A community magazine serving the residents of Nutley

OCTOBER 2023

NEIGOBORS

Justin, Amanda, Sal, and Dominic Baier New Kidon the Block



Photograph by Carly Ann Photography







CATVE YOUT SAVINGS INTO SHAPE

HIGH YIELD RATE OPTIONS

profcu.org/savings | 800 457 8058





Best Version Media

Publication Team



Publisher: Michael Stefanelli

Content Coordinator: Joyce Corey Designer: Marti Golon Contributing Photographer: Carly Ann Photography Contributing Writers: Linda Buset, Barry Lenson, Michelle Palmer, David Wilson

ADVERTISING

Contact: Michael Stefanelli Email: mstefanelli@bestversionmedia.com Phone: 973-277-7301

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.

Content Submission Deadlines:

Content Due: November 25	Edition Date:
December 23	February 1
January 25	March 1
February 25	
March 25	May 1
April 25	June 1
May 25	July 1
June 25	August 1
July 25	September 1
August 25	Öctober 1
September 25	November 1
October 25	December 1

Any content, resident submissions, guest columns, advertisements and advertorials are not necessarily endorsed by or represent the views of Best Version Media (BVM) or any municipality, homeowners associations, businesses or organizations that this publication serves. BVM is not responsible for the reliability, suitability or timeliness of any content submitted. All content submitted is done so at the sole discretion of the submitting party. © 2023 Best Version Media. All rights reserved.

Fitting In or Belonging?

inding our places in the world isn't as straightforward as using Google Maps. Being somewhere physically doesn't

always mean we fit in or that we belong. And here's a plot twist-fitting in and belonging are not the same. In fact, researcher and educator Brené Brown considers them to be opposites. Fitting in means that we need to adapt to our environment, while belonging simply means showing up, being seen, and being accepted for who you are.



I know which one I like best.

On our cover is the Baier family–Justin, Amanda, Sal, and Dominic. When they moved to Nutley in 2020, they had no idea that only a few months later we would all be in Covid lockdown. But that didn't deter Sal, who was a toddler at the time, from belonging to his new neighborhood. He smiled and waved at the friendly faces on his block-from a distance of course. Sal showed up, was seen, and belonged. Be sure to 'meet' the rest of his family in the article!

Showing up and being yourself is also foundational to the Nutley Hall of Fame. This November, eight people will be inducted into this prestigious group. Each one of them has made amazing accomplishments at the state, national, or international level. They showed up, followed their life's passions and purposes, and now belong to the Hall of Fame as well as being our Nutley Neighbors. Read the bios of the inductees-and it's perfectly okay to feel some Nutley pride!

We have some excellent sports programs here in town, like wrestling and baseball, to only name a couple. The players who belong to these teams consistently show up, bring their best game, and are accepted by their teammates.

And do you know what else belongs here in Nutley? Nutley Neighbors magazine.

We show up each month with stories about people, places, and events, thanks to our advertisers who bring us to your mailbox. Belonging might be the best gift we give to each other.







CONTACT ME TODAY! 30 Two Bridges Road, Fairfield NJ 07004 VPETRACCO@FINANCIALGUIDE.COM Phone: 551.404.7241



Securices and investment advisory servic qualified registered representatives of MX LLC. Member SIPC, 1305 Campus Parkway 07753.732.751.3000 CRN202401-3668121

Letter to Residents

Expert Contributors

To learn more about becoming an expert contributor, contact BVM at mstefanelli@ bestversionmedia.com or phone (973) 277-7301



BEACON WEALTH PARTNERS, EQUITABLE ADVISORS, LLC

As a platinum group within Equitable Advisors and a local family office, they focus on wealth management, retirement planning, insurance, and group benefits. Their mission is to bring value to clients and families through

sound and objective strategies. Michael, Daniel and their father Salvatore are graduates of Nutley High School and have obtained professional degrees and certifications with a combined 60+ years of experience. Michael is a Certified Financial Planner™ professional (CFP®), meeting rigorous education, fiduciary training and ethical standards, while serving clients' best interests to prepare them for a more secure tomorrow.

CATHY KELLY - CENTURY 21 AWARD AGENCY

With over 20 years in local real estate, Cathy specializes in having a keen sense of the Nutley market. Whether you are buying or selling a home, she will work with you to ensure the process is seamless and successful. If you are looking for a responsive and reliable realtor or have any questions about the local market, please reach out. (201)-232-8583 clkelly7@aol.com www.clkellyrealtor.com





THE CENTER FOR ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY AND IMPLANTOLOGY

Dr. Philip M. Echo D.M.D has been practicing Oral and Maxillofacial surgery in the area for over 20 years. The Center for Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery & Implantology is committed to making every aspect of your care as pleasurable as possible.

LIGRESTI DERMATOLOGY ASSOCIATES

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. He successfully treats all skin diseases for adult and pediatric patients, including advanced painless allergy testing. Ligresti Dermatology Associates is a full service dermatology practice including cosmetic



Proponent

dermatology for antiaging like: Restylane fillers, Botox/Dysport, Chemical Peels and Microdermabrasion. The office is located at 175 Franklin Ave. Nutley.

PROPONENT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Proponent Federal Credit Union has been lending locally in Nutley for over 50 years, offering all types of

retail loans with competitive rates and lower fees than traditional banks. Proponent is a neighborhood lender, with lending decisions made at their Nutley Headquarters, which means faster decisions for members. Proponent is a full service financial institution, including deposit products with attractive rates for Certificates and IRAs. profcu.org



SMILE TODAY DENTISTRY OF NUTLEY

Dr. Shefali Pilar and her team at Smile Today Dentistry have been improving health and transforming smiles by providing preventive, restorative, and cosmetic dental care for all ages in Nutley for over a decade. Dr. Pilar is a graduate of NYU College of Dentistry and a clinical instructor at Hackensack University Medical Center's dental residency program. Smile Today Dentistry is

committed to providing compassionate, technology driven, individualized care in a fun and comfortable environment to ensure all our patients have a truly memorable dental experience. 973-667-2466 @smiletodaydds www.smiletoday.com.

STATE FARM INSURANCE

Renée Friscia is a 2nd generation agent with over 35 years of State Farm Insurance experience in Nutley, NJ. Renee focuses on helping people insure their cars, home, rentals, valuables and educates everyone about the importance of Life insurance coverage. And as a business owner herself, she works closely with small businesses for their insurance and planning needs. State Farm Nutley is a proud member of the Nutley Chamber of Commerce and serves as a Notary Public.



Pet Corner

Adopt Us! Submitted by Nicole Milici, Jersey Pits Rescue Inc.

ama Lucy is looking for her very own forever home and family. She is 9 years old and is as sweet as can be. She is so happy to be out of the shelter and feeling better. Lucy enjoys rolling around in the grass and cuddling on the couch-life's simple pleasures.



Lucy is looking for a home with

either another calm senior *pitizen* or where she can be the only pet. She is crate trained, house broken and does well with other dogs. She would be a great addition to any home or family.

If you are interested in adding Lucy to your family, please visit www.jerseypitsrescue.com to apply.

Submitted by Christa Milici, Yellow Brick Road Rescue NJ



C nowball is a 2-yearold male. He is very sweet and would make the perfect addition to any family. He was adopted as a kitten 2 years ago and is now being returned due to his family moving and not taking him with them. He was fostered as a kitten

with a dog and kids but has only been around other cats since being adopted two years ago. He is microchipped, FIV/FeLV negative, stool tested negative, dewormed, UTD on vaccines, and neutered. It would be lovely to keep him and his brother, Giovanni, together since they are both losing their home and get along really well, however it is not an absolute requirement.

To apply for Snowball: www.yellowbrickroadrescuenj. com/cat-adoption-application/ or email us at yellowbrickroadnj@gmail.com



Nutley Real Estate

Single Family Homes Sold August 2023*

-			
PROPERTY ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SOLD PRICE	DIFFERENCE
371 High St.	\$299,000	\$405,000	\$106,000
18 Van Riper Pl.	\$339,000	\$410,000	\$71,000
11 Stager St.	\$418,000	\$485,000	\$67,000
2 Margaret Ave.	\$425,000	\$467,000	\$42,000
4 Locust St.	\$448,888	\$560,000	\$111,112
25 Harvard St.	\$464,900	\$516,000	\$51,100
75 Gerard Rd.	\$499,000	\$560,000	\$61,000
712 Bloomfield Ave.	\$500,000	\$545,000	\$45,000
123 Hillside Ave.	\$550,000	\$525,000	-\$25,000
295 Prospect St.	\$589,000	\$620,000	\$31,000
345 Hillside Ave.	\$595,000	\$590,000	-\$5,000
43 Funston Pl.	\$599,000	\$660,000	\$61,000
70 Mountainview Ave.	\$625,000	\$706,000	\$81,000
187 Hillside Ave.	\$799,900	\$810,000	\$10,100
26 Wilmington Dr.	\$849,999	\$950,000	\$100,001
54 Nutley Äve.	\$849,999	\$880,000	\$30,001
32 Weston St.	\$849,999	\$885,000	\$35,001
59 Beech St.	\$875,000	\$875,000	\$0
324 High St.	\$1,299,000	\$1,150,000	-\$149,000
-			



15 Glendale Street. List Price: \$639,999

Median List Price	\$499,999
Median Sale Price	\$525,000
Median Days on Market	16

*GSMLS Data: Single Family, Condominiums/Cooperatives, Town Houses January-June 2023

Best Version Media does not guarantee the accuracy of the statistical data on this page. The data does not represent the listings of any one agent or agency but represents the activity of the real estate community in the area. Any real estate agent's ad appearing in the magazine is separate from the statistical data provided which is in no way a part of their advertisement.



237 Lorraine Ave. Montclair NJ, 07043 Office: 973-783-7400

Feature Story

Justin, Amanda, Sal, and Dominic Baier New Kid on The Block

By Joyce Corey

Photograph by Carly Ann Photography

oving to a new town means meeting the neighbors, making new friends, and getting involved in community activities. Unless the Covid lockdown happens a few months after you move in.

That's what happened when Justin and Amanda Baier, and their two-year-old son, Salvatore, moved to Nutley. But being a toddler didn't deter Sal from making the most of his new home.

"Sal is the youngest on block," Amanda said. "Despite the lockdown, the neighbors safely welcomed him into the neighborhood by waving and smiling."

"Now that we've been here four years, when they see Sal around town, they already know him," Justin said. "He's also busy with soccer at the Parks and Recreation Department and summer camps so he's making some new friends too."

Despite the unusual beginning the Baier family had in Nutley, this was exactly where they wanted to live and raise their family.

"We wanted to find a house here because my brother, John, and his wife, Kristen, live in town," Justin said. "Kristen grew up in Nutley and loves it here, and she helped convince us we would love it too!"

"After we got married, we lived in Fair Lawn," Amanda said. "When we started looking for a house, Nutley homes were not in our price point. So, we went to other places and while the realtor was showing us a house in Caldwell, she mentioned that there was a house two doors down from her in Nutley. We went to see it, loved it, and now we are only three minutes from Justin's brother!"

While Amanda and Justin are looking to make new memories here, they share a past that feels like a fairytale happily-ever-after.

"We met through mutual friends when we were 16," Amanda said. "Although we knew each other, we didn't reconnect until 2007 when we were 19 and in college. I was a sophomore at William Paterson University and Justin was a junior at Penn State University."

"We had a long-distance relationship for two years until I graduated in 2009," Justin said.

While their college degrees directed their choice of careers,





they officially made each other their life choice by saying "I do" when they were 27.

"I graduated from Penn State with a bachelor's degree in sociology," Justin said. "I also have two certifications, one in brand managing from Cornell University and the other in digital marketing from the University of Pennsylvania. Right now, I am working for the New York Red Bulls as director of marketing and content."

"I have a bachelor's degree in English from William Paterson University and a master's degree in education from Saint Peter's University," Amanda said. "I also hold two teach-

ing licenses and work at Paramus Catholic."

But their careers only make up part of their lives as they enjoy their time together as a family–which has increased since they first moved here.

Dominic was born on February 23 and is now eight months old," Amanda said. "It will always be one of our favorite memories when we brought him home with his proud, older brother Sal leading the way."

The Baier family is busy making

memories here in town, as well as in their travels.

"We often take part in viewing parades and other holiday activities that the town puts together," Amanda said.

"When we travel, we like to visit places that have an adventure aspect to them," Justin said. "We like to choose places that offer hiking and beaches. Before Sal was born, Amanda and I hiked in Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park in Utah. I'm very much into fitness and now Sal joins me for a hike locally in Mills



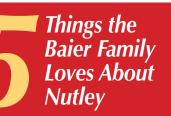
Reservation and Ramapo Mountain State Forest."

But it's back home in their neighborhood where the Baier family feels connected.

"We really love our neighbors," Amanda said. "They give us a true sense of community."

Which is especially important since the Covid lockdownand the resulting isolation-is in the past. With two sons growing up here, the Baier family's future looks like it will be filled with school, sports, and new friends.

"Sal will be entering kindergarten in the fall," Amanda said. "Right now, he loves dinosaurs and everything about them.



- 1. Restaurants with all the different types of cuisine
- 2. Parks with all kinds of activities, from slides to trails
- 3. Special events like parades and Santa coming in a helicopter
- 4. Feeling of community
- 5. Parks and Recreation **Department with all the** programs and activities

Dominic is currently soaking in everything around him." As these two kids on the block get ready to make Nutley childhood memories, Amanda expresses her appreciation for the neighbors who make up a big part of her family's life.

"Thank you for always being welcoming toward us, but especially towards our children."

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.

Your Home Could Be Next!

For a



42 Mt Vernon Avenue, Nutley **Offer Accepted in 9 Days Over Asking Price!**



PARK SQUARE REALTY

244 Chestnut Street Nutley, NJ 07110 973-667-3000

complimentary **Market Analysis** of your home and assistance with any of your **Real Estate** needs... now or in the future. don't hesitate to give me a call.



Margaret Cozzarelli Realtor Associate 973-951-6705 Margaret.Cozzarelli@yahoo.com

LE OF

AWARDS



Community

A Celebration of Its Citizens

By Joyce Corey and Linda Buset

"The Nutley Public Library takes immense pride in hosting the remarkable individuals who have been nominated for the Nutley Hall of Fame. We welcome these exceptional candidates and look forward to celebrating their achievements and contributions." –Michelle Salimbene Albert, Director of the Nutley Public Library

utley has always taken pride in its citizens and on November 19, from 2-5pm at the Nutley Public Library, eight people will be inducted into the prestigious Hall of Fame.

This honor will be bestowed on

those individuals who have achieved outstanding accomplishments beyond the boundaries of Nutley. Recognizing them also brings additional pride to the entire community.

The Hall of Fame began with an idea.

In 2001, Carmen Orechio wanted to spotlight Nutley residents who had outstanding accomplishments.

In 2002, Pat Ritacco, as chairman, established a formal committee to initiate action and set the ground rules of the Hall of Fame. The criteria they adopted are still in force today. All inductees must have been born in Nutley, graduated from Nutley High School, or lived in Nutley for at least 10 years. Their achievements need to have been made at the state, national, or international level, regardless of their field of endeavor.

The two-tiered system ensures the integrity of the induction process. The administrative committee determines that the eligibility requirements have been met and then a panel of judges reviews the merits of the nominees and determines if they are worthy of induction. The judges are Chair Joe Cervasio, Dr. John Dinan, Dr. Eileen Poliani, Dolores Capalbo, Fred Scalera, Marie Solimo, and John Simko.

Pat Ritacco emphasized the basis for choosing inductees with a focus on the significant changes they brought about. "If they had never lived, things would have been different."

The original members of the committee who joined Ritacco were Sandra (Sam) Carella, Mike Geltrude, Tony Iannarone, Frank Lemma, Phil White, Sarah Lester, and JoAnn Tropiano, former library director. They have since been joined by Phyllis Coldebella and Christina Osieja.

This is the township's 20th year of inducting outstanding Nutley citizens into this impressive group.

"The Nutley Hall of Fame is a true representation of the best of Nutley," Sam Carella said. "The individuals who are



Photo credit: Linda Buset

chosen demonstrate to our residents, and most importantly, to the youth in Nutley, that anything is possible with hard work and commitment. After every induction ceremony, we are all in awe of the accomplishments of our esteemed inductees. We are so proud to say they are from our town." ■

"When I received the letter informing me that I had been selected for the Nutley Hall of Fame, I was shocked and thought it must have been a mistake. At the same time, I was so excited that I immediately called my mom to tell her the news. Being part of such a prestigious group is quite humbling, but I am proud that my accomplishments have been recognized by the town where I have spent my entire life."

> -Daniel J. Geltrude, 2019 Hall of Fame inductee



Guiding your path to financial success 973-667-8650

As a full-service platinum firm within Equitable Advisors focusing on wealth management, our goal is to provide a high level of value to our clients through sound and objective strategies.



Michael S. Cocco, CFP[®], ChFC[®] Managing Partner CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™] mcocco@beaconwealthpartners.com

Salvatore Cocco, Jr. CLU Founding Partner, Financial Consultant scocco@beaconwealthpartners.com

Daniel Cocco, CPFA Partner, Financial Consultant dcocco@beaconwealthpartners.com

401k & Pension Plans

Group Benefits Plans

- Investment Management
- Retirement Planning
- Estate Planning Strategies
 - Health & Life Insurance

rategies > Long-Term Care rance > College Funding

www.BeaconWealthPartners.com

Securities offered through Equitable Advisors, LLC (NY,NY 212-314-4600) member <u>FINRA/SIPC</u> (Equitable Financial Advisors in MI & TN). Investment advisory products and services offered through Equitable Advisors, LLC, an SEC registered investment advisor. Beacon Wealth Partners is not a registered investment advisor and is not owned or operated by Equitable Advisors or Equitable Network.

Meet the 2023 Nutley Hall of Fame Inductees!

By Michelle Salimbene Albert, Director of the Nutley Public Library

GERI V. BERGEN (1930-2018): Raised in Nutley and 1948 Nutley High School (NHS) graduate, she was a forester and conservationist who turned her love of the outdoors into a groundbreaking career in forestry, a lifelong commitment to conservation, and a successful leadership role in natural resource management. She is known as a "Woman of Many Firsts," most notably being the first woman in the U.S. Forest Service to serve as Forest Supervisor.

• WILLIAM (BILL) CALLANAN JR. Raised in Nutley, a 1959 NHS graduate, and renowned jazz organist and recording artist, he toured worldwide as the pianist for Joey Dee and the Starliters before moving to Las Vegas to perform and conduct in orchestras for famous headliners. Bill later founded a jazz quartet of Las Vegas all-stars called the B3 Conspiracy where he played organ as a soloist and toured worldwide.

RON CORIO Raised in Nutley, a 1979 NHS graduate, and innovator and influencer in the global renewable energy sector, he is founder and Chief Innovation Officer at Array Technologies which pioneered solar tracking technology in 1989. His vision for renewable energy has led

Celebrating 50 Years of Quality Care and Education for Young Children!



The Community School *in* Nutley

Infant Toddler Program 200 Highfield Lane 973-667-5446

> Full Day Program 100 Vincent Place 973-661-0789

- Serving children 3 mos.—5 yrs.
- State Licensed
- Experienced & Certified Staff
- Using Creative Curriculum, a research based program

For further information: www.communityschoolnutleynj.com Email: csnutley@optonline.net



- Individual Classrooms
- Participating in Grow NJ Kids
- Art, Music, Yoga & Movement Weekly
- Summer Program

4-Star Rating from Grow NJ Kids Array Technologies to become a world leader in solar tracking solutions.

SILAS MOUNTSIER Lifelong resident, 1946 NHS graduate, and a prominent figure in Nutley, he is celebrated for his distinguished career in banking, his commitment to philanthropy, and his influential roles in many local and national organizations. One of many achievements was co-founding the Mountsier-Hardie Gardens which welcomes various groups for both educational and fundraising purposes.

LOUIS JOSEPH RICCARDI Resident of Nutley for 34 years, a 2008 NHS graduate, and winner of 13 gold medals at Saginaw, Michigan Area 22 Summer Special Olympics, he is commended for bringing attention to the Special Olympics and demonstrating it's possible to overcome obstacles and achieve excellence.

EATON STONE (1818-1903): Retired in Nutley in 1867 where he remained for 27 years and nicknamed "The Wizard Horseman," he began as a plate spinner, a tumbler, and a horse groomer before he became an international star, one of the leading riders in the country, and the first circus rider to do a backward somersault on a speeding barebacked horse.

DAVID VERDI Raised in Nutley and 1974 NHS graduate, he is an award-winning media professional with a career spanning over three decades at NBC News. As the Senior Vice President of Worldwide News Gathering at NBC News, he exemplifies a deep commitment to journalistic excellence and holds the reins of NBC's news gathering operation on a global scale. Throughout his career Verdi has won three Emmy Awards, two Edward R. Murrow Awards, and a Peabody Award.

■ MICHAEL VOLPE Raised in Nutley and a 2005 NHS graduate, he is a music producer known professionally as beat-maker "Clams Casino." He has garnered attention from distinguished hip-hop artists for his original productions and new sounds and is one of hip-hop's most in demand rhythm designers and producers. ■



Nutley Sports

NUTLEY WRESTLING CLINIC Elite Moments

By Joyce Corey

lite. It means a select group that is superior in terms of ability or qualities to the rest of a group or society. Elite people are leaders in their field of work and often inspire others to reach their fullest potential.

Nutley Junior Wrestling and the Nutley High School wrestling program share a vision to return Nutley to elite status. That became their mission over 5 years ago. The summer wrestling clinic is a means to that goal.



The Nutley Raiders Wrestling Clinic started in 2017. The premise: summer wrestlers make winter champions. It has also been a useful way to attract new wrestlers to the program. Additionally, it has become a great opportunity for Nutley to share its space with other local area wrestlers.

This year, Coach Michael Blanchard put together an allstar lineup that included some of the NCAA and world-level elite. In attendance this year were Coach Reece "Highlight" Humphrey of the NJRTC and Princeton University, wrestlers and NCAA All- Americans Sammy Sasso and Jesse Mendez of Ohio State University, Coach Joe Galante of The College of New Jersey, and Coach Scott Goodale of Rutgers University with wrestler Dylan Shawver. Gene Zanetti from Wrestling Mindset spoke to parents as well.

"All of these coaches and wrestlers brought their best to us, and we had over 85 wrestlers, 15 of whom were young women, who represent a growing staple of the wrestling community," Blanchard said. "They all learned some highlevel techniques while having a lot of fun."

The first night was about listening in order to learn–a focal point of any good instruction. The second night focused on gratitude for being able to participate in wrestling. The third night was all about being humble–another important part of becoming elite. The final night was centered on the idea that learning how to be a top-level wrestler can be a lot of fun.

"This clinic was one of the best yet in terms of participation and clinicians," Blanchard said. "We are grateful to so many who support us from Commissioner Mauro Tucci, Superintendent Frank DeMaio, the Parks and Recreation Department, Mike DiPiano (head coach of the NHS), Chris Andres (our social media specialist), and our numerous volunteer coaches who help us pull it off. We managed to run a food drive that yielded eight bags of food for the Nutley





Wrestlers and coaches with Sammy Sasso and Jesse Mendez of Ohio State University. Over 85 attended the four-night event (above).

NJRTC/Princeton's Reece Humphrey shows technique on Aidan Rotbaum (far left). Photo credit: Nutley Jr. Raiders Wrestling

Coach Michael Blanchard and TCNJ Head Coach Joe Galante (left)

Family Service Bureau food pantry, and a shoe grab and donation for those in need of wrestling shoes."

"Elite people are the top ten percent and the rest of us aspire to be more like them," Coach Blanchard concludes. "Our goal is to help our young people see their potential by surrounding them with the best. We attribute a lot of our success to this design." ■





CATHY KELLY Broker/Salesperson CENTURY 21 AWARD 210 FRANKLIN AVENUE, NUTLEY

(973)66-3808 Office (201)232-8583 Cell

A Nutley WW2 Veteran Returns Home By Bill Chivil

n September 10, 1944, a Grumman Avenger took off from the USS Enterprise (CV-6). The TBM-1C torpedo bomber was participating in Operation Forager, a pre-invasion strike on the Japanese forces occupying the Palau Islands. It was piloted by Lieutenant Jay Ross Manown Jr. and crewed by Navy Aviation Radioman Wilbur Mitts and Navy Ordnanceman Anthony Di Patetta, a Nutley resident.

World War 2 was entering its final phase. General Patton's Third Army had brought the battle for Europe onto German soil, while in the Pacific theatre, General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz were continuing their march toward the Japanese homeland.

Over 300,000 American military personnel had lost their lives since the United States entered the war in 1941. On this day in late 1944, three more names would be added to the list of casualties.

After taking off from the Enterprise, the TBM Avenger was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and, according to the Defense



DEDICATED TO YOUR COMFORT & DRIVEN BY TECHNOLGY

Digital x-rays Digital scanner "impressions" Intraoral cameras Paperless charts, forms, consents Encrypted communication (text/email)

4 FRANKLIN AVE | NUTLEY 973-667-2466

MONDAY 9:00AM-8:00PM TUESDAY 9:00AM-7:00PM WEDNESDAY 9:00AM-5:00PM THURSDAY 9:00AM-6:00PM FRIDAY 8:00AM-2:00PM SATURDAY 8:00AM-1:00PM (1ST/3RD)



WWW.SMILETODAY.COM FOLLOW US @SMILETODAYDDS



SERVICES

- Exams & cleanings
- Procelain crowns, veneers, & bridges
- Tooth colored fillings & bonding
- Implant restorations
- Teeth whiteningClear orthodontic
- aligners
- Root canal therapy
- Periodontal Therapy (deep cleaning)
- Dentures
- Extractions
- Smile makeovers

60

Hometown Heroes

POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), was last seen spinning violently before crashing into the water near Malakal Island. All three aboard were declared

killed in action (KIA) and each was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

Following the war, efforts were made to recover the remains of those who were lost in the battle areas and crash sites in Palau. However, investigators were unable to locate any evidence of the aircraft or its crew.

In 2001, Project Recover, a non-profit organization that locates, identifies, and repatriates the remains of U.S. service members missing in action, began another search for the lost TBM along with Ships of Exploration and Discovery Research, a DPAA partner organization. After multiple recovery operations over several years, excavations yielded

human remains and material evidence, which were sent to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii for analysis.

In 2023, almost 79 years later, the remains of Anthony Di Petta and Walter Mitts were identified by scientists from DPAA and the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System using DNA analysis.

On July 11th, a mass was held for Di Petta at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Nutley. Following the service, the funeral procession visited Nutley's World War 2 monument where town dignitaries, residents, and members of the American Legion Post 105 Color Guard paid their respects. Also in attendance were Suzanne Nakamura, Di Petta's niece, and Val Thal-Slocum of Project Recovery; both of whom were part of the procession.

Per the U.S. Navy Personnel Command, Anthony Di Petta was born on June 3, 1920 in Colle d'Anchise, Italy. His family emigrated to Nutley where Di Petta attended Lincoln School and graduated from Nutley High School. He enlisted in the United States Navy on December 6, 1939.

As the Nutley Public Affairs Department so perfectly noted, the memorial offered the community an opportunity to reflect on our freedoms and liberties, and to welcome home a local hero.

Anthony Di Petta was buried in Wrightstown, New Jersey later that day with full military honors. His fellow crewmember, Walter Mitts, was buried in Seaside, California on September 11. ■

CUSTOM DESIGNS & REPAIRS BY OUR EXPERT ON-SITE JEWELER

JUD JEWELERS

Providing Quality Merchandise & Finest Service for Almost 40 Years!

NEW LOCATION!

86 CENTRE ST • NUTLEY HOURS W-F 10-5 SAT 10-3

973-667-8628 www.triojewelers.com



Nutley Sports

American Little League 8U All Stars



By Joyce Corey

his is the second year Little League had an 8U All Stars team, and these players have left their mark in the sport and in the state.

The team ended their summer run in the New Jersey State Championship losing 12-2 but walking away with some impressive stats and a solid look to the future. Overall, the 8U All-Star team went 7-1, highlighted by a North Jersey regional championship.

Paving their way to the state championship game was winning the District 8 title.

The district teams included Nutley American, Nutley East, Caldwell, Livingston, Bloomfield, Montclair, and Northward Center in Newark.

After securing the district win, the team competed at the Northern State Tournament with all the district winners playing one another for a shot at making it to the state

Kimberley A. Donohoe

• ATTORNEY AT LAW •



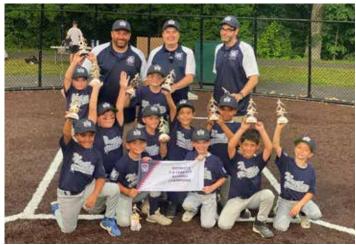
General practice specializing in:

- Special Needs
- Real Estate
- and Municipal Court Matters
- Estate Planning & Administration

.....

You can trust in over 20 years experience in handling guardianship cases for young adults through the elderly.

Nutley, New Jersey Phone (973) 562-0079 • Fax (973) 562-0075 KimberleyDonohoeEsq@verizon.net



Are you looking to Buy or Refinance?

Use Nutley's Hometown Loan Officer!



Joe Isabella, Loan Officer NMLS #347880

973.960.1000 jisabella@njlenders.com

NJ Lenders Corp. NMLS ID: 35286 www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org

Joe Isabella

Loan Officer



final held on Sunday, July 30, against the Southern State winner.

When play began for these teammates, who were ages 7-8, Nutley American Little League Coach Travis Gonick really didn't know what to expect. After all, for many of

the Nutley American players, this spring marked the first time they had ever played in a league where the kids do the pitching, rather than having coaches do it.

According to Gonick, "These kids believed whoever they played against, they could compete with."

But lacking experience had an added benefit; they went into the games without expectations, taking with them only the skills they honed this past spring and summer and a lot of confidence.

Although they didn't walk away with a state championship, they left the field knowing they had an amazing season.

"For us going out there not knowing what was going to happen, to win districts and then play for a title is shocking," said Gonick of Nutley American's first season having an 8U All-Star team. "They're putting it all out there and they're having fun doing it and that's what they should be doing. We didn't think it would be a baseball summer, but it turned into one."

The players of this year's American Little League 8U All Stars team: Taylor Gonick, Tyler Gonick, Alexander Medaska, Elias



Diaz, Henry Jernick, James Poth, Jase Giordano, Joseph Gilberti, Luke Richards, Nolan Lazu, Owen Farley, and Vincent Ritacco.

The coaches: Travis Gonick, Steve Gilberti, and Rob Medaska.

Congratulations to the players and coaches!

The team played like champions!

Coverage to live the life you want

• Auto • Home • Life • Business

Call **973-667-5451** today, for a no-obligation quote!

NANCY DELIMA

Your Local Agent | License 9730155 141 Franklin Avenue Nutley, NJ 07110-3077 ndelima@farmersagent.com www.farmersagent.com/ndelima









Your Community Funeral Home

Professional, Compassionate Service 24 Hours a day, 365 Days a year

John F. Brown Manager License No. 2633 267 Centre Street Nutley, NJ 07110 www.swbrownandson.com (973) 667-0875

Participant in the NJ Prepaid Funeral Trust Fund

Library Corner

Digital Apps

By Nick Van Dorn, Senior Librarian

id you know the Nutley Public Library has a nice assortment of digital apps you can access from home? Below is a listing of each app with a description of what is offered. There are no subscription costs, no in-app purchases, and no late fees. All you need to access these apps is your Nutley Public Library card and a phone or tablet. Some of these apps even work with a Kindle. Apps can be downloaded from the Apple App Store, Google Play Store, or the Amazon Appstore. If you need help getting started, stop by the Reference Desk, give us a call at 973-667-0405 ext. 2604, or email us at library@nutleynj.org.

BCCLS APP Use this app to search the library catalog, place holds on your favorite items, see what you have checked out on your account, and renew items. Use the built-in scanner to scan the ISBN barcode of an item to see if it is in the BCCLS system, and search for nearby libraries.

CREATIVE BUG Join the ultimate craft education hub. Learn a new creative skill from the comfort of home. Learn to paint, knit, crochet, sew, bake, and more! There are over 1,000 video classes.

HOOPLA Hoopla is an all-in-one media service where you can browse 700,000-plus titles in six different formats-audiobooks, e-books, comics/graphic novels, full music albums, movies, and TV-and instantly borrow, then download or stream, the titles of your choice! All borrowed content may be enjoyed while connected to the internet or Wi-Fi by streaming. Borrowed content may be temporarily downloaded and accessed offline.

KANOPY Kanopy is a video-streaming platform dedicated to thoughtful and thought-provoking films. Kanopy delivers a diverse collection of 30,000-plus enriching films, available to stream anytime and anywhere.

LIBBY With the Libby app you can borrow the most popular e-books, digital audiobooks, and magazines. You can stream titles with Wi-Fi or mobile data or download them for offline use and access them anytime, anywhere.

LINKEDIN-LEARNING LinkedIn Learning has over 16,000 courses in its library, with new ones constantly being added, taught by hundreds of industry leaders. Courses cover topics from the fields of business, creative industries, and technology, and cover a wide range of technical and soft skills, digital tools, and software titles. With courses on financial literacy, social media, drawing, and music theory, you'll be able to grow and develop in the areas you care about both at and outside of work.

MANGO Learn a new language with the Mango app. Each lesson combines real-life situations and audio from native speakers with simple, clear instructions. The courses are presented with an appreciation for cultural nuance and real-world application that integrates components of vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and culture. Users learn actual conversation, breaking down complex linguistic elements within an audio-visual framework that draws important connections and builds on information they have already learned. There are more than 40 foreign language courses available and 16 English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.

Kids Corner





The perfect puppet Fall into Creativity!

By Michelle Palmer

s the temperatures are cooling down, our children's creative skills are rising up! Their talents range from sewing, cooking, drawing, and even creating a work-ofheart fundraiser.

a fun piece of art based on the

He designed his hand puppet

play "Little Shop of Horrors."



Reader, artist, and a leader

based on the Venus flytrap character. He is full of joy showing the finished product of his newly acquired crafting skills.

Josh is also ten years old and his favorite form of art to pursue is in the kitchen. He has taken an interest in learning how to cook and has been helping to make dinner for his family several times a week. His focus and determination are very appreciated at home and his meals have been enjoyed as he creates great memories.

Valentina is a five-year-old who loves to draw and read. She was inspired by the author Mo Willems and since the pigeon is one of her favorite literary characters, she drew it and colored it on her own. She has loved reading ever

since she was a baby and recently graduated from the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program at the Nutley library.

Siblings Katelyn, Hailey, and Derek worked together to build a heartwarming project. They constructed a lemonade stand, which was donation based, and all their proceeds went to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. At a very young age, these children understand the love in giving to others and helping the world become a better place. ■

Michelle Palmer is the author of a children's book, Brinco Finds His Way Home, which is available at Amazon and Pretty Handy in Nutley.



Creating to help others

OCTOBER 2023 EVENTS CALENDAR

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Sun. Nutley Farmers Market

@Municipal Parking Lot 7, 1 Franklin Terr. This is the last month this year to visit the outdoor Nutley Farmers Market featuring delicious local foods and goods, live music, special events, and a weekly walking group. Time: 9am-2pm For more information visit www. nutleynj.org/farmersmarket

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25, Wed.

Nutley Senior Citizen Club @Parks and Recreation, 44 Park Ave. This club is open for the fall session, meeting every Wednesday. For more information call Eileen Luberto at 973-632-0763

Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Fri. Moms Healing Together: All Recovery Meeting @virtual event

Join for a safe space to discuss the challenges of recovery, pregnancy, and parenting. **Time:** 10am For more information and other All Recovery meeting times visit www.rwjbh.org/ events

Oct. 10, Tue. Dr. George Philhower Presentation

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr. Stockton Room David Wilson, author, historian, and promoter of all things Nutley will be making a onehour illustrated presentation on Dr. George Bronson Philhower, whose start as a "country doctor" in 1886 began a long and most complete pursuit of improving the quality of life in town.

Time: 7-8pm

For more information call 973-667-0405 or visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/calendar

Oct. 13, Fri.

Friday at the Movies @Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr., Stockton Room Join for a screening of Rebecca (1940), the Hitchcock film based on Daphne du Maurier's classic suspense novel. Time: 1-3pm For more information call 973-667-0405 or visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/ calendar

Oct. 14, Sat. Columbus on Trial – Film Screening and Discussion

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr., Children's Room The Nutley Public Library is pleased to welcome award-winning social justice filmmakers Marylou and Jerome Bongiorno. Following the film will be a lively discussion and Q&A. **Time:** 2-4pm For more infor-

mation email Michelle Albert at albert@nutley.bccls.org or visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/ calendar

Oct. 14, Sat. Toddler Sensory Hike

@Essex County Environmental Center, 621-B Eagle Rock Ave., Roseland For children ages 1-5 with caregiver supervision. Bring your



Do You Know the Value of Your Home? With this COMPLIMENTARY MARKET ANALYSIS No obligation. toddlers for a sensory exploration outside with a naturalist. **Time:** 9-10am

Cost: \$30 per family (up to two adults and two children) or \$10 per child, \$12 per adult. For more information and to register visit https://www.essexcountyparks.org/facilities/ environmental-center/calendar/ toddler-sensory-hike-10761

Oct. 16, Mon. Pumpkin Painting

@Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr., Teen Area For grades 6-12. Use paint pens to create your very own unique pumpkin for Halloween to take home. **Time:** 3-4:30pm For more information call 973-667-0405 or visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org/calendar

Nov. 2, Thurs. Nutley Historic Home Series @Nutley Museum, 65 Church St. "Do you own a Lambert home?" This talk and slide



Renee Friscia, Agent 146 Franklin Avenue Nutley, NJ 07110 Bus: 973-667-6600 www.nutleyinsurance.com show focuses on answering this question by covering what makes these homes unique, the common architectural styles, and historical significance. Light refreshments will be served. **Time:** 7:30pm

Nov. 19, Sun.

Nutley Hall of Fame Induction @Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Dr. Cost includes induction ceremony and reception immediately after with assorted food, desserts, coffee, wine, and tea. Time: 2-5pm Cost: \$50 For more information call the Nutley Public Library at

973-667-0406 ext. 2638

Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.[®]

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm[®] under writing requirements.

State Farm Bloomington, IL 2001878

R





Ligresti

DERMATOLOGY

General & Cosmetic Dermatology Serving Adult & Pediatric Patients

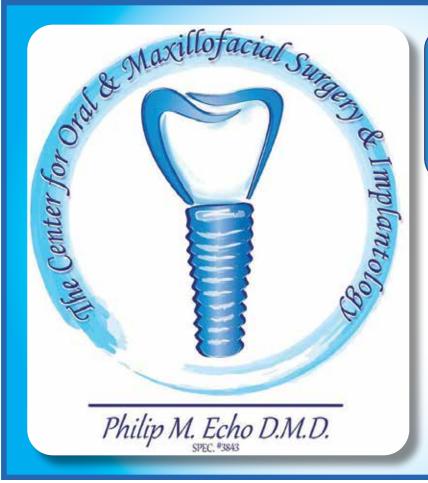
175 Franklin Avenue, Suite 103 (1st floor) Nutley, NJ



Look Great Feel Great

- Surgical Procedures
- Cosmetic Services
- Botox/Dysport
- Dermal Fillers Restylane
- Skin Care Products
- Advanced Allergy Testing
- Microdermabrasion
- Chemical Peels

(973) 759-6569 LigrestiDermatology.com



CT Scan Guided Dental • Implant Placement Extractions • Wisdom Teeth • Joint Disorders (TMJ) Bone & Soft Tissue Grafting • Facial & Oral Trauma Treatment of Tongue Tie • Facial & Oral Pathology Surgical Orthodontics (Exposure of Impacted Teeth) Surgical Endodontics (Apicoectomy)

Dr. Philip M. Echo D.M.D. 187 Washington Ave. Suite 1B • Nutley



On Call For Emergencies - 24 Hours A Day

www.EchoOralSurgery.com

~We Accept Most Dental Insurances~