

# Township of Nutley

County of Essex, New Jersey

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THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Hereby Issue this Proclamation on October 4, 2022

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## Proclamation

### TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY

**The Mayor and the Board of Commissioners hereby issue this proclamation:**

**WHEREAS**, Anthony J. (Tony) Iannarone, born December 15, 1930 and a citizen of Nutley since 1959, was appointed by then Mayor Carmen A. Orechio in the month of September of 1972, to fill the four (4) remaining months of an unexpired term as a member of the Board of Trustees (the Board) of the Nutley Public Library (the Library); and,

**WHEREAS**, thereafter, Tony has been reappointed to the Board for ten (10), five (5) year terms by Mayors Carmen Orechio, Harry Chenoweth, Garry Furnari, Peter C. Scarpelli, Joanne Cocchiola, Alphonse Petracco, and Dr. Joseph P. Scarpelli; and,

**WHEREAS**, in September 2022, Tony, affectionately known by the staff as “Mr. I”, completed fifty (50) years as a Board member, longer than any elected or appointed board member in the history of Nutley, has served as Vice President, and has served for thirty-six (36) years as President; and,

**WHEREAS**, working with his other Board members and Library staff, the Library has been transformed from a depository and circulator of books and phonograph records into a fully computerized information center; and,

**WHEREAS**, some of the highlights of the Library’s transformation occurring during Tony’s tenure as President include:

- Completion of a \$2.5 million expansion
- Extension of service to sixty (60) hours a week for both adults and children
- The first Essex County library to join the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS)
- Greatly expanded facilities and materials
- Complete computerization
- Many new programs for all ages, including hundreds of children
- Establishment of the Friends of the Nutley Public Library of which Tony is a founding member and for which he attended to their incorporation and 501c(3) IRS charitable status
- Gala township events attended by hundreds to honor Hoffmann-LaRoche, Christopher Columbus Cinque-Centennial, and the Library’s Centennial

- Hosting of additional important events, such as Nutley Hall of Fame inductions, Rotary Club dinner for new teachers, Women's Month programs
- Establishment of permanent gift funds presently totaling more than \$530,000
- Acquisition of a Steinway studio grand piano
- Monthly art or photography and other exhibits
- Obtained a state grant to build a handicap ramp and retaining walls
- Guided the Library through the COVID-19 pandemic through virtual programming and early re-opening; and,

**WHEREAS,** Tony's greatest contribution to the Library are these most important principles that characterize his leadership:

- The Library is an integral part of the community
- Cooperative and transparent relationships with the Board of Commissioners and educators
- The Library is a welcoming place where the needs of patrons are paramount
- Having the Library serve as a cultural and information center, not just a circulator of materials
- Moving forward in a measured way to keep pace with technological advances and cultural changes
- Building and maintaining an excellent staff and letting them know they are appreciated
- Trustees are not librarians
- Leading by example; and,

**WHEREAS,** for the first thirty-eight (38) years of his tenure at the Library, Tony enjoyed the support of his beloved wife of fifty-five (55) years, Ruth Aitken Iannarone, and continues to enjoy their three (3) children: Lisa, Brian and David and seven (7) grandchildren: Elyse, Kaitlin, Mathew, Kimberly, Tess, Mary and Daniel,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED,** that the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley extend their congratulations and best wishes on Tony's attaining his fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) anniversary as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Nutley Public Library, thank him for his continued selfless and dedicated service to the Township, not only through the Library, but also through his many other community activities, and on October 16, 2022, do hereby proclaim the name of the children's room of the Nutley Public Library as the "Anthony J. Iannarone, Esq. Children's Room."