Veterans’ Memorial Dedication

By Howard Stiles

The weather cooperated, the sun was out and there was a slight breeze as crowds gathered at the old Panther Run Rest Stop to honor veterans and attend the dedication of the new Raymond Veterans’ Memorial Park. The rest stop never looked better as small American flags lined the parking area and the new brick and granite paver walkway. The flags were in addition to red, white and blue bunting all along the perimeter of the parking area. Thank you, Mary McIntire. The Hawthorne Garden Club deserves praise also as the area around both the monument and the flag pole have a wonderful combination of red, white and blue flowers. Thanks to the ladies of the Garden Club.

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

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

Photos taken on Dedication Day courtesy of Mary Lentine

Continued on page 3
News from the Raymond Village Library

At a Glance
- Wednesday, July 4 – Library Closed
- Thursday, July 5 – Teen Summer Reading Program begins
- Sunday, July 8 – Annual Book Sale begins
- Wednesday, July 11 – Non-fiction/Classics Book Group
- Wednesday, July 25 – Reading Group

Library Closed
The library will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, in celebration of Independence Day. We wish all a safe and happy vacation 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 8:30 at Jordan-Small Middle School. Some subjects to be covered will be fingerprinting, secret codes and forensics. There will be a murder mystery to solve and special guests.

The Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office will hold a forensics night on August 9, and author Kathy Lynn Emerson will conduct a mystery writing workshop on August 22.

Kathy Lynn Emerson writes the Face Down Lady Appleton and the Diana Spaulding 1888 mysteries. As Kaitlyn Dunnett, she pens the contemporary Liss MacCrimmon mysteries, which take place in the fictional town of Moosetookook, Maine. There will be a book signing around 8pm, to which all interested persons are invited.

Annual Book Sale
We can never say enough about this fabulous book sale. All readers look forward to the wonderful choices, low prices and great fun that happens at this annual event!! This year readers look forward to the wonderful choices, low prices and great fun that happens at this annual event!! For more information, call #41 at 655-4548. New interested members are always welcome.

Reading Group
The reading group will meet on Wednesday, July 25, at the library at 7pm. This month the discussion will be centered on Anna Quindlen’s book Rise and Shine. The book will be available at the library, and we wish to extend a cordial welcome to anyone who would like to join us for this interesting and entertaining discussion.

Thank you
We wish to thank the Hawthorne Garden Club for the beautiful tubs of flowers they have made up and placed on the library’s lawn. Their kindness and generosity have beautified the grounds and made the library more attractive to our community. Thank you so very much.

Notes
Just a few reminders: The Raymond Village Library has got to go in the schedule for events. The non-fiction book group will meet on Wednesday, July 18, at 7pm in the Raymond Village Library. Instead of choosing a specific book, this time they have chosen a topic, which is Jamestown Colony, Virginia, 1607, in honor of its 400th anniversary. There will be a list of suggested books, some of which will be available at the library. For more information, call #1 at 655-4548. New interested members are always welcome.

Shopping Day Success!
The trustees and staff of the Raymond Village Library heartily thank the shoppers and local businesses for their support of our Library Shopping Day on June 2nd. So far, we have received over $1500, which will be well spent on programming and materials. The following Raymond businesses participated: Anytime Subs and Wraps, Auto Werks, Chipman Farm Stand, Community Pharmacy, Cottage Industries, Cricket’s Corner, Danielle’s Sebago Diner, The Good Life Market, Hair Force One, Hole in the Wall StudioWorks, J. C. Mobilility Solutions, Jordan Bay Marina, Lake Region Wireless, Raymond Laundry, Raymond Village Florist, Sebago Sign Works and Truck Lettering, Sebago Pirate’s Galley, Tailfeathers Upland Store, and Ultimate Hair and Tanning Salon.

Nature Trail Walk
Faith Lutheran Church on 988 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, is having a nature trail walk, followed by a campfire and refreshments.

Veterans’ Memorial Park Visitor
On the morning of June 12th Sharon Dodson was driving by the Memorial Park and saw this very unusual visitor walking on the bricks of the newly dedicated Veterans Memorial Park. Sharon says, “She made some holes in the grass, so she might have been laying eggs or trying to. It doesn’t really seem like a good place to lay eggs, but we probably shouldn’t disturb the holes, just in case.”

Another turtle visitor photo can be found on page 12.

July 2007

Events and Meeting Schedule

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Municipal News Brief

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen recently took the following actions:

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

1) Election of chairman and vice chairman of the Board of Selectmen for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. Each year the Selectmen elect a new chairman and vice chairman at their first meeting following Annual Town Meeting. The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen consults with the Town Manager on a weekly basis regarding the business of the Selectmen agenda as well as coordinating requests for agenda items and other public business from the members of the Board of Selectmen and occasionally the public at large. The Chairman presents election and agenda items, represents the town and board as the chief elected official of the community and attends to various ceremonial functions throughout the year as required.

The Vice Chairman fills all the same roles in the Chairman’s absence, but in a more recent capacity. The Chairman presides over the meeting, and the Vice Chairman, in his or her absence, takes that role.

2) Consideration and insurance bid award – Finance Director Mark Gendron was elected Chairman with four in favor and one abstention (Gendron), and Mr. Reynolds was unanimously elected Vice Chairman for the 2007/2008 year.

3) Consideration of a new road name – Code Enforcement Officer Jack Cooper recommended approval of the following new road name: Eastern Painted Turtle Road. The residents’ second choice was Turtle Cove Road (which already exists) and third choice was Cove Road (which is very close to other existing road names in town). The Selectmen voted to approve this road name (located near Fire Lane 12 off Cape Road) and also to have the town manager develop a policy on the frequency with which road names are approved.

4) Ordinance review reserve account request – Planning Board Chairman Patrick Clark Planning Board Chairman Patrick Clark requested that the town set up a reserve account with existing planning funds from the current fiscal year budget. This reserve account would provide funding to remain in place during the fiscal year 2007/2008 budget period, for use in support of on-going ordinance review and recommendations for amendments. The Selectmen approved this request to carry over funding from this year’s budget to the next fiscal year 2007/2008.

5) Request for Special Town Meeting to consider proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance – Planning Board Chairman Patrick Clark At Annual Town Meeting, the issue of proposed ordinance amendments was defeated due to language irregularities missed in the processing proof that were inconsistent with the legislative intent of existing ordinances. For this reason, no action was taken at Town Meeting. A new review has since been completed by Contract Planner Hugh Coxe, and an opinion received from Town Attorney Chris Vanisht that the town can now hold a Special Town Meeting correcting these language irregularities, with no additional public hearing requirements. It was agreed that this would be held at the regularly scheduled Selectmen’s meeting on August 7, 2007, where there would be scheduled a Special Town Meeting to address the proposed land use ordinance, including the amendments.

6) Comprehensive Planning Implementation Committee (CPIC) request for reserve fund – CPIC Chair Chris McClellan CPIC Chair Chris McClellan requested that the Selectmen consider allowing CPIC to use remaining funds from the 2006/2007 budget for on-going work, for design standards in the commercial district and other long range planning work. The current balance in the CPIC budget that would cover over into a reserve account, would be $39,820.7. This request was approved by the Board of Selectmen and recommended as a line item budget for FY 2007/2008.

7) Request to waive the RFQ consultant selection process for land use work related to the town’s commercial district – CPIC Chair Chris McClellan The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CPIC) requested permission to hire a consultant directly for design standard work in the commercial district. This recommendation is being made as they feel very strongly that Terry DeWan of Terrence J. DeWan & Associates of Yarmouth should be hired to complete this work. Mr. DeWan is being recommended primarily as he was the Landscape Architect employed by Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers of Gray as a sub-consultant on the RT. 302 Improvement Project some years ago. For this reason, he has familiarity with Raymond’s short and long term design goals in the commercial district, as well as substantial experience in helping communities arrive at design standards with respect to items such as signage, width of lanes, setbacks, landscaping and other architectural and aesthetic guidelines for improving the appearance and function of commercial areas. Mrs. McClellan indicated that $20,000 would enable them to negotiate a fee for the work as recommended by Town Planner Hugh Coxe. The Selectmen unanimously approved this request with Mr. Bruno noting that there was a need for a policy concerning sole sourcing, RFQs, and other ways to contract for service.

8) Consideration of town appointments – Town Clerk Louise Lester Town Clerk Louise Lester provided a list of the 2007/2008 Board of Selectmen appointments for consideration and approval. This list also contains information on which members of the Board of Selectmen serve in an ex-officio capacity on several town and regional boards and committees. Selectmen represent normally at least the respective committees’ meetings and act as a liaison, reporting back to the Board of Selectmen.

The following appointments are now vacant since there have been resignations: One Raymond Committee – two vacancies; Technology Committee – one vacancy; CPIC – two vacancies.

Additionally, Selectmen Mike Reynolds noted there are two new members for CPIC. Those names will be submitted to the Selectboard after they are approved by CPIC. Chairman Mark Gendron then motioned to create a position of a parliamentary to the Board of Selectmen and nominated Selectman Joe Bruno. This motion passed with four in favor and one abstention (Bruno).

9) One Raymond Committee Update – Mark Gendron & Dana Desjardins, Co-Chairs The One Raymond Committee has not met recently.

10) Consideration of abatements – Contract Assessor Michael O’Donnell, O’Donnell & Associates There were no abatements presented at this meeting.

11) CPIC budget review

a) Consideration of air conditioning unit bids for EMS Broadcast Studio – Public Works Director Nathan White The low bid proposal from Northeast Mechanical Corp. in the amount of $14,460.09 did not include the necessary wiring for the air conditioning unit for hook-up. This cost needs to be added to the low bid cost in order to arrive at a total cost of installation of the air conditioning system. Mr. White noted that he had received two bids for the electrical work: $650 Dana Desjardins and $550 Bennett Electric. He added other costs would be a cement pad which will be about $100 and disassembly of the back wall and then the replacement of it after installation; both are projects that the Public Works crew can accomplish. The air conditioning unit could be used at another location if needed in the future. Selectman Joe Bruno motioned to accept the bid from Northeast Mechanical Corp. and the low bid for the electrical from Bennett Electric ($550). This motion passed unanimously.

(2) Town Manager Report and Communications.

a) Town Meeting

Mr. Desjardins thanked the people who came to Town Meeting and supported the Selectmen with their budget. He felt the people had spoken and that they wanted some tax relief.

b) Patriot’s Day Storm

Mr. Willard reported the damage estimate from the Patriot’s Day storm had Raymond on the lower end in Cumberland County, for combined damage at $153,600; $103,000 was public and $50,600 personal damage. He added that forms are being created for further submissions for the private properties.

c) Agency liquor license for D & J Pizza Inc. (Sunset Variety)

Mr. Willard noted that comments on their license application could be sent to the Department of Liquor Regulation in Augusta.

d) Bulky Waste

Mr. Willard reported that Mrs. Lester’s summary of bulky waste amounts showed a trend of continued on a lower delivered ton rate than last year. He added that the LBWB Board might consider some level of up front cost to the towns because of a lack of revenue from the coupon programs in Raymond and (under development) in Naples.

e) Sebago Lake Public Safety Boat

Mr. Willard announced that the surplus U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat from State surplus might again be available since it was not claimed in time by the Army Corps of Engineers in California who had previously been awarded the boat. He said they were still looking toward purchasing this boat for public safety on Sebago Lake, in cooperation with the surrounding towns and Cumberland County. The cost of running and maintaining it might be shared with those interested parties. Mr. Gendron noted that other towns using the service would be billed as we do for Fire/Rescue.

f) July Selectmen’s meeting(s)

Joe Bruno motioned to meet once on July in Tues-

July 17th. (This has now been amended to July 10th.)

NOTE: There will be a treasurer’s and payroll war-

rant on July 3rd, which the Selectmen will sign in the finance office.

f) July Selectmen’s meeting(s)

Joe Bruno motioned to meet once on July in Tues-

July 17th. (This has now been amended to July 10th.)

NOTE: There will be a treasurer’s and payroll war-

rant on July 3rd, which the Selectmen will sign in the finance office.

(3) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants


Tuesday, June 19, 2007

1) Town Office Sign Project final presentation – Eagle Scout candidate Kyle Woodbrey

Eagle Scout candidate Kyle Woodbrey reviewed the progress of the new sign in front of the Town Office. He said that the sign is finished for his Eagle Scout project and this is the final review of his project. Kyle gave the Board of Selectmen a plaque on behalf of all the people who helped with the sign. Mark Gendron accepted the plaque on behalf of the town with thanks and recognition of Kyle’s impressive contribution to the Town of Raymond. The Board of Selectmen gratefully acknowledged this gift to the community and remarked that in his dedication to service Kyle Woodbrey clearly exemplified the highest ideals of boy scouting.

2) Radio tower update – Fire Chief Denis Morse

Fire Chief Denis Morse described the study of space on the WGMF radio tower as a possibility for Raymond to have a cost efficient and high performance radio communications system. Despite an earlier belief that such a system would be more advantageous than a locally based tower system, the WGMF option did not turn out to be the best choice for the town. Fire Chief Morse is recommending instead an extension to the existing tower and other communications improvements within Raymond. This system will be networked with the Naples communication system in order to provide public safety dispatching services at the most cost ef-

Continued on page 4
Meeting DVDs Available at Town Office

If you have Time Warner cable at home, you might have already visited Raymond’s access channels. Channel 2 is the municipal channel and Channel 3 the school channel. Our meetings are televised live and are taped for future viewing. There is a calendar of meetings on our website www.raymondmaine.org or in the ROAD RUNNER.

Our website also has a schedule of reruns which are shown 24 hours a day. However, if you don’t have cable TV, the town office can lend DVDs of any of our meetings. These DVDs can be borrowed during regular business hours. There isn’t any specific time for return, but we would ask that you come back within two weeks. All you have to do is sign a DVD out.

Get Your 2007-2008 Bulky Waste Coupons July 1st

Louise Lester, Town Clerk

On July 1, 2007, the new budget year’s bulky waste coupon booklets will be available for $5 at the Raymond Town Office. This will allow a resident to deliver his first 1,000 pounds to the LRBWF without cost to the resident. After the initial 1,000 pounds, residents will pay the town rate at the gate of $.05 per pound for everything except brush and round wood, which is $.025 per pound. It is necessary that the vehicle also have the current brown bulky waste sticker affixed to the lower left side of the windshield or left side window. Each household will be allowed one (1) coupon booklet a year. The coupon booklets are on a first come, first served basis with a total of 1,000 booklets available. The coupons are broken down into fifty 20-pound increments which entitles the bearer to a delivery of a total of 1,000 pounds to the facility paid for by the town. Your booklet 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 allowed, they 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 not be any Day Passes issued, but the coupon 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 $10.50 per pound. When a resident has delivered more weight than their coupons allow, he will, with the brown window sticker, pay the overage at the gate at the municipal rate of $.05/$.025 per pound. When a resident exhausts his coupons, he must pay in full at the gate. If they are Raymond taxpayers, they will be charged $.05/$.025 per pound, but if they don’t have a Raymond brown sticker, they will be charged $1.10 per pound. At this time the following items can be delivered without cost if they are not in a mixed load: metal, car batteries, and uncontaminated motor oil.

Animal Control Report May - June

May 12 Beach and park checks
May 14 Beach and park checks
May 14 Owner picked up dog
May 17 Check on dog’s well being
May 18 Found dog
May 19 Dog at large - gone on arrival
May 21 Dog bite by guard dog
May 21 Dog at large - picked up
May 22 Took a large dog to Animal Refuge League
May 22 Met with Central Maine Power
May 23 Checked kennel
May 24 Cleaning and repairing equipment
May 24 Dog at large - ticket
May 24 Cat up a tree
May 25 Picked up stray dog
May 25 Called Friends of Felines re: feral cats
May 25 Called Animal Refuge League re: feral cats
May 25 Dog at large - ticket
May 25 Barking dog complaint
May 26 Beach and park checks
May 26 Dog at large - gone on arrival
May 26 Dog barking complaint
May 27 Beach and park checks
May 28 Replaced signs at Sheri Gagnon Park
May 29 Beach and park checks
May 29 Two dogs at large - gone on arrival
May 30 Cleaning of equipment
May 31 Dog at large - gone on arrival
June 1 Dog in yard - gone on arrival
June 2 Dog in yard - talked to owner
June 6 Missing dog report
June 7 Found dog from June 6
June 7 Replaced signs at beach
June 7 Owner picked up dog and ticket
June 7 Dog running in road - gone on arrival
June 8 Dog fight - warning
June 8 Dogs on beach - warning
June 8 Dogs chasing joggers - dog owner known
June 8 Dogs barking (not continual)
June 8 Dogs barking for 6 hours - ticket
June 9 Dogs barking
June 9 Dogs not barking excessively
June 9 Dog chasing people walking in road
June 9 Beach and park checks
June 11 Dog at large - picked up
June 11 Information only
June 12 Beach and park checks
June 14 Dead cat
June 14 Dog in yard - gone on arrival
June 15 2 dogs with quills/no tags - took to emergency vet
June 15 2 dogs with quills/no tags - took to emergency vet
June 16 Information only
June 16 Found dog owner and advised as to location of dogs

Municipal News Brief continued from page 3

factive and highest performance level possible moving forward.

3) August 7, 2007, Special Town Meeting warrant article for consideration - amendments to the Raymond Land Use Ordinance - Town Clerk Louise Lester

The Board of Selectmen approved the warrant article for consideration and signed the posting copy of the warrant article for August 7, 2007, Special Town Meeting to consider miscellaneous amendments to the Raymond Land Use Ordinance.

4) Town of Raymond fiscal 2007/2008 fee schedule for review and approval - Town Clerk Louise Lester

The town’s fee schedule underwent a comprehensive review, with several changes made, during the last fiscal year. This year in keeping with the Selectmen’s goal and pledge to hold the line on tax increases, no new changes in the fee schedule were recommended. The town fee schedule Raymond has now is competitive with neighboring communities and therefore does not warrant any adjustments. The fee schedule was approved as presented, for fiscal year 2007/2008.

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

The One Raymond Committee has not met recently.


Contract Assessor Mike O’Donnell prepared a group of abatements for Selectmen consideration. According to Mr. O’Donnell this “standard” agenda item can be discussed after the meeting as he has now worked through the backlog of abatement requests. Eight abatements were presented by the Town Manager on behalf of Mr. O’Donnell, and they were all approved by the Selectmen.

7) Old (unfinished) business.

a) Veterans’ Memorial

Mr. Willard indicated that there have been some very positive comments made about the memorial and many people have visited the park.

8) Town Manager Report and Communications.

a) U.S. Coast Guard Surplus Boat

The Town Manager, over a six month period in working with U.S. Congressional Representatives Senator Susan Collins, Senator Olympia Snowe and Congressman Tom Allen, obtained a surplus U.S. Coast Guard Ambar 900 patrol boat for use by the Town of Raymond. This boat, originally purchased by the U.S. government, had an original cost of between $150,000 and $200,000. The Town of Raymond, through the State Surplus Program for reallocation of federal assets, was able to obtain this vessel for a total cost of $14,132. Payment for the boat was made through existing Fire Department Equipment reserve funds, Sebago Water Safety Watch fund and the balance from the Selectmen’s undesignated fund balance reserve for unanticipated expenditures. It is the town’s desire to develop a regional public safety program, in cooperation with Cumberland County government, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, and our neighboring communities, to promote public safety on Sebago Lake. The Fire Chief and the Town Manager will be working with counterpart officials to develop such a program. The town’s former Sebago Lake rescue boat will be sold at an estimated return of $5,500, the proceeds of which will be applied to the purchase cost of the new boat. It was also decided that the 35-year old Zodiac raft, acquired for $1 from the Town of Scarborough, will be transferred to the Fire Rescue Department of the Town of Maraville, a community located approximately 15 miles west of Ellsworth, which had expressed interest in obtaining this boat.


Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated June 9, 2007.

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

Dogs and cats like the summer weather just as we do, but be sure to leave them sufficient water to keep them healthy in the hot weather. Temperatures in cars can become oppressive in a short time during hot weather, which can be deadly to pets and children. Don’t leave any pet or child in a car.

As much as we’d like to allow our dogs to swim, they are not welcome at Raymond’s public beaches: Crescent Beach, Raymond Beach and boat haul out, and Tassel Top Park. The ball fields are also off limits to dogs: Sheri Gagnon Park, Camp Hinds, Camp Agawam, Raymond Elementary, and Jordan- Small Middle School. Please respect Raymond’s Dog Ordinance because it protects all people’s rights. There are some people who don’t like dogs and cats!
What to Do with Household Hazardous Waste

If you have any of the following items to dispose of, Raymond has made arrangements with AVCOG to take them at Western Maine Environmental Depot, 424 River Road, Lewiston, www.avcog.org or 207-783-9186. AVCOG is open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, April through November, from 8am to noon except holiday weekends. The cost is $27 per unit of up to 5 gallons of liquid waste or up to 20 pounds of dry waste; or a combination of liquid and dry waste (for example, 2 gallons of liquid and 10 pounds of dry). It also includes up to 5 fluorescent bulbs of any size and shape in addition to the above liquid or dry wastes. A smoke detector may be substituted for one gallon of waste or if brought separately has a disposal cost of $5.

Please pack materials in original, secure containers if possible. If original containers are leaking, place in plastic bag, and or corrugated box.

For safety and insurance purposes, please remain in your vehicle when at the facility.

This list is what you can bring but are not limited to (for more information call 783-9186):

- Oil based paints and varnishes
- Flammable resins & adhesives
- Non-processable paints
- PCB Contaminated RCRA materials
- Pesticides/Herbicides/Poisons
- Corrosives/Oxidizers
- Aerosols
- Consolidated Organic Liquids
- Antifreeze
- Ni Cad Batteries (not regular household batteries)
- Mercury items i.e. switches, human thermometers
- Reactives/Dioxin Forming materials
- Non-regulated materials
- Fluorescent light tubes

If you have any questions, please contact the Town Office at 655-4742 ext. 21, or louise.ester@raymondmaine.org

“Any Deer” Permits at Town Office

The 2007 Any Deer permits are available at the Town Office. The deadline for submission by mail or in person is July 16, 2007, in Augusta at 5pm and online August 3, 2007, by 11:59pm at www.mefishwildlife.com. There are 66,275 permits available.

Motor Vehicle Vanity Plates Available Online

Maine registrants can order a vanity plate online. The website capabilities have been expanded for the users to order their available choices online by using their Visa, MasterCard or Discover card.

The application works like that of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles’ Rapid Renewal. The customer must have a valid registration in his possession to proceed with the ordering process. Once a suitable choice has been made, the customer submits the order and enters his current registration information. The registration information is then verified, payment is submitted, and the customer prints off a confirmation page.

The BMV Main Office has final approval of all vanity plate choices submitted. The processing and ordering of the vanity plates can also be completed at the BMV Main Office.

If a customer wants to know whether a vanity plate is available or how to obtain a vanity plate, he/she should use the BMV website www.sosonline.org to check for availability and to order the requested vanity plate. The plates will be sent to you within three weeks.

Are You Sure Your Property Taxes Are Paid?

Any balance left unpaid for the 2006/07 tax year will soon be going to lien. The required 30 day notices will be mailed the beginning of September, and liens will be filed in October.

Please be sure to remit payment promptly if you are in receipt of a delinquency notice or find you do have taxes in arrears.

If you are unable to make payment at this time, you may make arrangements with the Tax Collector for a payment plan, but this will not prevent interest from accruing or stop the lien process. Please call or e-mail Donna Lovely, Deputy Tax Collector, 655-4742 ext. 22, or donna.lovely@raymondmaine.org, should you have any questions or concerns.

“Any Deer” Permits at Town Office

The 2007 Any Deer permits are available at the Town Office. The deadline for submission by mail or in person is July 16, 2007, in Augusta at 5pm and online August 3, 2007, by 11:59pm at www.mefishwildlife.com.

Lost at Town Meeting

One lower dental plate left on lunch table in napkin. Please call the town office at 655-4742 during regular business hours.

Veterans’ Memorial Dedication continued from page 1

As some will recall, Howard Stiles spoke at the town meeting in May of 2006 to announce the Veterans’ Memorial concept and ask for community support and donations. The first gift was from Betty McDermott in her capacity as head of the Raymond Founders’ Day Committee. The gift was for $7,500, and as Betty said when she presented Howard with the check, the committee had been waiting a long time to find the right cause to make that gift. We might add here that Betty McDermott, as a selectperson, was very interested for many years in having a Veterans’ Memorial in Raymond. Shortly after the town meeting, Howard was invited to a Lions Club function, where they presented him with $1,600 to fund the flag pole and flags. There was also an anonymous gift of $1,000 to help jump start the project. Requests for pavers and donations came in, and the committee was off and running.

The crowd on Memorial Day was estimated at 220 people. Howard opened the ceremony with a brief introduction of dignitaries. The invocation was given by Dana C. Reed, a reservist Commander in the New Hampshire Senior Minister at the North Windham Union Church. Next on the agenda was the raising of the new national and state flags. Katie Allen, a senior girl scout with her Silver Award, and Steven Lentine, an Eagle Scout candidate, raised the flags.

Once the flags were up, the Pledge of Allegiance was said by the entire assembled group. We were then led in the National Anthem by Patti Gordon, music teacher at the Raymond Elementary School, who led a combined chorus of children from both the Raymond Elementary School and the Jordan-Small Middle School.

Stiles then asked Major General Libby and Betty McDermott to help in unveiling the new Veterans’ Monument. The monument is black granite, 6.5 feet in height and 4.3 feet in width. The front face is polished with the inscription on the lower portion, and the top has a color rendition of the American flag with an eagle in front of the flag. This color portion is new laser technology, and the Raymond monument is one of the first in the state to incorporate this feature.

The monument unveiling was followed by the combined chorus singing “America, the Beautiful.”

Mr. Stiles then made a few introductory remarks and introduced Raymond’s State Representative, John C. Robinson. Mr. Robinson’s remarks were followed by the Chair of the Raymond Selectmen, Mark Gendron. Mark, in addition to his remarks, gave Steve Lentine a special Boy Scout kerchief that Mark had as a young man over 40 years ago. Mark then introduced Major General John A. Libby, our keynote speaker and the Adjutant General, Maine National Guard.

Upon the completion of all of the remarks, the combined chorus sang “God Bless the USA.” Chaplain Reed then gave the benediction, which was followed by Scott Gordon’s playing of taps. The ceremony was followed by refreshments.

Howard Stiles and the entire Veterans’ Committee want to thank all who participated in the dedication ceremony and all who so generously have supported this project.

A final note is that if you have not seen the ceremony on the Raymond Public Access channel, try to do so. Kevin Woodrey, Raymond’s own technical wizard, has put together a masterpiece of the ceremony, and upon completion of the ceremony, he added candid shots of the crowd, the flag and monument, all backed with some stirring music. Our thanks to Kevin for a wonderful job.

The Veterans’ Committee is still taking donations, as maintenance of the site will require funds for years to come. Alsogranite paver requests are still being accepted. Questions can be directed to Howard Stiles at 655-4193.

Additional photos of the Veterans’ Memorial and the events on Memorial Day may be found on pages 9 and 12.
Welcome: New Raymond Students in Grades K - 8
New Student Registrations
Registrations for new Raymond Elementary School (grades K - 4) and Jordan-Small Middle School (grades 5 - 8) students will be taken at the Jordan-Small Middle School throughout the summer. Please call Mrs. Glew at 655-4743 for more information or to schedule at appointment.

Proof of Raymond residency is required at time of registration. Kindergarten students are also required to present a birth certificate and updated immunization records.

High School Students (grades 9 - 12) need to register through the Raymond Superintendent of Schools’ office at the Raymond Elementary School. The district office can be reached at 655-8666.

Raymond Elementary School registrations and new student visits can be scheduled on Wednesdays from 9am - 2pm with Mrs. Mindy or Ms. Richard, Principal. Please call the RES office at 655-8672.

RES Principal’s Report
By Norma Richard
It is hard to believe that Tuesday, June 19th was the last day of school for students at RES. Students have been involved in a number of wonderful activities these past two weeks ranging from Book Buddy picnics to Thursday, June 14th’s, all-school field day. I want to thank Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Hutchinson and all the staff and parent volunteers who worked to make the field day such a success. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the learning community that is such an important part of our program at RES.

At our final Friday Opening on June 8th, we celebrated the contributions of over 100 volunteers who shared their talents, interests, time and expertise with our students. On behalf of the students and staff, I want to personally thank each volunteer. Please know that your time is always valued and much appreciated. A special “Thank You” goes to Deb Cutten for her wonderful work with the PTO this year. The many projects, from Circus Smirkus to supporting the 4th grade camping trip, were such fun and highlights for our students. Please remember that we need to have active membership in the PTO for it to continue next year.

Step-Up activities on the last day provided children with the opportunity to meet their new teachers and classmates in grades 1-4. Step-Up is always an exciting opportunity for both students and teachers.

Fourth graders participated in Step-Up at JSM5 on June 18th and had the chance to meet the AE staff (Academic Enrichment- Gym, Music, Art, Computer, Library, Spanish, etc.) and their middle school teachers. They also ate lunch and had a bit of recess time at the middle school before heading back to RES. Thank you to Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Hutchinson for making this transition visit such a successful event.

Incoming kindergarten parents will receive information about kindergarten placement in early July. They will also receive several other mailings from the RES office this summer with information from the kindergarten teachers on how to have a successful start to a new school year. We are hoping to plan another Kindergarten Play Day in August before school starts so that the children have another chance to visit school before the official start of their educational careers in September. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 4, for grades 1 - 8. Kindergarten students and their parents will come for a visit on Wednesday morning, September 5. Kindergarten students start at RES on Thursday, September 6.

As we end this school year, plans are already underway for the next school year. Should you need to reach me this summer, please call the RES office at 655-8672 ext. 400, or e-mail me at norma.richard@raymondmaine.org. Mrs. Mindy and I plan to be at RES each Wednesday for new student registrations, to coordinate orders, and to monitor the summer work at RES. New students may also register with Mrs. Glew in the Jordan-Small Middle School office on Monday - Friday throughout the summer.

In closing, I want to wish all the best to Mrs. Toung and Mrs. Gorham who are retiring, and to Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Keef, Mrs. MacDonald and Ms. Gallagher who are leaving for new challenges. Thank you for your many contributions to RES.

Have a safe and happy summer vacation. I want to encourage each student to read, read, read during these summer months. Please remind your students that their summer homework is “to be nice to your parents!”

Mrs. Tarr’s Second Grade
Mrs. Tarr’s second grade class enjoyed another annual Young Authors’ Dinner on Tuesday night, June 12th. The evening began with the students and their families sharing casseroles, salads and desserts. All of the children read the stories that they had written, edited, illustrated and bound. This was a terrific culmination of a year of developing their writing skills.

On Friday, June 15th, the class stayed overnight at the school. It was a fun night of eating, playing, exploring, bonding and just a lot of excitement! The school is so much different at night, and this is a special way to end a successful year together!

Mrs. Gorham Thanks the Parents of Her Third Grade Class
On Friday, June 15, Mrs. Gorham and her class were treated to a wonderful luncheon by several parents of her students. Delicious sandwiches, juice, and healthy snacks were provided. There were also yummy desserts. The children presented Mrs. Gorham with a beautiful plant pot painted with a river scene, complete with a majestic loon. The children signed their names on “river rocks” painted on the bottom of the river. Mrs. Jesse Burton, Raymond Elementary Art teacher, guided the class through the “secret” project. Mrs. Gorham was surprised and thrilled! She was also given many other lovely gifts, including a generous gift certificate to Skilling Greenhouse. Mrs. Gorham is retiring after twenty-eight and a half years teaching at Jordan-Small School and Raymond Elementary.

Raymond PTO Announces College Scholarship Recipients
The Raymond PTO Scholarship Committee was very impressed with the caliber of each of the 2007 scholarship applicants. After carefully evaluating the merits of each application, the following individuals were chosen based on strong academic success coupled with unique self-initiated high school learning and volunteer experiences:

- Kathryn Eastman of Plummer Drive, who plans to study broadcast journalism at Emerson College;
- Amanda Hammett of Mountain Road who plans to study film, photography and visual arts at Bard College;
- Sonya Ramirez of Misery Gore Road who plans to study dental hygiene at the University of New England and is the recipient of the Julie Orsini Memory Scholarship.

Congratulations! Each of these individuals will receive a $1000 scholarship upon successful completion of their first semester. The PTO Scholarship Committee wishes you well in your future educational endeavors.

Raymond Teacher’s Association and Support Staff Scholarship
The Raymond Teacher’s Association and Support Staff would like to congratulate Kaleigh Flynn to be the first high school senior to receive our $500 scholarship.

The scholarship is given to a Raymond senior who will be going into the field of education. Kaleigh will be attending Colby-Sawyer College in the fall. Well done, Kaleigh!

Community Service
By Barb Loux
As the school year comes to a close, Community Service has experienced a very successful first year. We finished the year with the Make a Wish Walk which was held in Auburn. We raised over $600, and the 28 people who went had a wonderful time! We are certainly hoping to make this an annual event.

We also had a wonderful end of the year assembly to celebrate community service and to recognize people’s talents. We had comedy, bands and singing along with a slide show highlighting some of the projects the children have done this year. It was a lot of fun. I cannot express to you how proud of these kids I am, and watching their commitment to helping others continue to grow has been so great.

Three eighth graders were given a community service award at graduation. Andy Emery, Sam Mayer and Billulbo Lamb were recognized for their tremendous effort and enthusiasm this year for various projects. The Search Program is sponsoring a community service class this summer, and we are hoping to continue with projects year round. Thank you again for the community and school wide support of this growing, very successful program.

K2K Mentoring
K2K mentoring was very successful this year. The buddies and their mentors had many fun activities throughout the year. Many thanks to Micaele Cadman, Social Work Intern, who tirelessly helped Ms. Loux throughout the year. The 8th graders were recognized at graduation. Pictured below is the group enjoying the playground. The mentors finished off the year with the high ropes course at Camp Himes. What a phenomenal experience!
Lost and Found at the Town Office

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

Dark glasses with black frames. Also another set of keys with pink carabiner & Shaw’s and Borders tags attached.

Please call the town office at 655-4742 during regular business hours.

RCHS News

by Anne Miller

The Raymond-Casco Historical Society recently welcomed the Gray Historical Society on a visit to the 1849 one-room schoolhouse for a tour and program. The schoolhouse is often referred to as the “Friends School” because the first families whose children attended were Quakers. It was moved from Quaker Ridge to Casco village in 1971. RCHS members and guests from Gray sat in the old schoolhouse, some at the original desks. Still to be seen carved in the wood of these desks were names of well-known Casco families. As they sat, the guests listened to 89-year-old Phil Cole describe the details leading up to moving the old schoolhouse and how it was accomplished.

Elizabeth Bullen read a few excerpts from the schoolhouse scrapbook containing old pictures and described clothing worn by the children of that era and the lessons they learned. Many of the teachers they had over the past 158 years were named in book. The scrapbook was put together by Elizabeth Anne Miller.

Wayne Holmquist, RCHS President, led the monthly meeting and offered a welcome back to the “snowbirds.” The meeting was then turned over to Henry “Skip” Watson for an update on plans for the new museum, which is now before the Casco planning board for final approval. At this presentation, many historical items from Casco and Raymond are stored in various members’ barns and the schoolhouse.

As the collection grows, the need for a permanent home is becoming more urgent. Wayne Watson is donating the land and building to the Society. It is hoped that it will be a reality by this fall. The Casco-Raymond museum will be located on Route 302 and will be open to the public. In addition to a place for displaying collections, there will be a meeting space for genealogy research as well as a meeting room for events relating to RCHS activities.

Brochures have been mailed out to area residents. Copies are available at the Casco and Raymond Town Halls. These brochures detail museum plans and contain application forms for new members. For further information, please check out the website at www.raymondmaine.org/historical_society or contact Wayne Holmquist, RCHS President, at 655-7672.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 9 at 7pm at the Casco Public Library. On July 28 the one-room schoolhouse will be open to the public from 10am - noon and 2pm - 4pm.

Budget Update

Rep. John C Robinson

As a member of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, I was closely involved in the budget negotiations and supported the final budget package, which passed by a 112-29 margin in the House and a 28-7 margin in the Senate. The budget balances the books without raising taxes, and enshrines structural changes in education and MaineCare to help relieve future budgets of unsustainable cost pressures.

The Governor’s request for a $136 million tax increase went the wayside. We increased school funding by $248 million, bringing the state share to the long-promised 55 percent. The budget includes $70 million for tax relief and property tax reimbursement for the Homestead Exemption and the “circuit breaker” program. The budget also creates a State Government Efficiency Commission, which I will serve on over the summer. The Commission will be charged with finding at least $10 million in savings by cutting down the state bureaucracy and reducing redundant administrative positions.

In broad numbers, the budget comes to a total of $6,318 billion, a $468 million increase over the previous budget. $248 million of that increase is the money required to bring funding of public schools to 55 percent, as mandated by the voters in 2004. That leaves the non-education rise at $220 million, an increase of state spending of about 1.9 percent a year.

Another major spending category is MaineCare, which provides free medical and dental care to some 350,000 Mainers. We have the highest per-capita Medicaid population in the country. With a generous package of benefits, we also spend 90 percent more per recipient than the national average. It was clear to everyone, including the Governor, that this massive program threatened to eventually swamp the budget. The budget cuts spending on this program by about $40 million, for a two-year spending total of $1.21 billion. This marks the first decrease in MaineCare spending in memory.

By running the MaineCare program more efficiently, we can spend less while ensuring that the social “safety net” is kept intact for Maine’s poorest and most vulnerable citizens. The structural changes will pay lasting dividends.

Even though Republicans are in the minority, we negotiated with our Democrat colleagues to craft a budget that the people of Maine could afford.

In early process, Republican leaders announced that we would not support a budget that included tax increases. Our tax burden is already at the second-highest in the nation, and worsening that burden was unthinkable to us.

This budget focuses on getting the most we can out of every dollar we spend. And it does put us on a path of fiscal responsibility and sustainability in the future. We must continue to maintain tight control of spending and exercise fiscal discipline. If we do that over time, we can get to significant tax relief. This budget is a move in that direction.

State Rep. John C. Robinson (R-Raymond) serves on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and is the Republican Lead on the House Ethics Committee.

Harry Trank on electric guitar. Hebron Middle School Director Paul Brouwer on electric guitar, Garrett Van Wie on drums, Polly Dowd lead singer. Paul Brouwer, Ronay Mohan back-up singer (Raymond), Sydney Randall back-up singer. Adrian Hughes back-up singer (Raymond).

July Selectmen’s Meeting

Tuesday, July 10th, 7pm
at the Broadcast Studio next to the Jordan-Small Middle School

Budget Update

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Please Remember Your Pets

When the weather gets hot and sticky, remember that your pets feel it too. All pets need shelter from the sun and rain, lots of water to drink, and regular feeding and grooming.

Flaas be a particular nuisance. There are many types of preparations to use on your pets to prevent fleas, so ask your veterinarian what he/she would advise. Flea sprays, powders, and shampoos can be purchased at pet shops and department stores. Keeping the pet flea free will make everyone happier – the pet and the owner. If you find fleas inside your home, there are bombs which are available; please ask your veterinarian which to purchase.

Most dogs and some cats enjoy a swim, but please remember that Raymond’s public beaches are for people only. Pets are not welcome there.
Stand coordinator.

cession stand during games, from Renee Cobb, Concession

Thanks to all of you who have helped run the con

Carolee Beaulieu, Kevin MacDonald, Kevin Lorenz, Eric

Taylor, Pat & Bonnie Flynn, Kim Fisher, Russ Hutchinson,

Board members: Tom and Renee Cobb, Lonnie & Stacey

who helped out as well.

Thanks also to Dean Terry, Larry Carter, and those of you

Local Businesses

|- Sunset Variety  
|- Gleason's Mini Mart  
|- Ultimate Hair & Tanning  
|- Planet Sun  
|- Wal-Mart  
|- Cricket's Corner Solutions  
|- Café Sebago  
|- Penny's Barber Shop  
|- Prime Cut Meat Market  
|- Top of the Hill Grill  
|- D & J Sandwich Shop  
|- Fisherman's Net  
|- Anytime Subs  
|- Raymond Village Florist  
|- Final Touch Nails  
|- Ray's Barber Shop  
|- Danielle's Diner  
|- Dairy Queen  
|- B.J.'s  
|- Applebee's

Thanks also to Dean Terry, Larry Carter, and those of you

who helped out as well.

Board members: Tom and Renee Cobb, Lonnie & Stacey

Taylor, Pat & Bonnie Flynn, Kim Fisher, Russ Hutchinson,

Carolee Beaulieu, Kevin MacDonald, Kevin Lorenz, Eric

Richmond, and Mark Conley.

Special thanks to all of you who have helped run the con-

cession stand during games, from Renee Cobb, Concession

Stand coordinator.

July Community Meal Free to All

Friday, July 27th, from 4:30-6pm, continuous serving.

There will be a community meal at Christ Chapel, 37

Northern Pines Road, off Route 85 near Crescent Lake

in Raymond. Follow the signs. This meal is open to ev-

everyone in Raymond and surrounding communities.

It is free of charge. All ages are welcome! Please call

Jennifer at 655-5058 for more information.
IN RECOGNITION OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF RAYMOND WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE

Photos courtesy of David McIntire
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Has Landowner Signs for You

If you would like to post your land for specific usage, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Relations Office has many free signs you might want to use. You can see these signs at the Raymond Town Office and order them by mail or go to the IF&W website for more information and ordering directions. Their website is www.maine.gov/ifw/aboutus/landownerrelations/signprogram.htm. These are plastic signs which should last for years. They cover many situations e.g.: “Safety Zone Residence Nearby, Access to this private property may become limited or not allowed unless the landowner’s posted requests are followed”; “Attention Anglers ‘access permitted’”; “Attention Sportsmen ‘Access Permitted’”; Attention Sportsmen No Vehicles Beyond This Point; Designated Public Access Foot Traffic Only; and others.

Raymond Waterways Protective Association

Annual Meeting & BBQ
August 19th 5-7pm
Camp Wohelo

This year RWPA will hold our Annual Meeting and BBQ on Saturday, August 19th, from 5-7 pm at Camp Wohelo on Sebago Lake. We will provide the burgers, hot dogs, and soda. Bring salad or dessert to share. Please RSVP, so we can order the correct amount of food. We hope you can join us!

Some of the topics we will discuss include:

- Water Quality Monitoring Results
- Invasive Plant Remediation Projects 2007
- Lakes Protection Rangers
- Panther Pond Conservation Project
- Raymond Pond Conservation Project
- Future Actions

Directions to Camp Wohelo: (from intersection of Routes 302 and 85) Go 2.7 miles west on Rte. 302, take a LEFT on Hawthorne Rd. Go to end. Take a LEFT on Cape Road. Go ~ 3 miles until you see the sign on the right for Sebago Wohelo. There are two main entrances, and we are at the first one (older girls camp).

Thank you to Camp Wohelo for giving us the opportunity to hold our meeting at this beautiful location on Sebago Lake.

Reminder: Don’t forget to sign up for the Invasive Plant Patrol Training on Tuesday, July 10th, 3:30-9pm at the Raymond Public Safety Building. This one-night class will give you the basics you need to identify lake plants and spot invasive plants. The more trained eyes we have looking at plants along the lakeshore, the better prepared we are to spot any potential infestations. If you are interested in attending the on-the-water course, we are hosting a field training the following Saturday, July 14th, 8am-noon on Thomas Pond. Contact us today at lakes@raymondmaine.org or 671-3329 for more information or to sign up for the class. More information on these trainings are provided in the July issue of the Road Runner.

We hope you all are having a safe and fun summer at the lakes!

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.
Panther Pond Association Notes

By Ben Severn, PPA President

- Conservation Project Enters Final Year—It’s Not Too Late!
- Annual Meeting—Tuesday, July 24th, 7-9pm
- Walking Tour and Picnic—Saturday, July 28th, 3-5pm
- PPA Membership Appeal

Panther Pond Conservation Project—Bad News, Good News

For the past two summers, thanks to grant funds from section 319 of the Clean Water Act, Panther Pond residents have had the opportunity to participate in the Conservation Project grant to reduce erosion problems. The project goal is to fix 42 of the 84 erosion sites identified in the 2004 Panther Pond Watershed Survey. Twenty-four projects have been completed, with designs for 10 additional sites currently waiting to be completed this summer.

The bad news is that this is the last year of the grant. The good news is that it’s not too late to apply for matching grant funds: A landowner or road association can receive funding up to 50% of the cost of a project, with the remaining 50% matched with cash, materials, or labor (your “sweat equity”).

So, if you have a soil erosion problem and would like some help, be in the form of a matching grant or free technical assistance, call our super Project Manager Noralee Raymond, who, as many of you know, is also the Executive Director of the Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA). Noralee can be reached at 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org.

Invitation: PPA Annual Meeting—July 24th

You are cordially invited to the PPA Annual Meeting at the Raymond Public Safety Building at Main Street and Rt. 302 on Tuesday, July 24th, from 7-9pm.

Do come join us to learn about and discuss:

- Conservation Project Status: Noralee Raymond will bring us up to date on the project with lots of show and tell pictures. Lots of exciting things to learn.
- Water Level Research Results: Learn what VP Phil Boissonneault’s historical research reveals about pond water levels and how the IF&W is currently handling the water level.
- What Other Environmental Groups Are Doing: For example, learn what happened at the Casco & Raymond Community Watershed Forum held at Camp Sunshine on June 2nd and at the annual COLA meeting on the campus of Colby College on June 23rd. Also, learn about the status of the 319 grants on Thomas and Raymond Ponds and other projects aimed at protecting the watershed from soil erosion and invasive plants such as milfoil.
- Planning for The Future: Finally, put on your thinking cap, think outside the box, dream. Help us identify activities that will bring us together as a lake community, taking actions to protect this valuable natural wonder we call Panther Pond. Come and discuss/learn what we individually and as a group can do to protect the Pond after the 319 Project ends in March 2008, when we might apply for another 319 grant, and how we might begin to deal with such issues as Crescent Lake and stream impacts on Panther.

3rd Annual Tour and Picnic—July 28th

Rather than a boat tour of the projects completed under the grant as in years past, come join us for a walking tour of Betty’s Neck on July 28th from 3-5pm.

There are numerous strikingly different types of improvements that will have been completed on Betty’s Neck and are within easy walking distance. The projects completed on Betty’s Neck provide clear evidence of how a small program such as the 319 grant can leverage so much more participation and investment in conservation efforts than ever would have been anticipated at the outset. David Allen’s commitment of his machinery and staff, Camp Hawthorne’s commitment of its staff, the Town’s commitment, Noralee Raymond’s ability to obtain about $17,000 from the Stormwater Mitigation Fund to pave, add curbing and catch basins to David Plummer Road are testaments to what can be accomplished when we all work together.

The tour will take us to the various sites that have been improved under the grant with explanations from project staff. For those of you who didn’t see the water garden, you are in for quite a treat. For those of you who saw it last year, come see it survived the tough spring and what had to be done, if anything, to fix it up. So come see first hand what has been accomplished and how you might apply the techniques to your particular situation.

And this year, we are pleased to announce that Polly and John Adourian have graciously agreed to host the PPA picnic from 6-8pm. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, lemonade and soft drinks; we will rely on those attending to bring a potluck salad or dessert and other beverages desired.

Can’t make the tour? Join us at the picnic to mix with your Panther Pond Neighbors.

PPA Membership—Renew or Become a Member

This is also the time of year that we ask for your support of the Association’s efforts. Annual dues are just $20 (though some generous souls give more—thank you!). We hope you will agree that you get a real “bang for your buck” with your membership. We are committed to preserving the lake quality environment of Panther Pond. With your support, we will keep Panther Pond a great lake to enjoy for generations to come.

So mark your calendars for July 24th and July 28th. If you haven’t received an appeal letter, use the form below to send in your dues today and to let us know if you will be participating in the Tour and/or Picnic!

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 vlm@mainevlmp.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.

PPA Membership Form

Please return to the Panther Pond Association, P.O. Box 68, Raymond, ME 04071

☐ I plan on attending the Betty’s Neck Tour of the Grant Improvement sites on July 28th. Please send me the details of where to meet.

☐ I plan on attending the Neighbor Picnic on July 28th. Please send me the details and directions.

☐ I would like to become a member; or ☐ renew my Panther Pond Association membership. Please find enclosed $ . (Membership starts at $20.)

In an effort to reduce mailing costs, we would prefer to communicate with you via e-mail. May we have your e-mail address? (It will never be shared with anyone else)
Field Day at Raymond Elementary School

The second annual field day was held at RES on June 14th. Although it was a chilly day, all the students and volunteers seemed to have a wonderful time. Our thanks to the Raymond Fire Department for providing their smoke trailer for the children to tour and to all the many parent volunteers who helped to make field day a success. We would also like to thank Ms. Loux and her Community Service classes for their help in setting up and cleaning up and the PTO for providing our snacks.


Facelift for the Sheri Gagnon Playground

by Candace Woolston

Volunteers of all ages turned out on June 16th for the annual playground workday at Sheri Gagnon Park organized by the Friends of the Playground committee. Nearly 30 residents, including many young faces, repaired and replaced broken equipment, painted and stained playground equipment, sanded graffiti from playground structures, and picked up trash. Workers enjoyed a cookout at the park at the end of a hot and sunny morning.

Thanks to all community members who contributed to a very productive morning!

Concession Stand Expansion

Raymond Baseball would like to thank everyone for helping us to expand our concession stand at the Sheri Gagnon Memorial Park. We are still working on it, but would like to thank the many volunteers and businesses that have helped us out.

Many thanks go out to Lee Barry, Tim Pomerleau, Dan Leeman, Overhead Door, Windham Millwork, Hancock Lumber and all the faithful Raymond Baseball volunteers. A huge thanks to Tom Cobb for overseeing this project!

Advanced Art at RES

Plaster Masterpieces

This spring, the RES art teacher Jesse Burton was thrilled to offer an advanced art class. The four students who comprised this special class are pictured here with their final and most notable projects. The third graders in this photo worked very diligently to design, build and complete these large, individualized plaster sculptures.

“These students did a fantastic job! I’m so proud of them. They’ve created some truly impressive art work this year”, said Mrs. Burton.