Principal’s Report

by Norma Richard

The Raymond school calendar has been published and sent to all Raymond homes. Our school handbook is published in this calendar to provide all families with essential information about the Raymond Elementary School and the Jordan-Small Middle School. I encourage all parents to become familiar with the handbook and to share this information with your children, especially the pages focusing on student conduct and bus behavior. Don’t forget to check the monthly calendar for special events that are happening at school or in the community.

Learning is a partnership between school and home. Children are most successful when there are shared expectations for behavior and quality of work. Student responsibility is key to establishing good habits that start in the early elementary grades and continue through middle school. Our staffs provide the framework for reinforcing student responsibility through the use of the green folders in the primary grades and student agendas in grades 4 – 8. Both the student folders and agendas are concrete ways to develop organizational skills, even as early as kindergarten. Parents, please expect these to come home each day and every day. Encourage your student to take responsibility to place all homework, notes, and other papers back in their folder or agenda. Review assignments each and every day, and use the folders and agendas as a way to communicate with your child’s teacher.

Your child will benefit from your continuing involvement. Parents will be receiving a stack of forms, brochures and other materials during the first week of school. Please be sure that the information for your student is accurate and updated, if needed, at any time it changes during the school year. It is especially important that all parents have emergency plans in place in the event that school is dismissed early due to weather or other emergencies. With nearly 600 children in our schools, we are unable to call parents directly when there is an early dismissal. Also, some storm related emergencies might result in a loss of power leaving us unable to use the phones to call parents. Parents should discuss emergency plans with their children and provide the school with a written copy of any change in bus plans. Safety is a major concern in schools nationwide, and we are continuing efforts to assure that all of our students are safe at our schools. Once again we ask that all visitors to the school, including parents and volunteers, sign in at the office before going to classrooms. We will provide badges or passes as a way to clearly identify those adults who are school visitors.

Safety is also very important at arrival and dismissal times. I want to remind all parents and school visitors that the speed limit in our driveways is 15 MPH and that fines are doubled in a school zone. The parking lots get very busy at both schools during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal. If picking up or dropping off your child, please be respectful of other parents and be sure that your vehicle is not blocking access to the parking lot or to the bus driveway. I want to thank all community members and parents in advance for their cooperation to assure the safety of all children at school.

I look forward to seeing all of our students when they arrive back at school on Tuesday, September 6.

Kindergarten Visit Day At Raymond Elementary School

Kindergarten Visit Day will be held at the Raymond Elementary School on Wednesday, September 7, from 9:00 – 11:00 AM. Parents are asked to bring their kindergarten student to school on that day. The children will have the opportunity to meet with their teachers, do a short activity in the classroom, have snack and recess, and take the first of many bus rides. Parents will have the chance to meet with principal Norma Richard and discuss the routines and procedures that are in place for our youngest students.

The first school day for kindergarten will be on September 7, 2005. If your child will be 5 on or before October 15, is a Raymond resident, and is not yet registered for kindergarten, please call the school office at 655-8672.

11U Sebago Long Lake All Stars – Runners Up For The State Title

Congratulations to the Sebago Long Lake 11U All Stars. They were runners up for the State Title in the Maine State 11U Cal Ripken tournament held in Richmond, Maine. SLL ended the tournament 4 and 2, winning out over Sacopee, AYS, Maranacook and Brunswick. Though they put in a great effort, they ended up losing twice to Messalonskee, who took the State Title.

The SLL All stars also recently competed in a Sebago Long Lake Invitational tournament in July. This competition included SLL, Gorham, Sacopee, four Andy Valley teams and Brunswick. They ended up in third place.

Congratulations to all the kids for playing some great ball, trying to beat the heat and having a lot of fun.

Raymond Bicentennial Memorabilia Available

There are some items of Raymond’s Bicentennial memorabilia available for sale at the Town Office. The tee shirts sizes small through extra large, frisbees, drink bottles, trip cups, and the historical coin sets plus the three extra large, frisbees, drink bottles, trip cups, and the historical coin sets plus the three commemorative tee shirts make great gifts – don’t forget that Christmas is coming.

Raymond Rec will benefit from this year’s 5K road race. They are $6.00 each with sizes small, medium, large, and extra large. The proceeds from the sale of the tee shirts will benefit Raymond Rec.

Parents’ Night

Raymond Elementary School, Tuesday, September 13
Jordan-Small Middle School
Thursday, September 15
6:30 – 7:00 PM
Meeting in the Gym
with Mrs. Richard and Staff
7:00 – 8:00 PM
Classroom Presentations
Specialists will be available to meet with parents in the library from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. Please stop in to meet them.

Parents’ Night is an informational evening for parents only. Childcare will not be available at school. Please arrange for childcare at home.
News From The Raymond Village Library

At a Glance
Monday, September 5 - Labor Day
Wednesday, September 7 – Children’s Programs resume Wednesday, September 28 - Reading Group, 7 p.m. at the library
Thursday, September 29 – Annual Meeting, 7 p.m. at the library

Labor Day
The Raymond Village Library will be closed September 5, in celebration of Labor Day. We wish everyone an enjoyable and safe vacation weekend.

Children’s Programs
After a short vacation in August, the children’s programs will resume on September 7.

On Mondays at 10 am is Baby Time. This includes newborns all the way up to Toddlers.

On Wednesdays at 10 am is for the Toddlers and beginning at 10:45 also on Wednesdays the preschoolers have their turn.

Thank you
We would like to thank all those who participated in our greatest Book Sale ever. It is due to all those who helped by donating, buying and let’s not forget those who worked organizing, setting up and working during the sale. This is the library’s largest fund-raiser and we count on the proceeds from this event.

We also want to let you know that the library accepts donations of books, videos, audios and puzzles throughout the year. We ask you to please bring them to us and don’t store them, where they may become wet or damaged.

Reading Group
The reading group will be meeting on Wednesday, September 28 at 7 p.m. at the library. The public is cordially invited to attend. For more information, call 655-4283.

Annual Meeting
The second Annual Meeting of the Raymond Village Library Corporation will be held on Thursday, September 29 at 7 p.m. at the library. The public is cordially invited to attend. For more information, call 655-4283.

Ernie Knight’s 100th Birthday Party
On Saturday, September 24th from 1:00 to 4:00 it is hoped the family and friends of Ernest H. Knight will meet at the Raymond Village Church to celebrate Ernie Knight’s 100th Birthday. The marking of Ernie’s elevation to centenarian is not remarkable to those who know him, but will be a goal which embodies one more milestone for him.

Ernie is a product of good old Yankee blood with both his parents coming from the Raymond area. He graduated from MIT in Boston, MA, married Louise Easton, raised two boys, served in the Army during WWII, did some farming and then moved to Raymond to help build Hartley’s Marina now Jordan Bay Marina on Route 302. His interests include collecting historical information about Raymond which includes being an active member of the Raymond-Casco Historical Society. He has published several books about Raymond which are still available at the Raymond Village Library.

He also has a passion for canal boats and has studied those used in Sebago Lake as well as others across the United States and around the world. He and Louise took trips on some of these canal boats as well as sea voyages by steamer around the world. He is a long time member of the Wheelmen of America and for years has ridden his high wheel bicycle in parades and exhibitions at Owls Head Museum. During his visit to Japan during its reconstruction after WWII, he developed an interest in weaving and brought home a loom from which he made beautiful fabrics. His ability to create firewood from standing trees to beautiful full woodboxes is legendary.

Ernie is the holder of Raymond’s Boston Post Cane as was his mother, Maybelle Knight. He served Raymond in the assessing office for years. In partnership with Carol Hartley his sister, he transcribed a leather bound elderly tome, the “Families Book of Raymond”, so that people studying their genealogies could access that information without the original one gone. He was involved in organizing a map of Raymond’s cemeteries which is still being used today.

Because Ernie says that he has everything already, he asks that presents not be given, but he would love to see more access to the products and services they need, “Expanding hours provides customers with more options when your daily mail is delivered for no extra charge.” says Harris. “You can buy stamps, use Click-N-Ship to print your own mailing labels, pay for postage and confirm delivery,” says Harris. “You can even request a package pick up at your home or office when your daily mail is delivered for no extra charge.”

“Expanding hours provides customers with more options and more access to the products and services they need,” Harris said.

Windham Post Office Extends Retail Hours - Now Open Later
Submitted By Tom Rizzo
Public Affairs & Communications
USPS District of Maine

(Windham) - The Windham Post Office is extending hours to make it more convenient to ship packages anywhere in the United States and around the world.

Effective July 18, 2005, the Windham Post Office, located at 765 Roosevelt Trail, Suite 999, in Windham, will be open at 9 A.M and close at 5:30 P.M. Monday through Friday and will open at 9 A.M and close at 12 P.M. on Saturday.

Post Office Box customers can access their boxes from 4:45 A.M to 5:55 P.M. Monday through Friday and from 4:45 A.M to 4 P.M. on Saturdays. The hours at the South Windham Branch of the Post Office remain unchanged.

“We want to make using the Post Office quick, easy and convenient for our customers,” says Windham Postmaster Stephen Harris. “This is just another way we’re working to better meet our customers’ shopping and mailing needs.”

In addition, Harris says many services available at the Post Office are now available on line at usps.com. “You can buy stamps, use Click-N-Ship to print your own mailing labels, pay for postage and confirm delivery,” says Harris. “You can even request a package pick up at your home or office when your daily mail is delivered for no extra charge.”

“Expanding hours provides customers with more options and more access to the products and services they need,” Harris said.
The town manager outlined problems that had been sold prior to April 1, 2005. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved three expenditures totalling $8,054.


Mr. Noonan in his capacity as Director of the Windham Rotary Club Derby Festival requested that the Board of Selectmen consider changing the town’s name for the weekend of the Ice Fishing Derby held annually in the “Derby Town USA”. Mr. Noonan explained that the current proclamation and name change will help to draw attention to Raymond as the primary host community of this event. The request was supported by the Raymond Business Association and will also include ceremonial cancellation of postal materials by the Raymond Post Office. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved preparing a proclamation to officially change Raymond’s name to “Derby Town USA” during the annual Rotary Ice Fishing Derby to be held February 24-26, 2006.

4. Maine Municipal Association (MMA) voting ballot for 2006 state of MMA Executive Committee and officers.

The town manager provided a brief overview of the Maine Municipal Association election process. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the slate of officers put forward by the Maine Municipal Association nominating committee and instructed the town manager to fill out and submit the ballot on their behalf.

5. Consideration of traffic ordinance amendments Mill Street and Mill Street bridge.

The town manager outlined problems that had been occurring in the area of the Mill Street bridge involving children and young adults over the past several years. The last major safety improvements to the area were made approximately ten years ago as a consequence of a young person’s drowning death at the dam. Current problems include fleeting groups gathering on the edge of the roadway to dive and swing from the bridge and surrounding area into the water below. There have also been groups of people loitering within the travel area of the roadway causing a potential accident risk to themselves as well as impeding the safe passage of motor vehicles. Despite repeated attempts by the town to obtain relief through the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office, the problem remains unresolved. Sheriff Deputies regularly respond to this area but as soon as they depart the involved individuals return and the problems continue. The town manager after reviewing options with the Code Enforcement Officer and Public Works Director offered the following potential solutions: 1) limit parking in the area by installing no parking on pavement signs which the Maine Department of Transportation will pay for and install. 2) Remove the pine tree which supports the rope swing at an estimated cost of $1,800. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection has approved this removal. 3) Install an 8-foot chain link fence on the guard rail along the bridge at an estimated cost of $1,500. 4) Install no loitering or diving from bridge signage which will also be paid for and installed by the Maine Department of Transportation. 5) Excess control along the guard rail area at an estimated cost of $300. A motion was made by the Board of Selectmen to erect signage limiting parking on the pavement and to prohibit diving or jumping from the bridge and the town manager to pursue whatever ordinance changes may be necessary in order to come back with additional corrective measures. The pine tree with the rope swing will be removed as soon as possible. This motion was approved unanimously.


Code Enforcement Officer Jack Cooper explained that a soil evaluator from the State of Maine had reviewed this request and recommended elimination of the property’s stormwater management system. Based upon the testimony provided, the Board of Selectmen approved this request by a 4 to 1 vote.


Fire Chief Denis Morse addressed the Board of Selectmen with a request for approval of a $400 capital expenditure received in reimbursement of services provided for fire/rescue accident response. This money would be placed into a dedicated reserve account and utilized only after approval by the Board of Selectmen to purchase such necessary equipment as the Jaws of Life and related power pack unit. The Board of Selectmen approved this proposal by a 4 to 1 vote.

8. Town Manager Report and Communication.

a) Request a meeting with Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office.

The town manager announced that the County Commissioners would like to meet with Raymond in a regional format along with the town mayors of Casco and Naples. The Board of Selectmen authorized the town manager to contact Cumberland County and set up this meeting.

b) Cardboard Recycling area update.

The town manager informed the Board of Selectmen that there would be a recycling committee meeting to address problems utilizing the current unhygienic cardboard container conditions on Thursday, August 11 at 8:30 am. It is expected that the Recycling Committee will report back to the Selectmen with a potential plan of action at a future meeting.

c) Assistant Code Enforcement Officer.

The town manager announced that Joshua Stevens had been hired as the town’s new part-time Assistant Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Stevens is a part-time employee of the Fire Department with responsibility for fire inspection.

By consolidating these two positions benefits will be realized by both the Code Enforcement Office and the Fire Department as well as improving internal coordination and streamlining the inspection process for businesses and individuals.


Tuesday, August 16, 2005

1. Fire Chief Denis Morse presented a departmental overview of the Fire, Rescue, and Dispatch Department and introduced Deputy Fire Chief Bruce Tupper, Rescue Chief Gary Gosselin, and Fire Inspector Josh Stevens. Chief Morse provided a historic overview of the department since assuming his position as chief in 1998. Since that time significant progress has been made in reducing the required time of departments from 18 minutes a few years ago to approximately 8 minutes today. The chief also discussed his ongoing efforts to improve billing and collections functions to increase departmental revenues. At the time of his appointment rescue collections averaged approximately $34,000 annually for the previous five-year period. Since changes were implemented, the town now averages between $115,000 and $120,000 per year. An ongoing problem for the Fire Department is finding an adequate number of interested volunteers. Raymond citizens wishing to help improve local public safety and minimize future potential property tax increases to support essential life safety services are encouraged to contact the department to explore volunteer opportunities. An overview of the capital improvement program was provided outlining recent apparatus acquisition and equipment purchases. Emphasis is always upon obtaining the best value for the community by purchasing durable equipment and/or surplus equipment where practicable. Rescue Chief Gosselin outlined emergency medical response service issues including making recommendation that the town dispose of the existing ambulance and keep it as a backup due to the substantial expense in keeping it maintained and stocked with required medications and supplies. It costs approximately $500 just for medical materials for one department ambulance. Given its poor repair history in recent years and this substantial cost that he recommended that it would make more sense to depend on the existing ambulances utilizing a lesser vehicle for Rescue which is currently under warrant and mutual aid assistance when necessary. Deputy Chief Tupper discussed daytime manpower challenges which are related to the ongoing struggle to attract and retain interested and well-trained volunteers. He did note that the core group of volunteers which Raymond has is both enthusiastic and actively pursuing additional training as it becomes available. Also, John Noonan described the Town of Raymond’s recycling and related contents be available at town meeting and be annually audited. The town manager explained that this reserve account would be for the ongoing security consistent with the other all other similar town accounts and therefore would be subject to audit automatically. The Board of Selectmen approved this proposal unanimously.

2. Consideration of traffic ordinance amendments Mill Street and Mill Street bridge.

Public Works Director Nathan White provided an update on the removal of the trees in the area of the rope swing on Mill Street. Contractor Lucas Tree Service will be removing these trees sometime during the week of August 15th. Public Works Director White had also been in contact with the Maine Department of Transportation and received authorization to erect signage prohibiting trespassing on the upper side of the bridge consistent with existing signage approved by the State of Maine Inland Fisheries Department some years ago. Other potential safety remedies were discussed including installing fencing on the upper side of the bridge similar to the existing fencing on the downriver side. Making an amendment to the town’s traffic ordinance to prohibit street parking in the area from Main Street to Kings Grant was another improvement option considered. State Representative John Robinson attended the meeting and expressed his willingness to help facilitate any remaining state involvement necessary to make a change to the area of the bridge. A motion was made to enact an emergency amendment to the town’s traffic ordinance to prohibit parking on Mill Street from the junction of Main Street to Kings Grant. Since language for this ordinance language was made for cemetery related activities including funerals. The change will go into effect immediately and later be considered by the annual town meeting for possible permanent enactment.

Continued on page 4
The Raymond Elementary School Invites You To The Maine Mall, South Portland, Maine
Filene’s Charity Benefit Shopping Day

Tuesday, September 26, 2005 From 10:00 AM To 9:30 PM

Filene’s is helping local charities raise needed funds at a one-time-only Charity Benefit Shopping Day at the Maine Mall on Tuesday, September 27. The Raymond Elementary School will participate in this event to raise funds to help the students of the Maine Conservation Camp. Mr. Bryant Pond this fall. All proceeds from a $5.00 admission ticket will go to support the camping trip. The more tickets sold, the more funds raised for RES. Everyone who buys a ticket will receive a 25% All Day Shopping Pass and have a chance to win a $1,000 Filene’s Shopping Spree. Ticket Order Form will be sent to Maine students and are also available in the RES school office. The fourth grade students and seniors thank you for supporting this fundraising effort. Last year’s trip to the Maine Conservation Camp was an outstanding experience and this year’s trip should be even more exciting for the students.

innisbrook - Coming Fall Of 2005 To RES

innisbrook will present their best line up ever this fall at the Raymond Elementary School. The fall’s Innisbrook sale will run through October 3. Just wait until you see the great gift wrap designs (poodles, flip flops, holiday handbags, XMAS frogs and extreme sports to name a few).

Award Winning Designs

Gift Wrap Paper Produced in Maine

Great Kids Products

Gourmet Food and Chocolate

You can also order on the web 365 days of the year at www. innisbrook.com. The Raymond Schools’ customer number is 104999. Families and out of town friends can order and reorder over 150 Innisbrook products on-line all year long! This is a great way to buy gifts and to support our school. Products will be delivered right to your door, and your child’s school will receive the 50% profit.

Tax Relief Form Help

On Saturday morning, September 10, 2005 Representative John Robinson will be helping anyone who needs assistance filing out their 2004 State Tax Relief form. And on Saturday, November 12, 2005 Joe Bruno will help fill out applications. They will be in the Town Office from 8:30 am to noon. No appointment will be needed. If you don’t have a copy of your 2004-2005 tax bill (last year’s), the Town Office will be able to give you a copy. You will also have to know what your annual income was for last year. Refunds are available up to $2,000 per household.

Tax and Rent Refund Program: Qualifications: You do not have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2004 household income was $74,500 or less; or you have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2004 household income was $99,500 or less.

AND

Your 2004 property tax was more than 4% of your 2004 household income; or, the rent you paid in 2004 had more than 20% of your 2004 household income.

NOTE: Low-income Seniors do not need to meet these requirements.

RES Music Notes

Over the last couple of years, several parents have indicated interest in having more information about our “Composer of the Month” from music class, so that they may listen to the composer’s music at home or get up information about that composer on the internet. Every month the composer’s name will be printed in the Roadrunner, along with other information about the happenings in music class. September’s “Composer of the Month” is Johann Strauss, the “Waltz King.”

Chorus will be starting up at the beginning of the school year for all interested 3rd and 4th graders. The concert is scheduled for Thursday, December 8th. Chorus rehearsals take place during school day, and students may try it out for a couple of weeks to decide whether or not they want to join.

Have a great start to the school year everybody!

Patti Gordan - RES music teacher

Music Ed. tip for toddlers and preschoolers - Contrary to what you might think, children learn to keep a steady beat more successfully if you have them move to recordings that do not contain a drum beat.
Panther Pond Association Notes
By Ben Severn, PPA President

• Celebrates Panther Pond Conservation Project’s First Year
• Is Justly Proud of Its First Boat Buffer Tour
• Begins a Tradition With Its First Annual Picnic
• Appoints Two Interim Officers
• Bids Adieu to Ira McLain
• Welcomes Phil Boissonneault
• Reminds everyone to be ever vigilant

PPA Accomplishments:
At the Annual August Meeting held at the Raymond Public Safety Building on August 2nd, the assembled group took pride in the fact that in less than three years since its founding, PPA has taken actions that have led to: (1) the completion of the Panther Pond Watershed Survey; (2) the application for a federal grant to support fixing the runoff problems cited in the Survey; (3) the receipt of an $83,770 federal 319 grant, formally titled, “The Panther Pond Conservation Project – Phase 1”; and (4) most importantly, the application of grant funds to fix several runoff sites with other ready for fixing in the mid-August to October period. Finally, we were reminded that even before the Survey was finalized, the Town and State responded to the Survey findings by fixing a severe runoff problem at the Tenny River.

In previous Notes we have acknowledged the key contributions during the early stages of the watershed survey that were made by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD), and especially the Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA). While these three organizations have continued their support, from the moment we began contemplating the 319 grant, one person has been at the helm guiding us. That person is Noralee Raymond. Many of you will recognize Noralee as the Executive Director of RWPA. From the grant writing stage onward we have been most fortunate to have had Noralee as the Project Manager of the Conservation Project guiding the PPA Conservation Project Steering Committee and overseeing the design and implementation of the individual remediation projects. Her knowledge, enthusiasm, commitment, and boundless energy are evident every day. We thank her for her leadership.

Maple Avenue Right of Way (ROW) Quintessential Success Story
The August Road Runner issue and the annual RWPA Newsletter carry articles and pictures on the successful ROW runoff remediation effort at Maple Avenue—one of the first remediation activities under the project. For years the neighborhood had worried about the runoff, but could not pin it upon themselves or agree on how to solve the problem. When the Maple Avenue community learned of the PPA Conservation Project, they called on Noralee. With her help, the Maple Avenue neighbors, the Dream became a reality. It is a marvelous example of how the Town, through its Public Works Department, a project team, and the neighbors can work together to solve runoff problems. If you haven’t seen them, check the articles and then drive by Fire Lane 56 or Maple Avenue to see firsthand what was accomplished by a group of key people working together.

The First Annual Boat Buffer Tour—A Resounding Success
The 319 grant incorporates boats to tour to show off what has been accomplished. This year, via a variety of properties around the pond, to provide an opportunity to educate a captive audience about the value of buffers through a running commentary. The purpose is not to criticize practices but to remind everyone to be ever vigilant regarding the pond buffer zones for the entire length of the project.

In closing the Notes for August 2005, with all the positive actions that have occurred over the past year, there is every reason to believe that with continued vigilance and effort, we can manage our ponds and lakes in a manner that will not only prevent falling water quality but will improve it and will keep invasive plants under control.

For the PPA Board of Directors, I hope this has been an enjoyable summer.

Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber Of Commerce Lakes Brew Fest Draws Near
The Casco Days Fair Ground will again host the Lakes Brew Fest. September 17, 2005 from 11am to 6pm. This event is meant in some part to draw visitors to the Lakes Region to show all the beauty we enjoy daily. Our hope is visitors will plan to shop and even stay in local businesses. Last year’s event drew well over 400 participants and this year’s brew fest is planning on 1,000. 1,000 is an important number as only the first 1,000 attendees will receive THE event souvenir glass. To ensure you can get that glass, contact The Good Life Market in Raymond (655-1196) for tickets or the Chamber at 647-3472. Tickets are $18 pre-event and $22 at the door. Your ticket (wrist band) gets the glass (1st 1,000), 10 sample tickets and access to the entire event. Non drinkers can pay $5.00 to enjoy the musical performances, artisan show or great food. This year’s Brew Fest T-shirt is only $5.00 and limited to the first 100. Raymond’s own The Good Life Market will also be on hand to showcase their new line of homebrew materials. Please visit their booth! Visit the brew fest website at www.lakesbrewfest.com or call the Chamber at 647-3472 with questions.

Brew Fest Sponsors
Platinum: Lake Region Suburban Weekly
Gold: Summit Spring Water - IDEALEASE
Silver: 207Realty.com - Downeast Mortgage - Hancock Lumber - Angel’s Flight - Digital Horizon Web Solutions - FairPoint New England
Participating at the Brew Fest: Segabo Brewing Company - Blacksmiths Winery - Bray’s Brew Pub - Sparer Hawk Brewers - Casco Bay Brewing Company - Geary Brewing - Shipyard Brewing Company - Rocky Bay Brewing - Belfast Brewing Company - Atlantic Brewing - Andrew’s Brewing Co. - Gritty’s - Allagash Brewing Company

Food Vendors Participating: Black Horse Tavern - Bray’s Brew Pub - Bridgton Lion’s Club - Delicious Licks at the Lakes (featuring Bobby Sue’s Homemade Ice Cream) (Note that we are currently negotiating with New Hampshire Kettle Korn to come as well. They are difficult to schedule but likely will be at the Musher Bowl Winter Carnival)


For more information: www.mainelakeshomebrew.com www.lakesbrewfest.com www.mushersbowl.com
Circuit Breaker - Property Tax Relief

By Senator Bill Diamond

An expanded property tax relief program designed to help high taxed middle income families.

During the most recent legislative session the legislature passed a law that broadened an existing property tax relief program known as the Circuit Breaker Program. Also known as the Maine Tax and Rent Refund Program, the new law expanded the program from $1,000 in property tax rebates to a maximum of $2,000 in rebates for homeowners and renters who apply to the program and meet the required conditions.

Individual Homeowners

An individual homeowner whose 2004 income was $74,500 or less is eligible if the program if their 2004 property taxes exceeded four percent of their income.

Married Homeowners

A married couple or homeowner with dependents is eligible for the program if their combined income for 2004 was $99,500 or less and if their 2004 property taxes exceeded four percent of their income.

Renters

Those paying more than 20% of their 2004 income in rent could also see money back from the state under the program.

Their are several criteria which must be met which will then determine exactly how much the rebate will actually be for every qualifying property tax payer. Income requirements are based on Maine Adjusted Gross Income plus the addition of a number of items that are untaxed by the state. Please refer to the Maine Revenue Services Guidance Document on Household Income. Additional information and requirements about the program can be found by going to the Main Tax Refund Program Web site.

The Maine Revenue Services estimates that over 200,000 taxpayers are eligible for the program compared to just over 100,000 taxpayers last year.

If you qualified last year then you will probably qualify under this year's program and the additional good news is that for many who didn't qualify last year, they could be eligible to get a rebate check this year. Be sure to check this out to see if you are eligible for a refund, it's definitely worth your time.

Applications for this program should be available at a variety of municipal locations as well as on line. If you have difficulty getting an application please feel free to contact me at 922-8941.

Have a safe September.

Don't Throw Money Away

The PTA had a wonderful year last year supporting the schools. We were able to do the valuable work we do because of the fundraising support we get from our parents and community members. Not all of our fundraisers involve spending more money. Some are simple and there is no additional cost to you!

1. The Box Tops for Education program raised over $200 last year! Please look for these logos on the food you buy. Each one is worth ten cents. If you have some, cut them out and send them to school. Laser cutters are worth from $1.00 to $12.00 each!! Not only do we earn money we are recycling too! When you have an empty cartridge, drop it off at school. The drop boxes are located inside the school doors.

2. We will no longer be collecting Campbell soup labels.

3. Starting now we are collecting empty printer cartridges (both ink jet and laser). The only cartridges we CANNOT take are all EPSON ink jet cartridges. We take all others. Each empty ink jet cartridge is worth $2.00 to the school! Laser cartridges are worth from $1.00 to $12.00 EACH!!! Not only do we earn money we are recycling too! When you have an empty cartridge, drop it off at school. The drop boxes are located inside the school doors.

4. The Innisbrook fundraiser at the Raymond Elementary School has always been very successful and will continue at RES again this year. QSP will be the major fundraiser this fall at the Jordan-Small Middle School. Информация о других информационных ярмарках будут доступны на сайтах, школах, библиотеках и в местах, где есть интерес в образовании. Проверьте, есть ли у вас интерес к образованию, чтобы узнать, где вы можете изучить предметы, и получить книги, которые вы хотите доставить в течение времени на праздники.

5. Finally there are the Scholastic Book Fairs scheduled at RES. There are always quality children’s books at very good prices. Look for announcements in future Road Runners.

Thank you to all of you who support our fundraisers each and every year. You have been able to help send kids to college, provide needed supplies, support field trips and much more. If you have any questions about any of these programs, or would like to assist with these efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Deb Cutten, PTA President (pta@raymondmaine.org)

Employees Wanted

The Raymond Extended Day program is currently looking for qualified candidates to fill positions for its Before and After School Program. Good candidates should have experience working with children or a desire to learn - offer a current starting pay.

Please contact Kristi Curtis at 655-2003 or 650-4470 if you are interested.

Animal Control Report

July-August

July 19 Legal Information
July 21 Dog dead on arrival cancelled
July 21 Horses at large
July 21 Dog bite
July 21 PV trap with cat
July 21 Animal Refuge League with cat
July 22 Information on cats
July 22 Contract Friends of Felines
July 22 Dog at large broke chain, caught & returned
July 23 Barking dog
July 23 Strange dog in yard
July 23 Information on skunks
July 23 Barking dog – again
July 24 Dog not controlled
July 24 Barking dogs verbal warning
July 24 Stray cat
July 25 Animal Refuge League with cat
July 26 Information on cat
July 26 Dog on beach removed
July 27 Cat has returned
July 27 Dog in yard gone on arrival
July 28 Two dogs on beach sent to dog area
July 31 Barking dog chain tangled
August 1 Injured duck
August 1 Horse at large
August 3 Information only
August 4 Expired cat to burial site
August 4 Dogs in yard
August 4 Sick cat took to emergency clinic
August 4 Information on trapping cats
August 5 Dog not controlled
August 7 Barking dog gone on arrival
August 10 Dead crow
August 15 Barking dogs
August 16 Barking dog revisit from 8/15
August 16 Barking dogs verbal warning
August 17 Barking dog verbal warning
August 17 Kennel inspection routine visit

Please remember that when you are away from home and your dog(s) are tied or penned outside, their barking may disturb your neighbors. Be aware of your dog’s comfort level and don’t leave it in a situation where they must bark in frustration.

Don Alexander, Animal Control Officer

Hebron Academy Honor Roll

The following Raymond students were named to the Honor Roll at Hebron Academy for the spring term of 2005:

High Honors: Katrina Draper ’05, Heather Dyer ’05, Cameron Lao-Gosney ’07, Roman Lao-Gosney ’07, Kainaini Stevens ’07, Josh Taylor ’06. Honors: Kevin Crockett ’06, Tara Desorbo ’05, Taylor Fey ’07, Stephen Wisutskie ’07, Tim Woodbury ’05.

Hebron Academy, founded in 1804, is an independent, co-educational boarding and day school serving grades six through postgraduate. The Academy’s mission is to inspire and guide students to reach their highest potential in mind, body, and spirit. Two hundred-fifty students from throughout Maine, New England, the United States, and the world attend the school. For more information, please visit www.hebronacademy.org or call (207) 966-2100.

Board Buzz

Raymond School Board News

The Raymond School Board regularly holds business sessions on the first Wednesday of each month and workshop sessions on the third Wednesday of each month at the Raymond Elementary School at 7 pm. All meetings are open to the public.

In August, the Board completed committee assignments. The Finance Committee, which reviews the warrants, will include Roger Ginn and Lisa Friedlander. Deborah Adams and Lisa Friedlander will continue Policy Committee work, which will focus on Long Range Results Policies this fall. Frank Dexter will be joined by Teresa Sadak on the Negotiations Committee. Roger Ginn and Teresa Sadak will work with the Facilities Committee. The Board will continue to participate in the One Raymond Committee with representation by Teresa Sadak and Frank Dexter.

The Board would like to congratulate Ms. Ann Bottoms on her selection as a finalist in the Maine’s Teacher of the Year program. Profiles of all of the finalists, including Ms. Bottoms, can be found on-line at the MPBN web site under “education’ (http://www.mpbn.net/teacher/index.html).

The S.E.A.R.C.H. grant has been renewed for a second year of funding for after school programs. A $500 grant from Exxon Mobil will support efforts to revitalize the Jordan-Small program. Grant funds will be utilized to fund a lead literacy position and a new lead math position as well as two additional education technicians who will work to strengthen literacy and math education. Security cameras will also be installed at both buildings as part of a Homeland Security grant.

The technology staff has completed advanced PowerSchool training and is continuing to work forward full implementation of the system, which will include parent internet components. The Special Services department is developing an initiative to maintain the high level of support services provided to identified students while improving efficiency. The custodial staff is completing work to improve safety in both buildings in preparation for the return of students.

The next regular meeting is Wednesday, September 7th, at 7pm at Raymond Elementary School. Approved meeting minutes and agendas are available on the Raymond website.

Making Intelligent Pricing Decisions

By Mary Jane Vandersluis and Cathy Dodge

Pricing your home is one of the most important decisions you must make when selling your property. Some sellers want to price their home based on the return they would like to see on their initial investment, while others will base the price on what they need to buy their new home. Location, condition, and accessibility are the three other variables that will affect the price of a property. It is crucial to price your home correctly from the beginning because it will not sell if it is overpriced. Don’t make the mistake of thinking that you can reduce the price later because you may lose many potential buyers. The motivation of the seller is another very important factor. The higher the seller’s motivation, the lower the price, and low motivation will mean a higher price. The state of your local real estate market is one of the strongest determining factors when pricing your home. A real estate professional will be able to guide you through the pricing pitfalls with a written market analysis that includes the selling prices for similar homes in your area.

Substitute Teachers

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

Qualifications:

- 2 years of college (minimum)
- Must be able to work in a team school environment
- Love of children and learning
- State of Maine fingerprinting required.
- Applications are available in the school office.
**Friends Schoolhouse Opened For Casco Days**

By Anne Miller

The Raymond-Casco Historical Society opened their One-Room Schoolhouse in Casco Village Saturday during Casco Days. Over forty people visited Casco’s historic building, known as the Friends Schoolhouse. Local children dressed in period costume learned how children a hundred years ago would have spent a typical school day in a one-room schoolhouse. In those days students from first grade through eighth would have stayed in the same room with one teacher. They had a solid background in the three “Rs” using their slate and chalk.

Among the special visitors to our school was Mrs. Olive Burgess who will celebrate her one hundredth birthday this month. Mrs. Burgess taught school in Casco from 1928 to 1953. Many of her former students stopped by to say hello. She said that all her children were good. She also cooked their lunch on the wood stove: hot soups and chowders in the cold winter months.

Another welcome visitor was eighty-year-old Mrs. Nat Hanscomb Lombard who told the children about the chores she had to do in the morning before she could leave for school. She told us that she took her eighth grade exam in the schoolhouse when it was originally located on Quaker Ridge before it was moved to Casco Village for preservation.

Many members of the Tenney family, who actually attended the Quaker Ridge Schoolhouse, also visited. Mr. Frank Tenney told about his having to fill the water bucket from the well at a nearby farmhouse every morning and how all the children would use the same Dipper to get a drink. He also had to fill the wood box and tend the wood stove.

It was a very enjoyable day and we all learned a lot from our visitors. We ended by playing games outside, games that were played over a hundred years ago.

The Raymond-Casco Historical Society hopes this fun day at the Friends Schoolhouse will become an annual event.

**Hazardous Waste Day A Success**

On Saturday, August 6th the towns of Raymond, Casco, Naples, and Frye Island combined efforts in hosting a Hazardous Waste Day at Raymond Elementary School. Each town had a representative present to record the items and amounts delivered. Clean Harbors of Portland was contracted to accept and dispose of the waste.

Thanks go to Raymond’s Recycling Committee chair Phil Hamnett and Dick Morris, who oversaw the event. Items brought to the site were fluorescent light bulbs, aerosol cans, non-processable paints in cans, oil based paints in cans, solvents, pesticides, ni-cad batteries for reclamation, acid/acid compatible materials, lab materials, and mercury containing items. The town thanks the citizens from all the towns who brought their hazardous waste for disposal which makes our environment that much safer.

**Absentee Voting Available**

Beginning on September 21st, the Town Clerk’s Office will be accepting absentee voting. If you find that you will not be in Raymond on November 8th for the Referendum Election, you can vote at the Town Office before that date. Your ballots will be sealed in official envelopes and voted by the elections staff on Election Day. Your ballot will be handled in such a way that it will remain a secret ballot.

If you would like to vote in this manner, come to the Town Clerk’s Office during regular business hours. You can vote the ballot at that time or if you wish to take it home for your deliberation, you will be asked to fill out an application and then a clerk will give you the ballot and envelope for the ballot’s return either in person or by mail. If a voter cannot come into the Town Office, please call the Clerk’s Office at 655-4742 and ask to have a ballot sent to you. A clerk will fill out your application and promptly mail you a ballot and return envelope. If you wish to have a ballot sent to an immediate family member come into the Clerk’s Office and fill out an application and the clerk will mail the ballot and return envelope to the voter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Clerk’s Office at 655-4742.

The Raymond-Casco Historical Society is always looking for new members. The Society meets every third Monday of the month in 2005 at the Casco Public Library (in 2006 at the Raymond Village Library). For more information go to our website at www.raymondmaine.org/historical_society/introduction.htm

**Help preserve our heritage by joining the Society.**

Membership Dues: Family – $15; Individual – $10; Student – $2; Corporations – $25.

Make your check payable to: RCHS Treasurer, and mail to: RCHS, P.O. Box 1055, Raymond, ME 04071.
Summer S.E.A.R.C.H.
Raymond’s 21st Century Learning Center

S.E.A.R.C.H. held its first summer program the month of July at Jordan-Small Middle School. Over 75 children grades kindergarten through eight were involved in a wide variety of programming. Teaching staff submitted referrals for students in May to participate in the program. The 21st Century Learning Grants are designed to provide after school and summer programming for students who are at-risk of not meeting the standards in math and language arts.

Throughout the school year S.E.A.R.C.H. funded a variety of programs like homework labs, Spanish Club, Sign Language and Library Listeners. In the summer we made every effort to really make learning fun and different from traditional summer school.

Programs were designed to incorporate math, reading and writing skills with other activities. For instance, we had a quilting class where each step of the quilt was a clue to a puzzle that was solved when the quilts were complete. The scrapbooking class included language arts and math skills.

One program called ‘Moving Along’ combined math, language arts and movement. These students learned how to score bowling and then were able to take a trip to the lanes at the Pineland YMCA. Other field trips included mini-golf, a behind the scenes tour of Hannaford, the Southworth Planetarium and Pine Point in Scarborough.

The Science Exploration class conducted a nature scavenger hunt behind Jordan-Small Middle School, went to Wolf’s Neck Farm in Freeport and joined the Moving Along students at the planetarium. The ELA program (English Language Arts) combined efforts with our digital photography students on a great field trip to the Longfellow Gardens and Portland Public Library. Students were able to write stories and poems related to their trip.

There were three art programs, Art Club for grades 2-4, 3-D Creations and Art Field Days for grades 4-8. Art Field Days was a four day program that included a day ‘in the field’ with a second day in the studio. The first trip was entitled ‘in my neighborhood’. The students traveled to the Naples Causeway, Songo Locks, Sebago Lake State Park and Quaker Ridge. They took photographs with digital cameras and then spent the next day painting and sketching from their photos.

We also had an American Sign Language class, Healthy Cooking, Summer Math Success for 3rd and 4th graders and music lessons.

We are very proud of all the students who participated in the summer program: they did great work!

Please look for a mailing from S.E.A.R.C.H. to see our plans for the 2005-2006 school year!

Bicentennial T-shirt Sighting

Raymond’s Bicentennial T-shirt at the Four Corners Marker, worn in four states at once by Sam Griswold, nephew of a Raymond resident.

Monument Placed At Bicentennial Tree

A granite monument was recently placed at the base of Raymond’s bicentennial tree by the Bicentennial Committee in order to commemorate the significance of the tree. The inscription on the stone reads:

“This catalpa tree was donated to the town of Raymond by Frank and Betty McDer- Mott on the town’s 200th anniversary. It is a descendant of a tree given to Raymond students in 1903 by their teacher, Amy Strout Segars, in the year of Raymond’s centennial.”

The tree and monument are located at Raymond Elementary School on the corner of Webb’s Mills Road and the school’s driveway.

We are very proud of all the students who participated in the summer program: they did great work!

Please look for a mailing from S.E.A.R.C.H. to see our plans for the 2005-2006 school year!