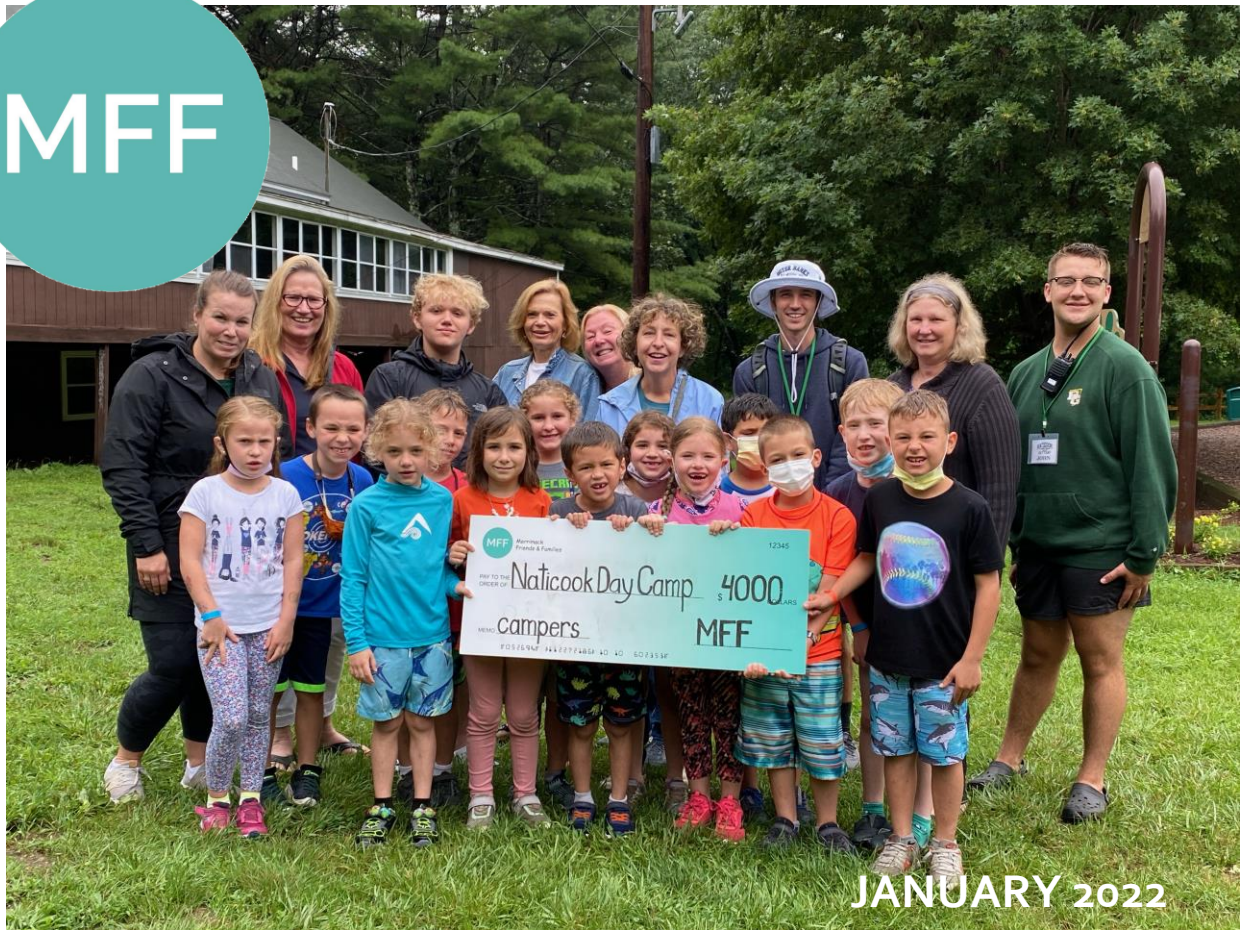




MFF



President's Message

Carol Figueroa



Happy New Year!

Welcome 2022!! The holiday season is behind us and I hope you were able to spend time with your family and friends during this time. It's been difficult to navigate how and when we spend time with our friends and families. I'm hope as we move into 2022, we will figure out the best way to get together and stay healthy and safe.

We will continue to plan events so that we can get together safely. Our next club event is at LaBelle Lights in Derry on Saturday, January 15th. This is their fire and ice weekend which will have

various fire and ice performers along with bonfires along the lighted paths. This is an outdoor event so please plan accordingly. The evite has gone out and we hope that you will be able to join us this evening for a stroll through the lights. A ticket is required for entry and LaBelle is donating some of the proceeds from ticket sales to a local charity. For more information, please visit their webpage: <https://labellewinery.com/lights/>

You can follow the link on this page to purchase your ticket for this event.

Please feel free to reach out to any of the board members if you have any suggestions on an activity/event or any concerns. We would love to hear from you.

Be well.

In friendship,
Carol

January calendar

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

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Jan 15	6:00 PM	Labelle Lights
Jan 17	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
Jan 20	7:00 PM	Book Club
Jan 25	7:00 PM	Secret Sister Potluck
Please see the Evite for additional information		

Vice President

Catherine Pepler



Greetings MFF Members!

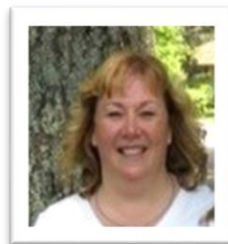
Here we are 2022! Wishing everyone a year of good health, joy and prosperity. Looking forward to our many events planned and getting to spend time together

Happy New Year!

Catherine Pepler
MDF Vice President

Treasurer

Bev Coelho



Happy New Year! Hopefully 2022 will be prosperous for you and MFF!

We continue to make deposits to our charitable fund through Amazon Smiles and David Simek, a friend of MFF, who continues to support MFF through the United Way.

Thank you to our members who use Amazon Smiles and for David's generosity.

Bev



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## Secretary

*Leslie Haltback*

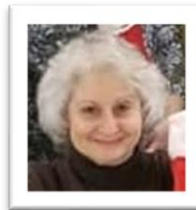


Just a reminder to send me any Friends in Deed needs!

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Ways and Means

Julie Akers & Jill O'Toole



Happy New Year! We wish you a healthy and fun year ahead. As of now Ways & Means does not have a fundraising event planned for January but we will keep you posted if anything changes.

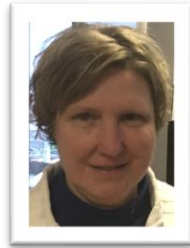
Julie and Jill



Merrimack
Friends & Families

Service

Tammy Ditman & Pat Teden



December 16 was our delivery date for outwear for veterans, and MFF did deliver! MFF offered to veterans 83 winter coats, 108 pairs of socks, 31 pairs of gloves, 66 hats, plus miscellaneous scarfs and raincoats. We got a huge assist from the Patriots Foundation (coats leftover from a veterans event in Merrimack) and support from the Merrimack community with goods delivered to our collection box in the library foyer. The bulk of items came from our members either as newly purchased items, 'like new' items, or monetary donations used for additional purchases. The veterans were thrilled as were our contacts at the Manchester VA. When finished, members of different VA departments (social workers for the homeless, support for veterans going through chemotherapy, psychology services) claimed whatever was left so that they could offer it to veterans who did not attend the distribution event. Tammy and I had fun helping the vets try on coats, find hats/gloves, and encouraging them to not forget to take socks.

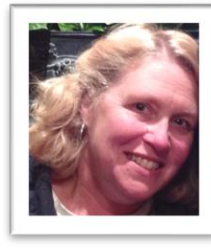
Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday ---- staying safe and celebrating the holidays with family and friends.

Tammy and Pat



Membership

Robin Johnson & Beth Voorhees

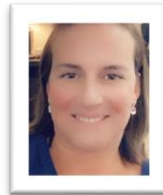


Happy New Year to everybody and hope everyone is well and staying safe. The Membership Committee tentatively has one event planned for January. On Saturday the 22nd of January, at 9:00 am, we will meet at Buckley's Bakery and Cafe for coffee and conversation. Keep an eye out for the Evite and please bring a friend who might be interested in joining MFF.

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.

Beth



Merrimack
Friends & Families

Happy Birthday!!



Wendy T	1/08
Heather M	1/23
Sandy G	1/27

Interest Group Happenings

Secret Sisters

Happy New Year, Secret Sisters! If for any reason you did not receive (or deliver) your December gift, please let me know and I'd be happy to assist. Your SS is counting on your full participation, and I know the holidays are such a busy (and often stressful) time for all of us.

Our second Gift Exchange Party will be this month on **Tuesday, January 25**. Be on the lookout for the Evite! To keep everyone safe, this month we'll be doing things *virtually*. Please be sure to *secretly* deliver your gift to your SS before 7:00 PM on the date of the Gift Exchange party. Ladies, **DO NOT OPEN THE GIFT WHEN YOU RECEIVE IT!** Instead, while on Zoom, we'll take turns opening up our gifts for all to see. We can still have a socially distant party and share a cocktail (or two) together.

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 newsletter just to let her know you got it. It is not required, but it is certainly a great gesture. Just send a note to Wilma or Barb, and they would be happy to publish it.

Again, thank you for your participation. I hope that 2022 has only good things in store for you all!

Regards, Jill Mitchell



Merrimack
Friends & Families

Book Club

NOTE: our meetings from now on will be on the third Thursday of the month.

I hope everyone has had a wonderfully healthy, Holiday season despite the fact that Covid is on the rise. I know many of us have had our initial shots and our boosters but that does not seem to be keeping people from contracting the virus. Our January book is *The Invisible Husband of Frick Island* by Colleen Oakley. This is a charming story that is part mystery, part romance, and full of hope. I believe it will lift everyone's spirits.

I want to thank Jill for hosting our December Holiday/Book Exchange Party and for the bag of goodies she sent us home with. I finally remembered to take pictures and thanks to Tammy and Holly was able to do so (my phone battery had died by then). Thank you to Jim for taking our group photos.

I'm looking forward to an in-person meeting on **January 20th which is the third Thursday of the month**. Please make sure to read the evite if that needs to be changed to a zoom meeting. Contact me if you have concerns so I can get a feel for how many are comfortable about continuing to meet in person.

Sandy George





Don't forget to support us while you shop!

**Support
Merrimack Friends & Families
Charitable Fund Inc.**

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile

