

Andover Author Publishes Knives, Lipstick, And Liberty

Jenn Coffey of Andover, an EMT and New Hampshire State Representative, has written a book called Knives, Lipstick, and Liberty: One Woman's Journey. She has generously given the Beacon permission to publish an excerpt from the book. The excerpt begins here; due to its length, it continues on the Beacon's Web site at TinyURL.com/9z83x9u.

To buy the book, visit KnivesLipstickAndLiberty.com.

Knives, Lipstick, and Liberty: One Woman's Journey Chapter 13

In the summer of 2009 I wanted to buy a new rescue knife. I had one, and I had a seatbelt cutter and a window breaker, but all of them were separate tools. Now understand I was on my third oxygen tank key; I kept losing them, so I really wanted one tool that did it all. I found one I liked on Benchmade's Web site, but then I found out I couldn't buy it. Turned out because it was an automatic knife, or switchblade, to use a more widely known term, I couldn't purchase it in New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire law allowed me to have one as an EMT, but only while on duty. Interesting catch, if you think about it. That means when I am off duty, driving home or to work, I am illegal. When I get to the station I am legal, but the best catch was that no one could legally sell me one in the first place. Now figure out how that one is suppose to work. EMTs were not the only ones with this crazy exception; it also applied to military personnel, who could carry switchblades only while on active duty. Same issue, off duty equals illegal. Fishermen and hunters were also exempt, but only while legally fishing or hunting. Police officers could have them any time they wanted, but again no one could sell to any of the exempted persons including the police. So was anyone really exempt from the law?

I ended up having discussions with Evan Nappen, one of the best

attorneys I know and most certainly one of my best friends. He knows knife and gun laws, both federal and state, inside and out. We had a great discussion about the law and what legislation should look like to remove the ban. Something else important I learned from Evan was how the law

Knives, Lipstick, and Liberty

One Woman's Journey



By Jenn Coffey

was not equally applied to all citizens. It depended on who you were, and where you were in the state, whether you would get in trouble with the law or not. If you did get in trouble with the law it could mean a 12-month jail sentence and thousands in fines and attorney's fees. That really got my attention. Personally I have never been in favor of any law on an object; that has long been the routine we have seen around firearms legislation and bans.

Visit TinyURL.com/9z83x9u to read how Jenn worked with and against New Hampshire legislators and gun and knife groups to get the bill from the New Hampshire House to the Senate. You'll be very surprised (as Jenn was) at where some of the opposition came from and at some of the tactics that blind-sided her!

Wildlife Habitat Improvements Slated For Kearsarge Wildlife Management Area

NHF&G press release

A timber sale aimed at improving wildlife habitat is slated for the Kearsarge Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on 157 acres of the 1,000-acre WMA, located in the southwestern corner of Andover. Access is via Kearsarge Mountain Road and Leadmine Road.

The harvest will help to partially open the forest floor to more sunlight, allowing a new generation of trees to grow into a future forest, while significantly enhancing wildlife food and cover at the same time. It will also provide more room for the remaining trees to grow, not only adding to their future economic value, but also

improving their capacity to produce acorns and other types of hard mast that are an important food source for many species.

Timberwolf Logging of Littleton was selected to cut the trees through a sealed bidding process. The logging contract is restricted to dry or frozen ground conditions only. Timberwolf plans to start cutting in the summer of 2013.

In addition to benefits to the forest and wildlife, this harvest is projected to generate \$1.1 million in economic activity through employment, product sales, and manufactured goods.

For more information: wildnh.com/Wildlife/WMA/WMA_Kearsarge.htm

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DRED in regard to this.

Strategic Action Plan: In Sept. of '11 we reviewed our Strategic Action Plan. Myra suggested we might initiate a maintenance subcommittee, and Tom Frantz will join Peter in brainstorming a new maintenance model (including discussion of a budget) that we'll discuss in February.

Myra noted that communication has gone well, but we haven't held annual meetings (in our bylaws). Lastly, she raised the need for recruitment of new board members.

Legislation regarding vehicles for

disabled: Should we have a special meeting with someone who knows the legislation? Alex summarized the need for a policy to articulate our rules and guidelines for disabled persons to access the rail trail. It was suggested that we ask Charles to take the lead in developing the set of rules for disabled trail users.

Upcoming Events

Potluck Supper: Friday, November 16, at 6 PM at Highland Lake Inn

Andover Snowmobile Dinner: January 26.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5. There will be no November meeting.

Comfort Foods

Locally Grown Produce!

Soups made with our own root crops - leeks, carrots, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes & garlic. Heirloom winter squash all grown here on the farm. Cider, Vt. Pasta, Artisan Breads, Local Dairy & Cheeses, Forage Crops.



Turk's Turban Winter Squash

On Sale - Houseplants for indoor comfort.



Farm Christmas - We grow our own poinsettias, make our own wreaths & offer N.H. Grown Trees

Open in November! Mon-Sat 11-5:30. Closed Sundays 4th & 11th Open 7 days a week starting Nov. 12th.

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