



MFF



## President's Message

*Carol Figueroa*



Happy April!!

Coming up on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> is the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt. As you may know, we are co-sponsors of the Easter Egg Hunt with Merrimack Parks and Recreation Department. This event takes place at Wasserman Park and will begin at 10:00 am. This event will take place entirely outdoors. There will be a fundraiser bake sale from 10:00 am to 11:30 am located next to the function hall – we will sell Easter themed baked goods along with water. The Easter bunny will be located on the basketball court with the prize table. The fields at the park will be divided up into specific age categories and each field is scattered with eggs. The kids who participate in the hunt will “find”

these eggs!! There will be 5 groups of kids participating. You can view more information on the hunt at the parks & rec website:

<https://merrimackparksandrec.org/easter-egg-hunt>

We need lots of help from our club members to run this event. MFF has been involved with this event for 30 years and we would love for it to be a success this year especially since the last time it was held was 2019!! So, if you can help out on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, and/or bake some goodies for the bake sale that would be fantastic. Please see the Evite to RSVP. And let's hope for beautiful weather that Saturday morning.

Also, this month comes the important task of putting together the Board of Directors for the 2022/2023 club year. Please take a moment to complete the nomination ballot that was emailed to you and is also included with this newsletter. You can nominate yourself especially if you are interested in helping run the club. You can also nominate a friend and work the position together. Leslie Haltbakk is our election officer this year, please email the ballot to her at [electionofficer@mffnh.org](mailto:electionofficer@mffnh.org). A big thank you to Leslie for taking on this important task of putting together the 2022/2023 club year board of directors.

I have been on the board of directors for many years and it has been wonderful experience participating on the board. I have made many lifelong friends. I have been able to help and support our club and community over the many years. I truly hope that you will consider participating in this aspect of our club. Without our members who volunteer to support the club, we wouldn't be able to do what we do for our members and the community. So please send in those ballots as soon as you can. Thank you.

And if you need anything please be sure to reach out to any of the board members.

In Friendship,  
Carol

## April calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Apr 3	9:30 AM	Come for a walk!
Apr 4	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
Apr 9	10:00 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
Apr 9	8:00 PM	Legion of Glam
Apr 21	7:00 PM	Book Club



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## Vice President

*Catherine Pepler*



Hello MFF Members!

Well it's no April Fool pranks for us. Our club has been very active and supporting so many organizations within Merrimack. All possible with your help! Thank you for all you do. We like it best when we are able to come together. We are planning more fun social events so stay tuned. If you have something that you feel the club would enjoy doing, let us hear from you! So as always, keep an eye on our MFF Calendar and watch for the evites. What's the old saying – the more the merrier! It's true! Join us.

I am delighted to announce that Leslie Haltbakk has accepted the role of Election Officer. She will be reaching out to membership for nominations. Yes, yes you can nominate yourself for a board position! I can tell you this has been a very rewarding experience for me. The board not only works so well together, we have developed great friendships. Want more information about the board and specific roles, reach out to me. We can meet over coffee or talk on the phone.

Until the next time, stay safe and enjoy our Spring time!

In friendship,  
Catherine Pepler  
MFF VP

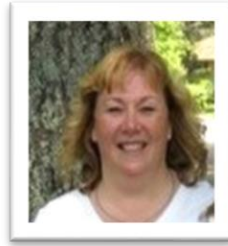


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## Treasurer

*Bev Coelho*



Happy Spring!

Thank you to all who have made contributions. Whether it was cash donations, volunteering their time, baked goods or contributing items for our service projects.

You all contribute to make Merrimack Friends and Families successful in giving back to our community.

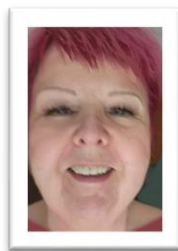
Thank you,

Bev

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## Secretary

*Leslie Haltback*



Just a reminder to send me any Friends in Deed needs!

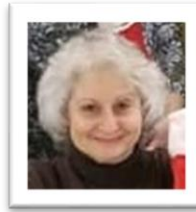


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## Ways and Means

*Julie Akers & Jill O'Toole*



Please consider volunteering at the 30th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 9. *Even an hour of your time would be greatly appreciated!* MFF has been involved with this fundraiser for 30 years. We need donations of **individually wrapped** Easter themed treats or breakfast items that will sell for \$1. Volunteers can help scatter eggs on the fields, monitor the egg hunts, and hand out prize baskets. The event starts at 10:00 but we need help setting up starting at 9:00. This is an all outdoor celebration at Wasserman Park for Merrimack families and we hope to see you there. Please let us know when you are coming and what you are baking on the Evite.

Julie and Jill

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## Service

*Tammy Ditman & Pat Teden*



This has been a busy time for service. Earlier in March we collected goods for Janice's House, a part of Bridges. It included lots of personal and house cleaning products, diapers, a huge box of Cheerios, and over \$200 in gift cards. Pat delivered the items on March 28th. Thank you to all who donated either goods or money.

We are currently working on the Easter Basket service project. The Merrimack Welfare Department requested 26 Easter baskets for 11 families! Please check the Evite for what we still need to purchase.





If you have already signed up to purchase items or provide funds, thank you. The Easter baskets will be filled on April 8th at 6:30 at the Wasserman Park Function Hall. The Easter baskets will be delivered to the Welfare Department the morning of April 12th, in plenty of time for Easter morning. This is sure to bring joy to many children.

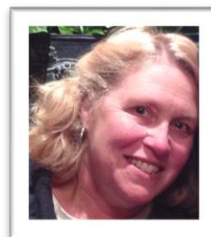
Speaking of joy, this past Saturday (3/26) at our Membership coffee at Buckley's, a gentleman approached our table. He asked if we were the group that provided coats to the VA in Manchester. He stated he worked there and that they were overjoyed that we provided coats and accessories for the ladies also. The ladies are usually overlooked. Great job!!

Hope to see you at Wasserman for the filling of Easter Baskets.  
Tammy and Pat



## Membership

*Robin Johnson & Beth Voorhees*



Greetings from the Membership Committee and happy Spring, hopefully. At this time, the Membership Committee doesn't have any events planned for April. Everyone please stay safe and continue to pray for Ukrainian.

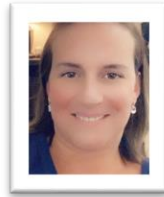
Robin and Beth



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## Publicity

*Beth Milliken*



PLEASE SEND ME PICTURES!! Social media is so important in order for people to learn more about us. If you do anything with members, please make sure that you send me a picture or two, and let me know a little about what you did. The more we share, the more we are seen! It's spring and hopefully you can all get out more and enjoy! Some examples of our social media pictures are here. Pictures really help!

Even if you aren't with other members, but go somewhere nice or special, take an awesome hike, anything else that you think people might enjoy, take pictures and send them my way. It would be great for people to get an even better glimpse into our membership.

Please send to [publicity@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org](mailto:publicity@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org).  
Enjoy the warming weather! Beth

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## Happy Birthday!!



Jill O	4/08
Barb A	4/20
Sue G	4/21
Deana H	4/24



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## Interest Group Happenings

### Secret Sisters

Hello, Secret Sisters! If for any reason you did not receive (or deliver) your March gift, please let me know and I'd be happy to assist.

For April, you are once again on your own delivering your gifts to your SS. Keep doing what you're doing – it's working! We plan to get together on Tuesday, May 17, for our final "Reveal" potluck party, so please save the date!

Remember, sometimes your SS wants to make sure you received your gift from her, but for obvious reasons, she cannot come right out and ask you! It is always nice to submit a quick "thank you" note in the monthly Personals section of the newsletter just to let her know you got it! It is not required, but it is certainly a great gesture. Just send a quick note to our newsletter editors, and they'd be happy to publish it.

Again, thank you for your participation. We hope everyone remains healthy!

Regards,  
Jill

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### Weekend Walks

Watch for Evites about morning walks at the Outlets on the weekend. I watch the weather reports to choose either a Saturday or Sunday at 10:00am. We meet at the rear of the Outlets and walk several laps around the grounds before the stores open. Bring a friend, your family or your leashed dog and come get some exercise with us.





## Book Club

Happy Spring!

For our April 21 meeting, we will be talking about the science fiction book, Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro. "It is a dystopian science fiction story. Set in the U.S. in an unspecified future, the book is told from the point of view of Klara, a solar-powered AF (Artificial Friend), who is chosen by Josie, a sickly child, to be her companion." This is a quote from the American Jesuit Review. I am excited to be reading a science fiction story for a change. The book is currently available at the library. I hope to see many people at our April meeting!

Sandy George

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## Don't forget to support us while you shop!



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NOMINATION BALLOT  
MERRIMACK FRIENDS & FAMILIES  
2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please use this form to submit all nominees for positions on the 2022-2023 Board of Directors. Nominate one person for each position, unless otherwise specified. Questions regarding the duties of any positions may be submitted to the current board member(s). You can nominate any member of the club that you would like to see fill these positions, (except the President, who must have served on a previous years' board.) **Self-nominations are also very welcome!** As with any voting process, the more people who participate, the more representative the results will be. Your nominations are very important.

All nominations are due to the Election Officer before **midnight on April 30th**. Forms may be mailed to Leslie Haltbakk, Election Officer, [electionofficer@mffnh.org](mailto:electionofficer@mffnh.org).



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|                                                                   |                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>YOUR NAME</b> (Must be Included for ballot to be valid):       |                               |
| <b>2021 - 2022 BOARD</b>                                          | <b>2022 - 2023 Nomination</b> |
| PRESIDENT<br>Carol Figueroa                                       |                               |
| VICE PRESIDENT<br>Catherine Pepler                                |                               |
| SECRETARY<br>*Leslie Haltbakk                                     |                               |
| TREASURER<br>Bev Coelho                                           |                               |
| WAYS & MEANS (nominate 2)<br>Julie Akers<br>Jill O'Toole          |                               |
| MEMBERSHIP (nominate 2)<br>Robin Johnson<br>Beth Voorhees         |                               |
| PUBLICITY<br>Beth Milliken                                        |                               |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR<br>Barb Asketh                                  |                               |
| SERVICE COORDINATOR<br>(nominate 2)<br>Tammy Ditman<br>*Pat Teden |                               |

\*Current officer not accepting nomination for re-election, we thank them for their service!



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