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**Letter to Residents**

**What’s Your Favorite Verb?**

As a writer, I really love all words, but verbs top my list. I think they were the reason I started writing in the first place. Verbs move people and ideas and events along. It’s like a Harry Potter wand in Word—making all kinds of magic!

In this issue, we have verbs on every page because our Nutley Neighbors are doing amazing things.

For Lorraine and Charlie Kucinski, *dancing* is the verb that started it all. They met on a cruise ship and when the music started up, so did their romance. They celebrated 52 years of marriage this past September. Both of them have been very active in town and their story gives us delightful snapshots of their married life and family.

Theresa Quinn-Del Vecchio, author and Nutleyite, makes use of several verbs: *writing, sharing, giving*. When the pandemic hit and pessimism felt like a default emotion, Theresa wrote her first children’s book. She used her writing to give young readers something positive to focus on. Since then, she has written several more books filled with charming illustrations.

Nutley American Little League 12-year-old All-Stars have been winning, which is a terrific verb, but they have also been learning, growing, and making memories. You can ‘meet’ the team in their article and see their smiling faces. High-fives to all the coaches who have been great role models to these boys.

Nutley UNICO, Nutley Public Library, and Nutley Historical Society (to name a few) are organizations that serve the community. Each of them provides educational, cultural, and historical significance to our everyday lives. They help us remember that we are part of the past, in the present, and able to impact the future.

And let’s not forget our local businesses who *bring* each issue into your mailboxes. I know they would love to hear from you. An email, a phone call, or a drop-in visit would be appreciated.

It’s estimated that there might be as many as 100,000 verbs in our English language. And there are some verbs that I have never tried out—or wrote about—yet. Like bibble, absquatulate, or grok. Don’t be surprised to see them in a future issue!

Who needs a Harry Potter wand when I have a dictionary?! So, what’s your favorite verb?

Joyce Corey  
Content Coordinator  

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Doctor Dominic J. Ligresti is a Medical Doctor who is a Board Certified Dermatologist (which is the highest degree in medicine and dermatology). He is also an Adjunct Professor of Dermatology and Clinic Chief at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in NYC. He teaches medical doctors from Hackensack University Hospital.

He successfully treats all skin diseases for adult and pediatric patients, including advanced painless allergy testing. Ligresti Dermatology Associates is a full service dermatology practice including cosmetic dermatology for antiaging like: Restylane fillers, Botox/Dysport, Chemical Peels and Microdermabrasion. The office is located at 175 Franklin Ave. Nutley.

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As you read about Charles and Lorraine Kucinski and their family, do not be surprised if you start humming the theme from Love Boat. That long-running television show made viewers wish they could find that special someone aboard a cruise ship and live happily ever after.

That is just what Charles and Lorraine did. (Are you humming yet?)

“I grew up in Lakewood and Point Pleasant,” Lorraine said. “I decided to go on a cruise to Nassau on the S.S. Oceanic with one of my girlfriends. That was in 1967.”

“I grew up here in Nutley,” Charlie said. “I went on that cruise by myself, but the Sadie Hawkins dance changed that!”

“I asked him to dance with me, and we have been dancing ever since!” Lorraine said.

The couple dated for three years and were married in 1970. This September marks their 52nd anniversary!

“We chose to live in Nutley after we were married since Charlie was a firefighter here in town and residency was a requirement at that time,” Lorraine said.

“I was a firefighter for 35 years, with the last seven as Chief Executive Officer,” Charlie said. “I retired from that position in 1997 and currently work for a security company in the metro area.”

Charlie also served for four years aboard the USS Ranger during the Cuban Missile Crisis and Vietnam War.

Lorraine attended Montclair State University and worked for 35 years in property management for commercial real estate.

Both Lorraine and Charlie place high value on paying back to the community and enriching the lives of those around them. Nutley is more than just a geographical location for them; it represents a continuity of their family.

“We bought the house Charlie grew up in Nutley and have lived there for over 40 years. It is a place where we raised our family and have made many memories.”

“We love living in Nutley and feel blessed to have found our happy ever after here!” Lorraine said.
up in,” Lorraine said. “His parents were retiring and moving to Florida the year we got married. At the time, you couldn’t find a house for sale here in town.”

As a third generation Nutleyite, Charlie is connected to the past with some wonderful memories.

“My grandmother came to Nutley from Poland in 1902,” he said. “She opened Kucinski’s bakery on Franklin Avenue which ran until the late 70s. Some people may remember she had a parrot who spoke Polish and watched the store. She kept pigeons and chickens in the yard there. Lorraine and I live adjacent to where her bakery once stood and we have the best garden soil!”

“We think the secret to our fertile soil was the pigeons and chickens!” Lorraine laughs. “We have an amazing garden, and we give away a lot, like Swiss chard, beets, and even fig trees.”

Charlie and Lorraine also have strong ties to the school system here.

“My father went to Lincoln school, I attended Lincoln School, and our two daughters attended Lincoln School. Our grandsons attended Spring Garden,” he said. “That makes four generations in Nutley!”

Lorraine and Charlie have two daughters, Stephanie and Patricia, graduates of Nutley High School. Stephanie worked as a special education teacher and is married to Michael Kenny, who is a retired deputy chief from Jersey City. Their two children, Ryan and Justin, attend Nutley schools. Patricia Kucinski is a molecular biologist with WuXi Advanced Therapies in Philadelphia.

“We know that people choose to live in Nutley because of the quality of the educational system,” Lorraine said. “We have seen changes over the years but for the most part Nutley’s structure and the high standards of our teaching staff remains stable.”

Since this is such an important issue for the couple, each have assumed roles that placed them in positions to serve the community better.

“I was elected to the school board for a total of 27 years,” Charles said. “Lorraine is President of Nutley Educational Foundation.”

Town-wide education is not the only priority for this family; Charles pursued a degree in education in a very determined way.

“I graduated from Montclair State University, cum laude, with a degree in education after 19 years,” he said. “I took three credits at a time since I had to arrange my schedule around my firefighting job.”

“We also told him that he needed to graduate before our daughters did!” Lorraine said with a smile.

The other Kucinski is Gabe, an 11-year-old English Springer Spaniel who is Charlie’s hunting buddy.

“We vacation at the Jersey Shore, in New York State, and visit Florida in the winter. Throughout the year, Charlie does a fair amount of hunting and fishing in all three states including Maryland,” Lorraine said. “But Nutley is our home.”

“We live on what I call a ‘seasoned block’ in town,” she adds. “We have known many of our neighbors for years, and one more than 50 years!”

“This is a very community-based town,” Charlie said. “It’s also a walking community. The high school is in the center of town with the five elementary schools placed throughout the neighborhoods.”

Although Lorraine didn’t grow up in town, she has contributed to the betterment of Nutley in many ways. Besides
serving with the Nutley Educational Foundation, she is on the Nutley Planning Board and is a past president of Nutley UNICO. The couple also serve the community as members of the Elks, VFW, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Nutley UNICO, and they support numerous other organizations.

“But even after living here for more than 50 years, Charlie and I joke that I am still not an official Nutleyite!” she said. “But on a serious note, coming to Nutley was a big move for me, but I can honestly say it was the best move! We have a wonderful family and great neighbors. The emphasis in Nutley is on the people. We have more charitable organizations here than in towns twice our size. This says a lot about the quality and the generosity of the people who live here,” she concluded.

The Kucinski family story may have started on a cruise ship, but when Charlie and Lorraine docked into their Nutley port, the best of their lives started right here. ■

We are always looking for fascinating residents to feature in Nutley Neighbors. If you are interested in being included or would like to nominate one of your neighbors please email jcorey@bestversionmedia.com.
Eight-year-old Matteo studied the famous art of Picasso in a class called Let’s Learn. He enjoyed it very much and was inspired to create his own masterpiece. He did an amazing job adding his unique style.

Six-year-old Mattie painted a cute Minion to celebrate the new movie. The project made her smile and think of all the funny moments seen on the big screen. Her artistic talent is the perfect way to bring a favorite cartoon to life.

Four-year-old Gabriella added some beauty to the family garden. She painted this colorful stepping stone to be displayed in the yard and loved for many years to come. She enjoyed creating this pretty decoration and seeing the finished product full of different colors.

Did you just create an amazing piece of art? Whether you colored it, glued it, cut it, or even baked it, send us a photo with your name and we will print as many as we can. Let’s make our world a bit more beautiful with your creations and smiles! Email me at: jcorey@bestversionmedia.com

Theresa Quinn-Del Vecchio has all these qualities and, yes, growing up in Nutley played a big factor in her writing her first book.

“I’ve always been rather optimistic and as we entered the pandemic and lockdown, I decided to find something constructive and positive to focus on. I decided to write my first book, Down on Harvard Street, which is about growing up in Nutley in the 80s and 90s.”

Theresa recalled her own childhood here in town and gave her young readers a glimpse into a world different from today.

“The day I wanted to draft it, I sat in my car and visualized all of the fun activities we did as children here in Nutley,” she said. “We would bike or roller skate up and down the block, play kickball in the street, and make up games that would keep us occupied all day long. I thought about how we wouldn’t return to our houses until dinner time. I’m grateful to have grown up during that time, and I wanted to share it with others through my writing.”

Writing that story led to Theresa writing more books, all of which have delightful plots and gentle messages.

“The Thankful Squirrel is about a hungry squirrel that mistakenly thinks the humans left a pumpkin out on their front porch just for him,” she said. “I remember my own children becoming upset when the squirrels would devour our pumpkins and this story shows the squirrel’s perspective.”

Her next book was inspired by a trip to the Turtle Back Zoo.

“We noticed that the gift shop had no books dedicated to the zoo, so I decided to write one!” she said. A Trip to the Turtle Back Zoo is a cute, playful story for little ones that takes them through a few of the major attractions at zoo.”

Ella’s Wonderfully Wild Hair is geared toward older children in third to fifth grade and deals with the issue of bullying.

Theresa is currently working on a seasonal series.

“Cotton Candy Skies and French Fries is the summer story,” she said. The second book, Apple Pies and Hayrides, will be released this fall.

Theresa Quinn-Del Vecchio will be reading and signing copies at the Nutley Public Library, Conklin Farm, and the annual Nutley Fall Festival.
Nutley American Little League 12-year-old All-Stars won the District 8 title this year, but their run ended in the Section 2 tournament. Looking at their roster, you see why they were able to make the run they did. Outscoring opponents 54 to 3 in districts and losing by one run twice in sections lets you know the team had deep pitching, strong defense, and a high-powered offense.

Manager Christian Sebastiano shares a little bit about each player.

Matt Iannitelli played first and pitched. ‘Matty Ice’ is powerful and hits bombs. He mixed in a good curve ball to keep batters guessing.

Sal Straface played first and outfield. His ability to pick throws was clutch. A lefty with a good bat, teams can’t cheat much to take away the bunt.

Liam Vonroth played second. He made plays and understands the game. He always gave strong at-bats and found his way on base.

Ryan Puleo played shortstop and pitcher. Great range, strong arm, and quick throws to first. He throws hard and has a curve ball that drops.

Chris Haines played short, third, and pitcher. He throws gas and has a nice slider, making him hard to hit. He hits for power.

Billy Dolaghan pitched and played third. He throws hard, doesn’t waste pitches, and makes it deep into games. At the plate, he hits well and has pop.

Christian Sebastiano was the catcher. He receives well, blocks and throws out runners. He has a good bat and gets on base.

Evan Blanchard played centerfield. He is fast, has a strong arm, and hits for power. He gives teams a lot to worry about.

John Machtemes played outfield. He’s a good hitter who comes through in the clutch. He covered the outfield well.

Aedan Kupinewicz was relied upon for his bat. D-Train is a strong kid who could hit one out at any time.

Brian Dolaghan pitched and played third. He could play anywhere and made big plays for us. His bat is solid, putting the ball in play a lot.

Devin Telcide was relied upon for his bat. D-Train is a strong kid who could hit one out at any time.

Rounding out the coaching staff were Anthony Haines and Sal Straface, along with Mike Blanchard and Anthony Haines Jr. who coached during practices.

Coach Sebastiano praised the team’s dedication. “Baseball is relatively simple, but it’s unforgiving,” he said. “You always need to be ready for the next play. We were good enough to win sections, but it didn’t happen. That’s baseball. We battled and that’s all you can ask for from a team, Little League is done for most of them, which is sad. I told them to shed a tear for that, not for losing. You’ve made forever memories winning the district title as 10s, 11s, and 12s. That’s hard to do. So, while it feels like an end, it’s just the start of what’s next.”
Along with its goal of promoting and preserving Italian culture and heritage, Nutley UNICO has been hosting events and planning activities for the 2022-23 year.

Fundraiser ‘Christmas Eve in July’ was chaired by Dan and Cathy Marucci, held on July 13, and attended by 108 guests.

Member Chiara Russoniello coordinated and taught a conversational Italian class.

The annual golf outing, chaired by Tom Sposato, was held on August 24.

A large contingent of members participated in the Nutley Memorial Day Parade.

The Chapter presented over $32,000 in scholarships this past June to Nutley graduates.

The President for 2022-23 is Daniel Carnicella. His slate of officers includes Danielle Manganello (1 VP), Pasquale Pisani (2 VP), Frank Russo (3 VP), Tom Sposato (Treas.), Cathy Marucci (Sec.), Sal Ferrara (Corr. Sec.), Anthony "JR" Mascolo (Sgt. at Arms), and Members at Large Lenny Gugliemello and Anthony Biondi, Jr.

The chapter also congratulates Past President Marie Solimo for a successful 2021-22 year as District VII Governor. Marie was selected as the Outstanding District Governor of the Year in the entire country at the 2022 UNICO National Convention.

The first dinner meeting of the new year was held on September 8. This meeting focused on membership and retention. With 165 members, Nutley UNICO is the third largest chapter in the country.

The theme for the October meeting is celebrating Italian-American Heritage Month and November is dedicated to recognizing military veterans.

Anyone interested in information regarding membership in Nutley UNICO can contact any of the officers listed above or Membership Chair Cathy Marucci, (nonnamarucci@gmail.com).
What is your name, position, and responsibilities at the library?
I’m Maureen Cohn. You can find me in the children’s area, guiding the bright kids and teens of Nutley to their next literary adventure—feet on the ground and head in the stars.

When did you start working at the library and why?
I was working in a medical library and served students striving to become RNs. Helping them hone their research skills, slipping in typing lessons, and occasionally lending a shoulder to cry on was an honor. The plan was to retire from there, but the lockdown forced closure. To my surprise, public library jobs opened up last year, and Nutley and I clicked! I have found I enjoy being back in public.

What is your educational background?
It took landing an editorial job at a big academic publisher for me to realize that maybe, just maybe, getting a degree was worth the effort. It was to be the BA 20 years in the making (cue the horns) spanning two coasts and many changes in my major. Settling on philosophy, I finally got the liberal arts education my mother had wished for me. I mostly learned that philosophy is like jazz, glorious and stimulating, but not a discipline I could become adept at, Venn diagrams aside. I earned my diploma at William Paterson part time while working full time in public libraries and raising my daughter. I graduated the same year she did from high school.

Do you have any childhood memories of visiting the library?
My love of libraries began at an imposing, wood-paneled library in the fog enshrouded “Avenues” of San Francisco, my hometown. The librarian wisely sized me up and gave me my first novel, telling of space travel and walking on other planets in a spacesuit.

What is your favorite book or author?
By the age of 13 my compulsion to devour sci-fi and sword and sorcery pulp was matched only by my love of underground comics. R. Crumb and S. Clay Wilson burned my brain with beauty, burlesque, and brutality. When I outgrew them, I went on to the likes of Samuel Delaney, that prescient, sentient being, the luxurious Tanith Lee, and the venerable A.E. van Vogt.

What are your hobbies, volunteer work or other leisure time pursuits?
During lockdown I did raking and weeding for nonprofits. I learned those weeds were native plants, vital to the environment. Planting an actual garden of natives remains a pipe dream, thanks to the rampant grazing of local deer.

Your favorite quote or motto?
“You’re not what you think you are, but what you think, you are!” (William James)
Adopt Us!  
Submitted by Christa Milici, Yellow Brick Road Rescue NJ

Bowie is a 4-year-old female. She is a purebred Bengal who was surrendered to us when her family had to move out of the country. Bowie is very sweet and would make the perfect addition to any family as your one and only pet. She has been the only pet for her whole life, and she doesn’t like the other animals in her foster home so she is kept separated from them. She has lived with young kids in her previous home. We are requiring Bengal experience for her new adopters. She is also blind in one eye and will eventually go blind in her other eye. She needs follow ups with an eye doctor. She is a Bengal so she also needs exercise and to be taken on walks via a leash and harness. As a kitten she also had a broken jaw, which has been repaired, but now her tongue is out most of the time. She needs a patient, experienced adopter. She is microchipped, FIV/FeLV negative, stool tested, dewormed, UTD on vaccines, and spayed. $175 adoption fee and application apply.

To apply for Bowie visit https://yellowbrickroadrescuenj.com/cat-adoption-application/ or email us at yellowbrickroadnj@gmail.com

Leo is a 1-year-old male who is ready to find his forever home. Leo is a very happy boy and loves being with his people. He is currently being fostered with other dogs and cats and is getting along well with them. He is house trained. He walks nicely on a leash and does not pull. He would make the perfect addition to any family!

He is up to date on vaccines, microchipped, and neutered.

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3 **Libby** is an e-book, audiobook, and digital magazine service. Here you can borrow popular fiction and non-fiction books, digital audiobooks, and digital magazines. You can access these materials on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. Some popular magazine titles include the Economist, Women’s Health, Men’s Health, Reader’s Digest, National Geographic, and Good Housekeeping.

4 **Mango** is a language-learning app available on your computer, tablet, or phone. Each lesson combines real life situations and audio from native speakers with simple, clear instructions. The courses are presented with an appreciation for cultural nuance and real-world application that integrates components of vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and culture.

5 **Reference Solutions** is a powerful online reference and research tool providing instant, real-time access to accurate, in-depth information on 59 million U.S. businesses and U.S. residents.

Reference Solutions makes it faster and easier to find new business opportunities, research executives and companies, find news articles, conduct job searches, locate addresses and phone numbers, and conduct market research.

6 **Ancestry and Heritage Quest** are genealogical databases that provide access to government records, census data, vital records, yearbook photos, and auxiliary resources to help find information regarding your family history. Ancestry is only available within the Nutley Public Library on one of our computers; Heritage Quest can be accessed remotely.

Nutley Sun, Nutley Journal, and Nutley Neighbors periodicals are keyword searchable as well as searchable by date. We also have digitized Nutley/Belleville city directories from 1927 to 1970. These resources are all accessible within the Nutley Public Library on one of our computers.
### Homes Sold in August ’22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>LIST PRICE</th>
<th>SALE PRICE</th>
<th>DAYS ON MARKET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>216 Whitford Ave.</td>
<td>$775,000</td>
<td>$735,000</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>226 Vreeland Ave.</td>
<td>$939,000</td>
<td>$910,000</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Brookfield Ave.</td>
<td>$899,900</td>
<td>$815,000</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95 Brookfield Ave.</td>
<td>$899,900</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78 Mount Vernon St.</td>
<td>$412,000</td>
<td>$438,500</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78 Prospect St.</td>
<td>$545,900</td>
<td>$590,000</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Locust St.</td>
<td>$435,000</td>
<td>$475,000</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 Hopper Ave.</td>
<td>$519,000</td>
<td>$525,000</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316 E Passaic Ave.</td>
<td>$510,000</td>
<td>$480,000</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329 Hillside Ave.</td>
<td>$642,000</td>
<td>$665,000</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>268 High St.</td>
<td>$549,000</td>
<td>$580,000</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Evelyn Pl.</td>
<td>$749,000</td>
<td>$775,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Chadwick Dr.</td>
<td>$525,000</td>
<td>$575,500</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 N Spring Garden Ave.</td>
<td>$489,000</td>
<td>$530,000</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115 Beech St.</td>
<td>$539,000</td>
<td>$539,000</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>406 Bloomfield Ave.</td>
<td>$489,000</td>
<td>$530,000</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Van Riper Pl.</td>
<td>$420,000</td>
<td>$455,000</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>157 North Rd.</td>
<td>$539,000</td>
<td>$566,000</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162 Ohlson Ave.</td>
<td>$435,000</td>
<td>$507,000</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37 Nairn Pl.</td>
<td>$579,000</td>
<td>$635,000</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>142 Conover Ave.</td>
<td>$382,285</td>
<td>$415,000</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Myrtle Ave.</td>
<td>$448,880</td>
<td>$468,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>147 Kingsland St.</td>
<td>$569,000</td>
<td>$539,000</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Parallel St.</td>
<td>$529,000</td>
<td>$552,000</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Woodcrest Ln.</td>
<td>$499,000</td>
<td>$530,000</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162 Whitford Ave.</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
<td>$453,000</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Median List Price** $480,000

**Median Sale Price** $515,000

**Median Days on Market** 18

*GSMLS Data: Single Family, Condominiums/Cooperatives & Town Homes during January-August 2022

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**Nutley Real Estate**

**Rubino Ryder Team**

**Keller Williams**

**Nutley homes have appreciated 37.5% in median sale price since 2019**

Give us a call to find out the value of your home!

**Mary** Broker Sales Associate | **Michael** Sales Associate

Call: 973-477-3657 | RubinoRyderTeam@gmail.com

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237 Lorraine Ave. Montclair NJ, 07043
Office: 973-783-7400
Each office is independently owned and operated

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*Single family homes data compiled from GSMLS*
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You still need a mammogram.

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