WHEREAS, Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million individuals comprised of neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem solvers who unite and take action to create lasting change in communities across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary motto, “Service Above Self”, inspires members to provide humanitarian service, follow high ethical standards, and promote goodwill and peace in the world; and

WHEREAS, Rotary in 1985 launched PolioPlus and in 1988 helped establish the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to immunize the children of the world against polio which today includes the World Health Organization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and

WHEREAS, polio mainly affects children under the age of 5; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for Polio but it is preventable with a vaccine; and

WHEREAS, polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent since 1988 and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and

WHEREAS, to date, Rotary has contributed more than $1.9 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries; and

WHEREAS, Rotary is working to raise an additional $50 million per year, which would be leveraged for maximum impact by an additional $100 million annually from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and

WHEREAS, these efforts are providing much-needed operational support, medical staff, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Rotary has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute more than $8 billion to the effort; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners, in the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, recognize October 24, 2019 as WORLD POLIO DAY and commends the global network of the Rotary Organization, including the Nutley Rotary Club, in their efforts to build awareness, fundraise, and encourage governments to donate to and support polio eradication efforts around the world.
WHEREAS, Steve DiGregorio is a graduate of Nutley High School class of 1979 and Muhlenberg University class of 1983; and

WHEREAS, Steve DiGregorio coached at Caldwell High School, Paramus Catholic High School, Hobart University and Princeton University for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Steve DiGregorio is a history teacher at Nutley High School since 2004; and

WHEREAS, Steve DiGregorio or “Coach D” as he is known in Nutley, coached the Nutley High School Raider Football team for 10 seasons; and

WHEREAS, Coach D was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and is undergoing extensive medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, a group of Nutley citizens, co-workers and friends organized a community group, “Friends of Coach D” to assist Coach D and his family with the financial hardships caused by his diagnosis and fight against cancer; and

WHEREAS, “Friends of Coach D” have adopted the motto, “Team Digger, We got your back” as a show of support and love for Coach D and his family; and

WHEREAS, it is with great satisfaction that the Township of Nutley pay tribute to the overwhelming accomplishments of Steve DiGregorio and for his many contributions to our community, school system, students and athletes; and

WHEREAS, the Nutley Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Township of Nutley extends to Coach D a heartfelt blessing for the strength, courage and conviction to fight against this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nutley Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim that Saturday, October 19, 2019 be declared Coach D Day for his contributions to our community, school system and students and athletes of Nutley High School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Nutley extend its sincerest thanks to Coach DiGregorio for his service to our community and pledge to support him in his fight against cancer.