Raymond Student Honored for Protecting Water Resources

Poland Spring sponsors Raymond student at the World Water Forum in Mexico City

Gaia Cloutier, 6th grader at the Jordan-Small Middle School, was selected as one of five students in North America to attend the Fourth World Water Forum in Mexico City, March 16 – 22. Her teacher Ms. Lynne Estey nominated Gaia based on her outstanding participation in raising awareness and protecting water resources through the study of trout. Her trip to Mexico City was sponsored through the Portland Water District, Project WET, the Poland Spring Water Company, and the Nestle Waters North America Inc. Gaia’s mom Lisa Friedlander accompanied her to Mexico City for the forum.

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), a nonprofit water science and education program with the mission to reach children, parents, educators and communities of the world with water education, selected Gaia and the other four students. At the World Water Forum, Gaia described the Trout in the Classroom project in a presentation to environmentalists from around the globe.

Raymond has approximately 4200 residents, with 575 pupils in our K-8 schools, which means that we are not a large town but also means we don’t have the high pupil rate that supports “large town” services. The Comprehensive Plan Committee and Raymond surveys indicate that town residents prefer a rural character and feeling of community. With this in mind, One Raymond is trying to anticipate town needs five, ten or more years out, and to formulate collaborative plans and suggestions for various committees to consider and possibly implement. Our goal is to look at the facilities the Town of Raymond offers through the school and municipality as a whole. We believe by looking at it in this manner, we can create efficiencies in services; best utilize the joint physical and personnel assets of both departments; and at the same time maintain, if not improve, the benefits received by the townspeople, so that the taxpayers will realize savings over time and have the value of their tax dollars maximized.

One Raymond Steering Committee

By Mark Gendron

The One Raymond Steering Committee comprises Raymond citizens representing the Selectboard, Budget Committee, School Committee, and the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee, along with the Town Manager and Superintendent of Schools. We explore all facets of town (such as one $10,000 copier instead of two, such as one $2000 copier instead of two, etc.), and work toward “large town” services; best utilize the joint physical and personnel assets of both departments; and at the same time maintain, if not improve, the benefits received by the townspeople.

Road Runner Staff:
John Hanley  Laurie Forbes
Norma Richard  Kevin Woodbury

To learn more about what’s new in Raymond, visit our website at:
http://www.raymonddaine.org

Visit Us on the Web
Make sure to see the on-line archives at the Raymond, Maine, website:
http://www.raymonddaine.org
Look under Calendars & News

Continued on Page 2
One Raymond Steering Committee continued from Page 1

or three), combining tasks previously done independently at the school and town hall, and the huge benefit of having cross-trained personnel. Additionally, the town and schools are reviewing presentations and data on outsourcing payroll to a private sector payroll service for cost savings.

Many of the ideas have involved the school department. The school budget has the major impact on our overall town budget, and therefore on our taxes. One Raymond is working to have all residents derive benefits from our school system. Town Manager Don Willard and Superintendent of Schools Sandra Caldwell have worked collaboratively on a number of items. They are reviewing common service contracts, programs, CIP (Capital Improvement Plan), RFP (Request For Proposal), and other joint purchasing opportunities to ensure we get the best value by combining school and municipal purchases. We will already realize a savings in fuel oil through this effort.

Fire Chief Denis Morse and Don Willard are working on consolidation of dispatch services in an effort to maintain or increase the level of service and share the cost. They will be exploring three alternative collaborative plans over the next couple of months.

The Selectboard received a Building Needs Committee report this year. It indicated the need for a town hall and public works building in the near future. Our current town hall doesn’t have enough room for present needs and is in immediate need of facility repair and maintenance. In an effort to avoid the cost of new construction, we have looked at more cost-effective alternatives appropriate for a town our size. We are looking at alternatives using existing buildings and putting together a future needs assessment for Public Works to allow us to plan accordingly. This effort will be ongoing over the next year.

Representatives of the One Raymond Committee made a site visit to the Town of Winthrop recently. We visited their town office, housed in a portion of one of their elementary schools. We wanted to see if it is feasible to do the same in Raymond. We found Jordan-Small Middle School set up similarly to the section they utilized, looking at the front wing of JSMS next to the portable classroom. We are exploring utilizing space at JSMS as the new location for consolidated Town Hall/School Department offices in lieu of new construction. The One Raymond Committee was able to tour the Winthrop Town Hall/School Department operating during school hours, observing all aspects from parking, office layout, and public access to restricted areas and security for students. Exploring an undertaking like this makes Superintendent Caldwell’s job considerably more difficult with respect to anticipating all the details and potential adjustments. She has been an appreciated asset, assisting us with an open-minded willingness to discuss the proposal. The cost savings to taxpayers with this potential collaborative effort are substantial. The goal is to ensure that such a consolidation would not negatively impact the students or their education and at the same time solve a facility need issue for the town. Such a consolidation would allow the School Superintendent and the Town Manager to work closely together with the newly merged finance department. The whole Raymond community would also derive a direct benefit from our schools. This is still in the very early stages, and there is a lot of research and planning to be done. Many on the One Raymond Committee feel that the State is going to strongly encourage, or perhaps in the future even require, towns and schools to consolidate operations; we therefore believe this consideration is very proactive.

We will keep you updated on the discussions and considerations of the One Raymond meetings, as we explore any and all “areas of opportunity” for the good of the whole community. For any community members who are interested in the One Raymond Committee, please visit the town website and review the minutes from our meetings. Also, check the calendar for our upcoming meetings and agendas, and plan to join us and contribute your ideas. We have already set our next three meeting dates: April 11th at 7pm in the RES cafeteria, May 9th at 7pm at the JSMS Portable, and June 8th at 7pm at the new Public Safety Building. The May 9th meeting will begin with a tour of the Technology Department by Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey. The June 8th meeting will begin with a tour of the Public Safety Building and details on Fire/Rescue.

Town of Raymond Planning Board
Notice of Public Hearing
Wednesday, April 12, 2006, 7pm
Town Hall
401 Webb’s Mills Road

The Town of Raymond Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 12, 2006, in accordance with Article VII of the Land Use Ordinance and 3D-A MRSA §4352 for the purpose of receiving public input on proposed Land Use Ordinance amendments to Article XII “In-Law Apartments.” Copies of the proposed language changes will be available at the Town Hall and at www.raymondmaine.org.

April 2006 Events and Meeting Schedule

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<td>3</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Babytime</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Budget/Finance Committee - Municipal Budget</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>6:30PM-8:00PM VC BSA Troop 800 Meeting</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Toddletime</td>
<td>10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Toddletime</td>
<td>10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>6:30PM RE School Committee Meeting</td>
<td>4:00PM TH NOMINATION PAPERS DEADLINE</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>3:00PM TH Ballot Clerk Training</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Babytime</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Recycling Meeting (moved from 4/3)</td>
<td>7:00PM VL Library Board</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>6:30PM-8:00PM VC BSA Troop 800 Meeting</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Tassel Top Board Meeting</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Toddletime</td>
<td>10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>6:30PM RE Planning Board Meeting</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Babytime</td>
<td>2:00PM VL Nature Program</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Toddletime</td>
<td>10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>7:00PM TH CPC ROADRUNNER DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Babytime</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Appeals Board Meeting</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>6:30PM-8:00PM VC BSA Troop 800 Meeting</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Board of Assessment Review</td>
<td>7:00PM MB Conservation Commission</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>10:00AM VL Library Toddletime</td>
<td>10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>7:00PM VL Biosk</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>7:00PM TH Cemetery Committee</td>
<td>7:00PM VL Landscaping and Gardening Workshop</td>
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Municipal News Brief:

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen recently took the following actions:

1) Vision Appraisal Technology Revaluation – Request to consider revising of land use ordinance was presented by the Assessors’ Agent. This was the fifth round of abatements and supplements recommended by the Assessors’ Agent subsequent to the town-wide round of abatements and supplements recommended in 2001 to 2002. The Selectmen unanimously approved the abatements as presented.

2) Consideration of 2005 supplementations and abatements.

Amanda Simpson, Assessors’ Agent, presented a schedule of proposed changes.

3) Consideration of Ordinance to allow parking on Mill Street.

The Selectmen voted unanimously to allow parking on Mill Street during related to funerals and/or maintenance work in that area.

4) Consideration of dog ordinance.

The Selectmen unanimously approved including a warrant article for this year’s annual town meeting to authorize the Municipal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services.

5) Consideration of dog ordinance – Town Clerk Louise Lester.

The Selectmen received a follow-up presentation from Mr. Holmquist regarding the Town’s Practice of considering land use ordinance changes as a part of the open annual town meeting. The Selectmen unanimously approved including the draft amendment to the Town of Raymond Traffic Ordinance.

6) Draft amendment to Town of Raymond Traffic Ordinance.

The Selectmen unanimously approved the new schedule to be effective Wednesday, March 22, 2006.

7) Appointed Wendy Thoren to the Tassel Top Board of Directors.

The Selectmen unanimously approved hiring former contract assessor Mike O’Donnell of O’Donnell and Associates to complete this necessary work.

8) Manager Report and Communications.

a. The Town Manager informed the Selectmen that the new employee break room had been completed at an additional LD1 cost in a corner of the existing Town Office meeting room, utilizing donated temporary partitions from New England University and Kevin Woodabrey.

b. The Town Manager also informed the Selectmen that Network Administrator Kevin Woodabrey would still be working on broadcast video capacity installation by the end of March and live broadcast in place by the end of April, if all technical considerations occur as planned.


March 14, 2006:

The Selectmen held a Budget Workshop to discuss the F.Y. 06/07 Municipal Budget.

March 21, 2006:


Mr. Spiegel owned the Morgan Meadow 2,200 acre property for over 25 years before its sale to the State of Maine through the State of Maine’s Future Program in the late 1980s. Mr. Spiegel and his wife Anne wish to donate $25,000 to the Town to fund an endowment for the future benefits of Morgan Meadow. Endowment funds could be used to develop and maintain public recreation enhancements on the property, facilitate additions of land through the future purchase of abutting property or be used for wildlife and forest management. Education expenditure, however, could lead to abutting property, which the Selectmen unanimously approved including in the draft amendment to the Town of Raymond Traffic Ordinance. All future town meeting article and an affirmative vote to accept this gift are required. The Selectmen unanimously approved a motion to draft an appropriate warrant article and seek annual town meeting approval of acceptance of these funds.

2) Derby Festival Certificate of Appreciation – Tom Noonan, Sebago Lake Rotary Club Event Organizer. Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen Mike Reynolds recognized Tom Noonan for his outstanding work in organizing this and past years’ Sebago Lake Rotary Club Derby Festival. The Selectmen expressed their gratitude for the economic impact, recreational, fisheries management and family oriented winter fun that the event brings to Raymond.

3) Approval of Fiscal Year 06/07 Municipal CEO and Planning Fee Schedule – Jack Cooper, CEO, presented a revised Fee Schedule, which is consistent with pre-vailing fees charged in neighboring communities. The Selectmen unanimously approved the new schedule to be effective Wednesday, March 22, 2006.

4) Establishment of Residency for Residential Growth Management Ordinance.

This change would allow the Town of Raymond to consider the possibility of allowing the proposed Residential Growth Management Ordinance and all future land use ordinances to be decided by secret ballot vote as opposed to the current practice of considering changes as a part of the open annual town meeting.

5) Vision Appraisal Technology Revaluation.

This year’s town meeting will likely be amended slightly for the coming year and in subsequent years to reflect changes from both communities. The ratification of the town meeting to allow the Selectmen to enter into such an agreement is a legal requirement to move forward with this arrangement, which will help protect both towns from future liability.

The Selectmen unanimously approved including a warrant article for this year’s annual town meeting to authorize the Municipal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services.

6) Fire/Rescue Dispatch Asks Your Help.

We are asking that you fill out a Livestock Location form for your help. The legal requirement in order to sanction the Agreement is a legal requirement in order to sanction the Agreement. The forms can be obtained at Dispatch, Public Safety Building, 1443 Roosevelt Trail, the Town Office, or on line at Raymond’s website www.raymond-maine.org.

These forms are most important in order to better identify the horse(s) running down the road or the llama which might hit the safety of the animal and the person(s) who might hit it with their car.
Proposed Land Use Ordinance

1. Amend Article V of the Land Use Ordinance to add subsection F as follows:

F. Residential Growth Management

1. Purpose – The purpose of this section is to establish a Residential Growth Management Program in order to provide for orderly and reasonable growth in the town, to direct the majority of residential growth to the designated growth areas of town, to slow the rate of growth in the rural areas, and to maximize the efficient use of town services, infrastructure and facilities.

2. Legal authority - This section is adopted pursuant to Home Rule Powers as provided for in Article VIII-A of the Maine Constitution and 30-A M.R.S.A. §3001 et seq., and s provided for in 30-A M.R.S.A. §4323 and §4360.

3. Definitions – The following definitions apply to this section:

a) Annual average permits issued – The average number of building permits issued in the Town of Raymond per year for new dwelling units, the winterization of seasonal dwelling units, or the conversion of any commercial use to one or more dwelling unit(s) over the previous ten year period. The previous ten year period shall run from December 1st of the tenth year previous to the current year, to November 30th of the current year.

b) Growth Area – Those areas of town contained within the Village Residential District (VR), the Commercial District (C) and the Industrial District (I) as depicted on the Town of Raymond Zoning Map.

c) Rural Area – Those areas of town contained within the Rural Residential District (RR), the Rural District (R), the Limited Residential – Recreation District (LR1R), the Limited Residential – Recreation District II (LR2R) and the Residential Protection Districts (RP) as depicted on the Town of Raymond Zoning Map.

d) Person related to the applicant - A spouse, parent, grandparent, child, or grandchild related to the applicant for a building permit by blood, marriage or adoption.

e) Lot of record – A lot shown on a deed or subdivision plan recorded in the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds.

4. Applicability - This section applies to building permits subject to this section.

5. Exemptions - The following are exempt from the provisions of this section:

a) The repair, replacement, reconstruction or alteration of any existing building or structure, so long as no additional dwelling units are created thereby and no seasonal dwelling units are winterized.

b) The construction or alteration of a nonresidential building or structure, so long as no additional dwelling units are created thereby.

c) A single-family dwelling to be built upon a lot created by a conveyance to the applicant from a person related to the applicant unless the intent of the conveyance was to avoid the objectives of this section.

d) A single-family dwelling to be built upon a lot of record if:

1) the applicant has owned the lot of record continuously for at least 10 years prior to the application for the building permit; and
2) the applicant is currently a Raymond resident and has been a Raymond resident for at least 10 years prior to the application for the building permit.

This exemption does not apply to any lot that is split off or subdivided from a larger lot that meets the requirements of this exemption unless, and until, the lot which has been split off or subdivided separately meets the requirements of the exemption.

e) Affordable Housing, as defined in Article XII of the Land Use Ordinance.

f) Elderly Housing, as defined in Article XII of the Land Use Ordinance.

g) Apartments in a Residential zone that do not contain more than 1000 square feet of living space, excluding stairways.

h) Open Space Subdivision Lot. Within any calendar year the first building permit application submitted for a lot in an open space subdivision, approved pursuant to Article XIII of this ordinance, is exempt.

6. Determination of annual average permit issued - The Building Inspector shall track the number of building permits issued for the growth area, the winterization of seasonal dwelling units, or the conversion of any commercial use to one or more dwelling unit(s) in the Town of Raymond and shall use that data to determine, no later than December 31st of each year, the annual average permits issued. The Building Inspector shall submit the annual building permit report to the Planning Board on or before January 1, 2007 and each January 1 thereafter.

7. Limit on building permits – Building permits subject to this section shall be limited on an annual basis, as follows:

a) For January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007, building permits subject to this section shall not exceed 100% of the annual average permits issued. No person or entity may apply for more than 5 of those building permits in that time period.

b) For January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008 building permits subject to this section shall not exceed 85% of the annual average permits issued. No person or entity may apply for more than 5 of those building permits in that time period.

c) For January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, building permits subject to this section shall not exceed 70% of the annual average permits issued. No person or entity may apply for more than 5 of those building permits in that time period.

d) For January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010, building permits subject to this section shall not exceed 55% of the annual average permits issued. No person or entity may apply for more than 5 of those building permits in that time period.

e) For January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011, building permits subject to this section shall not exceed 40% of the annual average permits issued. No person or entity may apply for more than 5 of those building permits in that time period.

8. Order for processing applications - Applications for building permits subject to this section shall be processed in the order that the Building Inspector receives complete applications. In the event two or more applications are received simultaneously, the Building Inspector shall determine their order by random selection. Any building permit application filed in any given year that is not issued as a result of this ordinance may be carried over to the following year and shall be considered in the date order in which it was received.

9. Transferability – Building permits subject to this section are site-specific, and shall be valid for construction only on the lot specified in the application. However, those building permits shall be transferable to new owners of the lot, if the property is sold or otherwise legally transferred.

10. No carry over - If the allowed number of building permits subject to this section are not issued within the calendar year, they shall not be carried over to the following calendar year.

11. Periodic review - The Planning Board shall review the building permit report submitted by the Building Inspector under Paragraph 6 of this ordinance at least every three years to determine if the ordinance continues to be needed to control the pace, timing, and location of development in accordance with the purposes of this section and to determine if it needs to be adjusted to meet current conditions. The Board shall hold a public hearing pursuant to Article VIII of the Planning Board Bylaws and Article VII of the Land Use Ordinance and submit a report of their findings to the Board of Selectmen on or before March 1 of each year it conducts a review. If conditions of the permit the Board may review the ordinance more frequently.

12. Conflict with other provisions - This section shall not repeal, annul or in any way impair or remove the necessity of compliance with any other rule, regulation, bylaw, permit, or provision of law.

13. Appeals - Any person or entity aggrieved by an action or decision of the Building Inspector to approve or deny a building permit based on the provisions of this section may appeal the action or decision to the Board of Appeals in accordance with the process outlined in Article VI, section C of the Land Use Ordinance.

I. Amend Article V of the Land Use Ordinance to re-let subsections G through M to H through N.

III. Amend Article VI, subsection B.1.a of the Land Use Ordinance by adding “or the Building Inspector” after the words “Code Enforcement Officer” as follows:

a) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, to hear and decide appeals from orders, decisions, determinations or interpretations made by the Code Enforcement Officer or the Building Inspector;

Raymond Growth Management Ordinance

Q. What is the Raymond Growth Management Ordinance?

A. The RGMO is a strategy that seeks to reduce the stress on our existing infrastructure by controlling the number of permits issued for new residential development in the rural area of the Town of Raymond. The ordinance would phase the permit reduction in three years to determine if it continues to be needed to control the pace, timing and location of development and, if necessary, to adjust the program to meet current conditions.

Q. Why is this necessary?

A. The majority of new home building permits (about 80%) issued over the last ten years have been for single lot development in the rural zone. This growth has resulted in more stress on our rural road system and our public safety services, ultimately resulting in extra funding needed for upgrades, maintenance and personnel. It also divides large land tracts into smaller ones and affects our natural resources, which create our real “ruarality.”

Q. How does this affect the land owners in the rural zone?

A. The effect is minimal in that these owners may still subdivide, still develop, and still sell lots. In 2007, the number of permits would be 100%, in 2008 the number is reduced by 15%, in 2009 the permits will again be reduced to 85%, and in 2010 the permits will be reduced to 70% of the town-wide permits for new construction. The RGMO allows for some exemptions - such as one lot for lowering time (10 years) restrictions plus permits - to ensure immediate personal or family use of the land for residential purposes. By reducing the amount of permits, the growth is slowed thus allowing the Town to absorb the growth and respond to it.
Principal's Report for April

By Norma Richard

Student safety is very important to us, and we are currently reviewing our crisis plan as a means to assess our progress in improving safety in our schools. One immediate action that we are taking is having all adults in the school identified by wearing ID badges. This will help staff and students to identify substitute teachers, parent volunteers, or visitors in our school. We will have badges for parents and community volunteers and visitors in the office, and will require every adult to wear one. We appreciate your help and assistance in coordinating this safety effort, and remind all visitors to sign in and get their badges when in the building.

I would like to welcome Brian Albert to the Raymond Elementary School. Mr. Albert is serving as interim principal while I am on a short-term leave. I have had the pleasure of working with him in the past, and am delighted to have him join the RES staff to support students, staff and parents during my absence.

I am so very pleased with the effort and positive attitude that students in grades 3 – 8 had during the MEA testing sessions in March. I want to thank all of the parents who provided the snacks for students during their testing. It made a significant difference to many students to have such a variety of healthy foods for snacks, and their teachers very much appreciated the care that parents gave to sending in the healthy snacks. I also want to thank Rowena Hawkens and Colleen Laprise for their assistance in coordinating the snack volunteers.

Maine students are not the only ones participating in state assessments. Our friends at the Lukeville Upper Elementary School will soon be taking the Louisiana state exams. I recently received a wonderful e-mail from Mrs. Cynthia Thomas, Principal at Lukeville. She shared that the holiday gift certificate sent to her school by Raymond students and staff was used to purchase 190 calculators for her students to use on the upcoming iLEAP/LEAP state tests. She expressed her appreciation for the care and compassion that we have shared with her students. They are still recovering from the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. While some progress has been made, there is still much to do in the recovery efforts. The generosity of our community in helping the Lukeville students and staff has been extraordinary, and I am so proud of all that we have done for this school.

I hope that you have marked your calendars for the upcoming performances of ALADDIN. It is going to be a spectacular play, and I know that Mrs. Dunklee, Mrs. Thornton, Ms. Feeney, the cast of students, and the many volunteers who helped to make the spring musical a reality are going all out to make this the best performance yet. Enjoy!

RES Successful Milk Carton Recycling Effort

By the RES Recycling Committee

We are pleased to report that the Raymond Elementary School has been very successful in its attempt to recycle milk cartons during the lunch period. It has been an effort that involves the support of all the students, educational technicians who supervise those lunch periods, cafeteria staff, teachers and administration, as well as the assistance of dedicated community members.

The process begins when children clear their lunch trays. First, they open their milk cartons all the way and place them on the table in front of their trays. Then they take their trays and dump the contents in the trash and leave them to be rinsed by the cafeteria staff. Next, they return to their trays and get their milk cartons and take to the sink located at the back of the cafeteria. They dump any leftover milk in a five-gallon bucket and then rinse their cartons in the sink with a small amount of soapy water. Finally they crush the carton and drop it in a trash container.

The children really needed to be supervised until this process became routine, and this is where the help from the community became invaluable. Lisa Friedlander created a schedule of volunteers, who came into our school to help support the students with this initiative. The volunteers included President Barbara Barber, Lou Nerren, Phil Hammett, Dick Morris, Tom Carter, Wendy Trask, Ellen Judkins and Lisa herself.

The results from this effort are phenomenal, and this is only generated from lunch:

- 1 or 2 thirty-gallon containers of milk cartons recycled per week.

- 6 or 7 five-gallon containers of milk per week that are being used to feed pigs at a local farm. Estimates place this at a reduction of about 6 tons of material that is removed from the waste system per year.

- 3 thirty-gallon containers of trash per week rather than 25 per week, especially if the kitchen staff uses regular washable trays instead of styrofoam. This means fewer dishes in the dishwasher.

An increase in what we will be paid for recycled materials.

A decrease in what we pay for trash removal.

We would like to thank everyone who was involved in this significant undertaking. We are indebted to the community members who helped us get this program working successfully, and thankful for the patience of all school staff and administration during the learning phase. The children of RES also deserve special recognition for their tireless efforts. The benefits are financially rewarding because they are already evident in the reduction of trash and the increase in recycled materials. The most important and far-reaching benefit is that these children are forming a habit that will hopefully be maintained throughout their lives.

PTA News

The PTA is co-sponsoring “Lighten Up, The Great American Nutrition Musical,” a highly interactive musical performance by Slim Goodbody, designed to teach children the value of exercise and good nutrition. The event will be on Thursday, April 13th at RES. A healthy dinner (soup & salad) will be served from 5–5:30pm, and the performance will follow from 6–7pm. This event is free to Raymond students in K-5 and their families.

A Playground Oversight Committee is being formed to evaluate and create a short-term plan and long-term plan for enhancing the playground area at RES. One more parent volunteer is needed for the committee. Any ideas for games and equipment are also welcome and should be submitted to one of the committee members. The scope of the enhancements are yet to be determined, but if you would like to be involved in the decision making, please contact Deb Cutten.

A Reminder: parent input and involvement is important at School Board meetings. Please be informed and let your representatives know how you feel.

Volunteer Needs

New Volunteers are needed to help prepare food for the Slim Goodbody event. If you can help prepare food ahead of time or help serve the night of the dinner, please contact Jerilynn Ward at 655-8672 or by e-mail at jward@raymmondmaine.org.

Ongoing:

The PTA has agreed to paint hopscotch and four square games on the pavement at RES. We need a volunteer(s) to provide (cut out) templates so that the Public Works crew can spray-paint the games onto the pavement in the spring. For more information, please contact Deb Cutten at dcutten@maine.rr.com.

With spring right around the corner, it is time to start thinking about our next PTA meeting.

The Giving Tree

We need the following:

* Plexiglass so we can frame the monster drawings Dave DeVries created with our children.
* 2 accordion-style window or box fans for the Teacher’s lunch room
* A flat file to store large drawings, paintings or posters in for the Art Room

Fundraisers

Box Tops for Education: Keep clipping those Box Tops! We are going to have another contest in the spring at both schools. The top 2 classes win $50 for their classrooms.

Tyson Project A+ Products: We’re still trying to get this program off the ground because each label is worth $0.24. So look for those Tyson products in the freezer section, clip the labels and send them in with your Box Tops.

Ink Cartridge and Digital Cell Phone Recycling: We’ve been getting a good response on this program. I’ve sent in three shipments already. Keep up the good work!

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, call Deb at 655-2877 and leave a message or e-mail at dcutten@maine.rr.com.

Anne and Jack Spiegel

Create Morgan Meadows Endowment

At the March 21st Selectmen’s meeting, Anne and Jack Spiegel offered to donate $25,000 to the Raymond Community Trust to hold in trust for the benefit of the Morgan Meadows Wildlife Management Area. Mr. Spiegel asked that the town consider, if the opportunity arises, using the interest from this fund to purchase about land to increase the size of Morgan Meadows, improve recreational access, and promote wildlife and forest management education.

This gift will come before the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, May 20th, at 10am at Jordan-Small Middle School for the voters’ consideration of acceptance.

Senior Citizen Supper

The next Senior Citizen Supper will be May 18th at the Jordan-Small Middle School. The time is 5:30pm. Please call 655-4743 for reservations before 11am.

Certificate of Appreciation

Tom Noonan and the Sebago Lake Rotary Club is recognized on this day, March 7, 2006, by the Raymond Board of Selectmen for their continued dedication to

Derbyfest USA

and its charitable donations, fisheries management assistance, and positive economic contributions to our region.

Betsy McDermott - Dana Desjardins - Mark Gendron

Michael Reynolds - Lonnie Taylor

Tom Noonan Receives Commendation

The Board of Selectmen at their Selectmen’s meeting March 21st awarded Tom Noonan and the Sebago Lake Rotary Club a Certificate of Appreciation for the creative planning and execution of the Derbyfest event in Raymond and around Sebago Lake. Mr. Noonan accepted the certificate of appreciation along with his wife Ann and their daughters and a friend.

The Raymon Road Runner

http://www.raymondmaine.org

PAGE 5
Raymond Village Library News

At a Glance
Sunday, April 16 – Library closed for Easter
Monday, April 17 – Nature Program, at the library at 2pm
Wednesday, April 26 – Book Discussion Group at the library at 7pm
Thursday, April 27 – Landscaping and Gardening Workshop at the library, 7-9pm
Mondays at 10am – Babytime at the Raymond Village Library
Wednesdays at 10am – Toddlertime at the library
Wednesdays at 10:45am – Preschool Story time at the library

Library Hours
The Raymond Village Library is open Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am to 7pm. The library will be closed on Sunday April 16, in celebration of Easter.

Annual Nature Program
The theme of this year’s nature program is TURTLES. This is open to all school age youngsters; please sign up at the Library. As in the past, we are so pleased to have Jocelyn Hubble facilitate this unique activity. It will be held at the library during April vacation, Monday, April 17, at 2pm. This special program is made possible by Loom Echo Land Trust, through the Helen Allen endowment.

Book Discussion Group
“The Lobster Chronicles;” written by Maine native Linda Greenlaw, is the book chosen for discussion at the April 26 meeting of the Book Group. The group meets at the Raymond Village Library at 7pm. Interested readers are always welcome. For more information, please call the library at 655-4283.

Landscaping and Gardening Workshop
What a perfect time to have a workshop on gardening! Please join us on Thursday, April 27, at 7pm at the Raymond Village Library to get rid of the cold weather doldrums and prepare for spring and summer with Scott Libby. Scott Libby is a young entrepreneur who owns and manages Libby’s Landscaping and Greenhouse here in Raymond. He will be presenting on landscaping and gardening in Maine, greenhouse growing and using tropical plants in the Maine landscape. You may know Scott from his several years of work at Murley’s Greenhouse. For more information about his business, see www.libbyslandscaping.com. He is located on the Webbs Mills Road (Route 85), 7.3 miles from the Route 302 junction.

February String Art Program
February vacation week may not have had much snow, but there was still plenty to do at the Raymond Village Library. Sue Carr taught a group of students, grades K-6, String Art on Wednesday, February 22. The students learned about working with different kinds and colors of string that was strategically wrapped around nails in a board. They started with a basic design to learn the concept of choosing a pattern and changing the starting point with each piece of string to make a design with the strands of colors. This was an introductory lesson to a new art form for these students, and the Raymond Village Library would like to thank Sue Carr for making this program possible.

Dr. Seuss Night
The Annual Dr. Seuss Night held at RES March 1, 2006, was once again a tremendous success. This program, co-hosted by Raymond Village Library and Raymond Elementary School, was bigger and better than ever, with more than 100 children attending.

The gymnasium was filled with Dr. Seuss memorabilia, drawings of Seuss characters, puzzles, games, activities and people dressed in Seuss-ish attire. The Jordan-Small Middle School Student Senate helped keep the action going at different activities, along with the help of Lisa and Allison Schadler, Bailey Oдум, Margaret Mains and her Title I team, Betsy Stevens, Deb Keef and Gail Cole. Even Dr. Keef attended this event, being kind enough to sign bookmarks for the children.

Dr. Keef, RES Librarian, entertained families with her reading of The Foot Book. With the help of many RES students, the story came alive on the stage for all to see. After this fun performance, the families scattered around the gym to participate in the many activities ranging from fishing to the beanbag toss to even foot tracing. Prizes were awarded at some stations, or tickets for the drawings at the end of the evening were given to the youngsters.

To wind down the evening, the drawings were done for a Dr. Seuss-themed journal, a packet of beanbags, a Dr. Seuss book, and the beautiful Dr. Seuss quilt made and donated to the Raymond Village Library by Gail Cole. The winner of the quilt was Brittany Anderson!

Naturally the crowd sang Happy Birthday to Dr. Seuss in honor of his birthday on March 2. Cupcakes were then enjoyed by all who wanted to have a treat before going home for the night. Many thanks to all the families who generously donated cupcakes to this fun time and to all the above-mentioned people who helped make Dr. Seuss Night so much fun for all who attended!

Gift to the Library
Many thanks go to Crockett Interiors for the beautiful new wingback chair that is now in the library’s reading corner. This is a wonderful addition and fits so well into “The Plan” to make the library more inviting and cozy. Now patrons can look through book selections more comfortably. Thanks again, Crockett Interiors, for your generous donation.

Plant Sale
As you begin your gardening days this year, please don’t forget the Library Plant Sale on June 24, when you deal with plants that need division. And if you are starting seeds, how about taging a few seedlings for the sale? Members of the Hawthorne Garden Club have decided to do this, and we are very excited to have their generous boost to the Library in the sale. Perennials are very popular, followed by groundcovers, herbs, flowering shrubs, vines, bedding plants and other annuals. Houseplants are also welcome, but the more unusual the better. For further information, contact Susan, 655-1010; June, 655-5354; or Irene, 655-4711.

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

Part of the ongoing program in Raymond is supporting rangers, paid or volunteer, who check boats being launched into our lakes. The major way that invasive water plants get into our lakes is by the plants being transported on boats, motors, and boat trailers. If you would like to volunteer, please e-mail Noralee Raymond at noralee.raymond@ raymonddnr.state.me.us or phone John Rand at 655-4272.

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

Are You Throwing 24¢ Away?
If you purchase Tyson products, you might be! Tyson has a program that can help the Raymond School System earn money! The program is called Project A+, and it works like this: there’s a Project A+ label worth 24¢ on various Tyson products that feature the Project A+ logo on the front of the package. Students must then cut the label from the Tyson by collecting and redeeming the labels, similar to the General Mills program, Box Tops for Education. Participating schools can earn up to $12,000 per academic year, and there are no restrictions on how the funds are used. The schools can use the money for anything they need — field trips, computer equipment, sports gear, library books — anything!

The Raymond PTA has set up collection sites at RES in front of the library and at JMSM in front of the office, where parents and others in the community can drop off their Tyson Project A+~ redemption labels. Our goal this year is to collect a total of 5000 labels so that we can earn $1200 for our schools. For more information on the Tyson Project A+ program, contact Karyn Knights at 655-3926, or check out the Tyson Project A+ website, http://ProjectAPlus.tyson.com.

Great Outdoor Summer Job! $10-12/hour on Raymond Lakes Two Lakes Protection Rangers Needed
The Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) is seeking applications for two Lakes Protection Rangers based in Raymond, Maine.

The primary duties of this position will include: inspecting boats and trailers at launch sites in Raymond during busy times; educating all users of our waterways (boaters, residents, friends/relatives, renters, rental agencies) about the risks of milfoil/IAP and the importance of cleaning boats and gear; working with trained volunteers to identify plants and properly report and manage any confirmed plant colonies; and monitoring our lakes for milfoil and other IAP.

Hours: ~25 hours/week (weekends included) June - August
Compensation: $10 to $12/hour
Prior experience with milfoil/IAP is preferred but not required. RWPA will pay for training (boat inspection, plant identification). Familiarity with lake water quality issues (i.e. non-point source pollution, erosion control, vegetative buffers) or other natural resource/ranger experience will be considered a benefit.

Send a resume by Monday, May 1st, to:
Raymond Waterways Protective Association
ATTN: Lakes Protection Ranger
P.O. Box 1243
Raymond, ME 04071-1243

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)
• Desire to work in a caring school environment
• Love of children and learning

State of Maine fingerprinting required.
Applications are available in the school offices.
Expanding role of RWPA creates need for effective lake

creasing housing development pressures and the increased

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approach. However, during this period of organizing PPA,

Increased pressures on the lakes require a more organized

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Significant individual efforts to reduce runoff pollution.

at clarifying the relationship one more time.

Significant individual efforts to reduce runoff pollution.

Over the course of the various PPA organizational meet

ings 2002, it became clear that many Panther Pond

landowners, often through their road associations, had engaged the various environmental groups from the PWD,

DEP, DEP, CCSWCD, etc., to help identify and fix lake runoff

problems. The DEP and CCSWCD people who worked with the PPA volunteer watershed survey teams noted how few problems we had on Panther relative to the other surveys that had been completed, at the obvious ef

forts undertaken by individual landowners, and the obvious

positive examples set by some that led neighbors to make

similar improvements.

Increased pressures on the lakes require a more organized

approach. However, during this period of organizing PPA,

many people, including those who had taken very positive environmental steps on their own, recognized that the in

creasing housing development pressures and the increased

threat from milfoil required a more organized approach by the Panther Pond landowners than had hitherto existed.

Expanding role of RWPA creates need for effective lake

Raymond Extended Day Program

2006 Summer Registration

Registration for the Raymond Extended Day Program's 2006

Summer Session will begin Monday, April 3, 2006. All current

RED families (any families currently enrolled in the 2005-06

school year program) may register the week of April 3 - April 7.

Registration will open up to new families the week of April 10th

and will continue until the program is full. Registration packets

can be picked up at RES and JSMS offices or from the RED

program during regular hours. If you have any questions, please

contact Kristi Curtis at 650-4470. The RED program is also seek

ing employees for its Summer program. You must be at least 18

years of age to apply. Please call Kristi for more information.

Town Reports Available in May

The 2005 Annual Town Report will not be mailed to the citizens of Raymond as a cost saving mea

sure. Copies of the Town Report will be available at

the Town Office, the Village Library, Glough’s Store, Sunset Variety, and Hilltop Market. We

expect that they will be available after the first of May in time for the Annual Town Meeting on

Saturday, May 20th, beginning at 10am at Jor

dan-Small Middle School.

Town Elections will be on Friday, May 19th from 7am to 8pm at Jordan-Small Middle School. If

you won’t be available to vote on Friday, ab

sentee ballots will be available from April 20th

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.
Raymond Beautification Committee Begins Year Three

The Raymond Beautification Committee came together over two years ago to look at ways to maintain and refine the extensive landscaping put in place under the Route 302 Improvement Project of 2003. The committee continues to work with town government, local businesses and a growing volunteer base known as “Walk n Weeder” to enhance the atmosphere of the busy Route 302 corridor. Last summer volunteers contributed hundreds of hours pruning, weeding, planting and watering in over seventy gardens along Route 302 and at Jordan-Small Middle School. These gardening efforts met with overwhelming approval from residents and visitors throughout the season.

The long-term viability of the Route 302 Improvement Project depends on participation of the businesses that line the corridor, as well as individual volunteers and community groups. The Beautification Committee’s introduction of the “Adopt a Garden” program was a huge success last season, with over 30 businesses, groups and individuals agreeing to maintain specific garden areas. Small garden signs recognizing the adopters serve as advertising as well as incentive for others to participate. As more people take part in the routine care of the corridor’s landscaping, its aesthetic impact will be more consistent; and Raymond’s welcoming sense of community will continue to develop.

The main objective of the Raymond Beautification Committee in 2006 is the maintenance of existing landscaping along the “Gateway to Raymond” and the promotion of community involvement. Our committee will continue to weed, prune and mulch, as we encourage the support of area businesses and build our volunteer base. If you would like to join the Raymond Beautification Committee, adopt a Raymond garden or perhaps donate materials & financial support, you may contact the Raymond Town Office at 655-4742 or contact The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce at 647-3472.

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:

[Signature or name]

Business/Group/Individual contact signature Date

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

Your Address: Phone:

Lost and Found

The Town Office has a pair of men’s glasses and case that were left at the front counter in early March. Call 655-4742, if you think they’re yours.

Spring Break – Ladies, Have Fun But Be Safe

by Steve Danzig, LSW, LADC

With this year’s spring break just around the corner, it is important for young women to be aware of the dangers of excessive drinking. According to a recent study by the American Medical Association (AMA), heavy drinking during spring break puts women, in particular, at risk for sexually transmitted diseases, blackouts, and violence.

644 women ages 17 to 35 participated in the AMA study. Of those surveyed –

- 74% said that women on spring break use drinking as an excuse for “outrageous behavior”
- 47% said that being promiscuous is a “way to fit in”
- 83% said they had friends who drank the majority of nights they were on spring break
- 59% said they knew friends who were sexually active with more than one partner
- Approximately 60% said they knew friends who had unprotected sex during spring break
- 20% said they regretted the sexual activity they engaged in during spring break
- 12% said they felt forced or pressured into sex
- 84% said they thought images of college girls partying during spring break may contribute to an increase in females’ “reckless behavior”
- 86% said those images may contribute to dangerous behaviors by males toward women
- 92% said it was easy to get alcohol while on spring break; and
- 40% said access to free or cheap alcohol or a drinking age of under 21 were important factors in their decision to go on a spring break trip

The American Medical Association also found that during spring break each year, the cities and hospitals in Cancun, Mexico, report an increase in deaths, rapes, injuries, assaults, and arrests related to drinking. Similarly, in Daytona, Florida, during the month of spring break, twice as many rape cases are reported to county officials.

Spring Break should be fun, but it should also be safe. Parents should talk to their kids about a few basic safety tips. And girlfriends traveling together should make a pact ahead of time to follow these safety rules.

- Be aware of how much you are drinking. In other words, know your limit. You do not want to get so drunk that you do not have control over your body.
- Have a buddy system. Travel in pairs or packs and never leave anyone in your group behind. Keep each other safe. If you do decide to go separate ways, communicate your plans and have a hook-up time. If your friend misses the hook-up time, call for help immediately. It is better to be safe than sorry. Another tip: if you have a cell phone with camera capabilities, take a snapshot of the person your pal is with. If they’re yours.
- Never drink from a cup that has been out of your sight. Date rape drugs can be easily hidden in an alcoholic beverage.
- If you plan to be sexually active, be safe. Carry condoms with you at all times.

Fun But Be Safe

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- Never drink from a cup that has been out of your sight. Date rape drugs can be easily hidden in an alcoholic beverage.
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Panther Pond Conservation Project Begins Second Season

by Noralee Raymond, Project Manager

• Highlights of 2005 Projects
• Technical Assistance & Grant Funds Still Available
• Volunteers Needed

The weather is changing quickly, and planning is under-way for the second year of the Panther Pond Conservation Project – Phase I. As you may recall, the goal of the project is to fix erosion sites identified in the Panther Pond Watershed Survey. Soil erosion is the number one threat to the water quality of our lakes. Through this project, funding is available to fix up to 42 of the 84 sites. Project funds are provided by the Maine DEP and US EPA under Section 319 of Clean Water Act.

The first year of the project was a great success. Here is a list of some of the highlights:

Task 1 - Twenty-two Remediation Projects
• Completed work on five major erosion sites – the road and parking area at Camp Hawthorne, Maple Avenue right-of-way, Jordan Lane right-of-way boat access, and Plains Road at Rolfe Brook.
• Met with landowners and developed plans for eight additional sites. Scheduled project work for this spring 2006.

Task 2 – Twenty Small Matching Grants (up to $100)
• Completed five matching grant projects – the Morisons planted a blueberry vegetative buffer; the Hayden’s installed a rubber blade water diverter on the driveway and erosion control (EC) mulch to stabilize the path; King’s Grant installed a rubber blade diverter at the boat access and plans to increase vegetation before the beach; the Clarks planted blueberry bushes and spread EC mulch to stabilize their bank; and the Watsons used EC mulch to fix their path.
• Provided technical assistance and developed designs for four additional landowners.

Task 3 – Outreach & Education
• Sixteen participants attended the Workshop at the Maple Avenue right-of-way. Participants learned how to stabilize a path with the installation of timber waterbars, an infiltration trench, and crushed stone.
• Thirty participants joined us for the educational “Cruise the Buffers” tour around the lake to view many of the completed projects via pontoon boat. Packets were provided to all participants with information on various conservation practices.

If you did not have a chance to participate in the project last year, it’s not too late! As part of the second year of the grant, we will once again be offering free technical assistance to any interested landowners. There is funding available for nine remediation projects and eleven Small Matching Grants ($100). Grant funds can be used toward the purchase of native plants for vegetative buffers or erosion control materials (erosion control mulch, water diverters, crushed stone for infiltration). If you have an erosion or runoff problem on your property or are interested in enhancing your shorefront vegetation, please contact us today to schedule a time for us to visit your property.

Additionally, we will offer at least one workshop that will demonstrate the construction of common conservation practices, and toward the end of the summer we plan to offer a second “Cruise the Buffers” tour to view completed projects. Keep an eye out for articles in the Road Runner and on PPA’s website, or contact Noralee Raymond today to get on a mailing list for workshop and tour announcements.

Lastly, we could not have completed many of these projects without the generous help of volunteers, so please contact us if you are able to volunteer some time this season. Volunteers are needed on a site-by-site basis for planting, digging infiltration areas, and constructing and installing rubber blade or timber water diverters.

If you are interested in volunteering, attending future workshops, receiving technical assistance, matching grants, or would like to attend the buffer cruise, please contact PPA at ppa@raymondmaine.org or contact Noralee at 207-671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org.

For more information on the Panther Pond Conservation Project visit the PPA website or pick up a brochure at the Raymond Town Office or Raymond Village Library.

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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 and best time to reach you:
Brief description of problem:

What’s the big deal about sediments and soil erosion? Well, the nutrient phosphorus attaches itself to soil particles as it washes into the pond or stream with eroding soil. Fine soil particles carry more phosphorus and can travel long distances without settling out.

• Phosphorus adds nutrients to the pond causing excess algae to grow
• Excess algae growth makes the water less clear
• As algae die and settle to the bottom of the pond, the decomposition process uses up the oxygen at the bottom of the pond. This can harm cold-water fisheries.
• The absence of oxygen can also create a chemical reaction that causes phosphorus to be released from the sediments.
• The end result – an algae bloom.

Spring Scholastic Book Fair at RES

by Deb Cutten, Raymond PTA President

The ever-popular Scholastic Book Fair is coming to RES for a return engagement April 24th through April 28th. Though the Book Fair was a big success in the fall, many people missed it due to their busy schedules near the holidays. This time it coincides with the annual Academic Fair and will remain open until 7pm on Thursday, April 27th, for Fairgoers. It will be open during regular school hours on the other days.

We invite parents to come in and preview titles prior to their child’s purchases. There are many great titles to choose from, and we want your family to get the most value for your money.

May 1st – 7th is Teacher Appreciation week, and a donation of books to your child’s classroom is a thoughtful way to show your appreciation for all the hard work our teachers do.

The Book Fair is an important fundraiser for the Raymond PTA. Last year it represented 17% of our fundraising efforts. And remember, some funds come back to our children, schools and community through the PTA’s mission of enriching educational programs, supporting faculty and staff and collaborating with the community.

Volunteers will be needed to “mind the store,” as always. If you can donate an hour or two of your time, please contact our Scholastic Fair Chairperson Wendy Trask at wtrask1@maine.rr.com.
College Information
for Parents of Middle and High School Students on
Monday, April 10, @ 6:30pm
Jordan-Small Middle School Cafeteria in Raymond

The time to start is now! Waiting until the final few months of high school to begin the college planning process often makes a college education more expensive and is less productive - yet it is an American tradition. This bad habit is driven in part by guidance counselor schedules and student confusion about the future.

This program is geared to middle and high school age students and parents to start thinking about the post-secondary options for your student and yourself. Parents can be positive role models for their students by investing in their education NOW and spreading the word that college is POSSIBLE.

Presenter Bob Stuart, Director of Maine College Circle, is a well-known college consultant and a frequent partner with the MELMAC FOUNDATION. He will be explaining why it is so important to begin the college discussion early. For the past 8 years he has been instrumental in helping students from Grade 3 – 12 identify colleges of interest and discover the reasons to apply. This program is geared to middle and high school age students and parents to start thinking about the post-secondary options for your student and yourself. Parents can be positive role models for their students by investing in their education NOW and spreading the word that college is POSSIBLE.

Please call the Gray-New Gloucester Adult Education Office at 657-2620 to register for this important evening.

The presentation is sponsored through a MELMAC Foundation College Transitions grant by G-NG and Windham Adult Education.

Life Alert: Lights and Sirens
By Ronny Keeler, Paramedic

It has happened to all of us. We’re driving down the road, singing to a song, when all of a sudden you hear a siren. You look up in your rear-view mirror and you see the tell-tale flashing red and white lights. You pull over to the right side of the road and the emergency trucks go flying by. Well done! But what if you had no room to pull over? Here are a few reminders of getting out of emergency vehicles’ way safely.

Rule 1: Always pull to the right.

NEVER pull to the left. Emergency vehicles are always told to pull to the left of traffic. So if you pull left, you are going to be directly in the path of a big, loud, flashing truck. Remember ALWAYS pull to the right.

Rule 2: Do NOT go through a red light to get out of the way!

This seems like a no-brainer, but you would be surprised at how many drivers do this. When a vehicle is going Code 3 (lights and sirens) to a call, the driver does not want to cause another accident by forcing you through a red light. In this case, if you cannot pull to the right due to traffic or a curb, then DO NOT MOVE! The emergency vehicle will eventually get around you. Our purpose is not to cause another emergency, but to respond safely and in a timely manner to the one we are on.

Rule 3: If it is snowy and icy and you feel you will get stuck on the side of the road or lose control, then don’t pull over.

In this situation, slow down to a crawl in your car, and the emergency vehicle will proceed with caution around you. Or look for the next plowed driveway or parking lot to pull into. Never put your life in harm’s way to get out of the way.

Rule 4: Make a habit of looking in your rear-view mirror frequently.

The more you are familiar with what is around your vehicle, the more time you will have to react and safely get out of the way.

Rule 5: The air horn is loud, but do not let it make you drive without caution.

It is a state law that an emergency vehicle has to let people know it is coming, so they have plenty of time to get out of the way. But if you feel that you are stuck and have nowhere to go, do not let the air horn intimidate you. Stay put and let them blow away until you have a safe place to pull to the right.

Rule 6: After you have pulled over and the trucks have passed, use caution pulling back into traffic.

Listen and make sure no other emergency vehicles are coming. And watch out: we all have seen the impatient people yelling and making you pull to the left of traffic. Always look before pulling back into the road.

Rule 7: If you find yourself behind an emergency vehicle, always stay at least 500 feet back.

This is a safety precaution in case the vehicle has to make a sudden stop. Think of 500 feet as roughly about 20 car lengths. And if it happens to be a family member or friend as a patient in the ambulance and you are following in your own car to the hospital, please do not try to keep up. Drive safely and at the speed limit. Get yourself safely to the hospital, so that you can be there for your loved one.

All in all, remember that your safety comes before anything else. As a paramedic in the community, I would love to meet you. Or look for the next plowed driveway or parking lot to pull into. Never put your life in harm’s way to get out of the way.

Cardboard Recycling
The Town of Raymond recycles corrugated cardboard at the District II Fire House/Public Works Garage on Webb’s Mills Road. Because of limited space it is imperative that you break down the boxes left at the site. If the boxes are left without breaking down, you may be charged with littering.

Boy Scout Troop 800
April Fools Day, But It's No Joke
ITALIAN DINNER
Saturday, April 1st
4:30PM to 6PM
Raymond Village Community Church
Main Street
Raymond Village
Boy Scout Troop 800

Lasagna, Baked Ziti, Meatballs, Salad, Bread, Beverage and a Dessert
$6 each
$20 family of 4
The new committee is known officially as the Presidential Officers’ Advisory Committee on the Laws Governing Legislative Ethics. It is composed of 15 voting members, including current and former legislators, members of the public, citizen lobbyists and a former member of the Commission on Governmental Ethics. Maine’s attorney general and the current executive director of the Ethics Commission will hold non-voting seats.

Committee duties will include reviewing existing rules and laws regarding the standards for legislative service that deal with ethical issues. The group will not review campaign finance rules, which are under the purview of the Commission on Governmental Ethics.

Rep. Robinson, educated as an Industrial Engineer at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, is President of Robinson Manufacturing Co., established in 1849. He is the sixth generation of his family to run the enterprise, which manufactures textiles but has switched in recent years to real estate ownership and development. One of the company’s new properties is a 50-slip boat marina on Thompson Lake in Oxford.

Legislative Update

From Representative John C. Robinson

2006 Supplemental Budget

As the session winds down in Augusta, many of the important issues before the Legislature are coming up for debate. One of the key issues is the 2006 Supplemental Budget, which the House is scheduled to consider in marathon meetings by the Legislature’s Appropriations Committee.

The budget totals roughly $160 million, including $15 million for roads and bridges from the General Fund, which will be matched by $15 million from the Highway Fund. The budget proposal from Governor Baldacci called for a $25 million bond to fund highway improvements, but Republicans dug in against more state debt. I felt this piece was a significant achievement reached by the Republican leadership. If fiscal conservatives on the committee were able to find $30 million for road improvements and did so without creating more long-term debt.

Maine residents will also benefit from the approval of another Republican budget priority—state tax conformity with Federal law on Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). The HSA conformity will eliminate state taxes on funds contributed to a Health Savings Account. Previously Maine was one of only a few states to tax Health Savings Accounts. Tax free HSAs will bring some relief to our health insurance crisis and allow Maine people more flexibility with their health care expenses.

Maine hospitals are owed $364 million from the state and are not yet in on this piece of the budget, but Republicans said they were willing to find $30 million for road improvements and did so without creating more long-term debt. Maine residents will also benefit from the approval of another Republican budget priority—state tax conformity with Federal law on Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). The HSA conformity will eliminate state taxes on funds contributed to a Health Savings Account. Previously Maine was one of only a few states to tax Health Savings Accounts. Tax free HSAs will bring some relief to our health insurance crisis and allow Maine people more flexibility with their health care expenses.

I wanted to take the time to update our community on the status of this legislation and the disturbing actions that occurred last week on the floor of the House of Representatives. The title is quite clear: the intent of the bill is to set a mandatory 25 year sentence on a person convicted of sexu- ally assaulting a child under the age of 12. Members of the Raymond community have been hit hard by this issue, and it is closer to home than many want to believe. As a parent, member of the Legislature and your elected Representative, I know of no greater responsibility incumbent upon us all than to protect our children and their future!

Sadly, in a surprisingly political maneuver by Democratic House Majority Leader Glenn Cummings, the motion was made to “table unanswered” this bill. The motion passed by a 68-66 margin. This tabling motion sets the bill aside, without any opportunity for debate, with the possibility that it will never be brought up again before the body for discussion and further votes. LD 1717 may well have been “killed” by a simple majority vote. It has still been taken up if the Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader see fit to allow it to come back to the House floor for a vote, but that will require a 2/3 majority vote of approval by the House. This was a tremendous disservice to the families and the community of this state who have dealt with this horror, the entire Legislature and the legislative process. Frankly, I find this type of politics intensely disturbing and a black mark on the 122nd Legislature. Regardless of where anyone stands on the bill, this issue deserved to be heard, not tossed aside by a political maneuver. The elected members could vote this bill up or down under the understanded “cover” that some in the House were looking for.

Request for Bids

The Town of Raymond is seeking bids for spring cleanup on Route 302. The job will consist of removal of winter sand, trash, debris, weeds and bark mulch, as needed, and to place new bark mulch in approximately 70 gardens and around several trees along Route 302 from the Windham town line to and includ- ing the Raymond boat launch/beach area. The Public Works Department will supply all mulch and a place to dispose of waste. Date of completion no later than May 27, 2006.

Please contact Nathan White, Public Works Director, at 207-655-5871 to leave a message. Bids clearly marked “2006 Route 302 Cleanup Bid” will be received until April 11, 2006, at 2pm, at 401 Webb’s Mills Road, Raymond, Maine 04071. The Town of Raymond reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. Additional information may be obtained from Public Works Director Nathan White at 207-655-1012 or 207-655-7851 or by e-mail at nathan.white@raymonddmaine.org.

2006 Dog Registration

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

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

Passover Meal To Be Sponsored by Raymond Village Church

The Raymond Village Community Church is hosting a one-of-a-kind Seder meal on Thursday, April 13th. The symbolic meal begins at 6:15pm in the Vestry. By using narrative, songs, and traditional foods like at a Jewish Seder Meal, it will retell the story of Moses leading the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Participants will also share in common in much the same way as Jesus shared it with his followers at the Last Supper.

“Passover is one of the most important Jewish festivals. Participating in a Seder meal like this one is a wonderful way to better understand Jesus’s roots in Judaism and to imagine what it was like for the disciples so long ago in Jerusalem,” reflected Pastor Nancy Foran. “We hope that families in the community will join us for this event.”

The Passover meal will be preceded by a soup and bread supper beginning at 5:30pm. Following the Passover meal, Temple Service with candlelight will be held in the sanctuary at 7pm.

Contact the Raymond Village Church Office at 655-7749 for more information on these and other Holy Week activities.

“NOTES” from the Music Room

Congratulations to the following JSM students who were selected to participate in the Maine Music Educators District 2 Festivals.

Band Grade 8 - Jenna Eastman

Band - Grade 7 - Josh Christy, Molly Cloutier, Elizabeth Shively

Chorus - Grade 8 - Jenna Eastman

Chorus - Grade 7 - Molly Keane-Dyer, Cassie Gordon

Orchestra - Grade 7 - Collin Gordon

Band - Grade 6 - Lindsey Hughes, Patrick Lachance, Ryan Szanty, Tim Morris, Gaia Cloutier

Chorus - Grade 6 - Casey Hutchinson

Chorus - Grade 5 - Cassidy Gaudet

District 2 comprises approximately 15 school districts in Cumberland, Oxford and Androscoggin counties. The seventh and eighth grade students audition in October for participation in the concerts in January and February. Over 400 middle school students auditioned for less than 25 spaces. The younger students are selected from teacher nominations and will be performing in April. The number of band students chosen this year is the largest representa- tion JSMs has ever had!

Mark your calendar for our Spring Concerts! May 25th - All Chorus Concert, Grades 3 - 8

June 1st - All Bands Concert, Grades 5 - 8
Raymond Recreation Association Tennis
The Raymond Recreation Association will offer a tennis program to children in the 3rd and 4th grades. Sessions will begin on Wednesday, May 3rd, and continue for 5 Wednesdays through May 31st. There is a $5 donation per student for the entire program.

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

Registration forms will be distributed at school the week of April 3 to be returned by April 10. If you have not registered by that date, phone Pat at 655 4657. Enrollment will be limited to 30 students.

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

RES Music Notes
By Patti Gordan
We have been very busy in music class tape recording singing voices and videotaping instrument playing. All of the tapes were used as assessments for the 2nd trimester report cards. Congratulations to all of my hard working musicians!

Kindergarten students have been enjoying the use of puppets with certain songs and games. During our sillier moments, we’ve been reciting poems and singing songs in cat and dog language. 1st graders are learning an African stone passing game, using bean bags instead of stones. They must all pass their bean bags at the same time, to the steady beat. Hilarity ensues when someone ends up with three bean bags (or four, or six), and others have none. 2nd graders are becoming quite accomplished at square dancing. 3rd graders have learned a couple of songs from the old (old, old) days. One song was over 700 years old. 4th graders are getting better and better on recorder. The songs are sounding like music rather than noise. Right after the 1st through 4th graders finish their classical composer units, all students in grades K through 4 will be starting an Instruments of the Orchestra unit. Can you hear the difference between a clarinet and a trumpet? They can!

The composer of the month for April is Stephen Foster. He was a famous American composer during the 1800s, responsible for such standards as “Oh! Susanna,” and “Camptown Races.”

Music Ed. tips for toddlers and preschoolers: Besides carrying a tune and keeping a beat, another music skill that is very important is the skill of listening. Children progress from hearing only the obvious in a piece of music to hearing subtleties. The best music for developing this skill is music without a steady drumbeat, such as classical or folk. Repeated listening, followed by discussion or drawing a picture, is a great way to strengthen these skills. Telling or reading stories to your child, without having him/her look at accompanying pictures, is also a great way to develop listening skills. The idea is to provide a completely aural experience, without visual aids.

Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility
Leach Hill Road in Casco off Route 11
The Town of Raymond recycles all of its bulky waste. Any bulky waste like sheetrock, plank wood, furniture, glass, metal, old computers, motor oil, dried latex paint cans, mercury products, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable household batteries, or anything which isn’t included in our curbside household trash pickup will be accepted at the LRBWF. It is imperative that you deliver each of the different categories to their respective drop off points at the LRBWF. Everything must be sorted. The only items that can’t be recycled at the Facility are dirt, sand, cement, cement blocks, rocks, etc. This Facility is not a landfill; everything that is delivered must be hauled out of the Facility.

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

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

2006 Cub Scout Pack 800 Blue and Gold Banquet
The Future of Scouting was the theme at the Blue and Gold Dinner at JSMS February 11, 2006. What a terrific gathering for Pack 800 Cub Scouts! Families of the scouts joined together to have a feast, enjoy a magic show and celebrate with 2nd year Webelos participating in their Arrow of Light ceremony.

Families sat according to Den number, with each Den displaying its centerpieces following the theme of the evening. Also on display were cakes made by each scout and his dad. Designs ranged from patriotic to intergalactic, showing what each scout perceived as the Future of Scouts. Cakes were then shared as a dessert for all those who attended.

The magic piece of the evening was performed by Abracadabra Production’s Phil Smith. The whole audience was entertained with a variety of tricks and much humor. The finale wowed all with the appearance of Roger Rabbit, a live bunny, from a popped balloon!

Following the humorous part of the night was the Arrow of Light Ceremony for 2nd year Webelos. These are the oldest members of the Cub Scouts who have completed all the requirements to move on to Boy Scouts. This is an auspicious occasion for these boys and their families, as they have all worked very hard to get to this point of scouting.

Parents participate in the Arrow of Light ceremony with their sons, and 1st year Webelos are invited to wish each other well. Congratulations go to all the boys!

Many thanks must be given to the Cosgrove family who coordinated the event, making everything look nice and go off without a hitch! Terri Cosgrove has coordinated this particular event for the last 2 years, and Pack 800 thanks her for a job well done!

2006 Cub Scout Pack 800 Pinewood Derby
Thirty-four Raymond Cub Scouts raced to the finish line with their individually designed Pinewood Derby vehicles. Each Scout had to make his finished product from a kit, following specific guidelines, in order to compete in the Annual Pinewood Derby Races.

Each vehicle must weigh in prior to the races and show it is made according to Pinewood Derby rules. Scouts use their creativity and personal tastes in the appearance of their racers, which make for very colorful and unique models. This year’s races proved to be as exciting as ever, with Tim Morris moving on to Boy Scouts and not a contender for the Derby.

The Derby was sponsored by the Raymond Road Runner, with special thanks to our Town Warden. Following the humorous part of the night was the Arrow of Light ceremony.

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Meeting Standards Is Part of the Plan

Being a small library has its advantages. We can provide highly personalized services for our patrons of all ages because they’re often also our friends and neighbors. But being small can present challenges as well. Many people don’t realize that all public libraries, regardless of size or funding, are held to certain state and national standards of professionalism. The stated purpose of the Maine Public Library Standards is to give libraries a tool for identifying strengths and selecting areas for improvement and in so doing improve the quality of library service.

These standards cover areas such as finances, governance and administration, physical facilities, collections, services, personnel, technology, and advocacy. A library’s Board of Trustees is responsible for reviewing library services and policies to monitor quality, applicability and professionalism, as well as for operating the library within these guidelines.

The Raymond Village Library supports and attempts to adhere to the Maine Public Library Standards, which you can find here: http://www.state.me.us/ml/lib/standards.htm. But one size doesn’t fit all among Maine’s municipal and privately incorporated libraries. In fact the differences are significant in the levels of funding and community support that libraries around the state enjoy. In recognition of such circumstances, each Standards category establishes certain minimum standards a library can use as a baseline from which it can work toward excellence.

These Standards are very detailed, and meeting or exceeding them involves more than just one’s sense of professional pride. A library’s ability to compete for grants and other funding opportunities is frequently tied directly to proof of “minimum” Standards compliance, and that’s another great incentive to meet them.

This is where the challenge comes into play for the smallest libraries, as many do not have the human and financial resources to, for example, open the minimum number of hours per week or employ the minimum number of staff members. The Raymond Village Library presently meets most of the state’s minimum standards, as well as many of the other requirements, but we do not meet the minimum state standard for staffing. One of the goals in the library’s Three Year Plan, which you can read at www.raymondvillegibrary.org, is to gradually improve our levels of staffing and resource development.

The Standards themselves are currently undergoing revision, and our Library Director is participating in this process, which includes meetings in Augusta. We and other small libraries are grateful for her participation, as it’s so important that the voices of the small libraries in the state are heard. We find that many large libraries in Maine may take certain high funding and staffing levels for granted and therefore expect that their own experiences and operational abilities hold true for us all. The Raymond Village Library is an active advocate for small libraries who want to be taken seriously, especially in a competitive funding environment, in order to continue to offer their patrons high-quality, professional library services.

RWPA - 2005 Accomplishments and 2006 Goals

By Noraloe Raymond, Executive Director

The Annual Raymond Waterways Appeal is underway and every contribution helps to achieve this year’s goal of $20,000. We would like to thank everyone who was able to support us in 2005 and we hope to hear from you and many others this season.

Our goals for 2006 are to hire three Lakes Rangers to inspect boats and educate boaters, conduct invasive plant surveys of our lakes, and expand our remediation efforts of known milfoil colonies in Sebago Lake and the Jordan River. In addition, we will manage the final year of Panther Pond Association’s federally funded 319 project aimed at helping individual landowners reduce erosion on their properties and will work with Raymond Public Works to fix eroding town road sites.

RWPA’s Accomplishments in 2005 show how important our work is to Raymond:

• Hired divers and organized volunteers to remove milfoil from Dingley Brook and helped place benthic (bottom) barriers at Port Harbor Marine.
• Inspected 2950 boats at four launch sites (see the chart) while educating boaters on the risk of invasive plants (a 60% increase in inspections over 2004). Adding a third inspector allowed us to cover our busiest ramps (Sebago and Crescent) while increasing time spent at less busy ramps (Thomas and Panther).
• Identified and removed Eurasian milfoil on one boat entering Sebago Lake and removed nine Variable milfoil fragments on boats exiting Sebago Lake. Eurasian milfoil is one of the most aggressive invasives and is found only in one waterbody in Maine (private gravel pit in Scarborough).
• Completed shoreline surveys of all Raymond’s lakes (no invasives found) and sections of Sebago Lake (documented known locations).
• Provided technical assistance to landowners and the town to stabilize erosion and prevent polluted runoff. Managed the first year of the grant-funded project for the Panther Pond Association to stabilize 42 of 84 identified erosion sites in the Panther Pond Watershed.

As we plan for our 2006 season, we need volunteers to assist us with conducting boat inspections at the four ramps.

Volunteering as a boat inspector can be as simple as one four hour shift twice a month for the summer. We also need volunteers to assist us with our milfoil remediation projects. This year we will be expanding the number of remediation projects to four sites. We plan to do work at Dingley Brook, Panther Run (Jordan River), Bay View Estates, and Jordan Bay Marina. We need assistance with assembling benthic barriers and on the ground support for divers.

Do you know how to identify invasive plants? We will be working with the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants (MCIAP) to set up a workshop so you can learn how to identify invasive aquatic plants and their native look-alikes. If an invasive plant is introduced to one of our lakes, early detection provides the best (and sometimes only) hope of eradication. So take the time to become familiar with the plants in your lake. Keep an eye in the Road Runner for training dates. Can’t attend the workshop? MCIAP is now offering a training on-line. Check out their website at MCIAP.org and look at the new Virtual Herbarium.

Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering or if you have any questions about our projects. You can reach us at 207-671-3329 or e-mail lakes@raymondmaine.org. Thank you for your continued support through donations of time and in helping us raise our fundraising goal in 2006. We look forward to seeing you on Raymond’s clean waters this season.

Please help us help you to keep them clean!

2006 Boat Registrations Available

The Town Clerk’s Office has received the 2006 boat registration and milfoil stickers. There has been a change in the registration cost. All boats which run under power other than a paddle or oar must be registered and have a freshwater milfoil sticker.

0-10 horsepower boat ........................................ $10
11-50 horsepower boat ...................................... $15
51-115 horsepower boat ..................................... $21
Over 115 horsepower boat ............................... $29
Personal Watercraft ........................................... $29
Resident Milfoil sticker .................................... $10
Non-resident Milfoil sticker .............................. $20

If you wish to register your non-powered boat for security and identification purposes, that is available for $10.

2005 Boat Inspection Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lake</th>
<th>Boats Inspected</th>
<th>Plant Fragments</th>
<th>Inspection Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sebago Lake</td>
<td>2264</td>
<td>82 (10 invasive fragments)</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crescent Lake</td>
<td>655</td>
<td>41 (no invasives)</td>
<td>204.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panther Pond</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2 (not invasive)</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Pond</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1 (not invasive)</td>
<td>26.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eurasian milfoil is one of the most aggressive invasive plants. Once the plant grows to the surface, it forms thick mats of vegetation, choking out native plants and rendering the waters unsuitable for fishing, swimming and boating. RWPA Lakes Ranger Christina Perry removed Eurasian milfoil from a boat entering Sebago Lake in 2005.
Animal Control Report

Feb - March
Feb 15 Stray dog
Feb 16 Stray dog to Animal Refuge League
Feb 17 Owner call looking for stray dog
Feb 19 Dog in yard - Picked up and returned to owner
Feb 23 Dead cat to memorial park
Feb 24 Dog in yard - Gone on arrival
Feb 24 Dog in yard - Picked up and warning to owner
Feb 24 Dog at large - Warned owner
Feb 24 Dog at large
Feb 25 Took dog to Animal Refuge League
Feb 25 Stray dog - Returned to owner/issued summons
Mar 1 Two dogs at large
Mar 2 Dog running at large
Mar 2 Care and cleaning of equipment
Mar 2 Information given about dogs at large
Mar 3 District Court
Mar 7 Two dogs at large - Located owner, verbal warning
Mar 8 Cat missing
Mar 8 Cat missing
Mar 10 Dog at large, barking - Summons issued
Mar 10 Dog in road
Mar 11 Dog returned to owner - Written warn- ing/issued summons
Mar 12 Two dogs in yard - Picked up by owner
Mar 15 District Court
Mar 16 Dog at large - Gone on arrival
Mar 16 Dog at large - Information only
Mar 17 Dog barking - Verbal warning

How Old Is “Old Enough”

By Senator Bill Diamond

The Legislature is winding down, with approximately three weeks remaining in this the 2nd Legislative Session. The second session budget (referred to as the Supplemental Budget) is well on its way. However, we still have some of the most contentious issues to be debated, and I look forward to hearing your views on all of these various proposed bills yet to be finalized.

One bill which has already started to be debated is one which would allow 18 year olds to be elected to the Maine House of Representatives. The Maine Constitution currently requires that state representatives shall be 21 years of age at the “commencement of the term,” and senators shall be 25 years of age at the “commencement of the term.”

In order to be passed, this bill would need to receive a two-thirds favorable vote in both the House and the Senate, and then it would have to be sent to the voters for approval at the upcoming November elections. All changes to the Maine Constitution require approval by the voters.

By the way, the Maine Constitution also requires that the governor must be at least 30 years of age to serve. There is a conflict in the Constitution which may be of interest to you. Let me explain: if the governor is unable to serve for any reason (illness, resignation, removal from office, etc.), then the President of the Senate would become governor as the next person in line to fill a gubernatorial vacancy.

The conflict? You can be a senator at age 25 and conceiv- ably be elected President Senate prior to attaining the age of 30, which is the minimum age required to serve as governor. So, let’s say you’re a 28 year old President of the Senate, and the governor is unable to complete his elected term for whatever reason. The Constitution says that the President of the Senate now becomes governor, but the constitution also says you must be at least 30 years old to be governor. Hmmm.

Back to the bill which would lower the age to serve in the House. Many argued that if one can serve in the defense of their country, then they should be able to be elected to serve in the Maine House. They also argued that being 21 is an arbitrary number, and many 18 year olds are more mature than many 21 year olds.

The other side argued that 18 year olds don’t have the life experience needed to serve at the legislative level, and that many 18 year olds are still in high school and not ready to make decisions at the state level.

Even though it’s not one of the most burning issues being debated, it is one on which many people have definite opinions. I’d like to hear what you think about this issue. There are also several issues pertaining to our business community, the environment and education, which will be debated during these final few weeks. Please be sure to let me know of your specific concerns or opinions regarding any of these issues. I’ve enjoyed hearing from many of you over the past few months.

Enjoy the spring!

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Com- merce Business Showcase Set for April 22nd

The first Lakes Region Business Showcase is set for Saturday April 22, 2006, from 9:30 to 6:00. The business showcase will be at Lake Region High School and includes a variety of activities for you to attend. The showcase will include many of the great businesses in the region hoping to meet with you to share their work. The Naples Lions Club will be on hand to serve food. The business showcase will also feature a series of discussions centering on topics of Healthy Communities. We are excited to have a 10:30am keynote discussion on Dirigo and Medicaid presented by Steven Michaud, President of the Maine Hospital Associa- tion. The business showcase is free to attend. For more information concerning showcasing your business or to schedule a spot contact the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce at 647-3472. Special table rates apply to Chamber members.

Business Showcase Sponsors
GOLD
Richardson Hollow Mental Health Services
SILVER
Norway Savings Bank
Evergreen Credit Union
BRONZE
True North Business Productivity Solutions
Healthy Options Together
Premier Physical Therapy
D. M. Electric
Kettle Cove Associates
Southern Maine Retirement Services

Who is attending the Business Showcase?

Business Showcase Participants
Complete Paddler; IC Mobility; Village Kitchen; Noble House &B; Bridgton Hospital; Bonney Staffing; Garden Gate To Beauty & Wellness; The Ballroom; Summit Spring Water; Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber Of Commerce; Angler’s Flight; New England; Richardson Hollow Mental Health Services; Mr. Butterch; Healthy Options Together; LR Healthy Communities Coalition; Norway Savings Bank; Coffee News; Hannaford; Southern Maine Community College; Cumberland County Democratic Party; Mountain Mini Storage; T C Enterprises; Lake Region Republican Club; Lake Region Development Council; Beecher Photo; Mainly Custom “Wood Doctor” Outdoor Wood Furrac- es; Southern Maine Retirement Services; The Smoking Solution; Tri-County Mental Health Services; Kettle Cove Associates; True North Business Productivity So- lutions; Pleasant View Enterprises; Fine Kettle Of Fish; Deertrees Theatre; Evergreen Credit Union; Nationwide Insurance; Hancock Lumber; D. M. Electric; Premier Physical Therapy; AVCO; Landmark Human Resources, Inc.; Key Bank; Lake Region Caterers; Central Maine Medical Center School of Nursing; McHatton’s Cleaning Service; Raymond Beautification Committee; Muddy River Signs; and more!

For Information on the Raymond School Department
Go Online to the School’s Website
Complete school department information, with links to Jordan-Small Middle School and Raymond Elementary School websites:
www.raymondmaine.org/rsd/welcome.htm

Moose Lottery Permits Available
The 2006 Moose Permit applications are available at the Town Office.
Applications must be sent in no later than April 3, 2006. The applications are also available online at www.state.me.us/ifw/index.html

PTA College Scholarship Available
The Raymond PTA is offering two $1,000 college scholarships to Raymond high school students. Any Raymond resident who will be graduating from high school this spring is encouraged to apply.

Applications can be obtained at: http://www.raymondmaine.org/civic_groups/pta/default.htm

All applications must be submitted by April 1, 2006.

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Forestry Matters
By Gregory E. Foster, Professional Forester Raymond, Maine

My grandfather was a logging contractor for about 25 years, ending his career in the early 1970s due to cancer, which shortly thereafter took his life. His skidding equipment included a crawler tractor with winch and boom, a scot, and a two- or four-wheel trailer. He hauled his wood with a single axle truck, and in the earlier years, loaded four-foot pulp by hand, and logs with the tractor boom and winch. In the late 1960s he purchased a John Deere rotary from hydraulic pole log loader, which significantly reduced the amount of manual labor.

In those days, business transactions were nearly always done with a handshake, from hiring employees to agreeing on stumpage prices as well as other obligations between the landowner and logging contractor. Today, it is extremely unwise to conduct the business of selling timber without a comprehensive written timber sale contract, a most compelling reason for which is addressed here.

Sometime around 1990 or earlier, a case involving a log truck driver injured on the job resulted in a Workers Compensation court case, and ultimately initiated restructuring of the Maine Workers Compensation laws. This law change is specific to the landowner-logger relationship and has a direct effect on any landowner who sells timber to a logging contractor.

An Act to Require That Workers’ Compensation Coverage Be Equitably Applied to the Timber Industry, Sec. 6. 39-A MRSA §401, sub-§ 4, by PL 1993, c. 120, §2, as amended to date states the following:

“4. Liability of Landowner. A landowner subject to this Act who contracts to have wood harvested from the landowner’s property by a contractor who, as an employee, is subject to this Act and who has not complied with the provisions of this section and who does not comply with the provisions of this section prior to the date of an injury or death for which a claim is made is liable to pay to any person employed by the contractor in the execution of the work any compensations under this Act that the landowner would have been liable to pay if that person had been immediately employed by the landowner.

A landowner is not liable for compensation if at the time the landowner enters into the contract with the contractor, the landowner applies for and receives a predetermination of the independent status of the contractor as set forth in 103-A, the landowner requests and receives a certificate of independent status issued by the board on an annual basis to a certifier, certifying that the contractor does not have the term forest products in a manner that would not make the contractor an employee of the landowner or the landowner requests and receives a certificate of insurance, issued by the contractor’s insurance carrier, certifying that the contractor has obtained the required coverage and indicating the effective dates of the policy, and if the landowner, requests and receives at least annually similar certificates indicating continuing coverage during the performance of the work. A landowner who receives a predetermination of the independent status, or a certificate of independent status, or a certificate of independent status is only relieved of liability under this paragraph if the contract for wood harvesting expressly states that the independent contractor will not hire any employees to assist in the wood harvesting without first providing the required certificate of insurance to the landowner.

To best comprehend and fully understand the law, it is recommended that a copy of the State of Maine document S.F. 248 – L.D. 670, be acquired and read. Relative to timber harvesting and Workers Compensation, this law clearly makes the forest landowner the employer of a logging contractor, if the logging contractor does not have Workers Compensation or a certificate of independence and a written contract with the specific statement (as written above in the law) incorporated. Many logging contractors, particularly those who cut trees with a chainsaw and yard the wood with a cable skidder, do not have Workers Compensation due to the high cost. In addition, individuals, partnerships, or family members can operate legally without Workers Compensation.

To this day, efforts by any state agency to educate forest landowners about this issue are ineffective at best. To my knowledge, there is no other contractor relationship (home owner contractor, landowner/ gravel contractor, etc.) that explicitly leaves the hiring agent, in this case the landowner, totally liable for accidents including injury or death. This situation should make citizens ask, “Why did state lawmakers make so many of the people so vulnerable?”

Information, and the form to apply for a Certificate of Predetermination of Independent Contractors, is available from the Workers Compensation Board in Augusta. Unfortunately, our society is far more complicated than in the days of my grandfather. If you wish to conduct timber sale, the best thing to do is consult a professional forester who will look out for your best interests in all aspects of growing timber.

State Reflections Winners
Our Raymond kids attending Windham High School did a fantastic job in the State Reflections Program.

In LITERATURE
1ST Place Alexandra Gordan
2nd Place Hannah Huber
3rd Place Andrew O’Neil

In VISUAL ARTS
2nd Place Bridget Heathcoat

We also sent the work of 10 students from RES & JSMS to be judged at the state level, and 8 of them were recognized as well.

In PHOTOGRAPHY
3rd Place Georgia Noonan Grades 6-8

In MUSICAL COMPOSITION
1st Place Anna Laprise Prek-2
2nd Place Jakayla Varounis Grades 3-5
2nd Place Ian Dixon Grades 6-8

What an accomplished group of students we have here in Raymond! We are so proud of them!

Kindergarten Registrations
For all families with children entering kindergarten in the fall, call
Ivy Jordan at the Raymond Elementary School 655-8672 Ext. 108 to have your child registered.

New issue of the "Growing Together" newsletter now available at:
http://www.raymondmaine.org/schools/res/Early_Childhood_Program/raymond_early_childhood_program.htm

2006 School Scholarship Applications Available
The 2006 Raymond Scholarship applications are available at the Town Office and Jordan-S small Middle School. The Carleton E. Edwards, George Woods, and Alva Clough Scholarships have a deadline for submission of May 2, 2006, at 4pm.

There are also other scholarships available from several organizations in Raymond.

• Lions Club Scholarship can be obtained from Betty McDermott, 10 McDermott Road Raymond, ME 04071

• Semi-Circle Scholarship from Diane Goosetrey, 28 Deer Acres Road Raymond, ME 04071

• Betts-Douglas-Hickey Scholarship from Linda Alexander, 1 Pine Lane Raymond, ME 04071

2006 School Scholarship Applications Available
Bulky Waste Program Saving Raymond Money
The bulky waste coupon booklet program started in July 2005 has achieved the desired result, with major cost savings to Raymond’s taxpayers. The Selectmen in their 2005-2006 Municipal Budget reduced the bulky waste budget by $58,000, and the reduction in waste to the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility, for which the town has to pay, has been well below the budget to date.

The decision to have Raymond residents pay for bulky waste beyond their initial 1,000 pounds was not an easy one. The Selectmen had to reduce the budget and felt that the transfer of financial responsibility for refuse disposal could be shouldered in part by the users. They were aware that many Raymond residents very rarely used the Facility, and it would be more equitable for heavy users to pay for their deliveries. Because of Raymond’s lead, the Town of Naples is looking to have some form of the same program to help with their budget.

It is hoped that everyone will understand the need for town savings and comply with the program. The fear that some people would dump their refuse “in the woods” does not seem to have manifested itself, for which we are most thankful.

Because of its success, the program will continue for the 2006-2007 year, again saving the town considerable funding.
Dr. Seuss Week

The students and the CATs (Caring Assistance Team) at RES helped to celebrate Dr. Seuss Week and Read Across America the week of February 28th - March 3rd. Tuesday was “wear anything green” day. Students and staff alike were all outfitted in many different shades of green. Wednesday was “Thing One and Thing Two” day, or “Twin Day,” where students and staff dressed as twins or as characters from the book. Thursday was “Hat Day.” Students were encouraged to wear a Cat in the Hat hat, and for those students who didn’t have one, the CATs made paper ones and handed them out. Friday was “dress as your favorite Dr. Seuss character.” Dr. Seuss would have been proud of the students at RES.

Successful Math Meet

By Jenna Martyn-Fisher

On the 9th of March the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math teams went to Durham for the annual winter math meet. They returned with many trophies. The 6th grade team placed 2nd out of 12 teams. For the individuals, Patrick Lachance finished first. The 7th grade team also placed 2nd out of twelve teams. Beth Shively scored 1st with a perfect score, followed by Kyle Hargreaves in 3rd place. The 8th graders ended up in 4th place. In the school competition, they put all three team scores together, and once again we got 2nd place. The trophies have been on display outside the office at school. There is another meet coming up shortly, and the teams hope to do just as well or even better.

The 6th grade team consisted of: Josh Waldron, Robbie Lentine, Huillie Mitchell, Lucy Algeo, Patrick Lachance, and Nick Mac Donald.

The 7th grade team members were: Molly Cloutier, Beth Shively, Drew Gagnon, and Kyle Hargreaves.

The 8th grade team members were: Jenna Martyn-Fisher, Ethan Ward, Marybeth Wiley, and Katie Allen.

Congratulations on a great math meet!

Girl Scout Sunday

By Rev. Nancy Foran, Pastor

Raymond Village Community Church

Ten local Girls Scouts led the Sunday morning worship service at the Raymond Village Community Church on March 12th to mark the start of Girl Scout Week and commemorate Girl Scout Birthday. On that date in 1912, Juliette Gordon Lowe officially registered the first eighteen members of the organization in Savannah, Georgia.

Today, there are 3.6 million Girl Scouts - 2.7 million girl members and 928,000 adult members working primarily as volunteers. The Scouts participating in the church service ranged in age from the youngest Brownies to high school youth. They served as greeters and Scripture readers and also led the congregation in a special prayer based on the Girl Scout Promise. Participants included Megan Knights, Rebecca MacDonald, Lexi Walker, Jenni Walker, Megan Stevenson, Lyzz Stevenson, Kim Allen, Molly Keane-Dreyer, Haley Acker, and Mary Beth Wiley.

The Raymond Village Community Church is proud to promote youth activities such as Girl Scouting. All are welcome to attend worship services and church school each Sunday at 10am. Middle School and High School Youth Group meets biweekly.

Raymond Recreation Skiing

By Peter Walgreen, Group Leader

The Friday ski program for teens in grades 7-12 at Shawnee Peak had 68 students participate this year. The weather was generally warm and without natural snow, so we thank the snowmakers at Shawnee who provided us with recreation.

I also want to sincerely thank the adults involved with the program. Bus drivers Paul Godwin and Paul Follensbee, who safely conveyed your children each week in a professional manner, have been with the program for many years. Our chaperones, unpaid volunteers who receive a ticket to ski each night, ride the bus and listen to healthy noise each way, as well as supervise the kids on the mountain. Last night, one chaperone decided not to ski, yet still did his job: “I made a commitment,” he said.

The chaperones have their own children in the program, and so they know your children as well and provide security for your kids, affording a comfort level for them. The chaperones this year are Dave Blanchard, Lorna Dunn, Ken Gilmore, Ingo Hartig, Melinda Rankin, and Carl Taylor.

When you see them, please give them your thanks.

JSMS Cheerleaders Win Awards

The Jordan-Small Middle School Cheerleaders, led by Coach Shannon Calvo, competed in the Maine Cheer Classic at Scarborough High School on Saturday, March 18, 2006, and won third place in the Middle School Division. They also competed in the Elite All Star Cheer and Dance Challenge at Deering High School on Saturday, March 19, 2006, (pictured above) and won Outstanding Performance in the Middle School Division as well as the competition’s Spirit Award.

The Cheerleaders would like to thank Coach Shannon Calvo, their parents, the Raymond School Department, the Raymond PTA and the following business sponsors for their support: Aubuchon Hardware; Danielle’s Sebago Diner; Dielectric Communications; Fair Point New England; Raymond Gas & Pizza; Sabre Corporation; Ultimate Hair & Tanning.

Mark Your Calendar!

Make Your Calendar! Slim Goodbody presents “Lighten Up” The Great American Nutrition Musical A highly interactive musical performance designed to teach children the value of exercise and good nutrition. Thursday, April 13th Healthy Dinner (soup & salad) from 5:00 – 5:50pm Performance from 6:00 – 7:00pm at RES This event is free to Raymond students in K-5 and their families.

Sponsored by SEARCH, Raymond PTA and the Health Office

Hebron Academy Alpine Skiing

The Hebron Academy Upper School Alpine Skiing team recently concluded their season, with several members garnering AL-MAISAD League and All-New England honors. Pictured above are, front, Raphael Osterloh (Germany), Jamie Tyler (Camden), TJ Thayer (Auburn), Kelly Phillips (Auburn), Ross Thayer (Auburn), Vika Planson (New Gloucester), Hannah Clark (New Gloucester), Elijah Hughes (Raymond), and back, coaches David Stonebraker, Moore Curtis, and Jodd Bowles. (Photo by Bill Chase)