

# FANmail

Friends And Neighbors of Elim Park Place

## The Art of Bringing Treasured Stories to Life

*Meet Dorothy Dupont*

Elim Park resident Dorothy Dupont, an acclaimed author and watercolorist, is that proverbial apple that didn't fall far from the tree. Her father was a master storyteller, and Dorothy grew up happily absorbing his stories of her ancestors' lives in 19th century Ireland and turn-of-the-century America. These precious stories, passed to down through the generations, were filled with authentic adventures of her forebears. This fascination inspired Dorothy to weave her family's lively history into a series of novels.

Dorothy recalls, "Thanks to my father, I had a treasure trove of details and events to draw upon. For example, in my Legananny Legacy series, I write about a young woman who leaves her village in Ireland and sails to America. I knew my own grandmother had cooked over a crude open fire in Ireland. Then, as an indentured servant working for a grand family in Boston, she had to cook elaborate meals for dinner guests in an upscale kitchen that she knew absolutely nothing about! My character Lizzie had to do the same in my novels. Life was incredibly hard for those coming from another country but my books also celebrate the opportunities and promise of a better life for future generations in America. I am living proof!"

While Dorothy has earned accolades for her writing she is also a Juried Watercolor Artist and her dazzling work has been exhibited many times in the community's Art Gallery since moving to Elim Park Place six years ago. She also shares her artistic gifts through Elim Park University and conducts watercolor classes for residents—which fill up almost immediately each semester! "I took a leap of faith that people would be interested in taking my class and was delighted that people enjoy it," Dorothy remarks.

*continued on page 2*

“ I took a leap of faith that people would be interested in taking my class and was delighted that people enjoy it. ”

Dorothy—continued from page 1

“I am a firm believer that everyone is creative—it’s in our DNA! We all have some resistance at first to something new. But I tell my students that it only takes 20 seconds of bravery to do something you’ve never done before. I

*I am a firm believer that everyone is creative—it’s in our DNA!*

hadn’t taught a class before coming to Elim Park and was nervous that I couldn’t do it. But if you try something that scares you a bit you’ll be amazed at what you can do!”

Dorothy carries this uplifting message about art and creativity to the entire community through Elim Park TV on her weekly show, “World of Watercolor.” You can also find her at 11:00 a.m. each day in the Oasis, painting near the floor-to-ceiling windows where she claims the light “is amazing!” She observes, “It’s easy to get stuck into a routine where you stop growing. I love living at Elim Park Place for many reasons, but chief among them is that if you have something you love to do or want to learn, Elim Park Place is the perfect place to keep growing!”



# It’s Fall at Nelson Hall & the Curtain’s Up!

At Elim Park’s Nelson Hall Theatre the curtain has risen on a new season of live entertainment for the whole family. Come enjoy an afternoon or evening of music from outstanding entertainers, performing musical favorites from the 60s, 70s, and more. Tickets are already going fast so make sure you reserve your seat now!

All shows are open to Elim Park Place residents and the general public and ticket holders must bring proof of Covid-19 vaccination and a photo ID to the event. Please visit our website [nelsonhallelimpark.org](http://nelsonhallelimpark.org) for ticket prices and to reserve your seat today.



## November 4 The Linda Ronstadt Experience

Tristan McIntosh (2016 American Idol finalist) soars through Ronstadt’s smash hits such as “You’re No Good,” and “Blue Bayou,” all the way into the 80’s with “Mad Love.”



## November 13 The Jersey Tenors

An explosive blend of iconic Opera classics alongside such Rock ‘n Roll greats as Queen, Journey, and Billy Joel, as well as some of Jersey’s finest like Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, Frank Sinatra, Bruce Springsteen, and more!



## November 19 Running on Empty

The Songs of Jackson Browne and the Laurel Canyon Sound. Singing the signature harmonies of The Eagles, The Byrds, CSN, Little Feat, Bonnie Raitt, Linda Ronstadt, Joni Mitchell and more. A rockin’ good blast from the past!



Residents Sarah Uylaky (l) and Sally D’Amato (r) enjoy a weather forecast from fellow resident Sandra Blake during a broadcast of News You Can Use.

## Elim Park Place Residents Get into the Act

Right now, we’re hoping to perform an original play this winter in Nelson Hall, entitled, “Four Bedrooms” by Marj O’Neill-Butler. It’s an engaging and funny story of how four older women join forces to save their home. The Elim Park Players are involved in all aspects of the play — the acting, costumes, props, set design, everything! We’re always looking for more folks to participate so whether you’ve had prior theater experience or not, we invite you to join in and have some fun!”

Sally remarks, “Sarah has a theater background, but I don’t. But I was curious about performing and I started going to the Elim Park Players readings and now I’m hooked. Sarah and I write and perform our own material and I’m amazed how much I love it. Elim Park is the perfect place to discover things you never knew about yourself!”

The Elim Park Players led by Nelson Hall Production Coordinator Tim Gadomski back row (l) take a moment to get into character.

Residents Sarah Uylaky and Sally D’Amato agree. Both women are members of EPP and also star in *Curtain’s Up*, segment called “News You Can Use”— a kind of Saturday Night Live type news skit that showcases the two friends’ comedic talents. Comments Sarah, “We start by going around the community and finding things we can do a funny take on. Sally and I love to laugh and so we enjoy putting ourselves out there and making people smile.”



# Upcoming Open House

**Thursday,  
December 9**

Program begins at 10:00am

Open Houses offer a small and personal setting with all safety protocols in place.

**Seating is limited, so call today at 203.633.7629 for information and reservations.**

  
**Elim Park**  
150 Cook Hill Road  
Cheshire, CT 06410

Elim Park Baptist Home, Inc. DBA

Non-Profit org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit no. 1411  
New Haven, CT

## If You Dream it, You Can Do it!

*At Elim Park Place, it's all about you—your interests, your goals, your future. Our community is truly different, in that we are the community of "Yes!" Our staff and residents are constantly coming up with great ideas to do something new—*

*like our Elim Park TV station and Elim Park Players Club, featured in this edition of FanMail. And these are just a taste of the many life opportunities you'll find here.*

*So, come and visit and see what we're up to today. There are also lots of exciting, new expansion plans to share when you visit. Even if you're not ready yet to make a move, come to one of our monthly Open Houses and tell us what you have in mind. We'll be happy to discuss how we'll help to make it happen.*

*Each Open House features an information session presented by an expert in Life Plan Communities. You'll have the opportunity to ask questions, meet residents, and tour the beautiful campus and apartment homes. Refreshments will be served and we'll be happy to provide personalized information from a retirement counselor.*

*There are so many choices available. We'd love the opportunity to help you gather the information you need to make your plans.*

**To reserve your seat at one of our upcoming Open Houses, call 203.633.7629. Or, call for a private tour. Make this new season your time for a new beginning!**