

NUTLEY JOURNAL

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2020 class graduates



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Lawn signs fete grads



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Teachers hold march



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Photos Courtesy of Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14

Nutley values lead man to the Navy

By Yael Katzwer
Editor

Military service requires dedication, resilience, patriotism and strong foundations, all things that Jason Castellanos has in spades. The Nutley native was June's "Sailor in the Spotlight," an online feature put together by the U.S. Navy's Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14.

Castellanos, who graduated from Nutley High School in 2015, has been in the U.S. Navy for four years and has attained the rank of AWS2, or Naval Aircrewman Helicopter 2.

"Serving my country means holding myself to a higher standard regardless of the task at hand," Castellanos told the Nutley Journal. "Everything I do is not only a representation of myself but a representation of the United States military, so I must always act accordingly and do my best to live up to the standards that the military has set for me."

Castellanos' experience has brought him a great deal of responsibility.

"As a naval aircrewman, I am third in command behind the pilot and copilot," he said. "I am responsible for everything that happens in the cabin, whether that be loading cargo for humanitarian aid missions or monitoring passengers and deliv-

ering them to their destination safely."

Specifically, he conducts airborne mine countermeasures, vertical onboard delivery and training missions on the MH-53E Sea Dragon, the U.S. Navy's primary aerial mine countermeasures aircraft. He is currently assigned to detachment 2A's Safety Department, where he completes routine checks on safety equipment and tracks the training of 92 personnel.

Among his many accomplishments, Castellanos has received awards for Sea Service, Korea Defense and Good Conduct.

"Since arriving in South Korea in January 2020 for his first deployment, AWS2 Castellanos has been a standout amongst his peers," the spotlight announcement read. "In five months he has flown over 150 hours en route to multiple qualifications becoming a vital part of DET 2A's team. AWS2 Castellanos' trajectory will prove to have a significant impact on the MH-53E Aircrew community."

According to Castellanos, joining the Navy was a calling.

"While attending Nutley High School, I always knew I wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself," he said. "My uncle, Angelo Rosa, had a huge influence on my life. He is prior special forces — explosive ordnance division — and let

me spend some time with him in Corona, Calif., and gave me a tour of the naval station. It was there that I decided I was going to enlist."

Castellanos' mother, Erin Castellanos, says she could not be more proud of her son and his life path.

"Although there is a legacy of military in our family, Jay made the selfless decision to join the U.S. Navy on his own," she told the Nutley Journal. "It absolutely fills the entire family with pride to know Jay is serving our great country. As parents, we all want all of our children to reach their full potential. We want to see our boys grow into brave, responsible, hardworking, honest adults. The U.S. Navy encompasses all of these character traits and it instills this in our son daily."

For Jason Castellanos, these character traits he builds in the Navy are a continuation of the traits he began to build as a youth in Nutley.

"Growing up and always playing sports for Nutley made me appreciate being part of a team and working for a common goal," he said. "The Navy instills some of the same ethics as participating in sports just on a larger scale, of course, like hard work, discipline, resilience, facing adversities."

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Class of 2020 graduates from Nutley HS

By Yael Katzwer
Editor

Although Nutley High School seniors couldn't cross the stage or turn their tassels together, there was still an impressive showing of community for the Class of 2020's commencement ceremony, which was broadcast on June 24. The prerecorded ceremony went live at 6 p.m., with nearly 500 viewers all watching together though apart from around Nutley and elsewhere to celebrate NHS' most recent batch of graduates.

"Pomp and Circumstance," the traditional graduation anthem, accompanied the graduation "processional," during which each student's photograph was shown on screen. This was followed by the national anthem and a performance by the NHS choir performing. Next came the speeches, prerecorded in the sun on the school's campus. Despite being held on an online platform, it felt like the high school's past graduations.

Some student speakers, such as senior class President Raj Paghdal, chose to focus on their accomplishments despite the pandemic that canceled many rites of passage that come with the end of high school.

"When thinking of our graduation, I never thought I'd be standing in front of a camera and only a camera," Paghdal said. "I always thought we'd be on the Oval, on the burning hot turf, under the blazing sun, in front of our friends and family, who would look upon us with pride and joy. Obviously that isn't the case, but regardless we still made it."

According to Paghdal, he had found his class's year of graduation symbolic, representing perfect vision and clarity. While struggling with the effect the pandemic had on his schooling, Paghdal has vowed to have 2020 hindsight in remembering all the good things he and his classmates did experience.

"Just as the weather began to grow warm and the fun part of senior year was on the queue, it came to a stop. At that time, we were told two weeks, then a month, and then we were told that school would be closed for the rest of the year. March 13 was by far the worst Friday the 13th, as it would be our last day in school," he said, encouraging his classmates to remember how resilient they are. "Years down the line, let's not remember high school by what we missed out on, but by what we had."

Salutatorian Natasha Marshall had a similar message for her classmates.

"Although graduation this year certainly isn't traditional, this is still a happy and exciting time," she said. "As a class, our life experience has been defined by change. We were born at the beginning of a new millennium; we've seen technology grow and watched as social media platforms evolved into the new standard of communication. And now, as graduating seniors, our lives are filled with transformation like never before."

And Marshall was not just talking about the COVID-19 pandemic when she spoke of change.

"The world is experiencing a major cultural revolution as people around the world are marching and demonstrating in the biggest civil rights movement in history. But we are not unequipped to understand what's taking place in the world around us. Throughout the past four years at Nutley High School, we've been required to take classes in various areas," Marshall said. "It's true that we might never have to solve a calculus problem or analyze a poem in our day-to-day lives, but now more than ever I realize that I didn't just learn a bunch of random facts in my classes."

Drawing examples from her two favorite subjects, Marshall explained how English literature classes taught her to think critically and history classes showed the importance of learning from the past. She encouraged her fellow graduates to think also about the many lessons they learned in school beyond the classroom, such as cooperation, hard work and much more.

"Our high school experiences are just the start of us finding our voices and our places in the world," she said.

Valedictorian Brian Grodzki also urged his peers to draw from all they have learned at Nutley High School as they go out into the world.

"I am so honored to be virtually standing before you all today — at least we don't have to wear sunscreen and bake on the frying pan that is the Oval," he began, injecting levity into the proceedings before getting down to business. "Grades don't equal life experiences. Rather, they're a by-product of goals, ambition, hard work, sacrifice, stress, stress, lots of stress, too much stress. Therefore I want us to turn to our own experiences."

Grodzki drew parallels between his time at NHS and the classic children's book "The Giving Tree," by Shel Silverstein.

"To me, Nutley High School will always

See **NEW ALUMNI**, Page 8



Addressing their classmates at the Nutley High School virtual commencement ceremony for the Class of 2020 on June 24 are senior class President Raj Paghdal, above; salutatorian Natasha Marshall, below; and valedictorian Brian Grodzki, bottom. Each student speaker addressed the challenges of graduating during the pandemic but encouraged their peers to learn from the experience and recognize their own resilience.



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Nutley commissioners address Floyd's death

The Nutley Board of Commissioners, along with Nutley Police Chief Thomas Strumolo, released the following statement on June 2 to express condolences to everyone aggrieved by the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minn.:

"We, like so many others, have watched the disturbing video of George Floyd's arrest in Minneapolis, which led to his untimely death. The entire Nutley community is greatly saddened by this event, as well as the tragic events currently striking our nation.

"The Nutley Board of Commissioners condemn, denounce and reject the actions of the individuals responsible and join in the collective sense of national sorrow that the death of George Floyd has

brought on our society as a whole.

"Police officers, like all public servants, are held to a high standard that has at its foundation empathy and the mutuality of respect. They have chosen a profession like no other and have sworn to uphold the law and protect and serve everyone — regardless of who they are, what they look like or what they believe — at great personal risk for their own lives. The residents of Nutley should rest assured that we will never tolerate the behavior that resulted in Mr. Floyd's death.

"The video is upsetting, disappointing and infuriating. It does not show the policing standards we know and expect in this community. Policing is an honorable profession filled with honorable public ser-

vants who treat all citizens with fairness and equality. However, it is clear we can and will grow as a community and not be afraid to call out injustice. Our police department is committed to protecting life and serving the community, even at the cost of their own life. We reaffirm our commitment to all Nutley residents that we will continue to be a safe and welcoming township for all people regardless of their race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or religion.

"Over the past several days, some peaceful demonstrations in cities across the country have turned violent. We respect everyone's First Amendment rights, however, we are asking our citizens to do their part in helping us protect our

communities by refraining from violence. Our community stands united to condemn the shameful acts exhibited on the video and to urge people to remain engaged in healthy, safe and nonviolent dialogue and discourse. Racism and discrimination have no place in our society.

"We will continue to work to ensure a civil community where everyone is treated equally, the rule of law prevails, and fair and equal justice serves as a guiding principle. People across the country are rightfully demanding justice and accountability, and we believe as Americans that injustice is unacceptable and that justice will be served.

"Finally, in the words of Martin Luther King Jr., 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'"

Belleville Historical Society celebrates Flag Day

Belleville Historical Society member Roger Barnes, a U.S. Army veteran, sets the colors at Sgt. Decatur Dorsey's final resting place on Flag Day, June 14.



Photo Courtesy of Belleville Historical Society

On Flag Day, June 14, the Belleville Historical Society set a flag at the grave site of Civil War Sgt. Decatur Dorsey, who served as the flag carrier for the 39th U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment.

Dorsey was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism at the Battle of the Crater in Virginia on July 30, 1864. Dorsey was the third black American soldier to be awarded the medal, this country's highest military honor.

Dorsey was born into slavery in Maryland and gained his freedom after 20 years; he then enlisted in the Union Army. The regimental flag carrier was an especially dangerous position, a prime and easy target for the enemy. Despite intense enemy fire, Dorsey charged ahead of his regiment and was able to reach the top of the enemy position and plant the Union flag. His citation reads: "Planted his colors on the Confederate works in advance of his regiment, and when the regiment was driven back to the Union works he carried the colors there and bravely rallied the men."

In 2018 the Belleville Historical Society located Dorsey's grave site at Flower Hill Cemetery in North Bergen. Dorsey had settled in Hoboken after the war, where he died in 1891 at age 51. In 2019 the Belleville Historical Society restored Dorsey's white marble military marker as part of a program initiated by the late Belleville Councilman Kevin Kennedy to locate, clean and restore the grave sites of New Jersey's Medal of Honor recipients; seven grave sites have been restored as part of the initiative.

Blood drive honors Rotonda

Commissioner John V. Kelly and the Nutley Department of Public Affairs are partnering with Vitalant Blood Services of New Jersey to conduct a Nutley Community Blood Drive in honor of Nutley resident Anne Rotonda on Thursday, July 16, in the afternoon to early evening.

The drive will be held at the Nutley Parks and Rec Building, 44 Park Ave., Room 300, from 1:30 to 6 p.m. by appointment only.

No walk-ins will be accepted. Safety precautions will be put in place to ensure the health and well-being of all donors and technicians.

Do not donate if you are sick or may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus. All donors must wear a mask or cloth face covering. As always, donors must be

between the ages of 16 and 76, weigh more than 110 pounds, and be in general good health.

In 2013, Rotonda was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. At that time, the Board of Commissioners held the first blood drive in her honor. In 2017 she was diagnosed again with the same disease and in September of 2017 received a bone marrow transplant. Rotonda, who continues her battle with this disease, had been director of the Nutley Special Young Adults organization for more than 38 years.

To schedule an appointment to donate blood at this drive, visit https://donor.cbsblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/52550 or call 877-258-4825.

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Lawn signs celebrate each new NHS graduate



Photos Courtesy of Nutley Public Schools

Nutley High School showed immense pride in its Class of 2020 graduating seniors by delivering specialized lawn signs to each student. For more photos, see Page 20.





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New alumni receive last lessons from educators

(Continued from Page 3)

be my giving tree,” he said, explaining that NHS gave him more and more resources as he grew, both academically and socially. “By this point we have taken so much wood from the tree that we can build our own ships. With all of our experiences, we will set sail far away to colleges, the military or straight into the workforce, if we please.

“Now, as we are ready to set sail on our own, we realize how much is ahead of us. We’re excited for the future, but we’re nervous at the same time. I feel now more than ever we are realizing how much we have taken for granted. We have taken so much from the giving tree that is NHS,” he continued. “Unfortunately, we also had many memories and experiences snatched right away from us. However, this time it is merely a splash of water in our ocean. Our ships will become reinforced from our experiences.”

Just as “The Giving Tree” ends with the boy returning to the tree stump years later, Grodzki exhorted his peers to return to NHS when they can and to remember all the school has done for them.

Drawing from a quote by Dante Alighieri, NHS Principal Denis Williams told the Class of 2020: “This was not how we wanted to part, but congratulations and the stars will shine for you again.”

Always an educator, Williams left his former students with one final lesson.

“As you stand on the cusp of new journeys in a world fraught with contention, my last message to you will be to remind you of the mindsets that are needed to be successful people and citizens in a democracy,” he said. “Mindset one, humility. You need to be aware of what you know and what you don’t know, and you need to be aware of the limitations of your viewpoints. Two, courage. Be willing to stand up and express against the majority and express your views even if they are unpopular.

“Three, empathy, to have an awareness of the need to be actively entertaining different views from yours and to gain insights from them,” he continued. “Four, integrity. Hold to yourself the standards that you expect from others. And finally, perseverance, to be willing to work through difficulties, frustrations, to not give up at the first sign of problems. We need all of you to hopefully embed this in your souls and in your mindsets. We need you for our futures.”

Board of Education President Charles Kucinski also spoke about the graduates’ futures and he urged them to continue to remain strong in the face of seemingly insurmountable difficulties.

“Don’t allow the past four months to define your high school years. There are hundreds of wonderful moments you will relive about your Nutley education. You will now begin designing your future,” he said. “We know you have been inspired to dream and encourage you to follow an open pathway to learning.”

Also giving some advice, Kucinski told



Above, the Nutley High School choir performs at the virtual graduation ceremony.



Giving some final words of wisdom to the Class of 2020 graduates on June 24 are, clockwise from above, Superintendent of Schools Julie Glazer, Nutley High School Principal Denis Williams and Board of Education President Charles Kucinski.



the graduating students to trust themselves, believe and know that they each matter, be kind, and be confident.

“If you can graduate during COVID-19 and a world pandemic, there isn’t anything you can’t do,” he said.

Like previous speakers, Superintendent of Schools Julie Glazer lamented that everyone could not celebrate together at this time, but feted the Class of 2020 and their many accomplishments despite the recent struggles.

“Today we honor your years of study, hard work and accomplishments. We also thank all of those who have supported you during your academic career in Nutley: the faculty, staff, parents, grandparents, siblings and your friends,” she said. “We talk a lot about what it means to be from Nutley, to be ‘Nutley stronger.’ In the past few months, you’ve truly shown us the beliefs and values that represent the maroon and gray.”

In the Class of 2020’s response to the

novel coronavirus, Glazer said the students showed resilience, grace and grit.

“The Class of 2020 has been achieving great things since you first stepped into a classroom, and now you’ve demonstrated your strength to continue to accomplish in these unprecedented times,” she said. “Enjoy your success. Be proud. We’re proud of you and everything that you’ve achieved so far. We look forward to all of the extraordinary things you’re going to do in the future, too.”

NJSIAA provides summer workout guidelines for schools



A member of the 2019 girls tennis team at Nutley High School prepares to serve the ball.

New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association marked the initial step toward a fall-season return to high school sports with the release of initial guidelines for summer workouts, formally known as the “summer recess period,” according to a June 19 release from the NJSIAA.

“The governor’s announcement today regarding youth and recreation sports is another positive step in our collective effort to return to play. It’s important to note, however, that while these particular guidelines are instructive, they don’t directly apply to high school athletics,” the NJSIAA said in a June 15 statement. “Any scholastic sports program is part of the overall curriculum and so must be appropriately in sync with all other facets of the school. High school athletics cannot function independently from schools — which, of course, are currently focused on the safe return of more 1.3 million students, including 283,000 high school student-athletes. In short, scholastic sports present far more pressing and complex considerations than do youth and recreation-level programs.

“NJSIAA strongly believes that with summer workouts starting in July, student athletes will have more than enough time to prepare for the fall season.”

If member schools wish, they may begin summer workouts on July 13; this phase will continue until at least July 26. Additional guidelines and specific timing for subsequent phases are pending, and details will be shared no less than two weeks before the next phase begins. Start dates for all fall sports remain unchanged, though NJSIAA continues to emphasize that all dates are subject to revision. Full guidelines for the summer

recess period are accessible online at www.njsiaa.org/events-news-media/news/njsiaa-provides-return-play-guidelines-phase-1.

“These guidelines represent the first of a succession of steps toward meeting our return-to-play targets,” NJSIAA Chief Operating Officer Colleen Maguire said on June 19. “But, it’s important that we take a disciplined approach and stay mindful of health and safety concerns for all.”

Established by NJSIAA’s pair of COVID-19 task forces, the guidelines follow Gov. Phil Murphy’s Executive Order No. 149 and are in accordance with New Jersey Department of Education, New Jersey Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Federation of State High School Associations guidelines. Coaches may continue virtual contact with players until the beginning of the summer recess period.

“Unlike youth and recreation sports — which are operating on an accelerated schedule — high school sports must remain in sync with our schools,” NJSIAA Assistant Director Tony Maselli said June 19. “Scholastic athletics are part of the school curriculum; they don’t operate independently. As the most densely populated state and one that was significantly impacted by COVID-19 during the spring, New Jersey is working to safely return to school more than 1.5 million teachers and students — including 283,000 scholastic athletes — without causing a significant spike. Our guidelines provide a staged approach to those schools that wish to move forward during July. And, at the same time, they give student athletes time to ease into more rigorous activities.”

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Nutley High School celebrates the Class of 2020

The following students graduated from Nutley High School as members of the Class of 2020 on June 24:

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Nadine Imad Ahmad
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Grace Aristy
David J. Arrigoni
Karen M. Arrobo
Imran Ali Arshad
Spencer M. Austin

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Troy T. Batiller
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Scott Bolton
Mohraiel A. Botros
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Malik Brantley
Jessica Britton
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Gianna M. Bruzzi
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Daniella K. Cabezas

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John Edgell D. Campomanes
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Anthony Cardenas
Leonardo F. Carrillo
Michelle Carrion
Jacqueline L. Caruso
Juliana M. Caruso
Kaylin Castellanos
Devin Cristian Castillo
Justin M. Chaves
Ja Xian Chen
Te-Shan Leo Cheng
Isabella Cifelli
Joseph C. Coffaro
Felisha A. Colavito
Nicholas D. Complitano
Matthew Joseph Connor
Ethan John Connors
Dante Contella
Dominic J. Contella
Donato Vincent Costa
Jack C. Coulson
Lyna A. Crane
Anabella Cruz
Brianna Celeste Cruz
Genelle F. Cruz
Nicholas E. Cruz

Alexis L. Cuccinello Montanez
Kayla D. D'Auria
Jesus M. Damiron
Bhuvan P. Dave
Donita P. de Dios
Alberto J. De Leon
Alexa De Toma
Rocco T. Della Luna
Ava L. Demerjian
Emma J. Demerjian
Skylar L. Demikoff
Nicky DePalma
Anthony N. DePersio
Krishna S. Desai
Justin P. Devlin
Daniel Alexander DiAntonio
Tyler W. Dick
Dominic Anthony DiNorscio
Nicholas J. Discepolo
Julius Disla
Kevin Dong
Brendan C. Donohoe
Nicholas A. Duca
Olivia L. Duffe
Timothy Kyung-Su Dunkley
Yusuf Ali Elnaggar
Justin Nicholas Eltzholtz
Nicole M. Eltzholtz
Nicholas Thomas Ferraioli

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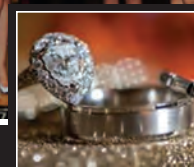
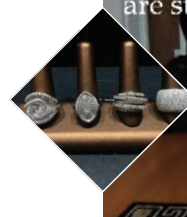
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Welcome to a new batch of Nutley High alumni

(Continued from previous page)

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Alvaro Patricio Flores
Nicole Andrea Flores
Kaylie H. Flynn Murray
Isabella Fogle
Alexa J. Forcer
Samantha Gabriele
Andrew Gamil
Eryn M. Garcia
Oliver Garcia
Jenny Gavazi
Gabriel Gencarelli
Maria C. Gencarelli
Dylan F. Goedel
Alexis M. Gomez
Christian Angel Gonzalez
Jacob Salvatore Gonzalez
Shannon J. Granelli
Louis M. Greiss
Tyler Anthony Grisanti
Brian A. Grodzki
Gabrielle Gucciardo
Gail K. Gugliuzza
Sanjana Gupta
Rachel M. Hamilton
Ava Harabedian
Robert J. Harbison

Peter G. Haverick
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Mary C. Mankowich
Latifa Vanessa Marcano
Gianna G. Marinaro
Natasha A. Marshall
Cynthia A. Martinez
Brandon J.D. Martins
Maria G. Marucci
Jean Paul Maruri
John D. Matrona
Owen C. Mc Cormack
Julia A. McCaffrey
Brian McCormack
Liam McDonald
Alexa E. McNulty
Jayson Mejia
Joseph S. Melillo
Ivan Kobe G. Mendoza
Clara Mae M. Mercado
Alexis C. Merritt
Niko Meza
Alyssa Marie Mielnicki
Cecelia Giovanna Mielnicki
Daniel Miletic
Samuel M. Minera
Gary J. Morgan
Mariam Morsi
Marc Anthony Mullany
Christopher D. Mulligan
Susan G. Muratovic



Continued on next page

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New Nutley graduates head off to bright futures

(Continued from previous page)

Emma R. Murphy
Chase E. Nicolette
Jonathan Nieves
Michael F. Nocerino
Gabriella P. Nogueira
Ryan C. O'Connor
Giovanna Gabriella Ocasio
Alyssa Crystal Olivo
Emory Osmani
Aidan Ozdemir
Alyssa L. Padilla



Raj G. Paghda
Nicolas W. Palase
Sonia Parikh
Alexander Paris
Aakash H. Patel
Anjali N. Patel
Dev Patel
Khushi N. Patel
Jugal H. Pathak
Kirill N. Pavlov
Alyssa N. Perrota
Madison A. Peters
Jenna A. Petracco
Daniel N. Pikhart
Richard D. Pitts
Steven Pizzarelli
Dean M. Polewka
Andrew M. Ponzoni
Gabrielle S. Posternock
Vincent Prata
Alexandra Gillian Protter
Jamell Magali Quiles
Angelina J. Quinones
Ricardo F. Racines
Katharina Ava Rakauckas
Irish Ramsthaler
Zeyad M. Rashed
Devin P. Reed
Smeilin Smith Reyes Abad
Davia M. Ritacco
Gabriella Rizzo
Lucia R. Rizzuto
Richard J. Robinson

Natasha Grace Rodrigues
Christian G. Roser
Ashley M. Rossi
Monica A. Rubens
Michelle Ruiz
Philip A. Ruiz
Erik A. Saldana
Sarah O. Salupo
Gianna Sanchez
Frank Vincent Santomauro
Trevor Santos
Aislinn E. Scarpelli
Abigail G. Scheidel
Cameron J. Schilp
Aaron D. Schmitt
Saskia Schuemann
Jake Scirica
Jessica M. Scotti
Nicholas A. Scotti
Victoria P. Scotti
Samantha Marcella Scuello
Mia R. Scutti
Nicholas A. Serafino
Laura Elise Serrano
Bryant Shang
Annabelle M. Shanley
Paula B. Sholander
Domenic P. Silvagnoli
Jalen D. Skelton
Amandine M. Soho
Ryan Sokolowski
Brendan T. Somers
Nicholas Aiden Soto

Sophie L. Soto
Timothy Robert Soto
Anais St. Amant
Michael J. Suriani
Julia Amelia Szczechowicz
Shristey Tamang
Nicholle Tamara
Gerard Teresi
Julia K. Thompson
Abigail J. Thurston
Jayden A. Tolentino
Dayanna Torres
Sofia G. Torres
Gerard L. Trabucco
Ryan A. Turano
Jesus A. Ucancial
Robert Zoltan Valente
Christy Marie Valenzuela
Brandon A. Velasquez
Joshua Velez
Victoria A. Ventura
Severino K. Villanueva
Ariana M. Vlasakakis
Sophy A. Vuong
Kelly N. Waddleton
Isabel R. Walrath
Natalie M. Wellmann
Kanjah Tyasia Williams
Steven Wong
Matthew D. Wrobel
Ryan G. Ycaza
Caitlyn E. Yozzo
Sean Elton A. Zamora

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Free rabies vaccination clinic

The township of Nutley will host a free rabies immunization clinic for cats and dogs on Monday, July 13, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the firehouse at 228 Chestnut St.

Dogs must be properly leashed and cats must be in carriers. This is a three-year vaccination.

As of January 2005, the vaccination is required to procure a license for a cat.

Dog licenses may be purchased during clinic hours after presentation of valid vaccination certificates.

Social distancing and face masks for humans are required.

IN MEMORIAM

- **ADAMO** – Kathleen, of Toms River, formerly of Nutley and Wayne; June 13. Loved Christmas, cats and gardening. Wife, sister, mother, grandmother, 65.
- **ADRAGNA** – Frank, of Bradley Beach, formerly of Nutley; June 18. Army vet. Contractor, business owner. Widower, father, grandfather, great-grandfather.
- **GARDNER** – Carl R., of Nutley; June 17. Retired accountant. Member of Nutley Third Half Club and Proponent Credit Union. Brother, 80.
- **MILICI** – Mary, of Naples, Fla., formerly of Nutley and Lyndhurst; June 4. Loved painting, knitting, baking. Widow, mother, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother.
- **PALESTINA** – Dorothea, of Nutley, formerly of Newark; May 30. Mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother, 94.
- **PANDOLFI** – Emma, formerly of Nutley, Spotswood; June 13. Retired assembler, Proctor & Gamble. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 98.
- **PELUSO** – Michael G., of San Diego, Calif., formerly of Nutley; May 31. Cash poster for Special Care, medical supply company. Brother, uncle, 60.

In Memoriam is a feature compiled by the news staff from various sources. We also provide the opportunity for families and funeral directors to publish a more extensive, special notice about their loved one called an obituary. These notices are published on our website immediately and then in the next edition of this newspaper. To place a paid obituary send an email to obits@thelocalsource.com or fax to 908-688-0401. Family and friends' submissions must include sender's name, address, phone and the name of the funeral home. Call 908-686-7850 for assistance.



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AT THE LIBRARY

Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Drive in Nutley, holds events for residents of all ages. For more information, visit www.nutleypubliclibrary.org or contact library@nutleynj.org.

Library reopening

The Nutley Public Library staff is excited to begin serving residents again. As the library reopening plan begins, patrons are permitted to pick up materials at the library's main entrance.

Requests can be made online at nutley.bccls.org or by phone at 973-667-0405, ext. 2604. Pickup times are Mon-

days from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 to 8 p.m., and Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Only Nutley items will be available for pickup. All patrons must wear masks when they arrive to pick up materials and must respect social-distancing rules. No patrons will be allowed in the building at this time.

Residents who need a library card, can apply for digital cards at nutleypubliclibrary.org.

Teen volunteering

Teen volunteering opportunities are

available throughout the summer. Visit teenservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to find out ways teens can earn community service hours by helping the Nutley Public Library virtually. These opportunities are for students entering grades nine through 12 this coming fall.

Weekly events

- **Maker Mondays:** Check out the library's Facebook page and Youth Services website each Monday for a fun maker activity to do at home. This is for all ages and skill levels. Visit youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org/www.facebook.com/nutleypubliclibrary.

- **Virtual Babygarten:** Each Tuesday at 10 a.m., children and caregivers enjoy books, rhymes and playtime. This is for children ages 23 months and under. Sign up online at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password.

- **Teens Summer Club:** Hang out with other teens playing games and making crafts on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. There will be new activities each week aimed at tweens and teens entering grades six through 12. Check online at teenservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org for details. This is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

- **Virtual Reading Buddies:** Kids can team up with a teen volunteer to practice reading and speaking skills on Thursdays at 3 p.m. For additional details, visit youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org

Dungeons and Dragons

Students in grades six through eight are invited to discover the awesome world of Dungeons and Dragons at virtual meetings on Mondays, July 6 and 27, at 6:30 p.m. Contact nutleypubliclibrarycyadepartment@gmail.com or 973-667-0405, ext. 2623, for program information and registration.

Virtual DISH!

The library's Monday-night cookbook club will meet July 6 at 7 p.m. Members will choose, prepare at home and present a dish. Participants will then gather online to discuss one another's recipes and cooking techniques, and share stories and culture. To register, visit nutleypubliclibrary.org/dish-cookbook-club. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

Healthy cooking

Children ages 6 through 12 can make healthy meals and snacks with Nutley ShopRite registered dieticians Stephanie Bini and Rebecca Zeltmann on Tuesdays, July 7, 14 and 21, at noon as part of the "Virtual Children's Healthy Cooking Class."

Space is limited, so each child will be allowed to attend only one session. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive recipe and ingredients list, Zoom program link, and password. Please advise if your child has food allergies.

PropBox Players

On Wednesdays, July 8, 15 and 22, at 10:30 a.m., PropBox Players theater company presents a virtual program with Michele Traina. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password. This is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

'I Am Big Bird'

Join an online discussion of the award-winning film "I Am Big Bird: The Caroll Spinney Story" on Zoom on Thursday, July 9, at 7 p.m. For nearly 50 years, Caroll Spinney was the man behind Sesame Street's Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch. The film is available to borrow via Hoopla with a library card.

To join, register in advance online by going to nutleypubliclibrary.org/online-filmdiscussion.

Youth chat and hangout

Children entering grades four through six are invited to virtually chat about a book, play games or just hang out on Thursday, July 9, at 6:30 p.m.

This month's book is "The Wishing Spell," by Chris Colfer. Students should read the book prior to attending the meeting. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password.

STEAM story time

Attend a virtual STEAM story time for all ages on Friday, July 10, at 10:30 a.m. There will be stories and a hands-on activity using materials found in the home. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive project instructions, Zoom program link and password.

Continued on next page

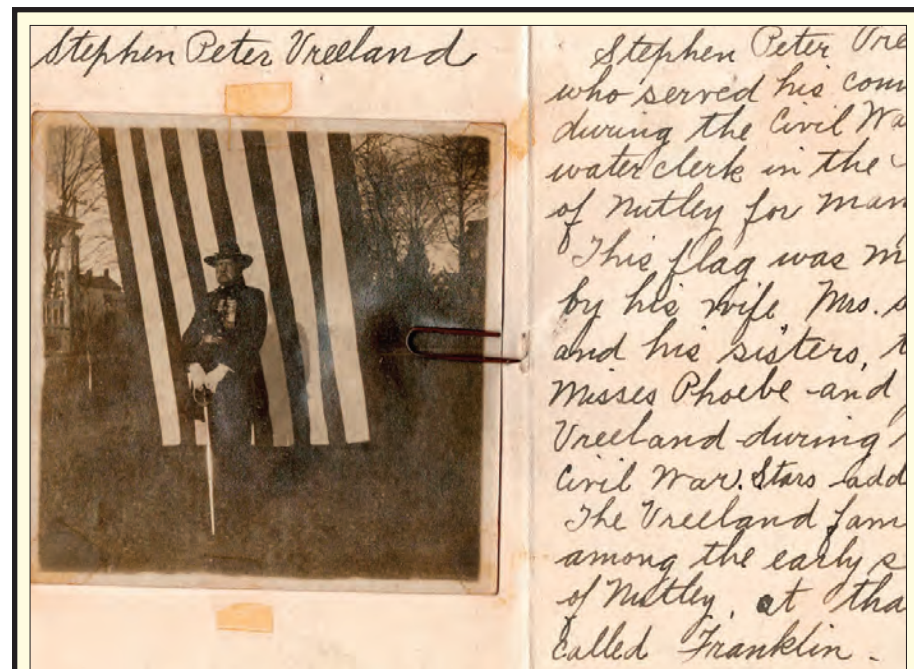


Photo Courtesy of Nutley Historical Society and Museum

IT'S A GRAND OLD FLAG — Flag Day is celebrated each year on June 14 to commemorate the adoption of the U.S. flag in 1777, which makes the flag older than the Constitution. In this old photo, recently shared by the Nutley Historical Society and Museum, Nutley's — then Franklin's — own Stephen Peter Vreeland, who served in the Civil War, poses in front of a 34-star flag made by his wife and sisters.



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AT THE LIBRARY

(Continued from previous page)

Virtual Techsplorers Club

The Virtual Techsplorers Club, for students in grades three through six, will meet Saturdays, July 11 and 25, at 10 a.m. to explore STEM projects. Space is limited. Each child will be allowed to attend only one session. July 11 will be "Marble Run Madness," and July 25 will be "Secrets of Cryptology." Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive project instructions, Zoom program link and password. This is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

Lego mania

Meet up with Lego fans and work on a basic building challenge using bricks available in your home on Monday, July 13, at 4 p.m. The Lego Club is recommended for kindergarteners through fifth-graders. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password.

'Loving Vincent'

Due to popular demand, the library has added a new discussion on Thursday, July 16, at 7 p.m. of "Loving Vincent" as a continuation of the May discussion. Though it is not required, attendees are asked to watch "Loving Vincent: The Impossible Dream," a documentary about the making of the film "Loving Vincent." The films are

available to borrow with your library card on Hoopla. Register in advance at nutleypubliclibrary.org/onlinefilmdiscussion.

Take and make Saturdays

Pick up a craft project from the library that can be done at home on Saturdays, July 11, 18 and 25. Each child will be given one craft kit while supplies last. Check youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org for details.

Ozobot workshop

Learn all about fun little bots and the incredible things they can do at an Ozobot virtual workshop on Monday, July 20, at 2 p.m. This workshop is aimed at kindergarteners through fifth-graders. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password. This is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

Pajama story time

Snuggle up and hear some favorite fairy tales in this cozy story time open to all ages on Monday, July 20, at 6:30 p.m. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password.

Bingo!

Join a virtual bingo game night for adults, with the chance to win gift cards, on Monday, July 20, at 7 p.m. Registra-

tion is required and space is limited. This program is available for Nutley residents ages 18 and older. To register, visit nutleypubliclibrary.org/bingo-game-night-adult. This is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

'Don't Overthink It'

Join a virtual after-dinner book talk on Wednesday, July 22, at 7 p.m. In addition to discussing "Don't Overthink It," by Anne Bogel, which is available for download via Hoopla, there will be a gift card raffle. To register, visit nutleypubliclibrary.org/after-dinner-book-talk.

'Fetch' a graphic novel

Join the graphic novel and comic book club for adults for an online discussion of "Fetch, How a Bad Dog Brought Me Home," by Nicole J. Georges, on Thursday, July 23, at 7 p.m.

This graphic novel memoir, beautifully penned and illustrated by Georges, will resonate with anybody who has ever had a less than perfectly behaved pet. The graphic novel memoir is available to borrow via Hoopla. Register in advance at nutleypubliclibrary.org/graphicnovel-club.

Yoga story time

Join Miss Ali for a special story time that includes gentle yoga instruction for all ages on Friday, July 24, at 10:30 a.m.

Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive Zoom program link and password. This is sponsored by the Friends of the Nutley Public Library.

Painting class

Paint with Pinot's Palette of Nutley in a Zoom class to raise funds for the Friends of the Nutley Public Library. For ages 5 through 12, the class will be on Wednesday, July 29, at 10:30 a.m. Admission is charged. Contact the library for more information.

Wolves and bears, oh my!

Environmental scientist, Nutley author and expert outdoorsman Joey Bee will provide a live Zoom presentation on Wednesday, July 29, at 7 p.m. about his experiences researching critical grizzly bear habitats and tracking the summer movement of wolves.

Register for "Research Scientists, Wolves and Bears, Oh My!" at <https://bccls.libcal.com/event/6799773>.

Story time with Dudek

Meet local author Ilene Dudek at a virtual story time on Friday, July 31, at 10:30 a.m. Hear some of her Little Ant stories, play games and do a craft. This event is for all ages. Sign up at youthservices.nutleypubliclibrary.org to receive project instructions, Zoom program link and password.



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Clara Maass kicks of Pride Month with celebration

On June 1, Clara Maass Medical Center hosted a socially distant celebration of National Pride Month with a 15-car caravan that traveled around the campus, as well as a party on the top of the parking deck with music played by DJ Rich.

The brief program included remarks from Belleville Mayor Michael Melham and CMMC President and CEO Mary Ellen Clyne. A prayer of inclusion was shared by the Rev. Joel Hubbard of Park United Methodist Church of Bloomfield.



Photos Courtesy of Clara Maass Medical Center



NJDEP awards \$48,616.27 grant to Nutley Township

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is awarding \$19.4 million in annual Clean Communities grants to help municipalities and counties remove litter to beautify neighborhoods, improve water quality and enhance quality of life, Commissioner Catherine McCabe announced June 10.

In total, the DEP is awarding \$17.3 million to eligible municipalities and \$2.1 million to the state's 21 counties. The program is funded by a legislated user-fee on manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors that produce litter-generating products.

"Clean Communities grants help municipalities and counties with the important task of removing unsightly litter, often from roadways and around stormwater collection systems, to enhance quality of life," McCabe said.

"Beautifying our communities through these types of cleanups helps improve water quality and natural resources while also protecting wildlife and their habitats."

The nonprofit New Jersey Clean Communities Council oversees the reporting requirements for the program. Disbursements are based on housing units and miles of municipally owned roadways.

"Municipalities and counties are strongly encouraged to use these grants to pay for volunteer and paid cleanups, badly needed equipment purchases, enforcement activities and education," council Executive Director Sandy Huber said. "We are grateful for funding that helps keep New Jersey clean. We are proud to serve as an educational resource for communities, as we drive many of our cam-

paigns to engage the younger generations to help mold positive, long-term behaviors toward discarding litter."

Essex County will receive \$68,504.47. Grants to Essex County municipalities are \$56,264.28 to Belleville, \$76,332.36 to Bloomfield, \$13,968.79 to Caldwell, \$21,884.99 to Cedar Grove, \$103,656.54 to East Orange, \$5,750.01 to Essex Fells, \$7,488.86 to Fairfield, \$11,811.27 to Glen

Ridge, \$82,986.45 to Irvington, \$55,487.39 to Livingston, \$38,446.41 to Maplewood, \$39,750.98 to Millburn, \$67,855.82 to Montclair, \$404,693.98 to Newark, \$13,053.86 to North Caldwell, \$48,616.27 to Nutley, \$45,675.15 to Orange, \$10,554.50 to Roseland, \$27,397.56 to South Orange, \$24,003.81 to Verona, \$20,518.55 to West Caldwell and \$73,627.62 to West Orange.

County cancels summer concert series, fireworks

The 2020 Essex County Summer Music Concert Series and Fireworks Spectaculars have been canceled because of the coronavirus, a June 1 press release from the county announced.

Essex County traditionally has hosted three Fireworks Spectaculars in Branch

Brook and Weequahic parks in Newark and Brookdale Park in Bloomfield/Montclair to celebrate Independence Day. In recent years, the summer concert series has included about 30 different events that have included a variety of music genres, cover bands and daylong festivals.



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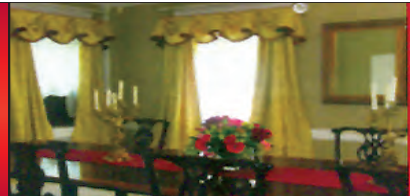
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Area teachers unite to march for black lives



Photo Courtesy of Joy Yagid



Photo Courtesy of Joy Yagid



Photo Courtesy of Joy Yagid

MARCHING FOR BLACK LIVES — South Orange-Maplewood School District educators Stephanie Rivera, T.J. Whitaker, Willy Sumner and Greg Tuttle helped to organize the first statewide New Jersey Teachers for Black Lives Rally and March on Monday, June 15. In addition to South Orange-Maplewood, educators from Millburn, Montclair, Livingston, Irvington, West Orange, East Orange, Newark, Verona and Nutley participated in the rally.



Photo Courtesy of Aidan Romanau



Photo Courtesy of Aidan Romanau



Photo Courtesy of Joy Yagid



Photo Courtesy of Stephanie Rivera

STUDENT UPDATE

Nguyen earns accolades

Andrea Nguyen, of Belleville, has earned year-end recognition for academic work at Albright College, located in Reading, Pa. Nguyen is studying fashion and merchandising at Albright and is a graduate of Belleville High School. She has earned the David C. Tanger Spirit of Service Memorial Award and the Leonard Vandriel Memorial Award.

The David C. Tanger Spirit of Service Memorial Award was established through gifts from the Class of 1997 in honor of the life and memory of David C. Tanger, director of food services of Albright College, to provide an annual cash award to an Albright College student who best exemplifies Tanger's character, spirit and service. The annual income for the Leonard Vandriel Memorial fund is divided equally between two juniors who have demonstrated loyalty and leadership as members of the Albright College food service student staff during their freshman, sophomore and junior years.

Greig joins ALD

Edward Greig, of Nutley, has been inducted into the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society at Becker College, located in Worcester and Leicester, Mass. Greig is pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in interactive media design, with a concentration in computer game design.

Alpha Lambda Delta is a national honor society that recognizes academic excellence during a student's first year in college.

Berkeley College honors

Many Essex County residents were named to the president's and dean's lists at Berkeley College for the winter 2020 semester.

Students named to the president's list include Belleville's Najat Boudaher, Gustavo Coello, Nicole Galioto and Mia Hernandez; and Nutley's Gabrielle Aliotta, Doris DeLucia, Lizt Gallardo and Daniel Molina.

Students named to the dean's list include Belleville's Elly Barbosa, Ryan

Bates, Kaylah Crawford, Carlos Flores, Karl Guillermo and Allison Llerena; and Nutley's Kristin Collins and Jose Ferreira.

Berkeley College students who achieve a grade-point average of 4.0 with a minimum of 12 academic credits qualify for the president's list. Students who achieve a GPA of 3.5 or better with a minimum of 12 academic credits qualify for the dean's list.

Ziskin earns degree

Zachary Ziskin, of Nutley, has graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in interactive media design, with a concentration in game development and programming, from Becker College, located in Worcester and Leicester, Mass. Ziskin was one of more than 430 students recognized at a virtual commencement celebration.

He has also been named to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester. The dean's list recognizes all full-time students whose term grade-point average is 3.5 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete or withdrawal/failing grades.

Flores, Ly earn doctorates

Belleville residents Bernadine Flores and Whitney Ly both earned Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the University of the Sciences, located in Philadelphia, Pa., on May 20. Flores also minored in pharmaceutical and health care business. Ly graduated magna cum laude.

Flores and Ly were also both named to the dean's list for the fall 2019 semester. Selection for this award is based on completing and passing all assigned courses with no grade below a C and attaining an academic average of at least 3.4 for courses taken in the semester.

Montanari earns master's

Anthony S. Montanari, of Nutley, earned a Master of Accountancy degree from the University of Scranton, located in Scranton, Pa., on May 30.

St. Amant wins award

Students and adult leaders received the state's most prestigious award in the arts at the 40th anniversary of the New Jersey

Governor's Awards in Arts Education on June 26. This virtual event recognized 70 students and 15 adult leaders who have demonstrated excellence in and dedication to arts education.

Anais St. Amant, from Nutley High School, won a High School Scholarship Award; St. Amant was nominated for the award by Art Educators of New Jersey.

The virtual awards ceremony featured award-winning storyteller and alumna Queen Nur as the master of ceremonies, alumni guest speakers, performances from past and present award winners, and a visual arts exhibit.

Laaguiby graduates

Zachary Laaguiby, of Nutley, graduated from the University of Vermont, located in Burlington, Vt., with a Bachelor of Science in neuroscience on May 17.

Best among the best

Terrence Best, a sociology and anthropology major from Belleville, has made the dean's list at Monmouth College, located in Monmouth, Ill., for the spring 2020 semester. Making the list requires a grade-point average of at least 3.5 for the semester.

Lamond to attend Albright

Sofia Lamond, of Nutley, has committed to attend Albright College for the fall 2020 semester. A graduate of Nutley High School, Lamond plans to study sociology and criminology at Albright, which is located in Reading, Pa.

Perez pursues research

Krystal Perez, of Belleville, is one of 16 Albright College students from various academic disciplines participating in Albright Creative Research Experience projects this summer. A graduate of Belleville High School majoring in fashion and psychology at Albright, Perez is working on a Charles James study with Joycelyn Burdett, an assistant professor of fashion design.

Through ACRE projects, undergraduate students conduct research or pursue creative endeavors outside of regular

semester sessions. Student proposals must be accepted by a faculty review board and are rewarded with stipends. In addition to their research, all ACRE recipients share their progress during virtual ACRE events and weekly Zoom meetings, June 3 through July 29. Finished work is expected to be presented in one or more presentations this fall.

Mallette earns recognition

Nia Raquel Mallette, of Belleville, was named to the dean's list at Central Methodist University, located in Fayette, Mo., for the spring 2020 semester. To attain this honor, a student must earn a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or better.

Conca, DiCamillo excel

Nutley residents Melanie Conca and Lauren DiCamillo were named to the dean's high honors list at Connecticut College, located in New London, Conn., for the spring 2020 semester. Both are members of the Class of 2023. Conca has not yet declared a major; DiCamillo is majoring in film studies.

Acclaim at SUNY Canton

Alexa A. Parigi, a Nutley resident majoring in finance, earned president's list honors at SUNY Canton during the spring 2020 semester.

Brendan J. McCormack, a Nutley resident majoring in business administration, earned dean's list honors at the school.

President's list recognizes students who achieve a grade-point average of 3.75 or greater, and the dean's list recognizes students who earn a GPA between 3.25 and 3.74.

Sullivan makes dean's list

Shane Sullivan, of Nutley, has been named to the dean's list at Emerson College, located in Boston, Mass., for the spring 2020 semester. Sullivan is majoring in media arts production and is a member of the Class of 2021.

The requirement to make Emerson's dean's list is a grade-point average of 3.7 or higher.

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Class of 2020 puts accomplishments on display



Photos Courtesy of Nutley Public Schools

Nutley High School went the extra step to celebrate its graduating seniors by delivering specialized lawn signs to each student. For more photos, see Page 6.



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