

# TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hereby Issue This Proclamation on October 18, 2016

### PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Zachary Roberts Sebek is a member of the Boy Scouts of America Troop 22, sponsored by St. Thomas The Apostle in Bloomfield, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, Zachary is the son of Christian and Beth and brother of Eric who reside in Nutley, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, Zachary has dedicated many years with the Boy Scouts of America and during this time worked tirelessly to achieve twenty-three Merit Badges; and

**WHEREAS**, Zachary organized a music concert at Grace Church in Nutley benefiting local senior citizens for his Eagle Scout project; and

**WHEREAS**, As a result of Zachary's hard work and dedication he achieved the level of Eagle Scout and will be honored during an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony on November 6, 2016; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, TOWNSHIP OF NUTLEY, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**, that Zachary Roberts Sebek be commended and recognized for earning the level of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America and for providing to the Township of Nutley a sense of true pride.

Issued by Mayor Joseph P. Scarpelli

# Township of Nutley

County of Essex, New Jersey

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## THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Hereby Issue this Proclamation on October 18, 2016

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### Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, The Township of Nutley supports the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and hereby recognizes October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the Township of Nutley; and

**WHEREAS**, Domestic violence impacts all members of the family including pets, who are often the most vulnerable; and

**WHEREAS**, Nationally, there are an estimated 1.3 million victims of domestic violence annually; and

**WHEREAS**, The National Domestic Violence Counts Census found that during 1 day during September 2015, more than 71, 828 victims of domestic violence received services, but 12,197 requests for services went unmet due to a lack of funding and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Only 3 percent of domestic violence shelters nationwide can accommodate pets; and

**WHEREAS**, Up to 85% of women entering domestic violence shelters reported that their partner had threatened, injured or killed their pet; and

**WHEREAS**, Up to 65% of women who are in abusive relationships will not flee or delay leaving because they have no way of protecting their pet family members; and

**WHEREAS**, The human/animal bond has profound physiological consequences and victims should not have to make the devastating decision to give up their pets or leave them behind in danger; and

**WHEREAS**, There were 62,055 domestic violence offenses reported by the NJ State police in 2014, and with 62% of homes in America having companion animals, that means almost 40,000 of these victims may have had nowhere to turn to protect their pet family members; and

**WHEREAS**, There were 5,940 reported incidents of domestic violence abuse in Essex County in 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, Domestic violence is cited as a significant factor in homelessness and abandoned animals among families; and

**WHEREAS**, Children are involved or present during 29 percent of all domestic violence offenses; and

**WHEREAS**, Pet family members serve as therapy providing support, reassurance, comfort and security to children and adult victims of domestic violence who experience immediate and long-term negative outcomes, including detrimental effects on mental and physical health; and

**WHEREAS**, Adequate pet friendly domestic violence shelters is vitally important to the health and well-being of families and pets by enabling victims to escape abuse with their pet family member; and

**WHEREAS**, Law enforcement officers in the United States put their lives at risk each day by responding to incidents of domestic violence, including intentional targeting of pets trapped in domestic violence situations; and

**WHEREAS**, Animals may suffer from immediate physical injury, as well as a variety of ailments and behavioral issues due to chronic exposure to domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, Animals are an integral part of the family and deserve the same respect and protection from domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, If we are to succeed in protecting victims of domestic violence, we must support the expansion of pet friendly housing for victims to escape abuse together with their pet family members both as policy and as practice; and

**WHEREAS**, If we are to succeed in protecting the defenseless, innocent animals of domestic violence victims, we must support the expansion of temporary safe havens to care for them until they may be safely reunited with their families both as policy and as practice; and

**WHEREAS**, If we are to succeed in protecting the adoring animals of domestic violence victims, we must support the efforts of animal rescue organizations who provide temporary foster care for pet family members in a loving home until they may be safely reunited with their families both as policy and as practice; and

**WHEREAS**, Only Kindness Rescue should be recognized for their commitment and dedication to rescuing and helping homeless animals and bringing awareness of the need for protection of pets of domestic violence victims to our attention; and

**WHEREAS**, The Township of Nutley supports the Pets and Women Safety Act (PAWS Act) of 2015, Introduced in House (03/04/2015) to assist both male and female victims of domestic violence and their pets;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**, do hereby proclaim October 20, 2016 as “Pets of Domestic Violence Awareness Day” in Township of Nutley, New Jersey and commend its observance to all citizens in celebration of its significance and impact on our community.

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**Joseph P. Scarpelli**  
Mayor

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**Alphonse Petracco**  
Commissioner

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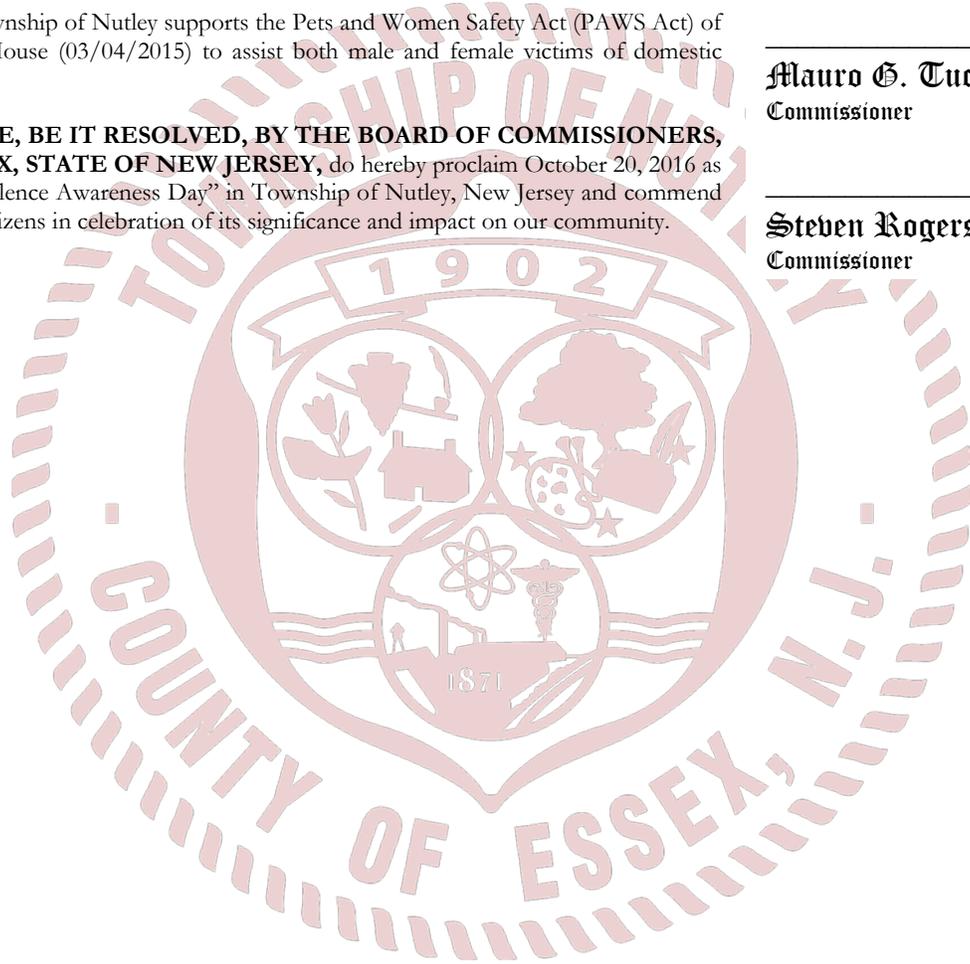
**Thomas J. Evans**  
Commissioner

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**Mauro G. Tucci**  
Commissioner

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**Steven Rogers**  
Commissioner



Issued by Mayor Joseph P. Scarpelli