires a team. NFSB now has 25 employees, 19 members on our Board of Trustees, and more than 130 weekly volunteers. None of our programs

and events could exist without volunteer support, and we're always looking to grow our volunteer family and partnerships with community and school groups. ■

Visit the website for more information at www.nutleyfamily.org

MARCH EVENTS CALENDAR

Mar. 1, Sat. Nutley St. Patrick's Day Parade

@Parade starts Harrison Ave. and Evergreen St.
Come join for the 45th Nutley St. Patrick's Day Parade starting on Harrison Ave. and Evergreen St., going north up Franklin Ave., and ending on Chestnut St. with the Review Stand in front of John Walker Middle School.
Time: 1-3pm
For more information visit www.nutleyirish.com/Home

Mar. 6, Thurs. Denim and Diamonds Tricky Tray

@Westmount Country Club, 728 Rifle Camp Rd., Woodland Park
Presented by Yantacaw PTO. Tickets will be on sale until Mar. 5. Additional raffle tickets can be purchased in the lobby on the night of the event. Cash only.
Time: 5:30-10:30pm; doors open 5:30pm; drawings begin 7pm
Cost: \$100 ticket includes 1 Super and 1 Grand Ticket sheet
For more information and to purchase tickets visit yantacawpto.ptboard.com/home

Mar. 14, Fri. NFSB Casino Night Fundraiser

@Nutley Parks and Recreation Gym, 44 Park Ave.
Time: 6-10pm
Cost: \$80 ticket includes dinner, wine, beer, \$100 in funny money, raffle prizes, and a night of fun!
For more information contact Josie Wang at jwang@nutleyfamily.org, call 973-667-1884 ext. 220, or visit nutleyfamily.org

Mar. 16, 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 or call 973-661-3410

Mar. 18, Tue. History of Yanticaw Park

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr.
Town Historian and author John Demmer, along with

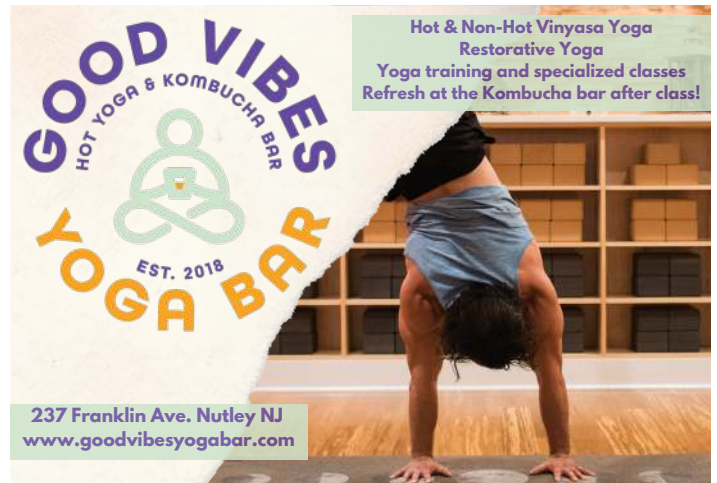
historian and author David Wilson, will present a history of Yanticaw Park. Learn about the residents who lobbied for the funding and creation of the park, the Olmsted Brothers' design, and the development of Alligator Island. Discover the history behind the bandstand and explore 110 years of improvements to this beloved park. Historical photographs from the Essex County Archives will be featured.

Time: 7-8pm
For more information visit the Calendar of Events at www.nutleypubliclibrary.org or call 973-667-0405

Mar. 22, Tue. March Maple Syrup: How Sweet It Is!

@Essex County

Environmental Center, 621b Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland
For families. Maple syrup is a sweet treat that has been harvested ever since the Lenape Native Americans lived here on the landscape. Let's celebrate the spring equinox together and hear the story of how maple syrup was discovered, learn to identify maple trees, tap tree stumps with the twirl of brace and bit hand augers, and taste the real thing drizzled over mini pancakes that we make together and cook on a campfire! Pre-registration and payment required, either in person, by mail, or online.
Time: 3-4pm
Cost: \$15 per participant
For more information and to register visit www.essexcountyparks.org/calendar



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 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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