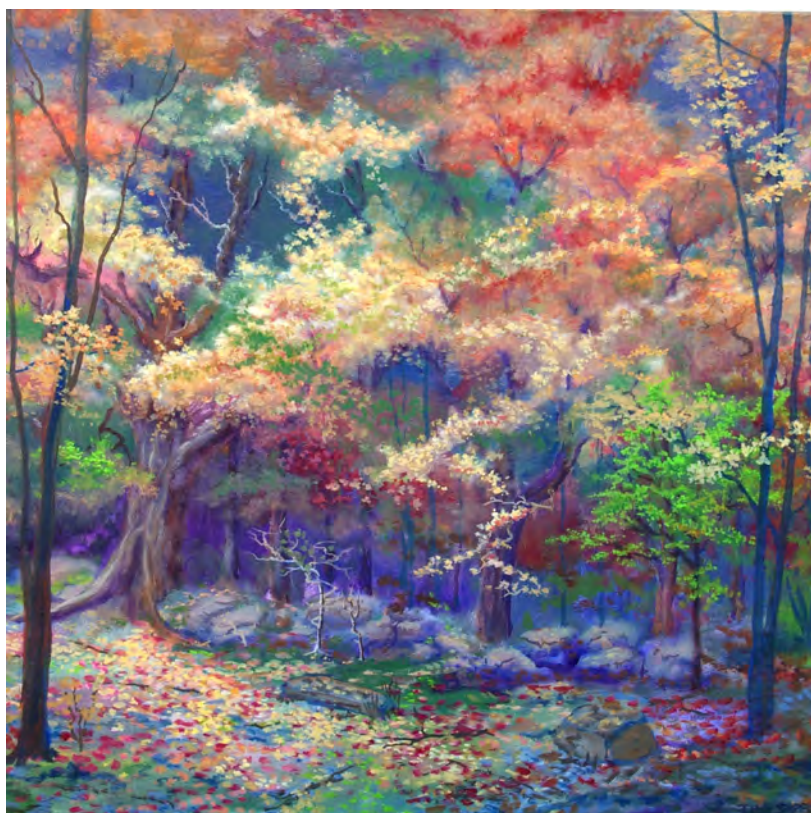
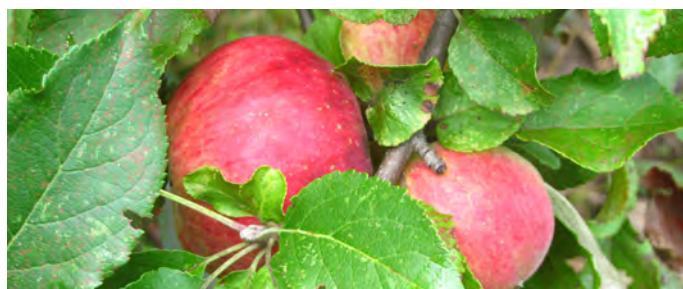


# Mountain View



*A newsletter by and for the Randolph Community, published by the Randolph Foundation.*



Top left: the Randolph Trail Crew at the 4th of July Tea by Ginny Umiker; Top right (above): Moose and Calf by David Forsyth; Top right: Charades from Above by Ginny Umiker; Middle left: Apples by Carol Ryder Horton  
Bottom left: Porches of Randolph by Redza Dempster; Bottom right: Fall on the Hill by Tim Sappington, Oil on Canvas



Articles, poems, notices, inquiries, and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged. Send materials for the **Mountain View** to Lucy Sandin, [lucy.sandin@gmail.com](mailto:lucy.sandin@gmail.com) (207)831-7127, by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Publication is quarterly: September, December, April, and June. **The Blizzard** is published the first of each month, with the exception of July and August. Send winter event notices to Linda Dupont, [linda.dupont90@yahoo.com](mailto:linda.dupont90@yahoo.com) by the 20th of the preceding month. **The Randolph Weekly** is published in July and August only.

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Lucy Sandin, Editor and Design; Jennifer DeMarco, Mailing List

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<b>AMBULANCE</b>	911	<b>LIBRARY</b> Librarian, Yvonne Jenkins	(603)466-5408
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b> Chief, Dana Horne	911	Mon. & Weds. 1-5pm; Sat. 10am-Noon	
<b>RANDOLPH POLICE</b>	911	<b>LIFELINE</b> Heather Wiley	(603)466-5179
<b>BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT</b> Chair, David Ruble	(603)466-5771	<b>PLANNING BOARD</b> Chair, June Hammond	(603)466-5771
<b>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b> Chair, Michele Cormier; Assistant, Linda Dupont	(603)466-5771	Rowan Meets 7pm 1st Thurs. at Town Hall	<a href="mailto:selectmen@randolph.nh.gov">selectmen@randolph.nh.gov</a>
Selectman, John Turner, Paul Alfred Jadis		<b>RANDOLPH CHURCH</b> Sunday services July & August, 10:30am. Moderator, John Weatherly	(603)723-0847
Meets 7pm 2nd & 4th Mon., Town Hall		<b>RANDOLPH COMMUNITY FOREST</b> Meets 7pm 1st Weds., Town Hall	(603)466-5771
<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b> See Board of Selectmen	(603)466-5771	<b>RANDOLPH FOUNDATION</b> President, Redza Dempster	<a href="mailto:redza@redza.com">redza@redza.com</a>
<b>CEMETERY TRUSTEES</b>	(603)466-5771	<b>RANDOLPH MOUNTAIN CLUB</b> President, John Phinney	<a href="mailto:president@randolphmountainclub.org">president@randolphmountainclub.org</a>
<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b> Chair, Gary Newfield		<b>ROAD AGENT</b> Paul Kenison	
<b>DOG LICENSES</b> Obtain/Renew end April, Town Clerk	(603)466-5771	<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b> Anne Kenison, by appointment.	(603)466-5771
<b>GRS COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD</b> SAU 20 Meets 6:30pm 3rd Tues., Location Varies	(603)466-3632	<b>TOWN CLERK</b> Anne Kenison	(603)466-5771
		Mon. 9-11am, Weds. 7-9pm	(603)466-5771

## Bowman Critter Crossing Update

Brad Meiklejohn

Wildlife cross U.S. Route 2 near Bowman Divide in western Randolph, with varying degrees of success. Moose, bears, foxes, coyotes, deer, and even lynx have been documented moving between habitat areas north and south of the highway. The cow moose shown here (Photo 1) was struck and killed by a motorist at Bowman Divide in October 2022, one of many animals that have died on this stretch of road.

A study is now underway to examine ways to improve the safety of the Bowman Divide area for motorists and wildlife. In coordination with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, New Hampshire Audubon has contracted with the engineering firm McFarland Johnson, Inc. to evaluate two crossing site locations near Bowman and recommend options to improve motorist and wildlife safety including under-road crossing structures, fencing, signage and motorist alert systems.

A Project Team, formed to coordinate the work on the Bowman Divide, held its first meeting on August 2nd, 2023, with representatives from NH DOT, NH Audubon, McFarland Johnson, The Conservation Fund, North-

east Wilderness Trust, and the Randolph Conservation Commission present. Representatives from the Randolph Forest Commission, US Forest Service, and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department are also members of the project team. Phil Beaulieu, District Engineer for NH DOT expressed his hope that "the Bowman project will provide a road map for future wildlife crossings in the North Country."

McFarland Johnson expects to present their preliminary findings and recommendations to the Randolph community at a public meeting of the Select Board in October 2023.





## RMC Summer Events 2023

Ginny Umiker

Despite having the rainiest summer in recent memory, the RMC summer events in Randolph prevailed and flourished! From the glorious 4th of July Tea at the Kelleys, to the over the top Annual Dinner at former Libbys, the Gourmet Hike, the Annual meeting with a program on the Costa Rican Asociación Mar a Mar, Songs for a Summer Evening, the Annual picnic and Charades, to the return of the Beringer's barn dance....it was a fantastic summer.

Thank you to the entire Randolph community for making summer 2023 a summer to remember!

Enjoy the photos!!



SAS Fourth of July Tea



Heywood - Songs for a Summer Evening



Keith - Picnic and Charades



Sarah with Barbies - Picnic and Charades



Auction at the Annual Dinner



The Gourmet Hike



Singing in the Rain at the Picnic and Charades



## From the Selectmen's Office

**Michele Cormier**

Although it's no news to most of you, the Durand Road Project is moving along and will be completed on time in Sept or early Oct. We included a thorough ditching and replacement of 3 culverts in the project. We expect to be very happy with the results.

The Bicentennial Committee has been busy planning for events for next year, 2024 marking 200 years of the Town of Randolph. If you would like to volunteer to help out in any way, contact Sarah Gallop [seg@mit.edu](mailto:seg@mit.edu) or Guy Stever [gstever@ne.rr.com](mailto:gstever@ne.rr.com).

We were fortunate to have a Harvard atmospheric research scientist, Dr. Jasna Pittman discuss her field work from pole to pole up to 70,000 feet altitude and on-board specialized NASA aircraft. She spoke in July at the Randolph Church on the connection between climate research and the natural world we experience in Randolph and led a discussion of evidence based work and spiritual driven connections.

Jill Kilburn from NH Fish and Game spoke at a number of events regarding the invasive species, Japanese knotweed and ways to control it. There is an opportunity to form a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) which will include federal, state and local government groups to coordinate the management of knotweed. If you would like more information on this, contact Gary Newfield, Chairman of the Town Conservation Commission.

We have a new fire truck! Well, actually we were lucky to purchase a used tanker from the Town of Derby, Vermont. It is a 2,000 gallon tender tanker completely fabricated of plastic, so no more rust! This purchase has

been paid out of our reserves for Fire Equipment and Protection.

Filling the void left behind by the passing of John Scarinza has left us with many new board members, and we would like to thank those folks who have stepped up to serve in these roles. June Hammond Rowan is the new chair of the Planning Board. Joining her are Kevin Rousseau, Tim Mather, Bob Ross, Bill Demers and John Turner. The Forest Commission is now chaired by Mark Kelley, along with Tim Mather, Walter Graff, Nate Reid, Laura Brockett and David Willcox.

And for those who have not yet met him, our new Road Agent is Paul Kenison. He has been busy all over town with road repair projects, mowing, sweeping, catch basins and installing 911 signs at residences. Welcome, Paul!

It is that time again to review and update our Hazard Mitigation Plan. This involves analyzing conditions in town which might be subject to hazards and creating a plan for mitigation and management in the event of the actual hazard. Planning involves many volunteers to attend 5-6 meetings during which we perform the analysis and provide the information to a professional plan developer who will complete the final document. A plan is required if the Town seeks FEMA funding. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the town office.

If you have any questions about the operations of the town, please contact the selectmen or attend one of our regular meetings which are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. John at (603)723-1604, Paul at (603)915-9195 and Michele at (603)466-5841.

## Second Season of Porches of Randolph

The Porches of Randolph extended its reach with 10 porch parties in 2023 compared to last year's seven and hosts welcomed almost 200 guests to their porches.

Porches of Randolph is a social fundraising activity for local residents and visitors to safely socialize outside during cocktail hour. Parties are held on porches (and lawns) where guests admired the unique, breathtaking views, and meet friends old and new. Guests are encouraged to bring a donation with them in the amount of their choosing, with 100% of proceeds distributed evenly to the Randolph Foundation, the Randolph Mountain Club, the Friends of the Randolph Library, and (new for 2023) the Randolph Church Benevolence Fund. With one additional porch party to go we will report on the final fundraising

amount online at [porchesofrandolph.org](http://porchesofrandolph.org), but needless to say we have exceeded last year's donation total.

**Thank you to our 2023 season hosts:**

Jim Alexander and Joan Ostergren  
Pat and Laurie Archambault  
Keith and Redza Dempster  
Sarah Eusden Gallop and Andy Gallop  
Larry and Yvonne Jenkins  
Mark and Kathleen Kelley  
The Maddock/Hudson/Dillon Clan  
The Phinney Family  
Franklin Stone and David Wenk  
Ginny and Rick Umiker

**Redza Dempster**

*See photo on the cover of this edition!*

## From the Foundation President

**Redza Dempster**

Dear Friends, Neighbors, Volunteers, and Community Members,

I am honored and privileged to extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you as the newly elected President of the Randolph Foundation. With immense enthusiasm and a deep sense of responsibility, I embark on this journey to serve our community through the platform of philanthropy and shared vision.

For 61 years, the Randolph Foundation has been a driving force behind numerous initiatives that have uplifted lives, increased the quality of life, enriched education, and strengthened the social fabric of our community. As we move forward, my commitment is to continue fostering an environment of inclusivity, transparency, and innovation that allows us to adapt to the evolving needs of our community. I will be calling meetings with various community and organization leaders to discuss their challenges and needs and how the Foundation can assist in achieving their missions. In the coming months, I will be asking the board their thoughts around these questions:

- How do we ensure board participation and engagement year round and not just in summer
- How do we provide our board members, volunteers, and communication partners with all the tools and resources they need
- How do we maximize the impact of our grants and scholarships
- What ways can the Foundation address isolation, loneliness, and lack of connection which the surgeon general has called a public health crisis. As the Founder of the Porches of Randolph I believe porch parties have helped build social connection, but there's so much more that can be done

These endeavors will require not only our financial support, but also our collective wisdom, creativity, and deter-

mination. I am excited to work alongside my fellow board members, volunteers, and partners to achieve these goals. Your engagement, whether through financial contributions, volunteering, or simply spreading the word about our work, is invaluable to the Foundation. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant community that thrives on the principles of collaboration, compassion, and empowerment.

I look forward to connecting with you personally and hearing your thoughts, suggestions, and aspirations for the Randolph Foundation. If you attended the Annual Meeting on August 11th you heard me talk about listening and learning. Please feel free to contact me at [redza@redza.com](mailto:redza@redza.com) or 973-652-3845. If you haven't already done so I invite you to complete our survey here: <https://bit.ly/3Pmbmys>

I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to learn from each of you and collectively steer our foundation and town towards the future.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication. Together, let's make a lasting impact that resonates for generations to come.

With Gratitude,

Redza Dempster

*Redza Dempster*

*At the June 2023 Randolph Foundation Board meeting, Redza Dempster was voted in as the 14th President.*

## Weir's Weather Wise

Summer 2023

**Ted Weir**

### Rainfall

	30 yr. Average	2023 Data	2023 Details
June	4.89"	8.90"	24 of 30 days had rain
July	4.64"	10.56"	24 of 31 days had rain
August	4.16"	4.34"	18 of 26 days had rain
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13.69"</b>	<b>23.80"</b>	

### Wind

	Peak Gust	
June	W	17 MPH on the 6th
July	WSW	22 MPH on the 13th
August	W	19 MPH on the 20th

### Monthly Highs and Lows

	High	Lows
June	87.2° (1st)	41.3° (4th)
July	88.2° (6th)	50.2° (20th)
August	80.8° (10th)	46.7° (2nd)

## Big Moose Bach and Company Three Duos and a Quartet in Chamber Concert on Labor Day

Susan Ferré

This year's annual Labor Day Weekend Big Moose concerts take a turn to a popular set of groups and individuals who have contributed to the success of the series over the past 12 years. The three Friday and Saturday concerts will take place at the Medallion Opera House, free of charge, and by donation, with sponsorship and underwriting from the non-profit Music in the Great North Woods.

Friday evening's concert at 7:30 pm features scores of instruments, including sitar, played by the Irish Duo, Four Shillings Short, Christy Martin and Aodh Og O'Tuama, with a wide variety of world music, ancient airs, and Irish tunes.

The Saturday afternoon concert at 2:30 pm brings world-class Duo, Harmonie Universelle, Catherine Bull and Daniel Pyle, recently returned from tours in Europe. They will be bringing 17th and 18th century music played on Baroque flute and lautenwerk, a harpsichord strung

with gut which produces an unusually beautiful sound.

The evening concert at 7:30 pm will feature a program by the Boston based group, Arpeggione, bringing music by Mozart and Salieri in a famous story of rivalry featured in the movie, Amadeus. Andrea LeBlanc, flutist and organizer, has played every year at the Big Moose Bach Fest since its beginning in 2009.

The final program of the series will take place at 2:30 pm in Berlin's St. Barnabas Episcopal church, located at 2 High Street, where a harpsichord of unusual breadth and an organ tuned in an early temperament, decorated lavishly by Andre Belanger, will transport the music of Bach in a program of his works for solo violoncello, viola da gamba, harpsichord and organ, played by founders of the Big Moose Bach Fest, Susan Ferré and Charles Lang.

More information about the festive weekend of concerts can be found at Music in the Great North Woods, [www.musicgnw.org](http://www.musicgnw.org) and the Medallion Opera House, Gorham Town Hall, [www.medallionoperahouse.org](http://www.medallionoperahouse.org)



**BIG MOOSE**  
*Bach & Company*  
**THREE DUOS  
AND A QUARTET**  
Labor Day Weekend

At the Medallion Opera House, Gorham, NH

*Four Shillings Short*  
Friday, September 1, 7:30 pm

*Harmonie Universelle*  
Saturday, September 2, 2:30 pm

*Arpeggione*  
Saturday, September 2, 7:30 pm

At St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Berlin, NH

*Ferré-Lang Duo*  
Sunday, September 3, 2:30 pm

**ADMISSION BY DONATION**

Sponsored by Music in the Great North Woods, [www.musicgnw.org](http://www.musicgnw.org)  
and Medallion Opera House, Gorham Town Hall, [www.medallionoperahouse.org](http://www.medallionoperahouse.org)



Poster left by [www.Musicgnw.org](http://www.Musicgnw.org)

Photos above (top down): Arpeggione Ensemble, Andrea LeBlanc, director; Christy Martin and Aodh Og O'Tuama, Four Shillings Short; and Catherine Bull and Daniel Pyle, Harmonie Universelle



## Therapeutic Music

Angela Brown

In the May 2023 issue of the Mountain View, I was referred to as a “music therapist.” I am NOT a music therapist; I am a therapeutic musician, specifically a Certified Music Practitioner (CMP). Music therapists and therapeutic musicians have the best jobs: we are able to use music to create a healing environment for patients, nursing home residents, family members, staff, even the wider world. The terminology, however, can be confusing and often misunderstood. If you want to know more about each modality and specific education or certification requirements, please visit the American Music Therapy Association at [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org) or the Music for Healing and Transition Program at [www.mhpt.org](http://www.mhpt.org).

As a CMP, I share live therapeutic keyboard music in a variety of healthcare situations, sometimes boisterous and energetic with nursing home residents, other times poignant and ephemeral such as at the end of a life. After struggling with creating an efficient HIPAA-friendly way to capture these amazing musical experiences with residents and patients, I learned a technique called “55 Words.” As the description suggests, 55 words is all you get—punctuation and sentence structure are not important. What is important is distilling the experience concisely into those 55 words. I would like to share with you some of the most meaningful “55 Words” from the past few years. These reflect experiences with people or with specific pieces of music. I hope they will inspire you to try this writing technique for yourself.



“Could I have this dance,  
for the rest of my life?”  
A request, a question, a plea...  
Longing to stay, longing to go ...  
My fingers linger over the chords,  
Breaking them apart to let her spirit soar.  
Stretching the melody like taffy as she closes her eyes.  
Dance away, my friend, into his forever arms. . .

“I’ll walk you to the elevator,” she said,  
after we had looked at the bird picture  
on the back of my music notebook.  
Ever so slowly, we made our way down the hall,  
she with her walker and I with my keyboard.  
As the door closed between us, she waved.  
“Thank you for coming!”  
Lucky.

Do not disturb. Should I knock?  
Or let her rest. In peace.  
Peace like a river.  
Prayer of peace.  
Through the window yellow leaves flutter  
Dancing with snowflakes on the wind.  
Cabbage on the stove.  
Children’s voices a whisper.  
(A child’s [prayer] of [peace] like a river).  
Watching in slow motion, take my breath away.

“That’s a gift from God, you know,” she said,  
as she passed by me in the hallway,  
the touch on my shoulder reinforcing her words.  
Yet another said to me, “When you see something beautiful,  
make sure you take time to really see it.”  
How many beautiful gifts of love were in your life today?

### A Limerick by Carol Ryder Horton

There was a stallion at the races,  
who dreamt of far-away places.  
On arrival in Chad,  
he felt very glad,  
‘Cause a lord put him through his paces.

*Photos left by Carol Ryder Horton*

## Press Release: Warmington and Craig to attend Rise Up! Engage! Vote! (REV) from the Coös Democratic Committee

**Kathleen Kelley**

### THE TWO DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR WILL ATTEND THE RISE UP! ENGAGE! VOTE! EVENT SPONSORED BY COÖS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

Coös County Democratic Committee (CCDC) announces that the two Democratic candidates for NH Governor will join the roster of speakers for the RISE UP! ENGAGE! VOTE! event on Sunday, September 17, 2023 from 5:30 – 9:00 in Jefferson, NH.

Cinde Warmington was first elected to the Executive Council in 2020. As the only Democrat on the Executive Council, she has been standing up for the rights of women to make their own health care decisions, fighting to fund family planning services like Planned Parenthood, and pushing to deliver resources for job development, affordable housing, and child care across New Hampshire. According to Donnie Spencer, Deputy Campaign Manager, “Cinde Warmington is running for governor because she believes that everyone in New Hampshire deserves the freedom to thrive.”

Prior to her time on the Council, Warmington spent decades in health care advocating for the expansion of substance use disorder treatment services, increased funding for mental health services, and increased access to telehealth services. “She understands the needs of folks from our biggest cities to our smallest towns, and as governor she’ll fight to ensure we all have the opportunity to live free and thrive,” says Spencer.

Joyce Craig, born and raised in Manchester, was the first woman elected mayor of Manchester in 2017 and the first Democrat elected since 2005. Mayor Craig has delivered historic progress for the Queen City - Manchester has added thousands of family-sustaining jobs and hundreds of new businesses, there are currently thousands

of housing units in development across the city, and she has prioritized student achievement by raising teacher salaries and reducing school class sizes. She has implemented the first gun violence reduction strategy in the city’s history, lowering gun violence by over 50% in the first year. Violent crime has gone down 38 percent during her time as mayor, and she is working with community leaders in Manchester and throughout the state to address our shared challenges. Joyce believes that opportunity for everyone begins with access to affordable housing, a quality public education, and the freedom to make personal decisions about reproductive health care.

“We are extremely fortunate to have both of the candidates for the Democratic nomination for governor at the same event, so that voters can speak one on one with the candidates, and then hear about their priorities during their stump speeches,” says Kathleen Kelley, Chair of the Resource Committee of CCDC. “Both candidates seem to be committed to connecting with voters in even the most rural, faraway regions of our wonderful state, and we appreciate that they are joining us to help REV up the voters in the North Country,” continues Kelley.

Admission to the RISE UP! ENGAGE! VOTE! event is free, but registration will be required. Go to <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/riseupengage> for more information.

#### Contact:

Kathleen Kelley (603)723-9734  
kukelley@me.com  
Suzt Colt (603)493-8946  
coltsusannah@gmail.com



**RISE UP! ENGAGE! VOTE!**

**Coös County Democratic Committee**

Photos left (from left to right):  
Joyce Craig; and Cinde Warmington



## Laid to Rest!

**Bob Kruszyna**

“Wow! Now there’s a project!” In 1958, from atop Mt. Abbott, we gazed across the col framing perfectly the impressive north face of Mt. Bonney. But that particular project didn’t materialize. Maybe it was an accident suffered on the regular route. Anyway, it was deferred, a piece of unfinished business, tucked away in the back of one’s mind, maybe just to remain there until age, weakness, or someone else’s success makes it unnecessary to resurrect it.

Despite such ambivalent feelings, on a miserable, drizzly day some years later (1965), I found myself packing up to the then new bivouac shelter at Sapphire Col in company with a couple of enthusiastic younger protégés, Leigh Andrews and Jim Hebert. Two days of howling wind and driving rain deepened our appreciation of the hut’s sturdiness and comfort. And secretly, I even began to convince myself that we might be spared the Bonney face. Our alarm clock failed us, so it was not with a proper mountaineering start that we dropped down to Lily Glacier. Probably it was just as well, for the snow was only starting to soften as Leigh laboriously kicked steps diagonally up the flank of Mt. Swanzey’s north ridge. Thanks to his energy, we soon arrived on the uncomfortably narrow crest, from which we had our first close-up view of the ascent, its problems all too apparent.



The first of these, 700 or 800 feet below our perch, the incredibly contorted and crevassed Bonney Glacier.

But even more immediate, and not the least of the day’s difficulties, a descent down steep, slippery grass, along out-slabbing ledges with the customary quota of ball-bearings underfoot, to the margin of the glacier. Then too many hours wending through gigantic crevasses, passing under teetering seracs, tight-roping on flimsy bridges.

Finally our goal hove into sight, the tongue of slabby rock extending from the central buttress into the glacier. We attempted a direct approach on a cantilevered snow arch, to find a six-foot gap separating us from the rock, and a bergschrund black as the Pit. We tried higher, then lower, while the bridges became progressively softer in the by now mid-day sun. “Well, we haven’t gone all the way around to the other side yet.” Between the heavy going in the increasingly sloppy snow and the sun’s pleasant warmth sapping our will, it’s a wonder we ever got there. After two hours of frustration, we finally debouched on the rock of the buttress, 2400 feet below the summit.

Jim led off up the well-fractured slabs and we gained altitude rapidly. Soon we reached the base of the

prominent ice slope in the middle of the face, which, because of the warm season had receded sufficiently that we could circumvent it to the right. Abruptly the angle steepened. Leigh contributed a nice lead over loose blocks and rotting ice patches taking us back to the buttress crest directly above the ice slope.

For a few hundred feet we moved directly up from ledge to ledge. Although the rock was indeed well broken, the predominant line of fracture was, unfortunately, vertical. This unhelpful geology occasioned some rather tricky moves on steep slabs and short walls. When a dislodged rock skidded miraculously between Leigh’s legs instead of between his ears, we decided the time had come to belay and to move one at a time. As we continued, the average angle consistently increased until about 300 feet below what appeared to be the top, the terrain took on a serious technical aspect. Reassured by the jingle of hardware, I assessed the limited possibilities. Straight ahead rose a near-vertical inside corner that likely would demand some artificial aid. To the left, the crest proper of the buttress, an unthinkable outside corner without even the virtue of a crack that would take a piton. Briefly but fondly, I remembered the rain and wind keeping us holed up at Sapphire Col. The last, and now only alternative lay to the right, around another vertical outside corner where our success would be decided. For me, looking around the corner, second nature as it were, has almost invariably worked out. A straightforward but exhilaratingly airy pitch to the corner, a remarkable exfoliated flake to which Jim tied in order to belay me onward. Warily, I moved around the corner.

“Hey, we’ve got it, guys!” A bit of broken rock and I heaved myself over a snow cornice onto the summit platform. We sauntered the remaining few yards to the summit cairn as the late August sun dropped ever closer to the western horizon. Nevertheless, we lounged there on the peak for some time, savoring the memory of a marvelous climb, enjoying the gentle beauty of the twilight.

In the waning light we descended hastily the ridge toward Clarke Peak and Mt. Swanzey. By the time we reached Clarke Peak, we accepted the inevitability of a bivouac. And a crisp, star-filled night it proved to be. I mused to my companions about my previous night out in this same place after an accident on the normal route -- its only saving grace a colorful auroral display. But they were already asleep.



## Randolph Remembers



Michael F. Sewick, 93, of Randolph, NH passed away on Thursday May 18, 2023 at his home. He was born in Bridgeport, CT on September 27, 1929 to his parents John and Mary (Kurczynski) Siwik and was raised by John and Anna Laur (while growing up he was known to many as 'Buddy Laur') He resided in Connecticut until 1976, when he moved to Randolph.

Michael served in the US Army from April 1951 to April of 1953 and was stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas, prior to being stationed in Germany. He was a member of St. Agnes Church, Gate of Heaven Parish in Jefferson, a member of the Dupont-Holmes Post #82 American Legion in Gorham and was a Trustee of the Trust Funds and a Supervisor of the Checklist in Randolph.

Members of the family include his daughter Anne Kenison of Randolph, NH; two sons Michael Sewick Jr. (Donna) of Milford, CT and Matthew Sewick (Marvalene) of North Pole, AK; daughter-in-law Denise Haley of West Haven, Ct; grandchildren Jaime (Michelle), Rachel, Kyle (Jessica), Marisa (Jorge) and Kasey (Jowie); great grandchildren Alivia, Carson, Kayden, Misha, Theresa, Jessica, Mookie, Layla, Israel, Jasmine, Violet and Jesti; two siblings Rose and Louise; brother-in-law Kevin Smith and many nieces and nephews. He also leaves his beloved cat, Bubba. He was predeceased by his wife Maureen

Ann (Smith) Sewick in 2003 and by six brothers and two sisters.

Mike was never one to sit around. He often could be found tinkering with his tractors or making 'improvements' around the house or fixing the many lamps people would drop off. His many puzzles of trains and birds required him to learn how to build picture frames. Mike found a way to take favorite bird puzzle and frame it as headboard for his bed. He could also be found helping family and friends tackle various home projects. 'Poppa' took great pride in showing his children, grandchildren and his great-grandchildren how to use tools correctly to create their own special projects.

### SERVICES:

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday May 27, 2023 at 11 AM at St. Agnes Church, Gate of Heaven Parish in Jefferson, NH.

Interment will be in the Randolph Cemetery, Durand Road, Randolph, NH. Relatives and friends may call at the Bryant Funeral Home, 1 Promenade St., Gorham, NH on Friday May 26, 2023 from 2-4 pm. Donations in his memory may be made to the Randolph Foundation or to North Country Home Heath & Hospice Services, 536 Cottage St., Littleton, NH 03561. Online guest book at [www.bryantfuneralhome.net](http://www.bryantfuneralhome.net).

*Obituary courtesy of Bryant Funeral Home, photos courtesy of Anne Kenison*



## Annual Concert for Benevolence at the Randolph Church

**Susan Ferré**

The annual Concert for Benevolence at the Randolph Church was played this year by the Ferré-Lang family: Carl Ferré-Lang (son), Charles Lang and Susan Ferré (proud Dad and Mom) on August 6th, 2023. The "fun" concert for basses, guitar and two organs was very well attended. (50+)

*Photo right: The Ferré-Lang family playing, by Martha Sappington*





## The Foundation Honors Community Volunteer Unsung Heroes

Redza Dempster

In Randolph, the spirit of volunteerism has always far exceeded the size of the town. Volunteerism is intertwined in our history and contributes to our great community. To help celebrate the tremendous efforts of our volunteers, the Randolph Foundation debuted the Unsung Heroes initiative. In addition to recognizing its own Unsung Heroes, the Foundation invited local community organizations to nominate their candidates who were honored at the Annual Meeting on August 11.

### Randolph Church Unsung Hero: Heywood Alexander

Heywood's tenure as organist for Sunday church services spans 80 uninterrupted years, beginning as a young teen. He has served multiple terms on the Board of Directors, updating by-laws and policies, and overseeing the music program for many decades. Together with his wife Bea, they established the Alexander Fund to support local nonprofits. Heywood worked closely with Charles Ruggles on the building and installation of our magnificent pipe organ. He continues to serve as a "wise elder", sharing institutional knowledge and helping to guide the church forward.



L to R: Heywood Alexander; Sarah Gallop, Church Vice Moderator; John Weatherly, Church Moderator; Redza Dempster, Randolph Foundation President

### Randolph Library Unsung Heroes: Sandy and Ted Weir

Sandy has served as an Assistant Librarian and former Trustee, and contributed countless hours to the annual Book & Bake Sales, serving as Cashier. Ted has contributed many hours to the annual Book & Bake Sales by setting up tables and offering his truck to move books, and he has served as the official weather observer for the "When Will the 7 Break" contest. Both served on the Library Future Plans Committee and the Library Building Committee. They have been long-term members of the Friends group and staunch supporters of the Library.



L to R: Ted and Sandy Weir; Yvonne Jenkins, Librarian; Steve Teczar, Chair, Library Board of Trustees

### Randolph Foundation Unsung Heroes: Dave and Alison Tomlinson Jean Malick

The clay tennis court has been meticulously cared for by David and Alison Tomlinson for decades. They have voluntarily stored equipment, managed the sprinkler system, fixed the fence, raked, weeded, rolled, and repaired every inch of the court. Along the way, the Foundation purchased equipment for a sprinkler system which pumps water from below the dam up to the court. Jim Penney buried the line with his plow, Bill Demers put in the electrical infrastructure, and Bill Arnold installed the pump. New fencing was purchased in memory of Craig Malick by Jean Malick, which the Tomlinsons installed with the help of Jean and Sam Morneweck. Jean Malick has been organizing doubles tennis games for years. More recently she has added pickleball, with games played on the courts at Gorham Common. On the surface, it might seem that it's just about sport and recreation, but her work has brought together citizens of Randolph and Gorham, and fostered a sense of community among the players.



L to R: Dave and Alison Tomlinson; Jean Malick; Mark Kelley, Immediate Past President, Randolph Foundation; Redza Dempster, President, Randolph Foundation

## Lightning Fast Internet

**Kathleen Kelley**

In 1987, as my husband was enticing me to move to Randolph, I suggested that I needed suitable access to the internet and information that was not currently available. Mark assured me that a modem could connect our home to a tower on Pine Mountain. The connection was faster than what some Randolph homes have today!

Through a state grant awarded to Consolidated Communication (Fidium Fiber), Randolph residents can choose an internet connection through fiber that is much faster than their current cable, dish, or wireless connection. There will be no installation cost, saving homeowners as much as \$10,000!

Fiber internet connections offer smother streaming, quicker downloads, and reduced lag in online gaming. It is less susceptible to interference and signal loss, ensuring a more stable and consistent internet connection. Fiber usually has symmetrical upload and download speeds, important for video conferencing, content creation, and cloud backups. A fiber internet connection can boost home values, as it is a sought-after feature for homebuyers and renters.

We have a wide range of smart devices already integrated into our lives. Appliances like refrigerators, ovens, washing machines, and thermostats allow for remote control and improve energy efficiency. Centralized smart systems for lighting, heating, cooling, and security are becoming more popular. Virtual reality and augmented reality entertainment systems are available. Home health monitoring systems, fitness equipment, medicine dispensers, and personalized health assistants are also available. We can expect “magic mirrors” that will allow you to virtually try on an outfit before purchasing it! And better yet, remember “Judy” of the Jetson Series? There are robotic vacuum cleaners, mowers, window cleaners, and other

hands-free cleaning solutions. The evolving smart technology for our homes will require lightning-fast internet connection.

Many homeowners complain about the “quality” of their internet. Many of the problems are not due to the internet service, but rather due to the quickly growing demands on the service within our homes. If you have children or grandchildren visiting, you have probably noticed that your internet is glitchy. You need more bandwidth with the increase in internet users and smart devices in your home. Some internet providers limit the data and throttle internet speeds to even out cable distribution of internet access in neighborhoods. The home routers, modems, wiring, or other networking equipment may need to be replaced every few years, as outdated equipment can affect internet connectivity.

The solution for the internet may be to sign up for fiber. Monthly fiber costs are similar to cable’s current cost. The state programs lowering the cost of internet for some residents are available for families using fiber. Fidium Fiber has created a landing page for Randolph Residents to sign up for information about the fiber to the home project: <https://www.fidiumfiber.com/fiber-internet-Randolph-nh>

Several people have asked about seasonal rates for Fidium Fiber. The rate is \$10 per month for up to 6 months for seasonal subscribers, then 6 months at the regular rate. If you are still having trouble connecting to Fidium, please check that your property address is correct. Remember, all parts of your address must be included including any apartment numbers! Fidium has all the addresses as they appear on the town’s official list of property addresses so the two must match. Thanks!

## All Glory Laud and Honor

**Bill Minifie**

Yesterday was one of those days when fate smiled upon my huge efforts at fame and glory. The NY Times had an article about the Old Man of The Mountains—the iconic stone face that fell off the mountain 20 years ago this month.

On our way to northern NH every summer when I was a boy, we stopped by the side of the highway in Franconia Notch to gape with wonder and awe at this naturally occurring stone formation. Daniel Webster had this to say about it (figure right):

*MEN hang out their signs indicative of their respective trades. Shoemakers hang a gigantic shoe; jewelers a monster watch, even the dentist hangs out a gold tooth; but up in Franconia Mountains God Almighty has hung out a Sign to Show that in New England He Makes Men.”*

*Daniel Webster.*



*Glory, Laud, and Honor continued...*



Years ago we were told that Native Americans worshipped the “Great Stone Face” and that white folk only discovered it in 1805 when they were digging a road through Franconia Notch. But more recent research indicates that the formation probably did not become recognizable as a face until the early

1800s and that even then, erosion would doom the face to a limited viewing window. In fact, in the early 1900s, a minister from a nearby town was prescient enough to foresee the inevitable and tried to postpone it by installing giant turnbuckles. In later years, huge gobs of silicone were squirted into the expanding cracks and crevices. I spoke with a fellow who did maintenance on the old boy and he said being up there was like looking down the barrel of a loaded shotgun—it was only a matter of time.

In the early morning of May 3rd, 2003, some campers on Mt. Lafayette (which is near Cannon Mt. where the old man was keeping watch) heard a great rumble and thought it was thunder. The next morning a

heavy fog enveloped the area and no one suspected what had happened during the night. But when the fog lifted, the Old Man was gone.

Decades ago I started collecting Old Man of the Mountain postcards and in 2002 I produced a poster featuring 25 of my best cards and sold the posters in a number of locations in the White Mountains. The

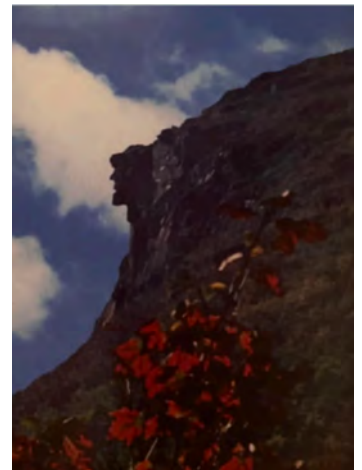
week before that sad day in May of 2003, I was renovating a townhouse on East 51st Street in Manhattan. One of the fellows I’d hired was, on the side, a web designer and I asked him for help in creating a website to market it. That Saturday, May 3rd, he left a voicemail saying that I really needed to set up my website after what had happened to the Old Man. I thought he was joking, but I soon confirmed the sad news. I know it sounds crazy, but his collapse really did seem like losing an old friend. But his demise also meant that suddenly my poster was selling like hotcakes. Initially I had printed 5,000 of them, and I soon had to go into another printing.

Yay for capitalism!

Of the 25 cards on the poster, my favorite is by a wonderful White Mountain photographer named Winston Pote. He lived in Lancaster, NH, and back in the day I owned some land fairly near his house. Once as I was driving by, I saw him in his garage, and one of my regrets is not stopping to say hello.

All of which brings us to the article in The NY Times noting the 20th anniversary of the Old Man’s collapse, and how folks in the White Mountains still miss him.

But get a load of this: One of the pictures in the article included my poster. Oh Glory, Laud and Honor. My ego was fairly bursting with glee. The only thing that was slightly annoying was that they did not identify the poster and the genius who made it. Fame and glory remain elusive things—but I came pretty close don’t you think?



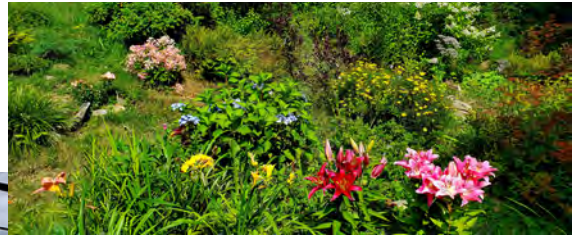
Krill and Eileen T. Ball of the Franconia Heritage Museum

*Photos courtesy of Bill Minifie; above from the NYT*

## Undulatus Asperitas above Randolph

Martha Sappington

The season started with such unusual clouds. Were they the omen of rain? Summer has been wet. Wet indeed! This water has brought us gifts of flowers...amazing colors. Soon the colors will blaze from the trees of our forests and the wild flowers of our fields.



*Photo above: Undulatus Asperitas; and  
photo top right by Martha Sappington  
Painting right: Unique Clouds by Tim  
Sappington, Oil on Canvas*

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