

MATTIA COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES HONOREE

The Virginius D. Mattia Memorial Committee has selected the Nutley Thriving Survivors as the winner of its 2018 Memorial Award for Distinguished Community Service. Mark Boffa, committee president and grandson of the late Dr. Mattia stated; "Each year we have the difficult task of selecting one honoree from a number of outstanding individuals and organizations who have been nominated, but there is no question that the Nutley Thriving Survivors amply demonstrates the volunteer spirit that my grandfather strongly supported." Dr. Mattia the legendary president of Hoffmann-LaRoche Inc., suffered an untimely death in 1971 at the age of forty nine.

The committee, now in its forty-sixth year, noted the group's dedication to those with Breast Cancer. Nutley Thriving Survivors, managed by Michele Fleitell with a full committee, was established in 2003 to provide emotional, fiscal and physical support to those suffering from breast cancer by providing meals, transportation, wigs, personal contact and other services. Members of the group often accompany patients to and from chemotherapy. They also educate those undergoing treatment to ease fears and anxieties they may have about treatment and after effects. The Survivors just celebrated their 15th Anniversary by creating a Memorial Garden located on Vincent Place near the Town Hall.

Also being honored is Alex Penna, winner of the 2018 Mattia Scholarship. Alexa has been involved in a vast array of volunteer activities throughout his high school years and plans to continue volunteering while in college.

The award will be presented at Nanina's-in-the-Park on Wednesday, May 9th. The \$70 admission price includes an excellent selection of hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m., followed by a fine dinner at 7:30 p.m., with an open bar throughout the event. Payment may be made through Vickie O'Halloran, 25 Florence St., Nutley, NJ 07110, 973-667-7419. Inquiries may be directed to Mrs. O'Halloran or Tony Iannarone, 973-235-1065.