Principal’s Report for June

As you can imagine, our students are looking forward to a well-deserved summer break with their families. During these next few months, I would like to encourage each of our Raymond School families to make learning a true family affair. This will extend the students’ skills and help them to be prepared for school when they return in early September.

Research continues to show us that reading is one of the most important ways to assure a child’s success in school. When parents model for their children their own reading habits, the success rate is even higher. The Raymond Village Library should be part of each family’s summer routine. The library’s summer reading program is great fun, and I encourage our students to participate in this year’s program, which is all about being ON SAFARI.

We will be honoring our school volunteers on June 9 for sharing their talents, interests, and skills with our students and teachers this year. Volunteers have logged in many hundreds of hours working in classrooms, assisting in the library, and helping throughout the school. Their efforts are much appreciated and always valued. We encourage parents and community members to consider volunteering next year. Our students benefit in more ways than I can describe, and so do the volunteers.

I am especially thankful for the many efforts and hard work of the Raymond PTA, under the leadership of President Deb Cutten. On behalf of the Raymond Elementary School and the Jordan-Small Middle School staffs, I would like to thank all of the PTA members for their outstanding contributions to the school program and to the children of Raymond. The PTA has been especially active this year providing the funding for assemblies and special events, coordinating playground equipment and volunteers, celebrating the hard work and dedication of teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week, and providing scholarships for Raymond graduates. We look forward to the continued support of the PTA and their involvement in programming to best benefit children, families, schools and our community.

It is hard to believe that this school year is coming to a close. I have been especially excited this year with the implementation of the new math program in grades K–8. I have had the opportunity to observe math lessons in many of these classes, and I am pleased with the progress made during this initial year. I want to recognize the hard work of our teaching staff and their dedication to education in our district. Starting an entire new math program in grades K–8 means that everyone is a novice, and that students are beginning the program without the foundation they would have established in the early elementary years. I am confident that we will see continued growth in the entire math program, and I look forward to Year 2 in the fall.

Have a safe and happy summer. You will most likely find Miss Wendy and me in the RES office on Tuesdays over the summer. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call the school office at 655-8672 or stop in.

Math Magic at RES on June 13

Raymond Elementary School teachers and students would like to invite parents to school for a special Math Day on Tuesday, June 13. Each elementary classroom in grades K–5 will be open during its scheduled math class for parents to join students in a taste of the Everyday Mathematics Program. Class invitations will be coming home soon with the specific times for each grade level. This has been an exciting and challenging first year of this new math program, and we are looking forward to sharing our learning with parents on June 13.

RWPA Milfoil Remediation Projects

Under Way & Boat Ramp Inspections Begin

By Noralee Raymond, Executive Director, Raymond Waterways Protective Association

Variable Milfoil Remediation

RWPA organized and assisted in numerous Variable milfoil removal projects along the Sebago shoreline and Dingley Brook during the month of May. With the hard work of volunteers, the Jordan River Marina Condo- minium Association (JRMCA) began efforts to control the spread of milfoil along their section of the Jordan River, a 75+ x200’ canal and ~200’ of shoreline. Further up Jordan River (Panther Run), downstream from Panther Pond dam, RWPA began surveying the river to determine the best method to tackle colonies in that section. RWPA also began working with volunteers and divers at Dingley Brook to clear the largest colony at its outlet into Sebago Lake. Lastly, planning is underway to tackle a small infestation at Bay View Estates canal 2, while Bay View is in its third year controlling milfoil with herbicidal tarps.

Jordan River

RWPA assisted JRMCA with the application for the $2,000 state grant funds and the required Department of Environmental Protection permit. JRMCA also contributed $3,000 of their own funds to the project. Over the first two weekends of May, up to 18 volunteers assisted five divers with removing milfoil. From the photo, you can see that the plants were already growing to the surface, making it impossible for boats to pass. See www.raymondmaine.org for more details.
News From the Raymond Village Library

At a Glance
Saturday, June 24 – Plant Sale and Paperback Book Sale begins at 7am at the library
Wednesday, June 28 – Book Group at the library at 7pm
Sunday, July 16 – Annual Book Sale begins at 9am at the library.

Plant and Paperback Book Sale
It’s here and now! The plant sale for which we’ve all been waiting: great plants at very inexpensive prices, just in time for your spring garden. It begins at 7am at the library on Saturday, June 24, and will continue until noon. Be sure to come early for the best choices. We have perennials, groundcovers, herbs, flowering shrubs, hanging plants, bedding plants, annuals, and even houseplants. We ask all those who are donating plants to bring them to the library on Friday, June 23, the day before the sale, from 4 to 7pm, so they can be priced and arranged. For more information on donating plants, please call Susan at 655-1010, June at 655-5354 or Irene at 655-4711.

After you have purchased your plants, you can go into the library and choose some of your summer reading from the many paperback books that are available for sale. This is an event not to be missed! See you there!

Book Discussion Group
The book group will meet Wednesday, June 28, at the library at 7pm. “The Peabody Sisters: Three Women Who Ignited American Romanticism,” by Megan Marshall, is the book chosen for discussion. If this book interests you, please join us for a stimulating discussion. For more information, call the library at 655-4283.

Annual Book Sale
We are already planning for one of our largest annual fund-raising events. The Annual Book Sale begins on Sunday, July 16, at 9am. Each year it seems to be bigger and definitely better, and this year will be no exception. July 16, at 9am. Each year it seems to be bigger and definitely better, and this year will be no exception. July 16, at 9am. Each year it seems to be bigger and definitely better, and this year will be no exception.

Thanks to the annual donation from the Raymond Lions Club, the library has once again expanded its large print and audio collections. The new books and audios include a variety of mysteries, romances, thrillers and non-fiction. We also received a substantial donation of large print books from a couple in Windham. The library is very appreciative of these donations, as large print books are more expensive than regular print books. Along with people who need the large print, we are learning that our patrons who only have time to read at night are finding these books much easier on tired eyes. A reminder that if you or someone you know cannot get to the library, we offer home delivery; just give us a call.

Nature Program
Turtles of Land and Sea was the topic for the annual Nature Program at Raymond Village Library. Once again Loon Echo Land Trust, through the Helen Allen Endowment, made this program possible by awarding a grant to the Raymond Village Library. This grant enabled the library to invite Jocelyn Hubbell of Baxter Memorial Library in Brunswick, Maine, to return with another entertaining and interesting nature program.

Twenty-two children and nine adults learned all about turtles, their habitats, eating habits, longevity and many other amazing facts. All who attended were able to witness one participant “become” a turtle by being dressed in cloth parts of a turtle, with each physical characteristic being explained as they were donned.

As an extra treat Jocelyn brought two of her own turtles, which she has owned for twenty years! Everyone was all等候: great plants at very inexpensive prices, just in time for your spring garden. It begins at 7am at the library on Saturday, June 24, and will continue until noon. Be sure to come early for the best choices. We have perennials, groundcovers, herbs, flowering shrubs, hanging plants, bedding plants, annuals, and even houseplants. We ask all those who are donating plants to bring them to the library on Friday, June 23, the day before the sale, from 4 to 7pm, so they can be priced and arranged. For more information on donating plants, please call Susan at 655-1010, June at 655-5354 or Irene at 655-4711.

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While doing that dreaded spring cleaning, please remember your library. We are always accepting donations of new and gently used books, videos, DVDs, audio books and puzzles.

Children’s Programs
Babytime, on Mondays at 10am; Toddlertime on Wednesdays at 10am; and Preschool Storytime on Wednesdays at 10:45am at the library will continue through June and July.

Large Print Books
Thanks to the annual donation from the Raymond Lions Club, the library has once again expanded its large print and audio collections. The new books and audios include a variety of mysteries, romances, thrillers and non-fiction.

We also received a substantial donation of large print books from a couple in Windham. The library is very appreciative of these donations, as large print books are more expensive than regular print books. Along with people who need the large print, we are learning that our patrons who only have time to read at night are finding these books much easier on tired eyes. A reminder that if you or someone you know cannot get to the library, we offer home delivery; just give us a call.

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As an extra treat Jocelyn brought two of her own turtles, which she has owned for twenty years! Everyone was all

and offered many different ways to access more information about turtles by way of books and websites.

Thanks to Loon Echo Land Trust and Jocelyn Hubbell for making April Vacation Week so much fun for the Raymond Village Library and its patrons.

Summer Reading Program
“On Safari” is the topic for this summer’s reading program. It will begin on July 9, and there will be African animals, masks and much more. Interested students can register at school, at the library or using the form here in the Road Runner.

One of Jocelyn Hubbell’s own turtles takes part in the program.

Jocelyn Hubbell of Baxter Memorial Library in Brunswick returned to RVL with an entertaining and interesting nature program.

One of Jocelyn Hubbell’s own turtles takes part in the program.

One of Jocelyn Hubbell’s own turtles takes part in the program.
Municipal News Brief

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen recently took the follow-
ing actions:

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

1) Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Betty McDermott awarded certificates of community appreciation in recog-
nition of the building improvements and economic development activities of Anxiety Solutions located on
Route 85 which were received by owners Gordon Street and Lee Fitzpatrick; and the Raymond Landscape
located on Route 302 and owned by Hank and Kim Williams.

2) The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the 2006 Town of Raymond Municipal fee schedule as
posted in the Road Runner.

3) Maine Readiness Campaign - Selectman Mark Gen-
don introduced the Maine Readiness Program, which is a partnership between the Maine Department
of Education and the Maine Municipal Association to prepare high school graduates for going on to higher
education. Mr. Gendron informed the Board that only 37% of Maine's high school graduates receive college
degrees as compared to a rate of 47% for the other New England states. This initiative is part of a national
campaign, and in Maine is funded through a $700,000 grant from the Gates Foundation. To achieve success,
a partnership will need to be formed between high school volunteers, elected officials and the private
sector. The primary objective of the program is to provide students with the skills necessary to succeed in
life. Increasingly advanced educational attainment will become necessary to compete in a state, nation,
and global work environment. Fifty schools in Maine will be selected to participate in the program after a competitive
selection process. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved working with the Raymond School
Department to participate in the program.

4) Consideration of new road names – Jack Cooper.

5) Town Manager report and communications – The Town
Manager announced that the LRDC would be holding a county-wide transportation summit meeting at Songo
Locks School on May 10th, 2006, at 7pm to provide local officials with an opportunity to meet with state
leaders in hopes of developing a shared vision for future transportation planning in our region. The Town
Manager indicated that he would be attending and Selectmen were also invited to partici-

6) Warrant for Election of Officers – The Board of Se-
lectmen unanimously approved the acceptance of two new road names; a) Dragonfly Lane off 755 Webbs Mills
Road and b) Maren Lane off Firelane 1, Webs Mills Road.

7) Lake Region Development Council – The Town Man-
ger announced that the LRDC would be holding a county-wide transportation summit meeting at Songo
Locks School on May 10th, 2006, at 7pm to provide local officials with an opportunity to meet with state
legislative representatives in hopes of developing a shared vision for future transportation planning in our region.
The Town Manager indicated that he would be attending and Selectmen were also invited to partici-

8) Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated
May 2, 2006.

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

1) Certificates of community appreciation – Chairmen
of the Board of Selectmen Betty McDermott awarded certificates of community appreciation to Corporal
Kevin Mack and Marcia Corridan. Corporal Mack was unable to attend the meeting but has recently returned
to Raymond after serving a four-year tour of duty in Iraq. Marcia Corridan represented both Iraq and Afghanistan. The Board of Selectmen extended their thanks and great appreciation for his service to Raymond, the state and our country. Long
time Raymond resident Marcia Corridan was also honored for her service on both the Comprehensive Plan
Implementation Committee and the Building Commit-
tee. Ms. Corridan recently moved from Raymond, and her civic contributions will be greatly missed.

2) Consideration of 2005 supplements and abatements,
and abatement policy discussion - Michael O’Donnell,
Contract Assessor. Mr. O’Donnell brought administrat-
ive abatement recommendations and supplemental
taxation levies to the Board for their consideration and approval. He also discussed the current status of pending abatement requests, his plan to improve public relations in the assessing office and the schedule for processing future abatements with the Selectmen. After discussion, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved 25 abatements and two supplemental tax lev-
ies.

3) Executive Session as authorized under title 1 MRSA
Subsection 405 (6) and (9). Discussion of confidential
records to consider whether to award school graduate
scholarships to Louise Lester, Town Clerk. The Board of Selectmen adjourned to Executive Session to dis-
cuss scholarship applications received from Raymond students by Town Clerk Louise Lester. After regu-
tation to regular session, the Selectmen awarded the follow-
ing scholarships: Collins-Day $1,500; Carleton Edwards $1,000; George E. Wood $500; Alva Clough $500.
Seven candidates will get $500 each. Collins-Day $500 to Kyle Nunley; Collins-Day $500 to Everett Reichert;
Carleton Edwards $500 to Kayla Harding; Carleton Edwards $500 to Jennifer Lacroix; George E. Wood $500 to Joshua Leeman; and Alva Clough $500 to Kristin Varney. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Betty McDermott commented that this year’s decision was made particularly difficult given the number of qualified applicants, which totaled 14, and the limited amount of money available.

4) Consideration of One Raymond Committee recommen-
dations – Mark Gendron, Co-Chair. The One Raymond Committee recommended that the Board of Selectmen expand the membership of the present eight (8) member One Raymond Committee to a total of eleven (11) by adding three new “citizen” representatives. This request was approved unanimously by the Board of Selectmen, and interested citizens were encouraged to apply at the town’s website or in writing to complete the town’s volunteer application available at the town of-
ice. Selectman Dana Desjardins, on behalf of the One Raymond Committee, recommended that the town conduct a geographic information system (GIS) needs assessment, in order to gauge the current level of basic service and advanced GIS needs within the community. The Town Manager was directed to solicit information from all town departments and committees as to their specific present and future needs for these services. This information will be compiled and considered by the Board of Selectmen at their regularly scheduled meeting on June 6, 2006, at the Raymond Town Office at 7pm.

5) Mayor Mark Gendron and Conservation Commis-
sioner Co-Chair John Rand presented the One Raymond and Conservation Committee Foundation that consultant Judy Colby George, an associate of Contract
Planner Hugh Coxe, was hired on a sole source basis for the GIS work necessary to complete the Open Space Plan component of the Comprehensive Plan. Given the recent staff re-alignment at the town office, which includes the elimination of three full-time positions, a balance of approximately $7,000 is expected to exist at the end of the current fiscal year 2006. Hiring Ms. George, at a cost of $3,000, will come from this ac-
count balance. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the request of the One Raymond Committee and the Conservation Committee to hire Ms. George at the agreed upon level.

6) Public Works Director National White provided a brief
overview of work completed under the $950,000 bond approved by town meeting in 2004. Presently $416,331 has been expended for work over the past two years on Raymond Cape Road, North Raymond Road, Martin Heights and Raymond Hill Road. The remaining account balance of $545,022 will be reduced by $150,000 to match planned state work under the Rural Road Initiative on Route 121, in the total amount of $450,000. The resulting adjusted bond proceeds balance will be utilized during the 2006-
2007 construction season for paving work on North Raymond Road, Raymond Hill Road, and Mountain Road. Pending voter approval of additional road funds at this year’s annual town meeting, additional work is planned to be completed on Raymond Cape Road.

7) Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated
May 16, 2006.

REMINDER
Please have your curbside trash and recycling out at roadside before 7am.
Beginning May 23rd, the summer schedule will start for summer roads.
If you have any questions, please call the Town Office at 655-4742 or e-mail
louise.lester@raymondmaine.org
RES Music Notes

Hasn’t the year flown by?! The students have worked very hard and have made great strides in music this year. The Kindergarten concert on May 16 was a rousing success. I am so proud of these students. What progress they have made since September! They sang beautifully and played their instrument parts with precision and skill.

Fourth graders have come such a long way on recorder since January, as key players in the political drama

Rescued from the Water

The picnic takes place at Camp Hinds on beautiful Panther Pond. This is located on the Plains Road, accessed by either Rt. 85 Across from the town beach on Crescent Lake or Rt. 121 across from the pumping station. The picnic begins at 5pm with games and activities. This is a hamburger and hot dog cookout. We will end the evening with “Scout Fear Factor,” which was the Scouts’ choice as a reward for achieving their Can Tab Challenge.

Questions? - Jim Fisher 998-2392

All Boys Entering Grades 1 – 5

You are invited to attend Cub Scout Pack 800’s Annual Picnic on June 25th starting at 5pm. (Rain date June 26th) this is a great time for fun, food and friends. Sign up to become a Cub Scout, and you are immediately eligible to attend Cub Scout camp this summer!

Cub Scout Pack 800
Raymond
Maine
Hood “Sox Tops for Kids” Contest

Drink lots of healthy, icy cold milk while enjoying those Red Sox games, and remember to save the caps!

The Raymond Mentoring Partnership in partnership with the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Department is hosting a free seminar on “Maine Liquor Laws & Fraudulent ID Detection”

This presentation is designed to assist sellers of alcoholic beverages in making legal sales and to help identify common problems that cause violations.

Date: Tuesday, June 20, 2006
Time: 7pm – 8:30pm
Place: Raymond Public Safety Building, Rte. 302
Retailers - For more information or to register, please contact Christina Lamarre at the Raymond Mentoring Partnership, 655-8672 ext. 107, or e-mail at mentor@raymondmaine.org.

The Raymond Mentoring Partnership’s Essential Substance Abuse Prevention Services are funded by the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services.
The Importance of Your Child’s Self-Esteem

by Steve Danzig, LSW, LADC

New research published in the Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse (Volume 15, Number 2) by a group of Florida sociologists suggests that low self-esteem and peer approval of drug use in boys at age 11 predict drug dependency later in their lives as young men at age 20.

The study found that boys with very low self-esteem were 1.6 times more likely than other boys to meet the criteria for drug dependence nine years later. They also found that early drug use is an important risk factor in drug dependence. The odds of drug dependence among early drug users were 17.6 times greater than among those who had not tried drugs by age 13.

To test low self-esteem, the boys were asked to rate the truthfulness of various statements, such as “In general, I feel I am a failure” and “I don’t like myself as much as I used to.” They were also asked to rate the level of approval their close friends had for people who smoked marijuana or cigarettes, used cocaine, or drank alcohol.

Dr. John Taylor of Florida State University, one of the researchers, said “Low self esteem is kind of the spark plug for self-destructive behaviors, and drug use is one of these. It’s a fundamental need to have a good sense of self. Without it, people may become pathologically unhappy with themselves, and that can lead to some very serious problems.”

The findings of this study confirm our own common sense. When we feel good about ourselves, we make good choices for ourselves. When we do not feel good about ourselves, we often make bad choices by seeking quick fixes to make ourselves feel better. Part of a parent’s job is to help build a child’s self-esteem. This is important for both boys and girls. While this particular study indicates that boys’ low self-esteem may lead to later drug use, other studies have indicated that low self-esteem in girls typically manifests itself in depression and eating disorders which are also dangerous, destructive behaviors. How do you know if your child has high or low self-esteem?

A child with HIGH self-esteem:

- thinks he/she can succeed
- thinks he/she is nice looking
- thinks he/she is fun to be around
- is not afraid to take chances
- believes in him/herself and likes him/herself
- feels safe and is free to express his/her feelings

Tips on building your child’s self-esteem:

- Reward children. Point out the good things they do; don’t dwell on the bad. Accept both their successes and failures.
- Use phrases such as “I’m so proud of you” or “Thank you for helping.”
- Have reasonable expectations. Don’t expect too much too soon. Help set achievable goals.
- Never make fun of or “put down” your children. Don’t judge them and make them afraid to tell you how they feel. Discuss problems without putting blame on anyone.
- Define limits and rules clearly, and stick to them! But be flexible when you need to.
- Be a good role model. Let children know you feel good about yourself, too. Don’t let children hear you say bad things about yourself.
- Give your children responsibility. They will feel useful and valued.
- Let your children help make choices. Include their opinions and decisions along with yours.
- Be available. Support your children and be there when they need you. Spend time together. Share favorite activities.
- Go to your children’s events at school and show them what they do is important to you.
- Show how much you love them just for who they are. Tell them you love them often. Give them presents for the special things they do. Let your children know you are proud of them.

If you suspect that your child is suffering from low self-esteem and is using drugs and alcohol, there are therapists specializing in adolescent mental health and alcohol/substance abuse issues and treatment who can help you.
### Panther Pond Conservation Project Update

By Noralee Raymond, Project Manager

- Grant Funds Available
- Rain Garden Workshop – June 3rd, 10am
- Cruise the Buffers – July 29th, 3-5pm

The month of May has been a month of landowner meetings and project designs for the Panther Pond Conservation Project. The goal of the project is to fix 42 of the 84 erosion sites identified in the Panther Pond Watershed Survey.

During our first season we completed 10 projects and developed designs for an additional 12 sites. 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 landowner. There is funding available for nine remediation projects and eleven Small Matching Grants ($100). We will hold several workshops, and we have scheduled a “Buffer Cruise” to tour completed projects on Saturday, July 29th, from 3-5pm.

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.

### Rain Garden and Infiltration Step Workshop

**June 3rd, 10am, Plummerville.**

Join us for this year’s first workshop held at Plumerville on Betty’s Neck on June 3rd at 10am to install a rain garden to catch runoff before it reaches the lake and to install infiltration steps along an eroded path. Panther Pond Association would like to thank David Allen for inviting us to his property to hold this workshop. Contact us to sign up or for directions.

Rain gardens are just what they sound like: gardens that soak up rainwater, often used to catch water from a roof, lawn, or driveway. Come learn how to design and construct a rain garden. We will provide handouts with possible designs and suggested native plants.

Infiltration steps are one method for managing runoff on paths located on hills. Timbers are used divert runoff off the path and into vegetation. Crushed rock or erosion control (EC) mulch on the path also helps runoff infiltrate into the ground, preventing it from eroding the path and polluting the lake.

**Cruise the Buffers – July 29th.**

We hope you can join us for the “Cruise the Buffers” tour on July 29th from 3-5pm. Participants will board pontoon boats and cruise around the lake to stop at some of the completed projects. Free packets full of information on how to install various conservation practices will be provided to all who attend. Sign up today!

### Volunteers Needed

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.

In June, we have several project planned. Through the Small Matching Grants projects, we will be installing three rubber blade diverters, a set of infiltration steps, and doing some plantings. We also have three Remediation Projects scheduled – two rubber blade diverters, a settling basin, and turnouts will be installed at the Hanson’s driveway on Long Drive; EC mulch will be spread on an eroding bank at Camp Hawthorne; and EC mulch and timbers will be used to control erosion at the Cove on Betty’s Neck.

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, pick up a brochure at the Raymond Town Office, or join us for the PPA Annual Meeting on July 25th, 7-9pm at the Raymond Public Safety Building.

### Senator Diamond Reminds Residents of Circuit Breaker Deadline

**AUGUSTA — Senator Bill Diamond of Windham is reminding residents that the deadline to apply for the Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program, May 31st, is fast approaching.** More than 230,000 Maine Households are eligible for the property tax rebate program, also known as the Circuit Breaker Program, for property taxes assessed in 2004 and/or rent paid during 2004.

“The most important thing to remember is that this year the Circuit Breaker Program has expanded. Even if you haven’t qualified in years past, you may very well qualify this year. It’s well worth looking into,” commented Senator Diamond.

At the start of the 122nd Legislative Session the newly formed Joint Select Committee on Property Tax Reform was created and crafted LD1, which included a significant expansion of Circuit Breaker Program. A single homeowner whose 2004 income was $74,500 or less is eligible for the program if his 2004 property taxes exceeded four percent of his income. For example, a single person with an income of $15,000 a year who pays $2,900 in property taxes would receive a $2,000 rebate check. A married couple or homeowner with dependents is eligible for the program if the combined income for 2004 was $99,500 or less and if their property taxes exceeded four percent of their income. A couple with an income of $49,500 paying $4,300 in property taxes could be eligible to receive more than $1,000 back.

For renters, those paying more than 20% of their 2004 income in rent could receive a rebate check back from the state in the month of May. In one example, a single person making $30,000 who pays $12,300 in rent (with heat included) could receive a rebate check back from the state in the amount of $522.

Maine Revenue Services estimates that since applications were made available in August of 2005, already over 107,000 applications have been received, and over $40 million has been issued in the form of refunds.

“Property tax reform as well as relief for renters is very important in keeping Maine’s families economically safe and secure. I encourage citizens to check out the expended program and apply before the end of the month. A check in the mail is a nice surprise,” said Senator Diamond.

For more information on the program, or to obtain an application, please visit www.maine.gov/revenue, or call Maine Revenue Services at (207)-626-8475.

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### Pack 800 Summer 2006 Activities Calendar

**June 17th Car Wash at Wal-Mart 8am-Noon**

**June 25th Pack Picnic - Activities begin at 5pm at Camp Hinds (Rain Date June 26th)**

**Jul 15th-16th Fun Pack Weekend at Camp Hinds**

**July 29th Casco Days Parade**

**Jul 31st-Aug 4th Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Hinds**

**Aug 13th-16th Webelos Camp at Camp Hinds**

**Aug 22nd Pack 800 Scout Night at the Sea Dogs 7pm**
Slim Goodbody Comes to Raymond

On April 13th the SEARCH committee welcomed Maine’s very own Slim Goodbody to the Raymond Elementary School to perform “Lighten Up,” a musical on nutrition education and obesity prevention. The PTA funded a Healthy Dinner prior to the event that consisted of homemade soup and salad, and our host was interim principal Mr. Brian Albert.

It was a wonderfully entertaining evening, centered around healthy lifestyle choices. Mr. Slim Goodbody is an original Mainer, and the school was fortunate to have his family travel from Camden to see his performance. Many students attended and participated in this interactive program.

Many thanks to the school and parent volunteers, the Raymond Mentoring program, the school custodial staff and the kitchen staff, who helped to cook, clean, set-up and coordinate this event. Also, a big thanks to the Good Life Market, Hannaford and the Big Sky for their generous donations. What fun!

JSMS Art Room Review

The year is winding down. The last project is usually a series of still-life drawings in various methods. This acts as a review of all the techniques from the year and includes past years as well. Students gain confidence and improve their drawing skills. We are concentrating on the blind contour method that the students have dubbed the “video game” way. “Blind contour” means looking at the object being drawn and resisting the temptation to look at (and edit) the drawing. Kids never look at the controller when playing a video game; they follow the action with their eyes glued to the TV. To make a good blind contour, students slowly follow the object’s outline, like the marching ants function on the computer, and repeat the line on the paper in pencil without looking. They are also being introduced to a freer, more natural way to draw: gestural drawing. This resembles an advanced stick figure sketch. Even the rough drafts or studies look suitable for framing.

The 8th graders are working on their self-portraits, to be displayed at the Completion Ceremony. These large-scale drawings are first rendered from a gridded photograph. The color is added with many layers of chalk. The resemblance is always stunning. Their previous projects include clay vessels, still in the glass display cases throughout the school. Look for those to come home soon. Before that, they made prints by cutting linoleum. Some of these prints were at the AE Night, and some are still at the Good Life Market.

7th grade students are making paper molas. “Mola” is a Cuna Indian (South American) fabric craft. We use paper and a modern twist because we take inspiration from Keith Haring. Keith Haring established a charity fund so that proceeds from his artwork would benefit children even after his untimely death. These are some of the most sophisticated molas I have ever seen. I am not too surprised, because this group also created the best retablos made at JSMS, too. Their retablos were small clay boxes with form-fitted covers and surface decorations carved in all, based on a personal theme. Great job!

The 6th grade is finishing a painting unit on the theories of mixing paint colors into tints, shades, tones, and complements. This is very integrated with math because we discuss quantities, percentages, and proportions. Andy Warhol’s Pop Art gave us some inspiration in the subjects. It is interesting to see the popular icons of this generation.

The 5th grade recently studied contemporary artist Jasper Johns. Although Johns was known for many styles and techniques, we concentrated on his interest in the Masters’ work. He made contour drawings of famous paintings like Mona Lisa, but instead of painting in a realistic manner he filled the spaces with patterns, textures, and other elements of design. The students chose a theme and needed to support that theme with patterns and textures. Imagine Mona Lisa down on the farm with “pig tails” for hair. We saw an athletic Mona and a vegetarian Mona. We also used the portrait of Henry the IV who prefers fast food. Many of their results are also in the Good Life Market.

Students are expected to take all art projects and rough draft work home. Sadly, much gets left behind, stuffed in lockers, or [GASP] the trash. Please ask to see your student’s work at home. Sadly, much gets left behind, stuffed in lockers, or [GASP] the trash. Please ask to see your student’s work and talk about the project. So much teaching and learning happens in the art room.

2006 ATV Registration

We are now registering ATVs for 2006. You will be issued two stickers, one of which must be displayed on the front and another on the back of your machine. If you still have your license plate, the new sticker must be displayed over the old number.

Tips for Saving Water in the House

By Charles Turner, Raymond Waterways Protective Association

- Do not pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it, such as watering your indoor plants or outside garden.
- Even out your use of water by spacing out the family showers, or do laundry later at night.
- Consider purchasing a low-volume toilet. They can use less than half the water of older models.

Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee Needs Help

The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee is looking for three members to help with their work of developing ordinances, which will coordinate with the 2004 Comprehensive Plan. Meetings are at the Town Office on the third Thursday of the month at 7pm. Please visit the website at www.raymondmaine.org for updated meeting schedules and minutes.

For additional information, you may contact Town Clerk Louise Lester or Karen Strout, CEO secretary, at 655-4742 x 21 or x 43. All correspondence received in writing or by e-mail will be forwarded to the committee.
S.E.A.R.C.H.

2005-2006 Highlights

S.E.A.R.C.H. (Successfully Exploring and Reaching Challenging Heights) is Raymond’s 21st Century Learning Center grant. The focus of the grant is to provide quality after school programming in academics, the arts, wellness and fitness. We are happy to report that 45% of the K-8 student population participated in at least one S.E.A.R.C.H. program this year!

At Jordan-Small Middle School, we ran programs that included: 5th and 6th grade math support groups, Sign Language, Teen Healthy Cooking, Music Live, Quilting, French Club, Fitness, Weaving, Cribbage Club, Art Club, Audio/Visual Club, Extended Library Hours, and a three day April vacation S.E.A.R.C.H. Safari.


We’d like to highlight the new S.E.A.R.C.H. Safari program that ran during vacations this year. Under the direction of 4th grade teacher Debbie Blanchard, between 8 and 15 students participated in 3 vacation Safaris. December’s maritime theme took the “travelers” to the Maine State Museum and Maine Maritime Museum. In February they visited DeLorme Maps and the Osher Map Museum to learn about mapping.

In April a visit to the Portland Museum of Art, an Arts Center day at JSMS and trips to the Green Grasshopper and a local cemetery revolved around the arts.

asset to the school.” Thanks to all of you who took the time to respond to our survey.

We will be working in conjunction with the schools to enrich summer programming and are looking forward to next year. Thank you to all the parents who helped support S.E.A.R.C.H. this year. We want to recognize the S.E.A.R.C.H. staff, as well: thank you for your time and expertise to enrich lives of Raymond’s younger citizens!

DOE Comes to Raymond

Last year, school systems across Maine were surprised to learn that the Department of Education intended to pay them a visit. Between September and December 2005, over 30 teams of 4-5 people traveled thousands of miles to visit every Superintendents administrative district in the state. Superintendent administrators were notified and told how to prepare. Educators across the state were trained to join DOE employees, and all across Maine schools began to gear up for their fall 2005 “status check” visits as part of the S.A.U. Review process.

The purpose of the visit was to gather data on how the Maine Learning Results were being implemented across the state. The date for the Raymond visit was December 12. Superintendent Sandra Caldwell informed the staff in June and requested a staff member be trained to participate on a visiting team. In larger school systems, the assignment went most naturally to curriculum coordinators or other administrators, but in Raymond the work on the implementation of the Maine Learning Results has been undertaken by the whole district. As Superintendent Caldwell characterized it to the visitors on December 12, it has been “a grassroots effort.” How unique this approach was, at least in southern Maine, quickly became clear. In November, the superintendent gathered a team to plan and prepare for the review. The team consisted of roughly a dozen people and included Principal Norma Richard and representatives from the guidance staff, special education staff, unified arts staff, and classroom teacher leaders from each grade span K-2, 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8.

After the team understood the expectations for the visit, Superintendent Caldwell asked each member to collect evidence from every grade level. Over the next few weeks, the evidence accumulated in a room opposite the Raymond Elementary School office, drawing curious looks from all who went by. Student portfolios and projects began to cover the tabletops, complete with examples of rubrics, lesson plans, assessments, and curriculum documents. There were CDs with student PowerPoint presentations, recordings of students’ musical compositions, and videos of physical education skills assessments. There were posters, charts, binders, and folders. In fact, there was more evidence than the room could hold, so the team sorted, labeled, organized, and displayed the best examples. The food was ordered from the Good Life Market; coverage for participating teachers was arranged; and everything and everyone was ready. The big day arrived, and in walked the four visitors.

They stayed all day, from 7:45am until 4pm. They viewed the evidence, asked the questions, listened to the team, enjoyed their lunch, and facilitated an open discussion at the end of the day with additional staff and two School Board members. Our visitors left with an appreciation for what makes the Raymond schools so special: they provide a quality education in a caring community, where the relationships between educators, children, and parents are very strong, and every child is valued and nurtured.

Limiting Trash Pick-up: Recycling and the Ripple Effect

By Phil Hammett

Many people have been confused by the recent trash container limit proposed by the Selectboard. The proposal is to only amounting to a few minutes per day out of our busy schedules. It’s really just a matter of changing our habits.

With their pay-as-you-throw program, Cumberland is projecting a savings of $25 per $100,000 of valuation. With a moderated system, the savings in Raymond will remain to be seen. Currently, we don’t know when the new ruling will take effect because we are negotiating with our trash and recycling contractor to work out the details, so that there are no price increases on that end. In the meantime, why not? You can start recycling more and composting today. Stop by the town office for more information, or to pick up a recycling bin. We’ll all breathe a little easier!

Ed Webster Thrilled JSMS Students and Visitors Alike with Mt. Everest Tales

Lecturer, publisher, and photojournalist Ed Webster gave an inspiring presentation about his Mt. Everest experiences to Jordan-Small Middle School students and guests on Wednesday, May 3rd.

He encouraged students to set goals, pursue their dreams and to take advantage of opportunities when they arise. Webster, who published his first article at age eleven, told his audience how rewarding it was to see your own words in print. Webster is the author of 5 books including Snow in My Pocket—written during a 3-week climb in the Himalayas which started at the base of Mount Everest. Webster’s presentation was made possible through Raymond’s PTA and the Mentoring Partnership.
2006 Bulky Waste Program
Beginning July 1st you will be able to get your 2006 coupon book for the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility. The 2006-2007 bulky waste budget was reduced to $60,000, and the homeowner will again have to be responsible for the cost of their bulky waste over 1,000 pounds.
As of July 1, 2006, each homeowner will be allowed one (1) coupon booklet per household a year for $5, which entitles him to deliver 1,000 pounds of bulky waste to the facility. These can be obtained at the Raymond Town Office. The rectangular brown windshield stickers will continue to designate Raymond taxpayers. When a resident has delivered more weight than the ticket allows, he will pay the overage at the LRWBF rate at a rate of $.05 per pound for all acceptable materials and $.025 for brush and round wood.
There will be no Day Passes issued, but the coupon booklet holder will be able to allow someone else to use his/her coupons for Raymond bulky waste deposit. If they don’t have any coupons, commercial haulers will pay for their deliveries at $.10 per pound. When a resident has delivered more weight than their tickets allow, they will pay the overage at the rate at the Raymond level of $.05/$.025 per pound. When a resident exhausts their tickets, they must pay at the gate.
When the 2006-2007 bulky waste budget has been exhausted, everyone who doesn’t have any tickets will have to pay at the gate. If they are Raymond taxpayers, they will be charged $.05/$.025 per pound but if not, they will be charged $.10 per pound.
At this time the following items can be delivered without cost: metal, car batteries, and motor oil. Items that have an added charge of $.55 each are refrigerators or freezers with the doors still on, porcelain fixtures with hardware, and car tires that still have their rims. 

An Open Letter to Past and Future Camp Raymond Campers and Parents
Camp Raymond was founded in August of 2003 as a grass roots effort by a few local moms, who sought to fill the need for a day camp for girls. The Girl Scout day camp was discontinued, so we decided to create our own. The first year was definitely a learning year, run completely by volunteers. It turned out to be a huge success!! For the second year, we decided to try again and supplemented our program with some of the Camp Hawthorne staff. During the third year, we gave the staffers even more of the program, so now we can confidently hand over the entire Camp Raymond program to someone who has the time and energy to foster spirit. As busy working moms, our time has come to pass this on to them. Ms. Emily Brent has worked with us for the last two years and we know she will continue with Camp Raymond in the same spirit.
Kim Allen
Candy Tardiff
Belinda Hughes

Thank You, Scholastic Book Fair Patrons and Volunteers
by Deb Cutten, Raymond PTA President
I would like to personally thank each and every one of you who helped make this year’s Scholastic Book Fair a success. The Book Fair is an important fundraiser for the Raymond PTA. Last year it represented 17% of our income. This year we kept the Book Fair open during the evening of the Academic Fair at RES. It allowed many parents the opportunity to shop and review their children’s selections and resulted in more sales during that two-hour period than the rest of the week combined.
Very special thanks to Wendy Trask who, once again, orchestrated the entire event. She worked tirelessly to organize the Fair, including working with Scholastic to get the books delivered, advertising, and coordinating volunteers despite the fact she had pneumonia!
Thanks again also to Deb Keef, the RES librarian, who graciously allowed us to use her space for the sale and to disrupt her lessons. She is always a huge help to the PTA during these sales.
I’d also like to thank Alison Griffin, the ISMS librarian, for again bringing her library students “across the street” so they could shop at the Fair. Their purchases are a big boost to our sales and much appreciated.
And the whole thing would have been impossible without our dedicated volunteers, who “minded the store.” I appreciate how chaotic it can be when you have 20-30 children asking you questions all at once while holding out handfuls of pennies and asking “Is this enough?” So thank you, Nancy Yates, Laurie Salamone, Lisa Davison, Leigh Walker, Coleen Laprise, Gail Casson, Bonnie Flynn, Deb Brackett, Caji MacDonald, Laurie Hargreaves, Chris Kuzma, Lisa Peavy, Sue Cobb, Meg Gresh, Beth Nadeau, Kayn Knights and Aniko Pongratz. (If I have omitted anyone, please forgive me.)

Welcome, Tiger Spirit Martial Arts
Long-time Raymond resident Sal Costanza has opened a martial arts school in the village’s Center Stage building. Classes in women’s self defense began last October, and classes for kids aged 4-7 started in November. The children’s classes follow a nationally recognized curriculum known as Lil Dragons. Sal has since started an adult class and is following up with ages 8 and older.
Sal has been a Raymond resident for 31 years and would live nowhere else. His children attended school in Raymond, and two grandchildren are currently attending Raymond Elementary School. Sal holds a black belt in Shotokan Karate, as does his youngest daughter Andrea Tripp. He is First Aid and CPR certified and has recently been certified as a martial arts instructor by the American Council on Martial Arts (ACMA). He loves Karate and hopes the programs he offers increase personal awareness and safety. As for the Lil Dragons, he combines high energy Karate with safety and life skills. For more information, call 627-4365 or e-mail syccons@pivot.net.

Student Sale
Jewelry & Wood Craft
When: Thursday June 8th ~ 9:00 – 12:00
Where: Future Builders School
11 Murray Drive ~ Raymond, Maine ~ 655-1000
Come see our student-made products
Limited quantities so arrive early
We are located off RTE. 302 behind Sebago Storage in the Sebago Industrial Park
An Opportunity for Maine’s Children

By Senator Bill Diamond

I am proud and excited to have been invited to participate in a national program known as the Youth Policy Institute, hosted by the National Conference of State Legislators and the National Governors Association. This institute is designed to help state governments obtain better results from their programs and policies for children.

Maine is one of eight states that have been invited to participate in this important and prestigious two-day institute. Six selected officials from each of the eight states will be part of a state team, which will be asked to develop strategies for improving methods of helping children in a variety of ways in their state. For Maine, this could result in a tremendous improvement in how we protect our children.

I accepted this invitation to be a part of Maine’s six-member team because I feel strongly that we need to find ways to improve some of the policies which pertain to our children. There are many children in Maine who are vulnerable to those who would take advantage of them in a variety of ways. Children who are abused and lack proper supervision, as well as those who are in need of basic health care and overall protection, need our attention as soon as possible.

The Youth Policy Institute will provide an opportunity for our Maine team to talk with national experts who work with children’s organizations and state governments to see how other states address these problems pertaining to the care of our children. As a result of Maine’s involvement in this Institute, we will have access to national resources which will be important as we seek to improve our state and local child development and protection programs.

Without a doubt, Maine needs to do a better job recognizing the judicial and legal needs of our most vulnerable children. For example, our court system is basically designed to geographically address issues before them, with most district and superior courts handling everything from speeding violations to divorces to homicides and all forms of corruption. Our judges are asked to be experts on all sorts of issues, many of which may require in-depth knowledge in order for them to make an informed decision. Crimes against children, especially sex crimes, require an expertise in the judicial ranks that currently may not exist. Training certain judges to have an extensive and specific knowledge of cases dealing with sex crimes against children is something we need to explore.

This is only one idea that could be explored by Maine’s team and the institute, and possibly we could learn from other states which may have already addressed this problem. This, and a variety of other issues which can be considered at this institute, adds to my enthusiasm for Maine’s involvement.

The hosts of the Youth Policy Institute will be providing complete funding for the Maine team, including transportation, hotel accommodations, meals and other expenses. Such a commitment on their part underscores the importance given to the potential of the institute.

I would be especially interested in any ideas you may have regarding children’s issues and how we might add to the strategies and discussions which will take place at the two-day institute.

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

The Magic in Soccer

by Pat Smith

Thanks to Dana and Paula Desjardins, the plans for fall soccer were well underway, with sign-up dates in place and agreement with Agawam for use of their fields once again to formalize and running smoothly.

It seems to me there is a “magic” in all of our Raymond Rec programs, which comes from volunteers sharing time and expertise so that children can be active, learn, laugh and have fun. In soccer and other programs the “magic” is made by those who undertake the leadership of each program. For the past several years the soccer “magic” has been created by Dana and Paula.

They have announced that this will be the final year they are able to do all the work required to keep the program going. If you want to make a difference to children and are willing to try a part in keeping our soccer program strong this coming fall, call Dana and Paula. We especially need people to line the fields and work on schedules. For more information and to help keep the “magic” going, please contact Dana at 655-5351.

My May Project

By David Getchell Cheverus, Class of 2006

Every May, seniors at Cheverus High School spend five weeks doing community service at various institutions. For my community service, dubbed “May Project,” I was placed in the art room at Jordan-Small Middle School. Though I am still in the middle of my May Project, I have learned a great deal through my experiences; but more importantly I have come to realize the importance art plays in children’s lives.

During my work here I have spent time with some fifth graders in order to create a wall display for the tiles they made earlier in the year. The sixth graders have been diligently working on a project that has them experimenting with the different ways colors are affected by different amounts of black and white. The seventh and eighth graders are currently making paper molas. Molas are traditional Central and South American fabric panels with multiple layers. Finally, the eighth graders are in the process of making self-portraits.

All of these projects are wonderful because they allow self-expression; and since I was a middle school student not long ago, I can appreciate the children’s need for ways to positively express themselves. These students are also gaining experience with technical skills, such as using an X-ACTO knife, double-sided tape, yardsticks, and thinking about negative space and in layers. The projects teach the students at JSMHS more than they can consciously imagine.

The values being taught to these students are ingrained with the philosophies of people such as Plato and Freud. Freud stressed throughout his works the need to find outlets for our desires. He believes that in all forms of art, including writing, painting, and drawing, the artist is allowed to release his subconscious desires. Students have also been able to learn about the values that artist Keith Haring stressed. Haring’s morals echo those of Plato. Plato believed that what is good short term may not always be good in the long term, and Haring repeated this in his art, saying that our children need positive upbringing because they will take care of us someday. These are just a couple of the lessons to which the students in Mrs. Irish’s class have been exposed.

While we all do not have the genius of Da Vinci, the abilities of Michelangelo, or the vision of Shakespeare, it is clear that art is one of the most important pieces of culture since the beginning of humanity. I am glad to see that even though art is not always appreciated, there are priceless lessons that children are gaining through their participation. We do not have to be artists to understand and value the way it has influenced history.

Last Days of School in Raymond

Friday, June 16, is the last day of classes for Jordan-Small Middle School students. The middle school will be dismissed at 10:30 on that morning. Elementary students have a full day of school on June 16 due to an additional storm day last winter. Raymond Elementary School’s last day is Monday, June 19, with a dismissal at 11:30. Lunch will not be served on these final days of school, but parents will want to be sure that their students bring a snack and a drink.

Raymond PTA

May/June 2006
Giving Tree Requests

Help improve recess at RES!

We can make the playground more fun and exciting for all the students at RES with a few inexpensive additions. We’ve added some new equipment (more to come), created a play idea book, and parent volunteers are coming in to lead games; and yet we could still benefit from a few supplies such as:

- plastic toy trucks & earth movers
- marbles
- plastic bats
- baseball mitts
- sidewalk chalk
- Nerf balls
- squash mits

If you can pick up one of these items when you are out shopping, please bring/send it to school and put it in the drop box labeled “Giving Tree.” We will add them to our “fun box.” Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, call Deb Cutten at 655-8672 or e-mail at d.cutten@raymondmaine.org.

Wellhead Protection Grant

Rick Dwinnell, Raymond School District facilities manager, has received official notification that his application for a Wellhead Protection Grant has been approved in the amount of $5,000. The JSMHS water system will be reimbursed in this amount for costs associated with the removal of underground heating oil tanks at the middle school. Under Rick’s direction, the district has also received grants for custodial and maintenance equipment designed to make work for his staff more efficient, effective, and safe. We would like to congratulate Rick for the Wellhead Protection Grant.

Animal Control Report April - May

All of the reports are available online at the Animal Control page on the Raymond Road Runner website: http://www.raymondmaine.org

Animal Control Report April - May

DATE ISSUE - RESULT
April 18 Information only
April 18 Information only
April 19 Information only
April 20 Pick up trap
April 20 Dog in yard
April 20 Maintenance of equipment
April 21 Dog at large - Gone on arrival
April 21 Dog fight - Summons written
April 24 Raccoon - Referred to Warden Service
April 25 Cat trap
April 25 District Court with paperwork
April 28 Barking dog - Quiet on arrival
April 29 Information about dogs at large
April 29 Information about dogs at large
April 29 Information about dogs at large
April 29 Barking dog on at large
April 27 Dog at large - Owner not at home
April 27 Dog at large - Owner not at home
April 28 Dog at large - Summons written
April 28 Posting No Dogs signs at parks and beaches
April 29 Dog found
April 30 Check on trap
May 1 Stray cat
May 1 District Court with paperwork
May 2 Cat to Animal Refuge League
May 2 Pickup trap
May 3 Information only on birds
May 3 Dogs at large school
May 3 Injured dog - Owner contacted
May 3 Stray in yard
May 4 Posting No Dogs signs at parks and beaches
May 5 Meeting in Windham
May 6 Information only
May 8 Stray dog
May 9 Stray dog in yard - Picked up dog
May 9 Owner picked up dog
May 9 Boarded dog over night
May 9 Loan trap to catch rabbit
May 9 Road kill - Gone on arrival
May 10 Two dogs at large - Verbal warning to 2 owners
May 11 Cat hit by car - Took to veterinarian
May 12 Cat died - Buried
May 14 Two dogs at large - Caught one
May 14 Dog to Animal Refuge League
May 15 Information on dogs at large
May 15 Pricing and locating kennel parts for repair of dog crate
May 15 Dog at large - Tied in yard
May 15 Dog to Animal Refuge League

Contact Dana at 655-5351.
A Learning Celebration in Raymond

Thursday, April 27, was a very special day for K–8 students in Raymond. The first annual ACADEMIC/SCIENCE FAIR was held at the Raymond Elementary School and the Jordan-Small Middle School. Over 550 student research projects were on display in the two schools, showcasing learning at all grade levels. RES students focused on grade level themes of Medieval Castle Times, Living Things, Recycling, Go Wild with Science, and Famous Maine Persons. JSMS students researched a wide range of science topics for the Science Fair. Elementary students also had the opportunity to visit the middle school to view the Science Fair projects during the day. The response from parents, other than the on-going problem with parking during school events, was extremely positive; and many families took the opportunity to visit both schools to see projects in grades K–8. We hope to schedule the 2nd annual ACADEMIC/SCIENCE FAIR for spring 2007.

S.E.A.R.C.H. Sponsored Art Project for JSMS Library

The S.E.A.R.C.H. Program bought giant sheets of canvas to make portable murals for the library at Jordan-Small Middle School. There will be at least six, each measuring 2 feet by 6 feet. Most murals are painted directly on the wall and become a permanent fixture. JSMS library has a very high ceiling, so we are using canvas and acrylic paint. All of our murals will feature books but have different library inspired subjects that are popular with middle school students.

The first finished mural is now on display in the library. It starts out with a globe that turns into a map. A real landscape emerges then transforms into an artist’s painting. This bold and beautiful mural was made by Ryan Carr, Grade 5. Jenna Martyn-Fisher is currently creating a fantastic painting of dogs on an adventure. This 7th grader’s masterpiece will be displayed before school is through. There are more dates and canvas available for interested students. See Mrs. Irish in the art room. There will also be an opportunity to make murals during Summer S.E.A.R.C.H.

What Would Kids’ Drawings Look Like if Painted Realistically?

By taking kids’ drawings and adding shadows, highlights, texture and perspective, illustrator and author Dave DeVries made RES students’ drawings come to life. DeVries awed students earlier this year by taking selected sketches and transforming them from simple line drawings to fully realistic paintings. The children gained a lot of information from watching, and helping, DeVries make the transformations. At a recent Friday Opening the original artists were given their “monsters” to take home. DeVries is author of The Monster Engine, An Experiment with Children’s Art. His visit was made possible through the Raymond PTA, who, with help from their volunteers, also framed the paintings before sending them home.

Maine Student Book Award Winner Announced

The 2005-2006 MSBA votes have been counted, and this year’s winner is “The End of the Beginning, Being the Adventures of a Small Snail (and an even Smaller Ant)” by Avi. Five 6th grade students from JSMS successfully completed the MSBA program by reading at least three of the nominated titles. Students who read three of the nominees were then able to vote for their favorite, along with other students across the State of Maine. Meghan Hargreaves read 3 nominated books, Michala Collins and Kelly Pike read 6, and Shannon Pike read an outstanding 26 titles. A list of next year’s nominated titles is available in the JSMS library and will soon be available on the JSMS website. All of the students who completed this year’s MSBA reading program will be celebrating with an ice cream party in the JSMS library. Shannon Pike will be awarded a gift certificate to Borders in honor of her reading achievement. Congratulations, Shannon, and to all of our JSMS students who participated in this year’s MSBA program!