



Special Event

Keynote speaker: Randy Pierce, President of 20/20 Vision Quest. Randy Pierce is a dynamic visionary and inspiring motivational speaker with an innate and powerful ability to engage audiences through anecdotes of his own struggles and triumphs over adversity.

Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:00pm
Pilgrim Church – 4 Watson Street, Nashua
Hosted by Boy Scout Troop 19

"What do you think a blind person can't do?"

This question challenged Randy Pierce from the moment he started to go blind in 1989. The question has motivated him, inspired him, frustrated him, pushed him harder than he ever would have thought he could endure, and made him realize that you truly don't need to see to have a vision -- and to make that vision a reality.

It is also the first question that Randy challenges students to consider in his remarkable presentations. For well over a decade, Randy has been visiting schools throughout New England, delivering his essential message to people of all ages: to believe in ability -- most importantly their own. Students respond enthusiastically to Randy's passionate approach to inspiring and awakening young minds to envision the possibilities that lie beyond their own challenges. By prompting students to think, "What can I accomplish?"; he leads them to realize it is within their power to define, embrace, and achieve any goal.

Presentations to age eleven and older include additional focus upon life lessons for managing adversity and choosing paths toward a successful and positive life.

Randy's story

Born and raised in New Hampshire, Randy was active in band, drama, and several outdoor sports before he climbed his first mountain at the young age of 10. Randy went on to earn his BSEE from the University of New Hampshire, then began a successful career at Digital Equipment Corporation as a hardware design engineer.

At the age of 22, Randy unexpectedly lost his vision over the course of a short two weeks due to a devastating neurological disease. Still passionate about sports, Randy found ways to continue to enjoy football, basketball, baseball, and even darts! His advancement in karate through his

second-degree black belt helped him improve focus and orientation and excel at many of the challenges he faced through his blindness.

At the age of 39, the neurological disorder which ended Randy's vision suddenly attacked in other ways, resulting in his being confined to a wheelchair. Randy spent the next two years working to get out of that wheelchair and in time was fully back on his feet with his new Dog Guide Quinn at his side.



In 2010, Randy set a goal to be the first blind hiker to summit all 48 of the New Hampshire 4,000-footers during the summer hiking seasons over 10 years. However, he quickly accelerated his pace. In 2012, he accomplished all 48 peaks in a single winter season — the winter season offering fewer challenges in terms of footing — and then on August 24, 2013, with Quinn at his side, he completed his original goal of climbing all 48 peaks during the summer seasons, just 37 months after he began his quest.

But what do you do when you accomplish your 10-year goal in just 3 years?

You create new goals of course!



Early in 2014 Randy welcomed his new Dog Guide Autumn. He has run the Boston Marathon and has successfully summited Mount Kilimanjaro. Randy's passion for new experiences continues to encourage him to turn adversity into growth and opportunity, inspiring others to reach their peak potential as Randy has and continues to do.

Please RSVP if your unit is attending with an estimate on the number of attendees. You can RSVP Greg Anthony, Scoutmaster, Troop 19 at greg.anthony@outlook.com

Note: Randy does not charge for his presentation to youth groups. However, if you are inclined to make a donation, you can support his organization, **2020 Vision Quest**. Funds raised through these endeavors will be given to two remarkable organizations, which benefit the visually impaired community: Guiding Eyes for the Blind, and the New Hampshire Association for the Blind.