Board of Selectmen Approve Municipal Budget below LD1 Limit  

By Don Willard, Town Manager  

At the March 22, 2007, meeting of the Raymond Board of Selectmen, the proposed 2007-2008 fiscal budget for the Town of Raymond was approved by the Board of Selectmen, subject to final adoption at the May 19 Annual Town Meeting, at a net increase of $57,113, or 3.23% over last year. The presented Municipal budget total of $1,824,398 is $4,212 less than that allowed by LD1 for fiscal 2007-2008.  

In the beginning of the budgeting process, the Board of Selectmen established several performance guidelines and goals and to be met by the Town Manager in preparing the budget. Among these goals were increasing the appropriation for capital road improvement work, maintaining the current curbside waste collection system, and exploring the sharing of services with neighboring towns and/or Cumberland County government to reduce costs and maintain or improve services. In addition, the Board of Selectmen expressed continued support of the Raymond Waterways Protective Association and the Raymond Village Library. Mindful that the majority of Raymond residents voted for the passage of TABOR, they also mandated that the budget come in within the constraints of LD1.  

The Town’s department heads were instructed to comply with the Board’s wishes, and presented requests to the Town Manager resulting in a gross budget increase of only 75% or $27,654, over last year’s gross budget. Due to expected increases in revenues, particularly from excise tax and Municipal Revenue Sharing, the budget had to be finely tuned to achieve the desired goals, but the proposed budget is successful in meeting them.  

Among the goals achieved in the proposed budget are: an increase of $40,000 in the appropriation for capital road improvement work; a reduction in the use of undesignated funds; an appropriation for capital road improvement work; a reduction in the cost of dispatch services by combining with the Town of Naples; appropriating funding requests by the Raymond Waterways Protective Association and the Raymond Village Library; a new contract with Pine Tree Waste for trash and recycling curbside pickup; and a slight reduction in the use of undesignated funds. The budget also includes an appropriation for a new voting machine to replace the present 20-year old machine, and the replacement of the windows in the main part of the Town Hall.  

Although not included in this proposed budget, the Town is seeking private sector insurance bids in an attempt to further reduce costs in the future. As presented, the 2007-2008 budget seeks to maintain the current mill rate of $10.20 per thousand, while maintaining or improving services to the community.  

Call for Candidate Profiles  

As in the past, the May issue of the Raymond Road Runner will include Candidate Profiles for anyone running for a position on the Selectboard, School Committee and Budget Finance Committee. Profiles should be 500 words or less and include an introduction, background, your thoughts about the position you are seeking and contact information. If you have turned in a completed nomination form to the town office and would like to learn more about the position you are seeking and contact information. If you have turned in a completed nomination form to the town office and would like to submit a candidate profile, please send it before Thursday, April 19, 2007, to the Raymond Road Runner by one of the following methods:  

■ E-mail: roadrunner@raymondbdaine.org as an attached .rtf file  
■ CD: Label as Candidate Profile 2007 for the Raymond Road Runner with your name. File should be in .rtf and dropped off at the town office.  
■ Typed or handwritten: Drop it off at the town office.
**Raymond Village Library News**

**At a Glance**
- **Sunday, April 1:** Pajama Story Time, 6pm, at the library.
- **Sunday, April 8:** Library Closed for Easter.
- **Wednesday, April 11:** Library Board Meeting at 7pm.
- **Wednesday, April 11:** Non-fiction/Classics Reading Group 7pm, at the library.
- **Monday, April 16:** Nature Program for Kids, at 2pm at the library.
- **Sunday, April 22:** Volunteer Appreciation Celebration at 2pm, at the library.
- **Monday, April 23 and 30:** Free Adult Computer Workshop, 6-8pm, at RES.
- **Wednesday, April 25:** Reading Group, 7pm at the library.

**Pajama Party**

Jody Fein, a well-known storyteller, will be entertaining children and adults alike at the library with her enthusiastic tale telling. Be sure to wear your pajamas and be ready to enjoy the songs and stories. We have the Raymond PTO to thank for sponsoring this April Fools Day surprise at 6pm.

**Library closed on Sunday, April 8 for Easter.**

**Nonfiction and Classics Reading Group**

Join us Wednesday, April 11, at 7pm at the Raymond Village Library, when Thomas Desjardin’s Through a Howling Wilderness: Benedict Arnold’s March to Quebec, 1775 will be the focus of discussion. Thomas Zuphart, in his Maine Sunday Telegram review of the book, said, “Desjardin is Maine’s (Historic Sites) historian and one terrific storyteller, able to zap the reader…from individual travels to 18th century Realpolitik.” Reading copies will be available at the Library desk.

At this meeting we will also explore group interests, ideas, and preferred dates for future meetings. Come to this organizational meeting, even if you cannot read the book, and help shape the group’s future. If you miss the meeting, please let Al Morrison know of your interest, at 655-4745.

Al will facilitate this new group, which is intended to be more specialized in Nonfiction (biography, history, science, etc.) and Classics (both old and new) than the current longstanding, more generalized reading group. Full cooperation between these two groups is the goal of both. We look forward to seeing you April 11, and to hearing from you before, at and afterward, to learn what you think. Please share this information with friends who might be interested.

**Nature Program – Lobster Lives and Science**

Meet a live lobster, learn about a typical lobster day, get hands-on with the survey techniques scientists use to monitor juvenile lobsters along the coast of New England, and watch as an audience member is transformed into a lobster during the humorous and educational build-a-lobster activity. This Cornerstones of Science (COS) program will be facilitated by Jocelyn Hubbell, COS Executive Director. It will take place at the Raymond Village Library on Monday, April 16, at 2pm for school age children. For more information about COS visit www.cornerstonesofscience.org.

**Volunteer Appreciation Celebration**

Calling all of our many volunteers! Please save Sunday, April 22, for a little celebration at the library to thank you for all you do for the library. The party begins at 2pm. Hope to see you there.

Jane Hubbell, a 17-year Raymond Village Library volunteer, is enjoying every minute of the privilege. In that time, she has helped with publicity, book selection, collection maintenance and repair, and the circulation desk, as well as serving a period on the Board of Trustees. Currently, she works on the plant sale and book sale committees, facilitates the reading group, and always looks forward to her circulation desk time.

Formerly a high school and junior college English teacher, Jane has always loved books and libraries. So she feels more than lucky to get to do this sort of thing with such an outstanding librarian, great coworkers and patrons who share the same goal – a really pleasurable and useful library for our town. Job satisfaction at its best, always something new to learn, good company, fun and a sense of giving something worthwhile to the mix – thanks for the opportunity, says she.

**Reading Group**

The Book Group will meet on April 25 at the library at 7pm to discuss the book A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry. Copies of the book will be available by request at the library. For more information, please call Jane at 655-5354.

**Story Time Schedule Change – April 2nd**

Due to the large number of participants in the Toddler Story Time Program, it is necessary to have two sessions on the same day.

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### April 2007 Events and Meeting Schedule

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same morning. We will ask participants to commit to the session that fits their leadership, in order to keep the groups a manageable size. We will try to be flexible as well. The new schedule is as follows:

- **Baby Time** (Birth – 18 months): Mondays at 10am.
- **Toddler Time** (18-36 months): Wednesdays: The Under 3’s, 9:30am and Thursday at 11am.
- **Preschool Time** (3-5 years): Mondays at 11am.

**Save the Date: Saturday, June 2**

The Raymond Village Library wants you all to shop locally on Saturday, June 2nd. We are working on an exciting fund raiser for the library, and we’ve asked our local Raymond businesses to help. When you shop on June 2nd, a percentage of the total sale will be donated to the library. We are so fortunate that the small businesses in town are willing to participate in our event, and hope that you will help us out on that day, also. This is just a partial list of the participants; it is constantly changing every day, but we want you to be thinking about how you can wisely spend your money on that special Saturday in June.

To date the following are on board: Auto Werke, Chipman Farms, Lakes Region Wireless, Community Pharmacy, Cricket’s Corner, Good Life Market, Hair Force One, J.C. Brown and Betty McDermott, as well as Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey, Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to former Selectmen Ada O’Donnell, O’Donnell & Associates

**Free Adult Computer Workshop**

“Creating a Newsletter” with Microsoft Word will be offered Monday, April 23 and 30, 6-8pm at the RES computer room. Space is limited, so please register with Doris Horne – doris.horne@raymondmaine.org. Please plan to come a few minutes early. The library thanks the Raymond School Department for collaborating on offering these computer workshops.

**Municipal News Brief**

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen recently took the following actions:

**Tuesday, February 20, 2007**

1) Broadcast studio update/presentation of certificates of appreciation – Chairman Board of Selectmen Mark Gendron

Certificates of community appreciation were awarded by the Board of Selectmen to former Selectmen Ada Brown and Betty McDermott, as well as Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey, Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mike Reynolds, and Town Manager Don Woburn for their leadership and work in the creation of the digital broadcast studio.

2) Data services discussion – Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey

Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey provided an open document format (odf) presentation outlining issues related to work necessary to create a relational database for the town’s five different network servers. These servers, which contain a great deal of overlapping information within their databases, have to be kept in alignment in order to provide up-to-date information for use by town departments and the public. Currently, much of this update work is manually done on each database. After the presentation the Board of Selectmen authorized using existing funding to hire a consultant to assist with the transition from the present system to a system that will push updates out to the proper servers as created by each individual department. This change will save a good deal of future effort by eliminating additional costs.

3) Regional dispatch center technical review – Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey

Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey provided a technical and operational review of both the Naples and Windham communication centers as possible future locations for a regionalized service, including Raymond, Presby and Raymond’s contribution to a center to serve Cumberland County. Although both Cumberland County and Windham currently have technical advantages and cost savings advantages over the Naples dispatch center, the present service in Naples to Raymond and to have an active role in future decision making, influenced the Network Administrator and Fire Chief to make a recommendation for a one year trial period with Naples for public safety emergency dispatch. The Raymond of Town will provide technical support to Naples in setting up equipment and software for this regional effort. It is hoped that by working closely with the members town of the Naples center (Har- rison, Saco, Casco and Naples) future cost savings opportunities could also be realized. After the one year trial period, the recommendation will be made to determine whether significant progress has been made in this area or whether all the options for dispatch services should be re-evaluated. The objective of moving the dispatch center from Raymond to Naples will take advantage of the cost savings of working on a joint basis to provide these services, while at the same time not suffering any de- crease in the quality of the service. Examples of areas of future cooperation include shared fire department operations and multi-town participation in the start up paramedic “fly car” program currently being developed by Fire Chief Denis Morse and EMS Director Cathy Gosselin.


a) None

5) One Raymond Committee Update – Mark Gendron & Dana Desjardins, Co-Chairs

a) Next One Raymond Committee to be held on March 1, 2007.

6) Discussion of printing costs for this year’s town report – Town Clerk Louise Lester

The Board of Selectmen considered the potential of printing all of the Land Use Ordinance amendments in the town report this year versus producing this material in-house as a separate document, given the much larger volume of material. It was decided that the town clerk should bid the printing both ways and that a decision would be made at the next meeting as to whether the town report would be printed with all the land use amendments included or as a standalone document.

7) Old (unfinished) business

a) Discussion of possible replacement of heavy duty plow truck – Public Works Director Nathan White

A motion was made and unanimously approved to purchase a 2006 international heavy plow truck to replace the town’s GMC truck, as had been planned in next year’s capital budget. The decision to purchase the truck early was to take advantage of substantial capital acquisition and operational savings before new federally-mandated emissions standards are imposed upon 2007 vehicles.

b) Determination of 2007 town scholarship award levels – Town Clerk Louise Lester

This item was tabled in order to allow the town clerk to provide additional information on interest earned for the various scholarship accounts.

8) Town Manager Report and Communications

a) The town manager reported that roads will be posted prohibiting heavy truck traffic beginning on March 5, 2007, and that the Board of Selectmen meeting date shall be April 31, 2007.

b) The Board of Selectmen signed a Quit Claim deed to release the town’s interest in the Waterman property at 25 Shaker Woods Road. All interest, penalties, delinquent taxes and associated administrative charges have legally been paid in full.


Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated February 20, 2007.

**Tuesday, March 6, 2007**

1) Reservation of Allen Tait from Planning Board

The Board of Selectmen accepted the resignation of Planning Board member Allen Tait with regret and thanks for his volunteer service to the town.

2) Interview two applicants for the open seat on the Planning Board – Board of Selectmen

With the resignation of Mr. Tait, an opening for a full member of the Planning Board was created. Interested citizens Christina Keilt and Greg Foster were interviewed by the Board of Selectmen. Both candidates were exceptionally well qualified for the position, with Greg Foster receiving the nomination and approval of the board to fill the open position. Christina Keilt was asked if she would consider a position as a member of the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee, which she accepted. She was subsequently nominated and unanimously approved to serve the town in this capacity.

3) Fire/Rescue Budget overview/update – Fire Chief Denis Morse

Fire Chief Morse provided an overview of the fiscal year 2007/2008 Fire Rescue Budget with an emphasis upon explaining the process by which he has budgeted for and secured fixed departmental capital assets. He also explained the underlying philosophy and cost savings work necessary to hold his budget at a zero increase over the last three years. He thanked his departmental members and town administration for the cooperation that he had received in being able to achieve this accomplishment. He then discussed his desire to sign a one-year contract with the Naples dispatch center for Fire/Rescue dispatch services. At the conclusion of the Fire Rescue presentation, a motion was made to approve a one-year contract with Naples for full-time dispatching services in October 2007. Raymond will participate actively with our neighboring communities in building a regional dispatch center that will retain the services and qualities of the present Raymond center and at the same time offer the cost-of-operations advantages that can only be obtained by working cooperatively with neighboring communities. The dispatch arrangement will be for one year trial period only and will commence on a part-time basis as soon as practicable for oversight coverage. EMS Director Cathy Gosselin reported on the staffing and activities of the town’s volunteer rescue service. Noting that there are about thirty people in the Fire Rescue department, with approximately twelve members doing fifty calls each annually. She also highlighted the work that is done to maintain the Public Safety Building and perform other related duties such as Fire Police work. Ms. Gosselin explained a new program that is under development with other areas towns to provide improved paramedic coverage by utilizing a shared paramedic “fly car”. This vehicle would be municipally owned and would be stocked with emergency equipment and medicines in order to allow the paramedic to respond more quickly and then decide whether additional assistance and/or ambulance transportation was needed. Similar programs have been successful in place in other communities in Maine for some time. At the conclusion of the Fire Rescue presentation, a motion was made to approve a one-year contract with Naples for full-time dispatching services commencing in October 2007.

4) Discussion on possible warrant article to change the date of town meeting – Town Clerk Louise Lester

The Board of Selectmen had a preliminary discussion with the town clerk about the legal ramifications of a possible change in the date and form of town meeting. The town clerk will gather additional information for discussion at the Board of Selectmen’s March 22nd meeting, to be held at the Broadcast Studio.

5) Capital planning and asset acquisition policy discussion – Selectman Joe Bruno

Selectman Bruno felt that the town’s current policy could be greatly improved if a formal policy outlining capital purchasing and debt were implemented. He suggested that it may make more sense for the town to maintain a single Capital Improvement Program (CIP) reserve fund for certain purchases and to bond for other purchases as necessary, given the historically low rates of interest communities typically pay to bond for capital improvements. An additional concern is that the town should have an “Undesignated Fund Balance Policy,” governing the levels at which the fund bal- ance should be maintained and the specific purposes to which the fund balance could be utilized if it exceeded established minimum levels. The town manager was instructed to get additional information on such policies from other communities for future consideration.

6) New town office concept vote discussion – Selectman Joe Bruno

Continued on page 4
Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated March 22, 2007.

All Raymond meetings are public, and citizens are encouraged to attend. You may also watch live broadcasts of municipal and school meetings on Public Access Channel 2, which is the government channel, or Channel 3, which is the education/school channel. A program listing is available on-line at www.raymondmaine.org.

PTO Scholarships

The PTO gives two $1000 college scholarships every year to high school seniors who meet specific criteria in terms of community involvement, academics, quality & content of an essay, and personal recommendations. We have often felt that there were missing students who showed potential and had a definite financial need, but for various reasons were unlikely to compete with other students based on the above-mentioned criteria. We decided to create a special $1000 scholarship to provide financial support to a needy student who might not meet the criteria of our conventional scholarship, but who had overcome significant barriers in his/her personal life and had sought to further his/her education. Unlike our standard scholarship, the Julie Oresini Memorial Scholarship may be granted more than once to a deserving student over the course of his/her post secondary education.

Fire-Safe Cigarettes

By Senator Bill Diamond

Many states have already passed a law that requires special cigarette paper to be used when making cigarettes.

Recently my committee, the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, heard a bill, which if passed, would require that beginning on January 1, 2008, all cigarettes sold in Maine must be what is known as “Fire-Safe.” Specifically a Fire-safe cigarette is one where the paper used to make the cigarette has a limited amount of burn time unless actually being smoked. This specifies that there will be a clearly visible separate sections made into the cigarette paper that will not burn, and therefore, the cigarette will extinguish by itself unless it’s being “dragged on” when the burn reaches these paper sections.

Extensive research throughout the country has shown that many house and apartment fires are started by people falling asleep while smoking in bed or sitting on a sofa or upholstered chair. When cigarettes are dropped or fall on a sofa type piece of furniture, tests have shown that it usually takes the burn half of an hour for the cigarette to actually ignite into a fire or heavy smoke. Fire-safe cigarettes self extinguish before the time it would take for furniture to ignite, and therefore, the fire could result in loss of life and property can be prevented.

Some people have questioned why we have to go such an extent just to protect people from themselves, i.e., those who lack the common sense not to smoke in bed or in similar situations. The Maine State Fire Marshall testified before our committee that oftentimes many innocent people are injured or die as a result of someone starting such a fire. Therefore, there are many other aspects to consider.

This bill was also supported by the tobacco industry and was enthusiastically supported by some Maine businesses like distributors, for instance, who deliver these products to the hundreds of stores and other locations where cigarettes are sold. In fact, there was no opposition to the final version of the bill, which was also supported by the Maine Lung Association. We learned that three other New England states had already passed this new “fire-safe” cigarette law, and two others are actually in the process of doing so this year.

The tobacco companies have testified that there will be no additional cost to the consumers, so given all of the support to the committee heard, it appears that this bill will fly through the legislative process quite easily.

Any comments or thoughts you may have would be helpful to me.

Did You Know?

Our own Sebago Lake covers an area of 28,771 acres with a depth in some locations of 316 feet and the average depth of 150 feet. It is the second largest lake in Maine and the third largest lake in New England.

State Senator Bill Diamond (D-Windham) can be contacted via phone at the Senate Chamber, Augusta, ME 04333, Tel: 1-800-423-6900 or e-mail at diamondb@law.oly
Animal Control Report
January - March
by Don Alexander, Animal Control Officer
1/18 Dog barking
1/19 Missing retriever - returned to owner
1/20 Check on well being - all OK
1/20 2 dogs at large - owner found
1/22 Missing dog - dog returned home after 11 days
1/23 District Court
1/28 Cat missing
1/31 2 Dogs running at large
1/31 Barking complaint - verbal warning
2/1 Barking dog follow up
2/3 Cumberland County Sheriff’s Department - assist
2/10 Dog in road
2/12 Barking dog
2/15 Loaned Havahart trap
2/15 Wayward duck
2/20 Dog hit by car - dog OK
2/21 Dog missing - returned home
2/22 Late night barking dog
2/28 Dog at large
2/28 Dog defecating on lawn
2/28 2 dogs at large
2/28 2 dogs in neighbor’s yard
2/28 2 dogs at large - owner will get
3/2 Dog hit by car - car left scene
3/3 Administration work
3/5 Administration work
3/7 Dog defecating in yard - verbal warning
3/8 Animal Refuge League
3/9 2 Stray cats
3/9 Animal Refuge League
3/9 Dog bite - no serious damage
3/12 Administration
3/13 Dogs defecating in yard
3/13 Cat found
3/13 2 Dogs at large
3/16 2 Dogs at large - one found
3/16 Dog at large
3/17 Information only
3/19 Dog in neighbor’s yard
3/19 Served 1 summons
3/19 Cat spraying on deck
3/19 Information only
3/20 Dog in neighbor’s yard - advised owner to pick up dog
3/20 Trap requested for cat
3/21 Dog at large- dog confined in pen
3/21 Set trap for cat

Fire/Rescue Dispatch Asks Your Help
When you lose your dog or cat, you can call Dispatch and ask them to notify Don Alexander, our Animal Control Officer. When you lose your horse, llama, or cow, it’s a bit more involved since they won’t fit in an animal carrier. The place to call is Dispatch, but more information is necessary in order to rescue your livestock.

We are asking that you fill out a Livestock Location form for Dispatch’s use. If you have already filled one out, please review it so that the information is current. The forms can be obtained at Dispatch in the Public Safety Building, 1443 Roosevelt Trail; the Town Office; or online at Raymond’s website www.raymondmaine.org.

These forms are most important in order to better identify the horse(s) running down the road or the llama visiting someone’s backyard. It’s for the safety of the animal and the person who might hit it with his car.

2007 Dog Registration
Dog licensing was due January 1st. 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 is $10. For dogs licensed in Raymond in 2006 but not yet in 2007, after April 1st there will be 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 alleviating 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.

If you have lost your dog, you can call Raymond Dispatch at 665-7851 or the Town Office during business hours, and they will notify our Animal Control Officer.

Raymond Veterans Memorial
The Raymond Veterans Memorial Committee continues to gather donations from citizens who wish to honor their friends and relatives who have served our country. They have chosen a monument to grace the site at the Panther Run Park on Route 302, which can be seen on our website, www.raymondmaine.org.

They are also providing citizens an opportunity to have a paving stone included in the site to honor someone you love. The pavers are 4" x 8" with a three-line inscription ($50), an 8" x 8” with five lines of inscription ($100), and a 12” x 12” with 6 lines of inscription ($150). If you have a special wish, a granite bench can be purchased for $1,500.

You can obtain order forms at the Town Office or online at www.raymondmaine.org

Moose Lottery Deadline
April 2, 2007
The 2007 Moose Permit applications are available at the Town Office. Applications must be sent in no later than April 2, 2007. The applications are also available online at www.state.me.us/ifw/index.html

Tassel Top News
First, we want to thank the people who responded to our last appeal for help identifying trees and plants along our Nature Trail. Part of the Park’s mission is to educate the patrons who visit us with regard to the flora and fauna of our area, and our personal mission is to make it fun at the same time. We are still looking for someone who would be interested in making life-sized animal cut outs (from plywood) for our new play area this year.

We still have weeks available in our Cabin Rental OR you can rent by the day if you would like to have a business meeting or teach a yoga seminar etc. We are saying thank you to our Raymond Residents this year by offering the WEEKLY cabin rental at a $100 discount.

There will be a raffle held at the Town Meeting on May 19th for a YEAR ROUND Raymond Resident OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE to win a free weekend (Saturday and Sunday) for their family (up to 8 people) at the Tassel Top Cabin. Simply fill out the coupon and bring it to the meeting, where they will be collected and the drawing held. Details will be worked out with the Head Ranger.

We are starting to think about the summer. There will be some new additions to the Snack Shack and many upgrade projects being done this season. We will have more on that in the next Road Runner. We are assembling another great Park crew for this season and are looking forward to seeing you all this summer. If you want to be part of this upbeat work crew (applications close on April 6) or if you have any talents to offer, please feel free to contact Head Ranger Sue at 655-4441, or you can leave a message for her at the Town Office at 655-4742. Thanks, and we’ll be seeing you soon!

Tassel Top Cabin Rental Raffle
Please PRINT your—
NAME: ____________________________________________
ADDRESS: __________________________________________
NOTE: ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE:
1. At least 21 years of age
2. A YEAR ROUND Raymond Resident
Drawing to be held May 19th at the Town Meeting
RES Principal’s Report
By Norma Richard
I think that students and teachers alike at RES are happy that March is finally over and that spring is finally here. It was a very busy month at the elementary school, with MEA’s administration in grades 3 and 4, a snow day to start the month, and a number of bitter cold days to sit around inside recess. I want to congratulate the children for continuing their great work, positive attitude, and wonderful efforts each day. The move to an earlier Daylight Savings Time, the warmer temperatures, and the increasingly sunny days have given each of us a great boost as we head into April.

Last year we implemented the Everyday Mathematics program in grades K – 6. The program takes a very hands-on approach to teaching math concepts, and teachers are working very hard to adapt the program to meet the needs of all learners using this program. This year I am observing all of the math classes in grades K – 4 in order to build a greater understanding from the administrative perspective, and to support the continuing effort to improve math instruction at the elementary level. In each of the classrooms that I have visited I have seen a high level of engagement for all of the children. At the kindergarten level the children are using games, such as Disappearing Train and Money Cube, to develop the concepts of addition and subtraction, regrouping, and counting by 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. When visiting the second grades, I observed the students collecting data using their own arms spans and then results from long jumps to find the median, create a scatter plot, and finally graph the data. First graders were introduced to comparing numbers using > and <, and applying this skill to a favorite game, Top It. Addition. This second year of the program is going much more smoothly as everyone, teachers and students, are more familiar with the vocabulary, math language, and routines and procedures embedded in Everyday Mathematics. I am very pleased with this choice of math programs and excited to have a consistent program in place for grades K – 6.

I encourage all parents to integrate math into their daily lives by looking for fun opportunities for your children to count, sort, group, and use numbers in meaningful ways. And as always, I ask that parents and children spend time each and every day sharing the joys of reading together.

February Is Heart Month
By Joni Merrill

JSMS - Physical Education
This February, Jordan-Small Middle School was once again proud to raise money for the American Heart Association. Through the Jump Rope for Heart and the Hoops for Heart programs, sixteen students raised $330 for the AHA. Grades 5 & 6 raised money during their physical education jump- rope unit, while the 7th & 8th grade students raised the money through their basketball unit in physical education programs. The 5th & 6th grade students raised $330 for the AHA. This February, Jordan-Small Middle School was once again proud to raise money for the American Heart Association.

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The Giving Tree

These are items teachers and staff need for their classrooms. If you have extra at home or would be willing to pick something up when you are out shopping, please bring/send in items and put them in the drop boxes near the school from doors labeled “Giving Tree,” or you can leave them in the Office. We will deliver them to the teachers within 2 days.

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

RES

- Ms. Parisi needs - a dozen travel plastic soap dishes, to keep our Everyday
- Math card decks in.
- Mrs. Blanchard needs – a dozen little plastic “do-dads” that you use to hold a single sheet of paper while you type at the computer.
- Mrs. Wiley needs - Spell checkers, CD players with headphones, large headphones to muffle outside noise.
- Mrs. Weeks needs – portable CD/cassette player (used) and 2 tape recorders for cassette tapes.
- Mrs. Gorham needs – 3 or 4 heavy-duty sound blocking headphones.

JSMS

- Ms. Griffin needs - two sets of speakers for the projector/DVD carts. These carts are used for presentations in class, and the sound on the projectors is not loud enough for entire classroom listening. If anyone has any speakers they would like to donate, we could really use them.
- Ms. Worth needs – 22-25 inexpensive calculators (nothing with moving parts); the small dollar calculators from Wal-Mart would be fine!
- Ms. Stokes needs - new and/or used books for ages 9-12 for her classroom library.
- Ms. Irish needs – 100 inexpensive 1-gallon Ziploc storage bags for air-tight overnight storage of 7th grade projects. She also needs a Play-Doh sample pack, one Silly Putty egg and an Etch A Sketch.

 Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, call Deb at 655-2877 and leave a message or e-mail at PTO@raymondmaine.org

PTO News

Request for Funds

At our March 13th meeting we voted to support a request to help fund Raymond students in the Windham High School band who are going to New York City to participate in an international music festival in April. Seven of the 36 band members attending are from Raymond, and they need to raise approximately $650 per student. Those present felt it was important for the PTO to continue supporting our Raymond students throughout their high school years. We agreed to give each of our students $100 toward their trip. By supporting this project it helps us to fulfill our mission of enriching educational programs.

We also agreed to give the Wellness Committee $250 toward the purchase of sun safety items such as water bottles, visors, t-shirts and lip balm. Jerilyn Ward, the school nurse, has received a $500 Sun Safety Grant, which was used to purchase two portable shade structures for the school. A stipulation of the grant requires an educational segment. In May, a Sun Safety Day will be held where the children will practice sun safety all day. The items purchased with our donation will be given out that day. By supporting this project it helps us to fulfill our mission of collaborating with community organizations.

The Title One Program was granted $75 for incentive prizes. It is holding a reading incentive program, which will track the reading minutes of the children and offer incentive prizes to the top three students each month between February and June. The money will be used to purchase 15 books as well as gift certificates to a bookstore. By supporting this project it helps us to support faculty and staff in the work that they do.

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-11th

If you would like to nominate a special teacher to be recognized during Teacher Appreciation week, please contact the PTO at PTO@raymondmaine.org. We will be celebrating all of our excellent teachers during that week, but if there is one in particular who made a difference in your child’s education or one you have witnessed going the extra mile for a student, please let us know. We’d like to recognize them in front of their peers and their students

By-law Update

The PTO is still working on our new by-laws. They are being rewritten to reflect a change to Article Five on page five regarding Officers. Currently, our by-laws indicate that we have a President and a Vice President, each serving a two-year term, with the Vice President moving up to the role of President. They will be changing this format to co-chairs, each with a two-year term. The co-chairs would work together and share duties. The senior person would train the junior co-chair. This would provide a more team approach to the current position of President, as well as only require a total commitment of two years instead of the current four. The by-laws are available on our website at www.raymondmaine.org/civic_groups/pto. We plan to vote to accept the new by-laws as written at our April meeting. Please contact Vice-President Wendy Trask at wratk1@maine.rr.com with any comments.

Nomination of Officers

The next year will bring many changes to the Raymond PTO. As you know, we are no longer affiliated with the State and National PTA, and next year will be our first full year as a Parent Teacher Organization. With that new organizational change comes a restructuring of our Officers. There will no longer be a President and Vice-President; instead we will have co-chairs. Wendy Trask, the current Vice President, will step into the senior Co-chair position next fall. We need your help to train the junior co-chair. This position has a two-year commitment. If you think you might be interested, please contact Wendy Trask at 655-4446 or wratk1@maine.rr.com

Raymond PTO Scholarship Application

Name: ___________________ Date: ___________________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________

Telephone: _________________________________________________________________

Parent’s Name, Address and Telephone number: _______________________________________

How many years did you attend Jordan-Small School? _______________________________

How many years have you been a Raymond resident? _____________________________

Are you currently a Raymond resident? ___________________________________________

What college or university do you plan to attend? ___________________________________

Please attach the following:

1. Three personal recommendations from teachers, employers, coaches, etc.

2. High school transcripts.

3. A brief description of school-related extracurricular activities and community-related activities. Describe in detail your involvement in at least three of these activities.

4. Write an essay stating your reason for pursuing a college education and include a description of your personal and career goals. Include the following in your essay:
   a. State why you have chosen the college(s) listed above and how you decided on your career goals.
   b. Explain how your past experiences (extracurricular and community activities) have helped you develop your career goals.
   c. Describe how the college you have chosen will help you attain your goals.
   d. Identify barriers that could affect your ability to achieve your goals and how you plan to overcome those obstacles.
   e. Describe why your achievements and values would make you a good candidate for receiving a PTO scholarship.

DEADLINE: May 1st, 2007

Please send your completed application to: Raymond PTO Scholarship Committee
610 Raymond Elementary School
343 Webb’s Mills Road
Raymond, ME 04071

Recipients of scholarships will receive the scholarship money after the PTO receives their first semester college transcripts indicating an overall GPA of 2.5 or above.
Raymond Village Community Church News
By Rev. Nancy Foran
Come Journey With Us Through Holy Week
PALM SUNDAY – April 1st
9:45am  Join us in the Vestry for a hot cross bun and juice.
10am  All-Church Processional with palms into the sanctuary for worship. Our Young Singers will be singing music from “Godspell.”
MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 5th
5:30pm  Soup and bread supper in the Vestry - Please bring some bread to share. Families are encouraged to attend.
6:15pm  Celebrate the Last Supper as Jesus might have in Jerusalem. A traditional family Passover (seder) meal with Communion and Hand-washing Ceremony and special music on guitar.
7pm  Tenenba Service in the Sanctuary. A moving Candlelight Service reminding us of Jesus’ last days. Our choir will be singing.

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 6th
8am  Good Friday Hunger Walk from Raymond Church to Casco Village Church (Walkers going both ways will leave the Casco Church at 5:30am.)
11:30am-3pm  Good Friday Prayer Vigil – The church will be open for meditation, solitude, and prayer. Materials will be available for you to read as well as a prayer list to which you may add your own joys and concerns.
EASTER – APRIL 8th
6:30am  Daybreak Service with Casco Village Church at the Casco Church
10am  Celebration worship with special trumpet music. There will be no Sunday School, so families can worship together.
Elder Celebration Sunday Is on April 15th
Each year, the Deacons at RVCC set aside a Sunday to celebrate the presence of the elected Elders in the congregation. They are honored to have Pauline Cadotte, Rita Gerry, Ernie Knight, Ginny Parker, Al Rowell, Charlotte Rowe, Betty Shively, Rosemary Tripp, Wayne Whitney, and Muriel Yeager sharing their wisdom!

This year, Elders are being invited to participate in the worship service and to pick their favorite hymns for a hymn sing that morning.
The Peace Bubble Is Coming!
The Peace Bubble is coming to Maine this summer. Stay tuned for more information, but in the meantime, check out www.peacebubble.org
Presumpscot Union Parish (PUP) Sponsors Successful Lenton Discussion Group
Each week throughout Lent, 8-10 members of RVCC attended a discussion group on “Mysteries of Faith: The Prophets,” coordinated by the pastors of four of the Presumpscot Union Parish (PUP) churches. Over 30 people participated in the discussion group, which featured evenings on prophets from the Old Testament, New Testament, Koran, and the Modern Day. The pastor of each church led at least one of the sessions. The PUP Pastors continue to plan events for the churches and are also seeking donations of items such as food and treats, small toys, worn blankets and towels. There is a box in the Vestry for your donation. They also hope to plan a small silent auction to earn money for items to supplement the Pet Packs as well as to offset some of the costs of future projects.
Shalom Club is for all youth in 5th and 6th grades and meets from 11:30am-1pm on the last Sunday of each month in the Youth Room. Lunch is provided, and everyone is encouraged to bring a friend or two. The more the merrier!

Do Something That Is Good For You AND Good for the Community!
Save the date: Friday, April 6, 2007
Calling all walkers, runners and exercise enthusiasts: Are you looking for ways to jump-start an exercise program this spring? Would you like to contribute to the community? We can provide the opportunity to do both at the same time.
The Raymond Village Church, in partnership with the Casco Village Church, is continuing the tradition of the Friday Hunger Walk on Good Friday, April 6, 2007. Everyone is invited to participate!
This year’s walk starts at 8am at the Raymond Village church and travels up Rte 121 to the Casco Village Church, a distance of about 8 miles. For those exercise enthusiasts, some walk both ways starting at 5:30am from the Casco Church and then join the one-way walkers in Raymond. There is a wonderful soup lunch provided upon your arrival at the Casco Church.
Why would you do this?
Help us raise money for the Raymond Food Pantry, so they can continue their important work feeding those community families in need. Yes, there are people right here in Raymond who need some extra help putting food on the table.
Enjoy the fellowship in walking with friends and family. We live in a beautiful area; take a few moments from your busy life to enjoy the outdoors and even some views of Panther Pond along the way. Ask your friends to join you.
Get some exercise! You can walk at a leisurely pace or quicken that pace and get those heart rates up. Some will even jog. There will be support vehicles along the route.
Some people have their best thoughts when they’re walking. When did you last have time to take a contemplative journey and explore the messages of Good Friday and Easter?
Whatever your reason - mind, body or soul - join us in this journey and feel good about yourself for helping those in need. Please consider taking the morning off from work to participate. We really need your support!
If interested, call Leigh Walker at 655-2135, e-mail the Raymond Village Church at rvcc@fairpoint.net or call the church at 655-7749 for a pledge sheet. Any donation amount is appreciated! We do need to know how many walkers we will have, so please contact Leigh or the church. Many thanks.

Compost Bin Order Deadline April 2nd
You have until April 2nd to place your order for the Maine Resource Recovery Association compost bin. Orders will be taken at the Town Office at $39.50 each (tax included). Checks should be written to “MRRA” (Maine Resource Recovery Association).
These bins have a 10-year warranty and are made of 100% recycled black plastic. They are approximately a 40-gallon size, 35” high and 33” wide. It is estimated that Raymond residents can save $138 for every ton of waste they compost.

Again this year a covered kitchen scraps pail is also available for $10.50. Both these items are displayed at the Town Office and Village Library. Deadline for orders is April 2nd.

These bins and pails will be available for delivery on or about May 10th.
For order blanks and ordering, please contact:
Louise Lester, Town Clerk
Raymond Town Office
401 Wells Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071
655-7472 ext. 21
louise.ledger@raymondmaine.org

Raymond Hosting Compost Bin Sale
The Town of Raymond is planning to hold a backyard “Compost Bin & Kitchen Waste Pail Sale” for Earth Day 2007.

Are you tired of seeing all of those kitchen leftovers from preparing meals and snacks get thrown out in the trash or eaten by critters in your makeshift composting bin in the backyard? Here’s your chance to turn those scraps into a rich soil amendment.

As part of Earth Day 2007 celebrations, Raymond is participating in a statewide backyard composting bin sale. Through April 2nd, 2007, a home compost bin and how-to guide with a combined retail value of $80 can be purchased for only $39.50 (tax included). The bin is black, has a 10-year warranty, and is made of 100% recycled plastic. It’s approximately 35” high and 33” wide, or large enough for the composting needs of a family. Kitchen Waste Pails, for all your kitchen food scraps, are also available for sale at $10.50 each.

It’s estimated that 25 percent of the average household’s waste consists of yard trimmings and kitchen scraps, which can be easily composted. Raymond’s residents can save money for every ton of waste they compost because it is not shipped out of town for disposal.

To learn more or obtain an order form, contact Louise Lester, Raymond Town Clerk, at 207-655-7472 ext. 21 or louise.ledger@raymondmaine.org. Raymond already recycles many of its disposables. Let’s increase our recycling while helping our gardens grow! This promotion is not just for Raymond residents – anyone can order.

April 1st Deadline for Property Tax Exemptions
The Town of Raymond and the State of Maine provide the opportunity for residents to get certain exemptions from the property tax. These exemptions represent a certain amount of value, which will be subtracted from your total real estate property valuation. The values may vary from year to year. If you qualify, the exemption(s) will apply to the 2007-2008 tax year.

■ Homestead Exemption: If the owner is a legal resident of Raymond, come to the Town Office and fill out an easy one-sided application.

■ Veterans Exemption: If the owner is 62 years of age by April 1st, a veteran of a federally recognized war period, and can provide an honorable discharge DD214, come into the Assessing Office and apply.

■ Blind Exemption: If the owner is legally blind and can provide a note from his/her doctor stating that fact, come into the Assessing Office and apply.
Wednesday Ski – JSMS

by: Brenda Olsen, Director

Despite the unpredictable and somewhat unreasonable weather, it was a good ski season! We had 50 participants in our program. There were 23 snowboarders and 27 skiers, including approximately 9 beginners. The change from Tuesday to Wednesday for the Middle School program appears to have worked well, and we will likely remain on Wednesdays next year.

This is a strictly volunteer program, and it operates similar to the Raymond Elementary program. All of our ski and snowboard volunteers take time from work and home to help with teaching and chaperoning. It may seem a bit early to be soliciting volunteers for the 2007-2008 season, but we were definitely short of experienced snowboarding chaperones this year, only two for 23 kids. If you are 18 years of age and have snowboarding experience, we can use your help! We will provide a lesson for teaching, or you can choose only to snowboard as a chaperone. Please think about this as you make your plans for work or school next year.

In the meantime, I want to say a big thank you to all my volunteers this year! Also, thanks to Beth Clark and Peter Walgreen for their support, and a great big thank you to Lori DeFfisae Gagnon, my essential assistant! Volunteers in the program this year included:

- Chris Flynn
- Eric & Lisa Levinsky
- David Hurd
- David McCourt
- Chris & Ellen Van Haasteren
- Heidi Smith
- Sharon & Dewey Lloy
- Jeff Pomeroy
- Joe Badgewick
- Jason Ayers
- John Reder
- Laura Poi
- Jeff Hoffman
- Lorna Dunn
- Marianne Van Baars
- Mary Cerino
- Richard Pierpont
- Steve Nadeau
- Tarah Mathieu
- Danielle Moree
- Mark & Cody Gagnon

Wednesday Ski – RES

by: Beth Clark, Program Director

Wednesday, February 28, was the last ski day for the Ray- mond Rec Elementary School ski & snowboard program. We had an unbelievable day! Warm temperatures and blue skies. Finally! A great day to finish up our abbreviated program. We cancelled 3 times, due to extreme cold or bad weather. Vouchers were provided for 2 of the missed weeks, and we extended the program 1 week to make up for the first missed session.

All in all we had 47 students participate from the Elemen- tary School. Most were 3rd and 4th graders, but we did have a pilot program with the 1st and 2nd graders and their parents. Many kids had never been on a pair of skies or a snowboard, but by the end of the program, everyone looked like they had been doing this forever! I expect to see all of you back next season.

We were extremely blessed with almost 30 community volunteers! A BIG THANK YOU to all of the folks who took time off from work or out of their busy lives to help with our program this year.

Here is a list of those who volunteered their time in one way or another this season:

- Joe Badgewick
- Shannon Boyington
- Deb & Brian Brackett
- William Chapman
- Lisa Chin
- Steven Clark – WIS Senior
- Tony Costigan
- Cathy Dodge
- Lynne Dostie
- Chris Flynn
- Sue Ellen Gendron
- Tom Gordon
- Meg Gresh
- David Hanson
- Nelson Henry
- Danny Jordan
- Wayne Lamarre
- Jan Lamontagne
- Cheryl Laz
- Line MacDonald
- Carol Meader
- Chris Mulvihill
- Kim Plummer
- Stephanie Plummer
- John Rand
- Andy Sangster
- Leigh & Brian Walker
- Abe Wilmot

I hope I didn’t forget anyone. If I did – sorry and THANKS!

Raymond Rec Summer Swim Program

Swim Instructor Position Open

RRA Summer Swim Program 2007

dates: July 2 – 27, 2007
(no class July 4)

Monday through Friday from 9am to 3pm

Registration at JSS on Wednesday, June 6

Certification required:
  ■ ARC Water Safety Instructor
  ■ Raymond Rec may reimburse cost of WSI course upon certification

Compensation: Begins at $12 per hour of teaching, depending upon experience

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:
  ■ Registration, class assignments, course finances
  ■ Red Cross Contracts, record keeping
  ■ Managing and storing equipment
  ■ Instruction of Levels 1 through 6 and Instructor Aid
  ■ Testing and issuing cards
  ■ Completing records
  ■ Handling questions from parents

The Raymond Rec Board is hiring a Life guard to assist with instruction and safety. There will be a volunteer parent present at Crescent representing the Raymond Rec Board to assist with any concerns that may arise.

Contact Pat Smith for more information or an application: pat@campwawenock.com or 655-4657

Chamber Scholarship Opportunity

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce is seeking applicants for the 2007-2008 Chamber Board of Director student seats. There are two seats/scholarships available. The only criteria you have to have is to be a student in high school who lives in the Chamber’s thirteen-town geographic district. While this role is envisioned for a Junior or Senior, all are welcome to apply. The student board member will attend the monthly board of director meetings and participate like any board member would. We also ask the student board members to join (at least) one of the many Chamber sub committees who do the work of this Chamber. Finally, we ask the student to be involved in the life of the Chamber by attending Chamber After Hours or other such events when possible. In all you are expected to put in about 50 hours of work for this seat. In return you will receive great experience for your resume and to share when you apply to colleges. To help you on your way, we will also give you (you very likely will have earned it) a $1,000 scholarship. Each student board mem- ber will have a mentor from the board to touch base with regularly. Applications are available at all school systems within our thirteen-town region (Raymond to Fryeburg). You will need to go through an interview. If you have questions or need an application, simply contact the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce Information Center at 207-647-3472. Student mentors in 2007-2008 will be Matt Jacobson (Evergreen Credit Union) and Chris Webb (Bridgton Academy).
Raymond-Casco Historical Society

By Anne Miller

The Raymond-Casco Historical Society welcomed Anthony Appa, archaeologist from Ipswich, Mass., to their recent March meeting held at the Casco Public Library. He had come across a family Bible as he was browsing in an old bookshop in Boothbay Harbor. He discovered that it originally belonged to a family living in Raymond, Maine. He found the Raymond-Casco Historical Society on the Internet and contacted Laurie Cook, RCHS Historian. He wanted to return the Bible to its original family, the Edward Files Family of North Raymond.

The Bible was published in 1852 by Carlton & Phillips in New York City. It is a family Bible that was well used and records the births, marriages and deaths of the Files family. It is an American Edition of the Revised Version of the English Bible and bound in grained leather.

Mr. Abba has completed extensive research since finding this book in 1976. All his research has been well documented and was presented together with the family Bible to the Raymond-Casco Historical Society for safekeeping and for future generations to enjoy. Abba, wearing white gloves, carefully showed special pages of note to RCHS members. He then gave members sound advice about the importance of conservation, preservation and information on archival storage boxes and climate-controlled cabinets. Members were appreciative of his efforts to return the Bible to the family and to RCHS. His advice was especially welcome as members plan their future museum, which will be open to the public and will include a room for genealogical research.

Betsy McDermott, a former Raymond selectwoman, is a direct descendant of the Files family. She is also the treasurer of the RCHS. Betty was especially delighted to receive the Files Family Bible and is delighted that it will be part of the RCHS collection. Her cousin, Raymond resident Dana Files, was also at the meeting. Of added interest, a John W. Files of Gorham seeing the announcement in the previous week’s newspaper came along with considerable research he has conducted on the Files family over the years!

Raymond-Casco Historical Society meetings are always held on the second Monday in the month at 7pm. In this year of 2007 they will always be held at the Casco Public Library. Anyone wishing more information may write to Raymond-Casco Historical Society, PO Box 1055, Raymond, ME 04071, or check our website at www.raymondmaine.org/historicalsociety

Raymond School Department Wellness Committee

The state has required that each Maine school district adopt a Wellness Policy by September 2006. This policy focuses on student wellness education, monitors that school meals meet federal law standards and provides nutrition guidelines for all foods available in each school building. It also includes the state-mandated restrictions of selling soda and other foods that do not meet nutritional guidelines.

The Raymond School Department Wellness Committee has been appointed by the School Board to address student wellness issues and is responsible for making recommendations related to the wellness policy, wellness goals, administrative or school regulations and practices, and raising awareness of student health issues. Our focus has been on educating students, staff, parents and the community on the wellness policy, and our goal is to promote healthy lifestyles. The committee meets regularly to discuss and implement ongoing improvements to the school lunch program, school based activity programs and wellness education.

Our school lunch program has made several changes as a result of this policy. One is the use of whole grain products and low fat cheeses. RES has initiated a “no thank you” portion, where students are given a very small amount of the food they wouldn’t usually try. This has allowed students to expand their variety of foods they eat. At JSMS, the popular salad bar is in full swing three days a week.

A refrigerated vending machine has been purchased for JSMS and is stocked with healthy snack alternatives that are available throughout the day and after school. There is always water available for those students who have forgotten their own water bottles at home or are in need of a hydration boost. In addition, our JSMS 6th grade classes are benefiting from a ‘Maine-ly -Nutrition’ granted program. Ms. Patricia Fenney and her students are exploring all aspects of creating a healthy lifestyle.

Physical activity at RES is being addressed through the ‘take time for exercise’ program. This program introduces 10-20 minutes of daily physical activity within the classroom that can be incorporated into a lesson plan or a scheduled activity break. After-school activities include many of our granted SEARCH programs, such as ice skating or pillo polo. At JSMS we are presently supporting outdoor recess activity for all grades. Parent volunteers are assuring a time of outdoor activity for grades 7 and 8, while grades 5 and 6 have recess time built into their schedules. After-school sporting activities are ongoing at JSMS, and all students are encouraged to participate.

The Wellness Committee is also actively implementing the ‘Sun Safe’ grant at RES to educate students and staff about skin cancer prevention. The grant will also provide funding for two portable shade structures that will protect students from the sun during outdoor activities.

Future planning includes the possibilities of establishing a school based Health Fair, inviting speakers to present on health/wellness issues, creating activity-based events and assuring the ongoing education of student health concerns.

Committee members include: Chair; Betsy Stevens, PE teacher; Debra Hutchinson, guidance counselor; Lisa Friedlander, School Board; Lori Rand, parent; A.J. Bennett, student; Kim Williams, Food Services Manager; Linda Manchester, parent; John Powers, teacher; Patrick LaChance, student; Jerilyn Ward, school nurse. The Wellness Committee invites you to participate by attending our meetings. You can locate our website on the Raymond School Department web page by clicking the policy tab. Our e-mail is Wellness@raymondmaine.org.
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, fluorescent bulbs, or anything that 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, and hazardous waste like oil-based paint. 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 and Sunday, 7am to 4:45pm.

If you have articles of hazardous waste to dispose of, you can take them to the AVCOG Western Maine Environmental Depot, 424 River Road, Lewiston. They’re open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, April through November, 8am to noon.

Information: www.avcog.org or 207-783-9186
Do We Still Need Libraries in the Digital Age?

Library patrons and staff answer with a resounding “Yes!”

In a recent Portland Press Herald article, the president of the American Library Association (ALA) is quoted as saying, “Libraries are about people as much as they are about materials.” Think about that statement in terms of Raymond.

A vision for Raymond is to have a library that brings people together because of a shared love of reading, of finding information, of learning something new. It’s not just about the latest novel or DVD; it’s also about connecting with friends and neighbors. Other than at school events and community meetings, where else does this happen for Raymond adults?

In part due to the people factor, it is not likely libraries will fade into the shadows of the Internet and the Web. There are other compelling reasons, too, according to Mark Herr in his “10 Reasons Why the Internet Is No Substitute for a Library”:

- The Internet “is like a vast uncataloged library.”
- There is an enormous amount of information to wade through, which takes time and know-how to navigate.
- There is no quality control on the Internet.
- Few substantive Internet materials are free.
- E-books are less portable and often result in headaches and eyestrain.

These are but a few reasons to visit us at 3 Meadow Road. At the same time, libraries do acknowledge the importance of the Internet as a resource, especially for research. The Raymond Village Library understands the usefulness of computer technology, as evidenced by our collaborating on computer workshops with the school, using an e-newsletter to communicate to patrons, and by offering wireless access - inside or outside the building - to those with laptops. Then there’s MARVEL, an astonishing collection of databases and full-text articles from hundreds of journals, newspapers and magazines. Drop by for a demonstration and instructions on how to use this incredible resource right from your own home computer!

The ALA reports that library use remains steady, and is even increasing, in spite of all that the Internet offers. This bodes well for an institution designed to offer equal access to information, as well as one that reflects the vitality of a community.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

Maine Environmental Depot, Lewiston Solid Waste Facility
424 River Road, Lewiston
www.envdepot.com or www.avcog.org or 783-9186

Open the FIRST and THIRD Saturdays of each month from APRIL through NOVEMBER Hours 8am to noon.

If the Saturday falls on a holiday weekend, IT WILL BE CLOSED

Directions: From I-95, take Exit 80 (southbound, take a LEFT off the ramp and go under the turnpike; northbound, take a RIGHT off the ramp). About ¼ of a mile down, turn left on River Road just after the Wal-Mart Distribution Facility. Lewiston Solid Waste is about a half mile on the left. Proceed through the main gate by the scale house and around the main building. The Depot will be in front of you.

PAYMENT: Each unit of 5 gallons, 20 pounds or combination thereof will be charged $26 CASH PER UNIT.

Great Outdoor Summer Job!

$10-12/hour on Raymond Lakes
Three Lakes Protection Rangers Needed

The Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) is seeking applications for three 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/relations, renters, rental agencies) about the risks of milfoil/invasive aquatic plants (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/Vegetated Buffers), or other natural resource/Ranger experience will be considered a benefit.

Send a resume by Friday, May 4th, to:

Raymond Waterways Protective Association
ATTN: Lakes Protection Ranger
P.O. Box 1243
Raymond, ME 04071-1243

From the Tax Collector’s Office

We expect the second-half taxes bills for 2006-2007 will be mailed by the end of March and will be due April 30th. If you don’t receive a bill or are paying after that date, please contact the tax collector at 655-4742 ext 22. Any balance left unpaid June 30th, 2007, in addition to any previous years’ taxes, will be listed in the Town Report.

AUGUSTA – State Representative John Robinson of Raymond is reminding local hunters to file their 2007 moose permit applications with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife soon, as the application deadline is fast approaching.

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will not accept applications received after 4:59 pm on Monday, April 2nd, and all applications must be made on the Department’s standard application form. The public chance drawing, also known as the Moose Permit Lottery, will be conducted in June by the department.

All applicants 16 years of age and older must comply with Maine’s hunter safety law before a big game license can be issued. Additionally, anyone receiving a Maine moose hunting permit must wait two years before being eligible to hold another one. Hunters who received permits in 2005 or 2006 may not apply this year. This requirement affects permit holders only. It does not affect hunters who were subpermittees, nor does it prohibit a hunter from being a subpermittee during the two-year waiting period.

Maine will have two different moose hunts this year: Sept. 24 - Sept. 29 in Wildlife Management Districts 1-6, 11 and 19, and Oct. 8 - Oct. 13 in Districts 1-14, 18, 19, 27 and 28.

Applicants will not have a choice of a hunting week, and applicants must mark zones on the application in order of choice. If the hunter wants a chance to hunt moose in a specific month, the application must list the Wildlife Management Districts that allow hunting during that month. All applications are available at the nearest IFW license agent. Applicants can also apply online by visiting www.informe.org/ifw/moosepermit.html.

Anyone having difficulty filing an application can call Rep. Robinson weekdays at the State House at 287-1440 or on weekends at home at 655-8657. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife can be contacted at (207) 287-8000.

Raymond Cable TV

As we continue to develop the cable TV station in Raymond, we encourage you to send us your comments and suggestions to CableTV@raymondmaine.org or call the Town Office at 655-4742, x-62. We also would value any volunteer effort that you could provide in developing content or operating the station.

Time Warner has granted us two channels for our station. These are Channel 2, the Government channel, and Channel 3, the Education/School channel. The channel schedules are available at 655-4742, x-62. We also would value any volunteer effort that you could provide in developing content or operating the station.

As we continue to develop the cable TV station in Raymond, we encourage you to send us your comments and suggestions to CableTV@raymondmaine.org or call the Town Office at 655-4742, x-62. We also would value any volunteer effort that you could provide in developing content or operating the station.

Tassel Top Park Rangers Needed

The Tassel Top Board of Directors is seeking applicants for rangers at Tassel Top Park during the summer of 2007. A ranger’s duties would include but not be limited to collecting admissions, overseeing the beaches, operating the snack shack and maintaining the park.

Deadline for applications is April 6, 2007, at 4pm.

Applications can be found on the town’s website: www.raymondmaine.org. or obtained at the Town Office.

[At the website, choose Government from the dropdown list, then Employment Opportunities, and then the municipal application.]

Please submit application materials to: Sue LaMarre, Tassel Top Head Ranger, Town of Raymond, 401 Webb’s Mills Road, Raymond, Maine 04071. For more information, please call the Town Office at 207-655-4742 ext. 21.

The Town of Raymond is an equal opportunity employer.

Household Trash Pickup

By: Louise Lester, Town Clerk (the trash lady)

As a reminder, Raymond provides curbside household trash pick and recycling. Pine Tree Waste is our contract trash hauler. If you wish to call them about an issue, their phone number is 888-857-0800. If you have any complaints, you can call the Town Office at 655-4742. You can also e-mail me with complaints or suggestions at louise.lester@raymondmaine.org. You can also e-mail me with complaints or suggestions at louise.lester@raymondmaine.org.

The day of pickup for the western and southern parts of town is Tuesday and the northern and eastern parts is Wednesday. If you have a question about your day of pickup, please call the Town Office or look at the map on our website www.raymondmaine.org.

Each household is allowed two 32-gallon containers (each not more than 50 pounds) per week. It is necessary that you have your street address on your trash barrels along with an orange sticker which you can get at the Town Office free of charge. You can recycle as much as you wish. A list of recycling items is available at the Town Office, as are blue recycling bins for $6.15 each. If you have more than the two 32-gallon containers for a week, there are bag stickers for sale at the Town Office for $1 each. You may put out as many stickered bags as you wish. All trash and recycling must be curbside in barrels by 7am on the day of pickup.

The household waste transfer station in Casco is NOT for our use. We are a part of the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility but not the Casco/Naples Transfer Station.
Cardboard Recycling

The Town of Raymond recycles corrugated cardboard at the District II Fire House/Public Works Garage on Webs Mills Road. Because of limited space, it is impractical for you to break down the boxes left at the site. If you leave the boxes without breaking them down, you may be charged with littering.

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 fresh water. The Eurasian milfoil plant is an invasive plant that eventually chokes freshwater 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 entering its waters, and this program is intended to keep our lakes, ponds, and streams from getting. For an additional $10 fee, the stickers are available at the usual cost.

Town Nomination Papers Available

The 2007 Annual Town Meeting will be Saturday, May 19th, at 10am at the Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium. On Friday, May 18th, our Town Elections will take place at Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium from 7am to 8pm. The positions that will be available for candidates are Budget Committee 3 seats, School Committee 1 seat, and Selectmen 2 seats.

The Budget/Finance Committee reviews the Annual Budget, with its primary “season” being from January into March to be ready for the Annual Town Meeting in May. Usually, the Committee meets the second week of March each year. The Town Secretary will then keep the officers notified of these meetings and the day and time of the annual meeting. The Committee has two regular meetings per year. For anyone who registered as a Town resident on or before February 23rd. You will need to obtain not fewer than 25 but not more than 50 Raymond registered voter signatures in order to purchase a form. City residents will need to purchase a form at the Town Office during regular office hours beginning on Monday, February 23rd. You will need to obtain no fewer than 25 but not more than 50 Raymond registered voter signatures. The deadline for submitting the completed nomination form will be Wednesday, April 4, 2007, at 4pm.
Inhalant Abuse Awareness
by Steve Danzig, LSW, LADC

What is inhalant abuse? When most people think of someone using drugs or getting high, they tend to think of a stereotypical character that they have seen portrayed on TV and in the movies. Sometimes these stereotypes are accurate, but other times they are simply dramatizations. The truth of the matter is that drug abuse can happen in every home that has a garage with chemicals, a kitchen or bathroom with cleaning products, or even a home supplied with average household writing implements.

What are these chemicals that are so easily available within the home but that go unnoticed? Solvents such as paint thinner, gasoline, and other volatile chemicals often found in a garage. Aerosols such as spray paint, computer cleaner, over cleaners, and hair spray. Gases including nitrous oxide found in whipped cream cans; often referred to as whippets.

Essentially any household or industrial chemical can be used to get high, and the consequences to a person’s health from ingesting these compounds can be extremely adverse. “Sudden sniffing death” can occur the first time an individual uses certain chemicals to get high. A few of the potentially lethal ones are butane, propane, and the various chemicals found in aerosols. Long-term effects of inhalant abuse can be liver and kidney damage, psychiatric issues, and central nervous system damage, in addition to various other health related problems.

According to the 2002-2005 National Surveys on Drug Use & Health, the annual average number of new users of inhalant-type substances was 600,000 adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17. Females accounted for approximately 11,000 more users than males. The majority of these children trying this form of intoxication were predominantly white, 14-15 years old, and of average income. Small cities and suburbs, including rural suburbs, accounted for approximately 50% of the teenagers using inhalants.

This is an issue that everyone can and should do something about because it is so easily accessed through everyday products found in your home. Talk to your kids about the risks of using drugs – and do so often. Don’t forget that your kids will be offered to get high more than just one time. And if you suspect your child is using an inhalant or other “recreational” drug, know that there are licensed alcohol and drug counselors (“LADC”) who specialize in adolescent/young adult treatment and can recommend the best course of treatment for your child.

Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce

Much is going on within the Chamber, nothing more exciting than our second Chamber Business Showcase set for Saturday, April 28, at Lake Region High School from 9am to 3pm. This event is open to the public and a great chance to see what is best about the business community in our region. When attending the showcase you can expect to have opportunities to speak with each business to learn more about their work; you will gain access to special deals, free gifts, and hourly raffles. The Naples Lions Club will be on hand to serve food, and we expect local youth groups will also be using the time as a fundraising event. If you are a local business who believes you would benefit from access to many hundreds of visitors seeing your product, this may be the place for you. Business table prices are (unbelievably) low priced; of course we offer Chamber members an even better deal. This event will be capped at about 60 tables (to make it special), and we are at approximately 40 at this writing. Contact the Chamber at 207-647-3472 for details. To the public, we hope you plan a visit to the Second Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase planned for Saturday, April 28th, at Lake Region High School.

SPONSORS - Chamber Business Showcase 2007:

- Platinum
  - Richardson Hollow Enterprises
  - MaineBiz
  - Gold
  - Harbor View Lending
  - State Farm Insurance - Diane Reo

- Silver
  - J C Mobility Solutions, LLC
  - Norway Savings Bank
  - FairPoint New England
  - Evergreen Credit Union

- Bronze
  - Mainely Custom Wood Doctor
  - Pleasant View Too
  - Highland Mortgage
  - Sebago Eye Care Services

More reasons to be a Chamber member

We believe there are many reasons to join the Chamber. Our Information Center is open year round and on weekends as well. This center represents regional businesses and towns throughout the year. Our Chamber Area Guide also is something to be proud of and is distributed worldwide. You may have already known that. New additions to your membership include our Chamber website. Our towns (13) and business members are well represented and will be more so as we complete a major upgrade project on the site. The local and worldwide visibility will be impressive. Also, as a Chamber member you now can receive a FREE membership in the Maine State Chamber: www.mainechamber.org/ (businesses with 10 employees or fewer), and you can have access to the new Chamber BlueOptions Insurance Plan: www.mainechamber.org/insurance/ (businesses with 10 employees or fewer). Chamber BlueOptions is a partnership of the State Chamber and Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield. For more information on any of these options or about Chamber membership, simply contact us at 207-647-3472. Many thanks to Raymond for supporting the Chamber in 2006-2007!

Jordy-Small Middle School Drama Club Presents:

Jordan-Small Middle School Drama Club

Oklahoma!

Getting To Know... Rodgers & Hammerstein’s

Directed By: Marilee Lunklee and Mary Thorton

Friday April 6, 2007 7 pm
Saturday April 7, 2007 7 pm

Jordan-Small Middle School Raymond, Maine

Tickets Available at the Door
Adults and Students: $8
Children Under 6: $2
Doors Open at 6pm
**Benefit for Explorer Scouts May 16th**

The Raymond Fire/Rescue Department depends on volunteers. Some of those volunteers are young people from the ages of 14 to 18 who are Explorer Scouts, which is an extended part of the Boy Scouts of America. Even though it’s the Boy Scouts, girls are invited to join. This program is set up to work and help young people learn good ethics and good life experiences. Michael Dyer is the Executive Director of the Explorer Scouts of the Boy Scouts (207-797-5770).

On May 16th there will be a Benefit Auction to raise funds for the programs of the Explorer Scouts. This will be held in Portland at a location to be announced soon and items for the Silent Auction and the Live Auction are needed. If you have an item to donate, please contact Shirley Fielder 207-655-7159 (home) or 207-655-5524 (cell), or by e-mail shirleyf@maine.rr.com.

Funds received from the auction and reception will be used to support the Explorer Program in Maine. Business owners are welcome to participate.

**Pay Telephones Installed in Raymond**

Through a grant provided by the Public Utilities Commission, the Town of Raymond will receive three outside pay telephones without cost to the town. Each of the following locations will have a telephone: the Town Office, Tassel Top Park, and the boat haul-out at Raymond Beach on Route 302. The telephones will be installed before the summer.

**Veterans Memorial Update**

Ms. Richard organized a very successful Veterans Memorial fundraiser at the Raymond Elementary School in late January. Over $500 was raised for this worthy project. Howard Stiles spoke briefly to the children about the project. The children’s chorus sang several songs, much to the delight of parents, friends and the other children. The Veterans Committee wants to thank Ms. Richard, and all the children and parents that made this day so special.

Now that spring is just around the corner, the committee is waiting for the snow to disappear so that the final work at Panther Run can be accomplished. The picnic shelter and table will be moved to the north side of the parking area. Some fill and loam will be added. Dead trees and shrubs will be removed. The major project will be the laying of a brick and granite paver walkway, which will lead to the monument. We are hoping that all this can be accomplished so that a dedication ceremony can be held on 28 May, Memorial Day. If we have a very wet spring, we may have to slip the date to the 4th of July, as that area is subject to some flooding and a very high water table.

We are still accepting requests for granite pavers for you to honor that special veteran. Those veterans can be Raymond residents or your family members from away. The details and request forms are on the Raymond website. Just click on the 4th of July, as that area is subject to some flooding and a very high water table.

We are just accepting requests for granite pavers for you to honor that special veteran. Those veterans can be Raymond residents or your family members from away. The details and request forms are on the Raymond website. Just click on Support the Raymond Veterans Memorial Fund under the Take Note section. Remember your deductions are tax deductible. We thank you!!

**New Look at Raymond Post Office**

The Raymond Post Office has done some remodeling to their business lobby. They have enclosed their front desk to improve their efficiency and focal point to the customer. They have also installed parcel lockers for the customers. Now when a post office box holder receives a parcel, instead of having a yellow card left in the box, he/she will find a key. This key will indicate on the key tag in which parcel locker the parcel is located. With this change, the customer can retrieve his/her parcel without having to wait for assistance at the counter.

**Did You Know?: Public Works Department**

By Laurie Cook, Town Manager’s Executive Secretary

The work accomplished by the Raymond Public Works department often goes unnoticed, but these hard working folks toil away, often for long hours, to make our lives easier.

Some of the recent activities logged by them include: Installation of a handicap ramp at the JSMC Broadcast Studio, mailbox repair, monthly test of all the town-owned back up generators, putting up new street signs and road postings, cleaning up after snowstorms, equipment repair, tree removal and trimming, cold patching of roads, facility maintenance, construction of a bookcase for town office assessing records, prep for upcoming spring and summer work.

It’s hard to believe, but this is their slow time of year. Things really get cooking in the summertime, when additional responsibilities are added to their already busy schedules.

Next time you see one of the Public Works employees, please extend your heartfelt thanks for all that they do to keep us safe and sound on the roads, and for their unwavering dedication to the smooth running of this wonderful town!