



A P R I L 2 0 1 9

the
Welcome Mat

President's Message



Carol Figueroa

Happy April!

Coming up on Saturday, April 13th is the 27th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Merrimack Friends and Families along with the Merrimack Parks and Recreation Department run this event every year. The event takes place at Wasserman Park and will begin at 10:00 am. There will be a fundraiser bake sale along with the Easter bunny in the function hall from 10 am to 11:30 am. The fields at the park are divided up into specific age categories and each field is scattered with eggs and the kids who participate in the hunt will "find" these eggs!! We need lots of help from the membership to run this event. Merrimack Friends & Families has been running this event for over 25 years and we would love for it to be a success this year too! So, if you can help out on Saturday, April 13th, and/or bake some goodies for the bake sale that would be fantastic. Please see the Evite to RSVP. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Let's hope for beautiful weather that Saturday morning.

With April comes the important task of putting together the Board of Directors for the next club year. Therefore, this is your time to give input on who you would like to see on the board of directors. You can do this by completing the nomination ballot that was sent along with the newsletter. You can even nominate yourself especially if you are interested in helping run the club. You can also nominate a friend and work the position together. We've had a great year so far and we hope that you will participate in this process. You have until midnight on Thursday, April 4th to get it in. Please email the ballot to Deana at the email provided in the previous ballot emails she has sent out.

Have a wonderful month and I hope to see you at a future event.

Carol

April calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Apr-8	7:00pm	Board Meeting
Apr-11	6:30pm	Easter Basket and Egg Filling
Apr-13	9:00am	Easter Egg Hunt
Apr-16	7:00pm	Book club
Apr-19	11:30am	Lunch @ Thirsty Moose
Apr-20	8:45am	Earth Day 5k

Please see the Evite for additional information

Second Vice President

Barb Amaral



As Carol mentioned, it's time to get those ballots for next year's officers in! Please send your ballots to Deana as soon as possible, but before midnight on April 4. Thank you so much, Deana, for doing such a fabulous job again this year as election officer!!

Treasurer

Wilma Cunningham



I continue to be awed by the contributions of Merrimack Friends and Families members to our local charities and service projects. Every single contribution, whether cash donations, volunteering time, making baked goods, contributing items for our service projects, is greatly appreciated.

To the people that comment on our Facebook Posts "thank you for what you do" to the gentleman that chose MFF Charitable Fund for his United Fund Contribution through his employer, to the families that stuff our Donation Jar at our Easter Egg Hunt, to those that bring items to sell at our charitable yard sales, to those that choose MFF on Amazon Smiles, THANK YOU! You all contribute to make MFF successful in giving back to our community.





Secretary

Jill Mitchell

Happy SPRING! If you know of any club member that could use our support with meals, rides, or any other assistance that a friend might provide, please let me know and I'd be happy to ensure those needs are met. 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.

Regards,
Jill Mitchell

Ways and Means

Beth Milliken and Wendy Thomas



It's the 27th Annual Easter Egg
Park!! Join us on Saturday April

Hunt, at Wasserman
13th from 10-11:30.

This event is a big deal for MFF, as we run this with the Parks and Recreation Department. You will see an invite soon for volunteers and for people to bake for our charitable Bake Sale. The more we have to sell, the more money we can make for our charitable fund!
Please consider donating some baked goods!

Also, coming up in May is our annual Spring Yard Sale on Saturday the 18th. Please save the date!! Also, please remember to save items to donate to the yard sale while you are doing your spring cleaning.

We are always looking for more ideas for fund raisers, so please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any suggestions.

Beth Milliken and Wendy Thomas





Service

Julie Akers and Bev Coelho

This will be MFF's 18th year to create Easter baskets for Merrimack children recommended by the welfare department! Check out the evite to sign up to donate baskets, candy and treats. Meet us downstairs at the library on Thursday, April 11 to fill the baskets and to get organized for the town Easter Egg Hunt that weekend.

Membership

Dawn LeGay & Linda Varela



Hello Friends,

Know anyone you think might like to join MFF? Did you know the membership fee is a reduced rate at the end of our year? It would be the perfect time to get a friend to try out the club for a very small fee and a whole lotta fun. Contact Dawn LeGay or Linda Varela for more information.

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Happy Birthday!!



Jill O	04/08
Barb A	04/20
Sue G	04/21
Deana H	04/24
Linda V	04/25

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. Your SS is counting on your full participation. Again, I'm always happy to help deliver gifts!

For April, you are on your own delivering your gifts to your SS. Keep doing what you're doing – it's working! And then we will get together on Thursday, May 23, 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! So 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. Happy SPRING!

Regards,
Jill

Trivia

Team One More Round continues to play at the Budweiser Biergarten on Tuesday evenings. The game runs from 6:00-8:00, we have a lot of fun and we often win! The Biergarten has a pub food dinner menu, beers, ciders and sodas. Come join us for a fun night out with friends.

Lunch Bunch

Join us for lunch at the Thirsty Moose Tap House - Merrimack on Friday, April 19th at 11:30 am. The Thirsty Moose Tap House just opened up and is located on DW Highway in the 360 Plaza. We hope you can join us to try it out. I'm sorry to miss having lunch with you but please let me know how the food and service is. Please RSVP by Thursday, April 18th.

You can check out there menu at: <https://www.thirstymoosetaphouse.com/merrimack/menus/main-menu/>

Carol

Fitness Friends

Warm weather is just around the corner, keep up the great work becoming a fitter you!



Book Club

In April, book club will be reading **Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman. This book explores the importance of friendship and human connection. Eleanor is eccentric and a loner whose life finally starts to unfold after a chance encounter with a stranger. If this book resonates with you and you would like to discuss it, look for the evite to come out in early April with more info.

Book Club is open to everyone who would like to discuss the selection of the month. Our discussions are on a voluntary basis and we understand the importance of friendship and connecting with others. We always start with a social half hour. Every member is like a book in that they have their own story to tell and they are at different chapters in their lives.

Last month we discussed **Killers of the Flower Moon** by David Grann. This nonfiction story of the Osage Indians, during the 1920's when they were the richest people on the planet, will take your breath away. It should be a mandatory read. Do not get the audio version. Some of us did not like the way the book was written but the facts presented in this book will shock you.

We would like to thank Tammy Ditman for hosting our March discussion. She made us a Western African Peanut Soup that had us all wanting the recipe. She set us up for a fun and relaxing evening.

Vivian Dano



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