Panther Pond Conservation Project Update

By Noralee Raymond, Project Manager

The Panther Pond Conservation Project is once again underway for its third season of installing erosion control measures to protect the lake. The goal of the project is to fix 42 of the 84 erosion sites identified in the Panther Pond Watershed Survey. During our first two seasons we completed 24 projects, and designs have been completed for 10 additional sites.

If you did not have a chance to participate in the project last year, it’s not too late! We will once again be offering free technical assistance to any interested landowner. There are still grant funds available. Through the grant, the landowner or road association can receive funding up to 50% of the cost of the project with the remaining 50% being matched with cash, materials, or labor. Grant funds can be used toward the purchase of native plants for vegetation buffers, erosion control materials (erosion control mulch, water diverters, crushed stone for infiltration) or road repair (culverts, ditching). 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.

This is our final season for the Panther Pond Conservation Project, so please contact us soon if you are interested in taking part in this opportunity. You can reach the project manager, Noralee Raymond, at 207-671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org.

Panther Pond Association Notes

By Noralee Raymond, Project Manager

Panther Run Picnic Area Has New Name

Next Wednesday, May 30th, the Red Cross will be hosting a Blood Drive at the Jordan-Small Middle School from 2-7pm. We are asking all residents of Raymond to please consider giving.

The area blood supply is currently averaging less than a 1-day supply. If you or a family member or neighbor or friend need blood for an operation or because of a traffic or boating accident, will that life-saving fluid be available? It may not be if neighbors do not step forward to help neighbors. If you have not made an appointment, please consider being a walk-in. The best time for those without appointments is mid to late afternoon, but we will squeeze you in at anytime.

Please call the Red Cross at 1-800-Give-Life or call Bob Jones at 655-7163, if you have any questions.

The Red Cross and the Raymond Lions Club thank you very much. Remember that every pint can save 3 lives.

Tassel Top Park

by Sue Lamarr

Somewhere around midnight on May 16th, a group of people took it upon themselves to break into Tassel Top Park and start a bonfire on the beach using a picnic table for fuel. They obviously were drinking, as evidenced by the broken beer bottles near surrounding rocks and in the lake. The fire was hot enough to melt the beer bottles that were thrown into it. These vandals left the scene with the fire still hot and smoldering, leaving broken glass everywhere.

The smallest part of this problem is that the people who work hard every day at the park to make it special for this community now have this mess to clean up, so that someone does not step on glass or a nail from the table, which will now need to be replaced.

The larger part of this picture is the fact that this fire could easily have gotten out of control and burned the entire park down, as well as the surrounding houses, perhaps even threatening the lives of people asleep inside, and ruining the integrity of the shoreline.

We have contacted the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Department, filed a complaint and will continue to do whatever is necessary until these vandals are caught and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, including fines, restitution and jail time. The Sheriff’s Department will be making random checks of the park throughout the season, and we are investigating installing surveillance cameras throughout the park. We are urging neighbors to call dispatch if you see or hear anything, and are also urging parents to be sure of your child’s whereabouts, especially late at night.

Trespassing and starting fires in a State Park is a serious offense, and we are serious about stopping it. If your child is caught in the park after hours, he or she will go to jail.

URGENT PLEA FOR YOUR HELP

We are at risk of losing our Raymond Rec summer swim program for 2007. We need your help in spreading our message through your community network. After advertising and interviews we still are looking for an instructor. We are hoping that a “word of mouth” advertising through our community may produce candidates for the job. Please post and tell others about the following:

- Summer job available for Red Cross Water Safety Instructor (WSI)
- Great summer opportunity for Raymond youth, minimum age 17
- $13 per hour (negotiable with experience)
- WSI training course available and paid by RRA
- Also seeking non-teaching parent volunteers to help

Contact Pat at 655-4657 for more information.

Raymond Parents: We will know by June 4 if we are able to offer the program this summer. Go to www.raymondmaine.org for the announcement and information about registration.

Raymond Lions Club and Red Cross Blood Drive

Next Wednesday, May 30th, the Red Cross and the Raymond Lions Club are holding a Blood Drive at the Jordan-Small Middle School gym from 2-7pm. We are asking all residents of Raymond to please consider giving.

Before: eroded gully washing sediment into the lake.

After: rubber made diverters direct water into vegetation and away from the lake.

Taxes Should Be Paid by June 30th

All taxes for 2006-2007 are due by June 30, 2007. If property taxes are not paid by June 30th the property owner’s name(s) will appear in the Town Report published before Town Meeting 2008.

Road Runner Articles

E-Mail; Diskette; Paper; CDROM

Articles should be submitted in RTF and pictures in JPEG format. E-mail articles and pictures to: roadrunner@raymondmaine.org or drop them off at the Town Office or at one of the school offices.

Did you know the Raymond Road Runner can be mailed to your winter home or to an out-of-town relative or friend? A subscription is $8 per year.

Contact: Louise Lester, Town Clerk, 401 West West Street, Raymond, ME 04071, 207-655-4742, x-21, louise.lester@raymondmaine.org
Raymond Village Library News

At a Glance
- Saturday, June 2 – Raymond Shopping Day
- Wednesday, June 6 – Library Board Meeting, 7pm at the library
- Wednesday, June 13 – Non-fiction Book Group, 7pm at the library
- Saturday, June 16 – Plant Sale and Paperback Book Sale, 7am to noon at the library
- Sunday, June 24 – Summer Reading Program begins
- Wednesday, June 27 – Book Group, 7pm at the library
- Wednesday, July 4 – Library Closed, Independence Day
- Thursday, July 5 – Teen Summer Reading Program begins 6:30pm at JSMs

Non-fiction/Classics Reading Group

This reading group will meet at the library on Wednesday, June 13, at 7pm to discuss the book A Devil’s Chaplains: Reflections on Hope, Lies, Science and Love by Richard Dawkins. Mr. Dawkins is Professor of the Public Understanding of Science at Oxford University. This is a collection of his essays. This reading group meets monthly and welcomes interested new members. The book is available for loan at the library upon request. For more information, call Al at 655-4548.

Plant and Paperback Book Sale

On Saturday, June 16, the Raymond Village Library will be the center of bountiful blooms and ready-to-go plants for purchase. This anticipated annual event begins at 7am and continues till noon. There will be perennials, annuals and houseplants. Be sure to come early for the best selection.

Those who have plants to donate can bring them to the library on Friday from 4 to 7pm. If you have any questions, please call Susan at 655-1010. June at 655-5354 or Irene at 655-4711.

Summer Reading Program

The youngsters’ reading program begins on June 24. Participants are reminded to pick up their packets at the library during regular library hours.

Book Group

The book group will meet June 27 at 7pm at the library. Josephine Tey’s book Miss Pym Disposes will be discussed. We look forward to our returning summer members and extend an invitation to anyone who would like to join this group. The book will be available upon request at the library. For more information, call June at 655-5354.

Raymond Village Library Events and Meeting Schedule

**June 2007**

**Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
FB=Fire Barn | SG=Sheri Gagnon | 9:00AM BC | 10:00AM VL | 10:00AM VL Library Toddletime Session I | 6:30PM PS Raymond Lions Club Meeting | 2
JL=Jordan-Small | TG=Town Garage RT85 | 7:00AM BC Selectmen’s Meeting | Library Toddletime Session II | Library Toddletime Session II | 7:00 PM TH Cemetery Committee | 1
KC=Kiskasisi Campground | TH=Town Hall | 10:00AM VL Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | 7:00PM BC Planning Board | 16
PS=Public Safety Bdgl. | VL=Village Library | 11:00AM VL Library Toddletime Session | Session II | Session II | 6:00PM VL Non-Fiction Book Group | 17
RE=Raymond Elementary | VC=Village Church | 11:00AM VL Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | | 18
CL=Casco Library | VT=Village Tennis | Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | | 19
TBD=To Be Determined | BC=Broadcast Studio | Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | Library Toddletime Session | | 20

Memorial Day | Library closed | 10:00AM VL Library Toddletime Session I | 11:00AM VL Library Toddletime Session I | 7:00 PM BC Board of Assessment Review | 7:00 PM BC Building Committee | 24

Raymond Shopping Day
Shop and support the Raymond Village Library on June 2nd! Look for the sign in the window of your local participating businesses in Raymond and help support the library’s efforts to expand the book collection and programming activities for the entire family. A percentage of the store earnings on that day will go directly to the library. Go shopping, pick up your dry cleaning, and have lunch with friends and family, while supporting the library at the same time.

The following businesses will be participating:

- *Anytime Subs & Wraps* J.C. Mobility Solutions
- *Auto Werks* Jordan Bay Marina/Port Harbor Marine
- *Chipman Farm Stand* Lake Region Wireless/Cingular
- *Community Pharmacy* Raymond Laundry
- *Cottage Industries* Raymond Village Florist
- *Cricket’s Corner* Sebago Sign Works & Truck Lettering
- *Danielle’s Sebago Diner* Sebago Pirate’s Galley
- *The Good Life Market* Tailfeathers Upland Store
- *Hair Force One* Ultimate Hair and Tanning Salon
- *Houseplants* The library will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, in commemoration of Independence Day.

Teen Summer Reading Program

Raymond teens are invited to “Get a Clue at the Library.” This summer by participating in the Raymond Village Library’s teen summer program from July 5th to August 9th. Teens will read for prizes throughout the summer and take part in special events offered on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30pm. This is open to students attending grades five through eight during this current school year. See the registration form in this edition of the Road Runner.

Summer Book Sale
We greatly appreciate all donations for the Annual Book Sale, which begins on July 8. New and gently used books, videos, DVDs, audios (books and music) and puzzles are gratefully accepted at the library at any time during the year.

Credit for Returned Bottles
Did you know you are able to support the Raymond Village Library every time you clean out your returnables? Pick up a bag at the library, and when it’s full, drop it off at the CLYNNK counter at Hannaford in Windham. The CLUNK folks sort and count; all you do is drop off the bag. The library gets credit for the bottles returned. It’s that easy.
**Municipal News Brief**

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen recently took the following actions:

**Tuesday, May 1, 2007**

1. Consider fund request from Luther Gulick Fund for 2007 ski program – Peter Walgren, Raymond Recreation Association.

Mr. Walgren explained that this grant request was to help support a cost overrun of $775 in the Friday night skiing program, which provided services to 75 children and had a total budget of approximately $13,000. A motion to approve this request to cover the program shortfalls in the requested amount was approved on a 4-1 vote with Selectman Reynolds abstaining on account of his son having been a participant in the program.

2. Consideration of ballot clerk appointments – Town Clerk Louise Lester

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the list of ballot clerks as submitted by the Town Clerk.

3. Consideration of election warrant – Town Clerk Louise Lester

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the 2007 Town Elections Warrant as presented by the Town Clerk.

4. One Raymond Committee Update – Mark Gendron and Dana Desjardins, Co-Chairs

As there has not been a recent meeting, there was no One Raymond update at this meeting.


Mr. O’Donnell submitted two (2) abatement requests for consideration from the 2005 tax year and eleven (11) from the 2006 tax year. Individual motions for both tax years were approved by the Board of Selectmen unanimously.

6. Old (unfinished) business
   a) Consideration of temporary seasonal business permit for Pam Larracey, dba Anytime Subs & Wraps

Chairman Gendron noted that the Board of Selectmen had received input on this application from abutters and the Fire Department, indicating no outstanding concerns or objections. The Fire Department did, however, want to insure that Anytime Subs & Wraps passed all applicable life safety code inspections. A motion was made by the Board of Selectmen, and approved unanimously, to grant the approval for a temporary seasonal business permit for Pam Larracey, dba Anytime Subs & Wraps, contingent upon this business being in compliance with all applicable life safety codes.

7. Town Manager Report and Communications.
   a) Route 302 seasonal cleanup

The Town Manager reported that three bids had been received, with the low bid being awarded in the amount of $8,660 to LCE Landscaping of Raymond. He noted that the specifications were significantly changed from last year, which resulted in a cost increase related to enhanced performance expectations and additional work to be performed.

b) New Town Office Sign

The Town Manager announced that Eagle Scout candidate Kyle Woodbrey’s reader board sign at the town office was up and will be completed in the near future. This sign was constructed on a volunteer basis by Mr. Woodbrey with many volunteer monetary and in-kind contributions. In the future, the design of the sign is such that it will accommodate “white board” electronic technology to change the message remotely.

c) Town Elections

The Town Manager announced that town elections will be held on May 18, 2007, from 3pm to 8pm at the Jordan-Small Middle School, and the annual open oral town meeting will be on May 19, 2007, beginning at 10am at Jordan-Small Middle School. He encouraged interested voters to attend and participate in both events.

d) Patriot’s Day Storm Clean Up

The Town Manager provided an outline of the work performed to date by both P&K Sand and Gravel of Naples and Dwayne Buzzell Excavating of Raymond. Both contractors have been engaged in assisting the Public Works Department with clean up and making public roads passable. He also outlined the process by which private landowners may provide damage estimates to the town for future consideration by state and federal emergency management officials for possible reimbursement. Raymond residents who have suffered non-reimbursable damage to their properties should contact Assistant Fire Chief/FEMA Director Bruce Tupper at the Public Safety Building at 655-7851, or by e-mail at bruce.tupper@raymonddmaine.org to report and record damage estimates. At this writing, estimates of town damage are approximately $150,000, with private sector damage claims in the near future.

e) School Budget

Citizen Charles Leavitt announced that the School Board would be reviewing their 2007/2008 budget on May 2, 2007, beginning at 6:30pm at the Broadcast Studio. There was also discussion clarifying the Selectmen’s vote on school warrant articles to be conducted at Annual Town Meeting.

f) Selectmen Dana Desjardins asked the Board of Selectmen to set a letter of consequence to the family of Casco resident Army Sgt. Edmund McDonald, who recently died in the line of duty in Afghanistan. The Town Manager informed the board that he would send a letter to Sgt. McDonald’s family immediately.


Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated May 1, 2007.

At the end of the meeting there was discussion regarding Raymond baseball and the fact that the baseball season had now started and the fields could use additional help from volunteers. Selectman Taylor noted that a concession/storage building addition at Sheri Gagnon Park was underway with cement and donated stainless steel doors. Help was still needed with raking of fields at Jordan-Small Middle School, Sheri Gagnon Park and Camp Hinds. There was a brief discussion about the maintenance merits of grass vs. the current dirt infields on the ball fields. Selectman Taylor would like to see the town pursue grass infields because it’s safer for the children as balls are slowed down as they roll over it. The downside to grass infields is that they are more expensive to maintain.

**Tuesday, May 15, 2007**

1. Veterans Memorial Committee update – Howard Stiles, Veterans Memorial Committee Chair

Chairman Howard Stiles presented a project update to the Board of Selectmen on the volunteer Veterans Memorial Committee’s goal of establishing a Veterans Monument at the Panther Run Rest Area. Approximately two years ago, the Board of Selectmen authorized the formation of the Raymond Veterans Memorial Committee to research site design and plan for an appropriate location for a monument honoring local veterans. Since that time a tremendous wave of volunteer contributions has been received to support the project. Substantial contributions have been received from the town’s Founders Day Committee, Dielectric and the Raymond Lions Club as well as several private individuals. In addition Eagle Scout candidate Steven Lentine has adopted the Veterans Monument as his community service project. A formal dedication of the new monument will be held on Memorial Day, May 28th, at 2pm. The public is encouraged to attend, and light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the dedication ceremony. The ceremony will feature Major General John W. Libby of the Maine Army National Guard, State Representative John Boismier and State Senator Bill Diamond (invited). The Selectmen will also be a part of the dedication and voted to rename the former Panther Run Rest Area as Raymond Veterans Memorial Park. See related article in this issue of the RoadRunner.

2. Consideration of air conditioning unit bids for Jordan-Small Middle School Broadcast Studio – Public Works Director Nathan White

The Town Manager reported that three bids had been received, with the low bid being awarded in the amount of $4,280 to Patriot’s Day Storm Clean Up

**Tuesday, May 15, 2007**


Mr. O’Donnell submitted two (2) abatement requests for consideration from the 2005 tax year and eleven (11) from the 2006 tax year. Individual motions for both tax years were approved by the Board of Selectmen unanimously.


No abatement applications were considered at this meeting.

6. Old (unfinished) business.
   a) none

7. Town Manager Report and Communications.
   a) The Town Manager provided a reminder of the date and time of town elections and the Annual Town Meeting.
   
   b) The Town Manager also provided another update on the progress the town has made in securing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant funds to reimburse town expenses, and possibly private sector losses, as a consequence of the terrorist Patriot’s Day storm.
   
   c) Scholarships

Chairman Gendron noted the town scholarship fund has been low, and he thanked the Raymond Lions Club for the donated funds from their bottle drive sheds on Route 302 and the town office.


Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated May 15, 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.raymonddmaine.org.
Q: How many years have you worked at Raymond Elementary School? A: A: I began teaching at the Jordan-Small School in February of 1981, finishing out the year substituting in Kindergarten for a maternity leave. I was hired in June of that year as a full time first grade teacher. I believe that makes 26½ years in Raymond.

Q: How many years have you taught altogether? A: I worked at the Memorial School in New Gloucester for five years, first as an Ed. Tech and then as the Principal’s secretory as I finished up my Bachelor’s Degree, so I’ve been in education for 31½ years.

Q: Where did you go to college? A: I graduated from the University of Southern Maine, which was called Gorham State Teachers College when I started there.

Q: What made you want to be a teacher? A: When I was in elementary school, I had many wonder- ful teachers. My sixth grade teacher Helen Strout was a delightful and inspiring person. Then my seventh and eighth grade teachers Bryce Meldrum and Don McGlaudlin were energetic, knowledgeable, and very motivating. And I had so much fun! But I also had a younger brother who had missed half a year of school due to a medical condition, and his tutor was a retired teacher who taught him right and basically taught him up during the summer. I drove him to the sessions and stayed and watched and listened. She was a lovely, soft-spoken and amazing woman. I wanted to be like her!

Q: What was the funniest thing that ever happened during your career? A: I can think of quite a few very funny things that have happened over the years, but some aren’t printable! One that comes to mind is when my class and I were outside in the fall releasing a monarch butterfly that we had hatched. I was backing up, one of the children had stepped on the classroom next.

Q: What will you miss most? A: Team teaching with Mrs. Malnati and Mrs. Gorham.

Q: What was the most memorable event of your career? A: Piloting the master teacher program and traveling to Washington, D.C. to pick-up the School of Excellence Award.

Q: What has changed most about teaching over the course of your career? A: Oh, my goodness, so much has changed! Families, chil- dren, and the responsibility that schools have had to take on have changed dramatically. Teachers wear so many different hats these days, that it is very often difficult to constantly “change gears.” Security issues are front and center because of what’s happening in the world. Federal and state man- dates and declining financial support have put many school systems in jeopardy with the taxpaying public. School has become a very complex place in the last thirty years!

Q: If you could have had a different career what would it have been? A: All that being said, I would not have chosen any other field! I have enjoyed my years in the classroom very much! I have no regrets!

Q: What did you like about third grade? Have you taught other grades? If so, what grade did you prefer? A: Absolutely love third grade because most children have the skills to be independent learners, yet they still, for the most part, have a love of learning and of school. It’s so im- portant to get up in the morning and really want to go where you have to go! I have taught Kindergarten, first grade, and I’ve done two “looping” years, one a 2/3 loop, and the other a 3/4 loop. I have to say that my very favorite years were when I taught the 3/4 loop. I also loved my move from the first grade to third because I had many of my students a second time. That was awesome!

Q: What was your favorite subject to teach? A: Wow, a favorite subject is a hard one. I really enjoy all sub- jects, but I guess the Language Arts would be on the top of the list. I just love reading, writing, and spelling! But Science and History would be a close second.

Q: Any advice you’d give to a new teacher just starting out? A: I would tell any new teacher to be patient with them. They have donated over $6000 for many school activities. We could not provide our students with many opportunities without YOU!

Q: Do you have any hobbies? A: I love to work with dirt and plants! My husband and I have been maintaining a garden at the Maine Wildlife Park for five years, and I’m anxious to get over there on days other than weekends! I love photography, books, and travel. I also love the beach and hope to get there more often! I love to cook for my family and friends!

Q: Any travel plans? A: Our first trip will be in June to see our son married on the beach in Mexico. We also want to go pony penning on Assateague Island (remember Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry?), Alaska by train, and hopefully we’ll be fortunate enough to go many other fascinating places!

Q: Do you have any grandchildren; plans with them? A: Yes, I have two little grandsons I hope to spend more time with.

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RES Principal’s Report
By Norma Richard
As this school year comes to a close, it is time to review our many successes and accomplishments, as well as to look forward to meeting future goals at the elementary school. I am especially proud of the efforts of teachers this year as we continue to implement the Everyday Mathematics program in grades K – 4. It has been exciting to have teachers at all grade levels learning together with their students. I have observed every classroom this spring during math instruction, and I am delighted to see the children’s high level of interest and enthusiasm, especially when using manipulatives and playing the math games. Math is a lot of fun these days at RES!

The energy that the Raymond PTO has provided is always a wonderful spark for children and staff throughout the school year. The ongoing support that the PTO gives is especially appreciated and valued. Outgoing PTO president Deb Cutten has spearheaded a number of exciting and very successful activities during her two years as PTO president. I want to thank Deb and all of the PTO members, especially long time officers Vickie Gordan and Helene Gagnon, for their many contributions to our school program. We especially loved having the very exciting and successful Circus Smirkus residency this winter. I know it had a strong impact on our students as children continue to demonstrate their developing circus skills at recess and during gym classes. Please be aware that we are in danger of losing our PTO next year because long-time leaders have finished their terms in office, and we are unable to fill all of their positions. I am desperately asking for parents, staff and community members to become actively involved in their PTO next year so that it can continue its work to support Raymond students, teachers, and families.

Tuesday, June 19, will be our last day of school, and RES will dismiss at 11:30. Lunch will not be served on that day, but we will be providing snacks for the children. Students in grades K – 3 will participate in Step-Up activities to meet next year’s teachers that morning. I am sure that your children have already marked this date on the calendar, so please note the early dismissal on the 19th.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our students a happy and safe summer vacation. I encourage them to read for pleasure each and every day, and to cherish this vacation time with their families. We will see them back at school on Tuesday, September 4. I would also like to wish Mrs. Toulouse and Mrs. Gorham only the very best as they begin their retirements.

RES Math Meet Results
(First through Third Places)

First Grade Math Winners
1. Nick Rose
2. Danielle Meader
2. Nick Tabun
2. Mikayla Small
2. Nora Laprise
3. Maegan Vierra

Second Grade Math Winners
1. Madison Shimko
2. Kieran Rowe
3. Keegan Perry

Third Grade Math Winners
1. Eliza Costigan
1. Anna Laprise
2. Taylor Lamarre
3. Alison Wood
3. Cora Dykens
3. Riaea Ayers
3. Greg Meader

Fourth Grade Math Winners
1. Levi Walker
2. Jeffrey Pollard
3. Brigid Mulvihill

Fifth Grade Math Winners
1. Muriel Adams
2. Emma Gresh
3. Emily Gagne

Grandparents Day at RES
Considering that it was (another) rainy day, the energy at the Raymond Elementary School was definitely very sunny and highly charged on Friday, May 11. Over 215 grandparents and grand “friends” attended this year’s Grandparents Day at RES. They were given the opportunity to join the students in the day’s academic activities, and they were very proud of the children’s work in the classroom. Grandparents were observed playing math games, working on geometric figures, and teaming with grandchildren to find out How Many Words Can You Make From the Letters in GRANDPARENT? (over 600). A special thank you is extended to Mrs. Kathy Gorham and her third grade students. Mrs. Gorham has coordinated the yearly Grandparents Day at RES for 25 years. She is retiring at the end of this school year, and I want to thank her for making this day such an important event for our students. Grandparents have a tremendous impact on our children, and having them support the children in their learning is “priceless.” We look forward to next year’s Grandparents Day in May 2008.

A Learning Celebration in Raymond
Thursday, May 3, was a very special day for K – 8 students in Raymond. The ACADEMIC FAIR and SCIENCE FAIR were 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, Birds, 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 JSMS to view the middle school projects during the day. The responses from parents and the students were extremely positive, and many families took the opportunity to visit both schools to see projects in grades K – 8. We look forward to the 2008 ACADEMIC/SCIENCE FAIR next spring.

Raymond’s Parks and Beaches
Tassel Top Board of Directors, Raymond Recreation Association, Raymond’s Public Works Department and Friends of the Parks Committee invite you to visit our parks and beaches.

Tassel Top Park is open weekends in June 9am – 6pm and seven days a week in July and August 9am – 8pm, with weekends again in September after Labor Day 9am – 6pm. There is a fee for parking and use of the beach and picnic areas; however, season passes are available at the gate. There is also a cottage for rent by the week during the season. A nature trail is also there for your pleasure.

Sheri Gagnon Park is available for your use with the exception of when it’s being used for Raymond baseball games. Sheri Gagnon’s playground is always available for the kids until dark. Pets are not welcome at the park at any time.

Raymond Beach (Rt. 302) is open year round. It is owned by the State and managed by Raymond. There are parking spaces for cars and some for tow vehicles and trailers. It is appreciated if vehicles without trailers do not park in the trailer spaces. The Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife manages those trailer spaces for fishing and boating use of the lake. Raymond Beach and boat haulout is not for pet recreation or exercise. Beach markers have been installed to protect the swimming area from boating.

Crescent Beach (Rt. 85) and the boat haulout is open year round and is owned and maintained by Raymond. Anyone can use Crescent Beach with the exception of pets. Beach markers have been installed to protect the swimming area from boating. The raft is for the exclusive use of the Raymond Recreation swimming program. Please be careful where you park your vehicle so that it doesn’t block Webb’s Mills Road.

Jordan-Small Middle School Nature Trail is located behind Jordan-Small Middle School. It is maintained by the town and available for your enjoyment.

Jordan-Small Middle School and Raymond Elementary School ball fields are available for use at times other than when they are being used by Raymond Recreation Association for their activities. They should be vacated by dark. No reservation is needed.

Want to Learn About Digital Broadcasting?
The Technology Committee and Kevin Woodbrey, Network Administrator, are looking for interested people who would like to learn how to operate the digital broadcasting studio and run the cameras for meetings in Raymond. If you would like more information, please e-mail Kevin at kevinwoodbrey@raymonddmaine.org or call Louise Lester at the Town Office at 655-4742 ext. 21.
Attention, Invasive Plant Patrollers!!

Here is your opportunity to advance your skills with instruction and practice ON the water

CONDUCTING AN INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANT SCREENING SURVEY
FIELD METHODS WORKSHOP

Three opportunities to participate in this training will be offered this summer. Space in these workshops is limited, so if you are interested . . .

Please call to register TODAY!
SATURDAY, JULY 14 ~ 8am to Noon
Thomas Pond, Raymond
SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 ~ 8am to Noon
Collins Pond, North Windham
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15 ~ 8am to Noon
Five Kezars, Waterford

Invasive Plant Patrol Workshops are presented by Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants (MCIAP).

This course is designed for those who have already attended one of MCIAP’s basic Invasive Plant Patrol workshops and would like some guided field experience. We meet at the designated launch site and spend the morning on the water conducting an invasive plant screening survey. Shallow draft boats (e.g. canoes, kayaks, inflatables) are required. Extra boats may be available.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Please contact MCIAP at 783-7733 or vlmp@mainevlmp.org for more information or to register.

The Invasive Plant Patrol workshops are made possible by boater participation in the Maine Lake and River Protection Sticker program and by support from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

Workshop Overview

On shore
- Review survey procedures, gear and survey data sheets
- Orientation to survey area/hand out map of area divided into sectors
- Break into survey teams (two people per boat)

On the water
- Each team will survey designated sectors, as shown on map
- Instructors will circulate between sectors, providing one-on-one instruction and feedback

Return to launch site. Debrief, questions and answers. Conclude.

What you will need to bring
1. Small, shallow-draft boat, e.g. canoe, 2-person kayak, inflatable, lightweight skiff, etc.
2. Two surveyors per boat—one to paddle or steer, and one observer/recorder—are highly recommended. If you have room for a partner in your boat, please let us know. We do have access to some additional boats if needed. Please contact us to make arrangements.
3. Lightweight plastic leaf rake for grabbing specimens (a small mesh net may also be useful)
4. Pencil and clipboard
5. Viewing scope: We have some extra scopes available for participants. If you have recently applied to become a Certified Patroller, please let us know and we will bring your free scope to the training.
6. Heavy duty Ziploc bags and small cooler or plastic container for storing specimens
7. Plant identification guide(s); we will have extras on hand just in case.
8. Permanent marker pens to mark specimen containers
9. Small white plastic tray for observing specimens (recycled cottage cheese containers work great)

We will provide:
1. Field survey data sheets
2. Lake depth map showing survey area sectors
3. Weighted buoys for marking suspicious plants

Optional:
1. Weighted measuring tape, or Secchi disk to determine depths. (We will have some available to be shared.)
2. Hand net for catching fragments. (Rake can also be used for this purpose.)
3. Anchor
4. Polarized sun glasses (not essential, but very helpful)
5. 5-10 power magnifying glass or hand lens for examining plant specimen structure. (We will have some lenses for sale at cost.)
6. Extra clothes, bathing suit, snorkeling gear, bottle of water, snacks, etc.

Rep. John Robinson Presses for Freshwater Ferry Vessel Safety

AUGUSTA – State Rep. John Robinson (R-Raymond) presented legislation May 15 to the legislature’s Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee that would provide for the regulation of ferries that operate in Maine’s inland waters. The bill is co-sponsored by the Sebago Lake region legislative delegation.

The capsizing of a New York state tour boat in October 2005, which left 20 passengers dead, along with hearing of concerns from his own constituents, prompted Rep. Robinson to take a closer look at Maine’s control of freshwater ferries. To his dismay, his inquiries were bounced from agency to agency due to the lack of written state policies overseeing these vessels.

Rep. Robinson stated that passengers need to feel secure that the vessels they are riding on have met certain standards and have been inspected on a regular basis. “I couldn’t believe it when I found out that 1990 was the last time one of the ferries was inspected,” he said. “There are no state regulations when it comes to these boats. It is time that the state accept some level of responsibility and provide some basic guidelines for these vessels to meet.”

Provisions of LD 1388, An Act to Ensure Safety on Freshwater Ferry Vessels, include the requirement that each ferry be inspected annually by an accredited marine surveyor; specific inspection requirements of various components of a ferry; the number of permitted individuals and permitted passengers on a ferry; safe operation of a ferry while underway; and preparations for an emergency. The bill applies only to ferries less than 100 gross tons that carry 12 or more passengers.

Colonel Tom Santaguida, Chief of the Maine Warden Service, testified on behalf of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at Tuesday’s public hearing. Speaking neither for nor against the bill, Col. Santaguida said that the department is very supportive of the concept of the efforts to ensure that passenger vessels for hire on inland waters are well regulated and operate in the future with enhanced safety.

Sebago Lake, Moosehead Lake and Long Lake all have fresh water vessels that would fall under the provisions of this bill. The United States Coast Guard has jurisdiction of passenger boats that operate in salt water.

Kids 2 Kids

The Kids 2 Kids program has had a wonderful year under the capable guidance of Barbara Harding-Loux. We have had a very dedicated group of 7th and 8th grade mentors and a very enthusiastic group of elementary school mentees. Some of the activities they have enjoyed with one another have included sledding, pretzel and smoothie making, scavenger hunts, games and crafts. The 7th/8th grade mentors spend time focusing on team building and leadership skills each week, as well as at the program’s beginning and end. They participated in a low ropes course at Camp Hinds in the fall and will finish the year in late May with the high ropes course, followed by a celebration BBQ.

We would like to thank these young people for dedicating their time and energy this year and for being such wonderful mentors! I know many of their “little buddies” would like to be involved again next year.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Kids 2 Kids program, please contact Christina at 655-8672 ext. 107, or via e-mail at mentor@raymondmaine.org.
Rainstorm Causes Havoc on Raymond Lakes

by Charlie Turner, RWPA

The deluge of the last week in April not only caused much damage to land, homes and roads, it wreaked devastation on our lakes, as well. Lake water clarity suffered greatly due to massive erosion. Normally, in the spring months Secchi disks could be expected to be seen at depths of 21-25 feet. But this year, because of the storm, the best that could be shown on April 30 in Panther Pond was 15.9 feet. All other Raymond lakes would undoubtedly have suffered similarly.

A shallow reading such as this has not been realized for at least several decades. This dismal performance can be attributed to only one thing: erosion. To avoid this kind of catastrophe in the future, we simply must get better control of our stormwater runoff. Hundreds of tons of Raymond real estate in at the bottom of our lakes. What can we do about it? Now is a good time to located all ditches and levees in the Raymond Lakes. What can we do about it? Now is a good time to located all ditches and levees in the bottom of our lakes. What can we do about it? Now is a good time to located all ditches and levees in the bottom of our lakes.

Want help? Call Noralee Raymond of the Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) at (207) 671-3329. After all, it is your land, and we are sure you don’t want to see it washed away.

Maine is being invaded! We need your help.

Please join Maine’s Invasive Plant Patrol today!

We welcome you to attend two important workshops that will provide everything needed to get started.

The workshops are free! All are welcome to attend!

INVASIVE PLANT PATROL WORKSHOP
Tuesday, July, 10th, 3:30pm to 9pm
Raymond Public Safety Building
The workshop will provide . . .

■ An overview and update of the threat of invasive aquatic plants in Maine
■ Introduction to “Maine’s Eleven Most Unwanted” invasive aquatic plants
■ An opportunity to practice plant identification with live plants
■ The fundamentals of conducting an invasive aquatic plant screening survey
■ The IPP Handbook, a three-ring binder full of useful information, including a free copy of the Maine Field Guide to Invasive Aquatic Plants

The workshop includes a half-hour meal break.

FIELD TRAINING WORKSHOP
Saturday, July, 14th, 8am to 12pm
Lake Location: To Be Decided
(Attendance at July 10th workshop or prior IPP training needed to attend the field training)

Maine’s lakes, rivers and streams are increasingly threatened by non-native invasive plants. Once established in a lake, stream or pond, early detection of an invasive aquatic plant provides the best hope of eradicating the invader. Trained volunteers play an extremely important role in this effort. The work is interesting, rewarding and fun.

Presented by the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants
Hosted by the Raymond Waterways Protective Association, University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District

IMPORTANT: Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Please contact the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program at vilm@maine.vilmp.org or (207) 783-7733 or Raymond Waterways Protective Association at lakes@raymondmaine.org or (207) 671-3329 to register, or for more information.

The Invasive Plant Patrol workshops are made possible with support from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and by boater participation in the Maine Lake and River Protection Sticker program.

Cemetery Committee
Needs Help

The Raymond Cemetery Committee needs volunteers to help with their work. Most especially needed are people who are willing to get their hands dirty and their backs worked. During the summer and fall the Committee works on projects in the cemeteries to keep them looking their best including cleaning grave markers, resetting old head stones, and generally keeping the grounds in good repair. If you are interested in helping a little or a lot, please contact Linda Alexander, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee, at 655-4640 or Louise Lester, Town Clerk, at 655-4742. You don’t have to become an active member of the committee to help.

PTO News
by Deb Cutten

Request for Funds
At our May 8th meeting we voted to support two Requests for Funding at the Middle School.

The 6th Grade Team requested $200 to help fund their Boston Fieldtrip. The total cost of the trip is expected to be $3,233 with the school, fundraising and parents each contributing a portion. The Request was granted, and by supporting this project it helps the PTO to fulfill our mission of enriching educational programs.

A Request was made in the amount of $200 to provide dinners for students involved in the 7th grade Dinner Theater project on the night of the performance. The Dinner Theater is a fundraiser for their 8th grade class trip. The Request was approved. By supporting this project it also helps us to fulfill our mission of enriching educational programs.

Staff Appreciation Wellness Fair

I am happy to report that the Wellness Fair was a big success with teachers and staff, with over 50% of the staff attending. Seventeen practitioners/vendors participated including New England Chiropractic, Language of Light, Casco Wellness Center, BJD Fitness, Mary Kay, The Good Life Market, Five Seeds, Anxiety Solutions, Heaven and Earth, Susan Tangen, Shannon Nassa, Beth Nadeau and Stacy Richmond.

The staff was treated to a day of wellness & pampering: everything from healthy cooking ideas to Reiki. Staff could have a full body massage, neck & shoulders, hands & arm or scalp massage. Aroma and polarity therapies were provided. Ways to reduce stress, relax or meditate were explained. Thermal infrared cervical scans and blood pressure screening was performed. Door prizes, free gifts and refreshments were also provided. A great big “Thanks” to everyone who participated!

The Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair was held the week of April 30th through May 4th in the RES library. I’d like to thank all the volunteers who helped to operate the book fair and all of you who made purchases. I’d especially like to thank Wendy Trask for running this fundraiser once again. It’s an important fundraiser for the PTO and she has done a fine job of organizing it twice a year for the past several years. Thank you, Wendy.

Nomination of Officers

I was gratified to see the turnout for our last meeting of the 2006/2007 school year. It was our biggest ever. There was a lot of discussion as to the future of the Raymond PTO. Several suggestions were made as to how to encourage volunteers to actively participate in the organization. It was felt that asking someone to commit to an officer position might be too intimidating and that we might be more successful if we divided the committees into smaller sub-committees, so that people could choose a specific task rather than an officer or chair position. We are going to attempt to do this. As it stands now, Alizah Shriver is the PTO’s co-chair, and we still need someone (or better yet) several people to assist in that role. If you are interested, please contact Alizah at alizah@megalink.net. Leisa Doughty will be treasurer. Lisa Davison and Aniko Porngratz have agreed to be on the Hospitality Committee, but there again, we want to break that down into specific events so that one chairperson is not responsible for all of the events the PTO hosts. Caji Macdonald has agreed to be secretary. I want to thank all of you who stepped up to donate for your continued support of the PTO and to invite other parents, teachers and staff to come forward and help these generous volunteers out.

Reminders

Please continue to clip those Box Tops over the summer and have your children bring them in this fall. We earned over $1,700 this year in Box Tops alone. Thank you, Caji Macdonald! A portion of this very successful fund raiser goes to the PTO.

Also, please continue to save your used inkjet, laser printer cartridges and digital cell phones over the summer. They can be dropped off in the Box in the RES library on Wednesday afternoons. This can be another profitable fundraiser for the PTO, but we need someone to take over the packaging and shipping of the cartridges for next year.

Thank you for your support. If you are interested in helping out, or if you have any questions, call Deb at 655-2877 and leave a message or e-mail me at dcutten@maine.net or PTO@raymondmaine.org.
School Consolidation Update
By State Senator Bill Diamond

The most recent discussions regarding the Governor’s School Consolidation proposal have now reached a point where some action is expected soon, and I thought you might be interested as to where things stand, at least for the moment. I expect even more changes as the legislative session proceeds towards cloture, which is expected for late June.

Commissioner of Education Sue Gendron has been listening to various alternatives to the Governor’s original proposal and has worked hard to develop a structure that takes into consideration the many concerns and statements of support which have been expressed over the past several months. Commissioner Gendron has convened a focus group of educational professionals who will work with school leaders around the state to see what the various regional plans would look like if there were 80 regional school units statewide as opposed to the 25 units originally proposed. Reducing the school units to 80 is still a significant reduction that should save a lot of money.

According to the Commissioner, the Department of Education has had conversations with most of the superintendents in the state and works to complete calls to the remainder as soon as possible. Superintendents have identified school units that are presently working well and are discussing how regional units may be created. The Department will provide resources to help support the formation of potential regional units around the state.

By the time you read this article, a suggested configuration of statewide regional school units will have been presented to the legislature and to the communities for discussion. According to the plan, communities would notify the Department of Education by July 31, 2007, of their intent to reorganize based on the suggested model or of an alternative plan the communities may decide to choose.

Each school unit’s Reorganization Planning Committee (RPC) would include all superintendents and representatives of the various school boards involved in the new regional school unit. The remaining membership would be chosen by each RPC and could include municipal officials, teachers, and students from within the new unit. As each RPC develops its plan, the Department will provide support and resources to assist in any way needed.

All RPC plans would be completed and presented to the Department by November 15, 2007, with the State Board of Education scheduled to certify the new regional school units by January 15, 2008.

The communities within the new regional school units would determine the size and method of election for their new school unit as early as possible in 2008, by April 15 at the latest. The Department would continue to provide assistance to the Reorganization Planning Committees until the new unit becomes operational.

As you can see, this school consolidation plan has a very aggressive timeline and may require some added time to allow the entire process to develop properly. I also expect that changes will be made to the structure by the legislature before the final plan is passed into law. Remember that the current state budget proposal for the next two years has built in an immediate updates as to the progress of the consolidation plan.

The Department will provide updates as to the progress of the consolidation plan. Also, feel free to contact me, and I know that Rep. John Robinson will be available for updates as well.

Did you know? The Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles was established in 1905 and currently has 386 employees statewide. The Bureau is the largest agency within the state’s government, with an annual budget of over $150 million and a staff of over 1,000 employees.

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-mailed at diamondhollyd@aol.com

Water Quality Monitors Needed at Raymond and Thomas Ponds

Three positions are currently available for water quality monitors at Raymond and Thomas Ponds. If you are interested in maintaining water quality standards at these two lakes, an opportunity to help is now open. Two volunteers are needed at Raymond Pond, and one volunteer is needed at Thomas Pond.

As a certified monitor, you receive updates on lake happenings through the Water Column magazine, as well as contributing to the welfare of your lake. All materials, including Secchi disk and scope, are supplied. You become a member of the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) team of over 300 monitors statewide.

If you have a boat and can spare an hour twice a month from May through September, do consider becoming a monitor.

For more information, call Charlie Turner, Raymond Waterways Protective Association, at 655-4841 or e-mail turnerlakes@maine.rr.com

Get a Clue at the Library

Raymond teens are invited to ‘Get a Clue at the Library’ this summer by participating in the Raymond Village Library’s teen summer program from July 5th to August 9th. Teens will read for prizes throughout the summer and take part in special events offered on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm.

Spend your summer reading and investigating with the Raymond Village Library as we host special events such as a teen CSI crime lab workshop, participate in a murder mystery, attend a mystery writing workshop with famous author Kathy Lynn Emerson and participate in other fun activities.

Students attending grades five through eight during this current school year are eligible to sign up for the Teen Summer Reading Program.

Register for this special teen program by returning the bottom of this form to the JMSM office or to the Raymond Village Library.

Space is limited - sign up now!

FMII: contact Lisa at 655-5067 / cloutier@fairpoint.net

Return this form to the JSMS Office or drop it off at the Raymond Village Library.

I would like to participate in the Teen Summer Reading Program!

TEEN READER’S NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE NUMBER:
E-MAIL:
AGE:
GRADE THIS YEAR:
PARENT'S SIGNATURE:
Is There a Future for the PTO After All?
by Deb Cutten, Out-going President
At our last meeting of the 2006/2007 school year there was a lot of discussion as to the future of the Raymond PTO. Several suggestions were made as to how to encourage vol-
unteers to actively participate in the organization. It was felt that asking someone to commit to an officer position might be too intimidating and that we might be more successful if we divided the committees into smaller sub-committees so that people could choose a specific task rather than an officer or chair position. We are going to attempt to do this:

Tasks & Responsibilities

Promote PTO events through articles in the Road Runner.
Publicity

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

As a reminder, Raymond provides curbside household trash pick and re-
cycling. 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 them directly or call the Town Office at 655-4742 ext. 21. You can also e-mail me with complaints or suggestions at louise. lester@raymondmaine.org. Your 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 use. We are a part of the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility but not the Casco/Naples Transfer Station.
Panther Pond Association Notes
By Ben Severn, PPA President

- Water Level
- Panther Pond Preservation Efforts
- Walking Tour and Annual Picnic
- Invasive Plant Education Opportunities

As in past years, we are planning on a picnic to follow by mid-July which can be showcased and are within easy improvements that will have been completed on Betty’s Neck the grant. There are several strikingly different types of im

Survey and new sites that may have been brought to our anticipates applying for a second 319 grant next year to With Noralee Raymond’s continued assistance, the Board Runner.

Be sure to read Noralee Raymond’s Update in this Road

The 319 grant has been extended through March of 2008, with final activities expected to be completed this fall. Be sure to read Noralee Raymond’s Update in this Road Runner.

With Noralee Raymond’s continued assistance, the Board anticipates applying for a second 319 grant next year to handle the remaining sites identified in the Watershed Survey and new sites that may have been brought to our attention since the Survey.

Walking Tour and Third Annual Picnic

This year, the Board is considering a walking tour of Betty’s Neck rather than a boat tour of the projects completed under the grant. This would provide an overview of different types of im

movements that would have been completed on Betty’s Neck by mid-July which can be showcased and are within easy walking distance. If you feel strongly that you should continue the buffer cruise, contact us at ppc@raymonddmaine.org. As in past years, we are planning on a picnic to follow the Walking Tour. The walking tour and picnic details will be included in the annual solicitation letter in June and in the July Road Runner.

Invasive Plant Education Opportunities

- Learning to Identify Invasives Right Here at Home, July 10 and 14.
- Two advertisements and an RWPA article in this edition of the Road Runner that cover invasive plant identification training. I urge you to read them and take part in the training. The existence of a significant number of people with the ability to identify invasive plants is crucial to controlling them and protecting our lakes and ponds.

On July 10th, the first invasive plant identification workshop will be held right here at the Raymond Public Works building. That will be followed on July 14 with actual field training in a local lake or pond.

I know, I know. It isn’t easy to identify the plants. There are many of us who have to try their first and even a second workshop and come away befuddled, convinced that we will never be able to identify plants from a boat or kayak. Noralee Raymond and invertebrate lake protector, the venerable Charlie Turner both admit they found it difficult at first. Once on the water and with a mentor, they learned how to tell the difference between a friendly and a not-so-friendly plant. So their advice is to take the first course and then get out on the water and learn. It’s easier than you think.

As Noralee wrote in the May Road Runner and reiterates in this edition, “If an invasive plant is introduced to one of our lakes, early detection provides the best (and sometimes only) hope of eradication. So take the time to become familiar with the plants in your lake.”

I urge you to read the article Noralee has included in this edition on how one volunteer made a difference.

On Panther Pond we have been blessed with a number of families who have taken the initiative to learn how to identify the invasive plants and have even built their own special projects to harvest invasive plants.

In a recent e-mail, MCIAP wrote: “Once an invasive aquatic plant infestation has been confirmed, rapid response is crucial. The prospects for eradication (or barring that, effective management that poses minimum risk to the aquatic ecosystem) are greatly increased by swift, well-planned, and properly executed control efforts.”

This year, for the first time, two distinct control workshops are being offered:

- The first workshop (Wednesday, June 13, at Sebago Lake State Park in Casco) will provide an introduction to manual control, and cover two of the key methods currently used in Maine: manual harvesting, and benthic barriers.
- The second workshop (Saturday, June 16, at Little Sebago Lake in North Windham) will cover Maine’s newest manual control method: suction assisted manual harvesting. Both workshops will include in-lake training and practice.”

Here is the link to register on-line. http://www.mainevolun
teelekitemons.org/workshops/IntroIPP

This is a great opportunity for those on Panther who are divided for those who want to learn the latest techniques of this event to be an effective volunteer during an invasive pulling effort.

July Annual Meeting

The specific day has yet to be chosen for the annual meeting. It is highly likely that it will be during the last full week in July, and as it was last year, likely to be Tuesday, July 24th. The Walking Tour and Picnic will occur on Saturday, July 28th. The dates and times will be confirmed in our June solicitation letters and the Road Runner.

2006 Maine Lakes Report

From a recent VLMP e-mail:

2006 Maine Lakes Report is now available on the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program’s website at www.

MaineVolunteerLakeMonitors.org

The report provides concise and easy-to-search summaries of all water quality data and invasive plant screening survey activity reported in Maine during 2006. The report also includes information on how and why lakes are monitored for water quality and invasive aquatic plants; tables and charts to help you compare your favorite lake with others in the state; an overview of Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) and Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plant (MCIAP) programs and resources, and much more.

To go directly to the report online, follow this link: www.

if you would like to receive a free printed copy of the report, please send a request to vlmp@mainevlmp.org with your name and address.

Maine Blues Festival Returns In 2007

By Mike McClellan, Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce

The Maine Blues Festival returns for the second year of this event in Naples, Maine, on Saturday June 16. The Maine Blues Festival is the creation of Mike Bray of Bray’s Brew Pub and Restaurant in Naples. He has assembled a hard-working committee of local business people and volunteers to make Naples the Blues Capital of Maine for one weekend each year. We are extremely excited that first-year sponsors Norway Savings Bank and P&K Sand and Gravel have returned at the Event Sponsor level. Evergreen Credit Union moves up to a Platinum Sponsor and the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce and Mark Babbitt, Massage Therapist, also return as sponsors. The Maine Blues Festival is an all-day event (some locations will offer Friday and Sunday activities), with 10 or more music venues, over 30 awesome Blues acts and a family-oriented area at the Naples Village Green. Many thanks to everyone overseeing this event as well as to the Town of Naples for their support in this endeavor. Tickets are now on sale at Bray’s Brew Pub and Restaurant and the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce Information Center. Tickets are only $10 and support this event. Your purchase gives us the confidence to add more to the Maine Blues Festival. Learn more about the events and sponsors at www.mainebluesfestival.com.
Animal Control Report: March - May

March 22  Cat found in trap from 3/21 - Took to Animal Refuge League
March 22  Summons to District Court
March 23  Dog bothering lady
March 23  Dog at large, not licensed - Ticket
March 24  Dog chasing cat
March 25  Dog defecating in yard
March 26  Information given
March 26  Neighbor’s dog barking
March 28  Dog defecating in yard
March 28  Dog at large - Gone on arrival
April  5  Dog in yard - Information only
April  9-11  Contacting dog owners from Dog Warrant list
April 10  Two dogs at large on beach - Gone on arrival
April 11  Dog bite investigation
April 13 & 14  Maine Animal Control Officer meeting and training
April 23  Loose horse
April 22-24  Contacting dog owners from Dog Warrant list
April 24  Stray dog picked up - Took to Animal Refuge League
April 24  Information only
April 25  Dog at large
April 27-28  Contacting dog owners from Dog Warrant list
April 27  Dog at large - Owner warned
April 27  Dogs barking - Owner warned
April 28  Posted “No Dogs” at beaches and ballparks
April 30  Old sick dog left outside - Owner harshly warned
April 30  Horses loose
May  1  Two dogs at large - Owner warned
May  2  Barking dogs - Checked on situation
May  4  Five horses loose - Owner picked up
May  4  Information from Animal Refuge League
May  4  Replaced some signs on beach - “No Dogs”
May  6  Dog on beach - Written warning
May  8  Dog on ballpark
May  9  Dog at large - Gone on arrival
May 10  Dog at large - Gone on arrival
May 10  Replaced some signs on ball field “No Dogs”
May 11  Dog on porch - Gone on arrival
May 11  Horse loose
May 11  Deceased dog with no identification Buried in town plot
May 11  Talked with dog owners at ballpark

Town of Raymond Election Results
Friday, May 18th, 2006 (292 voters)

Selectman 3 year term
Reynolds, Michael  210  Lamarre, Wayne  1
Gendron, Mark      189  MacDonald, Scott  1
Leavitt, Charles   112  Sadak, Kent  1
Allen, Ernest      1  Witt, Joseph  1
Cole, Darren       1  Wolf, Alice M.S.  1
Crockett, Steve    1  Woodbury, Kevin  1
Foster, Greg       1

Budget/Finance Committee 3 year term
Milton, Brandon     202  Dexter, Frank  1
Carter, Jean       187  Forbes, Laurie  1
Cole, Dennis       10  Gideon, Victor  1
Stevenson, Brenda  10  Gilman, Dale  1
Chapman, William   4  Grew, Kerry  1
Leavitt, Charles   4  Hewson, Roger  1
Allen, Ernest      3  Holmquist, Wayne  1
Bruno, Susan       3  LaPrise, Colleen  1
Fitch, Jack        3  Lester, Louise  1
White, Paul        3  MacDonald, Scott  1
Cole, Darren       2  McClellan, Christine  1
Labreque, Jean     2  Miller, Charles  1
Lamarre, Wayne     2  Murray, Charles  1
Pitrees, Nicholas  2  Parke, Carl  1
Strout Jr., Wesley  2  Parry, Richard  1
Walker, Brian      2  Peavey, Del  1
Woodbury, Kevin    2  Richards, Julie  1
Beece, Amy         1  Shaw, Jim  1
Burnell, Dale      1  Sousa, Joseph  1
Cayhill, Allen     1  Stultz, Shep  1
Cobb, Tom          1  Trepanier, Elisa  1
Cole, Wade         1  White, Nathan  1
Cunningham, Laura Jo 1

School Board 3 year term
Holmquist, Wayne   1  Keane, Jeri  1
Woodbury, Kevin    83  Kelley, Steve  1
Leavitt, Charles   8  LaPrise, Ronald  1
Labreque, Jean     3  Leavitt, Amanda  1
Cole, Darren       2  McDemott, Frank  1
Gendron, Sue Ellen 2  Miller, Charles  1
Rand, Lori         2  Olsen, Rolf  1
Thoren, Wendy      2  Richards, Julie  1
Walker, Brian      2  Rowe, Dave  1
Algeo, Elizabeth   1  Saunders, Bruce  1
Beece, Ann         1  Shaw, Jim  1
Brown, Paul        1  Small, Cliff  1
Bruno, Mrs. Joe    1  Sousa, Joseph  1
Chapman, William   1  Streeter, Sandra  1
Cole, Wade         1  thomas, Sasha  1
Crockett, Sue      1  Vanhaasteren, Ellen  1
Gagnon, Helene     1  White, Paul  1

Thank you, Raymond residents, for the 187 votes you cast to re-elect me to the Budget/Finance Committee on May 18, 2007. I appreciate your vote and the kind words of confidence so many offered. I will do my best to live up to your hopes for fair and tight budgets over the next three years.

Sincerely,
Jean Mayhew Carter

2008 ATV Registration

We are now registering ATVs for 2008. You will be issued two stickers, one of which must be displayed on the front and the other on the back of your machine. If you still have your license plate, the new sticker must be displayed over the old number.

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Maine has a leash law, so please don’t allow your dogs to run at large. The porcupines and skunks are now out and are just waiting to meet your pets, which can at best be a nuisance with the smell and at worst a trip to the veterinarian’s to have quills pulled. We also had episodes of rabies in Raymond last year, so we know it’s present here. Please protect your animals.

Please note that no animals are allowed on Raymond’s beaches or in its parks. This is to protect people from having to cohabit with animals they don’t like and to keep our play areas clean for our children.
Disaster Assistance Expanded for York and Cumberland Counties

SCARBOROUGH, Maine - Residents of two Maine counties can now register for federal disaster assistance for damages related to the Nor’easter that struck Maine in mid-April. This aid is in addition to that already approved for 12 Maine counties following the declaration of a federal disaster by President Bush on April 25.

Individuals or Households in York and Cumberland counties can register for assistance online at www.fema.gov or by calling toll-free 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week until further notice. Those with speech or hearing impairment may call TTY 1-800-462-7585.

“Making that phone call or registering online is the first step in the process,” said Gimme Ricker, state coordinating officer for the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). “It’s also important to note that residents who have called their local emergency management or the Red Cross will need to call FEMA.”

Disaster assistance for individuals provided by FEMA and MEMA may include grants to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses. Low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) also will be available to cover residential and business losses not fully compensated by insurance.

“This additional assistance is another sign of the commitment from the federal government to Maine during the recovery process,” said Albie Lewis, federal coordinating officer. FEMA coordinates the federal government’s role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

The Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) has statutory responsibility for statewide coordination of emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. MEMA is a bureau of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

Open Mic Night

Faith Lutheran Church, 988 Roosevelt Trail, Windham
Friday, June 1st, 7pm
Open Mic Night, including refreshments.

Musicians, singers, dancers, storytellers, and more.
Everyone welcome.

For more information, call Dee at 839-4257

Enjoy the Maine Outdoors and Protect Your Skin from the Sun

“Building lifetime safe-sun habits is simple, and there’s no better time to begin than Skin Cancer Awareness Month, which began May 1st,” announced Dr. Dora Anne Mills, Director of the Maine CDC in the Department of Health and Human Services.

AUGUSTA – “Building lifetime safe-sun habits is simple, and there’s no better time to begin than Skin Cancer Awareness Month, which began May 1st,” announced Dr. Dora Anne Mills, Director of the Maine CDC in the Department of Health and Human Services.

Skin cancer is the most common of all cancers in Maine and the U.S., accounting for nearly half of all cancers. While many believe that skin cancer is not a problem in Maine, over 400 Maine people will be diagnosed this year with melanoma, the most serious and deadly form of skin cancer,” added Dr. Mills.

The Maine CDC states that the good news is that most skin cancers are preventable, easy to recognize, and if skin cancer is detected early, it can be cured. Nearly 99% of basal cell and squamous cell cancers, when they’re found early and treated promptly, are cured. For people with melanoma, the overall five-year survival rate is 88%. So, early detection is crucial.

Studies show a link between sunburns before 18 or tanning bed use and an increased risk of melanoma. Over 80% of a person’s sun exposure happens before their 18th birthday, so starting good sun protection habits early is extremely important. However, it’s never too late to start protecting your skin.

The best way to avoid risks of sunburn and skin damage that can lead to skin cancer is to use a skin-safe regimen year round that consists of:

■ Using sunscreen with at least a SPF of 15;
■ Limiting exposure to sun between 10 AM and 4PM;
■ Wearing sunglasses with 99 – 100% ultraviolet light absorption;
■ Wearing hats;
■ Not using tanning beds.

“It’s important that we all enjoy the outdoors, but we should do it safely,” concluded Dr. Mills.

Credit: State of Maine website, www>Maine.gov

2007-2008 Bulky Waste Program

Beginning July 1st you will be able to get your 2007-2008 coupons for the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility. The 2007-2008 bulky waste budget was reduced to $50,000, and the homeowner will again have to be responsible for the cost of their bulky waste over 1,000 pounds.

As of July 1, 2007, each homeowner will be allowed one (1) coupon booklet per household a year for $5, “first come, first served,” which entitles you 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 LRBWF gate 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 residents have delivered more weight than their tickets allow, they will pay the overage at the gate at the Raymond level of $.05/$.025 per pound with a brown sticker on their vehicle. When residents exhaust their coupons, they must pay at the gate.

When the 2007-2008 bulky waste budget has been exhausted, everyone who doesn’t have any coupons 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 $5 each are refrigerators or freezers with the doors still on, porcelain fixtures with hardware, and car tires which still have their rims.

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Great Outdoor Summer Job!
$10-12/hour on Raymond Lakes
Lakes Protection Rangers Needed

The Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) is seeking applicants for the Lakes Protection Rangers positions.

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 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

Resumes will be reviewed as they are received. Resumes can be sent via post mail or e-mail:
Raymond Waterways Protective Association
Attn: Lakes Protection Ranger
P.O. Box 1243
Raymond, ME 04071-1243
E-mail: lakes@raymondmaine.org

Rep. Robinson Taking Hard Line Against Sexual Predators

State Rep. John Robinson is taking a hard line against sexual predators in this legislature, co-sponsoring six different bills to help keep Maine communities and citizens safe from violent sexual offenders. One of the bills, LD 46, will try again to establish the so-called Jessica’s Law in Maine, which would mandate a minimum of 25 years in prison for gross sexual assault against a victim under the age of 12. A second offense would bring life in prison.

“These criminals are a clear and present danger to Maine residents, especially children, and must be dealt with in the harshest possible ways,” said Rep. Robinson, a second-term legislator from Raymond. “In my opinion, the laws can’t be tough enough on these predators. I want to make them even tougher. Violent sexual crimes have reached epidemic proportions, and the resulting damage to victims is unacceptable.”

Here are summaries of several of the bills that Rep. Robinson has co-sponsored:

LD 1807 – Rep. Robinson is concerned that sex offenders can resume their predatory behavior after being released from prison. The legislation provides for a procedure to move violent sexual predators directly from jail to a secure facility specifically designed to house and treat these types of sexual deviants. If the courts and a state psychiatrist determine that a person presents a threat of sexual violence and is likely to re-offend, that felon would not be released back into Maine communities, but rather would be held in a secure facility. This procedure is already in use in other states and has been ruled constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.

LD 45 – This bill also deals with sexual predators after their release from prison. It establishes the authority of the court to issue a standing criminal restraining order that applies to persons convicted of certain sex offenses. The order takes effect when the defendant is released from confinement. The order may include, but is not limited to, enjoining the defendant from residing within 10 miles of the victim’s residence or the location of the offense. Violation of the order is a Class D crime.

LD 194 – This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $709,758 in fiscal year 2007-2009 and $993,092 the following year to establish 12 new probation officer positions within the Department of Corrections to be dedicated to the oversight of convicted sex offenders.

“These measures are long overdue,” said Rep. Robinson. “As more Mainers are victimized by these crimes, the long-term emotional, physical and financial effects are significant, while the state expends resources in greater amounts each year to incarcerate these predators and to help undo what the predators have done.”

Hebron Academy Announces Winter Trimester Honor Roll
Second Trimester 2006-2007

Hebron Academy Head of School John King recently recognized the students who have attained honors for the winter trimester. Students from Raymond are:

Highest Honors (A- or higher)
Calvin Moisan
Joshua Taylor

High Honors (B+ or higher)
Taylor Fey
Elijah Hughes
Ashley Waldron
Erik Wisutskie

Honors (B or higher)
Cameron Lao-Gosney
Roman Lao-Gosney
Kees van Haasteren
Stephen Wisutskie

GREAT JOB!

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 ¾ 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.
KAYAK DEMO DAY

Port Harbor Marine is sponsoring its third annual Kayak Demo Day through their affiliate Jordan Bay Marina. The event will take place on Saturday, June 2nd, from 10am to 1pm at the Panther Run Rest area on Route 302 in Raymond. Representatives will be on hand from Old Town and Ocean Kayaks as well as Heritage Kayaks. It’s a great opportunity to try out the many different styles and models available. Free hot dogs and hamburgers, as well as snacks and drinks, will be available for all participants.

For more information, please contact the Jordan Bay Marine Store at 655-3845.

TASSEL TOP NEWS

First, we want to thank the people who are coming to our aide with some of our requests. We are grateful to Ian Levinski and some of his friends who will be doing the animal cut-outs and helping us with some of the new play area for the children this year. The Tassel Top wish list is on the cable channel for the town. We can use: old or new 5 gal joint compound buckets (with or without a handle) as long as they will hold water, wooden bird houses painted or plain for any type of bird, large or small, 16”x16” concrete pavers for our nature hopscotch, and flowers, especially perennials.

We still have a few weeks for rent at the cabin, and if you are a year-round Raymond resident, you get a $100 discount during July and August. We also have daily rental options available in the off season for small gatherings, classes or business meetings.

We are looking for nature/wildlife artists of any medium who would like to set up and work in the park on any Saturday, especially in July and August. It would be a chance to show and sell your art and help the park at the same time. Please call 655-4675 or 310-0482 to schedule a time.

We will be opening on weekends for Memorial Weekend, June 2 and 3, and June 9 and 10 from 9am to 6pm. We will change to our summer hours, 9am to 8 pm, at that time.

We are happy to welcome back Barry Alden, Elliot LaMarre, Ian Theriault, Sally Gorrill. We also welcome newcomers Lauren Weeks, Jeff Larocque, Charles Scribner and Duca Lester. Ranger Sue and the Tassel Top Crew are all excited to see you at the park this season. See you soon!

LOST AND FOUND AT THE TOWN OFFICE

Key ring with several tags attached from different businesses. One key only for possibly a locker.

LITTLE LOG CABIN

MONTESSORI SCHOOL YARD SALE

Saturday, June 2nd 8am-1pm
1105 Roosevelt Trail Windham

BIG yard sale with lots of items for babies and kids. Clothes, gear, toys, books etc....plus other household items will also be for sale.

Money raised will benefit the school.

For more information, call Marnie Dean at 310-0184 or e-mail marniemaclean@hotmail.com

PANther Run Picnic

Area Has New Name

At the May 15, 2007, Selectmen’s meeting Howard Stiles, Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Committee, announced the date of the dedication for the memorial as Monday, May 30, 2007, at 2pm. The work of his committee, including members Bob Akins, Dana Desjardins, David McIntire, Eleanor Thompson, Vernon Watters, and with much support from Howard’s wife “Flag Lady” Eileen, along with the work of Boy Scout Steve Lentine and his father, has developed and created a veterans memorial of which Raymond can be proud. This project is also Steve’s Eagle Scout project.

Because of the number of people who have ordered paving stones for their veteran loved ones, the Committee felt that the name of the park should be changed to the Raymond Veterans Memorial Park. The Selectmen agreed to make that change. In the near future, Town Manager Don Willard hopes that a new donated sign similar to the one given by the state for Tassel Top Beach will proclaim this lovely park as a fitting tribute to those people who served in the United States military in times of both peace and war.

Can Volunteers Make a Difference? You Bet!

VOLUNTEER EARLY DETECTORS HELP LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The Great East Lake Improvement Association (GELIA) in Wakefield, New Hampshire, and Acton, Maine, has an active Weed Watcher program. (Weed Watchers is the New Hampshire counterpart to Maine’s Invasive Plant Patrol.) The GELIA early detection program has grown steadily every year since its inception, and the association now has over 60 volunteer “watchers” on the lake, covering nearly all of Great East’s eighteen miles of shoreline. On July 11, 2006, Great East Lake resident and volunteer weed watch Carol LaFond was snorkeling near the public boat launch on the Maine side of the lake, when she noticed a suspicious plant “standing out like a neon sign” among the native plants. She collected a specimen and brought it to local authorities. The plant was not in flower at the time, and species identification was only possible through DNA analysis. (The flowering parts are needed to positively identify most milfoils.) DNA test results confirmed what had been suspected: the suspicious plant was variable water-milfoil (Myriophyllum heterophyllum). The response was swift and carefully executed. Once the invasive plant and its roots were removed, Carol continued to revisit the plant removal site, as well as the surrounding cove area, on a weekly basis for the remainder of the open-water season. No additional invasive plants were found. Additional surveys of Great East Lake beyond the cove seem to confirm that the introduced invader was detected and removed before it had a chance to become well-established or to spread to other areas of the lake. Having successfully averted what could have become an ecological and economic disaster for the lake and the region, GELIA has provided us with a compelling example of the enormous--and ultimately incalculable--value of volunteer early detection efforts.

REMINDER

Please have your curbside trash and recycling roadside before 7am.

Beginning May 29th summer schedule will start for private roads.

If you have any questions, please call the Town Office at 655-4742 or e-mail louise.lester@raymondmaine.org

Do you know what's growing in your favorite lake???

To learn more about Maine’s early detection effort, please contact Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants 207-783-7713 or mciaip@mainevlmp.org or contact your local lake protection organization, Raymond Waterways Protective Association, at 207-671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org. RWPA needs more volunteers trained to screen our lakes for invasive aquatic plants. We will be hosting an Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop on July 10th at 3:30pm at the Raymond Public Safety Building, followed by a field training on July 14th 8am – 12pm.
Where Do the Funds from the Bottle and Can Drop-Off Sites Go?
by Dale Gilman
The Raymond Lions Club has been maintaining two re- deemable beverage can and bottle drop-off sites for several years. I’m sure some in the community would like to know where the funds go.

In the last four years at least $16,000 has been provided for scholarships for Raymond students needing help funding the ever-escalating college/community college costs. Of this total, $8,000 has been given directly by the Lions Club. The balance has been given to the Town of Raymond to beef up its scholarship funds.

In that same period of time, we have provided screening of pre-K children for conditions that may lead to blindness in one eye.

We have helped, through the Lions Clubs International Foundation, to provide a generator for Camp Sunshine to enable it to expand its program throughout the year; to build a home designed for the physically challenged with Habitat for Humanity; to help with the function of the IRIS Network to provide assistance and training for the visually challenged throughout the state. Our $6,000 in donations, combined with donations from Lions around the world, made these local programs possible with $5 taken out for administrative costs. Aid was also provided to the tsunami victims and to those devastated by hurricane Katrina and to the Kansas town that was recently destroyed by a tornado.

We put on a pancake breakfast before the Scout’s Pinewood Derby, and 100% of the gross proceeds goes to the Scouts. This has been done for several years.

We assisted a local youngster with a severe case of juvenile diabetes in attending Camp Carefree this summer to learn how to manage his disease and provide care for himself. We hope that this young man will grow up and give back to the community to improve the world, one life at a time.

We assist those who need help in paying for needed glasses or hearing aids. Applications can be found on the Civic Groups, Lions Club section of the town’s website, www.raymondmaine.org.

In past years, for elections where there was more than one candidate for an open position, we have provided “Meet the Candidates” evenings so voters could become more informed about the candidates. These were also broadcast on our local access cable channels to reach people who were unable to attend.

Did your child receive a bicycle helmet through the school two years ago? The Lions Club provided its members to fit the children properly and paid the full cost of the helmets. We have helped the Red Cross collect 1200 pints of blood in Raymond during the past 10 years.

We have donated to and now sponsor a team in the Raymond Youth Baseball program.

Want to join an active group assisting all ages in Raymond? Want to leave the world better than you found it? Get involved and join. Call Dale Gilman at 655-4114 for more information.

Church Anniversary Celebration
The Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Gray is celebrating its 10 year anniversary on the weekend of May 19 and 20. On Saturday, May 19, there will be an Open House at the church from 11am to 4pm. Activities include a free BBQ of burgers, 'dogs and all the fixings. Activities for children include a Space Bounce, pony rides, face painting and other games, after the BBQ. Inside the church will be a slide presentation of the construction of our church building, and other historical pictures and artifacts. The church choir will present a concert in mid-afternoon. Please come, bring the kids and meet many of our church family.

On Sunday, May 20, Rev. Merrill has prepared a very special service to commemorate our 10th anniversary.

All are welcome, and please help us celebrate. For more information, call 657-2009. For additional information contact, Dorothy Albert, 926-5226.

Girl Scout Summer Resident Camp
Adventure–Learning–Fun–Friendship
Summer Camp Is for Every Girl!
- Open to All Girls Ages 8-17
- Special Teen Programs Available
- Open to Non-members
- One- to Four-Week Programs
- Financial Assistance Available
For a full brochure, visit www.gskc.org or contact the Girl Scouts of Kennebec Council at 207-772-1177 for more information.

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.
- Repair water faucets when they begin to drip. Gallons of water can be saved with properly-functioning plumbing.

Raymond Shopping Day
Shop and support the Raymond Village Library on June 2nd! Look for the sign in the window of your local participating businesses in Raymond and help support the library’s efforts to expand the book collection and programming activities for the entire family. A percentage of the store earnings on that day will go directly to the library. Go shopping, pick up your dry cleaning, and have lunch with friends and family, while supporting the library at the same time.

The following businesses will be participating:

| Anytime Subs & Wraps | J.C. Mobility Solutions |
| Auto Werke | Jordan Bay Marina/Port Harbor Marine |
| Chipman Farm Stand | Lake Region Wireless/Cingular |
| Community Pharmacy | Raymond Laundry |
| Cottage Industries | Raymond Village Florist |
| Cricket’s Corner | Sebago Sign Works & Truck Lettering |
| Danielle’s Sebago Diner | Sebago Pirate’s Galley |
| The Good Life Market | Tailfeathers Upland Store |
| Hair Force One | Ultimate Hair and Tanning Salon |
| Hole in the Wall Studioworks | |
Hebron Academy Middle School Spends Weekend in Quebec
The entire Hebron Academy Middle School recently spend a weekend in Quebec, Canada. Their weekend was packed with activities ranging from legend telling at Huron Village, to eating at a French créperie, to taking a tour of the Citadel. The students learned about Quebec’s history, toured St. Anne de Beaupré cathedral, and took the ferry across the St. Lawrence River. The group stayed in a hostel in Quebec, and all had a fantastic time. Before the trip, classes discussed Benedict Arnold’s march to Quebec, which was a similar route the Middle School followed to Quebec. For more information about the Middle School, interested families should check the Middle School section of the Hebron Academy website at www.hebronacademy.org
Hebron Academy was founded in 1804 and is an independent, co-educational boarding and day school that serves grades six through postgraduate. The Academy’s mission is to inspire and guide students to reach their highest potential in mind, body, and spirit. Two hundred fifty students from throughout Maine, New England, the United States, and the world attend the school. For more information, please visit www.hebronacademy.org or call 207-966-2100.

Pack 800 Cub Scout Spring Trip
A night on the USS Massachusetts was the Spring Trip experience for the Pack 800 Cub Scouts this year. What an adventure for all who braved the real military life accommodations and explored the many historical attractions at Battleship Cove in Fall River, MA!

From touring the USS Massachusetts and the USS Joseph P Kennedy, Jr., to maneuvering through the USS Lionfish submarine to meeting someone who had served on the USS Massachusetts during WWII, scouts and their parents were treated to seeing and feeling our country’s history.

Sleeping on stacked bunks in various chambers and dining together in the wardroom, as well as being offered Morse code classes, storytelling, knot tying, and age appropriate military themed movies were all part of this awesome experience!

Pack 800 is proud of the well-behaved group of boys who represented the Pack and the Town of Raymond. This was truly a Spring Trip to remember!

Battleship Mass was a great time. Check out all the pictures from our trip at www.raymondmainepack800.com

RWPA – Seeking Staff and Volunteers
By Noralee Raymond, Executive Director
RWPA is looking for summer staff to assist us with our boat inspections at the four public ramps. Please help spread the word regarding this job opportunity so that we can continue to educate boaters and ensure that invasive plants are not introduced to our lakes. We have posted the job description in this issue of the Road Runner.

We want to remind you that if you launch at the public ramps when our boat inspectors are not present or if you are launching from your own property, please be sure to inspect your boat, motor, and trailer for plant material when entering and exiting the lake. You do not need to be able to identify an invasive plant; just REMOVE ANY AND ALL PLANT material before you launch. If you think you have spotted an invasive plant in the water or on your boat, be sure to give us a call and we will come check it out as soon as possible. Early detection is essential to preventing the spread of these plants.

We mentioned the need for volunteers in our May article, but we thought it worth mentioning again this month. We are still looking for summer staff positions, we need help from our volunteers to keep good coverage at the ramps when our boat inspectors are not present or if you know how to use a shovel or a rake, you can help us install plant patrol workshops and learn how to survey a lake for invasive aquatic plants. The more educated eyes we have checking the lake, the better we can prevent an infestation.

If an invasive plant is introduced to one of our lakes, early detection provides the best (and sometimes only) hope of eradication. Take a moment to read one success story “Can Volunteers Make a Difference? You Bet!”. We hope you take the time to attend the training and become familiar with the plants in your lake.

Tuesday, July 10th 3:30pm – 9pm at Raymond Public Safety Building
Invasive Plant Patrol Workshop
Learn how to identify invasive and native plants and use this knowledge to survey your lake. RWPA annually inspects all of Raymond’s lakes for invasive plants, and we need more trained volunteers to assist us.

Saturday, July 14th 8am – 12pm at Thomas Pond
Field Survey Training
If you have attended any of the invasive plant patrol workshops in the past (including the July 10th IPP workshop) and are interested in training on the water, this workshop is your answer.

More information on these events, including how to register, can be found in this issue of the Road Runner.

Lakes Rangers Will Kenealey and Christina Perry inspect the lake for invasive aquatic plants. The scope helps cut down the glare, making it easier to see the lake bottom.

Milfoil pulled from Sebago Lake by divers.

Quebec Trip, Raymond Students: (front row, l-r) Rosalyn Mosian (3rd from left), (middle row, l-r) Adria Hughes (1st), Lindsey Hughes (4th), Lonnie Taylor (7th)

Mentoring Wraps up the Year
The Raymond Mentoring program has had a very productive year. We currently have 11 pairs who meet once weekly after school. We are thrilled to have 4 high school mentors this year, as well as a mentor from St. Joseph’s College. These young people are full of energy and have done a wonderful job.

Mentoring ended for the year the last week of May, with some special activities and a celebration dinner at Camp Hinds with mentees, mentors, program staff and all their families.

Some of the activities mentoring pairs enjoyed the last few months include: planting the playgrounds at Mill Street and installing the new planters on the fence at the town beach, donating ornaments to a homeless shelter, snowshoeing, ice skating, building using Home Depot kits, making pretzels, and various crafts and games. In May we took a trip to Pineland in New Gloucester to learn about sheep, sheepdogs and wool, including spinning wool and herding.

We are already looking ahead to next year. We have quite a few children on a waiting list for mentors ranging from K-8th grade. Please consider giving an hour of your time to a child in your community. We welcome all ages in our mentors, from high school and college students to older adults. You all bring something so valuable to our youth. If you would like to find out more about the program, please contact Christina or Candace at 655-8672 ext. 107, or e-mail us at mentor@raymondmaine.org. While we are not in the office full time, we will always be sure to get back to you if you leave a message.

Kirsten enjoys learning about sheep at Pineland.