Open Space Conservation

By Elizabeth Algeo, Raymond Conservation Commission

Whether you’ve lived here for five years, or especially for 50, you’ve noticed that our quiet, rural town is growing rapidly. Set within steep hills and sparkling lakes, Raymond has long been a destination for vacationers and campers. However, as towns to our south and east have filled in with new development, Raymond has become attractive to those seeking quiet and relatively cheap year-round living. In fact, since 1990, our population has expanded by 30% (from 3,300 to 4,300 people), making Raymond the fourth-fastest growing town in Cumberland County, behind Scarborough, Falmouth and North Yarmouth.

Impacts of Growth:
While growth is inevitable, and desirable in some ways, it is changing the character of our community. In the last decade, we built a new school, expanded our municipal, public works and safety staffs, started construction on a new fire station, and approved the construction of a public drinking water supply system on Route 302.

In addition to straining our town services, this growth is altering Raymond’s landscape. Forested ridge tops and hillsides are becoming pocked with bald house lots. Gravel camp roads, once dormant in winter, now service year-round shorefront communities. Land that traditionally supported tree harvest or farming operations is sprouting house lots and subdivisions.

The environmental impacts of rapid, unplanned development aren’t easily noticed until they affect the economic base of a town. For Raymond, which counts much of its prosperity from assets lent to us by our lakes and woodlands, protecting our water quality, fisheries, and wildlife habitats should be a top priority.

Open Space Conservation:
Meanwhile, as development surges, the large, undeveloped tracts that give Raymond its rural feel are fragmenting. This, coupled with rising prices for new house lots, is reducing our opportunity to conserve land at low cost. For these reasons, the Conservation Commission has stepped up its campaign to preserve Open Spaces.

Certainly, not all large parcels in town need to be “saved”, and many families depend on the eventual development of their land for income. However, certain natural areas in town (several were suggested by citizens in the 1991 Comprehensive Plan) are worthy of conservation efforts. For example, the 1,072 acre Morgan Meadow Area, purchased by the Land For Maine’s Future (LMF) fund in 1989, sits within a large triangle of undeveloped land of similar natural quality. The Commission is working with Loon Echo Land Trust, the Town, several land owners, and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to add to the Meadow. There is a proposal before LMF to consider purchasing the Dan’s Hill property, which abuts and provides access to the western side of the Meadow. Also, we are compiling a second grant application to LMF for preservation of additional natural areas in town.

In the last decade we gained 30% in population and almost doubled our overall Town, County and School budget.

More than 900 houses have been built since 1980, consuming 10% (2,100 acres) of Raymond’s land (21,500 acres).

Assuming we continue to grow at this rate, we will see about 40 new houses and 100 acres of land converted to residential use each year.

There are only two lots in town greater than 500 acres (Morgan Meadow is the largest) and only 25 more that are greater than 100 acres.

From the windshield, Raymond appears to have a lot of wooded open space. These spaces will fragment and diminish if the town does not act NOW to Conserve Open Space.

Is Raymond losing its RURAL CHARACTER?

The 1991 Comprehensive Plan reported that Raymond residents wanted to preserve the rural character of the town. Many towns have found that growth, if not directed carefully, can change a rural town to a suburban one. Here’s where we stand today:

- In the last decade we gained 30% in population and almost doubled our overall Town, County, and School budget.
- More than 900 houses have been built since 1980, consuming 10% (2,100 acres) of Raymond’s land (21,500 acres).
- Assuming we continue to grow at this rate, we will see about 40 new houses and 100 acres of land converted to residential use each year.
- There are only two lots in town greater than 500 acres (Morgan Meadow is the largest) and only 25 more that are greater than 100 acres.

Fire/Rescue Uses New Ambulance

By: Francois Norbert, EMT-P

In December, the Raymond Fire/Rescue Department took delivery of its new ambulance. The ambulance is a 2001 Braun body, on a Ford diesel van chassis. The outside of the ambulance displays both the American flag and the Raymond Fire Department emblem. For increased visibility during emergencies, the ambulance is equipped with both strobe and LED emergency lights.

This ambulance was designed with one thing in mind - safety. It will provide a very safe work area for the rescue crews which will directly correlate to increased safety for all our patients. We are proud of this new acquisition and feel that we will be able to better serve our community.

Road Runner Articles Due
Articles for the next edition of the Road Runner newsletter are due by February 15th. Please provide them by any of the following methods:

E-Mail: Pickette; Paper Articles should be saved in Rich Text Format (RTF) on diskette or as e-mail attachments.

Send School Related Articles To: norma.richard@raymondmaine.org
christian.eldington@raymondmaine.org
or drop at a Principal’s Office
Send Town related articles To:
elizabeth.cummings@raymondmaine.org
or drop at Town Hall

In This Issue
Raymond Village Library News
Kris Krassen: Tig To Compete At Olympics
Book Reviews
Attention Raymond Property Owners
Joe Bruno Announces For re-election
Rubies Clinic
Dog Licensing Due
The Raymond Food Pantry
Budget Committee Needs Members
Geography Bee Finalists
JSMS Recreation Area Update
JSMS Principal’s Report
Hebron Academy Honor Roll
State Of Maine Chump!
JSMS Participating in Music Festival
JSMS 7th Grade Math Team News
A Mentoring Experience
JSMS Student Government
RES Principal’s Report
Bostops For Education
Animal Shelter Donations
Jump For Hearts Is Coming
Dates For Kindergarten Screening
Troop 800 Report
Ratlins Snowmobile Club News

Road Runner Staff:
Kevin Woodbrey
Laurie Forbes
Norma Richard

Visit Us on the Web
Make sure to see the on-line archives at the Raymond, Maine, web site:
http://www.raymondmaine.org

Look under Events & News
Raymond Village Library News

Kids Fun Times

Join Beth Guider for Saturday Sing-along, on the third Saturday of each month at 10am. Youngsters through the Fourth Grade will enjoy singing old favorites and learning new tunes. This is fun for all! February sing-along date is February 16, 2002.

There will be Baby Time at 9:30am and Story Time at 10:00am on Thursdays at the Library throughout February, including school vacation week.

There will be a special craft day at the library for school-aged children. Learn to make “Pen Pal”, decorative pens, using sculpey clay and other creative materials. Sue Carr of Raymond will demonstrate and assist in the making of these “Pen Pal”. Bring your own pen or pens (2) and join Sue on Wednesday, February 20, at 5:30pm. There is a signup sheet at the library for those who would like to attend. Please call Sue Ellen at 655-4463 for more information.

Family Craft Fun

On February 9, at 9:30 the “Bag Lady” will again be at the Raymond Village Library with her wallpaper materials and expertise, to show and help those who wish to learn how to make gift bags. Her craft day, held before the Holidays, was so enthusiastically received that she has agreed to a repeat performance. This time, she is just in time for Valentine’s Day. Please sign up at the library, as this has to be limited to 20 participants.

Book Discussion Group

This reading group meets the last Thursday of the month at the library, at 7pm. For the selected reading for February, please sign up at the library, as this has to be limited to 20 participants.

President’s Day

The library will be closed February 18, in honor of President’s Day. Remember, to be safe during inclement weather, call ahead at 655-4283 to be sure the library is open.

Art Exhibit

During the dark, short days of winter, we are very fortunate to have the art works of talented Dick Anzelc, decorating the library. Mr. Anzelc has studied art for approximately eighty years, in preparation for life after retirement. His media include stained glass, oils and watercolors. He has had a number of teachers who have shown him many new and interesting techniques. He is now retired, after working for the shoe industry in Maine for almost forty years. Prior to that, he attended Maine Maritime Academy at Castine and sailed for a few years after graduation. His love for the sea is reflected in much of his work.

One of his unique and fun pictures may just be what you have been looking for – to pick up a corner in your home or for that special space on the wall. We are certain you will enjoy viewing his art when you come into the library this month.

Kristen Clark To Compete At 2002 Olympics

Kristen Clark of Raymond will be competing at the 2002 Winter Olympics in February. She is a hometown girl who attended the Raymond schools and has worked since that time to become a world-class skier. Kristen’s parents live on Panther Pond in Raymond. The Town Office will be flying an official Olympic Skiing Flag in her honor.

Ms. Clark will be competing on February 11th in the Women’s Downhill, February 17th in the Women’s Super G Slalom and on February 22nd in the Women’s Giant Slalom. NBC TV, Channel 6 in Portland, is expected to televise the competition.

February 2002

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<td>12:30PM J5 Wednesday Ski Program 7:00PM RE School Committee</td>
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Bruno has served on the Health and Human Services Committee when I can help a constituent through the maze of state government for the people of the State of Maine. I am always pleased to work very closely with my colleagues at all levels to craft solutions that will extend the Portland Water District line from Jordan Bay Animal Hospital, Dr. Jim Stephenson, his wife Judy and his staff vaccinated a total of 31 dogs and 38 cats. Nancy Yates from the Town Office provided dog licensing with 15 dogs being licensed in Raymond.

Jessica Smith of Blue Seal Feeds in South Windham provided free 4 pound bags of several types of dog and cat food for their choice. She asked with dog and cat owners about their pets’ nutritional needs and gave them retail coupons as well. We wish to thank Jessica and Blue Seal for their kind donation.

Dog Licensing Due

As of February 1, 2002, all dogs must be licensed which are over the age of 6 months. If they have been registered in Raymond previously, there will be an additional $5.00 late fee charged per dog which will make the fee $9.00 for neutered and $12.50 for non-neutered dogs. Please be sure to supply your current rabies certificate as well as the neuter certificate if applicable.

The Raymond Food Pantry

The Raymond Food Pantry is open at the Town Office during business hours for receiving dry goods. If you need perishable foods like frozen meats, please make an appointment so that a Pantry volunteer can meet you. This service is to give families a little extra help when they need it. All requests are kept confidential.

Please call the Town Office at 655-4742 or the Pantry coordinator at 428-3206 for an appointment or come in during business hours for bagged foods.

Thank You, Neighbors

Mr. and Mrs. Jean Gaudet, of 60 Main Street, would like to thank the neighbors for welcoming us to the neighborhood. We look forward to many years here on Main Street.

Sincerely Jean and Carol Gaudet

Book Review
By: Sheila Jacobson

The library has many new additions, both to the book collection and audio books. One book I enjoyed reading and then listening to is Lauren Beller’s ‘City of Light’. It is a wonderful blend of political intrigue, murder mystery and a love story.

It is set in Buffalo in the early 20th century, with the newly constructed power station at Niagara Falls ready to go on line bringing electricity to the city. The conservationists of that time were fearful that the new power plant would use up all the water of the Niagara River and the Falls, and had demonstrations which often led to violence. All this is seen through the eyes and thoughts of Louisa Barrett, headmistress of Buffalo’s most prestigious school.

Although this is a novel, a first novel in fact, the author has mangled historical fact so creatively with fiction as to be very believable. This is a well researched novel that held my attention throughout, and I am looking forward to this author’s next book.

Attention Raymond Property Owners

In 1998 the 118th Session of the Maine State Legislature enacted significant property tax relief in the form of the Homestead Exemption. Qualified residents have the assessed value of their “homestead” reduced by $7,000, adjusted by the municipal assessing ratio. Last year a substantial number of Raymond property owners took advantage of this program and had their property taxes reduced. Qualified residents must apply to their local assessor prior to April 1, 2002, for the 2002 tax year. They must have owned a homestead in Maine for at least twelve months and declare their Raymond residence to be their only permanent residence. If you have previously applied for this exemption, you do not need to reapply.

Please contact the Assessing Office to receive an application or visit our web site @ www.raymondmaine.org.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Raymond Assessing Office at 655-4712.

Representative Joe Bruno Announces For re-election

Representative Joe Bruno, House Republican Leader, announces that he will be seeking to represent District 38, Raymond and part of Windham, in the 121st Legislature. Bruno will be seeking election to his fourth consecutive term and fifth overall.

“In the era of term limits I believe it is very important to have someone with my background and experience serving in the legislature. I was first elected during the bad economic times of the early 90’s and I think my experience of weathering that storm and pulling us through to a better economic times of the early 90’s, and I think my experience have someone with my background and experience serving on the Board of Directors of the Waldron Group and Foster Famliy Connection.

Bruno lives in Raymond with his wife Suzanne and daughters Adrienne, a student at Wheaton College, and Julia, a junior at Windham High School. He can be contacted at 655-7443 (home) or e-mail at jbruno1@maine.rr.com.

More Cats Than Dogs At The Rabies Clinic

On Saturday, January 19th, with appreciated cooperation from Jordan Bay Animal Hospital, Dr. Jim Stephenson, his wife Judy and his staff vaccinated a total of 31 dogs and 38 cats. Nancy Yates from the Town Office provided dog licensing with 15 dogs being licensed in Raymond.

Jessica Smith of Blue Seal Feeds in South Windham provided free 4 pound bags of several types of dog and cat food for their choice. She asked with dog and cat owners about their pets’ nutritional needs and gave them retail coupons as well. We wish to thank Jessica and Blue Seal for their kind donation.

Financial Support:

Land conservation requires volunteer time, energy, expertise, and money. Loon Echo Land Trust, which has conserved numerous impressive tracts in Casco, Naples, Harrison, Sebago, and Bridgton, is providing technical support and has established the Raymond Lands Fund. Anyone can contribute to this fund, and the money collected will be allocated to preservation of land in Raymond only. Additionally, we’ve asked the Selectmen to establish and seed a Reserve Fund for Open Space projects in Raymond.

Town and citizen support for Open Space Conservation is critical. We will fail if we cannot raise the support and backing we need to win grants and purchase key tracts of natural land. Support of the Reserve Fund at Town Meeting and donations to these Land Funds are the most direct ways to affect our progress.

Ultimately, we hope our campaign inspires others to consider conservation measures that will preserve several large, contiguous, undeveloped tracts of land in town. In addition to the Spiegel, Hamilton, and Ritchel families, other entities are conserving large parcels in Raymond and surrounding towns. Hancock Land Company and the Forest Society of Maine have proposed a conservation easement on 6,300 acres in the Lakes Region, including tracts on Pomisire Mountain and Tarkiln Hill in Raymond, and on Rattlesnake Mountain in Casco. The Rand family is donating a conservation easement on their 150 acre farm in East Raymond to the Loon Echo Land Trust. Loon Echo has preserved 1,200 acres in the region and is proposing to acquire over 1,500 more around the Holt Pond and Bald Pate Preserves in Bridgton.

The Conservation Commission and Town need your support. For now, tax deductible contributions can be made to the Raymond Lands Fund at Loon Echo Land Trust, 102 Main Street, Bridgton, ME 04009. (Log onto www.loonecholandtrust.org to find out more about this organization). We hope to have the Town-administered Open Space Reserve Fund available for contributions by June.

Questions about Conservation Commission projects can be directed to Elizabeth Algeo (655-6065) or other Commission members. We meet on the last Tuesday of each month, September through June, at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. Please join us!

Budget/Finance Committee Needs Two Members

Because two members of the Budget/Finance Committee are no longer residents of Raymond, the Town needs two volunteers to fill those positions until the next Annual Town Meeting in May. The positions are to study and give recommendations on the Town and school budgets, as well as on any other matters. The Budget/Finance Committee will meet the second Tuesday of each month, in the late spring, summer and fall.

If you are interested in serving as a member of the Budget/Finance Committee, please call Don Willard, Town Manager at 655-4742 or email don.willard@raymondmaine.org.

Open Space Conservation

Continued from page 1

properties in this area and hope several more land owners join our effort before the September 2002 deadline.

Open Space can serve many purposes, including recreation (e.g., hiking, hunting, shore access, athletic fields), wildlife habitat, lake access, and resource conservation (e.g., forests, farms, water quality).

Open Space requires far less in services (i.e., costs to the town) than does residentially de- veloped land.

The Raymond Roadrunner
The following students are participating on our team this year:
Keegan Brown, T.J. Cook, Dylan Dodge, Cameron Gosney, Roman Gosney, Troy Knight, Elliot LaMarre, Corey Matheis, Benjamin Myhaver, Stephen Odum, Andrew Reed, James Wiley, Stefan Winslow, Stephen Wisutskie. Coaching our team is Mr. Dionne.

2001 – 2002 JSMS CHORUS

The following JSMS students will be participating in Chorus during this school year.

Emily Allen, Danny Chute, Patrick Martin, Danielle Walton

Geography Bee Finalists 2001-2002

 communicates the winners of the Geography Bee for the current year.

On Friday, January 11th, the finals of the Jordan-Small Middle National Geographic Geography Bee were held. After several intense rounds of competition, Kees Van Haasteren came out as our school champion! Well done, Kees!!!

Congratulations also go to the following JSMS students for progressing successfully through their classroom Bees into the finals:

Emily Allen Alt. - Evan Flynn
Danny Chute
Patrick Martin Alt. - Lindsay Ryan
Danielle Walton

Ashley Waldron Alt. - Elijah Hughes
Kees Vanhaasteren
Jacob Perry Alt. - Nick Gredin
Zac Vanbaars
Robyn Stillings Alt. - Mike Churchill
Khriis Fenton
Diyian Burns Alt. - Harmony Brown
Patrick Lockwood
Ali Jordan
Ian Levinsky Alt. - Amy Cobb
Doug Remick
Andrew Reed Alt. - John Shively
Kainani Stevens

Stephanie Wisutskie
Jamie Wiley Alt. - Roman Gosney
Dan Tracy Alt. - Ben Myhaver
Troy Knight
Ian Acker Alt. - Corey Matheis
Stefan Winslow

Special thanks go to Mrs. Taiiani for organizing and running this year’s National Geographic Geography Bee!

As you can see, we certainly have many stars at JSMS!

2001 – 2002 JSMS CHORUS

The JSMS CHORUS is fortunate to have 45 students participating in Chorus during this school year! A special concert will be coming up in March where their talents will again be shared.

Please watch for details in the March Road Runner. Mr. Crockett directs the Chorus at JSMS.

JSMS Recreation Area Update

GIVING CALENDAR RAISED $1,080

7th Grade students sold giving calendars during December. Despite being a hectic month, they were able to raise a good amount for the recreation area. Well done, 7th Graders! Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser at a busy time of year. Prizes were drawn at JSMS every day during January. The following people won during the first half of the month.

1st Bob Caton: True Value $25
2nd Gean Peterson: $25
3rd Mr. & Mrs. Benedict Olde House $50
4th Robert Rankin: $20
5th Daniel Conner: Cabin Candy
6th Helene Gagnon: $20
7th Rusty Libby: Jordan Bay Animal Hospital $35
8th Scott Valente: $20
9th Kainani Stevens: Garden Gate Salon
10th Mary Thornton: $50
11th Julie Gosney: $25 Crickets Corner

CONCESSION STAND

The concession stand used for the JSMS basketball games is now being used for Friday night Raymond Rec games. We would like to extend a big THANKYOU to ALL the volunteers who worked at the school games and to the 30 or so people who graciously and positively responded to a phone call asking for help.

Thanks also to Signs in Seconds (next door to Community Pharmacy in Raymond) for their assistance with signs to keep food and drinks out of the gym.

FUNDRAISING TO DATE: 1/11/02 (minus costs)

Direct donations: $2585
Myrtle Durgin Memorial 285
Peer Council Dance, Winter Concert 204
PTA 2000/01 Donation 1000
Innisbrook (PTA@JSMS) 2334
Penny Points 1200
Hat days 160
Lucinda Pins 650
Calendars 1080
Unum Corp (match for employee donations) 500

DONATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the direct donations made by the following people:

Alvin H & Florence W. Morrison
Mary E. Hicks: In honor of Lawrence E. Hicks
David, Marianne, Zachary, Sasha and Natalie Van Baars
Ronald and Delores Ritter
Laura Jo and Doug Cunningham: in honor of their family.
Donald and Megan Willard

If you would like to make a donation to the Recreation Area, please make checks payable to: JSMS Recreation Area and mail to, or drop off at, Jordan Small Middle School, 423 Webbs Mills Rd, Raymond, ME 04071.

CONSTRUCTION PLANNING

As you read this in early February and are watching our climber progress up the fundraising mountain, you may be wondering when construction will begin. Meetings will begin in March to plan the purchase and installation of the stage, and other in ground equipment. We are seeking individuals to lead and/or help with these aspects of the project. Please contact Jo Martyn-Fisher (655-3167) or Diane Shively (655-4766) for more information.

LATE BREAKING NEWS!

6th Grade Parents are organizing a benefit dance for early March. This evening is intended for adults only so gather some friends and come on out and have some fun. Look for more info in this month’s “Road Runner.”
Jordan-Small Middle School Band. The JSMS Band is fortunate to have over 40 6th and 7th graders participating this year! The JSMS Band Director is Mr. Crockett.

2001 – 2002 Jordan-Small Middle School Girls Basketball Team. The following girls are on our team this year: Kayla Taylor, Cassie Terry, Enjay Williams, Ashley Leavitt, Amanda Evans, Becky Randall, Grace Keilt-Freyre, Ashley Blanchard, Katie Eastman, Skylar Duncanson, Amanda Bruno, Brittany Cogswell, Kameron Purinton, Wyndham Juneau, Kainani Stevens, Erika Richardson, Alyse Bartholomew. Coaching our girls’ team is Mr. Fitch.

Shake the Winter Blues Dance
To benefit the Recreation Area at Jordan-Small Middle School
Live Band – Mariposa
(led by Raymond’s Phil Hammett)
March 2, 2002 7-11PM
SNOW Date – March 9
Windham Veteran’s Center
(behind Hannaford’s in North Windham)
$10 per person (BYOB) – includes dance and much more!
Hors D’oeuvres *** Auction *** Door Prizes

For tickets please call:
Helene: 655-7562   Betty: 655-3162
Vicki:  655-7717

Jordan-Small Middle School Beginning Band. JSMS is very fortunate to have over 40 students participating in this program during the 2001 – 2002 school year. Students can select band as their Music Class selection from our Academic Enrichment classes. Mr. Crockett is their teacher.
Jordan-Small Middle School Principal’s Report
By: Christian Elkington, Principal

Renovations are almost completed. Some of the backordered materials, supplies, and cabinets have now come in. Our Science Labs are close to being finished, with plumbing, the final piece of the puzzle. New sound reducing board/drywall have been added to the Dining Room and Music Room. Two new display/trophy cases have been completed near our school’s office and by the Dining Room. The two major items still needing attention are the new Movable Partition between two classrooms and our new Health Room. New steel was installed to support the partition, but we are still waiting to receive the partition itself. Our hope is that these items, along with any final pieces, will be completed by the middle of February. Special thanks go to the students and staff of JSMS for their patience! It certainly has taken longer than we expected.

On Wednesday, February 13th, we will be having our 2nd Annual Winter Carnival. The Winter Olympics will be this year’s theme. If you are around our school during the first two weeks of February, please check out the progress our classrooms will be making on their snow sculptures. Special thanks to our PTA for all their support with this event!

Curriculum work is in full swing at JSMS as we continue to make progress developing our new curriculum in grades 7-8. All subject areas are completing new curriculum drafts, as we align what we want our students to learn with the state standards. The Learning Results. When these drafts are completed, they will go to our district’s Curriculum Council for review. Completed drafts then go on to our school committee for final review and approval.

Our students continue to have tremendous involvement in clubs and activities at JSMS. Almost half of our student body participates in either Band or Chorus. In honor of our students’ efforts we will be hosting the District 2 Regional Band and Chorus Festival at our school in April. Thirty 7th Grade students are competing on our basketball teams against Pine Tree Conference, 8th grade teams.

After-school drawing classes have over 25 students involved. Over 80 students wanted to participate in Intramural Floor Hockey, so we had to organize another way to make it happen for all that wanted to participate! The list goes on and on!

In closing, I want to thank the PTA for their gift of funds to buy balls and soccer nets for our students. I also want to thank the members of the Recreation Area Committee for their continued hard work and progress in raising funds to develop the recreation area behind our school.

Jordan-Small Middle School students, staff, and parents continue, in the Raymond tradition, to work hard in support of all of our kids!

State of Maine Champ!

Congratulations go to Jordan-Small Middle School student Amy McIntire for being chosen both the Cumberland County and State of Maine winner for the American Foresters Poster Contest. Amy’s entry was selected from over 2200 entries across the state! 6th grade classes at JSMS participated in this event last fall. Way to go, Amy!

Wanted!
Home Visits For Incoming Kindergarten Students

If you have not yet scheduled your home visit, please call Peggy Jensen. Home School Coordinator at 655-8672, extension 108.

JSMS 7th Grade Math Team News

The Jordan-Small Middle School 7th Grade Math Team is off to a great start this year. In October the team competed at the first meet held by the Pine Tree League. This is the team’s first year in this league. The meet was held at Hebron Academy and hosted twelve teams from the league. Our 7th grade team of T.J. Cook, Amanda Hammett, Nikki Gagne, Keegan Brown, Stephen Wisutsitske, and Ian Acker finished in first place in the seventh grade division! T.J. Cook took home an individual first place award, while Ian Acker took home a third place individual award. The team will compete again in the second Pine Tree League meet to be held in March and hosted by Pownal.

In addition to the Pine Tree League the team continues to compete in the Southern Maine Math League. This league comprises about thirty teams. This year, having enough seventh graders to field two teams, the teams competed in their second meet, this time at Cape Elizabeth. Having enough members for two teams, one of our teams competed against eighth graders in this league meet. Kainani Stevens, Stephen Wisutsitske, Ian Acker, T.J. Cook, Keegan Brown and Wyndham Juneau competed for JSMS as the eighth grade team. The team finished in an outstanding 9th place out of 22 teams! Great effort and teamwork by all helped the team achieve this great success.

In addition, Amanda Hammett, Nikki Gagne, Andy Bissonneure, Andrew Reed, Brett Coggan, James Wiley, and Dan Tracy competed in the 7th grade division. The team also placed 9th out of 22 teams! Again, great effort and teamwork by all! Congratulations to all on a job well done!

The team will compete in the next Southern Maine Math Meet to be held at Greely Junior High in Cumberland on February 4th.

JSMS Students Participating in the District II Elementary Music Festival
By: Christian Elkington, Principal

Nine of our students will be representing JSMS at the District 2 Honors Band and Chorus Festival on April 3rd! They have been chosen because of the development of their fine skills in each ensemble. Over a dozen schools will be involved in this festival which this year will be held right here at JSMS! Chorus, band, and orchestra conductors are hired to choose the program, rehearse with the groups, and conduct the concert. This will take place on April 3rd.

Congratulations go to:

Chorus

Band

Markie DeSorbo Harmony Brown
Alison Gagnon Ian Levinsky
Bridget Byrne Kyle Woodbrey
Ali Gordan Sarah Crockett

Hilary Orr

We are all impressed with your Musical Intelligence. Three cheers for representing yourselves, your family, and our school with distinction!

After several intense rounds of competition, Kees Van Haasteren came out as our school champion! Well done, Kees!!!
Raymond Elementary School Principal’s Report
By: Norma Richard

We have now reached the half way point of our school year at the Raymond Elementary School. This is a great time for children and their families to make the second half of the school year even better than the first. I want to encourage all of our school partners to keep connected with school. Ask your child to share one thing about his/her school work. Look over your child’s homework, and review the work and papers in the green Raymond Elementary School responsibility folder. Parents of children in grade 4 should check agendas each evening for homework assignments and communications from their child’s teacher. The responsibility folders and agendas are wonderful tools to assist all of our students in developing organizational skills and improving personal responsibility. These are also important ways to help parents stay in close contact with school.

I have been very, very pleased with both the work effort and the behavior of our students. We often have parents and visitors comment about the fine behavior of the children at the Raymond Elementary School. I attribute this to several factors. The first is the outstanding work of our parents. We appreciate your support and the high expectations you have for your children. Our character education program also has a significant positive impact on all aspects of our school. This is our second year of implementing a school-wide conflict resolution program that is highlighted by the I-CARE rules. These rules are: We listen to each other. Hands are for helping, not hurting. We use I-Language. We care about each other’s feelings. We are responsible for what we say and do. The rules provide consistency for all children throughout the school. We reinforce them on a daily basis through classroom activities, morning announcements, guidance lessons, and even have them printed on our green responsibility folders. Many parents have even extended these rules to the home. I also want to recognize the outstanding work of Deb Hutchins, Guidance Counselor, and Barbara Leous, Social Worker, in supporting students and families.

In closing I want to say how pleased I am with the progress of both students and staff/patients in this year’s Light the Lamp recreational reading program. After the first of this year we had read a combined total of more than 200,000 pages. Please encourage your children to read each and every day, and join them in sharing your own love of reading. Parents, you can also include your book pages to Light the Lamp. Just send book titles and totals in to the school office and we will be sure to include them.

For more information about the Raymond Mentoring Partnership, call 655-8672 ext. 107.

A Mentoring Experience
By: Pat Tripp and Steve Eastman

Hi, my name is Steve Eastman and I’m a mentor in the JSMS mentor program. I’m involved because I enjoy children and being a positive role model. I was matched up in October 2001, with Pat Tripp. Pat and I learn more about each other every week. We more or less hang out every week, like you would with other friends. We talk, play sports, do homework and kid each other often. It’s a wonderful program to have in our community. Thank you, Lori and Erin.

Hola(Hi)! I’m trying out my new Spanish. My Iluminas (name) is Patrick, and I am a mentee at JSMS. Tengo dos Hermanas (I have two sisters). The things Tengo (I have) enjoyed the most are playing golf and basketball. I really like the mentoring program. It’s fun! I really enjoy this educational opportunity. I have received a scholarship to snowboard at Shawnee Peak, which is rare in most schools. Tengo (I have) had the chance to snowboard for the first time in my entire life. It’s great having this opportunity.

For more information about the Raymond Mentoring Partnership, call 655-8672, ext. 107.

JSMS Student Government

Special thanks to the following students who are supporting Jordan-Small Middle School as Peer Council Representatives for the 2002 - 2003 school year:

6th GRADE
- Mike Orsini: President
- Ali Gordan: Secretary
- Sarah Crockett: Treasurer
- Alison Gagnon: Membership
- Robyn Stiggins: Newsletter
- Kris Burgess: Halls
- Hilliary Orr: Safety
- April Cox: 4H
- Trevor Serami: Elderly
- Ian Levinsky: Bike
- Bob Murphy: Community

7th GRADE
- Logan Martyn Fisher: President
- Becky Randell: Treasurer
- Nicole Gagne: Secretary
- Erika Richardson: Newsletter
- Wyndham Janeau: Newsletter
- Andy Bissonnette: Membership
- Molly Niziol: Halls
- Mr. Boyle is the advisor.

Substitute Janitors

Applications are now being taken for Substitute Custodians at the Raymond Elementary School and Jordan-Small School.

Please call the district office at 655-8666 to request an application.

For more information, contact Rick Dwinell, head custodian at 655-8672 after 2:00pm.

Lend A Helping Hand For Bostoxs For Education

We want to thank parents, family, and friends who are collecting Box Tops for Education from General Mills Products. Every Box Top will earn our schools 10¢. You can help us reach our goal of $1,000 by continuing to collect Box Tops and sending them in to the school office or drop them off at Town Office or the Raymond Village Library. Your continuing support is much appreciated.

Animal Shelter Donations

Ms. Parise’s Second Grade class would like to send a BIG thank you to the town of Raymond for supporting our community service project in December, 2001. Our class was overwhelmed by the dog, cat, and cleaning supplies that children, adults, and area businesses donated to Harvest Hills Animal Shelter in Fryeburg.

After the holidays, our class sorted, estimated, and weighed all of the donations. Thanks to our supportive community, we collected:

177 pounds of dry dog & treats
86 pounds of cat food & treats
15 pounds of cleaning supplies

Thank you!

Jump For Hearts Is Coming To Raymond

Mrs. Julie Orsini, Beau Boyle and Betty Lepper, physical education teachers for the Raymond School District, are once again coordinating Jump for Hearts. Many families in our community have been affected by heart disease and heart attacks. Jump for Hearts not only raises donations to support the work of the American Heart Association in Maine. It also raises awareness in children to the benefits of exercise, diet, and a healthy lifestyle in preventing heart disease. This year we are looking forward to a demonstration on February 14 by the Maine Jump Rope Team from the Damariscotta schools. This team visited several years ago, and we were all amazed by their skill and enthusiasm. We look forward to another successful Jump for Hearts program this winter, and hope to exceed last year’s contributions of $3,864.50. Students will participate in Jump for Hearts during their physical education classes the week of February 25 - March 1. Parent volunteers who would like to help with the program are asked to call the school office at 655-8672. We hope that all of our students will participate this year in Jump for Hearts to benefit the American Heart Association.

Change In Dates For Kindergarten Screening

Due to the upcoming state review of our special education program, the dates for Kindergarten Screening have been changed. If you are a Raymond resident and have a child who will be 5 years old on or before October 15, 2002, and your child is enrolled in kindergarten in the fall, please note the following revised dates on your calendar. Additional information will also be provided by Peggy Jensen, Home-School Coordinator, in the preschool newsletter. Please call Mrs. Jensen at 655-8672 extension 108 if you are new to the Raymond School District or have not yet scheduled your home visit.

Monday, April 22: Parents Night for Kindergarten Screening (6:30 PM)
Wednesday Afternoon, April 24: Kindergarten Screening (6:30 PM)
Wednesday Afternoon, May 1: Kindergarten Screening...
Troop 800 Report
By: Kyle Woodbrey, Troop Scribe

Boy Scouts of America, Troop 800’s theme for January was computers.

In January each patrol worked on their own computer. In the first meeting, we took apart each computer into about 100 pieces; there was only sheet metal left! There was the motherboard, the memory, the disk drive, the diskette drive, the power supply and many more parts, screws and cables. Then we had to sort out all 100 pieces. After being sorted, the pieces had to be put back piece by piece, screw by screw. When that was all done we had gone an extra hour and a half past the normal meeting ending time. Everybody was ready to go home. Only one computer didn’t work because a wire was plugged in backwards.

In the second meeting, we installed operating systems on the computers, and while we had to wait for files to be copied we played Computer Jeopardy. In Computer Jeopardy we had to fly through the pages of our reference books to find the answers before time ran out! The questions were hard.

The third meeting was the Court of Honor. Scouts sang and performed skits. Many advancements and merit badges were awarded. Following is a list of Troop 800 Advancements since 9/25/01.

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<th>Scout</th>
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<td>Josiah Knights</td>
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<td>Textile, Salesmanship</td>
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<td>Ian Levinsky</td>
<td>Second Class</td>
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<td>Andrew Miranda</td>
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<td>Zane Whitcher</td>
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<td>Cody Winde</td>
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<td>Kyle Woodbrey</td>
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<td>Bill Yates</td>
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<td>Citizenship in the World</td>
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In February our theme will be Indian lore. Everybody was ready to go home. Only one computer didn’t work because a wire was plugged in backwards.

The fourth meeting, we networked the computers together so we could share files, a printer and an Internet connection. In February our theme will be Indian lore. We will also compete in the Klonkide Derby.

To keep up to date on upcoming Troop 800 activities, check out the Troop’s web pages on the Town’s website at http://www.raymondmaine.org which includes information and things that the Scouts have been up to. To contact by phone: Tom Wiley, Scoutmaster, 655-2548 or John Hanley, Troop Committee Chair, 998-5504.

Raymond Rattlers Snowmobile Club News

The snowmobile club’s February meetings will be Wed. the 6th and Wed. the 20th. The potluck dinner starts at 6:00pm, and the business meeting follows at 7:00pm.

The club is very active this year. For the past three months volunteers have completed many hours of trail work. A new trail has been cut to Thomas Pond. This trail is off the pipeline behind the pump station on Rt. 121. There is also a new trail that is behind the ball field at Camp Hinds and goes up to the ledges for a wonderful view. An updated trail map will be available in February. These may be picked up at the office of Weeks Insurance & Financial Services (1311 Roosevelt Trail).

The club will have a snack shack this year at the February Ice Fishing Derby on Sebago Lake, and is planning an outdoor barbeque the first weekend in March. More details will be available soon on the town of Raymond website under the topic of recreation. (www.raymondmaine.org)

The Raymond Rattlers would like to give special thanks to the many landowners for their cooperation and permission to allow us to use their land for snowmobile trails. We ask that if you are riding these trails, that you please respect the land you ride on, as this is only a privilege and not a right.

If you are not a member of the Raymond Rattlers, you may still join. The family membership is $25. Business memberships are also available. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact club President Jeff Weeks at his office, Weeks Insurance & Financial Services, at 655-4400 or email: jeffreyw@megalink.net.