

# The Raymond Road Runner

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## 2004 Annual Report of the Town Manager

**By: Don Willard, Town Manager**

The past fiscal year was another period marked by significant operational and capital improvement for the town. An ongoing project was the town-wide tax equalization or "Revaluation Project" conducted by Vision Appraisal of Northboro, Massachusetts. The work commenced during the spring of 2004 and progressed through the summer with site visits to Raymond properties. The

collected data will be analyzed during the winter and spring of 2005 with a goal of releasing valuation information to homeowners and businesses during the summer of 2005. Time will be made available during the late summer and early fall for homeowners who wish to discuss or appeal the valuation placed upon their property. Once this process is concluded, the new values will be utilized during the 2005/2006 tax year.

Maine by citizen referendum. The goal of realizing lower effective property tax rates is one shared by Raymond's municipal government and School Department. Unfortunately, the Palesky cap would have devastated both town and school budgets and made impossible the provision of services at a level near those historically approved through annual town meeting. After the Palesky initiative failed in Raymond and statewide, new tax reform legislation was put forward by the governor entitled LD1. LD1 was also a response to the June 2004 approval of Question 1, which directed the state legislature to honor a long-standing promise and immediately fund the cost of

local education statewide at a 55% level. LD1 instead established a four-year phase-in of education funding to arrive at 55% of the cost of K-12 education according to the funding model called Essential Programs and Services (EPS). Under LD1, the distribution of state General Purpose Aid (GPA) for education is governed by EPS. LD1 also changed EPS with respect to special education and transportation costs as well as added laws to establish a spending limitation for school systems. Another element of LD1 is the establishment of limits on municipal government spending. Tax commitment

**Continued on page 4**

### Road Runner Articles Due

Articles for the next edition of the *Road Runner* newsletter are due by April 21st. Please provide them by any of the following methods:

**E-Mail; Diskette; Paper; CDROM**  
Articles should be submitted in RTF and pictures in JPEG format. E-mail articles and pictures to:

**kevin.woodbrey@raymondmaine.org**  
or drop them off at the Town Office or at one of the school offices.

### In This Issue

Raymond Village Library News .....	2
Municipal News Brief.....	3
Great Outdoor Summer Job! .....	4
Town Reports Available In May .....	4
Lake Region Business Expo .....	4
Zoning Amendments At April 6 Public Hearing ..	5
Raymond Fire/Rescue Hot Spot .....	5
Registering Boats Requires Milfoil Stamp .....	5
Cardboard Recycling .....	5
Raymond Fire Rescue Log .....	5
Raymond Planning Board .....	5
Open Space, Land Development Workshop .....	5
Behind The Legislative Curtain.....	6
2005 Dog Registration .....	6
State Spending Reeling Out Of Control .....	6
Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility .....	6
Fire/Rescue Dispatch Asks Your Help .....	6
Town Nomination Papers Due April 6th .....	6
Mainers Who Chose Rebel Gray .....	7
Raymond Recreation .....	8
Raymond Baseball/Softball .....	8
The RED Program Needs Summer Help! .....	8
Raymond Lions Club Is Supporting R.I.S.E .....	9
Memorial Bench For Frances Small .....	9
Update On Raymond Recreation Insurance .....	9
Raymond Lions Honor Dale Gilman .....	9
Raymond Elementary Report .....	10
Poland Regional High School .....	10
Kindergarten Screening .....	10
RES/JSMS Scholastic Book Fair .....	10
An Interview With Charles Miller .....	11
JSMS Championship Basketball Season.....	11
Only PREVENTION Can Save Raymond's Lakes	12
Boxtop Winners At RES .....	12

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### Visit Us on the Web

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

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

Look under Calendars & News

To learn more about what's new in the Town of Raymond, visit our website at

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

On-line services now include:

- Automobile registration
- Hunting and fishing licenses
- Assessment information
- Property & other maps



One of the biggest issues of 2004 was the drive by Topsham resident Carol Palesky and her Maine Taxpayers Action Network (MTAN) to enact a 1% cap on local property tax assessments throughout

## Raymond Business Association Forming

**By: Mike McClellan**

Peter Erskine, Mexicali Blues, asked The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce to join him in hosting an information event at Mexicali Blues that looked at the desire to create a group of Raymond businesses who would work together to further the fortunes of Raymond businesses in a coordinated manner. The initial meeting, held March 16, 2005, was well attended and also was notable for the positive response of businesses who could not attend, but want to be involved. Peter thanked the guests for coming and asked the group to introduce themselves. In attendance were representatives from Mexicali Blues, The Romah Motor Inn, The Good Life Market, Krainin Real Estate, Sunset Variety Store,

Key Bank, The Busy Bee Too, the Town Of Raymond and The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber Of Commerce. Discussion looked at previous efforts to organize which included a Casco/Raymond group that met for about 4 years in the late 1990s. The group agreed that the effort to coordinate would benefit their businesses and the town. Further discussion looked at what might be accomplished to include: creating an event, linking into a current event such as Derby Fest, collaborative marketing or coordinated shopping events. Energy was strong within the group to the point that it was suggested a second meeting should take place and soon. This meeting was set for March 22, 2005.

Given this publication will not be out prior to that date, please know that all businesses are invited to join us in the future. The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce serves 13 towns including Raymond and sees as its mission: to support efforts in member towns that focus on that particular town. The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce will staff the group and serve to support any activity that is created. If you would like to join us or simply to know more about this effort, contact Mike McClellan, Executive Director, The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce at 647-3472.

## R.I.S.E. UPDATE (Raymond International Support Effort)

The village of Kalametiya, Sri Lanka, is being rebuilt. Materials have been purchased and homes are rising from the destruction left by the tsunami last December. Money to cover the costs of this project is needed today. R.I.S.E. pledged to raise \$15,000 to pay for 3 houses so that families in the village would have shelter once again. Although people have been generous with checks ranging from \$5 to \$200, much more is required if we are to meet our goal.

behind this project. In addition to the 31 homes being rebuilt, the project will build a community center, establish a revolving fund for women, set up a youth skills development program, and provide money to purchase lost fishing gear and equipment

If each household in Raymond donates just \$5, the goal is easily met. Many gave after

the initial disaster and are asking, "Why should we give again?" There is no magic answer to this question, other than to remember how much most of us have compared to those who have lost everything. Your contribution to this project will go directly into the rebuilding of homes for people with whom we hope

**Continued on page 12**

### R.I.S.E. DONATION FORM

Please fill out the information below so you will not be solicited again.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

We hope to publish the names of all donors in the Road Runner. If you wish to remain anonymous, please check box below. Thank you.

I wish to remain anonymous.

Please make out all checks to: R.I.S.E. and drop off or mail to:

Evergreen Credit Union  
785 Roosevelt Trail  
Windham, Maine 04062

# Raymond Village Library News

## This Month At a Glance

Wednesday, April 6 – Basics of Using the Internet and Dealing with Computer Viruses at 7pm  
 Monday, April 11 – Meet the Author –“The Three Grumpies”, at 7pm  
 Wednesday, April 15 – Reiki - The Healing Art, at 7pm  
 Wednesday, April 20 – “Owls and Bats,” Nature Program at 2pm  
 Monday, April 25 – Garden Series with Floral Designer at 7pm  
 Wednesday, April 27 - Reading Group, at 7pm  
 Sunday, May 1 – Mother’s Day Craft from 2-4pm

## Dr. Seuss Night

Raymond Village Library, along with Raymond Elementary School, celebrated Dr. Seuss’s birthday, March 2, 2005, in grand style. RES gymnasium filled with Dr. Seuss fans, young and old, to watch and listen to RES Librarian Deb Keef read “The Sneetches,” acted out on stage by a group of Raymond students.

The festivities continued with a variety of stations for the participants to visit. One station, hosted by Margaret Mains, RES Title I Specialist, had matching phrases from Dr. Seuss to the correct Dr. Seuss story. The children earned prizes if they were able to match at least five of the phrases to the correct story.

Another station had a beanbag toss activity with Betsy Lepper, RES Phys. Ed. instructor. The children, wearing stars (as a Sneetch would), tossed beanbags to those without stars. This kept the players moving and interacting with each other in a way that would have pleased Dr. Seuss himself!

Lisa Schadler oversaw the tracing of all the children’s feet. This represented “the many, many feet you meet” from “The Foot Book” by Dr. Seuss. What a variety of shapes, sizes and colors for all to see!

Another busy station was a craft activity making Yertle theTurtle. Participants constructed a paper turtle donning their own name. These turtles were stacked on top of

one another, covering the gymnasium wall! Allison Schadler kept order with the many turtles created and the many children visiting her station.

The night would not have been complete without singing Happy Birthday to Dr. Seuss, who was attending as the guest of honor (aka Mac Mains). The song was followed by delicious cupcakes generously made and donated by Gail Cole, Ellen Gagne, and Lisa Schadler.

All of the fun was captured by Lisa Davison of Raymond, who donated her photography talents by taking digital shots of all the action, from beginning to end.

Many thanks to RES for the use of their gym, to Deb Keef, Margaret Mains, Betsy Lepper, Lisa Schadler, Allison Schadler, Gail Cole, Ellen Gagne, Lisa Davison and Mac Mains for making Raymond Village Library’s Fourth Annual Dr. Seuss Night such an enormous success!

## A Month Full of Programs

Learn the **Basics of Navigating the Internet** to find information and learn how to find viruses and worms. This program will also teach you how to protect your computer from getting these nasties. This is not a hands-on class. It is a free interactive computer demonstration that is open to the public. This will be held Wednesday, April 6 from 7 to 8:30pm.

The Raymond Village Library is so proud to be able to bring Tamra Wight, the author of “**The Three Grumpies**,” to meet with our library patrons. It is such a treat to meet with someone who has accomplished the writing and publication of a book. Tamra will read her book, which is intended for the 3-8 years old age group. There will be a Grumpies page and crayons provided for children to color in while they listen to the tale of what happens when you wake up on the wrong side of the bed. Books will be available for purchase and autograph signing. This is an evening for the whole family, and we invite you to **Meet the Author** at the library on Monday, April 11 at 7pm.

Stressed after a long winter? How about those aches and pains that just don’t seem to get better? Come and hear about **Reiki – The Healing Art**. Jake Jacobson will present a program explaining the history, philosophy, beliefs and methodology of the practice of Reiki. There will be a demonstration showcasing a short Reiki treatment. There will also be handouts available for those seeking further information. Come and find out what it is all about, Wednesday, April 13, at 7pm.

During school vacation the library has a wonderful nature program planned for the kids. **Owls and Bats** will be the topic for this year’s Nature Program. Jocelyn Hubbell will once again share her nature knowledge with school age children on Wednesday, April 20, at 2pm. There will be a sign up sheet at the library or call 655-4283 to make sure you do not miss all the fun learning about owls and bats! This program is made possible by a grant given by **Loon Echo Land Trust** through the **Helen Allen Endowment Fund**.

Yes, spring is truly here, and it’s time to really look through those garden catalogs and get busy planning our flower gardens. To help us, the **Garden Series on Floral Design** will be held at the library on Monday, April 25, from 7 to 8:30pm. Our own Jessica Fay, owner of the Raymond Village Florist, will lead a hands-on class, teaching us how to make a spring floral arrangement. Jessica will provide all the materials so there will be a \$7 fee for this class. You will make your own floral arrangement to take home with you. Due to limited space, registration is required. Please contact the Raymond Village Library at 655-4283 to sign up.

On Sunday, May 1, our Crafty Ladies will once again conduct a craft afternoon. This will be a Mother’s Day Craft and will be held from 2 to 4pm. For more information, please call the library at 655-4283.

## Book Discussion Group

This reading group, which meets monthly, will be reading “The Life of Pi,” by Yahn Martel, for discussion. They will be meeting Wednesday, April 27 at 7pm. New participants are welcome.

# April 2005

## Events and Meeting Schedule

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>FB</b> =Fire Barn <b>JS</b> =Jordan-Small <b>KC</b> =Kokatosi Campgnd <b>PS</b> =Public Safety Bldg. <b>RE</b> =Raymond Elementary	<b>SG</b> =Sheri Gagnon <b>TG</b> =Town Garage RT85 <b>TH</b> =Town Hall <b>VL</b> =Village Library <b>VC</b> =Village Church <b>VT</b> =Village Tennis <b>MB</b> =Modular at JSMS				<b>1</b> 6:30-8:30PM JS Dance	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00AM VL Babytime	<b>5</b> 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting	<b>6</b> 11:30AM JS Early Release 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00PM TH Planning Board Public Hearing 7:00-8:30PM VL Alternative Philosophies 7:00PM VL Class: Internet / Viruses	<b>7</b> 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00AM VL Babytime 6:00PM RE Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:00PM VL Meet the Author	<b>12</b> 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM RE PTA Meeting	<b>13</b> 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00PM TH Planning Board	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00AM VL Library Board 7:00PM VL Reiki - the Healing Art	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00AM VL Babytime  SCHOOL VACATION	<b>19</b>  SCHOOL VACATION	<b>20</b> 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 2:00PM VL Nature Program 3:00PM TH Planning Board Deadline for May SCHOOL VACATION	<b>21</b> Road Runner Deadline for May 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting Town Office Absentee Ballots Available SCHOOL VACATION	<b>22</b>  SCHOOL VACATION	<b>23</b> 12:00PM TH Zoning Board of Appeals Deadline for May
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00AM VL Babytime 7:00PM TH Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00-8:30PM VL How to Make Flower Arrangements	<b>26</b> 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting	<b>27</b> 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00 VL Library Reading Group 7:00PM TH Conservation Commission	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## Library Plans For The Future

How can the Library best offer the materials, services and programs you want, and how do we get the word out about all that we have and do? What does the community need and how is it growing? For the past year the Planning Committee has been working to address these questions while drafting goals and objectives for the next three years. We hope to have the plan completed by May.

Based on last fall's survey results and other community input, we have focused on two service responses: Current Topics and Titles and Lifelong Learning. We've also examined issues of funding, staff, technology and space in the process of setting goals for the future. Please find copies of this draft plan at the library or at [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org) in the Library section. Your comments are wanted and welcomed.

## 'Fine' Foods?

In lieu of overdue fines the Raymond Village Library is accepting donations of food, toiletries and paper products for the month of April. These will be given to the Food Pantry, who provides assistance to folks in need.

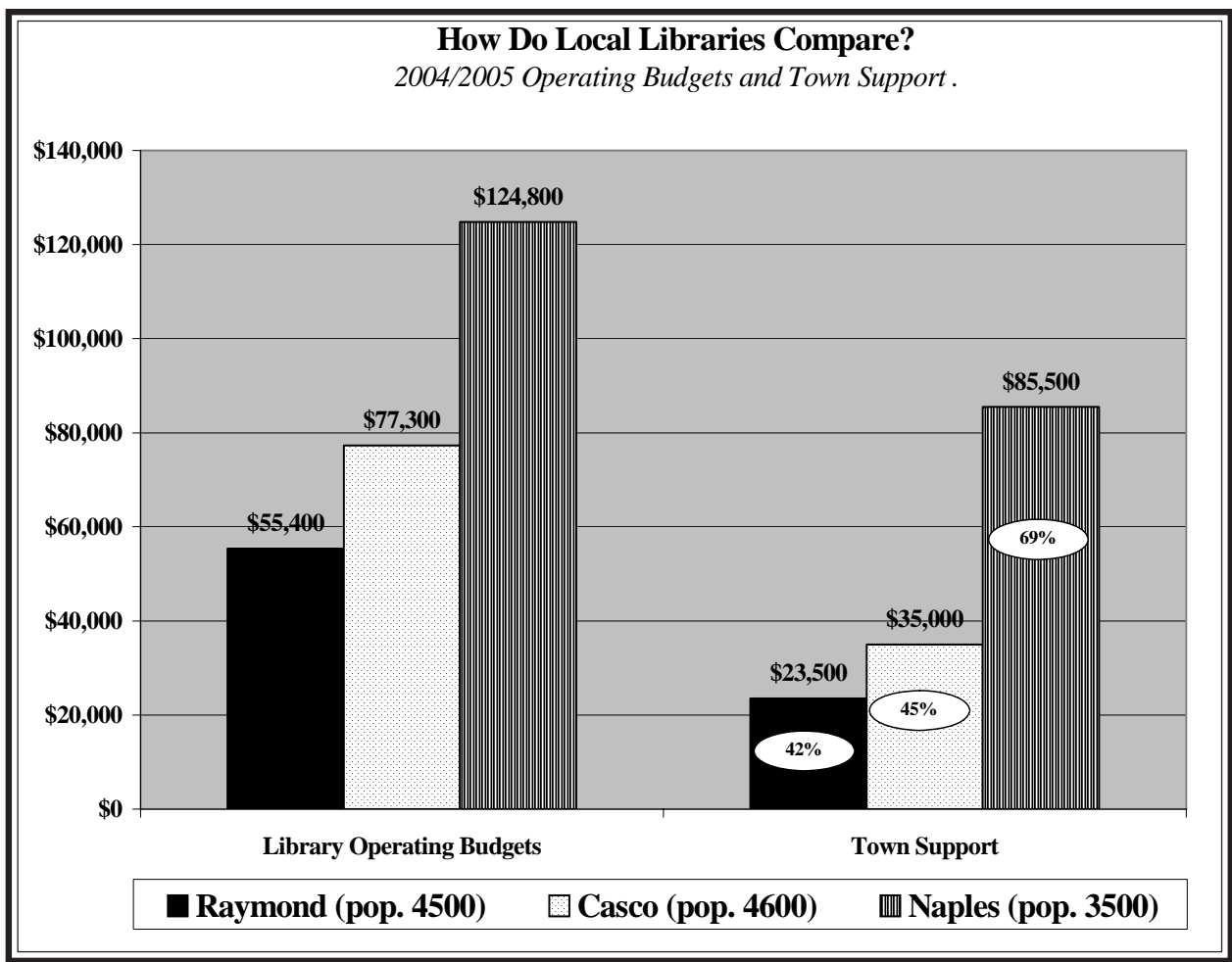
The library is missing more than 200 overdue items. Other patrons would like to borrow them, and we cannot afford to replace them. Please check your shelves, return the overdue material, clear your conscience and help your community.

## Municipal News Brief

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen took the following actions in March 2005.

- 1) Discussion of the 2005-2006 Municipal Budget. The Selectmen met in workshop session for a detailed review of the 2005-2006 Municipal Budget by the town manager including a review and discussion of spending limitations imposed upon the town through the enactment of LD1 by the Maine Legislature. The enactment of LD1 has required a good deal of staff time in order to evaluate the impacts on Raymond. Review of the 83-page legislative document is still underway both at the town level and with assistance from the Maine Municipal Association. It is expected that a final determination of the maximum allowable level of budget increase for the 05/06 fiscal year will be determined by mid March.
- 2) Met in joint session with the Budget/Finance Committee for another presentation of the draft budget by the town manager. Budget/Finance Committee Chairman Rolf Olsen explained that the draft budget before the committee included all initiated and departmental requests, and the purpose of the joint meeting was to review the budget on a line-by-line basis to provide input to the selectmen and town manager prior to finalization of the Board of Selectmen's 05/06 Municipal Budget proposal. A detailed budget review was conducted with the Budget/Finance Committee with recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. Various department heads, provider agencies, and individuals attended the meeting to make presentations supporting their budgetary requests. Budget/Finance Committee review and voting was set for Monday, March 21, 2005, at 7pm at the Town Office.
- 3) Executive Session – Discussion of acquisition of real property and consultation with legal counsel as outlined under Maine Revised Statutes (M.R.S.A.) Title 1, §405(6)C&E. The Selectmen met with counsel in executive session later resuming regular session with no action taken.
- 4) Annual Unlicensed Dog Owner Warrant for signature – Louise Lester, Town Clerk. The town clerk explained the process under which dog owners who fail to license their pets are encouraged to do so. The approval of the Dog Warrant is an annual administrative function that allows the town to impose an additional \$10 fine and, if necessary, issue a summons for collection. Dog licensing fees are typically \$6 to \$10. After January 31<sup>st</sup> the cost increases to \$15 and after the execution of the Unlicensed Dog Warrant, \$25. A list of dog owners failing to license their pets was provided to the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen



- voted unanimously to sign the annual Dog Warrant to facilitate collections.
- 5) Old (unfinished) business.
  - a) Correction to abatement 2004/01A – Amanda Simpson, Assessors' Agent. Tax Collector Donna Lovely discovered a clerical error related to abatement 2004/01A. The abatement table signed on February 15, 2005, needs to be amended and re-executed to correct a transposed entry. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved accepting the amended abatement table.
- 6) 05/06 FY Municipal Budget deliberations – Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen completed their deliberations of the fiscal year 05/06 Municipal Budget. The total was set at \$3,307,258 as compared to last year's \$3,134,370 or an increase of \$172, 888 or 5.52%. After revenues are factored in, the budget required from taxes is \$1,406,752 as compared to last year's \$1,343,702, an increase of \$63,050 or 4.69%. The Selectmen's budget is well below the maximum allowed under LD1, which would have permitted an increase of up to \$86,131 or 6.41%. Two additional budget items will be considered at town meeting, which include the digital broadcast studio proposal in the amount of \$58,000 from surplus that was carried forward to the annual town meeting from a special town meeting held on October 14, 2004. This proposal will be considered under a separate warrant article. The other warrant article is to consider funding the *Raymond Road Runner* newsletter in the amount of \$10,000. If the voters elect to approve this additional budget item, the overall level of increase from taxation will be \$73,050 or 5.44%. The Selectmen also approved the fiscal year 05/06 Tax Increment Financing District Budget in the amount of \$227,754 as compared to last year's \$227,599, an increase of \$155. Non property tax revenues are projected to increase by 6.42% or \$109,838 to a total 05/06 budget projection of \$1,821,691 as compared to last year's \$1,711,853.
- 7) Town Manager report and communications. The town manager announced that Town Planner Robert Faunce had resigned and that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a new contract planner is under development. It is expected that this position will be filled by mid May 2005. Mr. Faunce has agreed to extend his notice and contract by 30 days in order to accommodate the anticipated hiring timeline. The town manager wished to thank Mr. Faunce for his years of service to the Town of Raymond and dedication to providing quality planning services for our community.
- 8) The town manager also provided a status report on the Raymond revaluation being conducted by Vision Appraisal. All residential data collection has now been completed with the exception of boat slips, boat

- racks, and seasonal campsite outbuildings. Approximately 80% of commercial data collection has been completed to date. The remaining commercial properties will be completed shortly. Data entry of completed parcels began in November and is ongoing. Callbacks for year round Raymond residents started in mid February and will continue until the end of the month. Callbacks for seasonal residents will be conducted around Memorial Day. Neighborhood delineation has been slowed somewhat due to heavy snows that limited access to certain areas of town. About 50% of this work has been completed to date. The town assessor is working on the sales analysis file and NDS tax software. The GIS shape files will be available after all April 1<sup>st</sup> lot mergers and lot splits are completed. The town will provide an electronic printout of all building permits from April 1, 2004, onward. Vision Appraisal is adhering to the original schedule, and the revaluation is proceeding as planned. The town manager announced receipt of a 2004 Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$66,841.44 for use by the Town of Raymond to make equipment and emergency preparedness improvements to Jordan-Small Middle School and Raymond Elementary School.
- 9) Selectman Christine McClellan made a request from the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee that the Selectmen allow a supplemental warrant for town meeting to facilitate proposed ordinance changes. There is concern that the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee cannot meet the printing deadline for the *Town Report* but will finish work well in advance of the legal posting notice time required for annual town meeting on May 21, 2005. If the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee requires additional time, a supplemental warrant will need to be prepared and made available as a handout for Annual Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen approved this request unanimously.
- 10) Selectman McClellan also reported that the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department has apparently halted discussions about having a sheriff's office in Raymond. The town manager indicated that this would not lessen the amount of coverage the town received, and the deputies would still utilize the Public Safety Building as an area for meetings, training, and completion of work. The Selectmen instructed the town manager to draft a letter to the County Commissioners declaring their disappointment. It is the understanding of the Town of Raymond that Cumberland County could have realized an operational savings within the Sheriff's Department totaling over \$10,000 if they had elected to move the Sheriff's Patrol Office from Naples to Raymond.
- 11) Authorized Payroll and Appropriation Warrants dated March 4, 2005, and March 15, 2005.

## 2004 Annual Report of the Town Manager

### Continued from page 1

growth allowed under LD1 is a combined annual "growth limitation factor" comprising two components: the first is "average personal income growth," which is set each year by the state, and the second is "property growth factor," which is the percentage increase of taxable valuation from one tax year to the next. Interestingly, when these factors are applied to the Town of Raymond, a total theoretical annual budget growth allowance for FY 05/06 of 6.41% results. The municipal budget approved by the 2004 Annual Town Meeting was an increase of 5.48% or nearly one percentage point below the new spending limits imposed by LD1. It remains to be seen whether LD1 will achieve its goal of capping state, county, municipal, and school expenditures but, given Raymond's rapid level of real growth, combined with the annual adjustment for income growth, it appears that historic Raymond budgets have been and now will continue to be lower than the state mandated provisions of LD1.

After several years of planning and study, including the opportunity for citizen input, the Town of Raymond 2004 Comprehensive Plan was approved at a special town meeting held on October 14, 2004. The new Comprehensive Plan is essentially a study of the town's natural and financial resources, demographics, infrastructure, and land use patterns that addresses the challenges the town expects to face in the next ten-year period. The plan outlines a specific set of goals, policies, and strategies to help Raymond reach a shared vision of the future. Proposed ordinance changes consistent with the Comprehensive Plan will occur over the next several years as the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee offers choices for residents to consider at town meeting.

Many positive developments occurred in the Fire/Rescue Department this past year including the acquisition of a fast attack mini pumper/extrication truck to provide first responder emergency services particularly for automobile accidents and response to structural fires. This vehicle is well suited for use in Raymond given its small size and ability to navigate the numerous private and camp roads. Another piece of equipment acquired

was an aerial pumper truck or "squirt." This apparatus replaced Engine 1, which was a 1981 model in poor mechanical condition. The acquisition of the new truck was made through a capital improvement bond, approved in 2004, in the total amount of \$550,000, which will also fund the cost of a new ambulance to replace Rescue 2 in 2005.

Another improvement in the Fire/Rescue Department was the addition of a rescue boat for use on Sebago Lake. The boat, which was acquired through the Maine Department of Surplus Property, was rehabilitated at no cost by Sabre Yachts and lettered by Sebago Sign Works. This boat was used in partnership with Frye Island to provide a public safety presence on Sebago Lake in cooperation with the Sebago Water Safety Watch Group. It is also a valuable asset for search and rescue operations to supplement the town's Zodiac rubber boat, which is better suited for use on smaller lakes and ponds.

2004 marked the third year of Raymond Waterways Protective Association's milfoil monitoring and eradication program. The threat of invasive aquatic plants taking hold in Raymond is real and would have devastating consequences to the environmental health of our many bodies of water. For this reason the town dedicated \$9,000 in support of this organization with the remainder of the budget coming from private contributions and grants.

A \$950,000 bond was approved at the 2004 Annual Town Meeting for Public Works road reconstruction, with the first order of business being the completion of a comprehensive pavement management study by a professional engineering firm to evaluate the present condition of all of Raymond's roads and make recommendations for maintenance and reconstruction work. It is expected that this program will commence during 2005 and run for a three-year period.

Another major Public Works project was the Route 85 overlay project completed in partnership with the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT), which starts at Route 302 and ends just past Jordan-Small Middle School. The final phase was Route 302 to Mill Street and, as was

the case with the previous two phases, involved the installation of improved drainage and grading as well as full-width pavement reclamation and overlay.

I would like to highlight two community volunteer efforts. First is the creation of the Route 302 Beautification Committee. This dedicated group of volunteers put in over 456 hours during the spring, summer, and fall maintaining the landscaping and planting improvements along the Route 302 Improvement Project corridor. The result of their dedication and gardening expertise was clearly evident to motorists and pedestrians using the corridor.

Volunteer committee work also continued to promote the strategy of "One Raymond." This program is an initiative of the town and school in partnership with Raymond's many volunteer organizations to maximize community benefits through shared utilization of financial and capital resources, as well as providing an avenue for cooperative connections to be made.

A committee formed by the Board of Selectmen in 2003 is the Town Office/Library Building Committee. This group met throughout 2004 to evaluate present and future capital building needs, reporting back to the Selectmen with recommendations for future construction and/or renovation activity.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their leadership and support, Raymond's many energetic volunteers who contribute immense amounts of personal time to making the community a better place to live, and the town employees for their hard work and dedication. I continue to be very optimistic about Raymond's future as we address the continuing challenges of growth and development in a time when fiscal restraint is necessary at all levels of government. The whole community has always worked together to achieve its goals, and in that regard, I look forward to receiving any suggestions you may have to improve upon local government services. Please contact me directly at don.willard@raymondmaine.org or by telephone at 655-6994 ext. 31.

## Great Outdoor Summer Job! Lakes Protection Rangers

The Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) is seeking applications from environmental professionals, conservation minded college level students, graduates, teachers or other qualified people for a summer position based in Raymond, Maine. Milfoil and other Invasive Aquatic Plants (IAP) pose a real and substantial threat to Maine's lakes. Raymond's lake resources support a major portion of the local economy and the milfoil/IAP threat cannot be ignored. Stewardship and active management are essential to preserving the quality and character of our waterways.

The primary duties of this position will include:

1. Inspecting boats and trailers at launch sites in Raymond during busy times.
2. Educating all users of our waterways (boaters, residents, friends/relations, renters, rental agencies) about the risks of milfoil/IAP and the importance of cleaning boats and gear.
3. Working with trained volunteers to identify plants and properly report and manage any confirmed plant colonies.
4. Monitoring our lakes for milfoil and other IAP.

It is anticipated that the Rangers would each spend about 25 hours per week on boat ramp inspection and education

(six hours on each Saturday, six hours on each Sunday, and several hours per day three days per week), June through August. Five hours per week would be allotted to on water patrolling, coordinating volunteers and town wide education.

Compensation for this position will be in the \$10 to \$12/hour range, according to experience. Prior experience with milfoil/IAP is preferred but not required. The RWPA will pay for the cost of training (boat inspection, plant identification). Experience or familiarity with lake water quality issues (i.e. Non-Point Source Pollution/Erosion Control/Vegetated Buffers and Camp Road care), or other natural resource/Ranger experience will be considered a benefit. A home computer with e-mail would be beneficial, but not required.

Actual work hours will depend on available funding. Interested people should send a resume including a list of related experience and references by Monday, May 2nd, to:

Raymond Waterways Protective Association  
P.O. Box 1243  
Raymond, ME 04071-1243  
ATTN: Lakes Protection Ranger

## Town Reports Available In May

Again this year, the Annual Town Report will not be mailed to the citizens of Raymond as a cost saving measure. Copies of the Town Report will be available at: the Town Office, the Village Library, Clough's Store, Sunset Variety, and Hilltop Market. We expect that they will be available shortly after the first of May in time for the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 10am at Jordan-Small Middle School.

Town Elections will be on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 8pm at Jordan-Small Middle School. If you won't be available to vote on Friday, absentee ballots will be available from April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Town Office. If you would like to have an election ballot sent to you, the voter must request one from the Town Office. If you wish to vote on the town budget, you must be present at Town Meeting.

## Lake Region Business Expo

The Lake Region Development Council is excited to announce the Lake Region Business Expo 2005 "Live, Work & Thrive in the Lake Region" on Friday, April 15, and Saturday, April 16, 2005, at the Windham High School, Gray Road, Windham. This Lake Region Development Council event is a two day trade show serving all sectors of business: finance, retail, service, manufacturers, health care, marketing, technology, non-profits and more! This event also marks a community celebration showcasing the best the Lake Region has to offer. A great networking opportunity! Experience the best of the Lake Region at this year's show! For more information on how your business or community organization can participate, please contact Audra or Brigitte at LRDC, 5 South Casco Village Road, South Casco; phone 207.655.2700; fax 207.655.2727; e-mail info@lrdcmaine.org.

## Animal Control Report February – March

- 2/17 Dogs at large chasing cats – no contact with dogs
- 2/18 Cat in heat duct – cat owner checking with home owner
- 2/20 Follow up on the cat in heat duct
- 2/23 Stray cat – picked up cat
- 2/24 Stray cat taken to Animal Refuge League
- 2/25 Two dogs at large – no contact with dogs
- 2/25 Flying squirrel in house – trapped and released by home owner
- 2/28 Dog bit human – 10 day quarantine
- 3/1 Information taken on dog bite
- 3/2 Information taken on dog bite
- 3/3 Dog at large – radio collar didn't work
- 3/4 Follow up on dog at large – verbal warning
- 3/10 Two dogs at large – taken care of by Casco
- 3/10 Barking dog complaint – looked for owner
- 3/11 Dog missing – took information

## Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee And Planning Board To Present Zoning Amendments At April 6 Public Hearing

The recently formed Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CPIC) has been meeting weekly with the purpose of implementing strategies reflecting the goals and policies proposed in the 2004 Comprehensive Plan.

The vision statement of the Committee is: "The purpose of the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CPIC) is to guide and facilitate the translation of the 2004 Comprehensive Plan's vision, goals, policies, and strategies into the day-to-day operations and actions of Town government."

Those policies of highest priority have been addressed by the CPIC with the goal of presenting certain articles for approval at the Town Meeting in May.

The challenge of translating recommended strategies is a difficult one because of the nature of how a Comprehensive Plan is developed. The collection of policy data for the plan was based on individual comments at numerous public meetings. This information was then analyzed and conclusions drawn regarding what the majority of residents considered important. Time was not available during the data collection process for a comprehensive comparison of ideas, nor the development of studies to determine the ultimate effect on our current laws and ordinances. Questions that still need to be asked of the community are: (1) what is the community willing to pay for; (2) how should any idea be translated into new ordinances or laws for Raymond's future, and (3) what does the CPIC do with new or expanded ideas not presented during the development of the final plan?

We are faced with challenges of incorporating changes into the existing ordinances, in some cases replacing all or part of them, while avoiding the creation of conflicts with other related ordinances. This process also includes coordination with the Planning Board, as they are responsible for the ongoing review of ordinances as well as holding the public hearing for amendments.

Now that the Committee has forwarded its work to the Planning Board, a public hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 6th, at the Jordan-Small Gymnasium to discuss proposed articles for the May Town Meeting. These articles primarily relate to Land Use and encompass zoning density changes in existing districts, a change in the boundary of one district, and abolition of one district. This hearing gives the citizens of Raymond discussion time with the CPIC and Planning Board members. Copies of the current ordinances, comprehensive plan, and warrant articles are on the Raymond website at [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org) and will be available at the Public Hearing. We invite you to study these and attend the Public Hearing or contact committee members with your observations.

Only so much could be accomplished in time for this May's Town Meeting. Substantial work in the next year or two is anticipated by the CPIC in order to fully implement the policies and strategies of the 2004 Plan. The implementation of some significant Plan policies will require extensive rewriting of various existing ordinances; and as soon as we can align sections of the Comprehensive Plan with new or revised ordinances, we will bring them to you.

## Raymond Fire/Rescue Hot Spot

### "Keeping Our Community Safe Through Education"

Greetings!! As the days get longer and warmer, I would still like to remind you that with warm weather following all the snow, we will start to see more and more water on the roads. This water may be deep in spots, and this could cause your cars to hydroplane. Though the days are warm, the nights are still going to have a temperature close to or below freezing, bringing us black ice. **DRIVE SAFELY.** I have also noticed that there is still a lot of activity on the lakes and ponds. It won't be long till the ice becomes UNSAFE. There are spots of open water on some bodies of water now. Play smart and start wrapping up your winter water sports. As we all know, there will be ample opportunities to start them all over again in less than seven months!!!!

### Part Time Heros Needed!

The Raymond Fire Department is looking for a few good people. We are a department of volunteers who are supplemented by career staff. The Raymond Fire-Rescue is fortunate to have a wide variety of people who support

our emergency response operations. Some of our volunteer staff are employed as business owners, police officers, full time firefighters, repair technicians and executives by day, but by night they are the professionals who respond to your emergency. They are called upon in a moment's notice to respond to and aid those of us in need. That is why we train and equip our fire and rescue team to handle a wide variety of emergencies safely.

*Do you have what it takes to do the job?* Stop by and talk to one of our members, call us at 655-7851 or stop in to our new station on 302 any Wednesday night from 6-7:30pm. Your investment of a few hours a week could save a life and will definitely be rewarding. **Until next month - work safe, play safe, STAY SAFE!**

Send comments or suggestions to:

Raymond Fire/Rescue  
1443 Roosevelt Trail  
Raymond, ME 04071  
ATTN: Joshua Stevens  
Or e-mail me at [josh.stevens@raymondmaine.org](mailto:josh.stevens@raymondmaine.org)

## Registering Boats Requires Milfoil Stamp

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife is continuing the milfoil stamp program on all motorized boats that will be using Maine inland waters. This money will be used for programs to study and prevent the water plants, including milfoil, from permeating Maine's fresh waters. The Eurasian milfoil plant is an invasive plant which eventually chokes fresh water lakes, ponds, and rivers. Once established in a lake, it can become impossible to control. Maine is trying to keep milfoil and other invasive water plants from its waters, and this program is trying to keep our lakes, ponds, and streams from getting it. For anyone with a non-motorized boat who wishes to participate, the stickers are also available at the usual cost.

Part of the ongoing program in Raymond is supporting rangers who are either paid or voluntary who check boats being launched into our lakes. The major way that invasive water plants get into our lakes is by the plant being

transported on boats, motors, and boat trailers. If you would like to volunteer, please e-mail Noralee Raymond at [noralee.raymond@raymondmaine.org](mailto:noralee.raymond@raymondmaine.org) or call John Rand at 655-4277.

When you register your boats, the regular fees will be charged, but in addition a \$10 fee will be charged for residents and \$20 for nonresidents.

## Cardboard Recycling

The Town of Raymond recycles corrugated cardboard at three sites: District II Fire House/Public Works Garage on Webbs Mills Road, Raymond Elementary School, and Jordan-Small Middle School. Because of limited space, it is imperative that you break down the boxes left at those sites. If the boxes are left without breaking down, they take up an extraordinary amount of room which leaves the dumpsters unavailable for their full capacity.

## Raymond Fire Rescue Log

2/18/2005	1934	ROOSEVELT TRL.	FIRE ALARM
2/19/2005	1215	ROOSEVELT TRL.	LEG INJURY
2/21/2005	658	AUTO AID GRAY	PUBLIC ASSIST
2/22/2005	753	M/A GRAY	STATION COVERAGE
2/22/2005	810	M/A GRAY	RESCUE CALL
2/22/2005	1545	ELIZABETHAVE	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
2/23/2005	1405	LAKE SIDE DR.	TREE / POWERLINES
2/23/2005	1547	M/A CASCO	STRUCTURE FIRE
2/24/2005	720	COUNTY RD	GEN. ILLNESS
2/25/2005	1751	M/A WINDHAM	STATION COVERAGE
2/27/2005	1438	WEBBS MILLS RD	FIRE ALARM
2/28/2005	1145	PLAINS RD	DOG BITE
2/28/2005	1943	WEBBS MILLS RD	FIRE ALARM
3/1/2005	1534	WEBBS MILLS RD	CHIMNEY FIRE
3/3/2005	804	M/A CASCO	FURNACE PROBLEM
3/3/2005	1430	THOMAS POND	MOTOR VEHICLE
3/4/2005	1021	M/A CASCO	PARAMEDIC INTER.T
3/4/2005	1450	M/A WINDHAM	MOTOR VEHICLE
3/5/2005	954	FLYNN RD	DIFF. BREATHING
3/5/2005	1654	MEADOW RD	PUBLIC ASSIST
3/6/2005	2336	SAMUEL RD	PSYCH CALL
3/7/2005	1117	ROOSEVELT TRL.	SMELL OF PROPANE
3/8/2005	925	M/A WINDHAM	HIP INJURY
3/8/2005	1147	PANTHER POND	AGENCY ASSIST CCSO
3/9/2005	707	OAKLEDGE HILL RD	VEHICLE FIRE
3/9/2005	939	ROOSEVELT TRL.	MOTOR VEHICLE
3/9/2005	1513	PINE LANE	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
3/9/2005	2119	EGYPT RD	CHIMNEY FIRE
3/10/2005	818	NO.RAYMOND RD	MOTOR VEHICLE
3/10/2005	920	EGYPT RD	MOTOR VEHICLE
3/10/2005	1403	M/A CASCO	SUBJ. ETOH TO DETOX
3/10/2005	1629	MAILMAN RD	DIFF. BREATHING
3/10/2005	1907	M/A WINDHAM	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
3/11/2005	700	AUTO AID GRAY	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
3/11/2005	1335	BRADS WAY	LEG INJURY
3/11/2005	1747	CARRIAGE HILL RD	PED/MOTOR VEHICLE
3/12/2005	224	PATRICIAAVE	VEHICLE FIRE
3/12/2005	1937	BROWN RD	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
3/13/2005	1130	ROOSEVELT TRL.	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
3/13/2005	2318	MAIN ST.	CHIMNEY FIRE
3/14/2005	331	AUTO AID GRAY	MEDICAL EMERGENCY
3/16/2005	1947	GORE RD	GEN. ILLNESS
3/19/2005	903	M/A CASCO	

## Raymond Planning Board

The Raymond Planning Board is looking for applicants for a position on the Board. Please forward your letters of interest including a short resume to Louise Lester, Town Clerk, 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071 or e-mail [louise.lester@raymondmaine.org](mailto:louise.lester@raymondmaine.org). The Board meets the second Wednesday of the month to study Raymond's residential and commercial development, as well as writing potential ordinances having to do with Land Use.

## Open Space, Land Development And Water Quality Workshop Rescheduled To Tuesday April 12, 7pm At The Town Office

Due to yet another huge snowstorm on March 8, the Open Space/NEMO workshop has been rescheduled to the above date, time and location. The Raymond Conservation Commission's new Open Space map will be presented, which has been prepared by GIS Coordinator Elisa Trepanier. A brief discussion of the Open Space planning process will follow, with an opportunity for input from Raymond's Boards and the public. The presentation will then shift into NEMO mode and will be led by LaMarr Cannon, who is the Maine NEMO coordinator (we'll tell you what NEMO stands for at the workshop!). LaMarr's PowerPoint presentation will include the relationship between development and pollutants, methods for low impact development, and planning tools to reduce impact (including open space planning). We urge Board and committee members and the public to attend. For more information, contact John Rand at [jbr@prexar.com](mailto:jbr@prexar.com) or 655-4277.

## Behind the Legislative Curtain

**By: Senator Bill Diamond**

There were over 2100 bills submitted by legislators for consideration during this first legislative session. These bills will have to be printed and referred to one of the seventeen legislative joint standing committees for public hearings. This process is already underway. When you consider the costs of printing the bills, advertising for the public hearings in statewide newspapers and the time needed for both the committees and the full legislature to debate the bills, it adds up to a huge amount of time commitment and a healthy sum of money.

Having said that, the uniqueness of our democracy in Maine is that each citizen has the opportunity and right to be heard by their elected legislature. In particular, unlike some states, the Maine legislature allows any citizen to come to Augusta and speak at any public hearing without special request or permission. This means that the process takes a little longer, but democracy is designed to be a bit "cumbersome."

Oftentimes, you will read about the more unusual bills which have been submitted for legislative consideration. In fact, you may feel that some of these bills are downright foolish. People have asked me, for example, why the legislature wastes its time and money to print, advertise and discuss such legislative bills as: dividing Maine and making northern Maine the 51st state.

Other questions regarding bills include making Moxie the official beverage of Maine and debating what should be the official state rock. Many of these bills are put in at the request of legislators' constituents back home, and to them, the bill is something they believe in and want to be considered. It's the job of each legislator to give their constituents an opportunity to be heard.

It's the old "one man's treasure is another man's trash" concept. What seems silly to some is vitally important to others. Legislators in Maine take great pride in representing their constituents, and sometimes that means putting in a bill that may appear to be frivolous to some.

Remember that legislators have no restrictions on submitting bills the first year of the two year session, but the second year, which starts next January, is limited to only those bills which get approval by the legislative council. The legislative council is made up of the elected leaders of the two major political parties. This restriction considerably limits the number and types of bills which are submitted during the second legislative session.

The second legislative session usually only lasts about three months as compared to the first session, the one we're currently in, which lasts about six months.

Remember that even though the deadline for submitting bills was last December, if you have an urgent need for the legislature to assist with an issue, then contact Rep. John Robinson or myself and we can approach the legislative council and ask for special permission to submit your bill. This "after the deadline" provision is for just those occasions when the unexpected need arises.

Your Maine legislature has a responsibility to provide you with the forum to be heard on issues which are important to you. If you need any legislative assistance of any kind be sure to give me a call.

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## 2005 Dog Registration

Dog licensing was due January 31st. If you have a dog over the age of 6 months, it should be licensed. A Rabies Certificate must be produced, and if neutered, a Neutering Certificate if the Town Office does not have it on file. The fee for a neutered dog is \$6 and non-neutered \$10. If your dog was licensed in Raymond in 2004, renewing after April 1st will incur an additional \$25 late fee.

Please understand that by having your dog licensed, anyone finding your stray pet will be able to trace it to you thereby alleviating the possibility that it will go to a shelter. Licensing funds contribute to stray animal care in the town and state and support the State Veterinarian Laboratory in Augusta as well as Maine State Humane Agents who investigate animal abuse cases.

## Budget Shows State Spending Reeling Out Of Control

**By: Rep. John C. Robinson**

It's time for another of my periodic reports from the Legislature, which I hope will appear more frequently now that the action is intensifying.

As I sit down to write this, the budget debate is at center stage. By the time you read this, the budget may be finalized and signed into law. I can't say for sure what will survive the debates in the House and Senate. Will the \$10 annual tax on kayaks, canoes and rowboats withstand a constituent uprising? Will the 'user fee' be expanded to whitewater raft trips? Will the tax on satellite television services be in the final budget?

My guess is that all these things will survive for one simple reason: the state is so strapped for cash that everything is fair game. It reminds me of the old Army saying, "If it moves, salute it. If it doesn't move, paint it." In Augusta the operating principle now is, "If it moves, tax it. If it doesn't move, tax it anyway."

Regardless of the final composition of the budget, one thing is clear. It will rely heavily on debt to achieve balance, as required by law. In a two-year budget of \$5.9 billion, the plan calls for borrowing \$447 million without voter approval, by the way. Much of that money goes to pay for current services. In other words, the money will all be spent this year, and then we'll have to pay more than \$40 million a year for 13 or 14 years to repay the loan. This is horrendous public policy, in my view.

What is most worrisome is that we're running these giant deficits at a time of nearly full employment (only 4.1 percent unemployed) and when our per capita tax burden is the second highest in the nation. If we cannot pay our bills without borrowing under such 'ideal' conditions, what will happen during a recession?

I also found it alarming that, as the budget problems became obvious, there were no steps taken to ensure this doesn't happen again. This budget does not make the

structural changes needed to slow governmental growth. It does not slow the expansion of Medicaid, which has added about 80,000 new 'clients' since 2001. Already about 270,000 people (one fifth of the state) are on Medicaid, receiving completely free medical care. This has become a phenomenally costly program for the state. But rather than capping the enrollment or tightening eligibility standards, the budget calls for adding another 10,000 people to the rolls.

Consequently, the future doesn't bode well. For the next two-year budget cycle, starting in July 2007, a \$650 million deficit is already projected. Unless things change dramatically, we'll probably borrow even more money to get by. But how long can this go on? Maine's state debt is already more than \$5.3 billion. The 'debt service' alone soaks up one in every five tax dollars that Mainers pay. That is not sustainable.

The root of the problem is that the majority party in the Legislature insists on spending far more money than the state takes in. There is no fiscal discipline. Last year, state revenues were more than \$100 million higher than the year before. Did we save it for a rainy day, or return it to its rightful owners, the taxpayers? No. We spent it (every dime) and demanded more. Our spending has tripled over the last 13 years (tripled!), but that is still not enough to feed the tax-eating machine that state government has become.

As a first-term state legislator, I've frankly been shocked and dismayed by the state's out-of-control spending and the failure to rein it in. As a member of the minority party, there's not much I can do about it. I will vote against this budget, of course, because I cannot in good conscience endorse such reckless financial stewardship of our state. And I will hope for the day when the balance of power shifts in Augusta, and we can get back to running our state on a financially solid basis. Otherwise, the legacy we leave our children will be a mountain of debt.

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## Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility

Leach Hill Road in Casco off Route 11

The Town of Raymond recycles all of its bulky waste. Any bulky waste, like sheetrock, plank wood, furniture, glass, metal, old computers, motor oil, dried latex paint cans, mercury products, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable household batteries, or anything which isn't included in our curbside household trash pickup will be accepted at the LRBWF. It is imperative that you deliver each of the different categories to their respective drop off points at the LRBWF. Everything must be sorted. The only items which can't be recycled at the Facility are dirt, sand, cement, cement blocks, rocks etc. This Facility is not a

landfill. Everything which is delivered must be hauled off.

Hazardous waste is collected the first Saturday in August from 9am to 1pm at the Raymond Elementary School. There is a charge associated with this collection.

If you have any questions, please ask for Raymond's list at the Town Office, or just ask one of the friendly attendants at the Facility.

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 7am to 4:45pm

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## Fire/Rescue Dispatch Asks Your Help

When you lose your dog or cat, you can call Dispatch for them to notify Don Alexander, our Animal Control Officer. When you lose your horse, llama, or cow, it's a bit more involved since they won't fit in an animal carrier. The place to call is Dispatch, but more information is necessary in order to rescue your livestock.

please review it so that the information is current. The forms can be obtained at Dispatch, Public Safety Building, 1443 Roosevelt Trail; the Town Office; or on line at Raymond's website <http://www.raymondmaine.org>.

These forms are most important in order to better identify the horse(s) running down the road or the llama visiting someone's backyard. It's for the safety of the animal and the person(s) who might hit it with their car.

We are asking that you fill out a Livestock Location form for Dispatch's use. If you have already filled one out,

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## Town Nomination Papers Due April 6<sup>th</sup>

The 2005 Annual Town Meeting will be Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10am. On Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, our Town Elections will take place at Jordan-Small Middle School from 7am to 8pm. The positions that will be available for candidates are Budget/Finance Committee - 3 seats, School Committee - 2 seats, and Selectmen - 2 seats.

YOU CAN STILL RUN FOR OFFICE if you have your nomination papers deposited in the Town Clerk's Office no later than Wednesday, April 6, 2005, at 4pm. Pick up a nomination form at the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours and obtain not less than 25 nor more than 100 signatures.

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## Building Committee Update

Since beginning our work in January 2003, the Town Office/Library Building Committee has made slow but continuous progress in order to meet the goals of the Selectmen, namely to examine the use of the current buildings, anticipate future space needs, and examine building sites with potential to meet those future needs. The Committee was blessed with involvement by representatives of the Raymond Village Library nonprofit corporation. Fortunately this organization was able to take on its own space assessment needs simultaneously with the Committee's evaluation of the Town Office.

The Committee is nearing the end of its mission and expects to present our report to the Selectmen in the very near future. It has been a pleasure serving with you.

## Mainers Who Chose Rebel Gray

By: Joseph M. Webber

In the bloody fighting of what reporter Paul Harvey correctly calls the "Uncivil War," the American Civil War (1861-1865), the contribution made by Maine volunteers has been well documented. It is a historical fact that proportionately Maine provided the Army and Navy with more men than did any other state in the North. Maine was also the birthplace for more than a few generals. Men such as Adelbert Ames (1835-1933) and Hiram Gregory (1824-1863), both from Rockland, as well as Oliver Otis Howard (1830-1909) from Leeds, and Neal Dow (1804-1897) from Portland, earned their stars in action leading men in battle. Victory in some of these battles literally saved the Union. In the embittered four-year struggle, 73,000 Maine men chose to answer the national call, and 7,322 gave what President Abraham Lincoln called "the last full measure of devotion."

Not all the men from Maine who went to war chose to fight for the Union however. Circumstance, and maybe even self-indulgence, caused at least four Maine men to choose to fight for the Army of the Confederacy. Three of the four men who fought in the gray uniforms as Confederate officers were graduates of West Point. They were Danville Leadbetter (1811-1866) born in Leeds, Maine, who graduated 3rd in the class of 1836; the other two were classmates graduating in 1855, Frederick L. Childs (no dates) ninth in the class, born in Eastport, and James Hoffman Hill (1834-1890) ranked 23, born in Maine, at a place unknown.

The fourth was Zebulon York (1819-1900), born at Avon, Franklin County, Maine. Unlike the other three, York was educated at Wesleyan Seminary, at Kent Hill, Maine. Later, he attended Transylvania University in Kentucky. Next, he went to and graduated from the University of Louisiana, with a degree in law. It would seem that York liked the south and the southern way of life, for he chose to stay. Working hard in true Yankee fashion, he became the leading attorney in Vidalia, Louisiana. He invested his money in cotton, and at the start of the war, this native of Maine and his one and only partner were the largest slave owners in the entire south. Between the two men, they had 6 plantations and 1,700 slaves. York had the dubious "distinction" of being the major property taxpayer in the state of Louisiana prior to the Civil War.

At the outbreak of the war, York organized his own company of infantry, in the 14th Louisiana Regiment, and became its major. The 14th became a part of Stonewall Jackson's Corps. Under Jackson, York distinguished himself in battle, including the Battle of Williamsburg in Virginia. Shortly thereafter, York was promoted to lieutenant colonel, then colonel, and later he took command of the entire regiment. He fought together with his men on the Peninsula and throughout the Seven Days Battles until the Union threat to Richmond had evaporated. The Seven Days Battle had changed the course of the war. Robert E. Lee (1807-1870) now had the initiative in the east and sustained it until the terrible day at Antietam Creek the following September.

York fought at Second Manassas, in Maryland, and in the battle of Fredericksburg. During the battle of Chancellorsville, York was away on recruiting duty in Louisiana, yet he returned to his regiment in time to lead it at Gettysburg. On May 31, 1864, during the campaign in Virginia, York was promoted to brigadier-general and given the remnants of Hay and Stafford's old Louisiana brigades. York led his troops in the Shenandoah Valley during that summer and fall, fighting at Lynchburg, and

on the outskirts of Washington D.C. As his rebel army retreated down the valley, at the battle of Winchester on 19 September, his left arm was so badly shattered by fragments of an exploding shell, it had to be amputated.

While recovering, York continued his recruiting efforts, though this time among the foreign-born Union prisoners of war who were confined in Confederate camps; doing this until the end of the war, when he was taken prisoner himself by Union forces. Financially ruined by the war and its aftermath following the south's surrender, he was given parole on May 6, 1865. After years of financial struggle, he finally opened the York House, a grand hotel in Natchez, Mississippi, where he became well known throughout the south as a gracious host. He died in Natchez on August 5, 1900. It is unknown by this writer if he ever regretted his actions against his nation or his fellow sons of Maine, who along with their Union brothers fell in the battles that he helped the South to win. His reasons were his own, yet his actions and those of the other three Mainers reveal an element of their character.

Even less is known about the actions of Frederick L. Childs and James Hoffman Hill, who were the West Point classmates born in Maine. Childs was born in Maine; by chance, he was the son of General Thomas Childs, West Point class of 1813, a Massachusetts native. The elder Childs had a brilliant military record during the war of 1812 and the war with Mexico. He and his young family were stationed in Maine from 1827 to 1831, and Frederick was born during this time.

Before resigning his commission as a first lieutenant in 1861 in order to join the Confederate Army, Frederick Childs had served at Fort Monroe Virginia, fought in Florida against the Seminole Indians, and taught as an assistant professor of geography, history and ethics at West Point. His service record was outstanding as well. The Register of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States reveals that Childs was the grandson of a commander of a company of Minute Men on Lexington Green, the first battle in the American Revolutionary War.

Frederick Childs, as many other northern men in the pre-Civil War army, married a southern woman. He was married on June 12, 1856, to Mary Hooper Anderson of South Carolina. This union may have been the reason he chose to fight for the South. In the army of the Confederacy, Childs was appointed to the rank of lieutenant colonel on November 19, 1863, and assigned to the second North Carolina Battalion, charged with the defense of the State. North Carolina had seceded from the Union on May 20, 1861, the last southern state to do so. However, early in the war, Union forces occupied areas along the coast and sought to limit the flow of supplies to Confederate forces by means of a naval blockade of the state's ports.

Even fewer details are known about James Hoffman Hill. He is listed in the West Point log of graduates as being born in Maine but appointed from New York. He and Childs were in the same class as James Whistler (1834-1903), who did not complete his studies and left West Point without graduating, but attempted to keep in contact with Hill as well as other class members through the years. Some time after graduation, Hill was stationed at Fort Laramie, in Dakota. From there, he resigned his commission as a first lieutenant and joined the Confederate Army. He appears to have survived the war without physical injury, dying June 6, 1890, in North Carolina.

Best known of the four Mainers is Leeds native Danville Leadbetter, who began his military career as assistant engineer in the development of New York's Hudson River in 1836 by helping to rebuild the Erie Canal. Later, he served in many parts of the country supervising the construction of U.S. fortifications. He ended his military career as chief engineer for Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston (1807-1891). Leadbetter, who was ranked third in his West point class of 1836, resigned from the army at the rank of captain in 1857. At that time, he began work in a civilian capacity, as the Chief Engineer for the state of Alabama. When the war began, he enlisted in the Confederate Army and later was commissioned as a brigadier general. Working for the Confederacy, he was responsible for the creation of defenses in Mobile, Alabama, and the laying out of General Braxton Bragg's lines at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Leadbetter was also with General James Longstreet (1821-1904) during his unsuccessful campaign to capture Knoxville, Tennessee. A number of Civil War historians have stated that Longstreet was robbed of most of his few chances for victory by taking Leadbetter's advice at Knoxville.

Leadbetter was imprisoned in Mobile at the end of the war, yet no record of his capture or parole has ever been found. Apparently, he escaped to Mexico and later moved to Clifton, Canada, near Niagara Falls, where he died on September 26, 1866. His body was returned to Alabama, and he is buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Mobile. On many levels Danville Leadbetter was respected by most of the Confederate high command, from President Jefferson Davis (1808- 1889) on down. However, there was at least one who stood firm in his resolve to dislike him. That man was General E. P. Alexander (1835-1910), the south's famous artilleryman who became Chief of Ordnance for the Army of Northern Virginia. He was one of only three artillery brigadier-generals in that army. Alexander referred to Leadbetter as that "Confederate from the damned Yankee Abolitionist State of Maine." Alexander was quite outspoken, by word of mouth and in print, he made it clear that he did not like the "renegade Mainer"; he further stated that everything that Leadbetter touches "goes wrong." Northerners living in and fighting for the South during the war were never completely accepted.

Many people from both the South and the North had tough decisions to make before and during the Civil War. In his speech at Gettysburg, on November 19, 1863, Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) said, "Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." This in one sentence sums up the principles of our nation. If we believe that we are all created equal, then what is it that at times makes us seem so different? It has to be something. What was it that caused so many men from Maine to leave the security and safety of their homes and risk so much for principles, while others either turned their backs or took up arms against them. The only answer is choice. Choice is the one thing we have that defines our character. There is a difference between sacrifice and retribution. The four men from Maine who chose for whatever reason to rebel against their nation made the wrong choice, and in the end, they paid a high price because of it. Yet that tells us more about their character than where they were born. Lincoln's question about how long any nation conceived in Liberty will endure still remains to be answered. This question has to be answered by every generation. The answer depends on the choices made by that nation's people.

## Public Hearing for Comprehensive Plan Implementation Articles

By: Jim Stephenson, Member, Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee

The recently formed Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CPIC) has been meeting weekly with the purpose of implementing strategies reflecting the goals and policies proposed in the 2004 Comprehensive Plan. Those policies of highest priority have been addressed by the CPIC with the goal of presenting certain articles for approval or rejection at the Town Meeting in May. In the process of developing new ordinance recommendations based on the Comprehensive Plan, we

have been faced with challenges of incorporating these ordinance changes into the existing ordinances, in some cases replacing existing ordinances, while avoiding conflicts with existing ordinances. This challenge has required coordination with the Planning Commission. Implementation of some significant policies of the 2004 Plan will require extensive rewriting of various existing ordinances. Only so much could be accomplished in time for this May's Town Meeting. Substantial work into the next year or two is anticipated by the CPIC in order to fully implement the policies and strategies of the 2004 Plan.

A public hearing will be held on April 6th to discuss proposed articles for the May Town Meeting. These articles primarily relate to Land Use and encompass zoning density changes in existing districts, a change in the boundary of one district, abolition of one district, and a change in the density allowance for elderly housing. Copies of both the current ordinances and the 2004 Comprehensive Plan are on the Raymond website, and we invite you to study these and come to the public hearing prepared for a meaningful and constructive discussion.

## Raymond Rec Tennis And Swim Programs

### Spring Tennis Program

Raymond Recreation Association will offer a tennis program to children in the **3rd and 4th grades**. Sessions will begin on Wednesday, April 27, and continue for 5 Wednesdays through May 25th. There is \$5 donation per student for the entire program.

Lessons will be held at Village Tennis on Mill Street in Raymond and will begin at 12:45 and run until 1:45pm. The school bus will deliver students to the tennis courts, and parents should arrange to meet children after class. Participants must wear tennis or other court-type shoes and bring a tennis racket and comfortable clothes. To arrange for racket loan, call the number below.

**Registration forms will be distributed at school the week of April 4** to be returned by April 8. If you have not registered by that date, phone Pat at 655-4657.

If you are able to help with the program, or for more information, please call Pat at the number above

### Summer Swim Program

Raymond Recreation Association will sponsor Red Cross swim lessons at Crescent Beach in Raymond from June 27 to July 22. The program is for children grades K-7. The cost is \$25 per child.

Grace Leavitt will be returning as the Red Cross Water Safety Instructor.

Registration for swimming will be May 25 from 6:30 to 7:30 at JSMS Cafeteria.

Go to [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org) for more information on RRA programs.

## Raymond Baseball/Softball

Please note these dates for Raymond Baseball and Softball.

- Fundraising packets to be distributed beginning of April

Get ready to support the youth of Raymond by ordering your Little Caesars® Cookie Dough or Pizza kits!

- Field day tentatively scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>
- Spaghetti dinner fundraiser April 29<sup>th</sup>
- Picture Day at Sheri Gagnon Memorial Park April 30<sup>th</sup>

## Lemony Snicket Review

By: Claudia Trend

At a book fair somewhere CSPAN2 was interviewing a bookseller about the Lemony Snicket series, and I could not figure out what they were talking about. When I asked our Librarian, she took me to a shelf in the Young Adult section and showed me the collection. I checked out the first book in the series, titled "A Bad Beginning," and read it in a couple of hours.

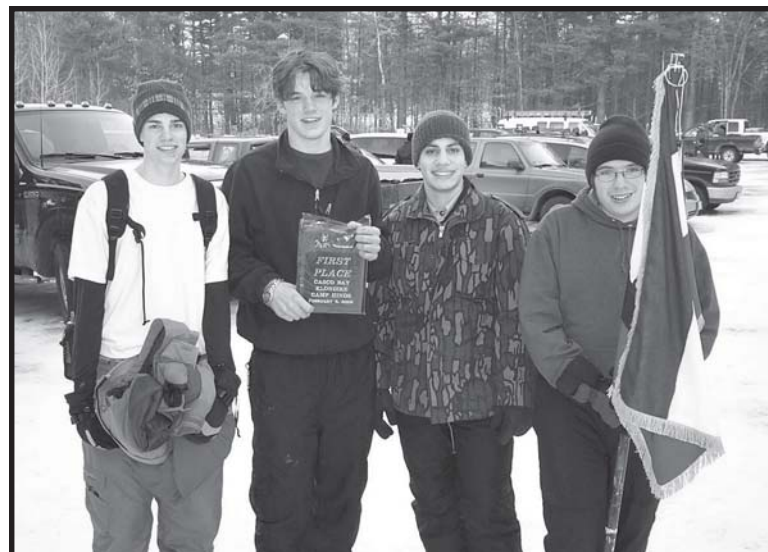
How very odd and wonderful this book is. At first I found it depressing because nothing but bad things happen to these children, but when I caught onto the wry humor embedded into the story, I was delighted. The humor and the dreadful deeds with Victorian overtones reminded me of another author: Edward Gorey .

I asked a co-worker what her kids thought of the Lemony Snicket books, and she said that her 10-year-old son loved it and he is not a reader; her son also saw the movie and loved it although her husband found it depressing. She and I discussed what is afoot with this new genre of kid-lit. She could see no redeeming value except that her son will actually read it. I, on the other hand, enjoyed it because of the wry humor AND the explanation of hard words throughout the text... a sly way of teaching vocabulary without announcing it, and saves me having to admit that I don't \*exactly\* know what the word means either!

Don't hesitate to pick up a Lemony Snicket and read it - if it reminds you of your own childhood, you will feel less lonely; and if it does not, you will feel very lucky indeed.

## Raymond Boy Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 800's Senior Patrol out-scored 30 other patrols, carrying them to a 1<sup>st</sup> Place finish at this year's Casco Bay District Klondike Derby held at Camp Hinds. The Klondike Derby is an all day affair which took place on February 5<sup>th</sup>, a bright and beautiful Saturday. Each participating patrol pulls a dog sled loaded with the necessary gear, food and water to complete tasks set up for the day's activities. Competition includes ten different events such as a sled race, the Alaska Pipeline, fire starting, mountain rescue, knot tying, taut line river crossing, trail cooking, wood splitting, orienteering, and friction bridge building, each requiring use of Scout skills. The Senior Patrol brought to the forefront all they have learned in their years of Scouting to receive high scores in each event. Troop 800 was represented by 4 patrols, as many of the District's Troops participating sent multiple



From left to right, Andrew Jordan, SPL Ian Hanley, John Shively and Jamie Wiley. Missing from the picture is Sam Levinsky.

patrols. Troop 800 congratulates the patrol from Pack 800 which won the WEBELOS Division, for a hometown sweep by the Scouting programs of Raymond.

## Raymond Rec Tuesday Ski Program

By: Beth Clark, Program Director

This year the Raymond Rec Middle School Ski and Snowboard program, which was held on Tuesdays after school at Shawnee Peak, was a huge success! We had 56 participants and only one casualty! Other than a couple of cancelled dates due to extreme cold and poor driving conditions, we were able to get in 5 great weeks of skiing and boarding this season.

I would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU and recognize all of the Volunteers who made this program possible:

Parents and community members: Mark Acker, Kathy Anaka, Lee Barry, Melissa Devio, Ken Gilmore, Scott Gordan, Peter Marcinuk, Tarah Mathieu, Steve Nadeau, Linda O'Neill, Melinda Rankin, and Chris & Ellen VanHaastern.

I would also like to thank Charlie Miller, Dan Kaswell

and Randy Crockett from JSMS.

We were also very fortunate to have 4 seniors from Gray/New Gloucester HS help us out with our snow board program, and a special thanks goes to: Nichole Dufour, Dan Metayer, Dan Mottice, and Marshall Ripley. You guys are awesome!

And last, but by no means least, I wish to say a really big THANK YOU to Lori Dibiase-Gagnon. Without her help at JSMS, taking care of things at the Lodge, and just in general being there to help with every aspect of this program, it would not have run as smoothly as it did! THANK YOU SO MUCH, LORI!

As always, Raymond Rec welcomes community volunteers, and if you would like to participate in this program next year, please feel free to contact me at: L7R1P9M8@awi.net or call me at 627-3173.

## Welcome Spring

## The RED Program Needs Summer Help!

The RED Program is currently hiring employees for its summer program. We could use help beginning the second week of May. If you are 18 or older and enjoy working with children, please contact Kristi at 655-3203.

## Raymond Rec Running

The 2005 RRA Spring Running Program is ready for another season of relays, games, races, and stretching. The goals of this program are to expose kids to a variety of FUN running experiences and to build the children's self-confidence in their fitness abilities.

This program is open to students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grades. Cost of the program is \$6 per student. Runners will meet in the Raymond Elementary School gym and run on the athletic fields and woods trails. Running sessions will begin on May 10th, and will meet every Tuesday and Thursday, from 3:15 to 4:15, through June 9th. The program will culminate at the June 11<sup>th</sup> Founders Day 1K kids' race!

Registration forms will be available in the Raymond Elementary School Main Office. Please return the completed form and registration fee to RES by Friday, May 6th.

We need more adult "teammates"! Come play with us - no running experience necessary! Call Elizabeth Algeo (655-6965) or Bob Payne (655-2165) with any questions, or to volunteer.

## Girl Scouts Troop 710

Leaders: Teresa Sadak and Julie Richards

Girls: Becky Grondin, Colleen Sadak, Paige Richards, Phoebe Hurd, Isobel Cunningham, Molly Miller, Emma LaPrise, Marissa Cerino, Olivia Hurd, Samantha Feltovic

Troop 710 has been very busy. In October, they met with Firefighter Josh at the new public works building and worked on their First Aid badge. The troop then did role playing to finally earn their First Aid Badge. In November, the troop started working on their Camera badge. We went to Community Pharmacy and met with Carrie, so she could show the girls how to process film. The troop bought the girls cameras so that they could be their own photographers. They continued to work hard and earned their Camera badge. In December, they took a break and came back in January to have their Christmas party and start working on their troop flag, which they are drawing out freehand themselves. As they continue to work on their flag, they then did their Community Service project which involved making pillow kits for the kids at the Barbara Bush Hospital. They are currently working on two badges, Car Care and Let's Get Cooking, which will finalize their badge work for this year.



## Raymond Lions Club Is Supporting R.I.S.E

The Raymond Lions Club recently voted to donate 100% of the proceeds from redeemable beverage bottles and cans collected at the Jordan Bay Animal Hospital site on Rt. 302 for the month of April to support R.I.S.E. in its efforts to fund the building of 3 homes in the tsunami hit region of SE Asia.

This is a project worthy of the support of all Raymond residents. Please drop off your bags and boxes of redeemable cans and bottles any time, day or night. "Drop" is probably not a good word as bottles will break. Please PLACE them in the collection container. Your support of our joint effort is really appreciated.

## The Raymond Food Pantry Has A New Home

Beginning April 1st, the Raymond Food Pantry will be located in the lower level of the Lake Region Baptist Church on Route 302 in Raymond across from Key Bank. The hours will remain the first and third Thursday of each month from 2-6pm. The next pantry opening will be April 7th. Call 655-3881 with questions.

## Memorial Bench For Frances Small

By: Louise Lester

Some of us can well remember music class with Mrs. Small. I met her when I moved to Raymond in 1950 as a first grader and enjoyed her classes and good humor for eight years while attending the four room K-8 Jordan-Small School. This tiny woman held our enthusiasm and attention while teaching us about music theory and guiding us through annual class performances at the school and the K of P Hall on Main Street.

Mrs. Small taught in Raymond for 35 years from 1932 to 1977 giving Raymond students and citizens education and entertainment. She single handedly produced class and school shows as well as performed professionally with the Portland Symphony Orchestra.

It is with pride that I announce an effort to erect an engraved granite bench near the Bicentennial Tree at the entrance of the Raymond Elementary School. This project will cost \$550, which we intend to come from private donations. If you wish to contribute, please send your donation in care of Louise Lester, Raymond Town Office, 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, Maine 04071. Any questions will be answered at 207-655-4742 ext. 21 or louise.lester@raymondmaine.org.

## Update on Raymond Recreation Insurance

By: Pat Smith, President

In response to widespread concern for the future of Raymond Recreation Association programming, I am writing to give the facts about what has and is happening in regard to our insurance coverage. I am optimistic that we will have insurance in place before July.

### Here are the facts:

- Based on an interpretation from the Maine Municipal Association attorney, the Maine Municipal Association did not renew insurance coverage on Raymond Recreation Association programs through the town.
- Thanks to the efforts of Don Willard, our current coverage continues through June 30.
- Our programs will continue to run as they always have.
- We will make a public statement regarding any changes to our programs after June 30, if we fail to find insurance coverage by that date. Our organization can still exist, but the nature in which we provide programming may have to change.
- I do not believe that this will happen. Our Board of Directors will know and participate in

## Raymond Lions Honor Dale Gilman

At a recent meeting, the Raymond Lions Club honored long time Raymond resident and Past President of the Lions Club Dale Gilman with a Melvin Jones Fellowship. This is the highest level of recognition that a Lions member can receive for work done for Lions and for the community.

Dale has contributed mightily to the Lions Club since it was chartered 10 years ago, serving as a Director, V-President and, for 3 straight years, a steady, dedicated and effective President. He's participated in the bulk of the service and fundraising activities of the club and has ably represented us at Zone, Regional and District meetings and conventions.

More importantly, he has served the community of Raymond for well over 2 decades. He was a member of the Fire Department for 20 years, holding the position of Lieutenant for part of that time. Among the awards he received were: Record of Excellence in Day to Day Performance in '94-'95 and Firefighter of the Year for '95-'96.

He served on the elementary school building committee from its inception in 1990 through the dedication of the Raymond Elementary School in 2000.

Dale also supported the Boy Scout program by attending its activities, working with the boys, including helping 2



From left to right are: Caryl Gilman, Dale Gilman and Bob Jones.

candidates for the Eagle Scout award, and serving as Forestry merit badge counselor.

Dale is also one of the 1<sup>st</sup> to respond to calls for assistance from those in need of his knowledge of construction, especially the older folks that just need a bit of advice on how to proceed.

Dale has been and will continue to be an asset to the people in the Town of Raymond. Give him your thanks the next time you see him.

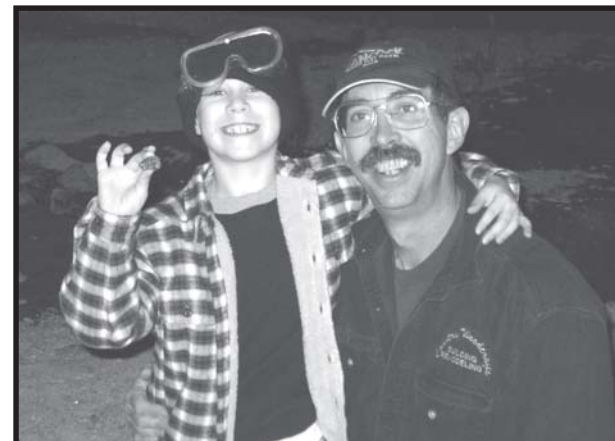
## A Mentor is someone who.....

...listens, encourages and simply shares their time with a young person. The Raymond Mentoring Partnership provides training, ongoing support and the opportunity to influence a child's life in a variety of positive ways. To learn more, call our office at the Raymond Elementary School, 655-8672, ext. 107.



## Snowshoeing And Mining

On February 5th, 2005, Daniel Hanson, a Raymond Elementary School student went on a day long snowshoeing trip. The trip was made possible by the generosity of landowner Ray Brown of West Paris, Maine.



The "shoe" was an old quarry road up Elm Hill in West Paris, Maine. At the top of the hill there is an open quarry site (long abandoned), last used in the 1960s. Contained within the quarry site are some large tunnel type mines. The day trip included a little "prospecting" for some quartz, mica and feldspar minerals.

## Keeping Your House Safe

Home safety precautions are always important, but it is especially important to make your home "accident-proof" while it is on the market. Many potential buyers will be coming through your home who won't be aware of the minor hazards that you and your family instinctively avoid. Go through your home with an eye for potential hazards. Remove the obstacles that you can and post "watch your head" or "watch your step" signs where they are needed. Look for loose banisters, uneven steps, precariously placed plants, art objects or anything else that could fall over and anything that you have to step over or duck under. Make sure that rugs will not slip, especially those at the bottom of stairs. Take the time to make your home safe for viewing, so potential buyers aren't put off by unexpected accidents or mishaps while in your home.

- decisions long before June 30!
- I have been working with an insurance agency who is looking for an insurer for our programs. Finding an insurer is proving to be a challenge, but we believe we will succeed. The good thing is that we have time work on it.
  - Don Willard has sent out an e-mail statewide to town managers asking if they have a NFP Rec program in their town and how it is insured. This may provide some very helpful information.
  - Don wants to be kept informed about our progress and wants to assist as he is able.
  - Check the Raymond website for updates on our progress on this project.

### What you can do:

- Please reassure anyone who is interested that we are working on a solution and believe we will find one.
- Any ideas or suggestions that you have are welcome. Call me at 655-4657.
- Most importantly, please continue to volunteer for and support Raymond Recreation programs. All of us are dedicated to offering quality programs for children.

## Raymond Elementary Report

By: Norma Richard

We have (hopefully) made it through the worst of the winter weather. In spite of the many interruptions due to early dismissals, late starts and storm days, the children continued to do outstanding work. I want to take this opportunity to thank our custodial staff, especially Rick Dwinnell and Donna Larrabee, for their hard work in keeping the building plowed, shoveled, and sanded during this long and difficult winter. I would also like to thank Nathan White and Raymond Public Works for all of their hard work. In light of all the snow we have had, I anticipate that we are going to have a very muddy spring on our playground. Please be sure that your children are properly dressed for recess and that they continue to wear boots until we make it through mud season. Our custodial staff will also thank you, as this will help to control the amount of mud and dirt being brought into classrooms.

We are also searching for extra snow pants and boots to keep at school for children who need them for recess. We are happy to take outgrown pairs this spring to keep on hand for next winter. If you have boots or snow pants in good condition that you would like to donate to RES, please drop them off in the office and we will store them for the next winter season. I would also like to thank those who donated hats and mittens to our students,

especially Mrs. Woodruff, Mrs. Bartash, and Martha Peters. These extras meant warm hands and ears for many children.

We are now working on transition plans for next school year. This means that we are already looking at schedules, teaching assignments, and class assignments for children. Teachers put in tremendous time and effort to develop next year's class lists. It is so very important for all of our elementary students that we have a good balance of students in each classroom, bringing a range of academic and social strengths and needs to the class. I especially appreciate the conversations between parents and teachers at the second trimester conferences regarding class placement for next year.

This year's RES Academic Fair will be held on Thursday, April 14, from 5-7pm. I hope that parents and community members will put this date on their calendars so that we can eliminate any conflicts for our students and their families the evening of Academic Fair. This year our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will perform at the Fair. Academic Fair is a wonderful opportunity for our students to share their learning with family and friends. On behalf of students and staff, I would like to extend an invitation to all members of the Raymond community to join us on April 14. Don't forget that the Scholastic Book Fair will be held the week of April 10-15 and will be open the evening of Academic Fair.

## Poland Regional High School Seeks Raymond Students

By: Mike McClellan

The Poland Regional High School has created space for 15 new Raymond students in the 2005-2006 school year. Poland, Mechanic Falls and Minot partnered to create the high school which opened six years ago. Upon opening the school, PRHS accepted Raymond students at both middle school and high school levels. The new Raymond Middle School has ended the need for middle school support. In that first year, a majority of students leaving Jordan-Small Elementary School choose to go to PRHS and the Whittier Middle School. At the conclusion of year one, the PRHS School Board realized that the building was already full and limited their acceptance of Raymond students to siblings of current students in the school. This school year is the senior year for that first seventh grade group of students. As a parent of two PRHS students, I cannot say enough about this educational institution. My children were highly challenged in their education and

also involved in sports, music, theater and a variety of other activities. When you choose PRHS, it becomes a family affair. The entire family is encouraged to be a part of the students' learning. While Raymond is not a partner in the district, we have always been accepted and treated as if we were. At this writing the Poland School Board has just voted to pay to provide a bus to travel to Raymond in the next school year in thanks for the funding Raymond will send to PRHS. PRHS clearly seeks our students because they value the quality of student Raymond sends. There are 15 openings created for next year. I understand that there already are numerous applicants who have begun the process to be accepted. If you have interest in this option, I would urge you to move quickly. You can contact the PRHS Principal Derek Pierce at 998-5400. If you wish to know more about the school, there are many families in Raymond currently attending PRHS. You certainly can contact me at 655-4438. Good luck in your choice!

## Kindergarten Screening At The Raymond Elementary School

Appointments are now being taken for kindergarten screening. If you are a current Raymond resident and have a child who will be 5 years old on or before October 15, 2005, and will be entering kindergarten in the fall, then please call the Superintendent of Schools office at 655-8666 to schedule a screening appointment for the afternoon of May 4 or May 11. Proof of residency, your child's birth certificate and immunization record are required to register your child for kindergarten. A kindergarten physical is also required prior to starting school.

Please call Mrs. Peggy Jensen, Home-School Coordinator, at 655-8672 extension 108 if you are new

to the Raymond School District or have not yet scheduled your home visit.

Important dates for kindergarten screening include the following:

Monday, May 2: Parents' Informational Meeting for Kindergarten Screening at 6:30pm in the Raymond Elementary School cafeteria. This meeting is for parents only.

Wednesday, May 4: Kindergarten Screening appointments at 1pm or 2:30pm

Wednesday, May 11: Kindergarten Screening appointments at 1pm or 2:30pm.

## Staff Appreciation Dinner At RES

It took a few snow dates, but the staff appreciation dinner for Raymond Elementary School employees was finally held on Friday, March 4. The RES cafeteria was filled with the sights, sounds and smells of a wonderful Mexican fiesta. This feast was coordinated and cooked by Dennis Woodruff, John Dionne, Stephen Seymour and Dennis Dorey. Staff and family members had a great time enjoying the delicious food and one another's company. A special 'Thank You' goes to out to Raymond businesses for providing the gift certificates and gifts used for the door prizes. These special friends of RES include Montebello Restaurant, Raymond Village Florist, Good Life Market, Final Touch Nail Salon, Kayla Harding, Danielle's Sebago Diner, and Innisbrook. This special event was a great way to celebrate the hard work and efforts of all members of our staff.



The four amigos, Stephen Seymour, Dennis Dorey, John Dionne and Dennis Woodruff, served up some mighty fine Mexican food at the RES Staff Appreciation Dinner.

## RES Students Participate In Music Festival

On Saturday, March 5, 2005, nine 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Raymond Elementary School participated in the 2005 Orff Elementary Music Festival. They spent the day at Windham Primary School, singing, dancing, and playing Orff instruments. At the end of the day they put on a performance for their families. The participants were Serena Cobleigh, McKenzie Rowe, Sydney Gagnon, Brianna Phinney, Katelyn Tucker, Jenny Walker, Cassidy Gaudet, Sandra Carter, and Lauren Harris. The instructors for the festival were Nancy Cash-Cobb and Donna Hurd, both music teachers in Windham, and Patricia Gordan, music teacher at RES.

Be Sure Not to Miss.....  
**April Fools Family Night Dance  
 with The Disclaimers**  
 (It's Free - No Foolin' !)  
 Friday, April 1, 6:30-8:30pm  
 Jordan-Small Middle School  
 Bring your family for a fun, free night of  
 live music and dancing.  
 Come chase away those winter blues  
 with your friends and neighbors!  
 Sponsored by S.E.A.R.C.H.,  
 Raymond Mentoring Partnership, and  
 Raymond PTA

## RES/JSMS Scholastic Book Fair April 11th-15th At RES

The PTA will be organizing its spring fundraiser soon, and volunteers are needed to be in the school library to help the children during their library time. Watch for notices coming home! For more information and to volunteer call 655-4446.

## Attention 8th Grade Parents

The next 8th grade parent meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13th, at 7pm in the JSMS library.

We have dates for the end of the year activities and would like to share this information with you. All 8th grade parents welcome!

## Attention QSP Fundraiser Buyers - Parents At JSMS

A call was made to replace one order (approximately around Christmas), and the QSP representative immediately took care of this for us. However, there was no name given to the rep for this order. The replacement order was received in December, but has not been picked up at the school. The order is for a roll of wrapping paper, 'Floral Stripes'. We really want to take care of making every order right with our supporters, and we were very fortunate this year to have only one order need to be replaced. If this order belongs to you, it is in the office at JSMS and can be retrieved from Kathy Woodbrey.

### An Interview with...

## Charles Miller JSMS Principal

By: Avalinda Haycock, Sarah Tripp and  
Jordan Flynn

We recently asked Mr. Miller a few questions about his background, and we wanted to share some things we found out about our principal.

**Q:** Do you like your job as JSMS principal?

**A:** Yes, I love my job. I especially like to help children grow and learn.

**Q:** Did you have any other jobs before this one?

**A:** Yes, I was Assistant Principal in Sanford, a Sergeant in the army, an athletic director in Westbrook, and spent five years in a monastery.

**Q:** Where did you go to high school?

**A:** Cape Elizabeth High School

**Q:** Where did you go to college?

**A:** Don Bosco (New Jersey), St. Francis (Biddeford, ME) and the University of Maine (Portland)



**Q:** How many years did you go to college?

**A:** I went to college for five years, but took a year off to go into the army. I took two courses every semester.

**Q:** Have you ever lived anywhere other than Raymond? If so, where?

**A:** Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, So. Portland, Billerica

**Q:** Do you have any pets?

**A:** A dog, Lucky. He is a cocker spaniel.

**Q:** Are you married? If so, how many years have you been married and what is your wife's name?

**A:** I have been married for 33 years and my wife's name is Janice. We have been married since 1972.

**Q:** Do you have any kids?

**A:** Yes, Justin (27) and Megan (21)

**Q:** When is your birthday?

**A:** My birthday is on August 19, 1947. I will be turning 58 this summer.

**Q:** What is your favorite television show?

**A:** Law and Order. I like crime shows.

**Q:** What is your favorite reading genre?

**A:** Crime Mysteries

**Q:** Who is your favorite author?

**A:** Dick Francis

**Q:** What is your favorite beverage?

**A:** Homemade low-calorie banana shakes.

**Q:** Who is your favorite athlete?

**A:** Ted Williams

**Q:** What kinds of movies do you like?

**A:** Police Detective movies

**Q:** What is your favorite color?

**A:** Blue

**Q:** Who is your favorite artist?

**A:** Monet. I love art.

**Q:** Do you have a favorite food? If so, what is it?

**A:** Spaghetti and meatballs.

**Q:** What is your favorite music?

**A:** I listen to everything. I especially like Mozart and opera.

**Q:** What is your favorite musical instrument?

**A:** I like the guitar.

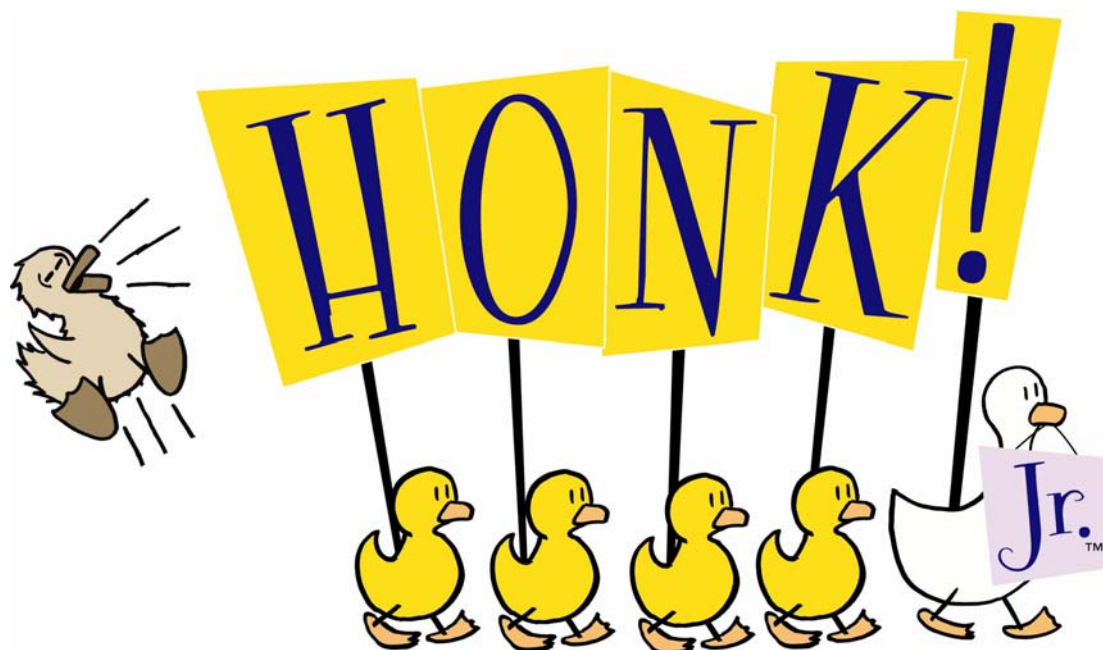
**Q:** What is your typical day like?

**A:** I wake up at 5:30, come to school, have a cup of coffee, read the morning notices, greet the students, answer phone calls, have meetings, and handle student discipline.

**Q:** Do you have an important event in your life? If so, why is it important to you and how old were you?

**A:** The most important thing that happened to me was the day I was married. It totally changed my life. My wife is my best friend. I was 25 years old when I was married.

## Jordan Small Middle School Drama Club Presents:



*From the Broadway Junior Collection  
Produced by Special Arrangement with Music Theater International*

**Directed By: Marilee Dunklee and Mary Thornton**

**Friday April 8, 2005**

**7:00PM**

**Saturday April 9, 2005**

**7:00PM**

**Jordan Small Middle School  
Raymond, Maine**

**Tickets Available at the Door  
Adults and Students: \$5.00  
Children Under 5: \$2.00**

**Doors Open at 6:00pm**

## Jordan-Small Middle School Boys Enjoy A Championship Basketball Season

**By: Coach Powers, Coach Dionne, & Mr.  
Fitch, Athletic Director**

We cannot begin to put into words how much we enjoyed this year's basketball season. The boys endured many tough practices and improved their skills in all aspects of the game. The team's hard work paid off as they won the Pine Tree League Championship. The team posted an impressive record of thirteen wins and no losses. Key components to the team's success were a tough defense and tenacious full-court press coupled with a

disciplined half-court offense.

This year's roster included the following: 8th graders- Nate Dixon, Brandon Guerette, David Pike, Brian Laroque, Jeff Laroque, Andrew O'Neill, Kevin Gardner; 7th graders - Dylan McGowan, Jordan Baker, James Plummer, and Sam Hutchinson.

The boys should be very proud of their accomplishments this year, not only for winning the championship but also for demonstrating good sportsmanship throughout the season. Congratulations!



## Only Prevention Can Save Raymond's Lakes And Ponds. You Can Help!

Hydrilla has been called "The Perfect Weed" because of its ability to thrive under a wide range of conditions. It is perhaps the most destructive invasive plant, and there is no known cure for its removal! Hand pulling, mechanical harvesting, chemicals, and biologically developed insects have been tried; Florida pays over \$20 million annually to fight it, California even tried "paving" the bottom of a lake to stop its growth – none have succeeded. Property values have plummeted where it has proliferated, and recreational activities cease to exist.

Hydrilla is now in Maine – discovered in Limerick's Pickerel Pond in 2002, it now covers 60% of the waterbody's area up to a 10' depth.

Can this "Foreign Invasion" be stopped?

With a little effort, you can prevent non-native milfoil and other invasive plants like hydrilla from taking over our lakes, rivers, and streams. Activities we all enjoy – boating, swimming & fishing – have been dramatically affected in areas where infestation has already occurred.

**PREVENTION IS THE ONLY EFFECTIVE SOLUTION**

What can you do to protect our lakes and rivers before it's too late?

- Always inspect your boat and trailer and remove any fragments as you exit the body of water.
- Avoid navigating in visible vegetation.



*A lonely dock with no kids playing in the water. This is hydrilla, and it is as nasty as milfoil. Hydrilla has already infested one Maine Lake.*

- Become a plant patroller. Early detection is key to controlling its growth. Contact us to receive a plant guidebook.
- Volunteer to help spread the word about the threat of invasive plants.
- Join RWPA today and keep in touch with what is happening in your watershed. Contact us by phone 207-671-3329, e-mail lakes@raymondmaine.org or write RWPA, PO Box 1243, Raymond, Maine 04071.

*Shown at the right are some of the 25 Raymond residents that hit the trails in Morgan Meadow on March 6 with snow shoes and cross country skis. Kids led the less young people up over Glovers Wig and out to the Dam at the south end of the Meadow. A second party trekked north on skis along the main trail from the parking lot off Egypt Road. A great time was had by all on this magnificent 1100 acre open space resource. A new and improved map of Morgan Meadow should be available on the website soon.*



## Box Top Winners At RES

The Raymond PTA's Box Tops for Education promotion this winter was very, very successful at the Raymond Elementary School. Christina Lamarre coordinated a classroom contest to encourage students to collect and bring in box tops. Students did an outstanding job during this contest and collected nearly \$500 worth of box tops. Mrs. Tarr's second grade class led throughout the competition and was the clear RES winner. For their efforts the PTA awarded the class with their own playground balls and equipment. Two of Mrs. Tarr's students, Erica Gilpatrick and Madeline Gillespie, also received interactive telephones in a special drawing, courtesy of Innisbrook. The PTA would like to encourage Raymond families to continue collecting box tops this spring and throughout the summer. It is amazing how each 10¢ box top can add up to significant contributions to our PTA.

## Raymond Village Library Raffle: "Harry Potter"

Raymond Village Library is raffling off a Harry Potter Quilt, magic wand and a copy of the newest Harry Potter book "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." The quilt was made by Anna Marcaurelle, grandmother of Jenna Cole, a Raymond Elementary School student. It will be displayed in the Raymond Elementary School for the month of April, in the Jordan-Small Middle School for the month of May, and at the Raymond Village Library for the month of June and July until the drawing, which will be held at the library on July 10th. Tickets may be purchased at the Raymond Elementary School and the Raymond Village Library. The chances are fifty cents each or three for one dollar. All proceeds will benefit the Raymond Village Library.

## R.I.S.E. UPDATE (Raymond International Support Effort)

### Continued from page 1

to have an ongoing relationship. You will be able to put a face on those you are helping.

Help make this project a success and one we all can be proud of. You will find a Donation Form in this edition with information on where your check should be sent. Thank you. R.I.S.E.

The following businesses and organizations have helped the people of Kalametiya: Christmas Tree Farm, Jordan

Bay Animal Hospital, and Brownie Troop 1748. Some of the other donors include Jane and Alan Stone, Waldo and Carolyn Preble, Susan Hirsch, Howard Reben, Linda and Wayne Whitney, Robert and Alys Miele, Jani Cummings, Wayne and Anita Holmquist, William Blood, Joe and Suzanne Bruno, Charissa and Doug Kerr, and Christina Keilt and Raul Freyre. A big thanks is extended to all of these donors and to those who wished to remain anonymous.



*A view of the foundation stone with a temporary work tent and a single tree standing tall in the midst of the shrub jungle*

