

GUILFORD

NEIGHBORS

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Meet the Forselius Family

Photos by Catherine Kiernan



Best Version Media



Gathering around the piano together is a favorite pastime for the Forselius's

Meet the Forselius Family

By Lisa Lelas • Photos by Catherine Kiernan

Since the summer Anna and Erik met, by chance at a friend's party, sparks began flying for the couple. Although she was dating someone else at that time, when they ran into each other again that winter, the timing was perfect. Destiny perhaps? They were engaged after two years of dating and tied the knot in August of 1998.

Anna was born and raised in New Haven, the youngest of two older brothers. She attended Catholic schools her entire life, graduating from Sacred Heart Academy High School. She went on to college at Southern CT State University for both undergrad and graduate school, earning degrees in Public Health and School Counseling. "After I got my Bachelor's degree, I worked at Yale for seven years doing drug & alcohol research for substance abuse treatment. Upon completing my Master's Degree, I did a paid internship in North Branford for school counseling and then got hired at Brown Middle School in Madison. I took time off after my first son was born and ended up back in Madison working as a school counselor at Daniel Hand High for a couple of years."

Currently Anna helps run the family roofing business she and her husband started, ENH Restoration, named from the initials of their three children.

Erik grew up in Hamden, with 3 sisters and an older brother. He played hockey his whole life and was named Captain of Hamden High in 1988. From there he did a post-graduate year at Wilbraham & Monson Academy, eventually earning an athletic scholarship at American International College for hockey. "I also played college lacrosse," he added. "I earned a degree

in secondary education and history with a minor in Sociology. I went on to coach prep school and junior hockey while I took a teaching position at Central High School in Bridgeport, soon after accepting a position at Wilbur Cross High, where I teach history. That's also when I started our roofing business."

The couple moved to Guilford in 2003 to plant roots for their growing family. "I love it here," smiles Anna, "I can walk everywhere, living close to the downtown area. We have a boat nearby at the marina. Guilford is a quaint town with a wonderful community!"

Their three high school aged children also love living in Guilford. Their oldest son, Hans is a junior at the Pomfret Boarding School, primarily for their excelled hockey program. "He is the typical older brother caretaker type," says Anna, "and, he loves to travel and visit other cultures. His favorite subject is history." Younger brother, Nils is a sophomore, also at the Pomfret School, with a sports focus on hockey, as well. "Nils will do anything for you," Anna adds, "he's very protective of his family but you don't ever want to cross him! Bungee jumping is on his bucket list." Younger sister, Emerson is 14 and a freshman at Guilford High School. "She's our most creative/artistic child who loves baking and cake decorating." She plays soccer and lacrosse and enjoys traveling with her family. "My favorite subject in school is science," she states, "but I'd like to major in Law someday. My dream is travel all around the world and someday go skydiving!"

Anna's 86 year old father, Placido Mastroianni, moved into the family home



With a family of hockey players, Erik sharpens skates in the garage



Nothing is better than being all together as a family

four years ago. He was born and raised in Italy and has lived through World War II, immigrating to the United States when he was 16 all by himself, for a better life. He owned his own barber shop and cut hair for over 50 years. "He's from the older, wiser and hard-working generation," Anna explains, "he always teaches us to keep going and never give up. Even with several current medical conditions, including being on dialysis three times a week, he is setting an example to my children that one can survive anything if you have the will to live."

Aside from running their busy ENH Restoration company, Anna and Erik still find time to give back to the community. They are part of the Chamber of Commerce and Erik often helps high school hockey players with their pre-season conditioning. The family are die-hard Boston Bruin fans.

Whenever they are gifted with free time, Anna loves to work out with hot yoga. "Erik and I also love cooking together. Erik cans the vegetables we grow in their garden and we also grow grapes in our yard for making wine."

Who knows what the future holds for the family but they are sure it will include travel. "There are so many destinations around the world I'd like to visit," says Erik and Anna agrees, "we spent time last summer in Tuscany and would love to go back since I still have many relatives there. For now, we like a good beach vacation, like spending time on Block Island. Just getting off the grid somewhere in the ocean on our boat and not having a phone is wonderful!"

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