

Emerald Court Newsletter

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Make New Friends and Keep the Old

by Peggy Schleicher

Were you ever in Scouting? I was a Brownie. My mom and the mom of my best gal-pal agreed to be our troop leaders. I remember my troop as a band of high-energy, fun-loving girls who thought everything was worth a giggle. I remember lots of running around in the yard, selling cookies, screaming, and making crafts. But my best memory is the songs, well, one song. The song that has stuck in my head all these 60-plus years is *Make New Friends*. I remember we sang it with gusto. I remember thinking, wow, that song seems important to remember: "Make new friends and keep the old, one is silver and the other gold." In 2024 the song is still popular in scout groups.

I hope we all can think of some forever friends who have stood the test of time, friends from years ago who are growing older with us, who know about gray and thinning hair, achy bones, grief and loss, laughter and joy, friends that live forever in our hearts. But the song is about more than old friends. It is also about making new friends. New friends who help us stay young, share our stories, enjoy hobbies, and keep us healthier. Lucky for us at Emerald Court we have immense opportunities to continually make new friends. All we have to do is show up at events and activities and reach out and include others. Check the calendar for opportunities to connect. Oh, by the way, my Brownie Leaders quit! Really, both of them decided we were too rambunctious. That's another story. But I am grateful for the song and for the friends and neighbors at EC.

■■■

EC Clubhouse Fun:

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).

Meet Your Neighbor

By Bob Schleicher

Welcome to the next installment of “Meet your Neighbor”. Without further ado, here are more bios of our wonderful community residents . . .



Penny Lambroukos (Unit #48)

Penny and Alec moved to Emerald Court in June 2004. Prior to moving they resided in Lowell for 34 years and raised three children. Penny and Alec were both retired elementary teachers, having taught in both the Tewksbury and Lowell school systems. Before Alec’s passing in 2018 they were avid travelers visiting many countries across Europe, Scandinavia, Greece, Turkey, Egypt and the Holy Land to name a few. Penny likes living at Emerald Court and enjoys the many events presented by the social committee. She also takes part in the book club, movie club, mahjong and is trying her hand at cribbage. Her other interests include walking, reading, knitting, tai chi, yoga, meditation and practicing pool in her garage. Penny says she was reluctant to move, leaving her home and her three season porch. However, over the past twenty years she says she has made many friends and wouldn’t want to live anywhere else.

P.S. She still misses her three season porch!

Elena & Al Mahoney (Unit #49)

Elena and Al lived in Revere for 25 years before moving to Emerald Court in July of



2004. They have one son and three grandchildren.

Elena worked as an insurance broker for Gemini Insurance Agency in Somerville for eight years before retiring in 2009. Al worked for Draper Laboratories in Cambridge for 42 years as a Financial Administrator and a Software Programmer. Al retired in 2014.

Elena loves to read, shop and travel. This past January they spent a wonderful vacation in Italy, touring Sicily, Rome and the surrounding countryside. A return trip to Italy is on Elena’s bucket list. Al loves riding his bike and playing Texas Hold’em. They love it here, and couldn’t think of a better place to live.



Farhad & Claire Shoae (Unit #50)

Farhad and Claire joined our community in 2011, moving from Hampstead, NH, where they lived for 25 years and raised two sons. Farhad worked in the telecommunications industry as an electrical engineer, and retired in 2019 from Arris Corporation in Lowell. Claire was a neonatal nutritionist and worked at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, retiring in 2020. They now have four granddaughters, two in Natick and two in Foxborough. They enjoy spending time with them, along with skiing, hiking, biking, kayaking, and boating in Conway, NH. They’re trying to catch up on their post-retirement travel plans which were put on hold a bit due to Covid! Claire also enjoys playing cribbage with the Emerald Court community on Monday nights. Claire and Farhad have a daily competition with each other for the NY Times puzzles, including the mini crossword, Wordle, Connections, Spelling Bee, Letter Boxed, and Nerdle.

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Kathy Sullivan & Jack Quinn
(Unit #51)

We both grew up in Tewksbury and went to the Tewks-

bury Public Schools. We met after both of our spouses passed away, about 16 years ago. Jack worked for the Wang Corporation and later for the Tewksbury Public Schools. I worked for Delta Air Lines, and now we are both retired. We enjoy living in Emerald Court. We also enjoy traveling and spending time in West Palm Beach, Florida. We have a little dog named Rosie, who brings us much joy.

Al & Val Capone
(Unit #52)

Al and Val moved to Tewksbury on Oct. 20, 2022, after living in Saugus for 44 years. Retiring a year later allowed more time to enjoy life. Al was a project manager that included all phases of construction and Val was the owner and operator of four hair salons.

They enjoy vacationing, gardening, and cooking. Our greatest love is for our family and especially our four grandkids.



Carolyn Jefferson
(Unit #1212)

Carolyn moved from Ayer to Emerald Court with her husband, Pano, who passed away in 2019, to be closer to family and friends, and our community met their needs. She has four children, eight grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Carolyn worked for 20 years as a case aide in Social Services at a hospital in Pennsylvania. She then worked for 20 years as an Ophthalmic Technician at Burlington Eye Associates in Burlington, MA.



Carolyn O'Connell
(Unit #1213)

Born and raised in Newton, Mass, Carolyn moved to Emerald Court in August, 2009, after living in Lowell for 17 years. She was a third-grade teacher for 38 years in Billerica before retiring in 2004. After her retirement from teaching, she continued her part-time work with New Horizons, an independent and assisted living facility in Woburn. In Carolyn's younger years, she played tennis and golf.

Dorothy Caterino
(Unit #1214)

In 2006 Ed and I moved here from Belvedere as a snowbird from Pompano Beach, FL. We needed the garage.

I grew up in Allston, was a Boston model working for I J Fox and Filenes, etc and was Miss Polaroid. I graduated from Brighton High & UMass. and taught at Middlesex CC prior to opening my own businesses Bianca Modeling Agency & Finishing Touch with locations in Boston, Lawrence, Nashua and Lowell for 25 years. My models were on covers of Teen Magazine, Glamour and Mademoiselle as well as one who become a US senator (Scott Brown while studying at Tufts). I also ran the Miss Greater Lowell Pageant.

My late husband, Ed (an EC Cribbage Fanatic), and I traveled the world three weeks each year while we worked - Pyramids / Africa Safari / China / etc.



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We also went on various cruises to Russia, Finland and the Mediterranean. For our 60th Nuptials we took the whole family (four generations) on a seven-day Cruise. After all our travel we settled down in FL with an ocean front condo.

I enjoy finance, discussing the news of the day in EC chat room, EC breakfasts, BBQ's, computer drop-in and chocolate. I am also interested in going out for lunches so if anyone has an extra seat, please reach out.



Jeanette Lees
(Unit #1217)

Jeanette comes to our community from North Street in Tewksbury. She has lived in Tewksbury for over 50 years and chose our community so she could remain here. Jeanette has two sons and one daughter. One son lives in Freedom, N.H., one in Londonderry, N.H. and her daughter lives in Leominster, MA. Jeanette has four grandchildren. She graduated from Beth Israel Hospital School of Nursing and worked in the Boston Area as an R.N. She eventually moved to the Lowell Hospitals; St. John's Hospital and Tewksbury State Hospital. She and her late husband enjoyed camping, traveling (Norway, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, China) and across the U.S. visiting many state parks especially in California. Her hobbies include reading, sewing, and water aerobics. ...

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made by the committee members with the exception of the scones.



**Linda Dempsey, Bill Travis, Linda Martin,
Gay Padur, Helen Wythe & Joyce McKenna.**

The committee also made and decorated all the tables with lemons and yellow daffodils. Yellow is associated with sunshine, hope, laughter, happiness and energy. A splash of yellow on anything can make a person feel cheerful.



**Mary Ann Famiglietti, Barbara Pothier, Dee
Vanderburg, Peggy Schleicher, Penny Lambroukos &
Kathy Waksh.**

EC's Elegant Gathering

By Mary Ann Famiglietti

Have you noticed that spring has finally arrived? Those of us that live in Massachusetts, relate to springtime when the snow melts, the Red Sox come home, and the start of the blossoming of plants and trees. After months of cold temperatures that often result in many of us feeling the winter blues - spring reawakens us and encourages us to get together and share with one another.

At Emerald Court, an early springtime event that met all those indicators was the Elegant Gathering by the Social Committee Team on Sunday, April 24, 2024.

Twenty-seven Emerald Court residents were able to get together and enjoy the fabulous menu and decorations. The menu consisted of scones, lemon curd, clotted cream, blueberry tea cakes, lemon squares, raspberry tarts, lemon tea cakes, magic cookie bars, strawberry cheese cakes, lemonade, coffee, and iced tea. All the delicious pastries were

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Betsy Travis, Denise Ables, Linda Carey, Cheryl Cullity, (Centerpiece), Ginny Thomas, Barbara Swansburg, Rose Antonuccio & Bert Lyons.

There were plenty of those feelings at Emerald Court's Elegant Gathering.



Sue Sandler, Bob Schleicher, Lennie Digiorgio, Pat Stratis, Ruth Mosey & Elaine Williams.

Thank you to the Social Committee Team. They could all get together and open a bakery!

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When Sad Things Happen

The Emerald Court Community is saddened to learn of the death of Judy Walsh (formerly Unit #51). Judy passed away on Thursday, April 11th, 2024. Our sympathy is extended to her entire family.

We are also saddened to learn of the passing of Diane Gray (formerly Unit #1306). Diane passed away on Friday, April 12th, 2024. Our sympathy is extended to her entire family.

Again we are saddened to learn of the passing of Alice O'Brien (Unit #1124). Alice passed away on Saturday, April 20th, 2024. Our sympathy is extended to her 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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Salad Servers: Sue Sandler & Pat Stratis

Ranter Night at Emerald Court

By Elaine Williams

The Emerald Court Social Committee is a group of dedicated women who provide a monthly social activity which is open to all EC residents. Friday, May 17, they sponsored a Pizza and Ranter Game Night.



Coffee Server: Linda Carey



Raffle Sellers: Betsy Travis & Ginny Thomas

After our relaxing meal with friends, Peggy Schleicher gave us instructions on how to play Ranter. Each player begins with three quarters and is dealt one card. Starting with the player to the left of the dealer, each player decides if they want to keep or trade their card with the player to their left. Aces are low and the king has freezing power. The loser of the round is the one with the lowest card and must put a quarter in the kitty. Rounds repeat until only one person has a quarter thus becoming the winner of the game and the kitty.



Pizza Servers: Linda Martin, Kathy Walsh & Diane Fahey

The game is also known as "Screw Your Neighbor". That is such an apt name. My fellow players and I happily passed off our low cards to our neighbors. As the games went on, some players displayed certain traits. Some tried not to give clues to their card. They were the quiet, stony-faced ones. Others did a voodoo type movement over the cards to summon good luck. Someone at my table smiled and cackled as she handed off a low card. Some were loudly expressive.

The friendly members of the committee served us pizza, salad and dessert. There were three choices of pizza: mushroom, cheese and pepperoni. A crisp, colorful salad and a variety of tasty desserts were also provided for us to devour.

In the end there were several winners: Jan DiPietro, Ruth Mosey, Larry Cullity, Dean Gibbons,

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Marsha Gibbons, Linda Dempsey, Linda Martin, Betsy Travis, Alan Katz, Peggy Schleicher, Pat Stratis and Ginny Thomas. All these people are friendly neighbors but they sure know how to play Screw Your Neighbor! Sue Sandler was lucky also as she won the 50/50.

I did not win a game but I was very happy joining my EC neighbors for a great evening. Thank you, Social Committee, for everything you do!



Table 1: Barbara Swansburg, Ginny Thomas, Penny Lambroukos, Sue Sandler, Linda Martin & Pat Stratis



Table 2: Dean & Marcia Gibbons, Jack & Linda Dempsey, Kathy Walsh & Diane Fahey



Table 3: Jan DiPietro, Ruth Mosey, Helen Wythe, Linda & Frank Carey, Larry & Cheryl Cullity



Table 4: Peggy & Bob Schleicher, Bill & Betsy Travis, Donna Davis, Alan Katz & Elaine Williams

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New Resident Snapshots

Social Committee member, Peggy Schleicher, introduces you to more new residents of our community. See their 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 all of our new residents.

Arthur & Florence Correa (Unit #1116)

Florence and Arthur lived in Billerica for 52 years before moving to Emerald Court.



Florence was born and raised in Billerica. Arthur grew up in Lowell. They have four children and seven grandchildren ranging from college to preschool. Florence and Arthur looked at four Emerald Court condos and fell in love with #1116 the minute they saw it. It had every feature they wanted including a first-floor location and hardwood floors. They sold their Billerica house in a day and a half, rented for many months, upgraded their unit, and moved in!

Both Florence and Arthur are retired. Arthur retired at age 65 from the field of microwave component design and cell phone components. His career included work in the defense arena. After 20 years as a full-time mom, Florence entered the insurance/finance field where she worked until her retirement. They are already enjoying Emerald Court. Both have enjoyed golf in the past. Arthur enjoys cribbage. Florence is a reader and a quilter. They are happy to be at Emerald Court and feel that they will enjoy living here.

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Get Yourself Published

“*Writer’s Window*” is still looking for budding writers. It is an open space for airing the **creative talents** of Emerald Court residents. If anyone has an interest in seeing their own article appear in the Emerald Court Newsletter, send it to bobschleicher1@gmail.com or call him at (978) 851-6569. It will appear in a future issue. It can be ‘fact’ or ‘fiction’.

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

<https://ec-tewksbury.com>

Old Folks Are Worth a Fortune

Submitted by Anonymous

Old folks are worth a fortune:

With silver in their hair, gold in their teeth,
stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet
and gas in their stomachs.

I have become a lot more social
with the passing of the years;
some might even call me a frivolous old gal.
I am seeing five gentlemen every day.

As soon as I wake,

Will Power helps me get out of bed.

Then I go to see John.

Then Charley Horse comes along,
and when he is here

he takes a lot of my time and attention.

When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up
and stays the rest of the day.

(He doesn't like to stay in one place very long,
so he takes me from joint to joint.)

After such a busy day, I'm glad to go to bed
-with Ben Gay.

What a life!



Computer Drop-In ...

Computer Drop-In is back in business. If you have computer questions / problems and are looking for a solution, stop by the Meeting Room in the Clubhouse on the 1st Friday of the month any time between 3:00 and 3:30 pm. We'll attempt to solve your computer difficulties - FREE!

Mico Kaufman's Tewksbury Sculptures (Continued)

By Frank Carey & Elaine Williams

I'm hoping that many of you enjoyed my article in the April EC newsletter about Tewksbury's internationally known artist and sculptor, Mico Kaufman, who resided in Tewksbury from 1964 until his death in December of 2016. I also hope many of you were interested and curious enough to visit or notice the "Anne Sullivan" sculpture located on the Tewksbury Common.

For this July EC Newsletter, I have written a bit more about Mico Kaufman and his sculptures located at various spots along Route 38 in Tewksbury.

Mico's creative artistic skills were diverse. There are three areas I am most familiar with. First, is his medallion sculptures which actually allowed him to earn a living and which brought him international fame and recognition, winning major awards both here in the US and around the world. The second is his miniature sculptures, many of which can be viewed at the Tewksbury Library. The third is his monumental sculptures which are located around the world. Some of his most inspiring public works are located locally, in Tewksbury, Lowell, and now at Rolling Ridge, a retreat and conference center in North Andover.

Art, as I have thought of it, has always been so subjective. I either liked a painting, sculpture, or other art medium or I didn't. I still don't pretend to be any kind of art authority, but after checking out Mico's local sculptures, researching and writing about him for the EC Newsletter, I have changed my perception of how I should be looking at art. What is the artist trying to convey to me through his/her art?

During my research I found the following: *Works of art produced by artists e.g. paintings, sculptures,*

etc., are created to be beautiful or to express important ideas or feelings. (Google).

Mico Kaufman in his own words said: *"If you should notice one of my public sculptures, I would like you to stop and ponder on its subject. The pause might refresh, inform, and even inspire. My work reflects on the bonds that substantiate our humanity."*

With those thoughts and words in mind I'm hoping you might visit and or appreciate more the five sculptures Tewksbury's world-renown sculptor, Mico Kaufman, produced and can be seen as you travel the Tewksbury section of Route 38. Pictures of all five works are shown below in the chronological order in which they were dedicated.

If you choose to visit the sculptures a question you might ask yourself as you look at each of them is "What Do You See"?

"Water"- October 26, 1985 Located on Tewksbury Common.



This sculpture celebrates Anne Sullivan and Helen Keller. Kaufman in his autobiographical book, "A Chiseler's True Story" wrote that *he thought the town should in some way memorialize these two women who gave new hope to the handicapped deaf and mute.* (Anne Sullivan had been a resident at the "Tewksbury State Almshouse" now named "The Tewksbury State Hospital".) The story of these two women was made into a powerful movie, "The Miracle Worker".

Mico made a second "Water" sculpture which is located in Agawam, MA., the birthplace of Anne Sullivan.

"WW II Monument" November 11, 1986 Located on Tewksbury Common.

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Mico's WW II monument to Tewksbury's WW II veterans replaced a poorly constructed billboard on which the names of Tewksbury's WW II veterans were affixed on plastic ribbon. The adhesive holding the ribbons often failed causing the names to fall on the ground.

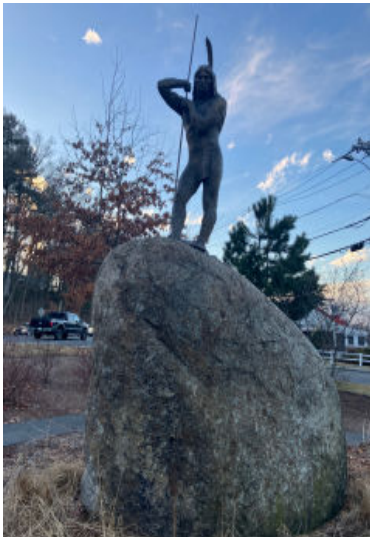


Mico offered to produce the art work for free, just using the surplus money raised for the Annie Sullivan sculpture to cast the bronze memorial. He said that he owed it to the World War II veterans for his being here in the United States.

Thank you to all our Tewksbury veterans.

"The Wamesit Indian" June 17, 1989

Located in Wamesit Park next to Vic's Waffle House.



This particular sculpture relates to the extensive history surrounding this area's various indigenous Indian tribes, their life style, and beliefs. The Wamesits were only one of the native American groups that made up the Penacooks who lived in the Merrimack River Valley area.

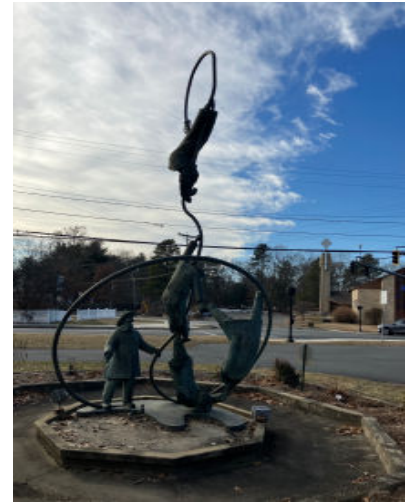
The "Wamesit Indian" is there to remind us of the history of the American Indians who lived in the Tewksbury area and the part they played in the eventual creation of the town of Tewksbury.

Googling "The Town Of Tewksbury" can be very interesting and may give the observer a much better appreciation of the "Wamesit Indian" sculpture.

(What is the Wamesit Indian doing in this sculpture?)

"The Muster" October 3, 1992 Located next to the South Street fire house.

When looking at this particular whimsical sculpture you might ask yourself "What is a Muster?" For me it brought back a fond memory.



As a kid back in the 40's and 50's, growing up in Chelsea, MA, I remember the various fire stations in the city getting together at a local park where they held fire fighting skills competitions against one another. These contests were called musters. They were fun to watch. Often they would bring in an antique fire fighting vehicle which required the firefighters to hand pump the water from a tank on the truck, through the hose, hoping to get enough water pressure at the nozzle to reach the height and distance necessary to fight a fire.

Of course there were no fires at these contests but the best distance a team of firemen could shoot the water from the hose would determine the winner of this particular contest. Observers of the contest were often told to stay clear of the hose as the men pumped and the firemen directed the hose vying to register the furthest water distance.

The humorous depiction of an out of control hose at a muster adds to the fun and enjoyment of the sculpture. It certainly doesn't take away our awareness of the very important and dangerous role our first responder fire-people play in our everyday lives. Thank you to all of our first responders.

"Touching Souls" June 13, 1993 Located on the grounds of the Tewksbury Methodist Church.

Mico Kaufman's desire in creating this sculpture was a personal one. Thus I will be paraphrasing or

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quoting from Mico's book, "A Chiseler's True Story". Many of his thoughts described in the following paragraphs led to the creation of this sculpture.

Being a Jew, Mico says, he grew up surrounded in bias and hate during WW II. After the war he finally came to the United States. Here in the U.S., he states, he found that some of those same feelings of bias and hate were still well and healthy but they had gone underground. This was the U.S. of A where open hatred was no longer fashionable.

Yet as time went on, Mico had to admit, that he had not seen anywhere, in any country or state, such determination to look at people as people, regardless of the ethnic origin, class, color, etc., as in the United States, a glimmer of human heaven on earth. The secret? Perhaps it should start at an early age.

Moved by such thoughts, he modeled the likeness of four children at an age when, hopefully, children are not yet loaded with the baggage of prejudice.

When the sculpture was finished and bronzed he gave it to Elsie Howell. Elsie is a native of Tewksbury and shared a 40 year friendship with Mico. She was instrumental in securing support and financing for a number of Mico's projects. Mico wanted to repay Elsie for all her efforts and he felt this was his only way of reciprocating her loyalty to his artistic endeavors over all those years.

Elsie asked and was given permission to have the sculpture placed on the grounds of the Methodist Church in Tewksbury.

Elsie said that the original title of the sculpture was "**Touching Soles**". Because it was to be placed on church grounds the church minister and Elsie decided "**Touching Souls**" would be a much better title.

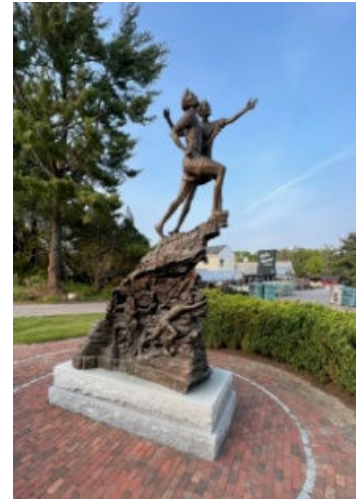
Mico created a second "**Touching Souls**" sculpture which is located at Tewkesbury Abbey in Tewkesbury, England. (Different spelling of Tewksbury in England.)

To appreciate and enjoy this sculpture further, I

would suggest you stop and examine closely the children sitting with their shoes touching souls (soles). What do you see?

Mico Kaufman sculptures not located in Tewksbury.

Two identical Kaufman creations, not located in Tewksbury, were the "**Spirit of Marathon**". One sculpture was placed and dedicated in Athens, Greece, in August of 2004, overlooking the Bay of Marathon facing the Aegean Sea towards Athens. The other is in



Hopkinton, MA, dedicated in April of 2006 and located on the property of the Weston Nurseries at the one mile marker of the Boston Marathon course. The stories illustrated by these sculptures live not only in the figures that dominate the viewer's sight but also in the carvings on each side of the base that holds the figures. The entire sculpture is full of the myths, legends, and history that surround the marathon. A wonderful explanation of what Mico tried to incorporate into these sculptures can be found on pages 263 thru 274 in Mico's autobiographical book. The story is worth reading and the sculpture is worth a trip to Hopkinton, MA.



Mico Kaufman is pictured here working on one of his miniature sculptures.

Mico also worked in "Polymer Sculpture" and "Portraiture". His portrait (Bust) of Arthur Fiedler is now in Symphony Hall,

Boston, MA.

His life works can be found on four continents.

Copies of Mico Kaufman's autobiographical book "A Chiseler's True Story" can be found at the Tewksbury library. ■■■