



MERRIMACK  
FRIENDS &  
FAMILIES

Est. 1973

APRIL 2024

50+ YEARS OF GIVING!! 1973-2024



MERRIMACK  
FRIENDS &  
FAMILIES

Est. 1973

gives back to the community

Naticook Camp Scholarships	\$10,500
St. James Food Pantry	\$13,500
St. John Neumann Food Pantry	\$13,500
Bridges: Domestic & Sexual Violence Support	\$3,700
Heat Assistance for the Elderly	\$2,500

2020 - 2023

## Presidents' Message

*Julie Akers & Tammy Ditman*



Happy Spring! Living up to our motto "making friends & making a difference" MFF members have had a lot of fun participating in our town's 32nd annual Easter Egg Hunt, filling Easter baskets for the welfare department and hosting a parent & child craft night at the library. We are always welcoming new members so bring a friend to our upcoming trivia nights, coffees, lunches or book clubs. Whether you'd enjoy helping with a project for Meals On Wheels recipients, lending a hand cleaning up Lawrence Road with our Adopt-A-Road project or having a fabulous night out at the League of Glam Drag Show MFF has a great opportunities to meet up and make friends!

Julie and Tammy

January calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Apr 2	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezers
Apr 3	8:30 AM	Let's Walk Midweek
Apr 3	7:00 PM	Wednesday Book Club
Apr 6	9:00 AM	Membership Info/Social @ Buckley's
Apr 7	9:00 AM	Let's Walk
Apr 8	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
Apr 9	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezers
Apr 10	8:30 AM	Let's Walk Midweek
Apr 10	6:00 PM	Meals on Wheels
Apr 14	9:00 AM	Let's Walk
Apr 15	7:00 PM	Monday Book Club
Apr 16	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezers
Apr 17	8:30 AM	Let's Walk Midweek
Apr 19	12:00 PM	Lunch Bunch
Apr 21	9:00 AM	Let's Walk
Apr 23	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezers
Apr 24	8:30 AM	Let's Walk Midweek
Apr 25	6:00 PM	Library Partnership Night
Apr 28	9:00 AM	Let's Walk
Apr 28	9:00 AM	Adopt-a-Road
Apr 30	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezers

Please see the Evite for additional information





## Vice President

*Catherine Pepler*



Hello MFF Members.

Well looks like there was a miss on Punxsutawney Phil declares an early spring! Don't fret Spring will surely be evident soon!

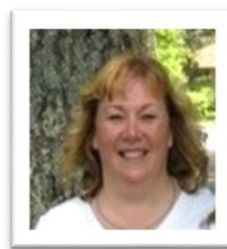
Hoping you are able to join some of the calendar events coming up. We need you! It is not just to have you volunteer services, we want to see you at our social events too! We have new members that are looking forward to meeting the club members!

Happy Easter! Catherine



## Treasurer

*Bev Coelho*



Happy Spring!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Winter Carnival and the Easter Egg Hunt. We all contribute to make MFF successful in giving back to our community!



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## Secretary

*Sandy George*



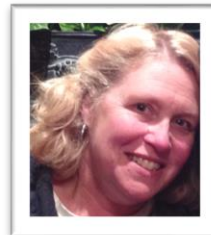
Remember to call me or send me an email if you find yourself or someone else in the club in need of a little bit of extra help.

Sandy

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## Ways and Means

*Carol Figueroa & Beth Voorhees*



Happy April!!

Despite the rain during the annual Easter Egg Hunt, MFF was able to raise \$159 for the charitable fund. There were about 260 participants that came out to visit the Easter Bunny and stopped by our bake sale table. Thank you to all who helped out at the event and baked goodies for it.

This was the last fundraiser event for this club year. We had a fabulous year and we look forward to distributing these funds back to the community this summer.

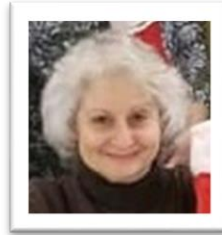
Have a fabulous spring!!  
Beth and Carol





# Service

*Laurie Libby & Jill O'Toole*



Happy Spring!

We just wrapped up our annual Easter Basket service project delivering 30 baskets to the welfare office; our 22nd year supporting this awesome cause. The ladies at Rose Haven assisted by filling small goodie bags with candy for us to include in each basket. Thanks to all who donated items and attended the Basket Assembly event.



We have 2 projects coming up in April...

We will be gathering at the library on 4/10 at 6:00 pm in the Lowell room to put together small gift baggies with a pot, soil and seeds along with a card for the Merrimack residents who benefit from Meals on Wheels. I have heard from many that the greeting card is what means the most to our elderly community.



On Sunday 4/28 we will be doing our bi-annual Adopt-a-Road clean up on Lawrence Rd. A great way to beautify our town and get some fresh air and exercise. Evites are out for both events. I hope you can attend.

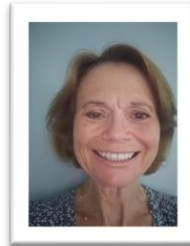
In May we will be doing yard work at the Hospice House here in town, date TBD and in June we will be selling baked goods and water at the annual Hot Dogs for ALZ fundraiser on Thursday 6/27th. Large crowds are expected which will be a great opportunity for us to get our name out in the community. And don't forget we will need lots of baked goods!!

Laurie and Jill



## Membership

*Lisa Casell & Robin Johnson*



Happy April and hope everyone is well. First of all, membership would like to welcome back a returning member, Gretchen Ricks.

Do you know someone who may be interested in joining MFF. Please let them know about our monthly coffee social at Buckley's Bakery and Cafe on Saturday April 6th at 9:00 am. We meet upstairs. Hope to see you there.

In addition, we will be hosting our second monthly happy hour get together at 4:30 pm on Wednesday April 17th at the Common Man. We will be gathering upstairs. This is a great opportunity to catch up with MFF friends and make new ones.

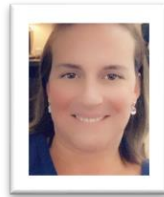
Robin and Lisa





# Publicity

*Beth Milliken*



Please remember to send pictures of your MMF related events to Beth so that we can include them on our Facebook and Instagram pages, along with in our future newsletters. It's so nice to be able to share with our members how much fun we have! When you send, please let me know a quick summary of what the pictures are of.

Beth



# 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 28th, 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 "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 M.

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## Fitness Friends

Join us for Wednesday and Sunday morning walks!

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## Lunch Bunch

Please join us for our April Lunch at the Tomahawk Tavern on Friday, April 19th. Friday's are the only weekday the tavern is open for lunch so I hope you can join us on the 19th. We will meet at noontime. They take reservations so please be sure to RSVP to the Evite when it comes out by Thursday, April 18th.



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## Book Club

### Monday Book Club

We had an interesting discussion about *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. This was a historical fiction which told us about three woman code breakers who worked at Bletchley Park during WWII. It was a very interesting story and most of us enjoyed the book despite its length.

Take a break April 15 to discuss *The Calculating Stars* by Mary Robinette Kowal which is her science fiction debut. The book was the 2019 Winner of the Hugo and Nebula Award for best novel. The book seems a bit lengthy but should be a good read.

We will be reading, *Dolly Parton: My Life and Other Unfinished Business* for May and *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penney for June before we take a break for the summer.

We would love to have you join us.

Sandy

### Wednesday Book Club

Wednesday Book Club will meet on April 3, 2024. I am looking for a host for this April meeting because I may be late for book club after appointments in CT. If you are able to host, please call me at 603-732-6605.

We are reading "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt.

All are WELCOME! Books are available in the library.

Ann Marie

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## Recipe Swap

Check back next month.