

*Anne Wilson, continued ...*

ability to respond to people emotionally, and to read and respond to their feelings. A memorial service in memory of Anne, will be held Saturday April 26, 2014, 2:30 – 3:30 pm at the Wellesley Friends Meeting House, 26 Benvenue Street, Wellesley, MA. A reception and dinner will follow at the home of Molly, Ruby, and Grace. For more information call Becky at 951-285-8685

The family will one day hike Mt. Adams in New Hampshire in their honor of Anne and Roger .

In Lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your local hospice or Gosnell Memorial Hospice of Southern Maine, 11 Hunnewell Road, Scarborough, ME 04074.

Anne was born on April 29, 1921 and passed away on Monday, January 13, 2014.

## Winter Activities with Friends of the Library

As is usually the case in the small town of Randolph, The Friends of the Randolph Public Library and the Randolph Public Library presented several activities to keep the town busy during the cold winter months.

Opera buff, Bob Kruszyna presented a couple of opera previews during February, including "Rusalka" by Antonin Dvorak and "Prince Igor" by Alexander Borodin.

The library presented "The Stories behind the Stars" with Matt Krug. Through myths and a gentle mix of science, the audience was introduced to the wonders of the night sky. The program identified commonly seen objects such as constellations, meteors, planets, northern lights, and satellites, and discussed the phases of the moon.

During the month of March, Ingrid Graff presented "Not in Front of the Children: The Art and importance of Fairy Tales" at the town hall. Ingrid led a discussion on where fairy tales come from, what they tell us about ourselves and our history, why they have been censored and changed and how they have retained their currency and popularity today. The following night The Friends presented a Pot Luck Dessert and film entitled "Into the Woods". This film was a musical extravaganza illustrating and celebrating the fairy tales discussed the evening before. The program was co-sponsored by the NH Humanities to Go Program.



Ingrid Graff provided yet another splendid talk at the Randolph Town Hall on Friday, March 7, this one titled "Not in Front of the Children: The Art and Importance of Fairy Tales." Ingrid discussed the sources, varieties and cultural effect of fairy tales over the ages and displayed a large collection of books of and about fairy tales for viewing. Gail Scott Photo

## Strategic Planning for the Future at the Randolph Church

*by Dick Doyle, Church Moderator*

Changes have been gradual but nonetheless dramatic in the town and specifically at the Randolph Church. In particular, a changing demographic among seasonal residents has had an impact upon attendance and support of our ecumenical summer chapel. Far fewer families are able to spend extended periods in town during the summer. The number of clergy who were able to provide leadership, once numbering well over thirty, has dwindled to a handful. Year round residents face divided loyalties between Randolph and other local churches.

We also find ourselves in an era when church attendance in the wider culture is in decline, especially among the young. Although the Christmas Eve service at the Randolph Church – the only service in the off season – continues to draw a substantial crowd, average attendance at the summer services has declined to ONE-HALF of what it was just ten years ago!

An in-depth evaluation was appropriate and a strategic planning committee was formed followed by a community survey in the fall. The survey, emailed to 113 homes, had a 45% return rate with several thoughtful suggestions. Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond. However, no one – myself included – has been able to identify a magic formula to reverse the current trend. For many decades the church has been self-perpetuating; we've had no pressing need to thoroughly examine its purpose or function. This approach will no longer suffice in today's environment.

In order to address at least some of the dynamics, we are creating two new church committees. The first is an Outreach Committee to be charged with raising the church "profile" in the community. No doubt, there are many untapped opportunities for publicity, outreach, and enticement to the church.

Someone observed that one could drive up the hill and think that the church was merely an historic site that was no longer in use. A new detailed sign on the lawn out front is probably overdue. Plans are currently in the works for some outdoor lighting around the building and parking area to facilitate more evening activities. Lighting on a new sign would signal that we are indeed in business

The second new committee will address Spiritual/Cultural events apart from Sunday worship. The survey revealed strong support especially for musical offerings, and also lectures, discussion groups, etc. At this report there are already three special musical events planned for this coming summer with more under exploration. We suspect that we would not have to look too far to find learned persons who could provide stimulating spiritual/cultural presentations that would be of interest to many. My personal belief is that enticing people to these activities just might lead at least a few of them wanting to explore our vibrant services on Sunday morning.

There is one obvious key to the success of any of these ventures and indeed to the ongoing vitality of the church: VOLUNTEERS! We cannot and WILL NOT overcome the current trend without a number of persons willing to step forward to help and provide leadership. So, consider this your invitation to get involved and become a part of insuring the future of the Randolph Church. Persons are needed for the above committees or as members of the church Board of Management. Please let your willingness be known to myself or any one of the strategic planning committee members: Bea and Heywood Alexander, Susan Ferré, Mark Kelley, Cathy McDowell, and Clover Koopman.



Austin & Blake Scarinza, John Micucci, and Henry Snider singing at the Christmas Eve Carol Service with Marie Beringer leading them. B. Arnold photo.

## From Newton/Einstein to the 'String Theory' of Modern Physics

*By Dr. Sada Shankar Saxena*

Randolph is a rare sort of a hill resort. Here, holiday-makers option to writing on rare topics. The author, Samarjit Shankar's father, is no exception, choosing to pen down on the above captioned esoteric subject reinforced by his background in Theoretical Physics, at the TIFR, Mumbai, India \*

Newton's view considers space and time as separate and different. Symmetries of the laws of physics are combinations of rigid motions of space and independent shift in time. But these transformations do not leave the famous Maxwell's Equations invariant, Maxwell/Faraday discovered electromagnetic principles on which runs our entire life via dynamos, motors and what not. This non-invariance worried Einstein, who then unified space and time for his Relativity Theory; which is also a correct theory. In fact, the GPS installed in our cars, is a testimony of the same. Further, an atom, long believed the smallest building block of matter, was proven to consist of even smaller components, called protons, neutrons and electrons, known as sub-atomic particles. During the 1970's, it was discovered that protons, neutrons, and other hadrons are themselves made up of smaller particles called quarks. Quantum theory is the set of rules that describes the interaction of these particles.

In the 1980s, a new mathematical model called String Theory emerged showing how all the particles and forms of energy in the universe could be constructed by hypothetical one-dimensional "strings", infinitely small building blocks that have only the dimension of length, but not height nor width. Further, string theory suggested that the universe is made up of multiple dimensions. Height, width and length constitute three-dimensional space, and time gives a total of four observational dimensions. String theories initially supported the possibility of ten dimensions, the remaining six of which we cannot detect directly. This was later increased to 11 dimensions based on various interpretations of the ten-dimensional theory: Supergravity theory also played a significant part in establishing the existence of the 11th dimension.

These "strings" vibrate in multiple dimensions, and depending on how they vibrate, they might be seen in three-dimensional space as matter, light or gravity. It is the vibration of the string which determines whether it appears to be matter or energy, and every form of matter or energy is the result of the vibration of strings. The problem arose, though, that there were five major string theories. In 1994, Witten of Princeton (Institute of Advanced Studies) considered that these

five might be describing the same thing, seen from different perspectives. It was called the "M-Theory", in which the "M" is not specifically defined, but is generally understood to stand for "membrane". The words "matrix", "mother", "monster", "mystery", "magic" have also been claimed. M-theory brought the string theories together by asserting that strings are really one-dimensional slices of a two-dimensional membrane vibrating in 11-dimensional space. M-theory is not yet complete but it successfully combines quantum mechanics and gravity, the two pillars of modern physics at the two ends--the largest and the smallest.

Some cosmologists are drawn to M-theory because of its mathematical elegance and simplicity. Physicist M. Kaku remarked that M-theory might present a "Theory of Everything" so concise that the underlying formula would fit on a t-shirt.

Robert Frost remarked, "The brain is a wonderful organ, it starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you get to the office." Perhaps the same can be said about the handling of very fundamental questions; savor this one.

Even to this day, we find, quantum mechanics weird on objective reality. In practice though, quantum mechanics does not replace Newton's physics, it includes it.

Let us relax for a moment with a Vietnamese thought: Breathing in, I know that I am alive. Breathing out, I smile to life. ...Thich Nhat Hanh

Here one might reflect understandably, whether physics & philosophy are real sisters or only distant cousins? I think I better conclude this brief essay, lest some reader were to ask me: "Can you define 'I'? Who am 'I'? Or, who is that who is alive, breathing and even smiling (if not exactly winking)?

At this Randolph house, sitting on my lap is UMA, my 5-year granddaughter, who chirps in, "Oh! Dada (grandfather in Hindi language) put me down and play with me."

As for the 'heavy' questions on "I" ...Look above for all the answers in the bright, well lit, clear-- Randolph sky. It is so high---that is why

\* TIFR stands for Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (both at Mumbai & Bangalore) Incidentally, 2013 was the centenary year of Asia's first Nobel Prize (won by India's Rabindranath Tagore of Calcutta, for Literature), while the second Nobel Prize came to be awarded for Physics, in 1930 to Sir C.V. Raman of Bangalore, for his famous "Raman Effect".

## Community Forest News

*By Doug Mayer*

As the snows on the Randolph Community Forest begin to melt and we look forward to spring on the Forest, it's worth taking a moment to reflect on the fact that our Community Forest is already headed into its fourteenth year.

The day-to-day work of the Community Forest takes place under the framework of a decade-long stewardship plan. Our second such plan is now pending with the State of New Hampshire's Department of Resources and Economic Development, which holds the easement on the Community Forest. We expect the plan to be approved shortly. A copy of the plan can be downloaded for the Forest's web site, at [randolphforest.org](http://randolphforest.org).

This winter saw one harvest, called the Ledge Timber Sale, completed on the Forest. The project wrapped up last month. A good summary of the sale can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Mountain View, courtesy of Edith Tucker. To see the harvest in action, check out John Scarinza's video on the Community Forest web site.

Who's been on the Community Forest recently? Snowshoers, skiers, hikers, snowmobiles, and no shortage of wildlife. Usually, the latter come and go, leaving behind only a few, scattered telltale signs. But, our Community Forest wildlife cameras did capture some remarkable footage of a very healthy looking eastern coyote, and an elusive pine marten.



Typically weighing 30 to fifty pounds, the Eastern Coyote is almost twice the size of its western cousin. While very elusive and not often seen, sometimes they can be heard howling to other members of the pack, and thus letting those of us who live nearby, that the Eastern Coyote is a permanent inhabitant of the Randolph Community Forest. Courtesy Photo, RCF website

You can take a peek at the visitors (or perhaps they're residents?), on the web site.

This spring, construction will take place on the new trailhead at the end of Randolph Hill Road. The Commission is currently soliciting bids for the project, with an anticipated completion date of June 15<sup>th</sup> — though a rainy, wet spring might delay that completion date. Nicky Pizzo, of Gorham, is designing a short, mile-long interpretive trail, using existing paths and logging roads. The interpretive route will start at the new trailhead, and should be completed by early summer.

For those of you planning ahead for the always-busy Randolph summers, add this date to your calendar: Saturday, August 2nd. It's our annual, popular Forest Tour Day, which will start at the Randolph Town Hall at 9 am.

Off the Forest on slightly more technological terrain, improvements continue with our web site. If you'd like to stay up to date on the goings-on on the Forest, we've now added an option to be notified of news. Simply add your email to the form on the site's homepage. You'll receive a brief email whenever we share an update, which is approximately once a month.

As always, the Forest Commission welcomes your input, energy and ideas. You can reach us via the web site, or contact one of the commission members around town-- Walter Graff, Mark Kelley, Doug Mayer, Jeff Parker, or John Scarinza



Musher Sally Manikian, of Shelburne, enjoys running her team of 19 Alaskan Huskies on the Randolph Community Forest. Courtesy Photo, RCF website

## Students Visit Tree Harvest on Randolph Community Forest

By Edith Tucker

White Mountains Regional High School Natural Resources teacher Jenn Scarinza of Randolph and seven of her 12 students, spent the morning of February 20 on a Career and Technical Education field trip to visit a tree harvest in Jefferson within the five-town school district on the Randolph Community Forest (RCF). They lucked out on the weather: bright sunshine, little-to-no wind, and temperatures in the 30s

Licensed forester Walt Winturri, who spent his career in the Androscoggin Ranger District of the WMNF, talked with the students about some of the factors that go into developing a 10-year forest management plan that guides what he does on the ground when he lays out a timber harvest to ensure that it is sustainable.

The acreage in the 10,000-acre Randolph Community Forest, he explained, has been commercially harvested for over 100 years, first by the Brown Lumber Co. of Whitefield and then by the Brown Company of Berlin and its successors.

The Boston based Hancock Timber Resource Group (HTRG) bought the property some 20 years ago when the pulp-and-paper mill owners severed the manufacturing end of papermaking from growing and harvesting trees for fiber.

After the ice storm of 1998, HTRG decided to sell the property and concerted efforts at the local, state, and federal level resulted in the town of Randolph with a population of just over 300 people owning the largest "working" town forest in the East, all subject to a conservation easement, with no cutting over 2,500 feet in elevation. Some 1,100 acres are in Jefferson.

When Winturri asked the students what the word "sustainable" meant to them, one replied, "doing it right," and another, "to make it so it lasts."

"Trees put on new growth every summer, increasing both their height and diameter, increasing the timber volume per acre," he explained. "We only want to capture that growth and no more, so the forest will be harvestable years into the future. Wood is a renewable resource, but we don't want to cut too much of the annual growth." He also em-

phasized the importance of other forest resources, including aquatic habitat to support fish and other aquatic species, soils, and wildlife habitat.

Jenn Scarinza explained that logging contractors working on the town-owned property use Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Winturri, working with John Severance and Elise Lawson of Watershed to Wildlife of Whitefield, worked on the first management plan once Randolph acquired the forest.

The team's second 10-year management plan was accepted by the Randolph Forest Commission in Dec. 2013 and is awaiting state approval. "By working on the forest and preparing several timber sales, I gathered more information than the first time around — many nuances and a greater understanding of the variables on these stands," the forester said.

Forrest Hicks of Hicks Logging in Jefferson submitted the high bid for the project and won the contract. Hicks, in turn, employed SDS Logging, also of Jefferson, to do the work.

The wood chips hauled from the on-site chipper have gone the short distance to Whitefield Power and Light, owned by Korea East-West Power, with a few loads heading to Pinetree Power in Bethlehem, owned by GDF Suez, Paris, France. Pulpwood has been hauled to the paper mill in Skowhegan, Me., as well as the chip plant of R. J. Chipping Enterprises, Inc. in Shelburne, to be readied for shipping to the paper mill in Rumford.

Sawlogs are hauled to a concentration yard in Colebrook, ready to be exported to a buyer in Canada where they are processed. Some dimensional lumber will likely be shipped south to the U.S., others across the continent in a train and be shipped cross the Pacific Ocean to China. This timber sale will provide 410 thousand board feet of sawlogs, primarily sugar maple, and 3,500 tons of pulpwood, which translates to 85 tractor-trailer loads of sawlogs and 155 loads of chips and pulpwood.



*Editor's Note: According to the community forest website, when it was first created, the Randolph Community Forest might have been named, "The Randolph Town Forest." The word "community" was selected because it spoke to residents beyond town boundaries, in the hopes that the forest would engage North Country citizens in nearby towns, as well. This article, originally reported by Edith Tucker in the Coös County Democrat, shows that is exactly what has happened. Edith is also a former member of the Randolph Forest Commission.*



Natural Resources teacher Jenn Scarinza of Randolph, left, with WMRHS students and licensed forester Walt Winturri, spent the morning of Feb. 20 on at a tree harvest on the Randolph Community Forest. No machinery was operating when the photo was taken. Photo by Edith Tucker

This Tree Farm sign, indicates the Randolph Community Forest is certified and highlights the goals of the nationwide American Tree Farm system. Photo by Edith Tucker



Maple Sunday, 2014 ...



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*To:*

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