

Municipal Budget Proposed At 4.62% Increase In Property Tax

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Board of Selectmen and Budget/ Finance Committee, working closely together over a period of several weeks, agreed upon a **fiscal year 2005-2006 budget at an increase of 4.62% in property taxes.** The total Municipal Budget before non property tax revenues are subtracted stands at \$3,306,354 as

compared to the FY 2004-2005 budget of \$3,134,370 which is an increase of \$171,984 or 5.49%. This year's budget deliberations were influenced by the passage of LD1 by the Maine Legislature. LD1 prescribed spending limits for all levels of government. In the case of municipalities, the level of increase is governed by two components. The first is the "average real personal income growth," which is set annually by the state. This year the level of increase was set at 2.58%. The second element is the "property growth factor," which is the percentage increase of taxable valuation from one tax year to the next. Comparing 2004 increased value to the 2003 base yields an additional levy limit of 3.83%. When added to average real personal income growth, a total levy (property tax)

limit for the Town of Raymond was established at 6.41%. The budget going to town meeting, therefore, is 1.79% below the maximum allowable budget under LD1.

In prior years an estimate of the change in the mil rate was provided as a part of the budget analysis and financial history. This year it will not be possible to provide such an estimate given that the town-wide tax equalization project (revaluation) is not yet complete but will come on line with the fiscal year 05/06 tax billings. It is projected, however, that the town's mil rate will be reduced rather substantially from the current \$18.70 per thousand as valuations are adjusted to market levels. As in prior years, I am providing a brief overview of the budget prior to formal

consideration at **Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2005, at 10am at the Jordan-Small Middle School Gymnasium.**

2005-2006 FY Budget Overview:

Administration

1. Salaries - In the 2003/2004 F.Y. the Selectmen approved a three-year transition to align Raymond's municipal wages and salaries to the average market wage, by position, for our region. Data was collected from communities within a 20-mile radius of Raymond and pay established for each position. The 05/06 F.Y. draft includes the third and final installment

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Road Runner Articles Due

Articles for the next edition of the *Road Runner* newsletter are due by May 19th. 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:

roadrunner@raymondmaine.org

or drop them off at the Town Office or at one of the school offices.

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Road Runner Staff:

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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

Raymond,
Me.

TOWN ELECTIONS

Friday, May 20, 2005, at Jordan-Small Middle School
7am to 8pm

Voter Registration will be available at the Polls.

Please bring 2 forms of identification including your street address, if you need to register to vote in Raymond.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Saturday, May 21, 2005, at Jordan-Small Middle School
10am

Town Reports are available at the Town Office

School Budget Reflects Efficiencies and EPS Funding Model

By: Sandra Caldwell, Superintendent of Schools

The FY 2005-2006 Raymond School Department budget being proposed to the citizens of Raymond was developed to continue to provide all students opportunities to pursue excellence. We are a school system dedicated to continuous improvement. Our budget will allow all students to learn and grow as evidenced by the following:

- By assuring a safe, clean and welcoming environment
- By recruiting, developing and retaining a highly competent work force and
- By supporting the following priority initiatives:
 - K-4 literacy consulting teacher model that provides support to all classroom teachers with a K-2 targeted literacy emphasis.
 - Adoption of a K-8 standards based mathematics program that follows the piloting of programs this year by all of our classroom teachers.

- Professional Development this summer and throughout the year that provides support to professional staff with the implementation of standards-based mathematics.
- Advanced training and support for all K-8 staff with the second year of Power School implementation. This is the student information and data management system.
- Professional Development to support the reporting of student progress that is aligned with Maine Learning Results and Raymond's Local Assessment System.

The proposed \$8,483,453 school budget represents a 4.4% increase over last year's budget, with a 3.7% increase in the town share. During the entire budget process we have worked hard to distinguish between "needs" and "wants," more specifically, to establish the fine line between what we need and what would be nice to have. The School Board worked from January through March to develop modifications

in the initial recommended budget. These modifications were the result of suggestions, feedback and dialogue from School Board budget meetings, the Public Hearing and meetings with the Budget Committee. Considering suggestions and feedback while at the same time being sensitive to the taxpayers of Raymond, the FY 2005-2006 School Budget experienced the iterations below before the final proposal of \$8,483,453:

	Total Expense	Town Share
01/05/05	8.0%	8.4%
01/19/05	7.6%	7.8%
02/02/05	4.8%	4.2%
02/09/05	4.9%	4.4%
02/28/05	4.1%	3.3%
03/03/05	4.5%	3.8%
04/14/05	4.4%	3.7%

The budget process included the recommendations of cost saving measures as we attempt to become more efficient without compromising the effectiveness of our schools. These measures include the following:

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Raymond Village Library News

The Month at a Glance
May 1 – Mother’s Day Craft, from 2-4pm
May 14 – Clean Up Day at the Library, at 9am
May 18 – Composting – Let It Rot!, at7- 8:30pm
May 21 – Annual Raymond Town Meeting.
May 23 – Honoring our Veterans, from 7-8:30pm
May 27 – Reading Group, from 7-8:30pm
June 5 – Father’s Day Craft, from 2-4pm

Mother’s Day Craft
This is a paper craft workshop with “The Crafty Ladies” you know and love. They will provide all the supplies you’ll need. Don’t miss this opportunity to create something special for yourself or your Mother or just to learn a new craft. This will be a fun program for the whole family. Interested participants should sign up for this program by stopping at the library or by calling 655-4283.

Library Clean Up Day
It’s spring, and that means it’s spring cleaning time. Your library needs its annual spring cleaning, and the more help, the faster and more fun it will be. If you can spare a few hours helping out, we can use some outside equipment, such as rakes. This will begin at 9am on Saturday May 14. Remember, the more the merrier!

Composting – Let it Rot!
On Wednesday, May 18, starting at 7, Amy Witt will show us how to turn our kitchen scraps and plant waste into “black gold” for our gardens. Nothing is better for flowers and vegetables than compost, and it’s so easy to do. Amy Witt is a Master Gardener and Coordinator for the Master Gardening Program through the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Office. The Town of Raymond will be accepting orders for composting bins during this program. This is a great way to start spring, now that the snow is finally gone, and we can think about our gardens.

Annual Town Meeting
Saturday, May 21, is the Raymond Town Meeting, beginning at 10am. We encourage your attendance and appreciate your support for the library.

Honoring our Veterans
On Monday, May 23, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of Raymond will introduce you to Veterans who bravely served our country. The Veterans or their widows will talk about their experiences and how those experiences impacted their lives and the lives of the people they loved. The Scouts interviewed several veterans and widows of veterans. They have created posters with pictures of the veterans and details about their service, including in some cases how it affected the spouses they left behind. The posters, complete with pictures, will be on display in the Raymond Village Library during the month of May. This program, as are all the library programs, is open to the public and will begin at 7pm. What a wonderful way to honor those who served our country in a very special way.

Reading Group
The book discussion group meets Wednesday, May 27, at 7pm. “Thinking in Pictures: and Other Reports from My Life with Autism” by Temple Grondin is the book chosen for discussion in May. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Father’s Day Craft
The mothers had their turn, and now “The Crafty Ladies” will help us make something special for that Special Man in our lives. Please contact the library to sign up for this fun afternoon. It will begin at 2pm.

Holiday Closing
The library will be closed on Monday, May 30, commemorating Memorial Day.

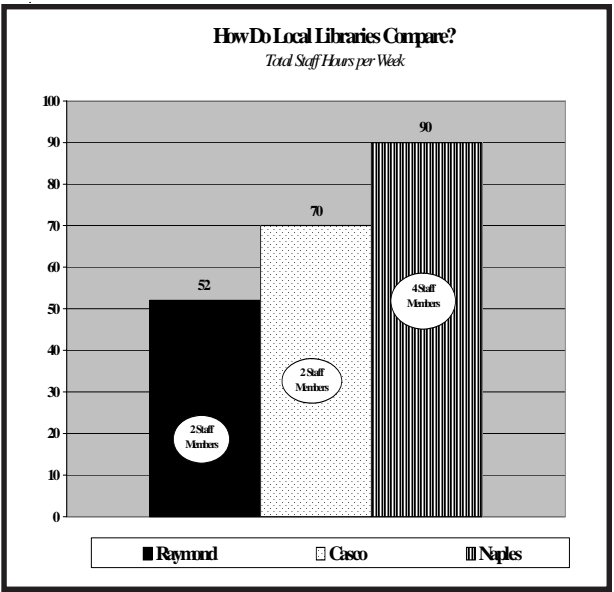
Art Exhibit
Treat yourself this spring and come into the library to see the beauteous and bountiful blooms adorning the library walls. Donna Tosh, the artist and a resident of Raymond, uses discarded plywood and hardwood board for a canvas, so most of her paintings can be hung outside. Her vivid colors and beautiful, playful flowers bring smiles to all who see them. This is what spring is all about. Come and see for yourself.

Clean Up – Clean Out
It’s that time again, housecleaning time, it seems like it

goes on forever. Here is one way you can help yourselves while cleaning up. Bring all the gently used books, videos, audio books, CDs, DVDs, tapes and puzzles that you are no longer using to your library. They will be used to enhance the collection or in the book sale this summer. Since the library is a non-profit organization, all donations are tax deductible.

Attention Gardeners
Remember the library plant sale, when you are working on your flower gardens and thinning out your flowerbeds. The sale is on June 25, and we ask that all plants be brought to the library the night before, June 24, between the hours 4 and 7pm. For more information, please call the library at 655-4283.

Harry Potter Raffle
The raffle of the Harry Potter Quilt, magic wand and a copy of the newest Harry Potter book continues with the quilt now at the Jordan-Small Middle School for the month of May. It will be at the Raymond Village Library for the month of June and July, until the drawing on July 10. Tickets may be purchased at the Raymond Elementary School and at the Raymond Village Library. The chances are fifty cents each or three for a dollar. All proceeds will benefit the Raymond Village Library.



May 2005

Events and Meeting Schedule

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2:00-4:00PM VL Mother's Day Craft	2 10:00AM VL Babytime 7:00PM JS Meet the Candidates for Raymond Elections	3 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting	4 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime	5 6:30PM JS Science Fair 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting	6	7
8	9 10:00AM VL Babytime	10 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 6:30PM RE PTA Meeting 7:00PM TH Tassel Top Board Meeting	11 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00PM TH Planning Board	12	13	14 9:00AM VL Cleanup Day
15	16 10:00AM VL Babytime 7:00PM Casco Library Raymond Casco Historical Society Meeting 7:00PM VL Library Board	17 3:00PM TH Planning Baord Deadline for May 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting	18 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 11:30AM JS Early Release 5:30PM JS Senior Citizen's Dinner 7:00-8:30PM VL Composting	19 Road Runner Deadline for June 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting	20 7:00AM-8:00PM JS TOWN ELECTIONS	21 10:00AM JS ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
22	23 10:00AM VL Babytime 7:00-8:30PM VL Honoring Our Veterans	24 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting	25 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00PM TH Conservation Commission	26 7:00PM JS Spring Concert	27 7:00PM VL Reading Group	28 12:00PM TH Zoning Board of Appeals Deadline for June
29	30 MEMORIAL DAY Library Closed No School	31 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting			FB=Fire Barn JS=Jordan-Small KC=Kokatosi Campgnd PS=Public Safety Bldg. RE=Raymond Elementary	SG=Sheri Gagnon TG=Town Garage RT85 TH=Town Hall VL=Village Library VC=Village Church VT=Village Tennis MB=Modular at JSMS

Municipal News Brief

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

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

April 5, 2005:

- 1) 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. After convening regular session, a motion was made to purchase property located at Map 14/Lot 34, consisting of approximately 83 acres, for the amount of \$100,000. This property is located off the Egypt Road and served as the Town of Raymond’s municipal landfill for a number of years during the 1970s and 80s. Pursuant to Maine Department of Environmental Protection (D.E.P.) regulations, the landfill was closed in 1983. Recently the site became the subject of a proposed residential subdivision. The Selectmen are proposing to purchase the property to protect the town and/or future residents from the potential for adverse groundwater quality should wells be drilled adjacent to the landfill. Securing the site from future development is congruent with recommendations received from the D.E.P.
- 2) New business.
 - a. Consideration of new road name located off Conesca Rd. – The Selectmen unanimously approved naming Fire Lane 225-1 as Colina Drive.
 - b. Consideration of appointment to the Planning Board – Candidate interview – The Selectmen voted unanimously to approve Allen J. Tait as a member of the Planning Board following a review of his credentials and a discussion with him of the responsibilities of this volunteer position.
 - c. Consideration of appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals – Candidate interviews – Although Mr. Lingwood was unable to attend the meeting, a motion was made by the Selectmen to approve his candidacy for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals based on the strength of his interest and a review of his submitted application.
 - d. Consideration of request regarding outside work – Paul White, Assistant Code Enforcement Officer. Following discussion, a motion was made by Ada Brown not to allow Mr. White to do construction jobs in Raymond as long as he served as the town’s assistant code enforcement officer. The Selectmen decided that despite assurances that an independent third party would conduct all inspections of Mr. White’s work, the appearance of a conflict was unavoidable and therefore not in the interest of the town. Outside employment of this type would also conflict with the Town of Raymond Personnel Policy.
 - e. Consideration of abatement 2004/02 – Amanda Simpson, Assessors’ Agent. The Selectmen approved an abatement for an administrative error for account A0045P, Allan Family LLC, in the amount of \$280.50.
 - f. Consideration of Budget/Finance Committee recommendations on Fiscal Year 2005/2006 Draft Municipal Budget. The Selectmen considered and reconsidered a number of items in order to take into account recommendations made by the Budget/Finance Committee on the FY 2005/2006 Draft Municipal Budget. The town manager will incorporate the changes in preparation for the final budget meeting to be held on Monday, April 11, 2005, at 7pm at the Town Office.
 - g. Consideration of Quit Claim Deed – Hurd-Chevarie – Map 15/Lot 92. The Selectmen voted to go into executive session on this matter pending in District Court under Title 1 M.R.S.A.

§405(6)(H). After reconvening in regular session, a motion was made to decline to sell property located at Map 15/Lot 92 back to the owner of record as a result of the liability on the land including the automobile storage lot and the lien on it in the amount of \$76,300. This motion was approved unanimously. A second motion was made to allow the owners of record to redeem the property under the following conditions:

- 1. All back taxes, interest, and penalties must be paid within 30 days of receipt of the notice.
- 2. All legal fees relative to the current lien and judgments must be paid within 30 days of receipt of the notice.
- 3. Within 30 days of receipt of the notice, the property is to be cleaned up to Town of Raymond ordinance standards including no (0) unregistered vehicles. If above conditions are met and maintained for a period of one year, the town will then sign a quit claim deed and release the land use judgment of \$76,300. This motion was approved unanimously.

3) Town Manager Report and Communications.

- a. The town manager reported that the Cumberland County Soils and Water Conservation District had awarded the Town of Raymond with an outstanding leadership award recognizing exemplary public works erosion controls and the town’s support of the Raymond Waterways Protective Association Aquatic Invasive Plant Protection Program (Milfoil).
- b. The town manager announced that the 2004 grant from the Maine Department of Transportation Gateways Program was not approved.
- c. The town manager reported that he had sent a letter to the County Commissioners, as instructed, regarding the Public Safety Building being utilized as a patrol center and expressing disappointment in the way the issue was handled and the delay in receiving a reply. He had also been in touch with County Commissioner Esther Clement who had expressed a desire to meet with Raymond officials about the situation.
- d. Mid Maine Waste Action Corporation (MWAC). Selectmen Chris McClellan announced that the MWAC Board met on the budget last Thursday. She commented that it was an extremely well run facility and that the original bonds would be paid off in 2013. She added that she did not anticipate an additional need for bonding at this time for repairs because of the annual shutdown for maintenance, which has kept the plant in very good operating condition. For this reason, she believed it would be viable for years to come.

4) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants dated April 5, 2005, were approved unanimously.

April 19, 2005:

- 5) Meeting with Cumberland County Commissioners to discuss areas of possible collaboration. This item was tabled due to the inability of the Cumberland County Commissioners to attend the meeting as originally planned.
- 6) New business.
 - a. Consideration of increase in cemetery services and lot fees – Linda Alexander, Cemetery Committee Chairman. The Selectmen considered and approved an increase in cemetery services and lot fees as presented. A detailed copy of the new fee schedule is available from the Town Clerk’s Office during regular business hours.
 - b. Consideration of Abatement 2004/03 - Amanda Simpson, Assessors’ Agent presented abatement 2004/03 in the amount of \$308.55 for Kevin and Dawn Christy, account number C0002P, to reflect a camper moved prior to April 1, 2004; and a second abatement for Amaizing Energy,

which is a business that closed prior to April 1, 2004.

- c. Town scholarship awards – Louise Lester, Town Clerk. The Selectmen considered scholarship application materials in executive session. After reconvening in open session, the following awards were made:

Benjamin James Wardwell - \$1,000 Carleton E. Edwards Scholarship Trust Fund and \$250 Collins-Day Scholarship.

Kathryn J. Delaney - \$1,250 Collins-Day Scholarship.

Randi-Lynn Varney - \$500 George Wood Memorial Scholarship and \$500 Alva M. Clough Scholarship.

This year’s decision on scholarship awards was made particularly difficult by the larger than average number of applications received. The Selectmen wish to recognize all of the applicants for 2005 town scholarships and wish them the best of success in their future educational endeavors.
- d. Consideration of proposed zoning amendments for warrant article – Christine McLellan, Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee Chairman. Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee staff member Amanda Simpson provided an overview of the zoning amendments scheduled for consideration at Annual Town Meeting to be held on Saturday, May 21, 2005, at 10am at the Jordan-Small Middle School. Ms. Simpson also indicated that a second round of amendments would be presented to the Selectmen on May 3, 2005, and subject to a public hearing to be held on May 4, 2005.
- e. Approval of Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The Selectmen reviewed and approved the final version of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for posting and publication. A copy of the complete Warrant is available at www.raymondmaine.org.
- 7) Town Manager Report and Communications.
 - a. The town manager informed the Selectmen that the State Planning Office had completed its analysis of Raymond’s 2004 Municipal Solid Waste Annual Report. This year the Town of Raymond increased its recycling rate by 5.72% to achieve a total rate of 54.02% as compared to the 2003 rate of 48.3%. This level of recycling is significant in that the state wishes all communities to achieve a level of 50%, which the Town of Raymond has now attained.
 - b. The town manager provided a monthly status report on the revaluation project as submitted by Vision Appraisal. He noted that the final delivery of all materials would occur according to the original schedule prescribed under the contract of September 1, 2005.
 - c. The town manager briefed the Selectmen on an issue related to a reimbursement of surplus revenues expected from the Casco/Naples Transfer Station. He indicated that he had written a letter requesting release of the full \$72,611.58 due the Town of Raymond.
 - d. The town manager read a letter received from the State Planning Office rejecting the town’s application for a state implementation grant for the Comprehensive Plan. It turns out that the Town of Raymond had actually received an implementation grant on January 15, 1993, which precludes the town from applying again for such a grant.
 - e. The town manager updated the Selectmen on the Hurd-Chevarie property tax/Land Use Ordinance violation. The deadline for cleanup will be May 12, 2005.
- 8) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants dated April 19, 2005, were approved unanimously.

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- of this pay adjustment. For positions that are exempt from the process, a three percent Consumer Price Index increase is proposed.
- The primary reason for adjusting to prevailing labor market conditions was to attract and retain qualified employees by paying competitive wages. After this year’s final adjustment, wages and salaries will be maintained at an average level through future adjustments at the Consumer Price Index annual inflation level.
- An increase in hours is proposed for the Code Enforcement/Planning/Assessing secretarial support position from the current 16 hours per week to 35 hours per week.
 - Postage. A reduction of 5.65% to reflect actual use. This reduction is likely related to the increased use of electronic mail and provision of materials via the Internet vs. through the postal service.
 - A 26.67% decrease in advertising costs based upon actual 04/05-budget experience. A factor in this reduction is less advertising to fill vacant municipal positions.
 - A 10% reduction in Registry of Deeds costs to reflect fewer lien filings, lien discharges, and quit claim deed filings. This is a good economic sign.
 - An increase in travel and training of 15.61%. The increase is being driven by two factors:

a.) An increase in the IRS allowance for reimbursed travel from \$0.375 per mile to \$0.405 per mile.

b.) The second area of increase involves the Town Manager automobile stipend.

This stipend has remained fixed at \$2,400 annually since year 2000. This year as a part of contract re-negotiations, an increase of \$853 was approved, resulting in a net after tax increase of \$600 or \$50 per month to compensate the town manager for work related travel utilizing a personal vehicle.
 - Elections. A 15.42% reduction as no primary election will occur in the next fiscal year, as well as voting equipment needs being met through last year’s budget.

Assessing

Last year a transition was made from contract assessing services at a rate of \$25,000 based upon one-day per week for 52 weeks to an in-house Certified Maine Assessor on a 32-hour per week basis. In the past the town also assumed the cost of secretarial support for the contract assessor as well as providing coverage of the assessing office during the week when the contract assessor was not available. Due to increased workload as a consequence of the active development market and the revaluation project, a decision was made to switch to a town employee from a contract as a cost savings measure. Contract services at the outlined rate, when utilized on a multi-day basis, would have exceeded the cost of employing a single assessor. This year’s budget increase of 12.06% or \$4,920 for salary reflects the second installment to market average wage. The increase in wages for the Assessors’ Agent involves two conditions: one was the requirement for the assessor to successfully obtain the required Certified Maine Assessor credential, which has been accomplished. The second is that since this position did not exist at the time of the original three-year market wage adjustment, the increase would occur on a two-year basis. This is the second and final increase in wage to align the assessor position with area market wages of similar positions.

Town Hall

The areas of increase include the utilities line to reflect a projected increase in electric rates. Fuel oil costs will remain relatively reasonable and are budgeted at \$1.25

per gallon due to the town participating in a joint bidding process with other governmental consumers. An appropriation of \$5,000 is planned to match private donations of approximately \$15,000 for a new electronic reader board that will be aesthetically appropriate for the Raymond Town Office location but offer greatly enhanced public notice capabilities over the present sign. One major advantage will be the ability to change the information on the sign from a desktop computer.

Insurance

Social Security, which is 7.65% of gross wages, will increase by \$10,171 or 12.43% to reflect increased costs due to higher overall municipal payroll. Increases in Maine Municipal Association supported risk pool and Workers’ Compensation are based upon quotation estimates received from this organization. Workers’ Compensation is projected to increase 11.34% and public official’s liability insurance by 19.4%.

On both a dollar and percentage basis, one of the largest areas of increase in the budget is the Maine School Management Association Health and Dental Program. The reason for this increase is two-fold. First, a 15% increase in premium rates is projected for 2005/2006. This increase is added to the 9.37% difference between the 04/05 F.Y. budget projection and actual expenditures. In 04/05 an estimate of 10% was used for budgeting purposes based upon information received from MSMA, but the actual increase in expenditure was 19.37%.

Two other changes that added to the cost of providing family health care coverage are that a new employee needing family coverage replaced an employee that took only single coverage, and the increased hours proposed for the Code Office, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Comprehensive Plan Implementation secretary position which would be eligible to receive health care benefits. The budget line total estimated increase is 38.25% or \$61,965.

Life Insurance and ICMA Retirement Corp. are increasing to reflect increased payroll expenditures.

Prime Care Rescue billing fees are increasing by \$1,350 or 11.76% to reflect 9.5% of total amounts collected per our contract with them.

General Assistance

No increase is anticipated in the \$2000 total annual budget. Raymond continues to receive very few applications under this program, which is designed to help those in need with the cost of basic necessities.

Technology Department

Network Administrator services contract is being reduced by \$10,000 to reflect 16 hours of work vs. the 26 hours per week under the original contract. The duties no longer performed will be assumed by existing staff and/or a part time employee.

An increase in the Video Broadcast salaries budget line of \$1000 reflects additional expense for covering more meetings should the Digital Broadcast Studio be approved.

Community Development and Services:

- A \$7,300 increase in Land Use Ordinance major revisions line to support activities related to Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee work.
- Land Fill Project legal staffing \$5,000. A new line to reflect professional and technical assistance necessary to address issues related to the former municipal landfill located off Egypt Road.
- Raymond Waterways Protective Association \$12,000 with \$9,000 in Community Development. An increase of \$3,000 is reflected in the TIF Budget to fulfill an initiated request from this organization.

- Open Space Reserve Fund. An appropriation of \$5000 is a reduction of \$10,000 from the 2004-2005 budget.

Fire/EMS and Dispatch Department

The Fire Chief is proposing to combine these departments, reprioritize financial effort and deliver a 0% increase budget. Total appropriation request is \$576,346.

Animal Control

A new apportionment of expenses within existing budget lines results in a difference of \$4 in expense over the previous year.

Infrastructure

This account reflects an anticipated rate increase of 2% for street lighting over actual 2004/05 projected expense from Central Maine Power.

Public Works

- Salaries are budgeted at a 3% CPI increase with the balance of the expense in the overtime line.
- Supplies and uniforms. This account line has been reduced by lowering the level of support for uniform expense from \$600 per employee per year to \$300 per employee per year for five employees.
- Road Salt. The cost of road salt has increased substantially from \$30 to \$45 per ton with no change in overall tonnage purchased. 1,000 tons will be purchased again this year.
- Equipment Maintenance. An increase of \$5,000 to reflect actual expense history over recent budget cycles and to account for the increased costs of maintaining older equipment over time.
- Gas/Diesel. A \$500 increase to reflect higher fuel costs.
- Snow Removal Contract. A 5% increase as prescribed under the town’s five-year contract with P & K Sand and Gravel.
- Striping Contract - \$3,000. Based upon a quotation for double line yellow striping and fog lines on 25 miles of road.
- Subcontracting. A \$5,000 reduction is proposed which will require the Public Works Crew to do more and varied work inhouse.
- The overall Public Works increase is 5.27%.

Solid Waste

Increases of 3% in recycling pickup and hauling as well as roadside MSW pickup as anticipated under the three-year contract with Pine Tree Waste at negotiated annual CPI escalator. There is also a decrease in MWAC debt service of \$7,637 or 3.53%. A new proposal is to reduce the level of town support for use of the bulky waste site in Casco. Presently, residential use is not limited and is wholly subsidized by tax dollars. This year \$58,623 of anticipated expense will be assumed by users under a partial “pay as you throw” system presently under development. The weight and items allowed at town expense should adequately address the needs of the average residential user while at the same time capture the expenses incurred by a minority of users that greatly exceed normal household use.

Cemeteries:

The principal areas of increase are related to an initiated request from the Cemetery Committee to increase the level of general maintenance and repair on two old cemeteries located on Raymond Cape and on Tenney Hill, as well as map and lot location plotting at the North Raymond Cemetery Annex.

Parks and Recreation

- An increase in contract services in the amount of \$680 or 11.16% to reflect increased costs

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of mowing and maintenance as well as provision of portable toilets.

Raymond Softball/Baseball is a new request of \$1,000 to support local youth baseball and softball.

Raymond Village Library

The library increase is \$1,600 or 6.84% to reflect initiated request.

Provider Agencies:

Initiated requests received from area social service agencies were reduced to \$113 below last year’s level.

CIP

The Capital Improvement Program account group outlines ongoing financial commitments for major capital acquisitions. The CIP supports the cost of contracts underway, such as the town-wide revaluation; purchase of new equipment over time, such as the John Deere backhoe; and Public Works road reconstruction and Fire Department bond payments approved at last year’s town meeting. All bonds are issued through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and are structured to decrease in expense over their term. In the case of the Public Works Road Construction Bond and Fire Department Equipment Bond, last year’s appropriations were for interest only. This year’s appropriations are the first year of interest and principal together.

Three additional items for Annual Town Meeting Consideration

Raymond Road Runner

A \$10,000 appropriation, which is not presently calculated into the budget as it will appear on the warrant as a stand-alone article, to fund a year of monthly Road Runner production. Last year this expense was included in the School Budget. If approved it would increase the Municipal Budget from 4.62% to 5.37%. This level of increase would still be below the 6.41% increase allowable under LD 1.

Cable Broadcasting Studio

A separate warrant article for \$58,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance (Surplus) carried over from the Special Town Meeting held on October 14, 2004.

Landfill Site Purchase

This proposed purchase requires an appropriation of \$100,000 to complete. The Selectmen are recommending that the needed funds be taken from a combination of undesignated surplus & open space reserve funds on a 75% / 25% basis, respectively. The funding would support the acquisition of approximately 83 acres of land located off the Egypt Road, a portion of which had been used as the town’s municipal landfill in the past.

Municipal Non-Property Tax Revenues

An overall increase of \$109,838 or 6.42% is projected. A major area comprising this increase is the continued strong growth of automobile excise taxes which are projected at \$850,000 compared to last year’s \$730,000. This is a \$120,000 or 6.44% increase. Decreases are projected in solid waste bag tag income to reflect actual bag purchases. Miscellaneous income is being reduced from \$25,000 to \$15,000, since almost all revenue received by the town now has a specific budget line. GIS revenue is being decreased from \$2,000 to \$1,000 to reflect actual collections.

The repayment of the Tassel Top loan is not budgeted as a revenue this year since it was paid in full during the 04/05 F.Y. Budget.

Fund Balance Contribution/Surplus is being budgeted at \$200,000 consistent with last year. The total fund balance currently stands at \$1,459,932 after using \$200,000 this year to offset taxes.

County Tax

An increase of 5.82% over last year’s appropriation of \$429,763. Raymond’s share of county expenses once again will exceed the average rate of increase due to our rapid level of valuation increase as compared to other Cumberland County communities.

Tax Increment Financing TIF Budget

1. Salaries – The GIS/Data Services position is shared with the Administration Department. This position performs GIS work associated with the revaluation project, tax map updates, provides GIS applications in Public Works and Fire/Rescue, performs projects requested by various committees, and network support services. Total salary line \$33,140 to reflect 30 hours weekly; other 10 hrs in Administration.

2. GIS/Data Services – A reduction in supplies of \$4,518. This decrease represents using fewer supplies in the area of data services for print cartridges for printing projects such as the Comprehensive Plan, town maps, town brochure, business cards and all other inhouse printing projects.
3. Raymond Waterways Protective Association (Milfoil) Program is a new TIF expense in the amount of \$3000. Funds for this purpose in the amount of \$9000 are also included under the Community Development account.
4. Technology support in the amount of \$10,000 to offset the reduction made in Network Administrator hours under the Technology Department for routine work and to help with the cost of part-time assistance if necessary to facilitate the production of the Road Runner, Annual Town Report and regular web site updating.
5. Waterline Extension Bond Payment – A reduction of \$4,173 or 10% based upon decreasing repayment schedule over the life of the bonds.
6. Route 302 Corridor – A \$12,000 increase in mowing expense to maintain Route 302 Improvement Project greenways. Last year’s appropriation was inadequate to provide the level of mowing and maintenance necessary in order to keep the corridor in good condition. This year’s appropriation also includes a substantial amount of new bark mulch.
7. Greater Bridgton Lake Region Chamber of Commerce – An appropriation of \$1000, which is the same amount as was approved last year.
8. Casco/Raymond Historical Society is budgeted at \$2000 consistent with last year’s appropriation.
9. The total TIF Budget increase is 1% or \$2,109.

In closing if I can provide any additional information or clarification of this material, please contact me at 655-6994 ext.31 or by e-mail at don.willard@raymondmaine.org. It is my aim to provide the detail you need to properly evaluate the proposed FY 2005-2006 Municipal Budget.

2004 Recycling Percentage Up

The State Planning Office’s report of Raymond’s Recycling Program has been delivered with a 54.02% result. The state would like to see all Maine towns achieve a 50% recycling rate. Congratulations to everyone for their participation in recycling. Last year our rate was 48.03% which was good, but this is wonderful.

The recycling included in this report was the curbside recycling, cardboard recycling (both residential and commercial), and the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility recycling. Hazardous Waste Day and the compost bin program were also considered. Let’s work to make this year’s percentage even bigger!

Town Reports Available

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 21st, beginning at 10am at Jordan-Small Middle School.

Town Elections will be on Friday, May 20th, 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 21st 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.

Comprehensive Plan Articles for Town Meeting

By: Jim Stephenson, Member, Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee and Co-Chair, Comprehensive Plan Committee

The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CPIC) met through mid-winter and early spring to prepare articles for vote at Town Meeting in May. The CPIC met weekly with the goal of following the Implementation Strategy Matrix as provided for in the Comprehensive Plan. The plan is extensive, and certain ordinance changes required for its implementation are too complex to rush, since the implications are significant and have an effect on the citizens and also other ordinances. Thus, time did not allow all items prioritized for 2005 to be addressed in the depth required to bring them before the town’s citizens for a vote this May.

The Comprehensive Plan was thorough in its process and was approved by the voters last fall. Although each of us

can pick an argument with parts of the Plan, and arguably it is not perfect, its overall affect, once implemented, will be for betterment of the community in regard to conserving infrastructure expenditures by the town (lower taxes) and preserving the rural character of the town. The community as a whole will benefit by the Plan. The Plan was designed with sensitivity to land rights issues, but certain individual landowners will be affected negatively by the proposed articles. It is important that all concerned members of the community plan to attend the Town Meeting in May and join in the discussion regarding the pros and cons of the Comprehensive Plan related articles.

The articles related to ordinance changes should be viewed as parts to the ultimate plan, with future articles being prepared for future town meetings. The CPIC will pick back up in the fall and work towards completion of the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

Compost Bin Order Deadline May 7th

You have until May 7th to place your order for the Maine Resource Recovery Association compost bin. Orders will be taken at the Town Office at \$36.50 each (tax included).

These bins have a 10-year warranty and are made of 100% recycled black plastic. They are approximately a 40-gallon size, 35” high and 33” wide. The deadline for orders will be Friday, May 7, 2005. It is estimated that

Raymond residents can save \$138 for every ton of waste they compost.

For order blanks and ordering, please contact:
Louise Lester, Town Clerk
Raymond Town Office
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071
655-4742 ext. 21
louise.lester@raymondmaine.org

Meet The Candidates For Raymond Public Office

Board of Selectmen Candidates

Ada Brown

My name is Ada K. Brown, and I am running for re-election to the Raymond Board of Selectmen. I grew up, and lived in Gorham until moving to Raymond in 1988. I have owned property on the Cape since the early 1960’s. Before moving to Raymond I was active in town policies, and I served in the Maine Legislature from 1978 through 1988. I was appointed to several positions while serving in the House, including the Legal Affairs Committee, Local and County Govt. Fisheries and Wildlife Committees, and I served as Chairman of the Education Committee during the Education reform Act. I retired from the Legislature in 1988 and then spent a few years away from politics.

A new opportunity came in 1997 when Sherilee Frederich resigned as a member of Raymond’s Select Board. Two men also ran for that position, but I won handily. In my closing statement at candidates night that year I was quoted as saying; “and may the best woman win”, and I did!

I have been a positive force for many Raymond projects. These include the Embedtec expansion, the Portland Water District waterline on rte. 302 which extended to the Public Safety building. I was building chairman of the new Public Safety building, and favored the purchase of a new ambulance. Under my leadership, we approved the Raymond Beach Boat Landing. I was also part of the Egypt Rd. Land-Fill Study. I encouraged the Pavement Management survey, as well as the Board of Assessment Review.

I am running for re-election because of my experience, and belief that I have the capacity and motivation to offer even more valuable input to the town of Raymond. May I count on your vote on May 20th?

Christine McClellan

Dear Raymond Citizens,

My name is Christine McClellan and I am running for re-election to the board of Selectmen.

The challenges I see facing Raymond are related to the tremendous growth. This beautiful community of ours is under a great deal of pressure. Our proximity to 2 metropolitan areas, Portland and Lewiston/Auburn, make for an easy 25-35 minute commute, and our richness in natural resources make our town attractive and “relatively” inexpensive for those who want second homes.

How, then, do we meet the needs of a growing and changing population without raising taxes or changing the character of Raymond?

I believe that one way may be in redistributing our financial resources. When LD1 is fully implemented and the townwide revaluation is completed, some of the burdensome educational expenses should be alleviated and individual tax burden equalized. Raymond’s overall budget, however,remains quite lopsided. More than 80% goes to our schools, the highest budgetary distribution in all of Cumberland County, for the smallest district.

I believe another way to meet the needs of the community is to implement the goals of the comprehensive plan, all of which were echoes through surveys and neighborhood meetings etc. over many years.

The democratic process may be frustrating and imperfect, but I respect it greatly. It is where we all have a say, and , I believe that is as it should be.

I consider it an honor to have served as a selectman for these last 3 years, and I would consider it a greater honor to be re-elected.

See you at Town Meeting!

Dana Desjardins

Greetings Fellow Taxpayers,

My name is Dana Desjardins and I am running for the office of Selectman. I have been a selectman prior. The years I served I served on different committees. One of the many I enjoyed most was the Recreation Committee. People in Raymond should understand that our recreation activities are non-paid volunteers. This includes the Director and officers. The Program Directors pretty much give up their spare time to help the youth of our community. This service is very unique at a time when everybody expects Recreation as a service taxpayers should fund. I have been very fortunate to be the director of the Raymond Soccer Program for many years and the growth of this program is awesome! The volunteer coaches and the ability to use the School Field and the Agawam Complex makes my job that much easier. The private and municipal agreement with Agawam Council must continue. This facility is the best option for Raymond Rec. and Raymond Taxpayers. This is one thing I would endorse as a Selectman to the taxpayers.

One other thing I was happy to be a part of was when the Municipal employee’s were going though a Medical Insurance crisis. The employees at town hail, Fire, EMS, and Public Works were covered under the schools policy. Some were insured differently but all were basically going to make changes in their coverage and how much it would cost them. I’ll never forget some of the reasons these people gave us why they needed Medical Coverage. The first vote was 3-2 not in favor of the employees. I was one of the dissenters. I felt that if we as a board didn’t negotiate we would end up negotiating with a Union Rep in the future. A few weeks passed and at a special meeting the whole matter was voted in at a 5-0 margin. The difference was the school employees did something I will never forget. They packed that meeting and worked together. Yes! Union and Non Union employees getting together to make a difference. It was to my dismay when the school employees needed a voice in negotiations no one from the municipal side was there. Now I don’t know for a fact if this issue has been taken care of but \$45,000 in lawyer fees in my view is a waste of taxpayer’s money. Get the issue resolved and please stop wasting time and money!

My other concern is about the abuse of spending we see going on. The towns and schools were all worried if the Palesky Tax Cap passed. They made false statements and used scare tactics to try to make people vote against this plan. They promised that they would be fiscally responsible in the future and cut taxes. I don’t know about you folks but my tax bill due at the end of this month didn’t go down. And you folks who live on the waterfront get ready for Octobers bill. These officials think that since the Palesky Plan went down that they can spend without objection from the taxpayers. WRONG! We the people of this great community can say no to all this spending! We can tell our school and town officials to stop spending on non-essentials. We can encourage the One Raymond concept, but if we the taxpayers don’t speak up the One Raymond concept is just a dream. The taxpayers of Raymond deserve a progressive candidate who favors thoughtful planning that allows for Traditional land use while protecting the community and the environment from unrestrained development.

If you need to reach me for anything regarding what’s up in Raymond, look me up at one of my-baseball games. I coach the Raymond Red Sox Minor League Cal Ripken team. We play on Mondays and Wednesday evenings at 6:00. Enjoy a little league Baseball game and please help if you can by making a small donation. Every dollar helps. See you all at the Town Meeting on May 21 The Future of our recreation, schools, and the Municipal budgets need your voice!

Lawrence “Lonnie” Taylor

I am Lawrence “Lonnie” Taylor and I am running for selectman to insure that my sons, Josh and Lonnie, as well as the citizens of Raymond will be able to have the same benefits of a caring, rural community as I have had. I have lived in Raymond my entire life and attended

Raymond schools through eighth grade. Both of my sons have benefited from the Raymond Elementary School and Jordan Small Middle School. Insuring that we are able to maintain quality education in our schools is a high priority for me. I am able to stay current with the latest revisions to education laws and the new funding formula through discussions with my mother-in-law, Susan Gendron, who is Commissioner of Education. While I support maintaining quality education I also understand the need to do this in a fiscally responsible manner. I support and will work to implement the conversations that have begun in examining with surrounding school systems and municipalities sharing and or consolidation of services to achieve efficiencies while maintaining affordable quality services for our citizens.



My wife Stacey and I have chosen to live in Raymond because we love the outdoors. I want to help shape our future and assist with the implementation of the new Comprehensive Plan. I support maintaining open spaces, protecting our waterways and managing development of our community. I have participated in conservation projects and hope to continue to do so for Raymond.

I want to keep Raymond affordable for citizens of all ages. This means making tough decisions, and being fiscally responsible. As a business owner since the age of nineteen, I am accustomed to doing this every day.

I have been active in Lewiston Youth Hockey, and currently serve as the President of Raymond Baseball and Softball. I enjoy being involved with the youth of our community and willingly give of my time so that our children can benefit from these opportunities.

I believe every member of our community needs to contribute to the town. It is because of this belief that I have entered this race for Selectman. I will work hard on behalf of all citizens. I am open minded, dedicated, willing to give of my time and approachable.

Budget/Finance Committee Candidates

Tucker Cole
147 Spring Valley Rd.

I have been a resident of Raymond for 10 years. My wife Gail is an active volunteer at Raymond Library and Elementary School where my daughter Jennifer attends second grade.

I have been in banking for 27 years beginning as a teller in 1977 at a small savings bank. For the past nine years, I’ve worked for the Evergreen Credit Union as President & CEO serving residents from Portland to Bridgton. Our branch offices are located in Naples, Windham, and new location in Portland on Riverside Street next to Home Depot.

I have a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts and obtained a Masters Degree in Finance from Bentley College in 1994.

I am excited about Raymond’s future and wish to be in integral part of its budget planning process. I feel my experience in financial services gives me the technical skills for the budget committee but more importantly the customer service experience to represent the interests of the majority of Raymond Residents.

School Committee Candidates

Roger Ginn

As a 20 year resident of Raymond whose last child has finished with college basketball, I am looking to give back to the Raymond community my time and expertise by running for the Raymond School Committee.

As we move into the 21st century, we see an ever-expanding global economy which will require our children to maximize their skills and abilities. Along with this, we are faced with tight financial restraints. Special education is taking an ever-increasing share of the budget and special education regulations are changing. There is an increase in the testing and assessment required to measure our children’s learning. I believe that I have the expertise and background to serve the Raymond community and our children in a manner which can move the Raymond schools into the future.

My experience with the Raymond schools started with my 3 youngest children going through Jordan Small School. I have always felt fortunate that they had the opportunity to start their educational careers in Raymond. I have always believed that their education in Raymond was at the core of their successful educational experience. Many of the teachers and staff continue to educate the children of Raymond.

I have worked as a psychologist for 35 years. I have worked with children and their families. I have served as a psychological consultant to area schools and have been directly involved with the special education system. I have taught child & adolescent psychology, educational psychology as well as tests & measurement. Additionally, I have served on a multi-disciplinary team which provided consultation to the Department of Human Services and was on the board of directors of Big Brothers & Big Sisters for six years, serving as board president for two years.

In addition to my own teaching experience, education has been a long-term part of my life. My mother was a teacher in Portland for many years. My wife is a former teacher and now works for the Maine Education Association. Now my oldest son is working with special education students.

I ask for your support on May 20! I am committed to ensuring that the children of Raymond have an opportunity to get the best possible education that Raymond can responsibly afford. Our children are our future and we owe it to them to prepare them for the challenges of the 21st century. I believe that my experiences and expertise on the School Committee will offer you all a voice of knowledge and reason.

Mary Guiseley

My name is Mary Guiseley, and I am running for school board in the town of Raymond. I have been a resident of Raymond for over 15 years, and have lived in the lakes region area for over 33 years. I live with my husband David, who is owner and optometrist of Gray Family Vision Center in Gray, and two children Jackie and Aaron, both in the Raymond School District. Over seven years ago, I established an adoption service call Connections/ A Hugs Connection, Inc., and have helped over 411 adoptive parents find their families. Truly a rewarding business. I am a volunteer at the school, Maine Special Olympics, coach for this year’s outstanding team for Odyssey of the Mind, March of Dimes and help establish Spirit of Adoption, a parent and family support system. I am a graduate of Westbrook College which is now University of New England in Portland.

Over the past several years I have witnessed an unsettling transition in the school board that now exist. It has always been my understanding that a school board member is the voice of the people, not the administration, and after attending school board meetings, I can clearly see that it is not the case. I have heard repeatedly members of the community and staff of the school district; either asks that certain changes, contracts, or much needed staff stay on in the district, only to be turned to deaf ears. I do realize that establishing a school budget is a monumental task, however, the element of what the people of Raymond truly want, seems to be lost. I see no diversity in this

school board. Being a mother of a special needs child, and a Tran racial child, I see no type of representation or experience in this areas, and have noticed with the down sizing of special needs services, i.e.: Special Needs director, social services, etc. that clearly the school board is showing their lack of knowledge and understanding. I will be a voice of the people, should I be elected to this position, and look forward to your vote in hopes of serving on the Raymond School board.

Jeri Keane

I have had the privilege of serving on the Raymond School Board for the past 5 years. During that time, the new elementary school was completed and opened, the middle school was renovated and opened. There were a number of retirements and resignations, new faculty and staff have arrived, and we hired a new superintendent. Whew!! In addition to these changes, a number of state and federal mandates have challenged our children and staff. I am proud to say they have been met with the hard work and commitment of all involved. So why am I running for the board for a third term?

Our school department has come so far in meeting the many expectations put upon it by the state and federal governments, as well as our parents, children and taxpayers. But it still has a way to go. I believe I can be a positive contributor to this journey. We need to balance the needs of our children with the needs of the taxpayers of our town. I believe I can build on the 5 years of experience I’ve had so far as a board member and continue to support the excellence that is the Raymond School Department. I look forward to that opportunity.

Frank McDermott

My name is Frank McDermott and I am a 38 year resident of Raymond. Over that time I have held a number of teaching and administrative positions in the school system as well as served on the school board for 6 years. Currently I am a member of the Budget / Finance Committee and have also served on a number of other committees and local boards.

I am seeking one of the open seats on the Raymond School Board. As you know our community will face added pressure from the legislature to consolidate our local schools with a much bigger system because some believe that larger systems bring an economy of scale that will make the cost of education go down and in turn lower taxes. With over 40 years in education I feel that I have the experience, tempered with much first hand knowledge of the Raymond school system that will help to assure that we maintain as much local control as possible, if we are forced to become part of a larger system.

Both Federal and State legislation has impacted all school systems in Maine but it has impacted the smaller ones to a much greater extent. The ability to act and react to these mandates is hindered by the size of our system. As the board acts to reduce costs, the situation is stressed even more. Raymond must decide soon on a direction. Does it want to remain independent and chart its own course when it comes to its children, or does it want to give up local control and become a part of a much larger system where local influence will be diminished. If Raymond decides to retain local control of its schools It must be able to walk a fine line that assures the local taxpayers that it is getting “the most bang for its buck” but on the other hand provide the resources that are needed to give our children a first class education that they both need and deserve.

One of Raymond’s best educational features is the ability of its families to choose the secondary school that best fits the needs of its children. As we all know each child is unique and what serves one well may not serve another. Being able to choose the right school for each of our children is very unique to only a few communities in our state.It has served us well and could continue to serve us well in the foreseeable future. Some would have you believe that this unique feature costs the town more than it should but the airing of the facts will not support that idea.

Betty and I have had the opportunity to have all of our five children educated in this wonderful community. We

only wish that our grandchildren were able to have the same experience.

I would consider it a honor to once again serve on the Raymond School Board and for that reason I ask for your vote.

Teresa Sadak

My name is Teresa Sadak and I have lived in Raymond for 15 years. I have two children, Ben 11 and Colleen 9. My husband and I moved to Raymond because it was a great community and the school systems were outstanding. I am currently and have been involved with many organizations. I am a co-leader of my daughter’s Girl Scout Troop; I was the President of Raymond Baseball/ Softball for three years; I coached my daughter’s softball team for three years; I am co-coach for my daughter’s Odyssey of the Mind team; I was Vice-President for the Board of Director’s for the Raymond Extended Day Program; I volunteer at the schools; and I run a daycare out of my home.

I am running for school board because I believe in providing the children of Raymond with everything they need for the future. I believe this can be done in a fiscally responsible way if the school’s budget focuses primarily on the children and their needs. If I am elected to the school board, I will improve communication between parents, teachers and school board. The children need to feel important and valued. They are the future of this town and we must plan for that future very carefully.

In closing, if elected, I will work to make the Raymond School Board more child, teacher, parent and community centered while being fiscally responsible for all Raymond taxpayers.

Lions Club Hosts Candidates Evening

The Raymond Lions Club is hosting a Candidates Evening on Monday, May 2nd, at the Jordan-Small Middle School for all candidates in the town’s upcoming election.

All voters are invited to hear the views of candidates and have the opportunity to ask pertinent questions before casting their votes. We plan on starting at 7pm and will follow this agenda:

- ✓ Each candidate will give an opening statement limited to 3 minutes.
- ✓ The session will then be opened up to questions from the audience. This portion will end at 8:45 or when there are no more questions, whichever comes earlier.
- ✓ Each candidate, in reverse order of opening statements, will give closing remarks limited to 1.5 minutes.

The Raymond Lions believe that an informed voter will make the best choice for the Town of Raymond. We urge you to plan to be there. This is your opportunity to make your voice heard by, and your views known to, those who will be elected to leadership positions in Raymond. Their actions will affect all of us.

Editorial Policy

The Raymond Road Runner has an informal policy endorsed by the Selectmen with respect to editorial commentary, which is that it is not usually allowed. When a question arises about content, the Town Manager is consulted. If the Town Manager is unable to resolve the question, then the content is brought to the Selectmen.

In the past we have had only a few articles that were questionable. Recently, however, there have been several articles submitted that were clearly editorials and so will not appear here in the Road Runner.

However, we do appreciate the need for and value of forums where citizens can express concerns. Among these, there is a website which has no connection with Town government: http://www.raymondmainesfuture.org . We will direct your editorial commentary to this site, or you may post your comments there yourselves.

Governor Signs Turkey Permit Legislation

LD 1456 was signed by the Governor which entitles everyone who submitted a State Turkey Permit by the deadline to hunt turkeys this year. This means that 23,951 turkey hunters could be out hunting during Turkey Season A, which is May 2 to June 4. Beginning in 2006, there will be no lottery for the permits, and everyone who applies will get a permit.

Those hunters who were not selected in February will get a letter from the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and will have to pay for their permit directly to the Augusta headquarters which will be explained in the letter.

Hunters must have a big game hunting license and pay \$13 for a turkey permit.

Raymond Veterans Committee

With the prospects of the Town of Raymond receiving the roadside park near Panther Run on Route 302, the Town Manager, the Selectmen and a few veterans have been studying the feasibility of placing a Veterans Memorial in that location.

What we are looking for now is input from the residents of Raymond about that idea and that location. We are also looking for volunteer veterans to help steer this committee. We need to do some planning. We need to coordinate with the various town agencies and possibly the State. We need to discuss fund raising strategies. We need to get input from the residents about a design concept.

As we progress we will have reports in the *Road Runner* and possibly at a public hearing.

If you have any interest in this committee and this project, please call Louise Lester at the town office. Howard Stiles is acting as committee chairperson at this time. We need veteran volunteers for the committee. Again, please call Louise at the town office and give her your name.

With our Armed Forces currently engaged all over the world, it is a fitting time for those of us who have served to come together to form this committee in order to place an appropriate monument to honor all Raymond residents that serve or have served to protect this great country of ours.

State Of Maine Unclaimed Property List

Unclaimed Property consists of money and other personal assets that are considered lost or abandoned when an owner cannot be located after a specified period of time. It includes checking accounts, certificates of deposit, over payments, gift certificates, paid-up life insurance policies, unpaid wages, commissions, uncashed checks, death benefits, dividends, insurance payments, money orders, refunds, savings accounts, stocks and contents of safe deposit boxes. Unclaimed Property does not include real estate, animals or vehicles. To view this list for Raymond, go to <http://www.raymondmaine.org/government/services/unclaimed.htm>.

From The Tax Collector’s Office

The second half of this year’s taxes was due April 30th. If you didn’t receive a bill or are paying after that date, please contact the tax collector at 655-4742. Any balance left unpaid on June 30th, 2005, in addition to any previous years’ taxes, will be listed in the 2005 Town Report.

Sexual Offenders and Guns

By: Senator Bill Diamond

As the Senate Chairman of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Legislative Committee, I, along with my committee, have the privilege of overseeing the operations of the Maine State Police and all of the County Sheriff Departments. Our committee also has jurisdiction over the Department of Corrections which includes county jails, the state prison, Long Creek (former Youth Center in South Portland) and the many other areas of corrections.

Our committee holds public hearings on some of the most sensitive and emotional issues facing the legislature. For example, all legislation dealing with sexual offenders, including issues pertaining to the victims of sexual abuse as well as those who perpetrate those horrific crimes, come under our purview.

My committee must make decisions and recommendations relating to the legislation which sets penalties for those who are convicted of sexual offenses. Like other states, Maine has a sexual offender registry which lists the names and photos of registered sexual offenders including listing their addresses and places of occupation.

Hard core sex offenders leave lifelong scars on their victims and the state has to make sure that the proper penalties match the crime. Recently a woman testified before our committee that she was raped at age ten and her perpetrator left her for dead in the woods. She learned just last fall that he had been released from prison and was actually living only a few miles from her home. You can imagine her fear and desperation upon learning that

Nine Dogs Missing

As you might have seen in the Animal Control Officer Report for March and April, there was a report that nine dogs were missing from one area of Raymond. As you can imagine, the families who owned those dogs were extremely worried about their pet’s condition and location. There was a scare that something or someone had taken the dogs.

Our Animal Control Officer Don Alexander investigated over a period of three days trying to find the dogs. His work and concern was manifest in that all but one dog was found.

news.

We have legislation under consideration now which would mandate that local law enforcement agencies inform neighbors, local schools and day care centers when a convicted sexual offender moves into the area.

Other legislative bills which my committee considered includes one which would require a ten day waiting period for anyone under the age of 22 who wanted to purchase a rife or other long gun from a private seller. The bill was written by a mother whose son committed suicide with a rifle he purchased while in a suicidal state of mind. She was trying to find a way to avoid such a tragedy from occurring again.

Our committee spent many hours thoroughly deliberating every aspect of this bill in an effort to find the best solution to the problem of teen suicide. In the end the committee voted 10 - 3 to require anyone under the age of 18 to get parental permission before they could purchase a long gun from a private seller. Currently licensed gun dealers can only sell long guns to those 18 years of age and older. So the committee recommended making the law for private sellers and licensed dealers consistent.

In the case of this particular bill the committee worked to get beyond all of the personal emotions in order to write a bill that will protect the rights of lawful gun owners and at the same time address the teen suicide problem.

If you have questions, thoughts or opinions regarding any of these sexual offender and gun issues please feel free to contact me. Your thoughts would be most appreciated.

The way that your pets can be helped in situations like this is to have them licensed, so that the town has a record of who they belong to and which veterinarian takes care of them. Without tags, dogs cannot be traced and in Raymond are taken to the Animal Refuge League in Westbrook for holding until their owners call to claim them. Mr. Alexander also suggests that you have a clear photograph of your pet, so that he and/or the Animal Refuge League can identify the dog with your ownership.

It is also a fact that the fees for licensing dogs help pay for the services of the Animal Control Officer and the State Department of Animal Welfare. Without these two offices, our pets would be without protection and care when they are away from their owners.

Animal Control Report March-April

March 12	Dog bite	Dog quarantine in New Hampshire
March 13	Barking Dogs	Verbal warning
March 17	Dog running in road	Gone on arrival
March 20	Dog at large, broke chain	Returned to owner
March 21	Stray cat pick up	
March 21	Stray cat to Animal Refuge League	
March 23	Loose horses	Returned to barn
March 24	Request information on kennels	
March 24	Request law on cats	
March 25	Barking dogs	
March 28	Dog running loose with owner	
March 28	Dog broke chain	
March 28	Retrieved lost dog	Returned to owner
March 29	Dog at large	Written warning
March 31	Dog at large	Owner found
April 4	Dog license	
April 5	Dog license	
April 6	Dog at large	Written warning
April 6	Stray dog	Owner picked up
April 8-9	Animal Control School	
April 13	Dog at large	Gone on arrival
April 13	Report of nine missing dogs	
April 13	Lost dog	Returned to owner
April 14	Investigating missing dogs	
April 15	Investigating missing dogs	
April 16	Investigating missing dogs	All but one back home
April 16	Dog at large	Verbal warning
April 17	Dog at large	Gone on arrival
April 17	Dog bite	10 day quarantine
April 18	Request for information	

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Fundraisers

Mark your calendars for some awesome events:

May 7 at 6pm

Murder Mystery Dinner

Center Stage Dance Theatre (old Christ Chapel on Main Street, next to phone company)

Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, dessert, BYOB

\$15 per person/\$25 couple

Call Teresa Sadak 655-5411 for tickets

May 13 at 6pm

Silent Auction/Raffle

Raymond Elementary School

6pm – viewing of items

7pm – drawing of raffles

7:45pm – drawing of silent auctions

Tickets will be sold 6 for \$5, or \$1 individually

May 14 at 8am

Yard sale

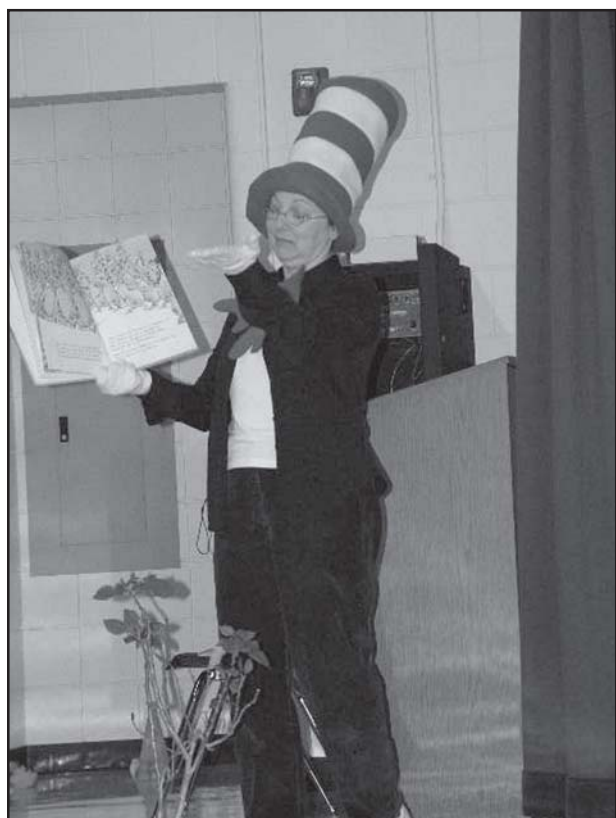
It's time to clean out your garages, attics, basements, and closets. Always wanted to weed things out and get organized. OM needs donations for their yard sale. Items

can be dropped off at Christ Chapel Church on Main Street (next to telephone company) on Wednesday, May 11, & Thursday, May 12, from 5:30 to 7:30 and Friday, May 13, from 9-11. Please call Teresa Sadak at 655-5411 if you would like anything picked up. We'll pick up one thing or a whole truck load.

While you are weeding things out for the yard sale, weed out all those cans and bottles too. If you cannot drop them off, please call Teresa Sadak and we will arrange for someone to pick them up.

Last, but not least, if you would just like to make a donation, please call Ellen VanHaasteren at 655-4282, Mary Guiseley at 627-7007 or Teresa Sadak at 655-5411.

To the right, the winning State of Maine Odyssey of the Mind, Division 1 team from Raymond



Deb Keef at the Dr. Seuss Party at the Raymond Village Library



Medical Corner

If you know someone with a medical condition that you think would be of interest to the general public, send me an e-mail (roadrunner@raymondmaine.org), and we will try to find an article to include in the *Road Runner*.

Celiac Disease

Celiac disease (CD) is a genetic disorder. In people with CD, eating certain types of protein, called gluten, sets off an autoimmune response that causes damage to the small intestine. This, in turn, causes the small intestine to lose its ability to absorb the nutrients found in food, leading to malnutrition and a variety of other complications. The offending protein, gluten, is found in wheat, barley, rye, and to a lesser extent, oats (WBRO). Related proteins are found in triticale, spelt, kamut.

Celiac Disease is:

- a genetic, inheritable disease.
- linked to genetically transmitted histocompatibility cell antigens.
- COMMON. Approximately 1 in 133 people have CD, however, only about 3% of these have been diagnosed. This means that there are over 2.1 million undiagnosed people with celiac disease in the United States.
- characterized by damage to the mucosal lining of the small intestine which is known as villous atrophy.
- responsible for the malabsorption of nutrients resulting in malnutrition.
- linked to skin blisters known as dermatitis herpetiformis (DH).
- not age-dependent. It may become active at any age.

Celiac Disease is NOT:

- simply a food allergy.
- an idiosyncratic reaction to food proteins (mediated by IgE).
- typified by a rapid histamine-type reaction (such as bronchospasm, urticaria, etc.).

The Damaging Proteins

The term “gluten” is, in a sense, a generic term for the storage proteins that are found in grains. In reality, each type of protein - gliadin in wheat, secalin in rye, hordein in barley, avenin in oats, zein in corn and oryzenin in rice - is slightly different from the others. The “gluten” in wheat, rye, barley, and in a much lower amount, oats, contains particular amino acid sequences that are harmful to persons with celiac disease. The damaging proteins are particularly rich in proline and glutamine (especially the amino acid sequences which are in the following orders: Pro-Ser-Gln-Gln and Gln-Gln-Gln-Pro). As peptides, some such as 33-MER, cannot be broken down any further. In people with celiac disease, 33-MER stimulates T-cells to produce antibodies. The antibodies, in turn, attack the villi in the small intestine, reducing their ability to absorb nutrients. It is important to note that these sequences are NOT found in the proteins of corn and rice.

The Nature of the Injury

The damage to the small intestine (the jejunum) caused by this disease is very slow to develop and is insidious. It is:

- almost certainly mediated by the immune

- system.
- associated with ANTIBODIES to gliadin, reticulin and/or endomysial (smooth muscle) proteins.
- probably not directly caused by the antibodies, though they may be signals for cell-mediated immunity.
- probably produced by the cellular immune system (T cells) - but only when gluten-type prolamins are present.
- reversible, in most cases, to completely normal bowel function, if the injurious protein is excluded from the diet.

How Does One “Catch” Celiac Disease?

Celiac disease cannot be “caught,” but rather the potential for CD may be in the body from birth. Its onset is not confined to a particular age range or gender, although more women are diagnosed than men. It is not known exactly what activates the disease, however three things are required for a person to develop CD:

- A genetic disposition: being born with the necessary genes. The Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) genes specifically linked to celiac disease are DR3, DQ2 and DQ8.
- A trigger: some environmental, emotional or physical event in one’s life. While triggering factors are not fully understood, possibilities include, but are not limited to adding solids to a baby’s diet, going through puberty, enduring a surgery or pregnancy, experiencing a stressful situation, catching a virus, increasing WBRO products in the diet, or developing a bacterial infection to which the immune system responds inappropriately.
- A diet: containing WBRO, or any of their derivatives.

What are the Symptoms of Celiac Disease?

The symptoms of celiac disease (CD) vary so widely among patients that there is no such thing as a “typical celiac.” The amount of intestinal damage that has occurred and the length of time nutrient absorption has been abnormal seem to be the factors that determine the type and severity of symptoms experienced. It is interesting to note that some people with CD report no symptoms at all.

A. The Patient’s Physical State

What are the symptoms? How long have they been present? How often do they occur?

- Abdominal cramping/bloating
- Abdominal distention
- Acidosis
- Appetite (Increased to the point of craving)
- Back pain (Such as a result of collapsed lumbar vertebrae)
- Constipation
- Decreased ability to clot blood
- Dehydration
- Diarrhea (See Stools below)
- Edema
- Electrolyte depletion
- Energy loss
- Fatigue
- Feet (Reduced fat padding)
- Flatus (Passing gas)
- Gluten ataxia

- Mouth sores or cracks in the corners
- Muscle cramping (Especially in the hands and legs)
- Night blindness
- Skin (Very dry)
- Stools (Loose? Hard? Small? Large? Foul smelling? Floating? Clay, Light tan or Gray-colored? Highly rancid? Frothy?)
- Tongue (Smooth or geographic - looks like different continents)
- Tooth enamel defects
- Weakness
- Weight loss

B. The Patient’s Emotional State

What is the patient’s emotional state? Is it consistent throughout the day? When and for how long do the symptoms occur?

- Depression
- Disinterested in normal activities
- Irritable
- Mood changes
- Unable to concentrate

C. Additional Conditions

What else is involved? Other diseases? Other organs?

- Amenorrhea
- Iron-deficiency anemia
- Bone disease
- Hyperparathyroidism

D. Symptoms in Children

How is the child developing?

- Slowly
- Not gaining weight
- Losing weight

Under age three:

- Growth failure
- Diarrhea
- Projectile vomiting
- Abdominal bloating/distention

Older children:

- Crankiness
- Difficulty concentrating
- Irritability
- Personality changes
- Poor memory

How is Celiac Disease Diagnosed?

When working with a physician to diagnose and/or confirm celiac disease (CD), three major steps are taken. First, a thorough physical examination is conducted, including a series of blood tests, sometimes referred to as the Celiac Blood Panel. Second, a duodenal biopsy is performed with multiple samples from multiple locations in the small intestine. And third, the gluten-free diet is implemented. When the patient shows a positive response to the diet - symptoms subside and the small intestine returns to its normal, healthy state - the diagnosis of CD is confirmed.

(NOTE: To ensure the most accurate and timely diagnosis, the gluten-free diet should be implemented only after the first two steps have been completed.)

Summary

Celiac disease is life-long and currently incurable. The only known treatment at this time is strict adherence to a gluten-free lifestyle, free of WBRO.

This article was reprinted with permission from the Celiac Sprue Association. Their website is www.csaceliacs.org.

Raymond Village Community Church, A United Church Of Christ, Hosts Annual Fundraiser

On Saturday, June 25, 2005, the Raymond Village Community Church will host its annual fundraiser, which will include a flea market, silent auction, snack bar, raffles, a plant sale and homemade baked goods. The event begins at 8am and will close at 2pm, rain or shine. The event will be located at the Raymond Village Community Church at 27 Main Street in Raymond.

Community businesses and organizations are encouraged to rent a table at the flea market for \$15 for the day, or a six-foot space for \$10 for the day. Call 655-6755 or 655-3627 for more information about table rentals. The flea market will be held from 8am to 2pm in the parking

lot of the Raymond Village Community Church. Renting a table or space is a great way for businesses to reach new customers or for individuals to sell their creations to their neighbors in the Lakes Region.

Many area businesses have contributed gift certificates, and items to the silent auction. The auction will close promptly at 1pm, so be sure to place your bids early and often to ensure you win. The highest bidder at the close of the auction wins the item. Beginning June 15th, a list of auction items will be included on the church website at www.raymondmaine.org/religion/raymond_village_community_church.htm.

Raymond Team Forming For “Relay For Life: Help Fight Cancer!” June 3-4, 2005

Relay for Life is 18 hours of fun for a great cause - joining the American Cancer Society’s fight against cancer. Raymond belongs to a Healthy Maine Partnerships coalition called Communities Promoting Health. We’re putting together a team of 8-15 people to take turns walking around the Falmouth Middle School Track. For more information about participating in this special event, contact Lori Rand at 655-4277 or lrاند@prexar.com.

Casco-Raymond Historical Society
“Question Corner”: Egypt Road

This road crosses the head of Little Sebago Lake and connects Webb's Mills Road (Route 85) with the North Raymond Road. Its name is associated with a strange and calamitous change in the weather pattern that occurred shortly after the close of the War of 1812. Allen and Pilsbury in "Methodism in Maine," published in 1887, write of this event as follows: "The glad news of peace had come to cheer the people. Great discouragement, however, was caused by the cold season that year, by which the crops, to a large extent, were destroyed. A frost is said to have occurred every month of the year. Many farmers disposed of their farms at a great sacrifice, and removed to the West."

During the year referred to, 1816, known as "the year of no summer," corn crops over a wide area around Gray matured in only one place. This was on "the mountain," so called, the hill on the northeast side of Collyer's Branch between East Gray and North Gray. There, exposure of the hillside to the sun during clear days and the drainage of cold air down the valley on cold nights combined to save some crops from the frosts. The next year there was a great shortage of seed corn, and farmers from neighboring towns came to Gray to buy it. Some of them came from East Raymond by the previously little traveled route across the head of the lake, and recalling the journey to Egypt in Biblical times to buy corn, they started referring to the trip as a journey to Egypt and calling the road used the "Egypt Road." Later, the area on either side of this road became known as Egypt, and those who lived there were called "Egyptians."

From the Historical Records and Recollections of Gray, Maine, Volume I, by George T. Hill.

Our next meeting will be at the Casco Library on May 16, at 7pm.

Kids 2 Kids Mentoring Finishes 2nd Year

The Kids 2 Kids mentoring program matches 7th and 8th grade mentors with 3rd and 4th grade Little Buddies for after-school activities once a week. We are very proud of the commitment all the students have shown this school year. Our mentors have done a terrific job building leadership skills, working as a team and really taking responsibility for their Little Buddies, including planning activities and preparing and serving snacks. For the younger buddies, the time their mentors spent with them has truly meant a lot. Both mentors and Little Buddies

have enjoyed their special friendships, and many talked about staying in touch. We are hoping to welcome our 7th and 3rd graders back to the program next year. We would also like to commend both our program facilitators, Betsy Stout and Suzanne Cobleigh, for a job well done. If you would like further information about the Kids 2 Kids program, please contact Lori or Christina at our RES office at 655-8672 x 107, or by email at mentor@raymondmaine.org.



"Mentors and Little Buddies" create a web illustrating how they are connected with one another through their experiences."



Pack 800 News

Pack 800 Cub Scouts had a fun filled evening at RES with skits, awards, and special Crossing Over ceremonies. Crossing Over is when a scout has earned the right to move up to the next level of scouting. This is achieved by completing many different activities and learning new skills. It is a moment in a scout's life that is very meaningful, as it represents accomplishments as an individual, as a member of a den, and as part of a pack. Well done, Pack 800!

There is nothing dull about being a member of Pack 800 scouts! This year's Spring Trip brought these young men to Norlands in Topsham, Maine, where everyone learned about life long ago. This was a firsthand look at life on a farm using good old fashioned muscle and know how. And if that was not enough to tire out the guys, they headed off for some bowling before experiencing a night of rest in the gymnasium at UMF.

After waking and having a good breakfast, the scouts were off again for some more fun. They were brought back into modern times with a fun game of Frisbee golf! Everyone had a great weekend and can't wait to see what Pack 800 is up to next!



Panther Pond Association Notes

By: Ben Severn, PPA President

BAD NEWS:

Milfoil Infestation Apparently On The Increase

Hardly a week went by last summer without an article in the Bridgton, Raymond, Windham, or even *Portland Press Herald* papers about the growing problem of milfoil infestations in Dingley Brook and Bayview Estates in Sebago, Songo Locks, and Little Sebago (not to mention the Eurasian milfoil discovery on the coast in Scarborough and that known to exist in Panther Run below the dam on the 302 side toward Sebago Lake). Pictures of lakes infested with milfoil have begun circulating. The picture of a dog swimming through milfoil is particularly gruesome and foreboding—see next page.

Non-Point Source Pollution Threat—Insidious Runoff.

The other major threat to water quality, and one that has been with us for years, is the runoff from the land into of our lakes and ponds. In many ways, the pollution threat from runoff is more insidious than the milfoil threat because, among other things, it isn’t as obvious to the eye as milfoil.

GOOD NEWS

People, Organizations Intensify Actions to Control Milfoil

During the same period, the organized milfoil pulls and the laying of benthic barriers to kill the milfoil in Sebago, Songo Locks, and Little Sebago are clear indicators that individuals, private businesses, non-profit groups, and the DEP and local municipalities are working together as never before and at a much heightened level of overall effort. That said, equally clear is the need to increase the cooperative effort of all interested parties and to eventually develop a more formalized approach to controlling and hopefully eradicating milfoil and other invasive plants that threaten the recreational and economic benefits that our pristine lakes and ponds have freely bestowed upon us for so long.

For Panther Ponders, the most positive action over the past twelve months probably has been the commitment by Port Harbor Marine, owner of Jordan Bay Marina, to bring the existing milfoil infestation under control in the Jordan Bay Marina canal. In the spring of 2004, Jordan Bay Marina covered the cost of the divers used to pull the milfoil and help lay the benthic barriers. Just this past May 20th, Jordan Bay covered the cost of the one diver used and made its own staff available to lay the benthic barrier (for various reasons no milfoil pulling was done this year). At a meeting in February 2005 between RWPA, DEP, and Port Harbor Marine/Jordan Bay representatives, Mike Soucy of Port Harbor Marine clearly committed his firm to the containment/eradication effort. It was indeed a very positive meeting of enlightened exchanges between corporate executives and environmentalists.

Pride and Vigilance

So we can stop for a moment, pat ourselves on the back, and know that we have made progress in the battle to contain and eradicate invasive plants, especially milfoil. Yet success, measured by at least the containment of the invasive plants in our lakes and ponds, is a number of years off. As I have written in an earlier note, as we take actions that move us toward containment, we must be ever vigilant by careful inspection of boats and trailers and fishing gear as they move from one body of water to another. To paraphrase Jimmy Dean when he first began selling his sausages, if we do not accept this challenge and obligation to protect our lakes and ponds, one day Mother Nature may well begin whacking us up the side of the head with a sack of wet milfoil harvested from these very bodies of water we presumably hold so dear to our hearts.

VERY GOOD NEWS

Panther Pond Conservation Project Begins

In the March PPA Notes, we announced that PPA had received a grant from the Maine DEP and US EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act for the Panther Pond Conservation Project- Phase I. We are proud to announce that the \$83,770 (\$43,945 federal/\$39,825 match) 319 grant funds are now available. The following section briefly describes the project. Noralee Raymond, the Executive

Director of RWPA, will be the Project Manager. Without Noralee’s guidance, grant writing skills, gentle prodding, and vision, we never would have arrived at this point. We now look to her to guide the Project Steering Committee and all of us through these next two years.

- Volunteers Needed
- Financial Help Available
- Free Technical Assistance
- Plants for Panther Pond Property Owners
- Workshops - Constructing Common Conservation Practices
- Cruise the Buffers – Educational Pontoon Ride Around the Lake

Over the next two years, Panther Pond watershed residents will have the opportunity to participate in the Panther Pond Conservation Project to reduce erosion problems in their watershed. Financial assistance and free technical assistance will be made available. Workshops will be offered to help landowners learn conservation techniques to use on their own property. We estimate that funding will be available to fix 42 of the 84 polluting sites identified in the Panther Pond Watershed Survey.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are also needed on a site by site basis for planting, digging infiltration areas, spreading mulch, or building infiltration steps and water diverters. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Noralee Raymond at 207-671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org.

Financial Help Available

The Watershed Survey identified twenty-two sites within the Panther Pond watershed that can qualify to have the grant pay a portion of road or driveway repair, bank and path stabilization, and vegetated buffer plantings. Several of these sites have already been selected based on the level of impact to the lake and the landowners’ desire to participate in the project. As we have continually stressed, the recommendations are simply that, recommendations. No landowner has to take any action. Our hope, of course, is that most landowners will embrace the proposed solutions. Since participation is voluntary, we are still seeking nominations for driveway, shoreline, and private road sites.

Through the grant, the landowner or road association will receive up to 50% of the cost of the entire project. The remaining 50% can be matched either in cash, materials or labor. If you are interested in this financial assistance, call Noralee Raymond to get your name on the list of possible sites. Using the Watershed Survey

analysis, the Project Steering Committee will decide which sites have the greatest impact to the lake and thus which will receive funding.

Free Technical Assistance

Do you have a lawn that runs down to the edge of the lake? Does your gravel road or driveway wash out every year? The RWPA staff can visit your property to give you ideas for these and other common damaging problems. Contact Noralee Raymond at 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org to schedule a time this spring for someone to visit your property with you. We will provide you with a free packet of materials specifically designed to help you fix your problems. Any recommendations we make are voluntary to you.

Plants For Panther Pond Property Owners

Twenty matching grants (up to \$100) will be offered toward the purchase of plants for buffers or erosion control materials (erosion control mulch, water bars) to those landowners receiving technical assistance. Here is how the grants work.

- Contact Noralee Raymond at 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org
- She will visit your property to help you select plants that are suited to your sun and soil conditions or recommend a conservation practice.
- The grant will split the cost with you – up to \$100
- The plants or materials can be delivered directly to your house
- You plant the shrubs. This will enhance your property and protect the lake.

Workshops – Constructing Common Conservation Practices

At least one workshop will be held annually to demonstrate best methods for planting shoreline vegetation and the construction of common conservation practices. Workshop participants will take an active part in conservation as they help plant native plants, install walkways and mulch, and construct roof drip line trenches or gutter drywells.

Cruise The Buffers

A guided tour by pontoon will be held to visit sites that were fixed through the project toward the end of this summer. A free packet of materials will be offered to all participants. Join your friends and neighbors for an educational boat ride around the lake.

Keep an eye out for advertisements in the *Road Runner* and PPA’s website, or contact Noralee Raymond today to get on the mailing list for workshop and tour announcements.

Yes, I am interested in helping protect our lake!

Fill out and return to RWPA, PO Box 1243, Raymond, Maine 04071 or call Noralee Raymond at 671-3329 or e-mail lakes@raymondmaine.org.

Free Technical Assistance – for any erosion or runoff problems. Assistance is available for free on a first come, first served basis.

Financial Help – cost sharing for roads, driveways, paths, and vegetative buffer plantings. Sites will be selected by the steering committee.

Workshops and Tours – sign up to be notified of workshop and tour dates to learn how to identify and fix erosion problems.

Volunteer Opportunities – for guiding the project, assisting on project sites (planting, spreading mulch, and building water bars).

Name:_____

Location:_____

Mailing Address:_____

E-mail:_____

Phone & best time to reach you:_____

Brief description of problem:_____

Great Outdoor Summer Job! Lakes Protection Rangers Needed

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 can not 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 is 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

Showing Your House For Sale

By: Mary Jane Vandersluis & Cathy Dodge

Ideally, we like the properties we market to look spotless, but even the most impeccable housekeepers find it difficult to keep the house in prime showing condition all the time. Keeping the beds perpetually made, dishes washed, bathrooms spotless and the closets neat is a lot of work. Is it worth it? It is if you want to get your house sold in a reasonable amount of time for top dollar. Buyers often see normal clutter, and what registers is “this place hasn’t been maintained.” They see a bathtub ring and think “plumber’s bills.” They see lint under the refrigerator and grease on the electric range and imagine having to replace all of the appliances. It isn’t very logical, but people are often less than logical when buying a house. When making their final selection, they may be going on emotion and adrenaline rather than imagination. You can help by minimizing the amount of imagination they will need to fall in love with your home!

This dog is swimming in milfoil. The most insidious strains of this plant are not yet in Maine, but have destroyed lakes in all but three states. After infestation there is no known remedy.



Only PREVENTION can save Raymond’s lakes and ponds. You can help!

Parrot Feather is a type of non-native milfoil that has spread to over 30 states, including as far northeast as Connecticut. With its dense mats of vegetation, it can completely cover the surface of shallow water bodies, severely impacting all uses of the water body – recreation, water movement, and wildlife habitat. Although Maine may not have Parrot Feather yet, it does have two other invasive milfoils (Variable-leaf milfoil and Eurasian milfoil) that have infested lakes in Maine. Variable-leaf milfoil has been discovered in 19 water bodies in Maine. Eurasian milfoil was recently discovered in one water body in Scarborough, Maine.

Can this “Foreign Invasion” be stopped?

With a little effort, you can prevent non-native milfoil and other invasive plants 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.
- 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. 207-671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org or RWPA
PO Box 1243
Raymond, Maine 04071.

Craig Gerry Receives Contractor Of The Year Award

Dick Wood, Chair of Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District, presents Craig Gerry with the Contractor of the Year Award at the District’s 2005 annual meeting on April 20th. The award is reserved for someone who has shown unequaled conservation ethics thru demonstrated concern for natural resource protection and pollution prevention of Cumberland County’s natural resources.



School Budget Reflects Efficiencies and EPS Funding Model

Continued from page 1

- A change and consolidation of the K-8 administrative model that includes
 - .6 Superintendent
 - K-8 Principal
 - K-8 Assistant Principal
 - .5 Special Services Director

This represents the reduction of one of two building principals to be replaced by one K-8 principal and one K-8 assistant principal. It also represents the reduction of a .5 Special Services Director. This reduction represents a savings of \$54,000.

- A change in the Early Intervention Home School Coordinator and the reduction of Social Work services to include
 - .3 educational technician
 - 1.3 social worker

This represents the reduction of the Home School Coordinator’s position to a .3 educational technician and the reduction in K-8 social work services from 1.7 to 1.3. A Special Education Utilization Review in May 2003 provided data that would support this reduction. This reduction represents a savings of \$61,835.

- The Raymond School Department will participate in the Sebago Alliance with Windham, Gorham, Westbrook, Scarborough, Cape Elizabeth and S.A.D. #6. This Alliance will explore the regionalization of school services and other “efficiencies” that can be addressed with area systems.

- The Raymond School Department continues to work closely with the town to support the “One Raymond” initiative. The superintendent and town manager continue to explore and implement cost saving measures and efficiencies. Longer-range planning is currently underway for possibly combining positions.
- We continue to expand the volunteer program. This year to date, volunteers have provided over 900 hours of service to our school community.

The FY 2005-2006 budget is the first to be impacted by Essential Programs and Services (EPS), the state’s new basis for school funding. The Essential Programs and Services model is based upon years of research and data gathering and analysis from Maine’s high performing cost effective school units. EPS is designed to insure that all schools have the programs and resources that are essential for all students to have an equitable opportunity to achieve Maine’s Learning Results. The EPS model provides a basis for adequacy and greater equity in the funding of K-12 education because it is cost driven rather than expenditure driven. A more detailed warrant article will be included at our Town Meeting on May 21, 2005, that reads as follows:

ARTICLE 18: To see what sum the Town of Raymond will raise and appropriate in additional local funds. The School Committee requests \$1,666,286 be raised, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$957,771.

The School Committee requests \$1,666,286.

The Budget Committee recommends \$1,666,286

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual Debt Service payment on non-state funded portion of the school construction project. The amount of \$957,771 which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model of \$7,525,683 for grades Kindergarten to Grade 12 is explained by the anticipated cost in tuition for Grades 9 –12, Technology, Transportation, and Special Education Costs.

An additional voting procedure is required this year on the specified amount that the proposed article exceeds EPS defined costs for tuition, Special Education, transportation and technology. For additional information, please visit our website to view the Commissioner of Education, Susan Gendron’s, PowerPoint presentation on the Essential Programs and Services model that was presented at our Raymond Public Budget Hearing on March 2, 2005.

Continued on next page

The Sahana Project And R.I.S.E

R.I.S.E. has raised \$3,500 to date. This is a significant amount of money, but still a long way from our goal of \$15,000 or even the goal of \$5,000, the cost of paying for rebuilding just one home in the village of Kalamitiya. To date, the Sahana Project has raised enough funds for 7 of the 31 homes. The villagers worked together to design their new village, clustering homes by families and other community considerations. American volunteer architect students gave assistance. The Sahana Project is also 1/3 of the way towards the goal for the community center, a project taken on by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Waterville, the Sisters of St. John’s Parish in Winslow and the Congregational Church in Rangeley. In addition to the state’s colleges, many other organizations and towns have also joined this effort, including Kennebunk and the Fishing Families of Harpswell.

To those from Raymond who have so generously given, a big thanks to you. Our new donors include Priscilla Barber, Aniko and Mik Pongratz, Fred and Cindy Masi, Diane Jeffrey, Scott and Chris Sutton, Dexter Dudley, Scott and Vicki Gordan, Richard and Judith Day, John and Theda Logan, Richard and Sharon Dodson, Belinda Hughes and Girl Scout Troop 148, Ellen Sullivan and Paul Wilcox, John and Lori Rand, Justin Sharaf, the Andersons, Nancy Crosby, Holly Mitchell Chapman and her wonderful bakers, and our anonymous donors.

Ru Freeman, the head of the Sahana Project, and Sri Lankan by birth, shares the following anecdote. It gives us all an insight into the warm and generous people we are trying to help. It is a story told to her by a firefighter from California who went to Sri Lanka as part of the first two rapid response teams from the US to be deployed there. He was interviewed on NPR, and he talked about what an amazing experience it was for him to meet the people there.

The firefighter recalls walking past derailed railway coaches (where more than 1,600 people died in the tsunami), and he came across a family sitting in the rubble of their home. They had set up a “stove” with some stones and were brewing tea. When they saw him coming up to them, the father of the family got up and walked over and shook Dennis’s hand and offered him a cup of tea. He was completely overwhelmed by this man because here

was someone who had nothing at all, and before Dennis could give him anything from the supplies he was carrying, he offered him a cup of tea. He was struck by the dignity and grace of this father.

Sri Lankans are very gracious and generous people. For instance, we don’t discuss money with each other, and the unwritten codes by which we live (we call these “reethi”) say that whoever has money spends it on whatever is needed by everybody. If a loan is needed, nobody ever asks that it be repaid. The understanding is that if you “have,” you share, and that if the person who “has” today were to need tomorrow, then whoever “has” then will help out. Sri Lankans will give the shirt off their backs to someone who needs it. I remember my brother missing

the wedding of one of his best friends because another of his friends needed to borrow his pair of shoes to go to his job as a security guard, and he could not refuse that request. If a group of Mainers were to some day go to Kalamitiya, there is no doubt that the people would take care of them and host them as best as they could.

If you would like to do a fundraiser on behalf of R.I.S.E., your help would be welcome. If you have time to make phone calls, contact Jessica Faye at the Raymond Florist. Please help us reach our goal of \$15,000, so that the families of Kalamitiya may once again have houses in which to live. Mail or drop off your donation made out to R.I.S.E. at Evergreen Credit Union, 785 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, Maine 04062. Thank you. R.I.S.E.

R.I.S.E. DONATION FORM

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

Name:_____

Telephone #:_____

Address:_____

Cell #:_____

Email:_____

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

School Budget Reflects Efficiencies and EPS Funding Model

Continued from previous page

Another factor that had to be considered with this budget is contract negotiations. Contract negotiations are currently underway with two groups: support staff and professional staff. The support staff contract being negotiated is the first for this newly formed bargaining unit. The professional staff contract being negotiated marks the end of a three-year contract.

Enrollment figures and projections are another piece of the budget puzzle. As enrollment declines in many surrounding areas, Raymond’s enrollment remains steady and/or increases.

Grade	FY 05-06 Projected	FY04-05	FY03-04	FY 02-03	FY 01-02
Kindergarten	57	58	59	55	50
Grade 1	56	58	60	51	52
Grade 2	59	66	57	64	53
Grade 3	66	59	63	64	58
Grade 4	57	72	68	64	53
Grade 5	70	71	65	57	75
Grade 6	71	68	57	72	54
Grade 7	68	66	74	55	67
Grade 8	66	75	60	71	61
Total K-8	570	593	563	553	523
Grade 9	72	55	74	63	60
Grade 10	67	71	64	62	65
Grade 11	76	70	58	59	61
Grade 12	70	61	54	60	47
Total 9-12	285	257	250	244	233
TOTAL	855	850	813	797	756

This budget for FY 2005-2006 represents a collaborative commitment to becoming more efficient without compromising our effectiveness. Further reductions would impact programs and positions. This budget reflects a dedication to excellence and continuous improvement. The entire school budget is available at our website.



Raymond Bicentennial shirt “sighting.” This one was photographed in Belize by Lisa Friedlander. If you have an “out of town sighting,” please send a copy to roadrunner@raymondmaine.org, and we will put it in the paper.

Troop Helps Troops

By Jamie Wiley, Troop 800 Scribe

On a cold morning in late February, members of troop 800 gathered at Sebago Lake to sell food for a good cause. Some were there as early as 4am! We did all of this for a great cause, the Support Our Troops program. To raise money for this important cause, the troop food booth and food sled sold three different types of breakfast sandwiches, hot cocoa and coffee, hot dogs, home made soups, cookies, whoopie pies, and other goodies. The

troop made a total of \$850 for this cause. And then a week later a small group of troop members visited the army building in Saco to present the check to a soldier’s wife who is in charge of the program. After the ceremony to present the check



the General that was in attendance lead us in the Scout Oath and then continued with the rank advancement ceremonies that the troops were gathered to take part in or see. The check presentation was very cool to see, and we hope that next year’s fishing derby earns just as much money, if not more, for another honorable charity.



Raymond Elementary School Report

By: Norma Richard, Pricipal

Thursday, April 14, was a wonderful evening at the Raymond Elementary School as we opened our classrooms and filled our hallways with samples of student work for our annual Academic Fair. I was delighted to see the number of families that attended Academic Fair together, and was so pleased to see so many parents and grandparents that evening. Learning is most effective when it is a shared experience between home and school. It is especially important for students to get clear messages from both families and teachers that school is important, and that it is their job right now to do their very best work in school. Thank you for sharing a fun evening with us and for your continuing support of our elementary school program.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY will be held on Friday, May 13, from 8:30 – 11:30am. This is always one of the highlights of our year, and I know that students appreciate and enjoy having their grandparents join

them in school on that day.

After a long, cold, wet winter we are enjoying a lovely spring. I want to remind all of our students to dress appropriately for school during the warmer temperatures that will be coming in May and June. Clothing should not be distracting or interfere with the learning environment at school. That is why I request that students wear shirts that are long enough to cover their bellies, and that shorts are long and baggy. I am especially concerned with unsafe shoes and sandals that are worn when the weather gets warmer. Students move daily throughout the building, and this includes climbing up and down stairs and going out for recess each day. I know that summer shoes and sandals are fun to wear, but they are unsafe in a school environment and can lead to serious injuries. Students should be wearing sneakers or sandals that have flat soles and back straps. I also want to remind students to be sure to have sneakers here on gym days so that they can fully participate in phys ed.

I want to thank the Raymond PTA for sponsoring Karen Montanaro's visit to RES. Ms. Montanaro conducted movement workshops for each of our third grade classes, and the students are still demonstrating many of the techniques she shared with them. The entire school had the pleasure of seeing Ms. Montanaro's performance on March 28. It was absolutely fascinating to watch her dance, move and portray a variety of characters in very different settings. I was delighted to participate in her final skit, The Soccer Game. It was a pleasure to share the stage with Ms. Montanaro, and I know that our students enjoyed our version of soccer. Thank you again, PTA, for your continuing support of fine arts programming at RES.

I had the pleasure of attending the April 9 performance of HONK at the Middle School. The production was fabulous! Mrs. Marilee Dunklee, Mrs. Mary Thornton, the cast members, and the parent volunteers should be very proud of their efforts. I would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to each of them for providing such a wonderful evening for the entire community.

Raymond's Own Teacher Of The Year

Ms. Ann Bottoms, second grade teacher at the Raymond Elementary School, has been named a regional finalist in Maine's Teacher of the Year Program. Ms. Bottoms is a valued member of the RES faculty, and her nomination as Teacher of the Year is one way to celebrate the quality teaching that happens each and every day in all of our classrooms. Ms. Bottoms was a guest at a State House ceremony on March 24. Also attending the Hall of Flags ceremony were Superintendent Sandra Caldwell, Principal Norma Richard, Erick and Lisa Schadler, Julia and Lori Rand, and Jennifer and Gino David.

Superintendent Sandra Caldwell and Principal Norma Richard join Ann Bottoms, regional finalist for Maine's Teacher of the Year program, at the Hall of Flags ceremony in Augusta.



Come Get Your Car Washed
and support the
Jordan Small Middle School
Eighth Grade Field Trip

at Auto Bath of Raymond Car Wash
1249 Roosevelt Trail



Saturday, May 14,
11 –3 pm
Rain date
Sunday, May 15

Eight Graders will be **Vacuuming,**
Towel Drying and **Hand Washing**
cars! Express detailing also available.

In addition, a portion of the proceeds
from the automatic car wash will be
donated to the class.



Students and staff were happy to have Noor Hassan and her father visit RES on March 18. Noor, a five year old from Iraq, had a great time at Opening, visiting Mrs. Gillis's class, going to the Literacy Lounge with Ms. Cummings, playing at recess with the kindergarten children, and staying for lunch (it was pizza!). We would like to thank Mrs. Susan MacKenzie for arranging Noor's visit, and wish Noor all the best.



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

Mrs. Jesse Burton, RES art teacher, was delighted to have Katelyn Dudley's artwork on exhibit in the Maine State Office Building and presented Katelyn with a medal to commemorate this fine achievement.

Jordan-Small Middle School Trimester 2 Honor Roll 2004-2005

Student Name	Grade Level	Level	vanHaasteren, Kees	8	Honor Roll	Hurd, Olivia	6	Honor Roll
			Walton, Danielle	8	Honor Roll	Keane-Dreyer, Mollissa	6	Honor Roll
Cline, Logan	8	High Honors	Wisutskie, Erik	8	Honor Roll	Kenny, Delaney	6	Honor Roll
Dudley, Bethany	8	High Honors	Zawistowski, Chad	8	Honor Roll	Lewis, Ashley	6	Honor Roll
Huber, Hannah	8	High Honors	Zoidis, Breeanna	8	Honor Roll	MacDonald, Christopher	6	Honor Roll
Lentine, Steven	8	High Honors	Algeo, Benjamin	7	Honor Roll	Martyn-Fisher, Jenna	6	Honor Roll
Schadler, Alyson	8	High Honors	Allen, Calista	7	Honor Roll	Masi, Weston	6	Honor Roll
Waldron, Ashley	8	High Honors	Baker, Jordan	7	Honor Roll	McGhie, Connor	6	Honor Roll
Desjardins, Haley	7	High Honors	Blake, Caroline	7	Honor Roll	Merryman, Amber	6	Honor Roll
Lentine, Katherine	7	High Honors	Chandler, Kaitlyn	7	Honor Roll	Morneault, Abigail	6	Honor Roll
Stevenson, Megan	7	High Honors	Dighello, Anthony	7	Honor Roll	O'Neill, Alexander	6	Honor Roll
Cloutier, Molly	6	High Honors	Dodge, Emily	7	Honor Roll	Parker, Alex	6	Honor Roll
Gagnon, Drew	6	High Honors	Eastman, Jenna L.	7	Honor Roll	Peterson, Bryan	6	Honor Roll
Manchester, Lydia	6	High Honors	Flynn, Jordan	7	Honor Roll	Rankin, Madison	6	Honor Roll
Shively, Elizabeth	6	High Honors	Fusco, Maria	7	Honor Roll	Ross, Amanda	6	Honor Roll
Sousa, Andrew J.	6	High Honors	Fusco, Nicole	7	Honor Roll	Streeter, Abigail	6	Honor Roll
Algeo, Lucy	5	High Honors	Gillis, Amber	7	Honor Roll	Taylor, Dylan Cody	6	Honor Roll
Cave, Robert	5	High Honors	Hutchinson, Samuel	7	Honor Roll	Webber, Lindsay	6	Honor Roll
Gillis, Abbey	5	High Honors	Knights, Zachary	7	Honor Roll	Weeks, Deanna	6	Honor Roll
Hoffman, Ryan	5	High Honors	Lachance, Hannah	7	Honor Roll	Winde, Tyler	6	Honor Roll
LaChance, Patrick	5	High Honors	Larracey, Alexis	7	Honor Roll	Zawistowski, Samantha	6	Honor Roll
Lentine, Robert	5	High Honors	LeViness, Joshua	7	Honor Roll	Bolduc, Dylan Clay	5	Honor Roll
Nadeau, Tyler	5	High Honors	Libby, Dustin	7	Honor Roll	Brockelbank, Samuel	5	Honor Roll
Rand, Allison	5	High Honors	MacKenzie, Devin	7	Honor Roll	Buckley, Alexander P.	5	Honor Roll
Crockett, Phoebe	8	Honor Roll	McIvor, Abigail	7	Honor Roll	Cerino, Marissa	5	Honor Roll
Durkan, Erin	8	Honor Roll	Olsen, Arthur	7	Honor Roll	Cloutier, Gaia	5	Honor Roll
Feltovic, Alyson	8	Honor Roll	Plummer, James	7	Honor Roll	Dixon, Ian Barret	5	Honor Roll
Flynn, Evan	8	Honor Roll	Terry, Justin	7	Honor Roll	Downey, Casey M.	5	Honor Roll
Gagne, Rebekah	8	Honor Roll	Tevanian, Chelsea	7	Honor Roll	Hughes, Lindsay	5	Honor Roll
Guerrette, Brandon	8	Honor Roll	Trepanier, Julia	7	Honor Roll	Hutchinson, Casey	5	Honor Roll
Harding, Megan	8	Honor Roll	Ward, Ethan	7	Honor Roll	Morris, Timothy	5	Honor Roll
Hotham, Jacob	8	Honor Roll	Wiley, Mary	7	Honor Roll	Murphy, Zuri	5	Honor Roll
Jones, Shana	8	Honor Roll	Acker, Haley	6	Honor Roll	Odum, Bailey Rebecca	5	Honor Roll
King, Chey	8	Honor Roll	Bennett, Andrew	6	Honor Roll	Peavey, Jeremy J.	5	Honor Roll
Knight, Ali	8	Honor Roll	Brown, Spencer	6	Honor Roll	Richardson, Jenna	5	Honor Roll
Martin, Patrick	8	Honor Roll	Christy, Joshua	6	Honor Roll	Schweitzer, Cory	5	Honor Roll
McNally, Nina	8	Honor Roll	Cobb, Jennifer	6	Honor Roll	Small, Sarah	5	Honor Roll
Morris, Rebecca	8	Honor Roll	Connor, Daniel	6	Honor Roll	Szantyr, Ryan Joseph	5	Honor Roll
O'Neill, Andrew	8	Honor Roll	Elhajji, Alyssa	6	Honor Roll	Valente, Clare	5	Honor Roll
Odum, Jennifer	8	Honor Roll	Gagnon, Cody	6	Honor Roll	Vanbaars, Natalie	5	Honor Roll
Perry, Jacob	8	Honor Roll	Gordan, Cassandra	6	Honor Roll	Vanbaars, Sasha	5	Honor Roll
Prout, Elizabeth	8	Honor Roll	Gordan, Colin	6	Honor Roll	Wardwell, Alan	5	Honor Roll
Sanborn, Laura	8	Honor Roll	Hargreaves, Kyle	6	Honor Roll	Williamson, Riley	5	Honor Roll
Trickey, Jacob	8	Honor Roll	Haycock, Cayen	6	Honor Roll	Woodbrey, Erik	5	Honor Roll
			Henry, John	6	Honor Roll			



Box Tops Success !

We have finished our Box Tops contests for this year, and I would like to thank all of you who sent in Box Tops, clipped, and bundled for us. We collected a total this year of \$1,546 for our schools! (At 10¢ a piece, they really add up!) Please continue to collect those Box Tops. We will be doing a celebration to reward collecting after summer vacation, and of course, there will be more contests to come next year. We would love to see us top \$2,000 next year.

Also please remember, if you are doing any online shopping, you can access your favorite online merchants through the Box Tops Marketplace at www.boxtops4education.com. **Up to 8% of each qualifying purchase is donated to our schools.**

Thanks again for your support! More information on the Box Tops program is available at www.boxtops4education.com, or you can contact Christina Lamarre with questions at pta@raymondmaine.org, or 655-3380.

ATTENTION 8th GRADE PARENTS

Important Dates:

Friday 6/17/05 - Year-end field trip to Water Country in Portsmouth, NH

Sunday 6/19/05 - Casco Bay Lines Cruise 6 to 9pm

Monday 6/20/05 - Completion Ceremony 7pm JSMS

The next parent planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11th, at 7pm in the JSMS library: all welcome!

Fundraising efforts are ongoing with a Car Wash planned for Saturday, May 14th, rain date May 15th.

A parent letter will be mailed in May with current info and permission slips for the various activities. The activities depend upon our ability to fundraise; donations are greatly appreciated and can be mailed to JSMS

423 Webbs Mills Road

Raymond, ME 04071

Attn: 8th Grade Celebration

Thanks to all the 8th grade parents helping to make these activities possible for our young people!

Debra Martin

Cheerleader Powerhouse Squad Tops Division

I'd like to tell you to sit back and relax, but this is a story that will keep you on the edge of your seat. In case you don't know it, there are 11 new powerhouses in Raymond collectively known as the Jordan-Small Middle School Cheerleaders. Three years ago the Middle School added cheerleading to its already impressive list of sports teams. Since that time, the JSMS cheerleaders have proven to be a force to be reckoned with on the cheerleading circuit. In only their second year of competing, they are champions in every sense of the word.

This year's squad, made up of eleven seventh and eighth grade girls, has had a banner year. Not only did the squad perform at both boys' and girls' home games this season, but they also managed to cram in hours of practice to perform for this season's competitions. The practice paid off, and the girls catapulted to the top of their league, with stellar performances that helped them capture two division championships and a reserve championship in the last competition of the season.

The championship squad carries eight returning cheerleaders from last season: Brandi Mitchell, Brittany Plummer, Laura Sanborn, Phoebe Crockett, Lauren Weeks, Jenn Odum, Lindsay Ryan, and Courtney Bruno. Three new members round out the squad: Hannah Lachance, Anna Klinkerch, and Emily Dodge.

After basketball season, the girls prepared for three tough competitions. As the girls practiced, it became more and more clear that this was going to be a tough group to beat. All the girls excelled in cheering, dancing, jumping, and stunting their way to top honors in their division. What athletes these girls are!!!

As the girls prepared for competition, they gathered their individual strengths to unite as a strong cohesive squad. Their first competition was February 5th. This was the Cheers From The Heart competition held at Oxford Comprehensive High School in Oxford, Maine. On their first outing of the season the Lady Roadrunners emerged victorious. Beating seasoned squads, the girls brought home the first place trophy!

On March 5th the girls competed at Lewiston High School in the Vacation Classic. After what was a long and tiring day, the girls again proved to be the best of the best. As awards were given out, the girls were once again called to the stage to pick up their first place trophy.

Lastly, the girls competed in the huge end of the season Maine Cheer Classic on March 13th at the USM Sullivan Gym in Portland. The competition was postponed due to one of Maine's nor'easters, but this could not stop the

JSMS cheerleaders from showing up and topping out their division as runner up. A wild crowd cheered the girls on to receive their third big trophy of the season.

The season was filled with excitement from start to finish. Each girl contributed to the whole picture – the cohesive team that brought home THREE CHAMPIONSHIPS! Laura Sanborn was at the top of her game, as she effectively set the standard for the rest of the girls with dedication, hard work and a never-give-up attitude. Brandi Mitchell wowed the crowd with her highflying antics, precision movements and jumps that reached the sky. Phoebe Crockett joined Brandi, flying high and smiling her way to victory. Phoebe's never-ending smile was inspiration for everyone! Brittany Mitchell put her best foot forward, dancing and smiling like nobody's business. Watch out for this girl...nobody's stopping her! Lindsay Ryan had jumps to die for, perfect and high, and a smile to wow the crowd. Lauren Weeks and Courtney Bruno knew what it would take to win, and they came through. These two hard working athletes set the foundation for what was to come. With strong performances from both it was evident to everyone that

JSMS was on its way to victory. Hannah Lachance and Anna Klinkerch were both new to the squad this year, and both showed from the beginning that they have what it takes to be champions. Both girls stepped up to the plate and jumped right in and showed the seasoned girls that they were here to stay!! And when it came to spirit, all you had to do was look at Emily Dodge and Jenn Odum to know that there was no lack of spirit here! These girls got the crowd going every time with attitude and charisma that proved to be true showstoppers.

Let's not forget the ladies that coached the girls to their championships. This year Deb DeDeo and Stacey Nast combined their skills to get the job done. DeDeo's coaching experience, combined with Nast's technical skills and choreography, proved to be a winning combination. They pushed the girls hard, but the girls took it and ran and worked and worked and worked!!!!

A big CONGRATULATIONS goes out to the cheerleading squad of Jordan-Small Middle School! They are true athletes and champions!





PTA President Leigh Walker was pleased to accept a \$1,000 check from Vickie Thorpe of the North Windham Hannaford. The Raymond Schools and PTA were the regional winners in Hannaford's General Mills Dollars for Education program last fall. Parents and community members collected \$1,821 in coupons, and Hannaford contributed an additional \$1,000 to the winning school district. This is the third time that Raymond has received the \$1,000 bonus from Hannaford, and we hope to be winners again next year.

Recycling At Raymond Elementary School

By: The RES Recycling Committee

Recycling is still a part of life here at RES this year. We are currently recycling paper, snack milk cartons, cans and bottles, paperboard, glass, plastic and cardboard. Mrs. Wendy makes a schoolwide announcement for the teachers to place their bins in the hallway on Tuesday

afternoon. There are several students that faithfully collect materials from the bins and empty them into large recycling containers. The containers are wheeled out to the receiving dock for pick up Wednesday morning. We would like to thank all the students and staff that continue to support recycling efforts at our school.

Raymond Recreation Bulb Fundraiser

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Raymond Recreation Spring Bulb Fundraiser. Bulbs will be delivered through school in a couple of weeks. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Raymond Recreation Meeting

There will be a board meeting for RRA May 9th at 6.30pm at JSMS. Please let Pat have any agenda items.

Raymond Recreation Swim & Soccer Signups

Raymond Recreation Association will sponsor Red Cross swim lessons at Crescent Beach in Raymond. Classes run June 27 to July 22 for Children grades K - 7. Cost is \$25 per child. Red Cross Water Safety Instructors are Grace Leavitt and Jenny Howard.

Registration for Summer Swimming and Fall Soccer is Wednesday, May 25, 6:30 to 7:30, at the JSMS Cafeteria

Go to www.raymondmaine.org for more information on RRA programs.

5K Road Race In Raymond

There will be a 5K road race in Raymond on Saturday, June 11, 2005, at Sheri Gagnon Park. We are also planning a 1K Kids race for the youngsters. These races will be sponsored by Fairpoint NE Telephone Company, as they have been for several years.

For entries or more information, call Bob Payne 655-2165 or blueridgeguide@bigfoot.com or Louise Lester 655-4742 or louise.lester@raymondmaine.org.

R.E.D. Program Looking For Employees and Directors

The Raymond Extended Day Program is currently looking for employees for its summer program. We are also looking for any interested adults to serve on our Board of Directors. The Board typically meets once per month for an hour or two. If you feel that you could give your time to this organization, we would welcome you. All interested candidates should contact Kristi at 655-3203 or 650-4470 or kristi.curtis@raymondmaine.org.

Hebron Academy Annual Science Fair

Students from Hebron Academy's Middle School (grades 6-8) will present their project at Hebron's Annual Science Fair, Tuesday, May 3, from 6:00-8:30pm, in Sargent Gymnasium. All are welcome to this free event.

Hebron Academy Admissions Information Sessions

Students and parents interested in Hebron Academy's programs for grades 6 through 12 or a post-graduate year, are welcome to visit during these informal events. Dates: Tuesday, May 3; Tuesday, May 17; Tuesday, June 7; Tuesday, June 21; Tuesday, July 12; Tuesday, July 26, from 5:00-6:30pm, in the Art Gallery on the Academy's campus, just off Route 119 in Hebron. These events are open to the public and free of charge. For more information, please call 207-966-2100 or visit www.hebronacademy.org.





The Raymond School Department would like to extend our thanks to the following local businesses who so generously donated items to the Spring Teacher & Staff Appreciation Packets:

- ›K&K Reel Vision Video, Raymond
- ›Smitty's Cinema, Windham
- ›Tim Hortons, Windham
- ›Ice Cream Dugout, Windham
- (and soon to be in Gray, too!)

Raymond Beautification Committee's




Adopt a Garden Application

Adopting a garden means that you, or someone that you employ, will meet the following guidelines:

-  Weed regularly (about once a week)
-  Remove Trash (every couple of days)
-  Periodically remove dead plant material to keep area neat
-  Keep mulch looking fresh by turning a couple of times per season



If you choose, you may also plant and maintain other flowers that will complement the location. In which case, you will also do the following:

-  Water as needed
-  Deadhead (pick off dead flowers)
-  Dispose of annuals in the fall

Yes, we would like to adopt a garden area. We would like our name to appear on the sign in the following way:

Business/Group/Individual contact signature _____ Date _____

The Beautification Committee will be visiting local businesses to see if they want to adopt the gardens adjacent to their property before assigning them to another party. Applicants will be contacted in late May/early June about garden areas available for adoption.

Mail to: Raymond Beautification Committee
Raymond Town Office
401 Webbs Mills Rd.
Raymond, ME 04071

Your Address:

Phone: