



Judy Nardacci

Lee, MA

Judy and her husband, Alex Nardacci, have lived in Lee for the past 53 years. They are both very active in the community, where Alex teaches Italian and Judy volunteers in a host of areas.

Judy earned a certification in early childhood education and then taught in Lee and Pittsfield. She was a first grade teacher and also tutored a home-bound student for many years.

The Nardaccis have a son in New York City and a daughter and daughter-in-law in Ohio. Their daughter came out as queer many years ago. Judy, in an effort to know more and be supportive, got involved with Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (now PFLAG). She became the regional director for New England and started several new chapters. She also became a director on the national board of PFLAG in Washington, DC. She has worked hard to build understanding and support for people in the LGBTQ community, knowing how isolating one can feel in a rural community.

At the first Berkshire Pride celebration in 2017, Judy was honored for her leadership in creating the first PFLAG chapter in the Berkshires and for her continued support of the LGBTQ community.

In addition to her very important work with the LGBTQ community, Judy is involved with the WAM theatre group, where she has been volunteering for several years, and with OLLI, where she also volunteers. She was a volunteer with the Berkshire Festival of Women Writers for six years and is on the board of the Berkshire Coalition for Suicide Prevention, whose mission it is to save lives, and the board of Lee Library. She loves to read and to garden – especially the digging-up-weeds-and-rocks part - when she finds the time.

Kudos to Judy for leading such a productive, engaged, and meaningful life.

Photography: Susan Geller

Words: Sandi Rubin