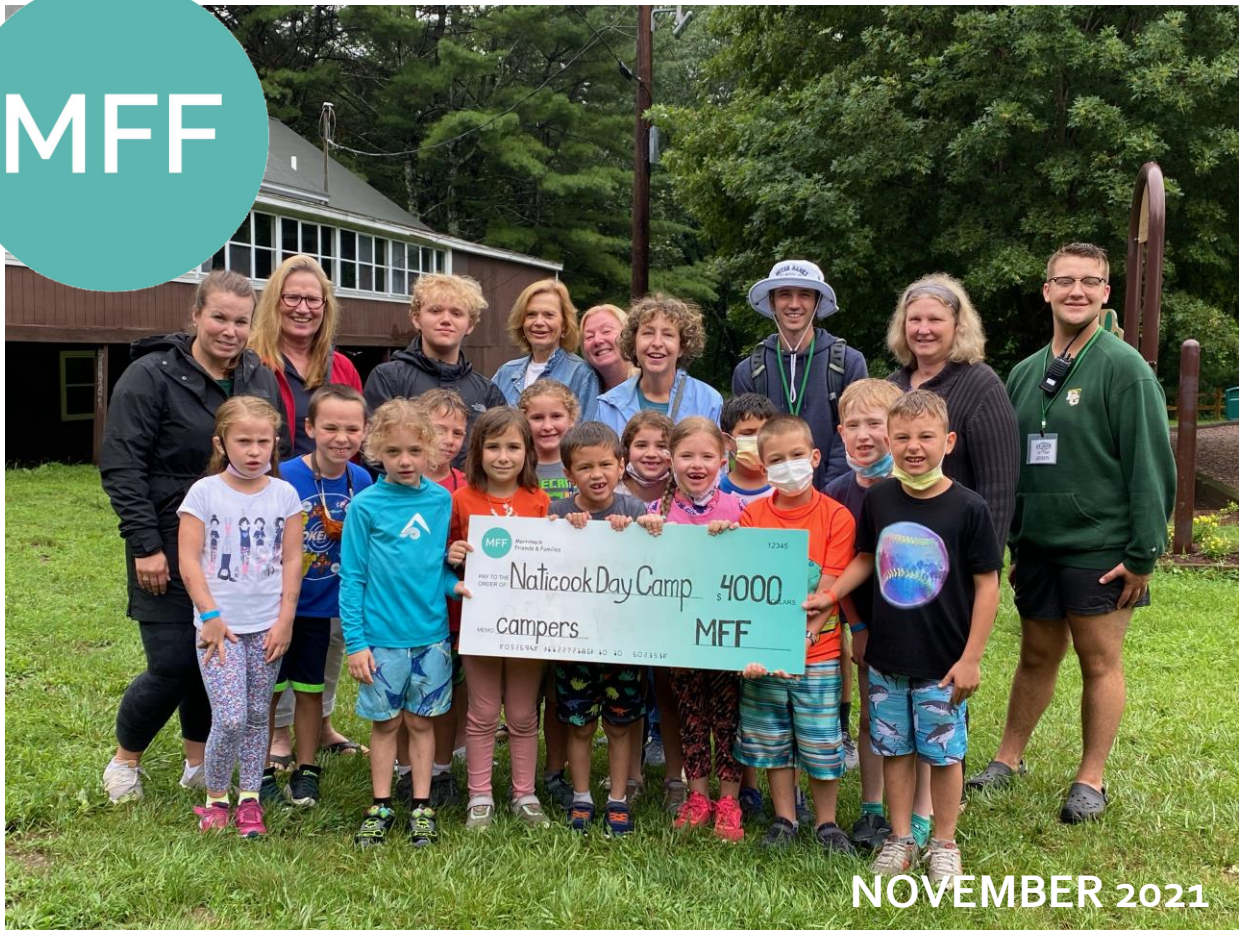




MFF



President's Message

Carol Figueroa



Happy Thanksgiving!!

I hope everyone has had a safe and healthy fall. November sure came quickly and along with it the chilly weather. As we look forward to the holiday season, we hope you can join us for our annual holiday events in December. Please save the following dates for our annual MFF Holiday Party on Friday, December 3rd and the annual Cookie Swap on Monday, December 13th. Please keep an eye out for an Evite that will have all the details.

Along with being a social club, MFF also participates in multiple service events and fundraisers that support the MFF Charitable Fund. The service aspect of the club was one of the main reasons I

originally joined MFF. I wanted to be involved in an organization that gave back to its community. We had successful events this fall that has supported the community – Backpacks for the Welfare Department and Adopt-A-Road along with a successful fall yard sale in support of the charitable fund. A big thank you to the service coordinators, Pat and Tammy, and Julie, our ways and means coordinator.

Julie has been going it alone with organizing the Ways and Means fundraisers this club year. We have done these fundraisers yearly and generally know what to expect and how to prepare but it would be nice for her to have a partner! I had originally planned on helping Julie as one of the Ways and Means coordinators but I have continued in the role of President for this club year. It would be wonderful for one of our members to help her as one of the Ways and Means coordinators. You would be a member of the board of directors and would help out at future fundraising events: Winter Carnival and Easter Egg Hunt. If you have any interest and would like more information, please feel free to reach out at waysandmeans@mffnh.org. As I said all the events have been done before we just need help in executing them!! We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you!

I hope you have a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends.

In Friendship,
Carol



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## November calendar

Please note that all activities will follow CDC, state, and local safety recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

| DATE                                            | TIME    | EVENT                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------|
| Nov 6                                           | 2:00 PM | Halloween Event                         |
| Nov 8                                           | 7:00 PM | Board Meeting                           |
| Nov 13                                          | 9:00 AM | Membership Coffee Gathering @ Buckley's |
| Nov 16                                          | 7:00 PM | Book Club                               |
| Nov 21                                          | 2:00 PM | Wine Tasting @ LaBelle                  |
| Please see the Evite for additional information |         |                                         |



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## Vice President

*Catherine Pepler*



Hello MFF Members!

Here we are November already! What a difference a year can make! Soon we will be celebrating Thanksgiving with family and friends. A time when we stop and give thanks and gratitude. Although we came to a screeching halt last year due to COVID 19, so much was gained in a positive way. Oh, yes vaccines, testing, lift on remote work and schooling did come about. There is more that I have seen and appreciate. Families had more time together, neighbor reaching out to neighbors offering support or help. We called our loved ones more often, utilized FaceTime more, sent care packages. Donated to help those needing food. Proudly, Merrimack Friends and Family members donated to the Food Banks, Backpacks, Christmas gifts and Easter baskets for children in need. It was not difficult to see the caring and love shine though in our human spirit.

I am proud of the women in our Merrimack Friends and Family Club. We have fun while raising funds to support Merrimack. We are a social group and welcome new members to join us. Sometimes, we just need to be asked to attend a gathering, community service or informational meeting. Consider yourself asked!! We want to meet you. Concerns I have heard is being too busy, not enough time to join a club, or not knowing about MFF. I urge our members to share information, point to our webpage, invite that friend to a meeting.

So how do you know what is planned? We have a calendar of events on our webpage. Have you checked it out lately? All calendar events are followed up with Evites with the details of the activity. Something that you are interested in and feel other members might join in that is not on the calendar? Let's hear it...send me a note and I can help you in the planning, calendar, evites. Through your active participation our organization get more visibility. Why is that important? First, we bring like-minded people together that like to have fun, volunteer and give back to the community. And will contribute to MFF's greater success in fund raising.

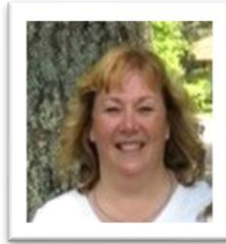
In friendship,  
Catherine Pepler  
MFF VP





## Treasurer

*Bev Coelho*



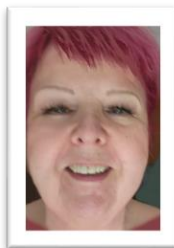
Just a reminder that if you use Amazon when shopping, please use Amazon Smile and select Merrimack Friends and Families as your Charity to donate your 0.5% of eligible purchases.

Thanks,  
Bev



## Secretary

*Leslie Haltback*



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



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## Ways and Means

*Julie Akers & Carol Figueroa*



Ways & Means worked with MFF members in October to raise about \$1,200 for our club's charitable fund! We want to thank everyone who helped make the yard sale a big success. Members donated great items, volunteered their time and folding tables and came to shop. This was a big group effort and we appreciate everyone's help.

The 29th Annual Halloween Party at Wasserman Park was postponed until Saturday, November 6 because of rain. MFF will have a bake sale, sell drinks and have a fun game for children to play. This is a free, outdoor event for young families. We are looking for volunteers and baked goods to sell so sign up on the evite.

Julie Akers  
Carol Figueroa



Merrimack  
Friends & Families



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## Service

*Tammy Ditman & Pat Teden*



The plan for our November service project as approved by the Board is still being defined/arranged. So no specifics about that project are offered in this newsletter but we will send information via Evite as soon as possible!

Thank you to the volunteers who participated in the Lawrence Road clean-up earlier in October.

Thanks  
Tammy and Pat

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## Membership

*Robin Johnson & Beth Voorhees*



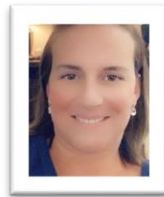
The Membership Committee has two events planned for November. First, please join us at Buckley's Bakery and Cafe on Saturday November 13th at 9 am for coffee and bring a friend. On Sunday November 21st at 2 pm we will be gathering at the LaBelle Winery in Amherst for a wine tasting event. Keep an eye out for the Evites

Robin and Beth



# 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).  
Beth



# Happy Birthday!!



|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Annie R   | 11/7  |
| Darlene P | 11/11 |
| Ceci E    | 11/20 |



\*\*\*\*\*

# Interest Group Happenings

## Secret Sisters

Secret Sisters is off to a great start! Our October gift exchange was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who participated, thank you, Julie, for hosting, and thank you all for the wonderful goodies everyone contributed to our first potluck dinner. Our next potluck gift exchange will occur in January. In the meantime, you are on your own getting your November and December gifts to your SS. If you need any help coordinating, do not hesitate to contact me. I'd be happy to assist!

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 our monthly WELCOME MAT newsletter to let her know you got it! It is not required, but it is certainly a great gesture. Just send a quick note to Wilma or Barb, our newsletter editors, and they'd be happy to publish it.

Again, thank you for your participation. Let's continue on with the fun!!!

Regards,  
Jill Mitchell

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Book Club

Book Club has gotten off to a great start. I want to thank Holly for hosting our October meeting. The minestrone soup along with all the other food was delicious! We are doing in-person meetings at different members' houses each month. Starting in January, we will be changing our meeting date to the second Thursday of the month.

Upcoming books and dates for meetings:

Tuesday, November 16 - book: Vinegar Girl by Anne Tyler

Thursday, December 16 - book: Come Fly the World by Julia Cooke

Thursday, January 13 - book: The Invisible Husband of Frick Island by Colleen Oakley

Sandy George



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Amazon donates.

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