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# the Welcome Mat

## President's Message



*Carol Figueroa &  
Bev Coelho*

Happy May!!

Do you think spring will really ever come!! With the stay at home order it would be great to be able to get outside and enjoy the sunshine! April was definitely an unpredictable month. Maybe we will see lots of flowers in May as the saying goes - April showers bring May flowers. 🌷🌱🌻

In April our Election Officer, Beth Milliken, requested nominations for the 2020-2021 Board of Directors. Those nominations came in and the final results are in. We are excited to have new members join us next year along with some previous board members join us in our efforts in running the club.

Here is the 2020 - 2021 board of directors:

President - Carol Figueroa  
Vice President - Catherine Pepler  
Secretary - Dorian Walters  
Treasurer - Bev Coelho  
Publicity – OPEN  
Newsletter Editor - Barb Asketh (Gelinas)  
Ways and Means - Julie Akers and Robin Johnson  
Membership - Wilma Cunningham and Beth Voorhees  
Service Coordinators - Tammy Ditman and Pat Teden

A big thank you goes out to Beth for stepping up to be our Election Officer. We could not have gone through this process without her fulfilling this role for the club. We would also like to thank Jill Mitchell, Heather Murray and Jill O'Toole for their work on the board this year.

We are looking forward to the state of emergency and state home orders being lifted. When this happens we will plan an event for us to get together. But in the meantime please stay safe and healthy,

Yours in Friendship,  
Bev and Carol

# May calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
May 12	07:00 PM	Board Meeting
May 19	07:00 PM	Secret Sisters Reveal Zoom
May 20	07:00 PM	Book Club

Please see the Evite for additional information

## First Vice President

Hopefully we will be back with group events in June!! Stay tuned.

If you have any questions please reach out to the board at [info@mffnh.org](mailto:info@mffnh.org)

## Second Vice President

*Barb Asketh (Gelinis)*



As mentioned above, we have the election results for our 20-21 board of directors! Thank you, Beth Milliken, for being our elections officer this year!! Who says you have to be in Merrimack, or even NH, to be involved!! 😊 As you may have noticed from the listing above, we are still in need of someone to fill the Publicity role. Please reach out to use if you would like to fill this role. There is plenty of help available to get you going!!! Also, if you are interested in being a co-president with Carol, please let us know.

## Treasurer

*Wilma Cunningham  
Bev Coelho*



It is a strange occurrence to look at our bank statements for March and April and not see the usual activity. This is an extraordinary time we are living in. Disappointedly, we could not hold our Easter Egg Hunt or our Spring Yard Sale. Safety first of course. Our fall and winter



fundraisers were very successful, and every bit counts. We continue to have deposits to our charitable fund through Amazon Smiles and through David Simek, a friend of MFF's, who continues to support MFF through the United Way. Thank you to our members who use Amazon Smiles and David for his generosity.

Wishing you and your family members good health. One day at a time...we are doing this.

Bev & Wilma



## Secretary

*Heather Murray*

Finally, Spring has arrived! If you know of any club member that could use our support with meals or any other assistance that a friend might provide, please let me know and I'd be happy to ensure those needs are met, within current Covid 19 guidelines of course. Even if that person does not require any assistance, we at least would like to reach out and let them know we are thinking of them. As they say, "If you see something, say something." Otherwise, we'll never be able to help out our extended family.

Warmest Regards,  
Heather Murray

## Ways and Means

*Jill Mitchell and Jill O'Toole*



It's been a tough spring regarding fundraising. First the Easter event, and sadly, now the semi-annual Yard Sale. We were scheduled for May 16, but alas, it wasn't meant to be this spring. Rather than try to schedule something over the summer, we believe it's best to focus our attention on making the fall Yard Sale spectacular! So please continue to do your spring cleaning and put your donations aside for a little while longer. Here's hoping we'll be able to have our best yard sale EVER in September...

You can expect an email from MFF soon to let you know how much money we've officially raised this club year for our Charitable Fund. If you have any donation suggestions, they will be solicited. And in June, we will vote on how to best distribute the money.



Support us while you shop at <https://smile.amazon.com> @ **Merrimack Friends & Families Charitable Fund Inc!**

[WaysandMeans@MerrimackFriendsFamilies.org](mailto:WaysandMeans@MerrimackFriendsFamilies.org)

Jill Mitchell and Jill O'Toole



## Service

*Julie Akers and Tammy Ditman*

Our annual Service project of creating Easter baskets for the Welfare Department was a success. Hopefully everyone got to read the thank you email from Pat Murphy, Welfare Administrator that MFF board forwarded on April 14th. Per Pat "All the families have picked up their baskets and they were so grateful that Merrimack Friends and Families were still able to provide them." Julie and I want to thank all the MFF members who contributed to this wonderful project.

As stated last month - Every Fall and Spring MFF cleans Lawrence Road (the road to the dump) to fulfill our Adopt-A-Road commitment. We checked with the Town Hall and until the governor lifts the social distancing ban, no group in town will be allowed to perform this task. They are concerned about the social distancing aspect of the road cleanup. Once the ban is lifted, we can clean our section or we can just wait until the Fall.

We continue to hope you and your family are all staying safe and healthy at home.

Julie and Tammy

## Membership

*Wilma Cunningham & Beth Voorhees*



I thought I would send a little much better weather than April! I walk without my dog Lily. I enjoy listening to nature and have coming out of nowhere and watching a chipmunk take a drink from a creek. My feeders have brought a "couple" of Bluebirds, and Cardinals, many Goldfinches and love all the color. I have just planted mint ( for my mojitos), lavender and rosemary. Planning my arugula, kale and lettuce next (if the cheer to all and hoping we have a lot these days with and been surprised with Hawks



weather would just warm up!!!). I heard someone at Depot Farm stand ask for tomato plants and please know it is too early to start them.

Enjoy May!  
Beth and Wilma

## Happy Birthday!!



Debra S	5/21
Ann Marie W	5/21
Dorian W	5/29

## Interest Group Happenings

### Secret Sisters

Hello, Secret Sisters! If for any reason you did not receive (or deliver) your April gift, please let me know and I'd be happy to assist. Your SS is counting on your full participation. And with everyone being home these days, it's tough making those deliveries secretly. Only one more month to go – you've got this!

This is it – the secrecy is all about to come to an end! As I mentioned in April, I'd still like us to have a group reveal party this month! Instead of a potluck, it will now be a "BYOB to a Zoom party". I'll send the invitation as the time gets closer.

Your SS cannot wait to learn who you are! You still need to deliver your May "reveal" gift in an unmarked brown bag just one more time. **BUT PLEASE DO NOT OPEN YOUR GIFT UNTIL THE REVEAL PARTY!!!**

In June, you'll then be able to send a small 'thank you' gift to the wonderful woman who has been surprising you each month since October.

Again, thank you for your participation. I hope everyone is staying healthy (and sane)!

Regards,  
Jill Mitchell



## Fitness Friends

Hope to be back to events in June!

## Lunch Bunch

Hope to be back to events in June!

Melissa Winters & Wilma Cunningham

## Ladies Night Out

We will plan a night out when the local restaurants are reopened for sit down service. In the meantime, stay well and we hope to see you soon!!

## Recipe Swap

Hope to be back to events in June!

## Crafters Unite

With the governor's current stay at home directive set to expire a few days before our first meeting, the group will be on hold again since we have no way of knowing if it will truly expire on 5/15. Watch for an Evite in June (hopefully 🍷).

Thanks - Tammy

## Book Club

We hear our friend Vivian Dano is working long hours so we are not bothering her for a Book Club entry. We think Sandy George's thank you note says it all for the May Book Club (a book of each member's choosing will be discussed).



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## Community Partners

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