



# FRIENDS

# NEWSLETTER



---

Friends of the Norton Public Library

Spring 2017 Volume 13 Issue 4

---

## Message from the President

Dear Friends,

Spring has finally arrived. Birds are singing, temperatures are rising and flowers will be blooming at the Friends annual plant and bake sale on April 13 and 14 at the Norton Public Library. This sale will take place during library hours with the culminating activity being the drawing of the winners of the many wonderful raffle baskets. Many thanks to all who donated items and a special thanks to Kristen Miller for giving of her time and talent to assemble the baskets. Our semi-annual book sale will be held during the first week in May. Donations of books may be dropped off inside the library until Friday, April 21.

The Friends of the Norton Public Library is an active group of volunteers which support the library in many ways. Your dues and our fundraisers help to fund the many adult and children's programs that are offered throughout the year. They also fund the many museum passes available at the library. These passes total approximately \$4000 per year. The Friends are currently in the process of purchasing a new CD/DVD drop. This will allow patrons to return CD's and DVD's when the library is closed. If you enjoy the library programs or utilize the museum passes, please consider becoming a friend and/or volunteering at one of our fundraisers.

We welcome new members at our meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm and usually last about an hour.

Have a wonderful spring and summer.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Joanne Hadley

Adult Programs

April 13 10:00-7:00 pm

Annual Plant & Baked goods sale

Spring Book Sale May 2-6

Tues. May 2 4pm – 7pm Friends Only

It's a good evening to join the Friends!

Wed. May 3 10am – 3pm

Thurs. May 4 10am – 7pm

Fri. May 5 10am – 2pm

Sat. May 6 9am – 12:30pm

Please note that Book Sale hours begin on Saturday before the library opens at 10am.

Friends of the Norton Public Library

40 East Main St.

Norton, Ma. 02766

Phone: 508-285-0265

Web: [www.nortonlibrary.org](http://www.nortonlibrary.org)

Email:

FriendsOfNortonPublicLibrary@gmail.com

Good libraries need good Friends!

**Officers and Committee Chairs:**

President: Joanne Hadley

Vice President: Barbara Hagg

Secretary: Jill Mathieu

Treasurer: Joan Casper

Membership Coordinator: Kerryanne Cummins

Newsletter Editor: Kim Ryan

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

The next Friends meeting is April 4, 6:30

**Annual fundraising events:**

Spring and Fall Book Sales

Spring Plant and Bake Sale

Fall Flea Market

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

President: Joanne Hadley

Library Director: Lee Parker

Information Services Librarian: Amanda Viana

Children's Librarian: Meredith Ruhl



## A Word from ...

Library Director Lee Parker & Information Services Librarian Amanda Viana

Massachusetts libraries were first in the world to offer residents free, equal and open access to all, and we are proud to continue that legacy here in Norton. With your free library card, between resource sharing and our 24/7 services, you have access to millions of books, eBooks, movies, music, audiobooks and other online resources. Last year, people borrowed almost 4 million items through the SAILS network! In Fiscal Year 2016, our patrons borrowed 90,293 items; some of these, including almost all the museum passes, were purchased with donations from the Friends.

Libraries are the heart of the community, where people nurture connections. In Norton, we had over 73,000 people visit the library last year, for everything from ancestry research to zoning meetings. Almost 10,000 people attended library programs here last year alone; many of these programs were made possible by the Friends. Recent events Friends sponsored include two history lectures by Professor Gary Hylander, rughooking, painting and other arts classes, as well as zumba sessions.

Our library offers several book groups, Great Decisions discussions, lectures, craft groups and other ongoing programs. New members are always welcome to all of these groups!

We are looking forward to this summer, with the theme of Building a Better World. We will be having art classes on acrylic painting, Zumba and yoga, summer concerts, as well as ways to create and donate to build a better world beginning with ourselves and extending to the community and beyond.

Keep up with us by visiting our website, picking up a monthly printed calendar at the library, or signing up for our email newsletter so you don't miss out on anything. You can also find us on social media -- and help us spread the word so that others know about everything the library has to offer them. If you are receiving this newsletter by email, forward it to your friends!

Norton is incredibly lucky to have such an active, hard-working group of people as we do in our Friends of the Norton Public Library. Please support them by joining, donating or helping out with one of their fundraisers. They make a world of difference to the library.

This winter, people wrote Love Letters to the Library and we would like to share just a few from our patrons.

"The Norton Public Library has become an important part of my life. I perform research there, plus I enjoy their variety of fiction books and audiobooks. And the staff is friendly and very helpful and the building feels warm and welcoming." – Bruce

"I am 90 years old. The Library is my only enjoyment." – Beatrice

"Very interactive with the community and has a wide variety of one of a kind books." – Kylie

“I was able to rent a college textbook for free that retailed for \$500” – Michelle

“Books, movies, music, computer access, interesting guest speakers, new neighbors, old neighbors, smiles, laughs and special help.” – Jean

“1. The Staff. 2. It provides many services to segments of our community that otherwise would not have access – i.e. books, computers, internet access to job opportunities – for many it is a “lifeline” & bridge to a better life, marketable skills, job opportunities, wider world view, relaxation & enjoyment. 3. It provides a meeting place for many civic & educational speakers, children’s groups, activities, etc. open to members of our community. 4. Our Library is “Family”!!! – Diane

“Everyone is nice and helpful. We come once a week. My foster children love coming to read and use the computers. They also meet with their therapist at the library because it is convenient.” – Acquinetta

“I love to play with puzzles and toys at my library. I love to rent books & videos, especially cars & Star Wars. I am 4.” – Donnie

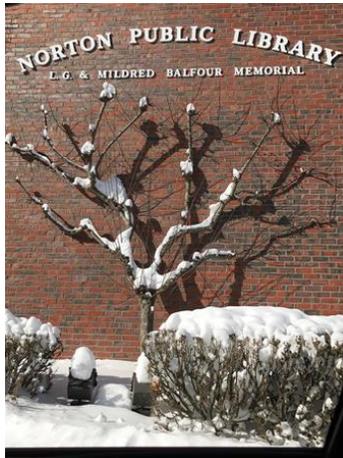
We hope you are able to enjoy some of the treasures here at the Norton Public Library. We welcome you to our space, and look forward to helping you make the most of your library. See you soon at the library!

Lee Parker, Director

Amanda Viana, Information Services Librarian

Winter ...

and spring



Top 10 ways libraries help students



Norton patrons' Valentines to the library



### Advocating for libraries with our local legislators



### Friends decorate the library

### Children feed the dragon



### Youth Services News

During the fall and winter here in the bustling Children’s Room, patrons enjoyed a wide variety of programs, ranging from storytimes and playgroups to a coding workshop. Several of these events were sponsored by the Friends, including Making Music (cosponsored by the Norton Cultural Council), Coding with Minecraft, and a painting class.

In the two toddler sessions and two preschool sessions of Making Music with Ellen Hoffman, children and caregivers had a wonderful time singing, dancing, and playing with musical instruments. In Coding with Minecraft, led by Thi Sarkis from the Rhode Island Computer Museum, pre-teens were completely



riveted for two hours as they learned how to use JavaScript, a programming language, to build giant rainbows and spawn dragons in this interactive computer game. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade created beautiful snowy landscapes in a painting class led by Sandy Churchill during February vacation week. Thank you for making these programs possible!



In addition to these special events, we have continued to offer numerous monthly and weekly programs, including Storytime, Baby Time, LEGO Club, MOMS Club Playgroup, Pokemon Club, and the many fantastic activities brought to us by Self Help Inc.'s CFCE. The Junior Friends have contributed a great deal of time and effort to the Library by decorating the bulletin board each season, planning and running a Video Game Night, preparing materials for craft programs, and cleaning and organizing the Children's Room. I have also started a new book club for tweens, in which we have read and discussed *The Graveyard Book*, by Neil Gaiman, *When You Reach Me*, by Rebecca Stead, *Found*, by Margaret Peterson Haddix, *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, by Chris Grabenstein, and *The Candy Shop War*, by Brandon Mull.



Though spring programs and projects are just getting started, we are already thinking ahead to the summer, when we will explore this year's Summer Reading theme, "Build a Better World!"

Meredith Ruhl

## Youth Services News

Other Ways to give back to the library

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

When you go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) there are spotlighted charities up top on the right, and below that is a box to choose your own charity. Type in Norton Public Library and search. **Make sure you select the Norton Public Library in MA, not KS!**





### Chateau gift card gives back program

Purchase gift cards from the Chateau on their website, select "Friends of the Norton Library" for the community sponsor and the Chateau will give the friends 5% back every quarter.

Chateau gift cards make great gifts!

*Friends of the Norton Library  
Membership Form*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_\_

*Dues (circle one)*

*Individual \$10*

*Senior \$5*

*Family \$20*

*Sponsor \$40*

*Corporate Sponsor \$300*

*Life \$200*

*Dues are by calendar year with  
exception of Life membership.*

*Payments received after Nov. 1 however  
will count toward the following year  
also.*

*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 Board*

\_\_\_ *Conduct a program*

\_\_\_ *Other (explain)*

*Return form along with your  
membership dues to:*

*Friends of the Norton Library*

*68 East Main Street*

*Norton, Ma.*

*02766*



## 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 the library or email

[kerryannecummins@yahoo.com](mailto:kerryannecummins@yahoo.com)

## Annual Membership Dues

Individual \$10

Senior \$5

Family \$20

Sponsor \$40

Life \$200

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.

**Friends of The Norton Library**  
**68 East Main Street**  
**Norton, Ma. 02766**

## **Don't Miss These Upcoming Events**

- **May 2-7 Spring Book Sale**
- **April 13 Plant and bake sale**
- **April 18 Acrylic Paint night for adults**