

# FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

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Friends of the Norton Public Library

April 2012 Volume 10 Issue 1

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## Message from the President

Dear Friends,

We jump started spring this year, now get a jump start on your summer reading! Enjoy the extended hours again on the book sale. See inside for the details.

Don't forget about all of the passes the Friends have purchased to various museums. Spring is a great time to get out and visit them! These passes allow for free or discounted admission to many wonderful places. Call the library to reserve yours today or check them out online. How about a ball game? The library has passes for the Paw Sox too! The pass admits up to 6 people for \$18.

Norton Library's Reference Librarian Jane Michelmore retired earlier this year. We wish her a wonderful and relaxing retirement! And we look forward to seeing her at our Friends events!

We still have an opening for someone to chair the fall yard sale. Please contact me if you are interested.

As always, thank you for all of your support. We can't do it without you!

Sincerely,  
Kristen Miller



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## FRIENDS OF THE NORTON LIBRARY SPRING BOOK SALE

The Friends are holding their annual spring book sale the first week of May. We are seeking donations of gently used adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, and VHS tapes (no magazines or text books, please) and will be accepting donations right up until the sale begins. Sale dates/hours are below.

**5/1, Tuesday 4 - 7** *Friends Only*  
**5/2, Wednesday 10 - 5**  
**5/3, Thursday 10 - 7**  
**5/4, Friday 10 - 2**  
**5/5, Saturday 9 - 1 (fill a bag \$3)**

We are also looking for volunteers to help with set-up (April 30, 10 a.m. until finished) and to staff the sale. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Sharon Rice at 508-951-3986 or [sharon\\_rice@comcast.net](mailto:sharon_rice@comcast.net) with your availability. Thank you for your continued support of our book sales!

### Special Thanks to:

- ★ Everyone who attended our February Chateau fundraiser. We raised \$670!
- ★ Norton Chateau for hosting the evening!!
- ★ Everyone who donated items for our spring baskets that were raffled off earlier this month. We received many compliments on the amount of different baskets we had this year! We are pleased to report that the raffle made \$744.
- ★ All the Friends who donated baked goods and supported the sale. The plant and bake sale raised \$601.

Friends of the Norton Public Library  
 68 East Main St  
 Norton, MA 02766  
 Phone: 508-285-0265  
 Web: [www.nortonlibrary.org](http://www.nortonlibrary.org)  
 email: [FriendsOfNortonPublicLibrary@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfNortonPublicLibrary@gmail.com)

### Good libraries need good Friends!

#### Officers and Committee Chairs:

President: Kristen Miller  
 Vice President: Sharon Rice  
 Secretary: Jill Mathieu  
 Treasurer: Joan Casper  
 Membership Coordinator: Ann-Marie Kirshon  
 Newsletter Editor: Diane Rowe

The Friends meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm at the Norton Public Library. All Friends are invited to attend.

#### Annual fundraising events:

Spring and Fall Book Sales  
 Spring Plant and Bake Sale  
 Fall Flea Market

#### Norton Public Library staff contributing to this issue:

Library Director: Lee Parker  
 Youth Services Librarian: Leslieanne Costello  
 Information Services Librarian: Amanda Viana

Keep the Friends in mind when you purge your bookshelves! We accept your books year round!

Be on the lookout for new Friends tote bags. Coming soon!

## A Word from the Library Director

Spring brings more changes to the library. We have more new faces – Amanda Viana joins us as the new Information Services Librarian, and Janet Linehan as the new page. They are very excited to join the Norton Public Library team and we are happy to have them on board. Please say hello to them when you visit the library! (We will miss Jane Michelmore who just retired after 13 dedicated years as our first Reference Librarian, and page Paula Calhoun, but wish them the best as they begin this new chapter of their lives.)

We have a new phone system, courtesy of a generous donation from North Easton Savings Bank. Thanks to a Community Fund grant awarded to us by the Norton Community Access Board, we have more updated computers with internet access, increased wireless access, networked printing, self-service holds and a home theater system in the community room.

This spring we will be celebrating National Library Week – You Belong @ your library. Please see Ms. Leslianne’s column for details about our contests.

We will also be kicking off a Geek the Library public awareness campaign, highlighting the vital role of public libraries, sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Everyone has something they are passionate about – something they geek. In April, we invite patrons to try and match the lists of things Norton

Public Library staff “geeks” to the staff member, and a winner of a \$25 Amazon gift card will be drawn from the correct entries. We will also be inviting people to have their photos taken and sharing what they geek for our website, slideshow and flickr page. We will be running this “geek the library” campaign through the Halloween parade, so there will be many opportunities for everyone to take part. Whatever you geek, serious or fun, the public library supports you.

Upcoming programs this spring include a geocaching program on Saturday, April 28, a Civil War lecture with Gary Hylander on April 19, more cardmaking classes with Betty Sacoccia, and a Native Plants program on May 17. This summer, we will have Tuesday evening concerts in the park and Thursday adult programs. Our “Night” theme adult summer program will include A Night to Remember book discussion, Book Cooks, movie and lecture.

I appreciate the staff, the Board of Trustees – and of course, the Friends – for all the hard work and positive attitude in these challenging times.

They (and you!) help make the library the welcoming hub of the community it is.

*Lee Parker  
Director*



New Page Janet Linehan



Robert Berg and Patricia Polio from North Easton Saving Bank presenting check to Lee Parker.



Norton Community Access Board presenting check to the Library.

Getyourgeekon

geekthelibrary.org

## Information Services

Allow me to introduce myself: my name is Amanda Viana and in mid-March I joined the team at the Norton Public Library as the Information Services Librarian. I grew up in Somerset, MA and worked at the Somerset Public Library for over ten years, starting as a volunteer. When I was a little girl I wanted to be a librarian because I loved books so much. As I got older and realized that the library is so much more than books I became even more determined to be a librarian. The most rewarding part of my job is helping connect people to the information they're looking for! I'm a book lover and I voraciously read books of all genres from Young Adult novels to narrative nonfiction to literary fiction titles. I'm also a fan of coffee, public radio and knitting.

I've only been here for a few weeks, but I can already tell that Norton is a fantastic community and I'm very excited to become a part of it. Everyone I've met, including staff, volunteers and members of the Friends, has been warm and welcoming to me. I'm so impressed with the way the Library has weathered the current financial climate. I firmly believe that the Friends of the Norton Library have played a crucial role in keeping the Library vital.

As Information Services Librarian I will be taking over some of the duties of my predecessor, Jane Michelmores, who retired in March after many years of service to the Norton Public Library. I know that I have big shoes to fill! I will be facilitating the monthly book and writing groups, as well as assisting with the adult programming. I'll also be working to develop the Reference and Adult fiction and nonfiction collections. I welcome any and all feedback and suggestions and look forward to meeting you all.



*Amanda Viana  
Information Services Librarian*

### Upcoming Adult Programs

April 19 at 10:30 am

#### **Civil War Lecture**

Favorite lecturer Gary Hylander, PhD, will speak about Mary Surratt, an American boarding house owner who was convicted of taking part in the conspiracy to assassinate Abraham Lincoln

May 17 at 10:30 am

#### **Stories and Secrets about the Native Plants**

Kathy Ebert-Zawasky will show slides of the native plants that are featured at the Tricentennial Park of Norton. The park was dedicated in the fall of 2011 and features about 300 native plants and five new native trees.

June 21 at 1:00 pm

#### **Concert of Songs from the Great American Songbook**

Mary Jo Maichack, national award-winning singer/storyteller will offer a program new to Norton & sing from the Great American Songbook with top-flight pianist, Bob Shepherd. Both have 30 years experience as performers. The repertoire includes songs by Sinatra, Garland, Bennet & composed by some of the greatest American lyricists and composers.

**Women's Book Group** Led by Amanda Viana, the Women's Book Group meets the first Wednesday of every month from 10:30 am-12 noon and the first Thursday at 4:00 pm

**Men's Book Group** Led by Jay Boucher, the Men's Book Group meets the first Monday of every month at 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

**Writers Group** Second Thursday at 10:30 am or 6:00 pm

**Knot Just Knitting** Knitting and Crocheting Drop-in led by Kathy Keaney, the sessions are held every Thursday at 1:00pm – 2:30pm.

## Children's Room News

We've been keeping busy in the Norton Public Library's children's room. Besides our weekly ("Alphabits") and bi-weekly ("Loosey Goosey Nursery Rhyme Time") storytimes, we have a few great monthly programs presented in cooperation with groups like the Norton MOMS Club and Coordinated Family and Community Engagement. We've kept our teen patrons busy with weekly "YAs" meetings—during which I usually put them to work redecorating or tidying up the children's room. We've also started a terrifically fun Parent & Child Book Club, aimed at kids in grades 1-3 and their grown-ups. Attendance and enthusiasm have both been high since our first meeting in January. The Friends have helped to support some great specialty programs this winter, including a *Hunger Games*-themed event for teens



and wonderful family concert with children's musician Rick Goldin.

For patrons who may find it harder to attend regular programming, in the month of April we moved our Teen Book Club online—encourage

your 12-to-18-year-olds to check out [nortonteenbookclub.blogspot.com](http://nortonteenbookclub.blogspot.com)! This month we're also celebrating National Library week with three creative contests, all of which can be entered from home. Visit the library's website to get in on the fun!

We've been "Dreaming Big" for this summer's reading program at the library.



The Norton Cultural Council has generously funded a manga illustration class for teens, a family concert in the park, a visit from a traveling planetarium, and a journal-building workshop for all ages. The Friends are always a big help with reading incentives and funding for additional summer programs. Thank you for making our big dreams turn out sweet!

*Leslianne Costello*  
*Youth Services Librarian*

## Be a Friend

Want to join the Friends of the Norton Library? Please fill out the membership form and return it to:

Friends of the Norton Library  
68 East Main St  
Norton, MA 02766

## Time to Renew?

Take the time to renew your membership now. Please fill out the membership form and return it to the Friends. Please note on the form if you are interested in becoming involved with any activities. Any address changes, corrections, or questions regarding your membership please call Ann-Marie Kirshon at 774-292-6173 or email FriendsOfNortonPublicLibrary@gmail.com.

## Annual Membership Dues

Individual \$7  
Senior \$3  
Family \$10  
Sponsor \$25  
Life \$100  
Corporate Sponsor \$300

## Volunteer Opportunities

The Friends are always in need of volunteers. Here are some of the ways you can help the Friends in addition to paying your membership dues:

- ❖ Chair a committee
- ❖ Be on the board of directors
- ❖ Coordinate a book sale
- ❖ Coordinate a plant sale
- ❖ Bake something for the bake sale
- ❖ Edit the newsletter
- ❖ Volunteer for a committee
- ❖ Work at a book sale or plant sale

Come to a meeting to find out what you can do to help the Friends. New faces and ideas are always welcomed.

### Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check off any events you may be interested in helping with and a member of the Friends will contact you before that event.

- Book Sales
- Plant Sales
- Bake Sales
- Serve on the Board
- Conduct a program
- Other (explain)

Return form along with your membership dues to:

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**Don't Miss These Upcoming Events**

- **April 19 - Civil War Lecture**
- **May 1 - Spring Book Sale Friends' Night**
- **May 17 - Tricentennial Park Plantings**
- **June 21 - Concert**

***Details inside!***