

FANmail

Friends And Neighbors of Elim Park Place



Enjoying the “Abbondanza” of Life *Meet Bruno Carabetta*

Bruno Carabetta, who moved to Elim Park in November of 2021, may be new to our community but that hasn't slowed him down from jumping into all the activities and fun offered here every day. Bruno has already gone on some wonderful community trips and says he can't wait for the next one. “The calendar of activities and events at Elim Park is outstanding...you can always find something that sparks your interest. Right after I moved here, I signed up for a trip to the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford and I loved every minute of it. Whatever's planned, I'll go! It was great to be chauffeured in the community bus and not have to worry about driving or parking. What a treat it is to go out and enjoy all kinds of art, music, theater and more all year round, day or evening, without a worry.”



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”



Bruno looks forward to making new creations in the Elim Park wood shop.

Bruno, who owned a well-known barber shop in Meriden for 55 years, finds plenty of interesting activities right here on our scenic 40-acre campus. “I've been attending performances at Nelson Hall for years. Now it's right outside my door! I'm also an avid hiker who has explored most of Connecticut's major trails throughout my lifetime. Every morning, I walk the Elim Park paths and love being out there with other residents enjoying this beautiful campus.” A master wood carver, Bruno started sculpting as a child growing up in Italy where he made small figures from clay. Over time, he has carved hundreds of lifelike wooden sculptures of animals such as dolphins, dogs, whales— even a six-foot high Grizzly bear that his son proudly now owns. “There's a very nice workshop here at Elim Park, and I plan to continue woodcarving, although there won't be any more six-foot bears!” he says with a chuckle.

Though Bruno says he was doing well living at his former home in Southington, after his beloved wife Carol passed away, he missed camaraderie and being social. He also was concerned about having to continue to care for and maintain his home and yard. “There comes a time in life when

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Bruno—continued from page 1

you know you need to stay ahead of the curve and make sure you have support for your health needs as you get older. It was also good that I was the one to downsize our family home and make decisions about what I would take with me and what would go to family members or charity. When I told my kids I was moving to Elim Park, they were so happy! They live out of state and were really glad I chose to make the move here.”

Another reason Bruno is so pleased to be at Elim Park is the staff. “People who work here are excellent and really see who you are and what you need. For instance, one morning I was tired of eating scrambled eggs. I mentioned this to a staff member and before you know it, the chef had whipped up the most delicious Western omelet for me. My daughter came here for dinner with me, and she is gluten-free. Again, the chef found this out and made a special gluten-free pasta dish just for her. And the entire menu is terrific...it changes all the time and has so many choices every day.”

A man who clearly loves the abundance—“abbondanza”—of life, Bruno has this to say to anyone thinking about a move to Elim Park. “Do this while you can—don’t wait to enjoy all the extraordinary things that are here for you right now!”

Sharon Snow (r) with special guests Carrie Szwed (l) Education Director of White Memorial Conservation Center and Shakespeare the barred owl.



“What would you love to do or learn—where would you like to go?”

“Joy through Music” Led to Nelson Hall



Robin Rockwell (l) arranges for popular groups to perform at Nelson Hall such as Good Acoustics, a Simon & Garfunkel/James Taylor tribute band.

New Director of Performing Arts, **Robin Rockwell**, has always seen music as a source for healing and joy. She remembers, as a teenager in Newtown, CT, after the tragedy at Sandy Hook, she turned to her faith and music for consolation. “Playing in my school’s band and singing in my church choir restored my faith and gave me the purpose to bring joy through music as my life’s mission.”

She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music from Western Connecticut State University and operates a radio program, *Evening at the Opera*, Tuesday evenings on WMNR Fine Arts Radio. Robin brings her wide-ranging musical affiliations throughout the area to expand the renowned Nelson Hall repertoire: “I am so excited to tap into my musical connections of amazing performers throughout Connecticut. One of the first programs I arranged to play at Nelson Hall was a fantastic 17-piece jazz band, the Berkshire Jazz Orchestra from

“I am so excited to tap into my musical connections.”

Westport, CT, that recreates the music and memories of the Big Band and Swing Dance eras. Early this Spring, we hosted the incredible Bluegrass band, On the Trail, comprised of Western Connecticut State University alumni—another crowd-pleasing performance from right here at home.



“You’ll also be seeing Las Vegas headliner singer and impressionist Jimmy Mazza this Spring and Nelson Hall crowd favorites, such as the Jersey Tenors this Fall. The best from across the nation and around our very own state...you won’t want to miss a minute! For our show schedule, showtimes, ticket prices and to reserve your seat today, please visit our website NelsonHall.org

All shows are open to Elim Park residents and the general public. Ticket holders must bring proof of Covid-19 vaccination/booster and a photo ID to the event.

“I Get to Bring in the Fun!”

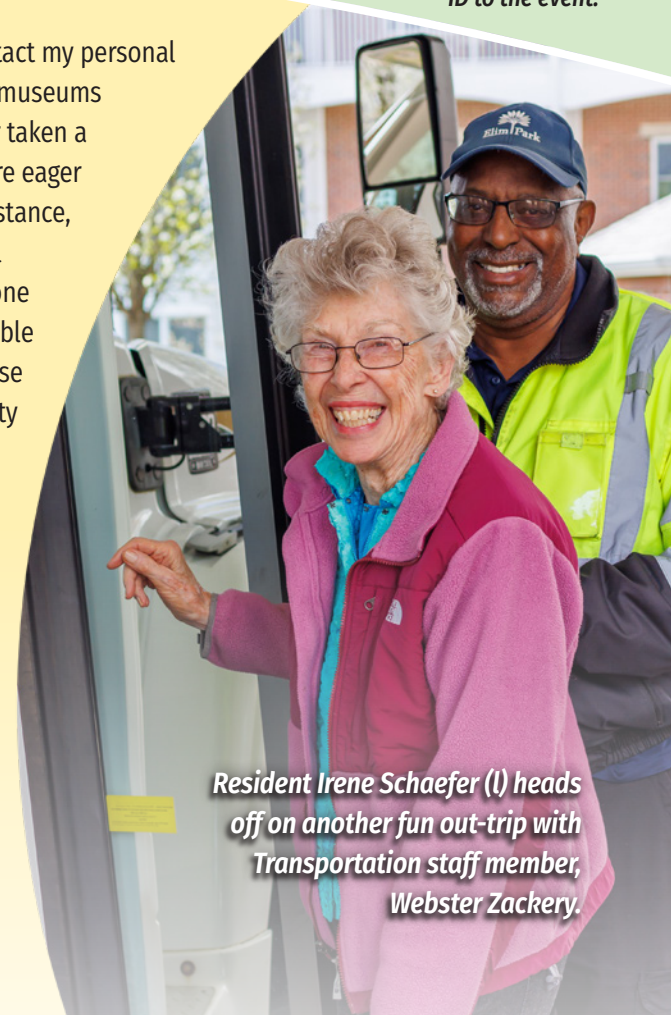
On the pages of *Everything Elim*, you’ll find an extraordinary calendar of trips, lectures, fitness and wellness classes, EPTV programs, special events and more offered every month at our community. You’ll also find the creativity, innovation and the joyous enthusiasm of our Life Enrichment Coordinator, **Sharon Snow**.

A former teacher, Sharon relishes her new career at Elim Park. “I am inspired by this wonderful opportunity to bring in the fun and make somebody happy every day. I start by asking residents, ‘what would you love to do or learn—where would you like to go?’ and then we make it happen. A typical month may include events such as trips to museums, local theaters, garden shows, antique exhibits, lectures or excursions to the Thimble Islands or Mystic. We’ve hosted lecturers from the Paul Mellon Hong Kong Museum of Art and sports announcer Larry Rifkin who called all the UCONN games for years. In the Fall, we’re looking forward to attending the new digital Van Gogh Exhibit in Hartford where visitors feel like they ‘walk into’ a Van Gogh and become one with his paintings.



“For residents with more limited mobility, we also bring all kinds of events onto our campus. I contact my personal network of educational directors of colleges, museums and nature organizations. Many have never taken a lecture series ‘on the road’ before and are eager to find ways to come to Elim Park. For instance, the Educational Director at White Memorial Conservation Center in Litchfield arranged to send one of their most popular animal lectures that featured an adorable little barred owl (that loves people) to Nelson Hall where it got up close and personal with audience members, much to their delight! The CT Historical Society brought their “From Hartford to Hollywood” program about Katherine Hepburn to Nelson Hall—and 100 people showed up. We connected with a live feed to Historic Colonial Williamsburg and enjoyed a memorable look at ceramics, furniture, metals, paintings, prints and textiles in early America. This fascinating program featured Lars Tharp, well-known for his appearances on the BBC’s “Antiques Roadshow.”

Sharon continues, “We also host a variety of Yale School of Music students who bring their extraordinary talents to our Oasis and play for the residents while they enjoy dinner at one of Elim’s beautiful restaurants. And, when holidays roll around (you name it, we celebrate it!) residents love our amazing, themed special events. To be honest, this is just the tip of the iceberg, so please check out *Elim Everything* magazine on ElimPark.org/publications so you don’t miss out on the fun!”



Resident Irene Schaefer (l) heads off on another fun out-trip with Transportation staff member, Webster Zackery.

Upcoming Open Houses

Thu, May 26

Wed, June 22

Thu, July 21

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

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New Haven, CT

An Unmatched Opportunity to Learn...Do...Go!

At Elim Park Place, every day brings something new to enjoy. Whether it's a fascinating lecture about history, science or nature, a trip to a local museum or flower show, or an unforgettable

performance at Nelson Hall, it's all waiting right here for you. Nowhere else can you find this distinctive opportunity to not only live carefree—but live it up!

So come for a visit and see what we're up to today. There are also lots of exciting plans to expand Elim Park's amenities 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 can help you make a plan for living life to the fullest.

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, tour the beautiful campus and apartment homes, and enjoy delicious refreshments.

There are so many choices available. We'd love the opportunity to help you gather the information you need as you explore living options.

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!

