

Southborough Living

*A Social Publication for the Residents of
Southborough Neighborhoods | MAY 2019*



*Meet The
Rufo
Family!*

Photography by resident
Chelsea Bradway
Photo location at beautiful
Gulbankian Farms

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Mothers Day
to all the Great
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Christina Lamb

remarkable women of southborough

Photography by resident **Chelsea Bradway**

Christina Lamb of STRUNG JEWELRY DESIGN!

Christina, John, son, Julian (30), daughter, Olivia (26) have lived in Southborough since 1985 – 34 years! They have a beautiful pet toy poodle named Lilly. Christina created Strung Jewelry Designs in 2002 and has been growing since then!

How did I get started? Why is this important?

The first jewelry making classes I took were at junior high school in Malibu, CA. It was incredible. They even taught us lost wax casting. I made my older brother a chunky silver ring he has to this day. It was always necessary to me to make things. For many years, it was sewing. When I was in high school, I had to buy and pay for my own clothes, so I took all the sewing classes offered. Since it was part of the curriculum, my mom had to pay for the fabric, patterns, zippers, etc. I did a lot of extra credit sewing — a whole wardrobe, in fact! It got to be really fun when I became Director of Marketing for the Fabric Place chain. We had six fabric and home decorating superstores in three states and I loved every minute of it.

I did a lot of sewing when I worked there. The fabric was irresistible. Then, in January 2002, I wanted to give my lovely friend April a special birthday gift — something I made. So I bought some beads and made a few necklaces, giving her the best one. The next night I made a few more, then went back to the bead store and got more beads. When I had made 40 or 50 necklaces, I said to myself — “Christina, you have to start selling these or stop making them.” I invited my friend Randi Isaacson who owns Post Road Art Center in Marlborough over for cocktails and asked her if she thought my necklaces would sell. She said “yes” and took some with her for the gallery (it is the purple house with Mona Lisa on the front door, across from Fireflies). She still carries my jewelry and has been very supportive over the years. There was a great fashion and footwear retailer on Route 9 in Westborough at that time called “Strut.” The jewelry buyer saw me in there one day wearing one of my necklaces and complimented me on it. When I told her I made it, she said I should start selling my work. So I made an appointment and they became my second retailer. Then another friend asked me to exhibit at

a gallery show in Cambridge and it was time to pull together a brand name, a logo, etc. In true marketing person form, I put the word out to friends about what I wanted my brand name to convey. Both my son and my dear friend Dave Hill came up with “Strung.” That’s how Strung Jewelry Designs was born. What I’ve found is that a beautiful and unusual necklace is a great conversation starter, great for natural networkers and shy people alike. I met one of my dearest friends because she was obsessed with a necklace I was wearing and came over to meet me. How cool is that?

Favorite part of living in the community:

Southborough is a lovely town and we have been very happy here. This sounds trite, but I love knowing so many people around town. It’s nice to run into people I know at Lily Nails (favorite meeting place) or at HOLA!, Starbucks, or some of the *Southborough Living* events. When I host my Open Studio events, I love visiting with everybody who comes in. It becomes very social. My next Open Studio event will be at my home right before Mother’s Day: Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5, and Saturday, May 11 from 10 am-5 pm. Lots of visitors pick out necklaces for their mothers and sometimes wives. Better yet, they bring their mother to the event to pick one out for herself! **I have met so many nice people this way. Details can be found at www.strung.biz or just come to 15 Summit Road on one of the Open Studio days. You will be welcome.**