

Emerald Court Newsletter

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Ever Wish You Had a Super Power?

By Peggy Schleicher

I remember playing “super heroes” with my grandkids when they were younger. We would “dress-up” with capes and other props, declare ourselves super heroes, and run around the yard screaming and having fun. I was of course insistent on being a female super hero, Super Nana was my name. The grandkids thought I could do that although they considered Spider Man and Wonder Woman to be superior choices. A few weeks ago, I read a blog written by singer/writer Carrie Newcomer. This got me thinking about super heroes. She raised the idea of believing in the inherent goodness possible in humanity. She framed goodness as a super power. She wrote that: “acts of daily decency” are super powers. In these challenging times, we all need stories that describe human decency, grace and humor. The world is so full of messages to be afraid and act according to that fear. Newcomer suggests that developing a sense of humor and finding delight even in small things are super powers. We are human beings who are trying our best even though we are full of mistakes and oops. We keep on keeping on. We keep on looking for reasons to smile and laugh. This is of course very hard. Sadness, grief and pain are all too real. Smiling and enjoying a laugh are both big and small things, super powers. Ever wish you had a super power? Guess what? You do. Emerald Court has lots of opportunities for smiling and laughing. Check out the EC calendar. Pick something to enjoy and use your super powers: laugh and smile.

■ ■ ■

EC Clubhouse Fun:

Clubhouse Barbeque is on Saturday, July 22nd. Rain date: July 23rd.

The **Next Clubhouse Breakfast** is on the first Sunday of July. Info: Frank Carey (Unit #1221) - Magnolia; Ron D'Amato (Unit #16) - Villas.

Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the Clubhouse. Info: Peggy Schleicher, facilitator: - (Unit #74).

Movie Group meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the clubhouse. Info: Linda Carey, facilitator: - (Unit #1221).

Card Games:

- **SCAT** - Mondays at 1 pm. Info: Bert Lyons (Unit #1230).
- **Cribbage** - Mondays at 7 pm. Info: Bob Schleicher (Unit #74).
- **Poker** - Tuesdays at 7 pm. Info: Betty Fulginiti (Unit #1211). *Men & women welcome.*
- **Texas Hold'em** - Wednesdays at 7 pm. Info: John Tellier (Unit #1226).
- **Bridge Group** - Thursdays at 1 pm. Info: Ginny Thomas, (Unit #69).

Games & Chat Groups:

- **Chat Group** - Tuesdays at 2 pm. For info, contact Dorothy Caterino (Unit #1214).
- **Mahjong** - Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. For info, contact Pat Stratis (Unit #89).
- **Rummikub** - Thursdays at 6:30 pm. For info, contact Kathleen Pimental (Unit #1105).

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Meet Your Neighbor

By Bob Schleicher

Welcome to the fourth installment of "Meet Your Neighbor". Without further ado, here are more bios of our wonderful community residents . . .



Mike & Rushel Cushing (Unit #23)

Mike and Rushel moved to Emerald Court from Lowell in June 2021. They have two daughters. Sarah lives in Wilmington with her husband and seven-year-old son. Rachel and her husband live in Los Angeles.

Mike is a retired Lowell firefighter and Air Force veteran. Rushel works for an educational-technology company (Curriculum Associates) in Billerica.

Mike enjoys walking and golfing.

Rushel's hobbies include reading and photography. They love to travel and highly recommend visiting the beautiful states of Utah and California.

They are Patriots' fans and look forward to football season every year. More than anything else, they love spending time with their family and friends.

Mark your calendar!

- **Eric Baldwin Trio**, Friday, September 15 at 7:00 pm
- **Ball in the House**, Sunday, December 17th at 3:00 pm

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Sharon & Tony Lopes (Unit #24)

Tony & Sharon were born and raised in Cambridge (even born in the same hospital 2 months apart). They met in high school. Tony went to Boston College and graduated from the School of Education with a BA in English as a Second Language. Later he earned his Master's in Education from UMASS Boston. He began teaching at Somerville High School and various elementary schools throughout the city. His teaching career lasted for his 35 years. When he retired, they moved to Emerald Court in 2009. Sharon continued to work at an insurance agency in Reading, working there for 24 yrs. until retirement. They have a son and daughter. Their son lives in Franklin and is engaged. Their daughter is married with 2 sons and they live in Dracut.

They love spending time with family and friends but especially their grandsons. They enjoyed traveling (until Covid hit). They are very involved in their church. Tony learned to play bridge and cribbage here and Sharon joined the book club. Tony and Sharon like attending many activities that the EC community offers.

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Linda Martin (Unit #25)

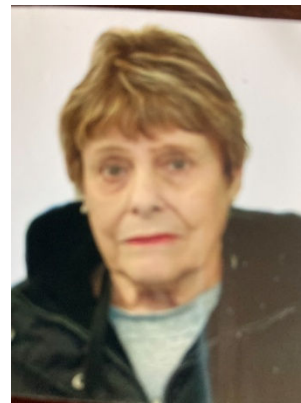
Linda Martin moved into Unit 25 at Emerald Court in December 2016. She comes to us from Southbury, Connecticut where she lived for 35 years. While residing in Connecticut, Linda held the positions of Professor of Economics and Dean of the Business School at the University of New Haven. The Emerald Court relocation has allowed her to be closer to her brother and other family and friends. She has two adult children and four grandchildren living in the New York and Chicago areas. Linda is always on the move, visiting her children and grandchildren regularly and traveling to many parts of the US and Europe. Linda is very active in the Emerald Court community and is a member of the Social Committee and Book Club. Her most cherished hobby is doing yoga and going to lunch with the yoga ladies.



Patrick & Laura Ring (Unit #26)

Pat & Laura lived in Revere for all of their lives, before arriving at Emerald Court in December 2005. Pat was an accountant for CB Richard Ellis (CBRE) for ten years before retiring. Laura is still loving her career and continues to work. Pat is an avid American and Military history buff. He also loves

watching all kinds of sports, especially the Boston-based teams. They also enjoy playing with their beautiful rescue cat named Buddy. Pat is an Air Force Veteran, honorably discharged as a Sergeant. He was stationed in Oklahoma and loved to watch the C5 and C141 jet planes come in for a landing with his buddies. The rumble was so loud it nearly knocked their socks off LOL!! They will be celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary this year.



Linda Cummings (Unit #1118)

Linda found Emerald Court after living 45 years on Linwood Avenue in Melrose. After doing research, she believes Emerald Court is one of the best condos she has seen. She has made a few friendships here also. Linda's husband passed away seven years ago. She has four children, two boys and two girls. Also, she is blessed with four granddaughters, ages 21, 23, 26, and 29. Linda worked for 24 years driving a bus for the MBTA. She enjoys spending time with friends, dining out, shopping, and attending plays.



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Al & Mary Miano (Unit #1119)

Al & Mary moved to EC in February 2008. They previously lived in Wilmington for 39 years. Al worked for Dynatech as a purchasing agent for 28 years. Mary worked as the accounts payable manager at Indigo Corp. for ten years before she retired. Both Al and Mary were retired before

moving to Emerald Court. They spent much of their time baby-sitting for their three grandsons.

Once at Emerald Court they became very involved in activities here. Al was a member of the Clubhouse Committee and Mary served as treasurer for the Social Committee. Among their fond memories are the EC cruise to Bermuda and the trip to Saratoga Springs.



Nancy Callanan (Unit #1120)

Before moving to Emerald Court, Nancy lived in Providence, R.I., in a converted Baptist Church which was built in 1863. Her unit had the original windows and sixteen foot ceilings. She found Emerald Court through her real estate broker, Madelyn Mitton. Nancy's daughter and granddaughter live in Andover and that was the lure that hooked her on our community. Nancy was the sales manager for a company that covered the New England area. She also owned a jewelry business for ten years. Her interests include great T.V. series; reading, especially history; and meeting up with friends and laughing. She is impressed with the social offerings at Emerald Court; a couple of suggestions are perhaps a Trivial Pursuit competition and T.V. series discussion group, i.e. Mad Men, Breaking Bad, and all series from PBS Brit T.V. To quote Nancy, "I am thrilled to be here. Who knew I'd land on a cruise ship?"



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Josh & Marie Croteau (Unit #1121)

Josh and Marie moved to Emerald Court 13 years ago from Wakefield where they lived for 23 years. Marie lived in Wakefield all her life before moving to Tewksbury. They followed their hearts to be near their children, their spouses and four grandchildren.

Josh retired from Technical Recruiting. Marie retired from the Timberland Corporate Office in Stratham NH after 23 years.

Family and friends are the most important thing in

their lives. They feel even more blessed to be in such a wonderful community with such nice people.

Josh enjoys golf and Marie has a passion for Interior Design. Both love to walk and spend time at the beach.



Ellen Marie Barch (Unit #1122)

Ellen Marie moved to Emerald Court in 2013 from Woburn where she lived for 52 years with her husband Bill and their three daughters. Ellen Marie grew up in Dorchester and graduated from Beth Israel School of Nursing. She worked for 33 years at New England Rehabilitation Hospital in Woburn. Her daughters live in North Carolina, Maine, and Florida. In addition to her daughters, Ellen Marie has six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

After Bill passed in 2012, Ellen Marie began searching for a new home. She searched from Cape Cod to Cape Elizabeth, Maine and chose Emerald Court as it fulfilled most of her wishes. Ellen Marie has enjoyed many of the activities and sense of community we have here.

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RANTER or “SCREW YOUR NEIGHBOR”

By Frank Carey

Emerald Court is a really beautiful community filled with very nice, friendly folks.

So why would the Social Committee hold an event sub-titled “Screw Your Neighbor”? Why? Because they knew from past experience that folks really enjoyed playing this fun card game leading it to become a favorite SC annual event.

And that is what the SC does. They seek, plan and work hard to find and or create events that they believe will attract and provide a socially fun time for all the EC folks who wish to participate. Friday, April 14’s event exemplified those efforts when at 6:00 pm, thirty-eight EC neighbors started to drift into the EC clubhouse. Most were stopping at a table in the foyer where SC members Betsy Travis and Ginny Thomas were selling 50/50 raffle tickets. They then continued into the clubhouse getting themselves comfortable around the tables that had been set up and prepared for the start of the scheduled 6:30 evening’s activities.

As is often the case, the SC had decided to include a bit of nourishment as part of the evening’s social agenda. For this event they planned a menu of cheese, pepperoni, and mushroom pizza, a side salad, chips, cookies, water, coffee and tea. Nothing fancy but just enough to keep many of the attendees from having to cook at home.

During the event’s next 45 minutes, folks enjoyed chatting with their neighbors while devouring the tasty eats that filled their plates.

Tables cleared, Social Committee chair Peggy Schleicher once again welcomed all and explained how the rest of the evening would proceed and most importantly the rules for the game “Ranter” or “Screw Your Neighbor”.

The game itself could have been played without a monetary cost to the players, but to make it more interesting an investment of three quarters were required by each player for each game played.

The rules of the game are not difficult. Each person is dealt one card from a regular deck of fifty-



Here are some of the EC folks who enjoyed Ranter nite:

Top row: Ruth Mosey, Maryanne Anderson, Linda Ricciardi, Lorraine MacPherson, Jan DiPietro, Helen Wythe. **2nd row:** Jack & Linda Dempsey, Betsy Kelly, Mary Ann Famiglietti, Rose Antonucio, Elisabeth Desmarais. **3rd row:** Gay Padur, Kathleen & Peter Pimental, Alan Katz, Donna Davis, Elaine Williams. **Bottom row:** Bert Lyons, Barbara Swansburg, Sue Sandler, Melodie & Howard Teich.

two cards. The value of each card is as shown on the card with the “Ace” being the lowest valued card and the King being the highest. The object of the game is “NOT” to have the lowest valued card when a round has been played. Play begins with the player next to the dealer. That person looks at their card and makes a decision whether they think it’s too low. If they decide it is too low they can swap that card with their neighbor to their left. That person can then decide to keep it or swap it with the neighbor to their left. (**“Screw Your Neighbor”, by swapping with them, the card you’re holding that you think is a low valued loser card**). This process continues until play gets back to the dealer. The dealer decides whether to keep the card in his hand or trade it for the top card on the remaining deck of cards. Once the decision is made everyone reveals their card.

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The person who has the lowest valued card must put one of their three quarters in the pot located in the center of the table. The deal continues to the left and the process is repeated, each time requiring the player with the lowest valued card at the end of the play, to put a quarter in the pot. When only one person has any quarters left in front of them, they are declared the winner and take all the accumulated quarters in the pot.

It really is not as complicated as I may have made it sound. There are a few more rules I have not mentioned but they are also very easy to learn. For those at the event, who were not familiar with the game, a practice round was all that was needed to completely understand the game and why the game's nickname was "Screw Your Neighbor".

Nothing but whoops, hollers, and laughs were heard throughout the evening especially when the winner of a game raked in the loot.

The night's activity ended with everyone pitching in with the cleanup and the drawing of the 50/50 raffle ticket, which was won by Kathleen Pimental.

Another super duper neighborly social event held by the EC Social Committee.

Thanks to all of you for all your efforts and your hard work helping to keep the EC community active and connected with each other.

Hey neighbors, **"COME AND PARTICIPATE."**

Check out the Emerald Court website:

ec-tewksbury.com

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EC Welcomes New Residents

New residents to Emerald Court since April:

- Paula & Mary Parla (Unit #1209)
- Robert Ducey (Unit #1326)

We at Emerald Court wish you all the happiness that we've found here. ...

Did you know that the Emerald Court calendar can be downloaded from the EC website "Home Page".

ec-tewksbury.com

Social Committee Message

By Peggy Schleicher

Your EC Social Committee is an active team whose goal is to help nourish community, connections, fun and caring at Emerald Court. We are a hardworking group who create and host many EC activities. We are always interested in ideas and suggestions from the Community. We value your input as we plan events for EC. Got ideas? Email peggyschleicher1@gmail.com or call 978-851-6569. We invite all ECers to join the fun at our events and activities.

The EC Magic of Music Extravaganza continues. **Save the upcoming dates for two grand concerts!** On September 15 at 7 pm, our clubhouse will feature a lively evening of easy listening, featuring the **Eric Baldwin Trio**. Eric freelances in the New England area with many of the area's top acts. Eric is well-versed in popular styles, with a repertory of hundreds of songs at his disposal. He performs regularly at several local restaurants. His trio specializes in jazz and swing. Then on Sunday, December 17, at 3 pm, the A Capella group, **Ball in the House**, will present a concert of R and B, Soul and Pop. This group holds international fame, has won competitions, and performs all over the world. Save the dates. Be sure to come and sit back and enjoy some great music!

Your EC Social Committee members are:

Peggy Schleicher, *chairperson*
Betsy Travis, *secretary*
Ginny Thomas, *co-treasurer*
Diane Fahey, *co-treasurer*
Linda Carey, *Welcome Team Coordinator*

Linda Martin
Kathleen Pimental
Sue Sandler
Pat Stratis
Regina Ugolini

Victor Corbin - Board of Trustees Liaison

■ ■ ■



Cinco De Mayo & Dominos

By Frank Carey

I have to be honest with you. On May 5th, after helping to set up the clubhouse for the evening's "Cinco De Mayo" event, I sat in a chair off to the side and watched a pre-event practice round of Dominos among the Social Committee members. It did not give me a good feeling regarding the success of that evening's SC planned program.

SC Chairperson Peggy Schleicher had printed out the "Domino" rules that had come with the packaged tin of dominoes she had purchased for the event. They had been placed on the table to be read and referenced as she and all the SC members played a practice game in preparation of the night's activity. Everything started out pretty well but as the game progressed there were questions and major discussions about the rules. It seems that there are various ways the game could be played or at least that was the opinion expressed by some committee members. For about an hour the members, with a controlled and polite demeanor discussed and voiced differences in the ways they had learned how the

game should be played. I wasn't able to stay for the final results of the discussion but when I left the area, I left a bit worried about how the night's game segment would work out. **NOT TO WORRY, FRANK !!!!!**

With smiling faces the thirty-one folks who had signed up, arrived early for the 7:00 event. Not necessarily to get the good seats but to enjoy a few moments with their neighbors and friends. It was great to see a couple of new people and some that we haven't seen at an event in a bit of time. I personally love getting to events early, spending that pre-event time going from table to table saying hello, chatting and maybe having a few laughs. Good stuff.

But the clock hit 7:00 and Peggy Schleicher took hold of the microphone to explain the night's agenda. She said that they were celebrating "Cinco De Mayo", a Mexican celebration** and to help create a bit of Mexican atmosphere, the Social Committee had set up, in the EC kitchen, dishes of Tostitos, salsa, guacamole, and queso, a Mexican cheese dip. She told everyone after picking up their snacks they could return to their tables and begin playing a game or two of Dominoes. She also mentioned that during games, they could revisit the kitchen for refreshment refills at their own discretion.

Important to mention here is what I had not heard at the afternoon's SC practice game. Peggy had suggested that committee members with a knowledge of the game, strategically place themselves at different tables to help explain the rules and facilitate a smooth running game at each table.

That suggestion couldn't have been more significant to the fantastic success of the event.

As she called table numbers, folks went into the kitchen to pick up their selections of snacks. Returning to their seats they nibbled on the Mexican fare while preparing the tiles for their first domino game.

While waiting for the game to start at my table I took time to wander around the room. I couldn't help but notice at one table that they were using cute and colorful tile holders. After investigating a bit I

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EC Social Committee: (left to right) Sue Sandler, Ginny Thomas, Diane Fahey, Kathleen Pimental, Linda Carey, Peggy Schleicher, Betsy Travis, Linda Martin. Not Shown: Pat Stratis & Regina Ugolini.

found out that Linda Dempsey, #1104 Magnolia, was a frequent player of the game and had hand-crafted the tile holders from sheets of a material called "Mesh Plastic Canvas". She did a great job. Each tile holder looked professionally made and oh so cute.

Time flew by as players around each table became engrossed in the process and strategies of the game. There may have been slight variations of the rules at each table, but no one seemed to mind. Every game was not only entertaining, but stimulating, with placement of tiles requiring a bit of careful thought. Many of the players were so absorbed in their game that it was past 9:00 when someone realized it was time to end the event, put the games away and cleanup. The winning 50/50 raffle ticket also needed to be pulled. Linda Martin, whose table was still playing their domino game, was the lucky winner.

It was a very, very, enjoyable evening. How could I have thought it would have been otherwise. Whether you came to this event with a knowledge of the game or, like me, had never played the game, the event provided a fun evening for everyone. I think those Domino savvy SC members at each table were important in helping to assist in making the game at each table so entertaining. (Sandy Rosenbach, who is not a member of the SC, but with a knowledge of the game, was able to help those less knowledgeable, at

her table.) Thank you, Social Committee, for a somewhat different kind of game night and for helping us acknowledge a small bit of Mexican culture. It was terrific.

****FYI: Cinco de Mayo**, is Spanish for "Fifth of May". In Mexico it is a yearly celebration held to celebrate Mexico's victory over the Second French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862.

In the US and other parts of the world, it has become an increasingly global celebration of Mexican culture, cuisine, and heritage.

***Summarized from Wikipedia*

When Sad Things Happen

The Emerald Court Community is saddened to learn of the death of Walter Buhay (formerly of Unit #70). Walter passed away on March 31st. Our sympathy is extended to his entire family.

We are also grieved to learn of the passing of Pat D'Amato (Unit #52). Pat passed away on Monday, April 3rd, 2023. Our sympathy is extended to Valerie and Al and their entire family.

Because we care about our community, if you are aware of the passing of any of our neighbors, please inform us at bobschleicher1@gmail.com so we can get the information out to the community in a timely manner. One person's loss diminishes us all. ■■■

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Lisa Johnson's Flag Day Performance

By Elaine Williams

The Emerald Court Club Room was rocking Saturday afternoon thanks to the very talented Lisa Johnson and her friend, Linda. Their wonderful voices and great selection of songs made for a fabulous time for everyone who attended.



Lisa Johnson & Linda Cameron Singing their hearts out at Emerald Court

Lisa chose songs that were popular with the audience so we all felt a great connection and loved singing along with her. Her interaction with the audience made for some very happy listeners.



There was such a happy vibe in the room. So much energy. So much joy. What a day! I am just



sorry for those people who live at EC who did not attend. They missed a wonderful, uplifting afternoon.



Thank you, Lisa and Linda, and also the Social Committee for arranging the event.

I give it a 10+ !!!!

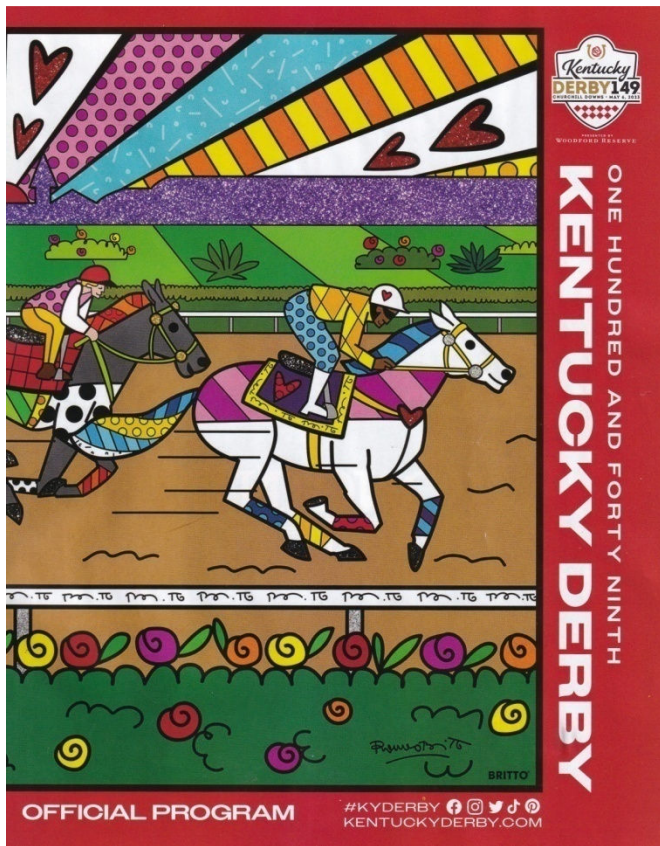
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2023 Kentucky Derby Wayne Anderson Scratches One More Off His Bucket List

By Frank Carey and Elaine Williams

Wayne "What's His Name" Anderson (Villa #68) has been a race horse enthusiast all his life and has hoped to attend the Kentucky Derby for years. A little known fact is that his father owned race horses which he raced at the fairs. Wayne remembers two of them named Radio Charm and Arab.

Wayne loved horseback riding and his bedroom walls had race horse posters all over them. During his youth he had thought about being a Jockey. (Wayne is now 6'2") LOL.

In August of 2022, Wayne and his family were celebrating his birthday at Grassfields restaurant in Andover. While there they got a call from his daughter Kristen who lives in Ohio. She wished him a happy birthday and told him Kimberly, his other daughter, had his birthday present and would give it

to him after she hung up. Not being able to wait he asked Kimberly "Where is my present? In the car?" She replied "no" and then informed her dad that he was going to go to the world famous Kentucky Derby on May 6, 2023. Kimberly told him that he would also be attending the almost as famous Kentucky Oaks Derby race which is always held on the Friday before the Kentucky Derby.

Wayne was caught completely off guard. He told Kimberly the gift was too extravagant, to which she replied "It is a combination birthday, Father's day, and Christmas present and we will be going along with you. This ended any further resistance from Wayne. Needless to say the next eight months couldn't go fast enough for Wayne.

On Thursday May 4, 2023 Wayne and his daughter Kimberly flew to Ohio. His daughter Kristin, who lives in Ohio, drove from her home to meet them at the airport. Together, they drove 3-1/2 hours to the Fairfield Inn in Bradstown, Kentucky, where they would stay during the race days. The Inn was 40 minutes away from the track but it had much more reasonable rates than those \$900/night hotels



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near the track.

On Friday, May 5, "Kentucky Oaks Day", they had breakfast at the Inn after which they drove to the Kentucky Expo Center. There they would get a bus to Churchill Downs. It was a seven minute bus ride from the Expo to the Downs. Wayne says everything was amazingly well organized. He said: "There must have been 150 buses, ready to be loaded with passengers". When they got on the bus the driver reminded them of the area where they were parked so they would know how to find their car when they returned to the Expo after the race. (They were parked in the Blue area.) All the side streets were blocked along the way so the buses had a direct route.

Unbeknownst to Wayne their tickets to both the Kentucky Oaks and Kentucky Derby days were called "All-Inclusive". This included: Parking at the Expo and bus transportation to and from the Downs; a copy of the Official 149th KD Racing Program; reserved seating for both days of racing; all the food and beverages (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic) they wanted.

Betting stations were easily accessible and were located near the food concession areas. Food concession stands were also easily accessible. There was a huge variety of foods, from burgers, hot dogs, chicken tenders, pulled pork, nachos to Indian and Chinese food. There were even desserts on a stick which included cheesecake or chocolate covered fruit.

Friday's featured race was the *Kentucky Oaks Race* which was restricted to female horses (fillies). The color focus of that day was pink with the winning horse of the race receiving a garland of pink lilies. ("Lilies for fillies!")

The signature alcoholic drink of the day was "The Lily" which was made with vodka, lemonade, triple sec and cranberry juice. Vendors came into the stands giving out The Lily to those who wanted them. Wayne said they were really good!

The Oaks program had 13 races total, the major race being the 11th Kentucky Oaks race.

Wayne also mentions that the weather was great, the crowd very large and friendly. He also said that

financially, he had a pretty good day.



Kristen, Kimberly & Wayne "What's His Name"

Saturday May 6th Kentucky Derby day finally arrived. The sky was overcast with a little breeze. Everyone was dressed up for the races. Prior to the trip, Wayne received information from the Downs encouraging bright clothing. His wife, Maryanne, had bought some colorful shirts for him which he agreed to take to the races. However he ended up wearing a black shirt for Oaks Day. On Derby Day he wore a red shirt to go along with the red rose garland which would be placed on the winning Derby horse.

His daughters tried several different hats but found they were limited to what could fit into their suitcase. At the track they saw lots of fancy hats. Wayne said one woman standing in front of him had huge feathers on hers which brushed his face every time she turned her head.

The races each day started at 10:30. The crowds were HUGE but the place was well organized. Everyone was there for a good time so it was a great place to be.

Mint Juleps were the Derby's signature drink but Wayne not liking bourbon, was offered a Bloody Mary at one of the concession stands. To preserve the memory of this fabulous trip, his daughters bought him a Kentucky Derby cap and a pin to put on it. They also got him an official KD tee shirt.

Before the Derby weekend, Wayne had studied the horses who would run the races. He selected the

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horses he would place bets on. Each of the two race days he placed his bets as he entered the Downs. His daughters did the same. This saved them from having to stand in line prior to each race.

They had good seats. They were 10 rows back from the railing. They could see when the horses took off and more importantly, the finish.

There was a huge TV screen in the middle of the field. Thus they could easily watch the horses in the backstretch of the track which could not be easily seen because the large TV blocked the view.

During the Derby race itself, nobody sat. Everyone stood on their seats. Everyone was friendly. The people who were sitting in front of Wayne and the girls commented on how well they were taking care of their dad. Always making sure he was eating enough. They answered: "We have a mom at home and we have to answer to her!"

The weather was threatening so they left after the main Derby race which was the 12th race of the day. While Wayne did not have "Mage", the winner of the big Derby race, he did have "Two Phils" and "Angel of Empire" who came in second and third respectively.

It had started to mist and then began to drizzle. As they stepped onto the bus which would take them to the Expo where their car was parked it poured! His daughter had brought waterproof ponchos for each of them so they stayed quite dry.

The day after the races, Sunday, Kristin drove them to Cincinnati, Ohio so they could all watch a basketball tournament which Kristin's son was playing in.

Wayne and Kimberly stayed overnight at Kristen's and flew to MA on Monday.

Wayne said everything went perfectly the whole time. He had brought some money with him as he didn't realize so many things would be paid for with their All-Inclusive tickets. Although he used the money for their evening meals, souvenirs, and other extras, he came home having spent only \$100 of his own money.

When you see Wayne next, ask him about his Kentucky Derby experience. The smile on his face will tell it all. ■ ■ ■

Resident Snapshots

Social Committee member, Linda Carey, introduces you to another new resident of our community. See a brief profile below. You may have met them already. We are always confident to encourage new neighbors to join in the many social activities available in our community as we are sure of the big welcome you will give them.

Linda Carey



John & Anne McDermott - Unit #1321 John and Anne join our community from Cape Cod where they lived for 20 years. Before they moved to the Cape they had lived in Tewksbury for

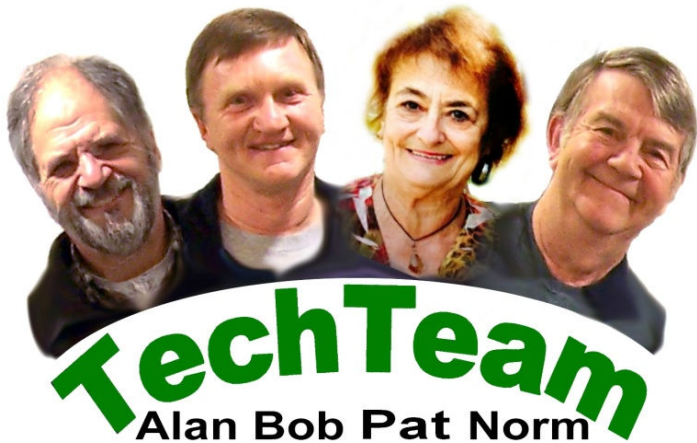
many years. They chose our community because they know several people who live at E.C., and Anne and John thought the units were lovely and spacious. They raised 3 daughters in Tewksbury before moving to the Cape. They now have 7 grandchildren, 6 boys and 1 girl, and 2 great grandchildren.

Anne was a teacher in Tewksbury for 12 years, and she taught for 6 years at M.C.C. (Middlesex Community College). John was Assistant Superintendent of Shawsheen Tech in Billerica for 25 years.

Their interests include movies, books, walking, knitting, and Mahjong. They are looking forward to participating in many of the activities available right here at Emerald Court.

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LILIANA

Travel To & Life in the USA

By Frank Carey and Elaine Williams

In the first installment of this three part series, we tried to capture Liliana Cohen's (#1127 Magnolia) young life while living in Salerno, Italy with her mother, father, three sisters, and a brother.

In the second segment we read how Italy's involvement with Germany in WWII created turmoil in Salerno and changed what was a relatively normal lifestyle for Liliana and her family into one of fear which forced the family's flight to Piaggine for safety. The family returned home only after the war had progressed well to the north, leaving Salerno damaged but once again secure enough for returning residents.

After the war Liliana returned to school and from the ages of 15-19 attended "Liceo Classico" where she studied history and geography along with Latin, Greek, and French. Liliana loved school and studied hard. She also had lots of friends. In later years one friend, Ralph Romano, would become a very significant part of Liliana's life.

In this third component of our "Liliana" memoir we will try to recount Liliana's voyage to the USA, her very interesting life while here, ending with her eventual residency at Emerald Court.

Prior to WWII Italians in general had a wonderful view of the USA. The movies Liliana saw depicted an America where people were not poor and jobs were plentiful. Many Italians had immigrated to America seeking a better life for themselves and their families. Even Liliana's mother told her that when she was young she had wanted to go to America. Liliana's uncle Gino was one such person who immigrated to the US, settling in Brooklyn, NY.

After the war Gino returned to Italy, first visiting his relatives in Piaggine and then spending time with Liliana's family. He treated them to a traditional American breakfast which included sweet pastries instead of the bread and olive oil usually consumed at an Italian morning meal. He also shared positive stories of his life in America. Before leaving to

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return home, he asked if any of Liliana's family would like to go to the US, offering to let them stay with him and his family. Liliana was the only one in her family who said "YES".

Liliana, thinking she would go to the US as an immigrant, found the process wasn't as easy as she thought. Because she was young, had dressed well, and was well spoken, the officials at the American Consulate didn't think Liliana fit the status of the average Italian seeking an immigration visa. However, because of her determination, and after telling the officials she was still going to school and had a boyfriend in Italy, she was told that she qualified for a "Tourist Visa", officials assuming that she would be returning to Italy. Liliana was not sure if she would want to stay in the US but had in her mind that if she wanted to stay she would find a way.

After securing her Visa Liliana's brother-in-law



was able to get her a second class ticket on the Italian cruise ship, "Vulcania". She packed very lightly taking only a few changes of

clothes. She left in June of 1949 for the nine day voyage to America stopping only once in the Azores. Liliana describes the trip as fantastic. She remembers the meals being wonderful. She said there were movies, music and dancing but she remembers the best part of the trip being a piano and the talented musician who played it for the passenger's entertainment. Liliana sang along with many of the musician's song choices. She had a wonderful singing voice and added to the enjoyment of those who heard her.

Arriving in the New York harbor Liliana said she was overcome with emotions when seeing the Statue of Liberty. It meant so many things to her. She was glad to be in the United States. She felt a certain sense of belonging and that she had something in her to give to this new country. It had already become a part of her being. She was also surprised to see so many large buildings of brick with metal staircases

located on the outside of each one. She would learn later that those staircases were fire escapes. In fact all the architecture she saw was so different from her home in Italy. So different but so exciting.

Liliana was met in NYC by her uncle Gino and his wife. In Italy Liliana had only traveled by railroad trains, so it was another new experience she was able to enjoy as the three of them traveled the NYC subway system to Gino's apartment in Brooklyn. Inside the subway car she noticed the walls were covered with ads written in English which she tried to decipher.

Liliana remembered Gino's second floor apartment had two bedrooms. She and her uncle's teenage daughter shared one, while the second was for her uncle and his wife. Gino's teenage son slept in the living room. Although small, the kitchen had a table which accommodated all five of them at meal time. Everyone shared the one bathroom.

While living with her aunt and uncle she helped with chores including helping her aunt with meals. She said her aunt was a good cook and she introduced Liliana to some delicious meals she had never eaten before. Liliana said that all the members of her uncle's family were very nice to her and they all spoke English. Liliana knew very little English so she went to night school to better learn and hopefully master the language. While her English was limited it was adequate enough for her to be employed at a soft serve ice cream shop. She didn't accumulate many friends but spent time exploring and enjoying NYC. Her uncle and aunt took her with them when they visited friends and to many of NYC's major attractions, e.g. Central Park, Empire State Building, St. Patrick's Cathedral, The Radio City Music Hall, and of course Macy's department store.

Ralph Romano, her boyfriend in Italy, had graduated college as a chemist. He had gone to the United States where he lived with his father, a US citizen. Ralph was employed as a chemist in San Diego, California. Upon hearing that Liliana was living in New York, he called her. Their talks included the possibility of a visit by Ralph to N.Y.C. and a suggestion that they get married to which

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Liliana agreed.

On March 26, 1950 they were married in Brooklyn at "The Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe" in front of her Uncle's family and a few friends. Liliana described the wedding gown she borrowed from a friend as very lovely.

A short time after the wedding she and Ralph went to San Diego. While there Liliana's US visa ran out, so they went to Tijuana where they rented a room in a house from a Spanish speaking couple. Since the Italian and Spanish languages had so many similarities, communication was not much of a problem. The two women enjoyed each other's company, talking and often cooking together in the kitchen they shared. Meanwhile Liliana's husband commuted to work each day from Tijuana to San Diego and then back again. In Tijuana, Liliana went to the Consulate. Because she was married and her husband worked in the US, she was able to extend her US visa. They then moved back to San Diego where their first child, Robert, was born in 1951.

In 1952 the company where Ralph worked moved its San Diego office to Los Angeles. Ralph and Liliana decided to move to NYC where he acquired a good job at a bank. Liliana remembers being happy about the move back to Brooklyn because she had her uncle's family there and she loved NYC.

In Brooklyn their second child, Andrew, was born in 1954. In 1956 Liliana made her first trip back to

Salerno with the two boys. There she visited family and relatives introducing the children to where she was born and where she grew up.

Back in the USA the two boys attended elementary school in Brooklyn. When Liliana learned about a school in Queens, NY, which was run by Jesuits, and had a reputation for providing an excellent education, the family decided to move to Queens. The boys were then enrolled in that school. The move proved to be a good one, educationally, for the boys.

Both boys finished high school and went on to college. Robert attended Harvard and graduated with a degree in Law. Andrew received his masters degree in Chemistry from Wayne State University and a Research in Glass Science degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, located in Troy, NY.

At some point, Liliana and Ralph's marriage became problematic and finally resulted in a divorce.

After the divorce Liliana got a job at an insurance company. Not feeling challenged enough she sought a new job in Manhattan and was hired by St. Martin's Press, a publishing company and subsidiary of the Macmillan Publishing Company of London. Her office was located in Manhattan's iconic "Flat Iron Building" where she served as manager of billing, shipping and customer service.

While talking about her time at the publishing company, Liliana recalled two surprising and interesting experiences.

Her first occurred while she was in her office. Harold Macmillan, a high ranking partner in the Macmillan company and a politically active figure in the UK, stopped by to see her after hearing that she was living in Italy during WWII. She was surprised to see him come through her open door. He introduced himself and they talked about the war and its impact on Salerno. They shared common experiences although each was in a different country.

Thinking about the importance of this person, she was also surprised that during his visit, he only talked with the manager next door and to Liliana herself. (Harold Macmillan was Prime Minister of England from 1957-1963).



On Right side of boat: Andrew, Liliana & Robert

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The second occurred when she had a very interesting and surprising conversation with a man she met in the company's mail room. They both had had casual conversations in the past but on this particular occasion the man, wondering about her accent, asked where she was from. She told him Italy. He said he had been in Italy and wanted to know where in Italy. She replied Salerno. He told her that he had been in Salerno during the war. Liliana asked what he was doing there and when he replied that he flew for the military and had flown missions to bomb Salerno, they both looked at each other with shock. They both were able to agree that "that was war and in the past" and decided "we cannot think about this anymore". She concluded both were survivors of the war.

Saint Martin's Press held many publishing events. At one of these events in 1980 Liliana met Phil Cohen, a chemist and ardent classical pianist. They became a couple and married. Outgrowing their small apartment in Fort Lee, NJ, they decided to move to an area where their musical interest could be satisfied and also convenient for visits to Phil's parents in Queens, NY. They chose a house in Pittsfield, MA which is located in the Berkshires of western MA and was close to the famous Tanglewood Music Center in Lenox, MA. There, Phil could work at home and they both could enjoy the beautiful landscape and entertain their many musician friends.

Liliana was not working at this time but spent much of her time volunteering at Tanglewood Music Center and at a hospice facility.

Liliana traveled with Phil on business trips, as well as taking trips just for fun. They made visits to Italy many times, staying with Liliana's relatives. Because Phil was an avid skier, they spent much of their time during the winter in Aspen, CO. Phil would ski and Liliana would volunteer at the local thrift shop and in the emergency room at the Aspen Valley Hospital.

In 2016 Phil died requiring Liliana to make choices about her future.

Liliana and her sons talked about a variety of options for where she could live and assisted her in



Andrew, Liliana & Robert

looking for a new place that would hopefully be near one of the sons. After looking at several places in the New Rochelle, NY area near Robert and at several in Leominster MA area near Andrew, Liliana found Emerald Court. She was happy with what she saw and in July, 2022 moved into unit #1127 Magnolia.

Wherever Liliana lived she continued to have constant contact with her sons and their families. She is very proud of both of them and their families which now include 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Liliana also keeps in regular contact with relatives in Italy and many of the friends she has made in the USA.

POST SCRIPT: Liliana, Elaine and I hope you have enjoyed this three part "Liliana" series. Due to limited space in each of the quarterly EC Newsletters, we were able to include only a portion of the information Liliana related to us.

Liliana is a very interesting person with a pleasant Italian accent. She attends many of the EC events and activities. She is often asked and welcomes questions about her life in Italy and in the United States.

In conclusion; there are 180 units that comprise the Emerald Court Villa and Magnolia community. Within each of these units, I'm sure, is an untold personal and interesting life experience waiting to be shared. Elaine and I are always listening.

■ ■ ■