

MAY 2019

A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

# NUTLEY NEIGHBORS

## Anthony Iannarone: Community Influencer



Photograph by  
Randall Kenneth  
Photography



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## Almost There!

Those two little words—'almost there'—are packed with hope.

'Almost there' can mean you are about to arrive at your vacation destination. Or maybe you are about to pay off that debt. A personal favorite is when the dentist says 'almost there' during a root canal. I have hope the ending is near and the outcome will be favorable!

When I was interviewing Anthony Iannarone for our cover story, I thought of 'almost there.' Tony loves Nutley: the people, the places, and the many services the town offers. But he is also a man who likes to get involved and make things better. His whole life has been dedicated to service of some kind, whether it was with the Dr. Virginus D. Mattia Memorial Committee, the Nutley Public Library, or the Nutley Family Service Bureau.

All of the organizations Tony became involved with are excellent and worthy of praise, but he saw an 'almost there'; he found ways to make things better. And he did. It was a pleasure speaking with him. I applaud his intelligence and his spirit of involvement.

He also reminded me of this quote attributed to St. Jerome: "Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better and your better is best."

I see this wonderful spirit in many of the *Nutley Neighbors* I talk to. They love the town and they want to add their particular expertise or knowledge to make things a little better. Like an 'almost there.'

Several other articles this month highlight the way our *Nutley Neighbors* impact the community in positive ways. Cynthia McNulty shares her personal experience with her son's addiction to electronics. It's her hope that her insights and actions will help other families.

'Almost there' can also have a very fun element. Comic books are great, but what's even better? Free comic books, of course! Check out the Library Corner and find out more about the Free Comic Book Day happening on May 4.

And here's a preview of an 'almost there' that happens next month.

*Nutley Neighbors* celebrates its 4th year with the June issue! All of us here would love to hear from you. With every issue we print, we sincerely hope that we are impacting the community with stories that touch lives. Let us know how we're doing.

Going to start blowing up those birthday balloons...

Until next month!

**Joyce Corey** Content Coordinator



Definitely contact me if you are ready to sell or buy real estate - I will provide a complimentary seller or buyer consultation (which sets expectations for the entire transaction).

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40 Chadwick Dr	\$385,000	3	1	144
77 Povershon Ave	\$386,000	3	2	48
13 Hancox Ave	\$400,000	3	4	
476 Bloomfield Ave	\$418,000	3	2	85
87 Raymond Ave	\$425,000	3	1	68
88 Satterthwaite Ave	\$445,000	3	2	197
76 Church St	\$460,000	3	2	179
300 Winthrop Dr	\$460,000	2	3	116
57 Prospect St	\$470,000	4	3	241

### \*DAYS ON MARKET

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# Anthony Iannarone—Community Influencer

By Joyce Corey

Photograph by Randall Kenneth Photography

While anyone can be a neighbor (it's all about geography), Anthony (Tony) Iannarone demonstrates what it's like to be a community influencer. Not only did he make Nutley his home; he made a home out of Nutley. Did that sentence make you ponder? Let's think about that for a moment—when you set up your home, you make the living space not only comfortable but functional.

In a similar way, Tony introduced and implemented changes in Nutley that made many aspects of our community better, more streamlined, and ready to respond to the needs of residents. The dilemma I now have is where to start since his influence has permeated so many areas familiar to all of us.

Let's begin with eighteen-year-old Tony who lost his hands after an explosion in a Rutgers College chemistry laboratory. It was in May, 1949, and "we had finished our work and with nothing to do decided to make a flare," Tony tells us. "The wrong chemicals were used which resulted in an explosion."

Interestingly, after a summer in the hospital, he was back at Rutgers in September and, without losing any time, went on to later graduate Phi Beta Kappa. He was the senior class president and received a Root-Tilden scholarship to New York University School of Law.

He earned Juris Doctor and Master of Laws degrees from NYU and achieved the highest grade on the New Jersey Bar examination. "When I was taking the bar exam, I was cautioned that tests with bad handwriting would not even be graded. We had to use a fountain pen to answer 40 essay questions. Not only was my score the highest, my handwriting was also very legible," Tony said.

He went on to a distinguished law career, most of which was at Hoffmann La Roche where he rose to Associate Vice President and Associate General Counsel.

Along the way, he married Ruth Aitken (who passed away in 2010 after 55 years of marriage). They moved to Nutley in 1959 where they raised Lisa, Brian, and David. "All of our children graduated from Nutley High School," Tony said.

He tells us a little about each of them. "Lisa was a twirler in high school and later graduated Douglass and Seton Hall law school. She is currently a high school teacher. Brian was captain of the track and cross-country teams at high school and has degrees from Albright and Fairleigh Dickinson. David competed in several sports at Nutley High, and was co-captain of the football team along Steven DiGregorio, the current coach. He attended Trinity College and has law degrees from Villanova and Georgetown."

Tony is also very proud of his seven grandchildren.



So, how did an eighteen-year-old student with a serious injury get to be one of Nutley's most accomplished residents? I learned the reason in the course of our discussion after asking him how he became so involved in the town. It seems that whenever he saw an opportunity to make a difference, he entered into the situation wholeheartedly.

"I started by volunteering as a coach for baseball and working with the Boy Scouts; both of these were activities involving my sons," he said.

He also coached midget basketball and made a noteworthy accomplishment there. "During the off-season, I wrote up the rules for the game. Whether it was a premonition or forward-thinking, I did not use any masculine pronouns, so when the girls' league was started they could still be used."

One of the people who had a major influence on Tony's community involvement was Carmen Orechio, former Commissioner, Mayor of Nutley, and a state senator for eighteen years.



Left: Tony and Ruth's wedding photo, June 26, 1955.  
Right: At Wildwood, 1963, Tony with (l-r) Lisa, Brian, and David

"As Mayor, he appointed me to the Nutley Public Library Board in September 1972, and I am still on that board," Tony said. In fact, seven Nutley mayors have appointed him to ten five-year terms as a trustee. He is now serving his 47th year as a trustee and his 33rd year as president of the board. His years as a trustee are longer than any elected or appointed member of any township board in Nutley's history.

Since the library is such an integral part of

our town, it's important to note some of the many accomplishments Tony made there. He was a vital part of the \$2.5 million dollar expansion that redesigned and streamlined the facility on Booth Drive. Nutley was the first Essex County library to join the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS) and the library added many technological enhancements as a result of Tony's initiatives. He was also mindful of residents' practical needs and implemented expanded hours and programs for all ages. Additionally,

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The entire family: 3 children, 2 daughters-in-law, 7 grandchildren at granddaughter Kaitlin's wedding, Montauk Yacht Club, Long Island, July 7, 2018

he has raised more than \$500,000 in permanent gift funds which provides some extra capital each year.

Maria LaBadia, Director of the Nutley Public Library, has high praise for Tony. "I have worked with Mr. I. for the last seven years. His wisdom and knowledge about the Nutley Public Library is astounding. No one has done more for the library than Mr. I. The library is truly his passion."

Tony's influence in town is seen in many other organizations and positions that he held. He served as legal counsel to the Auxiliary Police for 30 years, was a former trustee of the Nutley Family Service Bureau, served on the Clifton Economic Development Commission, and is a founding member of the Friends of the Library, the Dr. Virginus D. Mattia Memorial Committee, and the Nutley Hall of Fame. In addition to his many local awards, he has received the New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Award in 2013 and the *New Jersey Monthly* magazine's Garden State Seeds of Hope award. He has also been inducted into the Nutley Hall of Fame.

While Tony Iannarone's accomplishments are far too many to list, there is a single theme running through his community involvement: he uses his knowledge and his passion for improvements to better the town of Nutley. Whether serving as a legal advisor, a trustee, or a coach for his sons' teams, he gives full attention to the position and the people and the results are amazing, especially considering his substantial handicap, which he brushes aside as if it didn't exist.

He said, "When someone tells me 'God bless you,' I reply, He already has."

5

### Five Things Tony Iannarone Loves About Nutley

- 1.** The many people and groups I have worked with
- 2.** Quality of life
- 3.** Nutley Public Library
- 4.** UNICO
- 5.** Shop-Rite, the biggest employer and social center for many

Not many people can list the achievements and accomplishments that Tony has, but all of us in town can acknowledge that he is a Nutley Neighbor we can be proud of. ■

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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# True or False? Test Your Knowledge of Nutley History

By Barry Lenson

**S**o you think you know Nutley history? Well, you are about to find out! If you get the right answers to the following questions, you definitely pass muster as a master of Nutley's history.

## TRUE OR FALSE?

Jackie Kennedy was born in Nutley.

**FALSE!** Jackie was not born in Nutley. However, her father John Bouvier III was! His family lived at 152 Nutley Avenue.

## TRUE OR FALSE?

Nutley once had its own symphony orchestra.

**TRUE!** The Nutley Symphony gave concerts for more than 25 years in the auditorium of Nutley High.

## TRUE OR FALSE?

"The Return of Annie Oakley," the mural in the Nutley Post Office, was painted by a famous Nutley artist who lived on The Enclosure.

**FALSE!** "The Return of Annie Oakley" was painted by Paul Chapman, who lived on Long Island. Famous artists did live on The Enclosure in town, but none of them got the nod to paint the mural in our Post Office.



## TRUE OR FALSE?

The railroad trestle that runs over Passaic Avenue was designed to carry two trains at once, running in opposite directions.

**TRUE!** If you look up at the trestle, you will see that it is wide enough to carry not only its current track, but another one next to it. This second one was never constructed.

## TRUE OR FALSE?

The screenplay for the movie *It's a Wonderful Life* was written by a woman who lived in Nutley.



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**TRUE!** The script was written by the writing team of Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett. Goodrich grew up on Nutley Avenue. Some people think that the famous bridge in the movie was inspired by the one that connects Nutley to Lyndhurst.

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

The first Indianapolis 500 was held in Nutley.

**FALSE!** However, bicycle races were held at the now-defunct Nutley Velodrome that was located near Washington Avenue. Later on, midget car races were held at the track.

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

Martha Stewart grew up in Nutley.

**TRUE!** She grew up here and attended Nutley High. But her name at the time was Martha Kostyra.

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

The Mudhole was formed by a meteor in prehistoric times.

**FALSE!** Our beloved Mudhole was once the mill pond that powered a fabric mill that was located on the end of the pond that is located closest to Passaic Avenue. The narrow sluice where the water runs out of the Mudhole was the location of the water wheel that powered the mill.



#### TRUE OR FALSE?

New York City's Town Hall is made of brownstone that was quarried in Nutley.

**TRUE!** Even though it is covered in granite, New York's town hall is mostly constructed of brownstone that came from quarries in Nutley that were located near the Passaic River. Those folks in New York won't admit it, but they owe a lot to us.

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

There was once an air raid shelter on the front lawn of the Municipal Building.

**TRUE!** In the late 1950s an air raid shelter was there. If people were considering building shelters in their homes, they could drop by, take a look, and get some ideas. There were even tins of crackers and other emergency foods on the shelves.

#### NUTLEY HAS A GREAT HISTORY, RIGHT?

To learn more, get involved with the Nutley Historical Society. ■

**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 Hager 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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# Matthew's Journey: A Story of Electronics Addiction and Recovery

By Cynthia McNulty

**M**y 9-year-old son, Matthew, is an addict. Matthew is addicted to video games and electronics. And although it might not sound like a big deal, it is.

On Super Bowl Sunday, I allowed my son to binge play on his iPad so I could watch the game without being disturbed. He was out of my hair, quiet and happy, so why not? What happened after that is why I will never allow that to happen again.

My son has ADHD, which is difficult to manage on a regular day. Throw in an overdose of electronics and it's a recipe for disaster. After the Super Bowl ended and his gaming session was over, he could not get himself to sleep. This is something that had never been an issue before. He was so over stimulated that he was unable to regulate his body, behavior, and mood, which caused him to be nasty, irritable and downright miserable. The next two days were an absolute nightmare, not only because I did not allow him to play video games during this time, but really because he was coming down from the negative effects of binge playing. He was truly having symptoms of addiction withdrawal.

Rewind to the week prior. I took my son to see a presentation called Digitally Distracted by Thomas Kersting, about the negative effects that electronics have on the brain. During the presentation, Mr. Kersting listed warning signs of your child having an addiction: loses track of time when on electronics; becomes agitated when interrupted; prefers to spend time using electronics rather than playing; does not follow time limits; loss of interest in other activities; seems

restless when not using a device and preoccupied with getting back on; avoids homework and chores because of spending too much time with electronics; sneaks a device when no one is around and lies about it.

I was like a lot of parents when it comes to video games. I didn't believe I was permissive or overindulgent with electronics. I set boundaries. I was that mom that only allowed video games on the weekends, and maybe, if he earned it, an hour a day after school. But, when I looked at things honestly, it was much more.

But, after sitting through that presentation, and then seeing the very real world consequences come to life with my son, I knew we had to make some serious changes, but



*Matthew is a 4th grade student at Yantacaw School. He loves to fish and play soccer, lacrosse, and basketball.*



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I was a little lost as to even where or how to start this detox plan.

Luckily, because of Matthew's ADHD, we already had a relationship with Dr. Lori, Matthew's cognitive behavior therapist. "If he was addicted to drugs or alcohol, would you still let him have just a little bit?" she asked. At that moment, I truly understood that this was a real addiction, just like any other, and decided to completely cut Matthew off from all of his electronics cold turkey.

The first week was absolute torture; Matthew was very angry. His emotions transitioned to sadness during the second week, to be replaced by acceptance in week three. He began to admit to people that he was in a video game detox. Family members started taking notice that he was more present and conversational. He has not had access to video games or electronics for six weeks now.

Because of his addiction, electronics limitations have been placed on our entire family (my husband, myself, and Matthew's two older sisters). But rather than being resentful, the bond that this has created for us has enriched all our lives. When we go out for dinner, instead of looking at



*Cynthia and Matthew playing Monopoly during his detox*

our phones we talk to each other and find things to laugh about. If there is a lull in the conversation, we play cards or Spot It while we wait for our food. Board games are an everyday occurrence in our house now. We are happier and more socially connected to each other, and we enjoy each other's company so much more.

Will I be able to keep electronics away from him forever? I realistically know that I cannot. What I hope Matthew does learn from this though is that he can live a fun, happy life without electronics being a priority or a crutch. Like any addiction, recurrence is very real when surrounded by your vice. I hope that, eventually, Matthew can develop a healthy relationship with his electronics without addiction setting back in.

Electronics addiction is very real, particularly for children and their developing brains. And it can have lifelong repercussions if it is not addressed. I hope I wasn't too late helping my son. I also hope that we both have the strength to continue to fight this battle. And I'm sharing our story in hopes that it helps someone else not be too late in helping their child. ■

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## Memorial Day Movies

By Joseph J. Rutchik

This Memorial Day weekend, instead of rushing to the latest blockbuster, watch a movie about the United States military. You may not have heard of all ten of these movies. Some might be classics you haven't watched in a while. What ties them all together is their respect for our military and the sacrifices they've made.

### ACT OF VALOR (2012)

There are many movies about modern warfare; this one is original because of its authenticity. As they were planning a story about Navy SEALs, the filmmakers realized that, in order to be as accurate as possible, they would need to use

real-life, active duty SEALs. For some scenes, they even used live ammunition!

### BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI (1957)

In a Japanese prison camp during WW2, British prisoners are forced to build a bridge. Eventually, the British colonel (Alec Guinness) agrees, believing the bridge will symbolize British spirit. Meanwhile, Allied forces, led by an American officer (William Holden), are planning to blow up the same bridge.

### THE DEER HUNTER (1979)

Starring Robert De Niro, Meryl Streep, and Christopher Walken,



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this film follows a group of Pennsylvania friends before, during, and after their tour in Vietnam. As the friendships are tested, the film vividly portrays the cost of war—and those who pay it.

### A FEW GOOD MEN (1992)

If you want less violence, try this courtroom drama. Tom Cruise and Demi Moore play military lawyers assigned to defend two Marines charged with accidentally killing a fellow Marine. At the center of the trial is an intimidating colonel (Jack Nicholson).

### FULL METAL JACKET (1987)

While the second half deals with the hero's time in Vietnam, it's the first half, centered on his time in basic training, that earned the film its reputation. Vincent D'Onofrio is brilliant as the unstable "Gomer Pyle," and real-life veteran R. Lee Ermy is unforgettable as a verbally brutal drill instructor.

### GLORY (1989)

This Civil War classic centers on the Union Army's first African-American unit. Matthew Broderick plays the Union officer tasked with training and leading these inexperienced men—often with subpar resources. The supporting cast includes Morgan Freeman, Cary Elwes, and Denzel Washington (who won his first Oscar for this film).

### MOLLY: AN AMERICAN GIRL ON THE HOME FRONT (2006)

In 1943, an Illinois girl's life is shaken when her doctor father enlists in WW2 and her mother takes a factory job. The family

also takes in a British girl who has come to America to escape the London bombings. With no violence onscreen, this is an ideal choice for families with younger viewers.

### THE PATRIOT (2000)

In 1776, fictional colonist Benjamin Martin (Mel Gibson) wants to live in peace with his children. But when his idealistic son (Heath Ledger) joins the Revolution, Martin is forced to take action. A sadistic British officer (Jason Isaacs) provides most of the conflict. The drama is intense, and the violence is not for the faint of heart.

### SAINTS AND SOLDIERS (2003)

In Belgium during WW2, four U.S. soldiers (and a British pilot) struggle to cross Allied lines and deliver crucial intel. Produced for under \$1 million, this film took inspiration from real events (like Battle of the Bulge and the Malmedy massacre). To keep costs down, the filmmakers asked WW2 collectors and reenactors to supply the production with authentic uniforms and vehicles.

### SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (1998)

Set during D-Day and immediately after, this is already a classic. It follows a squad of Americans as they go behind enemy lines to find a young soldier whose three brothers have already been killed in action. With a cast that includes Tom Hanks, Matt Damon, and Vin Diesel, director Steven Spielberg brilliantly places the audience inside the battles. ■

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*The Intermediate team capturing league medals in Clifton on February 24th.*

## Accolades Abound for Nutley Youth Wrestling

*By Joyce Corey*

The Nutley Jr. Raiders Wrestling Program closed out the season in style with a series of several tournaments that allowed the team to showcase its rapid development over the past five seasons. A huge reason for the recent success has been the numerous coaches who have given up time and energy to help transform the program. Coaches Michael Blanchard, Ed DeLaney, Antonio Maiden, Shawn Tripoli, Michael Berardesco, Derrick Chell, Darren Finkelstein, Anthony Haines, Michael Marsala, Rob Garofalo, Chapman Manzer, Justin Murphy, Kevin Gallagher, Alan DeFabbio, Sal Tobia, Elbert Laracuente, and Frank DeMaio Jr. have helped develop the youth with a well-organized practice and competition schedule. The support from Parks and Recreation has also helped a great deal with guidance coming from Frank DeMaio and Nutley High School's head wrestling coach, Michael DiPiano.

On February 10th, the novice wrestlers (wrestlers with one or two years' experience) captured the team championships in the Bantam (ages 7-8) and Midget (ages 9-10)

divisions at the Livingston Novice League Tournament. Placements in the Bantam division were: 3rd place: Maximus Ruiz and Ryan Ianitelli, 2nd place: Frankie Wesner, Michael Perna, Dominic DeFabbio, and Grayson Alvarez, and 1st place: AJ Berardesco, Christopher Haines, Ethan Maiden, Jesse Quinn, Luke Finkelstein, Mateo DeFabbio, and Max Tripoli. Placements in the Midget division were: 4th place: Jaden Fenwick, 3rd place: Gabriel Bravo, 2nd place: Ryan Puelo, Patrick Chell, and Shane McCafferty, and 1st place: Russel Van de Zilver and Kevin Gallagher.

On February 24th the more experienced wrestlers from the Intermediate group competed in Clifton in the League Tournament. The team placed first with the following wrestlers garnering placements and medals:

4th place honors went to Kevin Gallagher and PJ Balsamo, 3rd place medals went to Louis Lucante, AJ Berardesco, Ryan Puelo, Liam Murphy, AJ Maiden, Eddie Butts, Nolan Brewer, Matthew Serritella, and Jonathan Monterosa, 2nd place medals went to Frankie Wesner,



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Max Tripoli, Jacob Harlow, Riley Garofalo, and Russell Van de Zilver, 1st place medals went to Evan Blanchard, Ethan Maiden, Chris Haines, Jack Finkelstein, Sean Torres, Louis DellaVolpe, and Michael Berardesco.

Luke Finkelstein, Gabriel Bravo, Jesse Quinn, Matthew Balsamo, Patrick Chell, and Jaiden Perez all showed heart and determination in their bouts. The future is very bright with such great involvement from all the Intermediate wrestlers.

Lastly, the County team competed on February 24th in West Orange. They earned a 4th place team finish with 170 points scored that day. Aiden O'Hare finished 6th at 119 lbs., and Rocco Graffeo finished 5th place at 60 lbs. Mariah Koster (75), Ryan Conca (80), and Nate Brewer (95) all finished 4th in their respective weights. Connor Harlow (119), William Jennings (135), and Julian Ycasza (145) all finished 3rd place honors. Chris Cifelli (65) and



*The County team before the start of their final tournament on February 24th in West Orange.*

Santino Cundiff (90) each scored a second place finish. The lone champion was 8th grader, Franco Graffeo, who was able to secure a win in the finals at 105 lbs. Michael Koster and Michael Fazio each wrestled tough and showed future promise on the mats for Nutley.

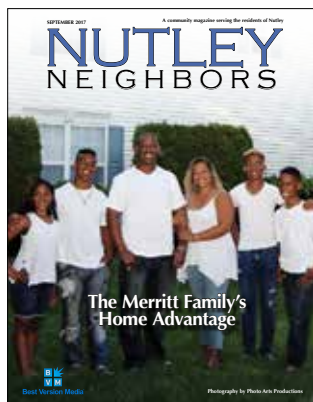
Many of the County wrestlers will be back in action next season. The hope is that as Nutley continues to develop, the high school

program will reap the benefits of the multi-tiered system. The future looks very bright as the accolades abound for this young Nutley wrestling program.

Recently the program purchased a second wrestling mat which will arrive during the spring. "The new mat will help us expand the program as we look to host more events in the future", Blanchard said. "What's really exciting for the program right now is the fact that this new mat will help current wrestlers, along with future ones we haven't even met yet." ■

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## When Artwork for a Cause Lands on a Donut!

By Joyce Corey

What could be sweeter than supporting Nutley's Relay for Life? Maybe enjoying a donut with Denise Costantino's artwork on it! Denise was "totally surprised" to see her art on a donut, but it was totally normal to see her lend her talent to support a community cause.

'Paint the Town Purple' began in front of the high school on Franklin Avenue on March 29 but the purple soon spread out along the avenue with ribbons, signs, and posters. The decorating tradition took place ahead of the 13th Annual Relay For Life of Nutley, the signature fundraiser for American Cancer Society slated for Friday, May 17 from 6 pm to 11:30pm at DeMuro Park on Margaret Avenue.

The artwork of Denise Costantino carried the message



of 'Believe in Hope' with her signature creativity and the help of donuts decorated by the Dunkin Donuts on Washington Avenue.

Meanwhile, 'Hope,' the bear, has been seen around town as a reminder of Relay. Heather Soto's leadership is not only marked in donations but in presentations; Hope is a tangible reminder of the feeling Heather encourages people to hold onto.

Relay for Life is the ongoing community initiative on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department to raise awareness and funds to fight cancer. Currently in its 13th year, Nutley has been averaging close to \$100,000 in donations per year. ■

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# Free Comic Book Day Comes to the Nutley Public Library with Comics for All!

By Lucia Alvarez, Library Associate

The Nutley Public Library celebrates Free Comic Book Day on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 10:00am – 4:00pm! This is the 4th year the Nutley Public Library will celebrate the event, offering the community a fun, family-oriented program where everyone can find a comic they'll enjoy and make a craft to take home. With awesome titles like *Stranger Things*, *Descendants*, *Pokémon* and many more, we're sure there's a comic book for everyone!

Celebrating its 18th year, Free Comic Book Day is an annual event where thousands of participating comic book shops and libraries around the world give away comic books absolutely FREE. Each year, thousands of participating locations give away over five million comic books to millions of fans to introduce them to the



wonders of comics.

The event will be held the first Saturday in May and is the perfect opportunity to introduce friends and family to the many worlds of wonder available at their local comic book shops and libraries. From superheroes to slice-of-life to action/adventure and beyond, Free Comic Book Day has a comic book for everyone!

Free Comic Book Day kicks-off on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 10:00am and runs until 4:00pm at the Nutley Public Library. Visit [youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org](http://youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org), or follow our Facebook page for more information.

Regular updates, information about comic books, and a list of participating publishers and their free comics are all online at [www.freecomicbookday.com](http://www.freecomicbookday.com). ■

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# EVENTS CALENDAR **MAY** 2019

**Apr. 27, Sat.**

## **Nutley Relay for Life's Chalk Art Festival**

@Memorial Park I (Mudhole), Passaic Ave. and Vreeland Ave. All proceeds benefit Nutley Relay for Life.

Time: 1pm planting of the "Hope Tree" and registration. 2-7pm chalking.

Cost: \$20 for a 10 ft section of the pathway (chalk not provided). For more information call the Department of Parks & Recreation at 973-284-4966

**May 1, Wed.**

## **Essex County Clerk Program**

@Parks and Recreation Building, 44 Park Ave.

On the first Wednesday of each month the Essex County Clerk's office is available at the Recreation Department for residents to obtain passports and Notary Public services.

Time: 2-8pm

Cost: Free

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

**May 3, Fri.**

## **Casino Night**

@The Phoenix Center, 16 Monsignor Owens Pl.

A special fundraiser to benefit the Phoenix Center. Includes a fun evening of gambling, passed hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, soda, dessert, and prizes. Must be 21 years of age to attend.

Time: 7-11pm

For more information visit <https://www.thephoenixcenternj.org>

**May 4, Sat.**

## **Big Truck Day**

@Municipal Parking Lot I, William St. and Franklin Ave.

Celebrate National Public Works Week by experiencing the high-tech equipment and vehicles used to provide vital township DPW services. Learn how they operate to serve you better. Kids can climb aboard and honk the horn!

Time: 12-3pm

For more information call 973-284-4959

**May 4, Sat.**

## **Essex County Household**

## **Hazardous Waste Collection Day**

@Essex County Fleet Maintenance (Public Works), 99 West Bradford Ave., Cedar Grove

Acceptable materials include pesticides and herbicides, paint thinners and solvents, darkroom/photographic chemicals, driveway sealer, aerosol spray paints, NiCad/rechargeable batteries, automotive fluids (antifreeze, motor oil, steering fluids, etc.), household cleaning fluids, car batteries, home fire extinguishers, pool chemicals, mercury and products containing mercury, gasoline/kerosene, oil-based paints and stains, chemistry sets, barbeque propane tanks, and fluorescent lightbulbs and ballasts.

Time: 8:30am-4pm

For more information call the ECUA at 973-792-9060 or visit [www.ecuanj.com](http://www.ecuanj.com)

**May 4, Sat.**

## **Trout Fishing Contest**

@Memorial Park I (Mudhole), Passaic Ave. and Vreeland Ave.

Nutley residents in grades 1 through 8 are invited to participate

in this fun-filled event. Experienced adult fishermen will be on hand to assist the children throughout the event. Don't forget your fishing pole and a chair! Nutley Relay for Life will be selling snacks throughout the event. All proceeds will go to Nutley's 13th annual Relay for Life.

Time: 8:30-11:30am

For more information call 973-284-4966. Online registration is available at <https://register.communitypass.net/nutley>

**May, 6, 13, 20, 27, Mon.**

## **Self Help Program: Tai Chi, Qigong, Yoga, Stress Technique, & Meditation**

@Parks and Recreation Bldg., 44 Park Ave.

Time: 10-11am

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

**May 6, 13, 20, 27, Mon.**

## **Senior Art Program**

@Parks and Recreation Bldg., 44 Park Ave.

Time: 1:00-2:30pm

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

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**May 6, 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.

Time: 7pm

For more information email Michelle Albert at Michelle.Albert@nutleybccls.org or call 973-667-0405 x2623. To register visit [nutleypubliclibrary.org/dish-cookbook-club/](http://nutleypubliclibrary.org/dish-cookbook-club/) or stop by the Reference Desk.

**May 7, 21, Tue.**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting**

@Town Hall, 3rd Floor Commission Chambers, 1 Kennedy Dr.

Time: 7pm

Open to the public

For more information visit [www.nutleynj.org/board-of-commissioners](http://www.nutleynj.org/board-of-commissioners)

**May 8, Wed.**

**Parkinson's Disease Support Workshop**

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

Time: 10-11am

Cost: Free

For more information or to register call Fabiana Alvarez, RN, or Dhyana Velez, RN, at 973-450-2631 or email [fabiana.alvarez@rwjbh.org](mailto:fabiana.alvarez@rwjbh.org)

**May 8, Wed.**

**Skin Cancer Screenings**

@Public Affairs / Health Department, 149 Chestnut St.  
This full body physical examination is done by a medical professional and is open to those not under the care of a dermatologist.

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**Nutley Neighbors - Best Version Media**  
**@nutley\_neighbors\_magazine**



Time: 10am-12pm

Cost: Free

For more information or to make an appointment call the Nutley Health Department at 973-284-4976

**May 11, Sat.**

**Page to Screen Club**

@Nutley Public Library,  
93 Booth Dr.

This month, briefly discuss one of your favorite film adaptations. It can be a recent release or a classic. The only criteria is the film chosen must be based on a book. It is not required to read the book prior to the discussion. Some talking points can be the actors and actresses, director, favorite moments in the film, music, setting, and synopsis. Donuts from local bakeries and fresh brewed coffee provided by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

Time: 10am

For more information and to register visit [nutleypubliclibrary.org/pagetoscreen](http://nutleypubliclibrary.org/pagetoscreen), Facebook, call 973-667-0405 or stop by the Reference Desk.

**May 15, Wed.**

**Clinical Breast Exams**

@Public Affairs / Health Department, 149 Chestnut St.  
A clinical breast examination (CBE) is a physical examination of the breast done by a health professional. This screening is available for those women who are not under the care of a breast specialist.

Time: 10am-12pm

Cost: Free

For more information or to make an appointment call the Nutley Health Department at 973-284-4976

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# EVENTS CALENDAR **MAY** 2019

**May 17, Fri.**

**Relay for Life of Nutley**

@Demuro Park, Margaret Ave.  
Become part of this signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

Time: 6-11:30pm

For more information call the Department of Parks & Recreation at 973-284-4966 or email cfrusteri@nutleynj.org

**May 18, Sat.**

**Essex County Computer and Electronics Recycling Day**

@ Essex County Fleet Maintenance (Public Works), 99 West Bradford Ave., Cedar Grove

Acceptable materials include computers, fax machines, speakers, main frames, DVD players, old cell phones, monitors, scanners, televisions, VCRs, toasters, printers, telecom equipment, keyboards, stereos, and irons.

Time: 9am-3pm

For more information call the ECUA at 973-792-9060 or visit [www.ecuanj.com](http://www.ecuanj.com)

**May 18, Sat.**

**Fifth Annual Base Ball Classic**

@Boy's Park, Nutley

The teams will play by 19th century rules, using authentic replicas of 19th century equipment, and wearing 19th century uniforms.

Time: 1-3pm

For more information visit [www.kingslandmanor.org](http://www.kingslandmanor.org) or "Kingsland Manor" on Facebook.

**May 18-19, Sat.-Sun.**

**Weekend Childbirth Series**

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

For parents that plan to deliver at Clara Maass Medical Center; this workshop will help prepare them for the birth of their first child by discussing birth options available and practicing birthing skills.

Expectant mothers may attend at any stage of their pregnancy.

Time: 10am-12pm

Cost: Free

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

**wMay 19, Sun.**

**Kingsland Manor Open House Tour**

@Kingsland Manor; 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

Cost: Admission is free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

For more information visit [www.kingslandmanor.org](http://www.kingslandmanor.org) or "Kingsland Manor" on Facebook.

**May 20, Mon.**

**Golf Outing to Benefit Nutley Thriving Survivors**

@Hendrick's Field, Franklin Ave., Belleville

Celebrating women who have had breast cancer: Luncheon follows at Nanina's in the Park, Belleville. Price includes 18 holes of golf with cart, hot and cold luncheon with beer, wine, and soda.

Time: 7am continental breakfast. 8am start.

Cost: \$125 golf and luncheon. \$40 luncheon only. \$65 hole sponsor.

For more information email [nutleythrivers@gmail.com](mailto:nutleythrivers@gmail.com) or call 973-667-6768

**May 22, Wed.**

**Infant Care Class**

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

In two hours, learn what you need to know about parenting in an interactive "University" for parents-to-be. Learn about the basics on how to navigate parenthood including topics such as newborn and post-partum care. Parents are welcome to attend at any time.

Time: 7-9pm

Cost: Free

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

**May 27, Mon.**

**A Walk in the Park with John Simko**

@Memorial Park I (Mudhole), Passaic Ave. and Vreeland Ave.

Nutley Museum Director John Simko will lead a walking tour from the Mudhole to the Nutley Museum, stopping at the locations of Nutley's long-gone mills and other historic sites.



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Limited to 40 walkers.

Time: 9:30-10:30am

For more information or to register email [johnsimko1014@gmail.com](mailto:johnsimko1014@gmail.com) or call 973-752-8984 and leave a message with your phone and email address.

**May 31, Fri. – June 7, Fri.  
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For more information visit [www.montclairbounce.org](http://www.montclairbounce.org)

**June 6, Thurs.**

**Ice Cream for History**

@Nutley Museum, 65 Church St.  
Tour the Nutley Museum and enjoy free ice cream. A favorite Nutley event!

Time: 6:30pm

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

**June 6, Thurs.**

**Nutley at War: Film Screening and Discussion**

@Nutley Public Library,  
93 Booth Dr.

Township Historian John Demmer and David Wilson will host a screening of *Nutley at War*, a 1942 film by the Nutley Defense Council that has not been shown in public since 2002. Recently restored footage in this forty-minute film will take you back in time when Nutley organized its citizens to prepare for enemy attacks. Scenes filmed throughout Nutley, familiar family names, interior and exterior views of old Nutley buildings, and a celebratory parade document the hard work and dedication of Nutley neighbors. Recently discovered material relating to the making and marketing of the film will be shown. Time: 7pm

For more information email [library@nutleynj.org](mailto:library@nutleynj.org), visit [nutleypubliclibrary.org](http://nutleypubliclibrary.org), or call 973-667-0405



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# Franklin Theatre Benefit Shows

## PART 2 OF 2

By David Wilson

Last month we explored the creation of benefit shows by the Nutley Fire Department utilizing the Franklin Theatre. Back then police and fire pension funds were being developed and were dependent on fundraising events run by the members. 1946 saw the police (NPD) and fire departments (NFD) join forces to raise three thousand dollars for their pension fund. Another stage and screen show would be choreographed.

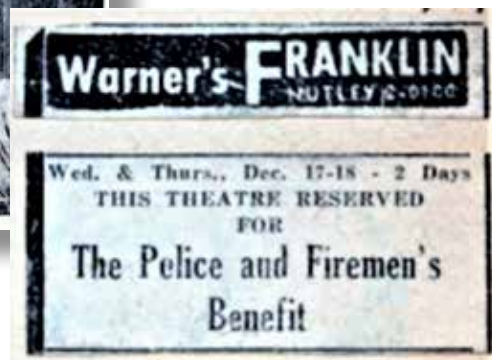
Patrolman William Wallace, an Irish tenor, announced "The Sheriff of Redwood Valley" would be shown along with six vaudeville acts. Redwood Valley's rail tunnel construction money is stolen, starring James Craven, Bob Steele, Bill Elliott as Red Ryder, Peggy Stewart, and Nutley's own Robert Blake as Little Beaver.

Lionel Stapleton, father of Vivian Blaine, the actress, will organize the acts. Sammy Moss will act as master of ceremonies. Dorothy Wenzel, Raleigh Personality Girl 1945, sings, dances, and performs acrobatics. The Four Kings with Ray Blum, son of Town Commissioner Joseph Blum, will perform a novelty bicycle act. Johnny Valente performs a musical novelty act. Donnelly and Bob do an old-time circus act followed by Elizabeth and Her Canines, a sixteen-dog act with one dressed as a hobo.

1947 saw another seven-act, two-day event on December seventeenth and eighteenth. Six shows emceed by Patrolman William Wallace included: "Home in Oklahoma," big city editor and small town writer investigate a mysterious death, starring Roy Rogers and the world's smartest horse, Trigger. Dale Evans adds a lot of spunk to the film, and George "Gabby" Hayes provides fun support. It is a good mix of music, action, drama and comedy.

George Milano and his melody singers, Stemming and Styles, perform as The Make Believers, Julia Cummings does Hollywood impressions, Grace Andrews magician, Bancott and Cannon sing society favorites, George and Ruthie Ross along with Bill Graves and Company complete the show. Children will be allowed at the matinees.

Chief Hutch also had a great crew of carpenters in the firehouse that built various educational displays. The Cemetery of Fire Hazards, a blunt approach to fire education, was displayed in the Franklin's lobby and library. Toys were also repaired by the firemen and distributed to needy families. Bundles for Britain, a war relief effort, was



located at Franklin and Vreeland where the Capital Bank now does business. Jim Almoney's mom worked the ticket booth in the early forties and lived just down the street above 553 Franklin Avenue.

The Franklin was owned by the Dodds until the early 1940's when Stanley Warner bought the venue. Many of the big movie moguls took over the local theatres to ensure complete control for new releases and marketing. These variety shows helped people escape from the war and daily pressures while enabling the NFD and NPD to raise money for the cause. We have not been able to locate any pictures from these events. Oh, to have a time machine and attend these shows at the Franklin! ■

*David Wilson is the author of Fire in Our Lives, a book containing stories, experiences, and advice from his forty-year career in public safety. Available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Google Play.*

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*Submitted by Tiffany Servidio*



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*Submitted by  
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