

Friends of the Haverhill Public Library Newsletter

Friends of Haverhill Public Library

Slate for 2025-2026

President

Teri Lyons

Vice President

Cindy Cavallaro

Treasurer

Pamela Drolet

Corresponding Secretary

Jackie Ellis

Recording Secretary

TBD

One Term

Susan Veasey
Teri Lyons
Diane Tarpy

Joan Kimball
Cindy Cavallaro
Kate Sirois

Two Terms

Pamela Drolet
Cheryl Peel
Nicole Molesso
Claudette Enright

Jackie Ellis
Maureen Ferris
Ursula Smith
Linda Koutoulas

Three Terms

Michele Howard
Alison Colby-Campbell
Mary Ellen Daly O'Brien

Patrice Davis
Kaitlin Wright
Elisabeth Brady



"The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man"

— T.S. Eliot

May, 2025

Dear Friend of the Haverhill Public Library,

We wanted to acknowledge the continuous and generous support the Haverhill Public Library has received from our community over the past year. The mission of the Friends of the Haverhill Public Library is to raise funds for the library through The Friends Gift Shop, calendar sales, special events and our annual Membership Drive. Though we have seen many changes this year in the world, the library is like a safe harbor where one can find sanctuary. We need the support of our library community as it need ours. As you may know, the Haverhill Public Library is planning a significant renovation starting this coming year with many exciting improvements and upgrades. The Friends continue to support the HPL in its amazing mission.

We are asking that you consider a membership as a Friend by completing the enclosed membership card and sending it along with your donation in the enclosed envelope.

However big or small the donation, every penny will go directly to support the many valued services the library provides to our community. Membership of all levels for the Friends of the Haverhill Public Library entitles you to the following:

- Our biannual newsletter
- A 10% discount on all purchases at the Friends' Gift Shop

We hope you take the time to come check out the Friends' Gift Shop! Follow the Facebook page: [haverhillpubliclibrary](#); Instagram: [thefriendsofhpl](#); and our webpage: www.thefriendsofhpl.com, for updated information, new merchandise and shop hours. The Friends' Gift Shop is a great place to find unique and lovely gifts, seasonal items, Haverhill and Bradford specialty items, and books specific to Haverhill's history and culture.

On behalf of the entire Friends' Board of Directors, thank you in advance for your support of the Haverhill Public Library. All of your support helps the library's mission of serving the cultural, social, and community needs by providing global access to informational, educational, and recreational resources.

Sincerely,

The Membership Committee

Friend's Shop

The Shop Volunteers have been busy preparing for the spring season. There are many new items for sale to celebrate the coming of longer days and warmer weather. Come visit!



Book Review
An Unfinished Love Story
Doris Kearns Goodwin

As a baby boomer growing up in the 60's and 70's, and as someone who has a history minor with a great love of reading fiction and nonfiction about the subject, I figured that reading this book would be more nostalgic than edifying. But in reading An Unfinished Love Story, I realized I didn't know much about the era at all!

This book was quite a revelation to me—how arrogant I was to think I knew so much about the era! The story is told in flashback style. As Richard Goodwin, Doris' husband, is beginning to struggle with his health, they decide to go through hundreds of boxes of memorabilia of his adult life.

A bit of background on this power couple:

Richard was a Tufts and then Harvard Law graduate. As an idealistic young man, he began clerking for Supreme Court Justice, Felix Frankfurter. In 1959, he joined Senator John F. Kennedy's staff (one of the youngest!) quickly moving up the ladder to becoming one of his speech writers. He helped JFK form the idea of the Peace Corps and was with him when he delivered the idea at the University of Michigan. After the presidential election, Goodwin took on various duties as special counsel on Latin American Affairs. He was one of Kennedy's staff that opposed the order of the Bay of Pigs operation. As he moved up in importance, he became very friendly with both JFK and his wife, Jackie. After the assassination, Jackie asked him to arrange the eternal flame at JFK's grave at Arlington. Goodwin stayed on at the White House working with the new Peace Corps and writing Lyndon Johnson's speeches. He was the one to come up with naming LBJ's agenda "the Great Society." Goodwin loved this exciting time as he felt he was actually involved in so much change for the better in American society. But by 1965, the war in Vietnam became the overarching focus of the country. Goodwin decided to quit working for LBJ and began working with Robert Kennedy. When Kennedy decided not to run for election, Goodwin quit politics to teach and write books and articles critical of the war. He also decided to get involved with Eugene McCarthy's campaign for president, which only lasted until Kennedy changed his mind and Goodwin went back to work with him. They became close friends, which, of course, ended in tragedy with Kennedy's assassination. He was briefly married, had a son, and then separated as his wife's mental illness became more pronounced and she finally committed suicide. That was the end of his involvement in politics and he continued to write and teach.

Doris was a Colby College and Harvard University graduate. She was invited to work in Washington, D.C. as a White House Fellow. She lost the position quickly when it was found out that she wrote a derogatory article about LBJ, but he liked her so offered her a position in the Department of Labor. LBJ hired her for a staff position focusing on anti-poverty when he decided

not to run for president. After the election she was hired as a professor at Harvard University and commuted to Texas to help LBJ draft his memoirs. Her first book was a biography of LBJ, Kearns continued to write and received the Pulitzer Prize in Literature for a biography of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. Many other awards were earned over the years! I enjoyed another of her books, the Team of Rivals.

The two met at Harvard in 1972 while Doris was teaching there and Richard was writing a book. Even though they were often at the same place at the same time, they didn't know each other earlier. They married in 1975 and continued to lead high-powered and interesting lives. When Richard retired and was diagnosed with multiple health problems, they decided to tackle the hundreds of boxes he had accumulated over the years. He saved everything. Every speech, newspaper article, memo, letter (both sent and received), campaign memorabilia, clothing, everything! Doris was working on the biography of LBJ, so found the information useful, but as they delved deeper, she decided to also write a book about their combined experiences in politics, hence An Unfinished Love Story.

At times, reading this book felt like watching the movie Forrest Gump—Richard and Doris seemed to be involved in almost every important event or person in modern history! They were both idealistic, hardworking, and incredibly smart! They were remarkable people living in tumultuous, historic times and this book does an excellent job of capturing that. A good read!

Teri Lyons

Annual Luncheon

We had a beautiful day to celebrate our amazing Friends Shop Volunteers at our Annual Luncheon at the Haverhill Country Club. We could not do what we do without them.

Thank you!



Fun Facts

Remember When...

Remember when you could buy 45 records in Mitchells Department Store in downtown Haverhill?

Or

Did you know.... [Historic New England: Haverhill Center](#) is located at 151 Essex Street in downtown Haverhill and they have free tours for groups of 10 or less. It is fabulous.

Historic New England

A few years ago, I mentioned in the Friends' newsletter that Historic New England had acquired two of the old shoe factory buildings in downtown Haverhill. And their website mentions that these buildings hold the largest collection of New England memorabilia! That sounded interesting and I finally went to visit it. Unfortunately, it does not resemble a conventional

museum, nor can one visit it at a time of one's own choosing. Everyone was friendly and welcoming, but it became clear that if I wanted to learn more, I would have to become a member! So I joined! Now I will be able to tour the buildings when the collections are open to members for a tour. The next one will be in September and I will be there! However, there are more benefits to joining as a member...Historic New England owns and operates 38 other properties throughout the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. I see a number of interesting day trips in my future! Teri Lyons

For more information, please go to the link provided above, or go to HistoricNewEngland.org.



**PLEASE JOIN US AS A FRIEND OF THE
HAVERHILL PUBLIC LIBRARY!**

Info at the Friends Shop and Front Desk

or

[Friends of the Haverhill Public Library Website](#)

or

[Facebook](#)

Membership Benefits

Becoming a member of the Friends of the Haverhill Public Library comes with a host of benefits, including:

- Discounts on the Friend's Shop merchandise
- A chance to contribute directly to the library's growth and development

Join us today and be a part of this vibrant community!

We love hearing from you! Share your favorite books, reviews, or stories about how the library has impacted your life.

Support the Library

Your support makes all the difference. Whether through donations, volunteering, or spreading the word about library services, every contribution helps us continue to serve Haverhill.

Consider making a monetary donation or contributing gently used books to our collection. All proceeds go toward enhancing library programs and resources for the community.

More than just a Library

The Friends of the Haverhill Public Library Newsletter is more than just a collection of updates; it's a celebration of everything that makes our library an indispensable part of the Haverhill community. Together, we can continue to learn, grow, and connect, ensuring that the library remains a beacon of knowledge, creativity, and inclusiveness for generations to come.

*****Annual Meeting*****

The Friends Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday June 10 at 6:30 PM in the Johnson Auditorium. Our Speakers will be Diane Tarp, a local poet and author as well as Dan Speers, Haverhill's Poet Laureate.