

The Raymond Road Runner

ECRWSS

A Jordan-Small School & Town of Raymond Publication

Volume II, Issue III

POSTAL CUSTOMER

MARCH, 1999

Hot Items

What is TIF?

In September, at a special Town Meeting the voters established the first (TIF) Tax Increment Financing District in Raymond. See page 4 for the story.

News From The Maine State House Of Representatives

The 119th Legislative Session is now in full swing. See the story on page 5.

RoadRunner Articles Due

Articles for the next edition of the RoadRunner newsletter are due by March 15th. Please provide them by any of the following methods:

E-Mail; Diskette; Paper

Articles should be saved in Rich Text Format (RTF)

Send School Related Articles To: n.richard@raymondmaine.org or drop at Principal's Office

Send Town related articles To: nathan.poore@raymondmaine.org or drop at Town Hall

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Visit Us on the Web

Make sure to see the on-line archives at the Raymond, Maine web site:

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

Look under Events & News

RoadRunner Staff:

- Roger Pignataro
- Nathan Poore
- Norma Richard
- Kevin Woodbrey

Municipal Election on March 19th at the Jordan Small School

Absentee Ballots are now available at the Town Office during regular business hours for the March 19th Municipal Election. If you will be

out of town for any reason on election day you may vote absentee. Absentee ballots will be available at the Town Office up to

election day. Note: The March 19th Municipal Election will be held at the Jordan Small School from 7AM - 8PM.

Town Meeting on March 20th at the Jordan-Small School!!!

Please remember to bring your Town Report with you to the Town Meeting on March 20th at 10:00 AM. The Town Meeting will be held at the Jordan-Small School.

How Should The Town Use Undesignated Surplus Funds?

By: Nathan Poore

Due to various opinions, I am hesitant writing this article but as promised, I will do my best to report the positions of several points of view. This past October I presented a budget to the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Finance Committee. I informed both Boards that the current General Fund Balance is at an adequate level and should not be used as

surplus funds to pay for already proposed projects. The Town's Auditor was a little more definitive with his advice that the Town should not use any of the general fund balance for any project.

The reason why the Town must carry a balance is obvious. The Town must maintain a positive cash flow even during lean months. While the fund balance may be at

\$1.2 million in July, the cash balance hovers at \$300,000 to \$400,000 during leaner months. If the Town does not have enough cash to pay its bills there is an option through Tax Anticipation borrowing, however, lending institutions and credit rating authorities look unfavorable toward that practice if it used sporadically. The Town also

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Principal's Corner

By: Norma Richard

In the January Roadrunner, several of Mr. Fitch's fifth grade students wrote of their experiences with pen pals from Anguilla. We are very pleased to announce that over 20 students and adults from Anguilla will be visiting us next month during their spring break, starting April 3. Mr. Fitch has done an outstanding job organizing host families for our visiting students and arranging busing from Logan Airport. These students will have a

direct opportunity to experience life in Maine, living with Raymond families, joining classes at Jordan-Small during the school week, and taking field trips to area sites (definitely to the ocean and, hopefully, to the State House in Augusta). This is a very exciting opportunity for all of our students as we get to learn firsthand about the differences and similarities in our cultures. Our Anguillan students are inquiring about the weather in April (they are hoping to see some snow) and whether we play

cricket at recess. I am hoping that they wear their school uniforms when they attend classes here. Mr. Fitch and his students would like to thank all of the parents and businesses who are supporting this student exchange. We will provide you with an update of activities during their visit in next month's Roadrunner.

We are also very excited about the March 6th IRISH FAMILY EVENING that is being planned

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Elementary School Building Design Complete Project Goes to Bid

The design of the new Raymond K-4 Elementary School site and building is in its final stages. Since the referendum vote that approved the schools projects in the fall of 1997, the Building Committee and Design Alliance architects have been busy on Raymond's behalf.

The new building, to be located across from Jordan-Small School on Webbs Mills Road, has been designed. School staff and many town representatives were consulted. They have decided about many blueprints, materials and ideas, after much discussion. The building is clearly moving off the

drawing boards and towards construction!

The project has moved into a major milestone phase. After the Planning Board's approval of the site plans in December, the bidding process began in mid-December. In March we will award the construction project. Construction could begin as early as March, continuing throughout 1999 and complete in time for opening in the fall of 2000.

In the year 2000, detailed design of the conversion of the Jordan-Small

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Superintendent Of Raymond Schools Report

The unanimous approval by the Budget Committee of the school budget was the culmination of a long process of development and review. As early as the beginning of October, the School Committee solicited public input in anticipation of budget development. After initial staff input, the Administration budget was presented to the School Committee at its first November meeting. Throughout November and December, the Committee reviewed the budget at its

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Raymond Rec: Soccer Meeting! Summer Programs!

Anyone interested in being part of the planning process for our Soccer Program should attend a meeting, Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00pm at Jordan Small School. In addition, if you are willing to coach or officiate, please attend or phone Barry Keck at 655-2127.



We are assessing the interest in beginning a Summer Rec Program in addition to our Swim Program. We need ideas and input regarding activities, scheduling and ages. Please call Pat Smith at 655-4657 if you wish to help see this program come to life!!!

Raymond Extended Day Program

It is only February but RED is getting ready for the summer program!!! Many parents have been asking when information will be available? Well, it should be ready by the beginning of April. So if you are interested in your children being a part of this energetic and fun summer program, be sure to call the RED number (655-3203) in April. Leave your name, your child's name, address and phone number and information will be sent to you. Don't wait too long - or it may be too late.

Raymond Youth Group Project 2004

Our group was taken underwing by the Raymond Rec Association in December. Through their sponsorship, we will have a solid foundation to build upon and access to community buildings. A very special thanks to Pat Smith, President of Raymond Rec, for her wholehearted support. Our current 7th graders have undergone many changes this year and have done a wonderful job of staying connected to each other through our meetings and activities. We have received much support from Communities for Children and have been trying to identify "safe places" in Town.

At a recent meeting, the following members were named as "peer advisors": Sarah Biggs, Jody Bagley, Bryan Blomberg, Chelsey Conant, Rosa Dodge, Shawn Gagne, Andrew Hartig, Teddy Greeley, Sam Lobel, Tom Miranda, Frank Palmer, Clint Randall, Matt Waisenen, and Amanda Scripture.

These students have proven themselves as positive role models, have shown a long-term commitment to keeping this ship afloat and can be counted on to carry out various tasks, when asked. They are the "core" of this group and should be congratulated for their responsibility, maturity and leadership.

We hope to expand our group activities and community involvement. We will be creating scenery and will run the puppet craft for the upcoming Irish festival, and hope to become involved with area Senior Citizens. We are currently looking into mentoring, peer mediation and conflict resolution training. Our long-term goals include locating and establishing a building that can be used on a regular basis for

meetings and gatherings that is "user friendly", increasing support from established community groups, developing a support group for teens and parents, overcoming the stereotypes and labels commonly attached to teens. Continued acceptance, recognition and support is crucial to our adolescents and will mirror current and future reflections of our Town and its sense of community. We appreciate any assistance in our endeavors. We close with the following excerpt from Mike A. Males, 10 Worst Myths About Teens:

Adolescents behave like the society that raises them. They did not land on a meteorite. We raised them, they share our values, they act like us. If teenagers behave like the adult society that raises them, their misdeeds are the same as ours, and are not curable by aiming absurd, cosmetic labels at the young. Our fate is a shared one.

FMI: Candi Scripture 655-5368

Westbrook Vocational Center Honors

Christopher Waisanen received an Outstanding Achievement Certificate for making the second quarter director's list at Westbrook Vocational Center in the electricity class. Way to go, Chris! We are so proud of you (and Mom is secretly glad that Dad will have some professional help with electrical repairs around the house!).

March 1999

Events and Meeting Schedule

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| TH=Town Hall JS=Jordan-Small KC=Kokatosi Campgnd TG=Town Garage FB=Fire Barn | 1 7:00PM TH Community Development | 2 7:00PM TH Selectmen | 3 7:00PM TH Planning Board 7:00PM JS School Committee | 4 6:30PM JS Elementary School Building Committee 6:30PM KC Lions Club | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 7:00PM TH Planning Board | 11 | 12 2:20PM JS Good News | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 7:00PM TH Selectmen | 17 7:00PM JS School Committee | 18 6:30PM KC Lions Club | 19 ***** 7:00AM-8:00PM JS Town Election ***** | 20 ***** 10:00AM JS Town Meeting ***** |
| 21 10:00AM TH Appeals Board Site Walk | 22 | 23 7:00PM TH Founder's Day Committee | 24 | 25 7:00PM TH Cemetery Committee | 26 Appeals Board Deadline for December Meeting 2:20PM JS Good News | 27 |
| 28 | 29 7:00PM TH Appeals Board | 30 7:00PM JS Conservation Commission | 31 7:30PM FB Ladies Auxiliary | | TBA 6:30PM JS Middle School Development Com. | TBA 7:00PM TH Budget/Finance Committee 7:00PM TH Diabetes Meeting |

Raymond PTA

Invites all the citizens of Raymond to an evening celebrating Irish, Music, Dance, and Food. Come and chase the winter blues away with entertainment and fun for all!

"Rakish Paddy"

(A local Irish band)

Performing 6pm - 9pm

There is no cover charge for the Band and activities

Ceili Dance Demo + instruction & JSS Chorus. Childrens' activities begin at 5pm.

**IRISH FAMILY FESTIVAL
ON
SATURDAY MARCH 6th
At Jordan Small School.**

Public Supper

5-7PM in the Cafeteria

Listen to Irish Flute music and song as performed by

Marta Lane, while you eat.

Menu

Irish Stew or Chicken,

Irish Soda bread,

"Mc"&Cheese for Kids.

Emerald Isle Jell-o

for dessert.

\$5 for ADULTS

\$3 for KIDS

Tickets on Sale NOW!

Jordan Small School Office

Raymond Library

Krainin Real Estate

Also on sale at True Value on
Saturday, February 27th

Baseball/Softball Registrations

Registration for all youth ages 5-15 interested in playing baseball, softball, or T-Ball will be held on March 3rd and 4th. The location will be the JSS cafeteria and the times will be from 6:30-8:00 p.m. The registration fees are \$25 per player, or \$40 per family at all levels except Senior League. The fees for Senior League players will be \$45 per player or \$60 per family.

Placement sessions will be held on Saturday March 27th. There will be a \$10 late fee charged for all players who register after this date. (excluding Boy's Senior League and T-Ball)

Placement for your son or daughter is determined by their age as of August 1st.

Coaching can be a very positive experience at any level. If you are interested in coaching or field work, please contact us. We need your help in order to make the upcoming season a success.

FMI, Please call 655-2048.

Communities for Children

The Communities for Children group has been working on projects related to connecting families with young children to community resources and programs, middle school transition issues and assessing possibilities for future youth programming (including summer programming). This group is also planning to reach out to other community groups to see if improving and coordinating communication between groups will better meet some of Raymond youth's needs.

Communities for Children has recently clarified its vision and mission statements-

VISION: To help our community become connected, supportive and safe for our children and youth.

MISSION: To provide our community with opportunities which bring together people of all ages and interests. To encourage partnerships which support the healthy development of our children and youth in safe places.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 9th at 7:00pm in the JSS Library. For more information about this group please call Lori Rand at 655-4277 or Laurie Wallace at 655-2222.

Raymond Village Library

Libraries are for Babies. Attention parents and care givers of babies. There will be an informal get together at the library on March 15 at 6:30 p.m. for those interested in learning about the LIBRARIES ARE FOR BABIES, TOO PROGRAM. It is a chance to get to know other parents of babies and to discover ways to get your 'little one' started in enjoying time with books. Refreshments will be provided.

Storytime.

Storytime at the library is held on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. March's theme is Spring.

Book Discussion Group.

On March 25 at 7:30, at the library, the Book Group will discuss "Dancing at the Rascal Fair" by Ivan Doig. All are invited to attend.

Faerie Tale Theatre II

The library will have Special videos for the children during the month of March. These classic fables are brought to life with lavish productions and today's most popular entertainers such as Valerie Bertinelli, Pam Dawber, Howie Mandel, Mick Jagger and Carrie Fisher. Available for rental will be Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp, Rip Van Winkle, Snow Queen, Thumbelina Puss in Boots, The Nightingale, The Princess who had Never laughed as well as others.

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

The 1999 Hunting and Fishing Licenses are available at the Town Office.

If you are planning to purchase a hunting license as a gift you will have to provide the Town Office with a copy of their last hunting license or hunter safety card and their driver's license. Resident hunting and fishing licenses are \$20.00 and a combination hunting/fishing license is \$37.00. Children over the age of 16 will need an adult license. A junior hunting license is \$6.00.

If you are a resident of Maine over the age of 70, you can receive a complimentary license by sending in a form which can be picked up at the Town Office and sent into the State. Rule books for hunting and fishing, ATV's, and snowmobiles are also available as well as information about the Landowner Signage program. This program gives or makes available at a minimal cost signs for private property which can be used for recreational purposes with the owners' permission.

Raymond Web Site Volunteers Needed

The Raymond Web Site committee would like volunteers who are familiar with or would like to become familiar with Microsoft Frontpage. We have close to 1000 pages of town information with more being added daily. If you can spare a few hours a week and have a computer with internet access, we can use your help.

Please contact Duce Lester at 655-4224 or duce.lester@raymondmaine.org.

Proud Parents

The parents of Matthew and Christopher Waisanen would like to acknowledge them for their fine work during the last quarter. They both attend Westbrook Schools, Junior and Senior High. They are on the bus before 6 AM and home around 3 PM, a very long day. Chris is in the electricity vocational program and was voted the most improved student in December. Matthew made the honor roll during the first quarter. Congratulations to both of you. We are very proud of you!

Mom and Dad

Roadrunner Calendar

We are finding that many people are now depending on the Roadrunner Calendar to make plans to attend functions of the Town. If you would like your meeting to be included, please call the Town Office at 655-4742 and give them your dates so that they can be posted. The deadline for the next Roadrunner will be March 15th.

What is TIF and what does it have to do with Raymond?

By: Nathan Poore

In September, at a special Town Meeting the voters established the first TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District in Raymond. Many people still wonder what a TIF is and why Raymond even has one. A TIF is best described as: a local initiative to support development projects, using local funds; a "shelter" against adverse adjustments to State subsidies and County taxes based on total valuation; and a flexible program providing an incentive for municipalities to support job creation and investment.

The way a TIF works is simple. The Town can shelter or designate new value in property for the purposes of taxation and use that value to fund programs and investments in the Town to create a more stable tax base and to actually increase value in the long run.

The district that has been established in Raymond includes all of the new natural gas pipeline and the commercial district along Route 302. The pipeline was the driving force for establishing a district. The new property taxes that can be collected from the pipeline will be around \$80,000 to \$90,000 dollars. In March, voters will be asked to support a proposal to spend slightly more than \$80,000 for TIF projects with the new funds realized from the pipeline development. The projects include a variety of items and do not include any money being credited back to the pipeline owners. The TIF budget is shown below.

\$38,000 is proposed for a Geographic Information System. This includes the first year start up costs plus 10%. Detailed information about the system and its benefit to the Town is available by contacting the Town Office.

\$25,000 is proposed for Route 302 corridor-streetscape engineering design. This is a low estimate for initial and hopefully complete plans for Route 302 streetscape improvements. If this amount covers all expectations, construction and implementation of all engineering and planning could begin as early as the summer of 2000. The Town will be soliciting funds from outside sources, mainly the State of Maine, to compliment any local spending. At the completion of the conceptual planning phase of the Community Development Block Grant Committee, more detailed plans and estimates will be available.

\$4,300 is proposed for a web site server at the Town Office that includes \$2500 for a computer and software for the Web server; \$300 for proxy software; and \$1500 for a proxy server and software at the Library.

\$3,000 is proposed for funding the Bicentennial Celebration to be held in 2003. This will be an annual request.

\$10,000 is proposed for start up costs associated with the newly established Lake Region Economic Development Council (LRDC). The LRDC has stated that this will be a one time funding request and they are hoping to be self-sufficient in future years.

Details about the Town's investment plan for future years is available at the Town Office. If the Town had not established a TIF district, the loss of sheltering status would mean a loss, in the second year, of around \$62,000 in various state aid revenues and money assessed through County taxes. The estimated revenues that will be raised through taxation totals more than \$80,000 and possibly up to \$90,000, plus. If we hadn't sheltered the funds our net gain would only be \$20,000 to \$30,000. These numbers will be similar for each year of the TIF which last thirty years.

The Town can't spend the TIF dollars on anything it wants. The State must approve all money proposed to be spent under a TIF and typically, eligible projects can include: economic development; transportation or road improvements, promotion of the community, cultural events like the bicentennial celebration, and businesses; acquisition and construction of municipal equipment and facilities. The primary condition is that all investments be tied toward community and economic development so the Town couldn't build a new town office or school.

In the short run, the State is foregoing some benefits from increased valuation in a community with a TIF. The TIF does allow the municipality to use the dollars locally rather than giving it to the State for the period of the TIF. In the long run, the State believes it and the municipality benefits since the tax revenues are used to invest in the community to create a more stable tax base and to actually increase the property valuation.

For more information contact Nathan Poore at the Town Office 655-4742.

New Committees

The Board of Selectmen voted to establish two new committees at their February 16, 1999 Board meeting. The Selectmen would like anyone interested in serving on the committees to contact the Town Office.

One committee will look into the research and development of a veterans memorial monument in the Town of Raymond. The other committee will look into recreation and community services and programs offered in Raymond and determine how present and future needs will be met.

Undesignated Surplus Funds

Continued from page 1

carries a balance for unanticipated events that require substantial expenditures and for those times when revenues fall due to economic downturns.

Knowing the various points of view I proceeded to suggest that if surplus funds are used, they should be designated toward projects in the future that have a very large price tag such as facility improvements and road construction projects. The Budget Committee chose the advice of the Town's Auditor to leave the fund balance in place and to avoid eroding its base. The Board of Selectmen chose a different path and decided to recommend the Town use up to \$225,000 for future renovation to Jordan Small School. The School Committee agreed with the Board of Selectmen. While I believe the Town can survive and not be at a severe risk with decreasing the general fund by \$225,000, I do have the position that if any funds are to be used they should be designated toward municipal and not school projects. One of the primary contributors to the increase in the general fund balance has been increased excise tax collection; therefore it would seem appropriate to use those funds on road projects. Nevertheless, that opinion is just one of many that the voters will have to decide on at Town Meeting.

The Town proposed and voted on a plan to fund the Jordan Small School renovation project with appropriating \$225,000 through raising property taxes at last years Town Meeting. If the Town were to use the general fund balance, property taxes will likely go down next year by approximately \$0.40/\$1000 valuation. If the fund balance is left untouched, property taxes will likely go up by approximately \$0.14/\$1000 valuation. This means a decrease of \$50 for a home valued at \$125,000 or an increase of \$18 for the same valued home depending on the outcome at Town Meeting. These estimates are only valid if the proposed budget is adopted as presented at Town Meeting in March.

The positions sum up as follows:

Proponents of using the fund balance believe that the Town will not be at risk if it decreases the balance and in some respects returns the money back to the residents.

Opponents believe the fund balance is at an adequate level and should not be reduced. They also believe that it would take little change in tax collections or other financial down turns to put the Town in a fiscal bind.

While the decision will be difficult and confusing, it is your money and you have the right to do with it as you please, so please come to Town Meeting and cast your vote.

Recycling Corner

Reminder

The recycling pickup changed to a bi-weekly schedule in February. The March pickup dates are Tuesdays, March 9th and 23rd and Wednesdays, March 10th and 24th.

On Recycling

Those who recycle are possessed by a common belief, consciously or subconsciously, that what is taken from this earth is also to be returned. There are increasingly constrictive limits to the bounty of this earth just as surely as population growth continues. Unfortunately, future generations will by necessity become ever more aware of these finite limitations. A recent survey indicates that 83% of Raymond responders do recycle. While this is certainly encouraging, there is still room for improvement. The key to environmental preservation is awareness of the need to act *now* towards changing attitudes, and recycling is a good start. Not only is recycling a philosophy and lifestyle, it is a *responsibility* which should be advanced through education and example.

Recycling Containers Have Arrived

The containers have arrived and are much larger than the Town anticipated. Due to the size of the containers, we will be moving the one located at the Fire Station on Main Street to the Sheri Gagnon Park on Mill Street. We do not know when the move will take place, so if you go to the Fire Station and it's missing, take a ride over to the park.

The other container is located next to the Fire Station on Webbs Mills Road. The old container was located at Public Works, however, due to the size of the new container, it has been moved to the Fire Station side where more room is available. Cardboard containers will be located along side of both the new recycling containers.

We will be adding some sort of deck or platform so the container is more accessible.

News From The Maine State House Of Representatives

The 119th Legislative Session is now in full swing, according to State Representative Joseph Bruno of Raymond. With close to 3,000 bills to review, House and Senate chambers and joint standing committees are now meeting on a regular basis.

Representative Bruno is serving on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. "I am very excited with this assignment. To sit on the Appropriations Committee has been a goal of mine for many years. I am looking forward to finding solutions to the state's financial situation," said Rep. Bruno. "It is critical that we act responsibly and hold state spending in line with realistic revenue projections and at the same time keep the well-being of Maine's working families in mind."

Since 1921 Rep. Bruno is the second representative from the Raymond/Windham area to serve on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. Rep. Carleton E. Edwards from Raymond served on this committee in the late 1950s, early 1960s.

For those of you who have access to the Internet, there are many different sites pertaining to the Legislature. This is a great public service for those who are interested in knowing more about specific bills. Users are able to find out if a bill has been printed, if it has been referred to committee (and which committee), the public hearing and work session schedule, House and Senate action and, ultimately, the final disposition of a bill.

For a general starting point on bills, committees and schedules, use <http://www.state.me.us/legis/session>. To jump directly to bill search, use <http://janus.state.me.us/legis/bills>. The information contained in these sites is frequently updated.

"Another useful site is the Maine State Government Homepage — <http://www.state.me.us/>," added Rep. Bruno. "This location will provide you information on the different state agencies, news from Governor King, weather and other interesting items. From this point, you will be able to find a great Kid's

Page where children can explore, among many other things, interesting facts about Maine."

Applications for the 1998 Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program (also known as the Circuit Breaker Program) must be submitted by the end of February. The program is available to those who were full-time residents of Maine and occupied their own home or rented a home for all of 1997. The maximum refund is \$1000.

The Circuit Breaker form also serves as the application for the Elderly Low-Cost Drug Program which helps qualified Mainers receive medication prescribed for certain medical conditions at reduced costs. This application can be filled out at any time of the year.

Help is available for people interested in stopping unsolicited telemarketing calls. Steps that need to be taken are outlined in the brochure *A Maine Consumer's Guide: How to Stop Telemarketing Calls*. The brochure summarizes steps that may be taken to stop telemarketing solicitation. Requests may be made either verbally or in writing. It is important to note that only for-profit companies are bound by law to stop calling if asked to do so. Charities, political organizations and certain other not-for-profit groups are not required by law to end telephone calls at one's request. Representative Bruno encourages anyone interested in receiving a copy of the brochure to contact him. The guide may also be found on the Internet at <http://www.state.me.us/sos/telemark.htm>.

"Please do not hesitate to contact me on these topics or other state-related issues," added Rep. Bruno. "I value the opinions and suggestions of my constituents."

Representative Joseph Bruno represents District 38 which includes Raymond and part of Windham. He may be reached at home at 655-7443 or at the State House in Augusta at 287-1440.

Do you know what to do if you ever have to call 911 ?

Everyone in there lifetime may have to call 911 in an emergency. Whether you need fire, rescue, or police and you live in the Town of Raymond you may call 911 for an EMERGENCY. Here are a few tips if you ever need to call 911.

Remain calm (this may be difficult, but is very important)

Give your name (first and last)

Give your phone number

Give your address (street number and name)

Give any landmarks (fire lane numbers are great)

Give the nature of the problem

We all know that when emergencies occur this can be a very stressful time for people. Our goal is to be able to get help to you as soon as we can. The above tips will be very helpful if followed. It is just as important for you to teach your children who to call and what to say in case of an emergency.

It is also important to remember that 911 is for emergencies only. Any call that is not an emergency dial 655-7851 (Raymond Non-Emergency Line).

Raymond Dispatch Emergency Calls for January 1999

| | |
|--------|----------|
| Rescue | 28 Calls |
| Fire | 27 Calls |
| ACO | 25 Calls |
| Police | 15 Calls |

Jordan-Small Info

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS OR DELAYS: Busing for our elementary students can be affected by changes in high school and middle school schedules at Windham and Westbrook. For example a one hour delay was initiated by Windham due to the icy conditions of Windham roads. Please refer to Storm Center on Channel 6, 8 and/or 13 for the latest updates on school cancellations or delays. In the event of a delay, the morning kindergarten will be canceled.

BUSING: Snow banks and ice are major factors to contend with as your child is waiting for the bus. Please be sure that your child waits in your driveway, well away from the roadway. Buses and other vehicles have a much more difficult time stopping when the roads are snow or ice covered, and our drivers want to make sure that all children are waiting well away from the road. Please remind your child to wait until the bus driver signals your child to cross the road or to get on the bus. It is always safer for an adult to wait with children, especially with our younger students, and we do appreciate the efforts of parents and other adults who monitor their children at the bus stops.

RECESS: Several times this winter, weather was so severe and the temperatures were so cold that all students stayed in for recess. On most winter days, students are expected to go outside for recess. Please make sure that your child comes to school well prepared for the snow. Students who do not wear boots will still be expected to go outside, but they will remain on the tarred or plowed sections of the playground and will not be allowed in the field or on the sliding areas. Recess is an important social time for students. It also provides them with some much needed activity and fresh air. If your child has a medical issue that may be intensified if out at recess, please contact our nursing staff.

BOOTS AND SHOES: Students are not allowed to be in stocking feet in their classroom or in other areas of the school (the exception is physical education where students may participate in bare feet). I have observed that students are wearing their boots to school and forgetting to bring shoes to wear inside. They then take their boots off in class and spend the day in their stocking feet. This has the potential for an injury, especially as there are many staples and tacks that may make it to the classroom floor during the day. Also, students in stocking feet are not prepared to exit the building in case of an emergency. The best remedy is to make sure that your child wears boots to *school and* brings a pair of sneakers to leave at school during the week.

Jordan-Small Pen Pals

The third and fourth grade classes of Mrs. Tounge, Mrs. Gorham, and Mrs. Malnati are involved in a program called "Science Pen Pals". This program was developed by the Museum of Science in Boston, and gives the children an opportunity to e-mail their science questions to scientific researchers. Our contact researchers are Dr. Deborah Stull of Harvard University and Dr. Brett Tounge of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Each week the responses to selected questions will be shared at our class meetings. The students have lot of interesting, thoughtful questions and are really excited to be involved in this program.

Mrs. Malnati's third grade class have also been writing to another pen pal that is some distance away. He is Amanda Davis' uncle, Captain Ronald Fried. Captain Ron is currently stationed in Vares, Bosnia, which is about thirty miles north of Sarajevo. Captain Freid is a physician with the NATO peacekeeping forces. He has sent us a lot of information about the area and answered many of our questions about Bosnia and why he is stationed there. We have sent him Halloween stories, Thanksgiving cards, winter songs on tape, and are now making Valentine cards.

Book Fair Is Coming To JSS

The Scholastic Camp Book Fair, sponsored by the Raymond PTA, is coming to the Jordan-Small School the week of April 5 - 9. We will have many new books featuring lots of backpack picks including nature stories, awesome adventures, easy readers, friendship, creative art, scary stories, and many more.

Parents, students, teachers and the community will have ample opportunities to view and purchase books during the Book Fair week. We will be located in the school gym at the following times:

Monday, April 5: 8:30 - 4:00 and
5:00 - 8:00 in the evening
Tuesday, April 6: 8:30 - 4:00 and
5:00 - 8:00 in the evening.
Wednesday, April 7: 8:30 - 1:30
Thursday, April 8: 8:30 - 4:00 and
5:00 - 8:00 in the evening
Parent/Teacher Conference Day on
Friday, April 9: 8:30 - 4:00

We encourage families to come to the Book Fair together on any evening or during Parent/Teacher Conferences. If interested in volunteering, please contact Sue Cobb at 655-3108 after 6 PM.

Elementary School Building Design Complete

Continued from page 1

building to a Middle School will happen. Construction is planned for the summer of 2001. The Raymond Schools project will wrap up with the opening of the new 5-8 Middle School in the fall of 2001.

Schools Project Timeline:

| | | |
|------------------|--------------|--|
| New K-4 building | Final design | During 1998 |
| | Construction | Spring 1999 through Summer 2000 |
| | Open | 2000/2001 school year |
| Middle School | Final Design | During 1999 |
| | Construction | Spring to Fall 2000 |
| | Open | 2001/2002 school year, grades 5 through 7 2002/2003 school year, grades 5 through 8 |

Building Blocks To Character

January The Month Of Courage

Mrs. Allen's Kindergarten

We discussed the concept of courage as we read about Martin Luther King. The children expressed how it took tons of courage to help the white and black people to become friends. They decided courage means to be brave like when you try to get something you want even though you're scared or it's hard to do but, you try anyway. Some examples of courage which they thought of were the Pilgrims, as it took courage to cross the ocean; Bill Clinton, as he has to be brave to speak to so many people; the lion in the "Wizard of Oz," as he did have courage to speak up to the wizard; their grandfathers who were in the army; and themselves, as it took courage to start Kindergarten and come to a new school but, they did it anyway because they wanted to learn and make friends.

February The Month Of Honesty

Mrs. Allen's Kindergarten

Honesty is an important trait in learning to socialize and make friends in a group situation. The children decided from our discussions that honesty means telling the truth even when you know you did something wrong. The children are learning that that's how friends learn to trust them and like them. They stated that being honest makes them feel good inside. Honesty means telling real stories or telling someone when you are telling a made up story.

Principal's Corner

Continued from page 1

in conjunction with the Raymond PTA. JSS is planning a week-long focus on Ireland during the week preceding this event. We would welcome any resources that you could share with students and the faculty, including books, music, posters, or your experiences and interests in Ireland and all things Irish. I want to thank members of the Raymond PTA, especially Jerilyn Ward, president, for all of the PTA initiatives organized for this school year. Jo Martyn-Fisher is to be commended for coordinating the IRISH FAMILY EVENING events for children and adults of all ages. We encourage you to join us on Saturday, March 6 for an evening of food, music, laughter, fun and community spirit.

Superintendent's Report

Continued from page 1

regular meetings and presented the currently proposed budget to the Budget Committee on January 11.

The FY 99/00 school budget proposes an increase to the town of 1.9%. This is based on proposed expenditures, including a new bus purchase, and preliminary funding estimates from the State. There appears to be bipartisan support to increase general purpose aide to education. If this should occur, it could result in increased revenue to our budget. This is particularly good news when considering this budget carries a full year's interest on the new elementary school, plus the remaining debt service on Jordan-Small School. Despite the fact that our debt service has more than doubled, the impact to the town share will be an increase of approximately 1/2 of 1% of our total budget. This is due largely to the fact that our project was approved under the existing construction funding formula. A new construction formula is being developed, which in all likelihood will require more local participation.

As the accompanying chart indicates, the bulk of our budget is distributed among three major accounts; tuition, regular elementary, and special education. A five year analysis of our previous budget reflects the same basic distribution. It should be noted that over the last five years, tuition has represented over 49% of the increase. This is due largely to the fact that our major enrollment increases have reached the secondary level and are now remaining fairly constant.

The School Committee and staff have made a concerted effort to keep budget increases within reasonable and projected increases, while providing a quality program for our

Mrs. Tarr's Second Grade

Our class feels that character values are very important. We often refer to the current monthly value, as well as reflect back to past qualities.

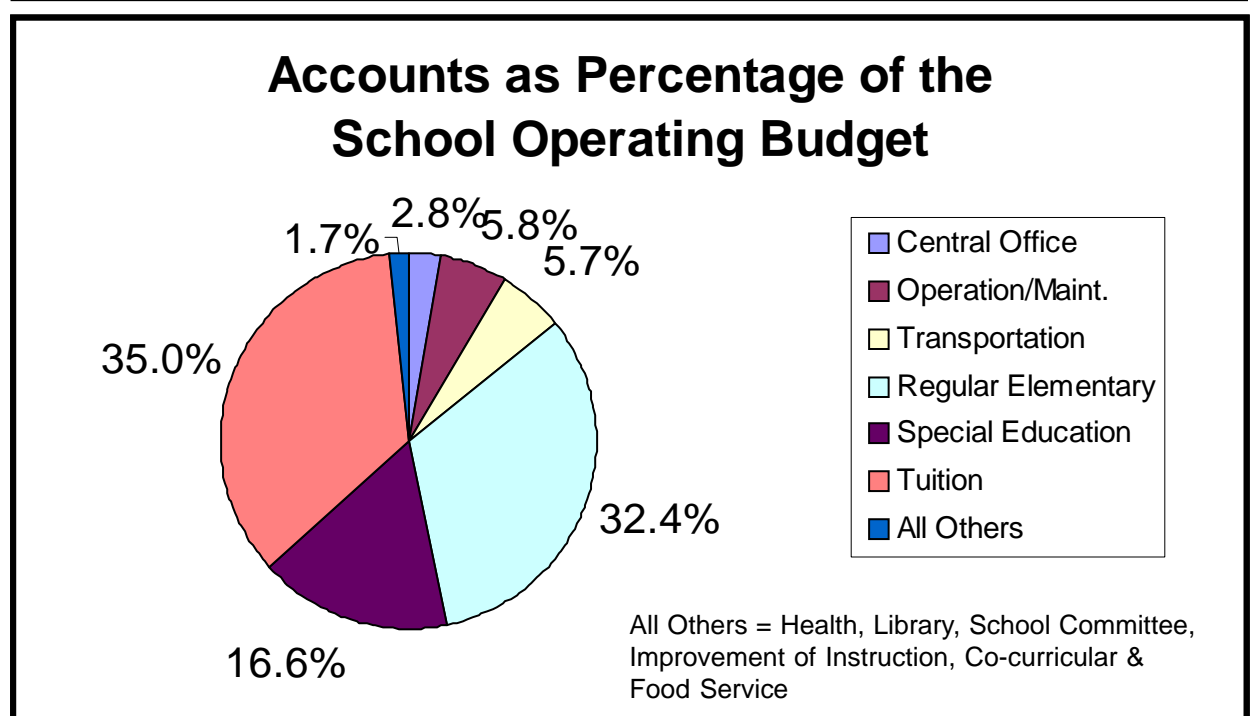
In November, we made an extra effort to show that we are caring. A student's name was chosen at morning meeting. At the end of the day, we took turns completing the sentence, "I like _____ because _____." The student was able to take his/her chart home and remember the caring comments. By the time we were at the end of the class, they had brainstormed many ways in which they cared for that special person. Christian Anderson came up with the phrase, "because she treated others as she wants to be treated."

In December, we discussed how we could be responsible. Each student took a calendar home each night, and wrote down something he/she

was responsible for during that day. These responsible acts were shared daily with the class by those who were responsible enough to bring them in. Students did an excellent job because no two days could be the same!

In this month of February, we were constantly making sure that we are "honest". The class made New Year's resolutions which are posted on the bulletin board outside the classroom. Every morning, each student needs to check in and be honest as to whether he/she fulfilled his/her resolution the day before. If students did, then they could put up a sticker on their basketball and move it closer to the hoop. After three weeks of trying to be a better person, we will see who had the most success. We have discussed how "honesty" plays an important role in this.

Honesty is "when you tell the truth" (Tom Cave) and "when you don't lie" (Rusty Libby).



students, maintaining our facilities, and expanding our bus fleet. A detailed presentation of the proposed budget is printed in the town report.

Citizens should feel free to contact the Superintendent's office with any questions.

Jordan-Small Citizenship Awards For The Second Quarter

The following students were nominated by their teachers to receive the second quarter citizenship awards. These awards are given to those students who have consistently demonstrated or shown significant improvement in the following areas: Positive behavior in all areas of school. Responsible effort in completing academic assignments. The highest standards of character. And, is a positive, caring role model for peers. We want to congratulate these students and their parents on being selected for this award.



- Anthony "A.J." Edgecomb
- Lauren Trickey
- Ben Sadak
- Mason Barry
- Alex Parker
- Emily Dodge
- Ethan Ward
- Hannah LaChance
- Megan Harding
- Taylor Duncanson
- Phoebe Crockett
- Andrew O'Neil
- Danielle Holman
- Cody Winder
- Amanda Hammett
- Nick Ferry
- Ashley Blanchard
- Taylor Fey
- Skylar Duncanson
- Amanda Tapley
- Sorell Riley
- Jason Lehr
- Amanda Dodson
- Emily Young
- Shea Mogg
- Lindsey Hudson

- Mrs. Allen's AM Kindergarten
- Mrs. Allen's PM Kindergarten
- Mrs. Parisi's AM Kindergarten
- Mrs. Parisi's PM Kindergarten
- Mrs. Bottom's All Day Kindergarten
- Mrs. Hawkes 1st Grade
- Mrs. Smith's 1st Grade
- Ms. Williams' Multi age 1/2
- Ms. Van Houten's Multi age 1/2
- Mrs. Crockett's 2nd Grade
- Mrs. Tarr's 2nd Grade
- Ms. Cummings' Multi age 2/3
- Mrs. Malnati's 3rd Grade
- Mrs. Tounge's 3rd Grade
- Mrs. Spencer's Multi age 3/4
- Mrs. Blanchard's 4th Grade
- Mrs. Gorham's 4th Grade
- Mrs. Mirone's 4th Grade
- Mr. Taylor's Multi age 4/5
- Ms. Feeney's 5th Grade
- Mr. Fitch's 5th Grade
- Mr. Steven's 5th Grade
- Mr. Cyr's 6th Grade
- Mrs. Estey's 6th Grade
- Mr. Hjort's 6th Grade
- Mrs. Taiani's 6th Grade



Kindergarten News

1st S.T.E.P.S.

1st S.T.E.P.S. stands for "Students Transitioning Easily into Public School" for the first time. The Kindergarten and Preschool teachers of the Raymond community have been meeting to work together to help our young children with the transition process of entering into Kindergarten and the public school system. Those attending have enjoyed getting to know each other and have developed a positive, cooperative working relationship to better understand the needs of our children, concerns of parents and expectations for Kindergarten readiness. We have discussed many shared issues of interest and are developing plans for cooperative activities as teachers, as well as for the children to be involved with which will help them become more familiar with our school and staff. For further information or questions please contact Pat Allen, Kindergarten Teacher or Eileen Stiles, Home-School Coordinator both at 655-4743, or Candi Scripture, Preschool Teacher at 655-5368.

Multi-cultural Celebrations Around the World

In December all the Kindergarten students from Mrs. Allen's and Mrs. Parisi's classes, along with Mrs. Bottoms' All Day K students, participated in a "Multi-cultural Celebrations Around the World" learning experience. Throughout a two week period the children "traveled" to six countries (Germany, Israel, Holland, Sweden, England and Mexico) to learn about people from around the world, other cultures and holiday customs. While "visiting" each country in the different classrooms, the students learned how to speak words of greeting and holiday wishes, sang songs, read special stories, colored the countries' flags, tasted ethnic foods and made crafts and gifts for the holidays to give to others. On the final day they played special games from some of the countries and celebrated together with an international food party with items donated from their families. While the activities involved many skills and activities across the curriculum, including geography, language arts, writing, math, fine and gross motor skills, the children's interest for learning about other people and children in our world was evident and exciting.

The Kindergarten staff would like to thank the following parents (and grandparents) for participating in this special event: Ms. Friedlander, Mrs. Remalia, Mrs. Acker, Mrs. Hartig, Mrs. Grondin, Mrs. Parsons, Ms. Meyer, Mrs. Masi, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Marytn-Fisher, Mrs. Gordan, Mr. Gordan, Mrs. O'Neill, Mrs. Gagnon, Mrs. vanHassteren, Mrs. Sadak, Mrs. Orsini, Mrs. Christy, Ms. Keane, Mrs. Winde, Mrs. Beeler, Mr. Greeley, Mr. Peavey, Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Zimmer-Rankin, Mrs. Guibeau, Mrs. Mayer, Mrs. DeSimon, Mr. Barry, Mrs. Matheis, Mrs. Tripp, Mr. Trickey, Mr. Peterson, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Nadeau and Mrs. Brown.

"Shop-N-Learn"

During the month of February the Kindergarten children have been learning about nutrition. The students were actively involved in a "true to life" shopping situation where they were able to demonstrate their knowledge of food groups and healthy food choices by shopping and working in our supermarket complete with bank, pharmacy, bakery, deli and check out services. They, also, "worked" and participated in running a restaurant. These activities included experiences with dramatic play, decision making, cooperation, and career awareness, as well as, opportunities to practice counting skills, number recognition, reading skills, social skills, language skills, sorting and classifying skills.

Parent-Child LITERACY Night

The Kindergarten staff is holding a Parent-Child Literacy Night for current Kindergarten children on Monday, March 31st from 6 -7:30 P.M. The theme will be "The Wizard of Oz" and those

attending will be traveling down the yellow brick road of literacy to experience and learn together the many avenues of literacy. The kindergarten rooms will be set up with activities relating to whole language, phonics and phonemics, and writing. Many of the support staff and specialists will be participating in this special night. We hope to see our families there! "There's no place like home" and school working together!

Kindergarten Screening for Incoming Kindergarten Children

JSS school will be holding an information night for incoming Kindergarten children for the year '99-00 on Tuesday, March 2nd. This is an opportunity for the parents to learn about the screening process and, also, to meet the Kindergarten staff, learn about the Kindergarten program, see the classrooms and ask questions about issues concerning entering and starting school. We encourage new parents to attend.

January Bus Riders Of The Month At JSS

The following students have been recognized for their outstanding behavior as our January "Bus Riders of the Month". They received special awards from their bus drivers, along with gift certificates from K & K Video in Raymond and the Windham Pizza Hut. Congratulations, and keep up the good riding.

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Norman's Bus: | Michael Gleason and Andrew Reed |
| Linda's Bus: | Amanda Dodson and Renee Fortin |
| Paul's Bus: | Anna Klinkerch and Daniel Chute |
| Debi's Bus: | Ben Wardwell and Travis Cook |
| Sharon's Bus: | Chelsea Bissonnette and Casey Dodge |
| Cindy's Bus: | Haley Desjardins and Dustin Libby |
| Debbie's Bus: | Logan Martyn-Fisher and Rebecca Riley |

Make a Shamrock Hat. Paint your nails "Irish"

IRISH FAMILY FESTIVAL

Play Checkers on a 12'x12' Board

Saturday, March 6th

5:00-9:00PM

Snow Date March 7th

Where?
Jordan-Small
School
Cafeteria/Gym

There's More!

And this part is FREE!

Come and listen to, dance to, or sing along with **Rakish Paddy**

An Irish Band

Performing 6-9pm
With a demonstration of Irish Ceili Dancing
You can learn too

A Public Supper
From

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Look for tickets on sale the 2nd week of February
Details in The Suburban News or Contact 655-7374

Flutist
Marta Lane and her tenor husband will entertain you as you eat with traditional and Irish/American songs

Something for Everyone



Irish Theme Bake Sale

EXTRA!
POT O' GOLD COIN
PTA Giving Party for all the good

Basket O'Beanie Babies

Help make a mural! Faerie Face Paints. Build a Giant Box Castle. Make a puppet.