Selectmen’s Budget Under LD1 Limits
By Don Willard, Town Manager
At their April 14, 2008, meeting, the Budget/Finance Committee recommended the Selectmen’s proposed FY2008-2009 Municipal Budget for the Town of Raymond. The budget adopted by the Board of Selectmen at their April 8, 2008, meeting shows a net (from property taxes) increase of $55,401 or 3.037% over last year’s municipal budget.

Growth in the town budget is controlled under Maine law by spending limits known collectively as LD1. These limits comprise a combination of average real personal income growth for the state of Maine, property growth, and a 0.14% increase in state aid. This has been the percentage increase of new taxable valuation from one year to the next. The average real personal income growth factor for 2004-2009 budgeting was established at 2.24%, which, when combined with the approximated percentage of new local growth estimated by our contractor at 8%, yielded a total Raymond net municipal LD1 budget increase limit of 3.04%. The proposed FY2008-2009 Municipal Budget is therefore under LD1 limits, as was last year’s adopted budget. On a dollar basis, the total FY2008-2009 gross Municipal Budget is $5,804,554, with a net budget of $1,879,799, which is $4401 less than that allowed by LD1.

Again this year, the Selectmen set several budgetary performance goals for the town manager to meet in formulating his budget proposal. These included conducting a comprehensive review of the budget with the aim of reducing or eliminating items and requests that are outside the core services mission of the town, increasing the appropriation for capital road improvement work, decreasing reliance on fund balance as the local property growth factor, which is the percentage increase of new taxable valuation from one year to the next.

Town Reports Available in May
The Annual Town Report will not be mailed to the citizens of Raymond as a cost saving measure. Copies of the Town Report will be available at: the Town Office, the Village Library, Clough’s Store, Sunset Variety, and Hilltop Market. They will be available shortly after the fifteenth of May in time for the Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, May 28th, beginning at 6:30pm at Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium. Town Elections will be on Tuesday, June 10th, from 7am to 8pm at Jordan-Small Middle School gymnasium. If you can’t vote on Tuesday, absentee ballots will be available beginning May 12th at the Town Office. If you would like to have an election ballot sent to you, the voter must request one from the Town Clerk’s Office (655-4742).

Additionally, this year you will be voting on Tuesday, June 10th, on the School and Municipal Budgets. The Open Town Meeting will vote on the individual warrant articles and the June 10th ballot will be a one article vote for each of the entire budgets.

JUNE 2008 will be the FINAL ISSUE OF THE RAYMOND ROAD RUNNER
Due to significantly increased printing and distribution costs, the decision has been made by the Board of Selectmen to discontinue the Road Runner newspaper as of the end of the fiscal year. This was an easy choice, but the cost of producing the newspaper was weighed against two countervailing factors: the taxpayers’ need to fund essential town services and the several alternative opportunities Raymond residents have for getting news and information. These other outlets include reader boards, the website, the “Inside Raymond” column at kenneyreport.com, the cable TV channels and even paper and e-mail newsletters from certain groups and committees. We would certainly like to hear from anyone who relied heavily or totally on the Road Runner for town news, so that we can discuss these alternatives. — Road Runner staff

Continue to send your articles to John Hanley, roadrunner@raymondmaine.org for the June issue, which will contain detailed instructions regarding news options and outlets beginning July 1.
Raymond Village Library News

At a Glance
- Sunday, May 4 – Library closes at 4pm
- Wednesday, May 7 – Library Board meeting, 7:15pm at the library
- Wednesday, May 14 – Non-fiction/Classics Reading Group, 7pm at the library
- Sunday, May 18 – Volunteer Celebration, 2-4pm at the library.
- Wednesday, May 21 – Reading Group, 7pm at the library
- Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day, library closed
- Wednesday, May 28 – Town Meeting, 6:30pm
- Saturday, June 14 – Plant and Paperback Book Sale

Non-fiction/Classics Book Group
Join us on Wednesday, May 14, at 7pm at the library to discuss the book Women on the Margins, Three Seventeenth-Century Lives by Natalie Zemon Davis. This should prove to be a very fascinating topic for discussion. The book is available on request at the library.

Volunteer Celebration
The Raymond Village Library Board of Trustees will be hosting a Volunteer Recognition Celebration on Sunday, May 18 from 2-4pm at the library. The board would like to thank all our volunteers for their time, skill and energy in making our library a vital part of the Raymond Community.

Reading Group
This month’s selection is The Optimist’s Daughter by Eudora Welty. This discussion group will meet on Wednesday, May 21, at the library at 7pm. As always, new members are invited to attend and join in the lively discussion. The book will be available upon request at the front desk.

Library Hours
The library will be closed on Monday, May 25, in celebration of Memorial Day. We wish all our patrons a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Town Meeting
This year the Raymond Town Meeting will take place on Wednesday evening, May 28, beginning at 6:30pm. Due to the later starting time, the library won’t be providing lunch this year; however, we will be offering beverages and baked goods prior to the meeting. We encourage our patrons to attend and support their library.

Plant and Paperback Book Sale
SPRING has finally arrived and with it the early blossoms and dreams of beautiful flowers for the summer. We are all anxious to get into our gardens and help our plants develop into the rainbow of colors and scents that make our summers beautiful to behold.

To help you plan this, the Raymond Village Library’s Annual Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, June 14, from 7am to noon. This year we have an additional treat: a demonstration on how to create a beautiful container planting for your yard or patio. This demonstration will begin at 10am and is a great opportunity to learn which plants to use and the care of them so that they will bloom beautifully all summer long.

We count on your help for this sale, by asking you to save plants when you divide your perennials and also if you start seeds, to start a few more for the library. We will happily take donations of perennials, ground covers, herbs, flowering shrubs, hanging plants, bedding plants, annuals and houseplants. For more information, please call Susan at 655-1010 or Irene at 655-4711.

During the next few weeks as you are spring-cleaning, please keep your library in mind. Your donations of new and gently used books, videos, DVDs, audios and puzzles are always accepted. They’re greatly appreciated and make these major fundraisers so successful. For more information about donations, call the library at 655-4283.

Military Funeral Honors for Maine Veterans
Military Funeral Honors is now an entitlement for all honorably discharged veterans. Any person (Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve and Merchant Marines) who received an honorable discharge is now entitled to an appropriate Military Funeral Honors Ceremony performed by US Military active duty service members. The Maine Military Funeral Honors Team is also prepared to provide appropriate Military Honors to any honorably discharged veteran who was not honored at the time of death. A family member need only call and request this service. There are no costs whatsoever associated with this program.

For more information about the Maine Military Funeral Honors Program or Military Funeral Honors in general, families and veterans may visit our website at www.funeralhonors.org or call the State Coordinator in Augusta at 1-800-958-5967, toll free.

May 2008 Events and Meeting Schedule

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Atlantic Salmon Fishing Licenses Available

Atlantic Salmon Fishing Licenses are available online through the MOSE$ system
www5.informe.org/online/moses/ as well as at the IF&W website
www.maine.gov/dmr/seaunfish.
They are not available through manual license agents.
The four categories are:

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Cumberland County Free Prescription Card

Cumberland County, Maine, in cooperation with the National Association of Counties now offers a free prescription card which will save you an average of 20% on your prescription medicines. THIS IS NOT AN INSURANCE CARD. Savings are only available at participating pharmacies.

You and your family may use your prescription discount card any time your prescription is not covered by insurance. There are no restrictions and no limits on how many times you may use your card. Visit www2.caremark.com/naco to look up a participating pharmacy, a price estimate for your prescription, check drug interactions, or read news articles from leading health journals. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-321-2652.

Savings may vary by drug. The program administrator may obtain fees or rebates from manufacturers and/or pharmacies based on your prescription drug purchases. These fees or rebates may be retained by the program administrator or shared with you and/or your pharmacy.

By using this card, you agree to participate in the program in which a pharmacist may discuss safe, effective alternative drugs that could provide you with additional savings.

Prescription claims through this program will not be eligible for reimbursement through a state Medicaid program.

As of this date the following pharmacies are participating:
- Community Pharmacy in Raymond
- Hannaford locations in Windham and Bridgton
- Wal-Mart in Windham
- Rite Aid in Gray, Naples, and Auburn
- CVS in Windham
- Walgreens in Windham
- Naples Professional Pharmacy

Songo Lock Notice

The Maine Department of Transportation and the Division of Parks and Land have extended permission to the Songo River Queen II for priority passage through the Songo River Lock in Sebago State Park during the 2008 boating season.

During JULY and AUGUST, the River Queen will be making its passage through the LOCK at approximately 11am and 5pm, as has been its custom over the years.
PRIORITY PASSAGE has been granted, in part due to the fact that other canal systems in the U.S. grant priority to commercial vessels over private craft. This will also allow us to maintain our schedule and most especially our timely return through the swing bridge on the Causeway in Naples at noon and 6pm.

The Queen appreciates your consideration and cooperation.

Thank you,
Songo River Queen II

Animal Control Report March-April

March 19 Dogs barking again
March 22 Picked up thru
March 23 Small dog in yard
March 27 Dog at large
March 27 Dog died
March 29 Dog playing in traffic
March 30 Dog walking on Route 121
April 1 Dog at large
April 1 Stray cat
April 1 Owner picked up dog – ticket issued
April 3 Dog killing chickens
April 3 Information only
April 3 Dog on porch in Casco – mutual aid coverage for Casco
April 3 Stray cat (skittish)
April 4 Set trap for cat
April 4 Information on rabies
April 4 Dog at chickens – ticket issued
April 4 Confer with the local veterinarian
April 5 Picked up trash with cat
April 5 Cat to Animal Refuge League
April 5 Two dogs at large – gone on arrival
April 5 Picked up thru
April 8 Confirmed with property owner about stray cat
April 8-9 Checked animal parts found in a bucket
April 9 Two dogs missing – they returned home
April 11-12 Animal Control training
April 13 Dog killing chickens
April 14 Small dog missing – returned
April 14 Dog missing – returned
April 14 Returned borrowed crate to owner
April 14 Two dogs at large
April 15 Meeting with Casco ACO
April 15 Investigate damage to chickens
April 15 Check on dog bite complaint
April 15 Dog in yard
April 15 Check on another dog bite complaint
With wonderful weather coming, please remember that your animals need extra water whether they are inside or out. Also, shelter from the hot sun is imperative for those animals outside. Please assume that if you wouldn’t want to be out in that weather, your pets don’t want to be there either. Maine has a leash law, so please don’t allow your dogs to run free or without a lease. 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’ve now had three complaints of dogs killing chickens. Some dogs looking for excitement find destructive ways of dealing with their boredom. Be sure that your dogs and other animals are contained, including your large animals. Unfortunately, we’ve already had one loose horse come in contact with an automobile this year. Be sure that your fences are well maintained.

Call for Candidate Profiles

As in the past, the May and June issues of the Raymond Road Runner will include Candidate Profiles for anyone running for a position on the Selectboard, School Committee or Budget/Finance Committee. Profiles must be 500 words or less and include an introduction (photo optional), background, your thoughts about the position you are seeking and contact information. If you have turned in a completed nomination form to the town office and would like to submit a candidate profile, please send it before Thursday, May 15, 2008, (Raymond Road Runner deadline), to the Raymond Road Runner by one of the following methods:
- E-mail to: roadrunner@raymondmaine.org
- CD: Label as Candidate Profile 2008 for the Raymond Road Runner with your name. File should be in .rff and dropped off at the town office.
- Typed or handwritten: Drop it off at the town office, labeled Attn: Road Runner.

All submissions are subject to grammatical editing.
What Makes Jordan-Small Middle School Different?
By Randy Crockett, Principal

Over the last four months, I have been working with the teachers and the parent advisory group to review the goals established by the Middle School Development Committee in 1997. Dure to their tireless efforts, the school administrators and board have been working through the budget process. Both of these tasks involve defining goals and a vision of the kind of school we want for our fifth through eighth graders. The most recent goal this district school developed in 1995 with the goal of keeping the seventh and eighth grade students in the community. For many years prior to that time, the town paid tuition to other schools for these students, similar to the arrangement we have now for our high school students. The following excerpts from the report provide a clear expectation for the middle school the community hoped to create.

“The committee envisions an exemplary middle school that will be prominent in the academic and developmental needs of early adolescence.”

“A core academic program that is challenging, exploratory and integrative will be enhanced with technology, foreign language, life skills and the arts.”

My current discussions with staff and parents have confirmed support for the original vision for Raymond’s middle school. The staff together propose a program that is exemplary rather than simply adequate, certain components must be in place. J.S.M.S. is different from many middle schools and unique in the programs it provides our students. Many middle schools offer foreign language only to those students who achieve a specific grade in their language arts class. Most middle schools do not offer fine arts classes to students throughout the year or omit these classes completely. Most middle schools in the state have some seventh and eighth grade students from interscholastic athletics by establishing “cut policies” to reduce the size and number of teams. Many middle schools have classes sizes well above 20 students, limited access to technology for their fifth and sixth graders, guidance and social work services that are understaffed, gifted and talented programs that exist in name only and inadequate special education staffing. Some middle schools have significant outstanding problems with drugs and violence that detract from a focused student on student achievement and growth. I am pleased to be the principal of a school that provides programs and services to ALL students who need them.

The challenge for a small community like Raymond with a municipal school district of just over 500 students in grades K-8 is how to offer diverse programming of high quality without the benefit of the efficiencies and flexibility a larger school district enjoys. The State School funding formula defines the minimum staffing, supply, equipment, transportation, administration and maintenance levels school districts must provide and how state funds will be allocated for each district. Unfortunately the current funding formula allows few factors in the cost savings in transportation, operations and administration that are projected after consolidation takes place. This leaves districts like Raymond, with less than 2500 pupils, at a significant disadvantage when the limit state budget is distributed. Maine state government has basically shifted the cost during the transitional period for consolidation onto the back of the local taxpayer.

It does cost more to preserve a middle school that provides opportunities for ALL students to find out where their strengths, abilities and interests lie, rather than limit programming. It does cost more to keep student/teacher ratios at a manageable level to make sure ALL students have the support and opportunity to connect with their teachers and opportunity to connect with their teachers. It would to raise class sizes. It does cost more to provide support services and special education instruction for students who are struggling, rather than letting them fend for themselves.

Over the next few weeks, many decisions will face Raymond residents regarding the type of educational program they want for their children. Budget and school choice votes will take place in May and June, with school consolidation planning and voting during the 2008-2009 school year. I urge every resident to become informed about, and participate in, making the decisions that will define the vision for the future of our schools. Being a little different than other middle schools may cost a bit more, but the results are worth the investment.

RES Students “Jump” for the American Heart Association
Leesa Smith, RES physical education teacher, and our elementary students are working to support the Jump for Hearts program. Many families in our community have been affected by heart disease and heart attack. Jump for Hearts is the perfect opportunity for our students and parents to support the American Heart Association in Maine; it also raises awareness in children to the benefits of exercise, diet, and living healthy lifestyle in preventing heart disease. Jumping rope is inexpensive and effective in building a strong cardiovascular system. We appreciate the efforts of Mrs. Smith and RES students and families for supporting the American Heart Association through Jump For Hearts.

Innisbrook’s New Summer Learning Program
Innisbrook Wraps has been the premier fundraiser at the Raymond Elementary School due to the quality of their products and their service behind the sale. This year Innisbrook is offering SUMMER QUEST, a summer vacation week. Their farm will be a wonderful place for the kids to find a portcullis? Then be sure to visit our kinder garden classes during the Raymond Elementary School Summer Academic Fair on Wednesday, May 14. Classrooms will be open from 5 – 6:30pm. All students in grades K – 4 will once again take tests called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). MAP tests, given each fall and spring, will help us to determine each child’s instructional level, and to measure academic growth from year to year. Reading, Language Arts and Math. Students will again take the tests on a computer in the computer lab, supervised by Mrs. Murray and their classroom teachers. MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to the student’s level of learning. As a result, every student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing. And with MAP tests, we can administer shorter tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about academic growth. The feedback on MAP testing from principals, teachers, and parents from the Windham, Westbrook and Gorham School Districts has been very positive. Teachers in these districts have found the results to be especially helpful in planning instruction for all students in their classes. If you would like more information on resources for parents, you can access the Document Library at www.nwea.org and download the online Parent Toolkit from the NWEA web site.

Academic Fair at RES on Wednesday, May 14
Looking for a resource to get all of your questions answered about medieval and modern-day castles? Are you wondering where you would find a portcullis? Then be sure to visit our kindergarten classes during the Raymond Elementary School Summer Academic Fair on Wednesday, May 14. Classrooms will be open from 5 – 6:30pm. All students in grades K – 4 will have their projects on display to share with families and friends.

Chicks!
By Sue Ellen Gendron
Wednesday, April 16, was a big day in the RES library. The eggs that have been incubating for 21 days started to hatch! The first egg hatched at around 1:30pm, followed by two more by 8:30pm. There was peeping galore! Thursday brought four more successfully hatched chicks: 6 yellow and 1 black, total. The steady stream of students and adults passing through the library to view the hatchings, and those chicks who moved on to the “older” chick container was never-ending. Everyone was amazed by this amazing process with such respect for the new arrivals!

A combined effort between Mrs. Murray (Computer Teacher) and Mrs. Gendron (Librarian) created a slide show of one of the chicks throughout the hatching process. Thursday night, Mrs. Murray, for example, sent the pictures to the pictures and creating the slide show. Another big thank you must go to Calum and Robbie Murray’s grandfather, who loaned his incubator to the school and gave the eggs to the chicks to hatch. What a treat for the whole school to experience the incubating and hatching of chicks!

As of noon on Friday a total of 10 chicks had hatched with one in the process of cracking through its shell. Out of 21 eggs, there will be at least 11 happy chicks hatched in Raymond Elementary School! The chicks will be moving to their new home at Anna and Nora Laprise’s farm during vacation week. Their farm will be a wonderful place for the chicks to live. Perhaps there will be pictures to show how they are changing and growing!
Reading Equipment Wanted at RES
If you are updating electronic equipment at home and have a CD boom box and/or CD Walkman in good working order, then consider donating them to the Raymond Elementary School. The children and teachers will benefit from your donations, as they will be used with new CD books in classroom reading centers.

Special Olympians
By Brooke Beckerman and Lexie Walker
Two of the students in Mrs. Stonehour’s class are going to the Special Olympics at Bates College on April 18 to represent Raymond Elementary School. The Special Olympics enable kids with disabilities to still participate in competitive activities. Luke Korzeniowski and Wyatt Partridge are each taking a banner from their classmates with words encouraging them to keep going. Keep them in your thoughts over vacation because this is a very big event for them. They have practiced on Wednesday afternoons to work up to this big event. Please wish them good luck!

Kindergarten Workshop on May 3
Please join Ms. Norma Richard, Raymond Elementary School Principal, and Ivy Jordan, Early Childhood Coordinator, for a Kindergarten Workshop designed especially for parents with children entering school next fall.

Date: Saturday, May 3
Time: 9 – 10:30am
Location: Raymond Elementary School Library
✓ A presentation and discussion about the school’s Kindergarten curriculum and how parents can help get their preschooler ready for Kindergarten.
✓ Great handouts and a great way to meet other parents.

Please call Ivy Jordan to register today at 655-8672 ext. 108. Childcare will be provided. We look forward to seeing you!

Grandparents’ Day at RES
Students and staff at the Raymond Elementary School are delighted to extend an invitation to all grandparents and grand-friends to join the children on Friday, May 9, for the annual Grandparents’ Day. Our honored visitors will join students in their classrooms that morning for a variety of new and old learning activities. For a special treat this year, the Windham Chamber Singers will perform in a special concert assembly for RES students and guests that morning! It is always a favorite day for the children, and we are keeping our fingers crossed for a warm and sunny Friday on May 9.

Spring Running at RES
Raymond Recreation will be sponsoring a running program for students in grades 2, 3 and 4 this spring. The running program will be held at the Raymond Elementary School on Mondays and Thursday from 3:15 – 4:15 starting on Monday, April 1st and ending on June 5. For more information contact Bob Payne at 655-2165, Carol Meader at 655-4434, or Candice Woolston at 655-4870.

Jordan-Small Middle School Career Day
DATE CHANGE! - Career Day is now May 16th
The date of Career Day has changed in order to hold some activities outside without too much mud! We are looking for businesses interested in hosting small groups of middle school students (6-10) at their workplace on that day. The objective would be for students to see a variety of career options in a single workplace. If you either work in a business that would consider hosting students, know of such a business or would like to present at the middle school that day (individually or as part of a group), please contact Lynn Davis at JSM 655-4743.

Budding Architects at RES
By Casey Reynolds
First grade students in Miss Reynolds’ art classes have been learning about architecture. Through the exploration of architecture from around the world, and the discussion of the buildings within our own community, children have discovered that architecture is an art form that, literally, surrounds us every day! Students have also learned that architects, and indeed all artists, make choices when designing and creating their masterpieces. Considering function and purpose, children designed and constructed their own buildings using popsicle sticks, playing cards, tape, found objects, and plastic chairs. Students were also able to realize their ideas through hands-on exploration, the great challenge of transforming an idea and design into a physical reality; and the result is a fantastic representation of the world we live in through the creative mind of a first grader! These architectural masterpieces are currently on display in the RES library.

New Student Registrations in Raymond
New families moving into the Raymond community are encouraged to register their students for the 2008 – 2009 school year.
Proof of Raymond residency is required at time of registration.
Elementary students in grades 1–4 should contact Miss Mindy or Ms. Richardson, Principal, at 655-8672.
Middle school students entering grades 5–8 should call Kerry Glew or Mr. Crockett, Principal, at 655-4743.

Hebron Academy Middle School Presents Winter Honor Roll
Hebron Academy Middle School Director Paul Brouwer and Headmaster John King recently presented Raymond students with certificates for the winter trimester honor roll.

Hebron Academy Names Second Trimester Honor Roll
Hebron Academy Head of School John King recently recognized the following Raymond students who have attained honors for the winter trimester:

Highest Honors (A- or higher)
Ashley Waldron
Jenna Marty-Fisher
Calvin Moisan

Honors (B or higher)
Elijah Hughes
Kees van Haasteren
Erik Wisnuski

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High Honors (B+ or higher)
Lindsey Hughes, Rosalyn Moisan, Jennifer Walker.

Honors (B average or higher)
Cassidy Gaudet.

These students were honored for academic achievement at the Middle School, which includes history, English, math, science, and languages as well as music, art, outdoor skills, and physical education. For more information about the Middle School, interested families should check the Middle School section of the Hebron Academy website at www.hebronacademy.org.

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New Student Registrations in Raymond
New families moving into the Raymond community are encouraged to register their students for the 2008 – 2009 school year.
Proof of Raymond residency is required at time of registration.
Elementary students in grades 1–4 should contact Miss Mindy or Ms. Richardson, Principal, at 655-8672.
Middle school students entering grades 5–8 should call Kerry Glew or Mr. Crockett, Principal, at 655-4743.

High Honors (B+ average or higher)
Lindsey Hughes, Rosalyn Moisan, Jennifer Walker.

Honors (B average or higher)
Cassidy Gaudet.

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Raymond Village Church to Celebrate Its History in the Community

All are invited to join in a special worship service and pot-luck brunch at the Raymond Village Community Church (United Church of Christ) on Sunday, May 18th, at 11am. At that time, the congregation will create a visual time line of significant events in their church history, as well as honor long time members of the church.

The event is part of the preparation being made by Rev. Nancy Foran and her husband Joe prior to attending the Summer Collegium in Support of Small Church Ministry at the Virginia Theological Seminary in June. Rev. Nancy and Joe are among 25 clergy couples throughout the nation chosen to participate.

All are invited to come on May 18th with memories of important events and people at the Raymond Village Community Church. You do not need to remember exact years, though remembering who was Pastor would be helpful – but not essential as someone else may remember!

Rev. Nancy and Joe are also looking for church memorabilia (photos, newspaper clippings, or anything else) to display that day. All items will be returned. Please drop off any contributions at the Church Office ahead of time – or bring it that morning.

Rev. Nancy and Joe would appreciate any thoughts, ideas, information sources, etc. that will make the morning more meaningful, so be sure to contact them in the Church Office at 655-7741 or e-mail revnancy@rvccme.org.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR, SPREAD THE WORD, AND PLAN TO COME WITH A FOOD ITEM TO SHARE!

Raymond Lions Club Scholarships

Raymond Lions Club 2008 Scholarship Applications are now available at your Guidance Offices or on the www.raymondmaine.org website under Community Organizations

The deadline for receipt of applications is May 16, 2008.

Any questions, contact: Betty Y. McDermott at 655-4646 or fmcderm1@maine.rr.com.

Supplemental Budget Enacted

By Rep. John C. Robinson

The Maine Legislature has enacted a supplemental budget closing the $190 million hole in the state’s $6.3 billion biennial budget. The supplemental budget was passed 84-55 in the House and 18-17 in the Senate. The vote was mostly along party lines, with majority Democrats voting in favor of the adoption.

Both Republicans and Democrats agreed to a majority of the cuts contained in the supplemental budget. This included over $65 million in spending reductions in the Department of Health and Human Services.

The two parties also agreed to partially restore some of the Governor’s cuts to higher education, foster parent reimbursements, homeowners for the elderly, as well as domestic violence and sexual assault services.

I opposed the final budget package because it contained a tax on struggling businesses and allowed the State Treasurer to accelerate the sale of stocks that are being held by the state as unclaimed property, a plan which would bring in approximately $9 million. The majority budget also included a controversial reduction in the staff of the Legislature’s government “watch-dog” agency, the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA).

Republicans presented their own budget proposal that called for legislators and legislative employees to contribute 10 percent to their own health insurance premiums, which are currently fully covered by taxpayers. Their plan would also have accepted the Governor’s proposal to limit Medicaid spending on non-disabled adults and mandated three unpaid government holidays. They also proposed a 10 percent reduction for payments to candidates who apply to run as publicly-funded candidates during the 2008 election cycle.

Balancing the budget without a tax increase was the cornerstone of our plan. It was important because Republicans knew that the high tax burden in Maine is hurting our citizens, our economy, and our quality of life.

A number of amendments to the majority budget were presented; however, all were voted down. These amendments included one that would reduce out-of-state legislative travel by $250,000 in order to put more money towards home-based healthcare. Other amendments would have created a government efficiency commission to save $75 million in order to reduce the income tax; to fully fund OPEGA; and one sought to allot more money towards road repairs.

By promoting efficiencies and through old-fashioned belt tightening, Republicans worked to shape a practical financial outline for the state to meet the people’s needs. Raising taxes was out of the question, as was making heavy-handed cuts to critical services. My priority during budget negotiations was to propose a monetary strategy that allowed for increased investment, reduced government regulations, and an alleviation of the burden placed on those with whom I am proud to serve.

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. John can be contacted via phone at 655-8657 or e-mail ed Robinson@legislature.maine.gov.

2007 Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program “Circuit Breaker” Program

The Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program’s deadline is June 2, 2008. This state program refunds part of your property tax or rent if you qualify. Qualifications are:

- You do not have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2006 household income was $80,750 or less; or
- You have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2006 household income was $105,750 or less and
- Your 2006 property tax was more than 4% of your 2006 household income; or
- The rent you paid in 2006 was more than 20% of your 2006 household income.

NOTE: Low-income seniors do not need to meet these requirements.

You can pick up applications at the Town Office or file on line at: www.maine.gov/revenue

For assistance call: 207-626-8475 weekdays 8am to 5pm
TTY: 888-577-6690 weekdays 8am to 4pm.

Write: Maine Revenue Services
PO Box 9116
Augusta, Maine 04332-9116

Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce “Candidates Debate”

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce is excited to tell us that they just coordinated a debate in Bridgton on Monday, June 2, 2008, for all of the first district candidates running for Tom Allen’s seat. They appear eager to attend, and given the three stressful days of trying to find a date that works for eight people, any could have easily walked away but instead pushed themselves to make this work.

They have seven commitments including Charlie Summers, who is currently in Iraq. Ethan Strimling has not returned their most recent call, but past discussions suggest he will come too. They will use the Magic Lantern, Bridgton, for a site and hope to have LRTV on hand also. They will keep us informed as this event grows.
Medication Without Therapy Is a Bad Prescription for Recovery

by Steve Danzig LMSW-CC, LADC, CCS

Drug and alcohol abuse is one of the most debilitating health problems in our society. Since the introduction of Oxycotton over ten years ago, the state of Maine has had one of the highest rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States. These drugs are very easy to find. They are often prescribed for surgery, broken limbs, chronic pain, and other pain management issues. And dependence on these painkillers is one of the most difficult of addictions to overcome.

There are detoxification remedies and specialty rehabilitation programs throughout the country that a person with a painkiller dependence/addiction can turn to for help. Outside of Maine, the more popular programs focus on abstinence. In Maine, the more popular and accessible treatment program is opioid replacement therapy, or “methadone maintenance.” Over the last decade there have been several methadone programs that have opened to address the opioid dependency problems in this state. The programs typically include a daily dose of methadone along with regular one-on-one counseling as well as group therapy sessions. This approach has also worked for people who see drug use as an effective tool for recovery from addiction. While these individuals may stay on methadone for several years or even the rest of their lives, this replacement drug allows them to be free from the physical side effects of addiction, and the behavioral therapy component assists the person with the psychological piece of their addiction, allowing them to eventually return to a productive life within society.

The 21st century upgrade from methadone is a fairly new drug called Suboxone. It essentially has the same effect as methadone. It suppresses the desire to become intoxicated as well as the withdrawal symptoms associated with prescription drug abuse. Unlike methadone, Suboxone is primarily prescribed for patients instead of a drug program where they require behavioral counseling as part of their program. There are many physicians who understand the nature of addiction and strongly recommend that patients seek counseling in addition to the drug therapy component involved. Unfortunately, many patients do not take this advice. With obvious testing the deeper causes of their addiction by going to therapy, their rate of recovery is significantly decreased. Typically, people who have become addicted to anything, they have recreated their lives to revolve around the drug they are using. That drug has become more than a crutch to be leaned on; it has become a wheelchair that it is impossible to function without. Medication alone is not a substitute for additive behavior or thought process. These thinking and behavioral patterns have often taken years to create and are entrenched within every decision made on a daily basis. Unraveling the addictive thinking and behavior can only be done with the help of a trained therapist.

The same is also true of other clinical disorders, such as anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, attention deficit disorder and attention deficit with hyperactivity disorder, etc. Our society has become enameled of prescription medications. Pharmaceutical companies now have a drug for almost anything. And while these medications are beneficial in a variety of ways and much less effective when used alone. Drugs do provide valuable relief from the physical symptoms of a problem, but they do nothing to combat the psychological factors that also contribute to these issues. So if you are on one of these prescribed behavior-modifying drugs, such as Methadone/Suboxone, anti-depressants, anti-anxiety medications, ADD/ADHD medications, etc., and you are not seeing a therapist, please consider contacting one today. Only through medicalization and personalized therapy can provide the effective, long-lasting recovery you are seeking. Either ask your doctor or turn to the yellow pages to find a local therapist that can complement your recovery by helping you to live the richer, fuller, more joyful life you deserve!

Windham Chamber Singers to Cap Year with NYC Tour

This year has been very exciting for the Windham Chamber Singers. They kicked off the holiday season last December with their annual American Family Holiday concert, welcoming singer/songwriter Noel Paul Stookey (Peter, Paul and Mary) and Disney princess Jodi Benson (The Little Mermaid) to the stage at the Windham Performing Arts Center. The choir was also proud to record the Maine Christmas Song, which Gov. Baldacci declared Maine’s official state Christmas song. This winter, the Chamber Singers hosted the 30-member Kotoku choir from New Zealand, which then continued its international tour of cities like Philadelphia, Washington D.C. and London.

The Windham Chamber Singers has announced that this May it will be touring the Northeast, with stops in Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut and New York City. The four-day tour will have the Chamber Singers working with multiple school choirs each day and holding formal concerts every evening. In celebration of the group’s accomplishments this year, the tour will culminate with a night out on Broadway.

After 20 years of bringing music to Windham and all over the world, the Windham Chamber Singers is asking the community for its help to make its capstone trip possible. To make this happen, several fund-raising events have been organized.

On April 12, the choir will host a Spring Dance for adults at the Windham Veterans Center from 8-11pm. Live music from the ‘60s and ‘70s will be provided by The Locals and The Hounds. There will also be a silent auction, with gifts and prizes donated by local businesses and parents. The cost is $10 at the door.

On April 18, the choir invites you to dance the night and the morning away. From 7pm Friday to 7:30am Saturday at the North Windham Union Church the choir will host a dance-a-thon. Come dressed in the slickest, swellest, coolest, grooviest outfit of the decade of your choice. Prizes will be awarded to the true Lord of the Dance and the Dancing Queen.

On April 26, the Chamber Singers will also host a Kids Night Out at the North Windham Union Church. The cost will be $10, and it is open to children K-5 from 5-8pm.

The choir has an ongoing bottle collection through CLYNK at Hannaford Supermarket in North Windham. Bottles must be returned in the official CLYNK green bags. They are also planning a bottle drive (date TBD) and a car wash on May 18.

On May 5, the Chamber Singers will hold a Big Apple Preview Concert featuring its entire tour repertoire at the Windham Performing Arts Center at 7pm.

Looking ahead, the choir will celebrate its 20-year anniversary with an alumni concert at the Windham Performing Arts Center on the night of Sunfest, June 21. More than 300 singers have passed through the choir’s ranks, and every one of them is invited to return for an unforgettable night of song and sentiment.

For more information, contact Dr. Nickerson at (207) 892-1810 x275 or email mickerson@windham.k12.me.us.

Summer Trash Schedule

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

Beginning May 27th the summer schedule will start for private roads.

If you have any questions, please call the Town Office at 655-4742 or e-mail loise.leser@raymondmaine.org
Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce

By Mike McClellan, Executive Director

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce is an award winning Chamber that works to improve the economic conditions of our 13-town geographic area in the Lakes Region, Maine. Our Chamber staffs a year-round information center in Bridgton that refers visitors to Raymond businesses and to businesses in each of our towns. The Chamber Information Center is open approximately 335 days a year, representing the region by website, open hours, phone calls and of course face to face interactions. As a business, it’s a great asset to have a trained and professional sales team making your business 335 days each year. While the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce certainly knows much about this large region, businesses who become members will have better ability to impact this unique sales team to market their businesses. The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce offers a discounted membership deal to first-time members each summer. Call us at 207-647-3472 to learn more about one of the most economical ways to market your business, which is by joining Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber is an active member of the Raymond Beautification Committee. The work of this committee to ensure Raymond looks beautiful to visitors and residents is amazing and continues to grow. Many thanks to all the members of the Raymond Beautification Committee, which include Raymond’s Town Manager Don Willard and also Nathalie Foye, the Road Commissioner and Public Works Foreman. You can see the volunteers on most Fridays each spring and summer during their focused (and fun) “walk and weed” trips. Raymond Television recently filmed a program highlighting the work of this group, watch for it at various times on Raymond TV. If you want to know more about the committee, wish to join the volunteer effort or simply would like to donate towards equipment and supplies, contact the town office at 655-4742. The committee is represented on Raymond’s official website at: http://www.raymondmaine.org/committees/beautification/default.htm

Coralations to Lyzz Stevenson of Raymond as she concludes her one year stint as a student board member of the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce. Lyzz was involved in our Mushers Bowl, the Chamber Holiday Auction and Lakes Brew Fest. She also attended many events of the Chamber as a show of support, often with family members joining her. Lyzz will complete the responsibility she took on to the board after our May meet- ing. She currently attends Windham High School and is moving on to college in the fall. Lyzz has earned a $1,000 scholarship for her Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce board work and has had many great learnings. Congratulations to Lyzz!

Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce Student Board seats are open for fall. The GBLRCC has two board seats open to students who live within the 13-town geographic area of the Chamber. Students must fill out an application, which is available from the Chamber Information Center in Bridgton. Call 207-647-3472 for details. The interview process is competitive, and the students who are chosen will need to meet job description requirements including attending the once-a-month board meeting and being involved in both a Chamber Committee and in the life of the Chamber. The rewards to the student include gaining amazing experiences in the real world: you will be an equal to all the other board members, and upon successful completion of the term will receive a $1,000 scholarship to be used for college. In 2007-2008, a Raymond student was one of the people chosen for this role. Applicants must have their information in to the Chamber by 4pm on Tuesday, May 27, 2008. Preference will be given to students who will be seniors or juniors in the next school year.

Library Strategic Plan Revisited

Since June 2005, a strategic Three Year Plan has served the library as a guide and assessment tool in providing essential services for Raymond citizens of all ages. A planning committee spent a year researching community needs, including conducting a comprehensive survey and focus group discussions, before the plan was created. Eight major goals were established under the categories of Topics and Titles (keeping the collection fresh and relevant), Life Long Learning (literacy education and community programs), Addressing Facility Needs, Technology Use, and Resource Development. To date, several outcomes listed in the plan have been accomplished:

- updating the collection, especially non-fiction
- continuing vibrant programming for children and their families
- literacy outreach to local daycare providers (grant-funded)
- facility updates that have improved lighting, parking, safety and the use of interior space
- adult computer skill workshops offered in collaboration with the schools
- new use of technology (e-newsletter and web site improvement)
- private fundraising efforts to supplement the 40% town appropriation of the operating budget (we are a private non-profit rather than a town department)

The Library Board and Staff have reviewed this plan annually, but now is the time to revisit, revise and update it based on current information. We value your feedback during this process and welcome your participation. Please contact Lorri at 655-4277 (frandt@fairpoint.net) for more information on your library’s strategic planning process. You may view the current plan via the Library’s Web site: http://www.raymondmaine.org/library/

Tassel Top Park/Beach Wish List 2008

We are always looking for trees, shrubs, bushes and especially flowers, particularly perennials, and rustic birdhouses for all birds, big and small. We are also looking for a small group of decoy painters, sculptors, painters) whose theme is nature, who would be interested in having their work on display. The annual Fireworks are held the Fourth of July weekend, to demonstrate, show and sell their crafts, with a $1,000 prize for the winner.

Support Raymond Businesses

Check out the business listing on the Raymond website www.raymondmaine.org

Household Trash Pickup

By Louise Lester, Town Clerk

As a reminder, Raymond provides curbside household trash pick and recycling. Pine Tree Waste is our contract trash hauler. If you wish to call them about an issue, their phone number is 888-857-0800. If you have any complaints, you can call them direct or call the Town Office at 655-4742 ext. 21. You can also e-mail me with complaints or suggestions at louise.letter@raymondmaine.org Your day of pickup for the western and southern part of town is Tuesdays and the northern and eastern part is Wednesdays. If you have a ques- tion 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 (not more than 50 pounds each) a 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. If you have more than the two 32-gallon containers for a week, there are bag stickers for sale at the Town Office for $1 each. You may put out as many stickered bags as you wish. All trash and recycling must be curbside in barrels by 7am on the day of pickup.

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

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 prop- erly-functioning plumbing.

Remembering Tom Rowe:

A Celebration in Song

A benefit for the Maine Cancer Foundation

May 10, 2008, Saturday at 7:30pm

Franco-American Heritage Center

Lewiston, Maine

Performers: Schooner Fare, Dave Rowe, Denny Breau, and others

Emcee: The Humble Farmer

Tickets available from LA Arts: 207-782-7228

Tickets: Premium seats: $26
General Admission: $19/16

Support Raymond Businesses

Check out the business listing on the Raymond website www.raymondmaine.org
Summer Job Opportunity
Swim Instructor for
Raymond Recreation Association

Dates: June 30 through July 25, 2008, 4 weeks, M-F, 9 to noon
Location: Crescent Beach, Raymond
Qualifications*: American Red Cross Lifeguard Training and/or A.R.C. Water Safety Instructor
Responsibilities: Instruct children ages 5 and up in Levels 1 – 7 of Red Cross Learn to Swim Program
Pay: Begins at $10, adjusted for age and experience
Contact: Pat Smith, President, Raymond Rec 655-4657 or pat@campwawenock.com

*If you have prerequisite skills, RRA will offer the opportunity for you to get this certification in June

Tassel Top Park and Beach
By Ranger Sue

Did you know that every season we have people from literally all over the world who have found Tassel Top, and yet we have residents that have lived in Raymond “forever” and “never knew we were here”? We need to spread the word! Everybody knows somebody, so tell your friends and neighbors about the park AND about our cabin rentals. Tassel Top has a truly unique vacation experience waiting for you or a friend that affords fun and privacy even though it is a public park. We have weekly and daily rentals depending on the time in our season. The park is a perfect place for business meetings, reward barbecues, yoga, breathing classes and seminars of many kinds. Please call Ranger Sue at 655-4441 or leave a message at the Town Office, 655-4742 ex 32.

We are watching the snow go down and are gearing up for the 2008 season. The park will have the best of what you’re used to and some new things as well. We are working on hot dogs and beach toys for the snack shack and will begin our play area for the little kids, plus more. Tune in to the cable channel to view our “Wish List 2008.” We are always looking for trees, shrubs, bushes and flowers and rustic birdhouses for all birds, big and small.

Once again, we are offering a raffle which will be held during the Annual Town meeting. This is offered to any YEAR ROUND Raymond resident who is 21 years old or older. Fill out the ticket found in the Road Runner and either mail it to the Town Office or bring it with you to the Meeting. The winner will get a free off-season weekend at the Tassel Top cabins. Good luck and Happy Spring!

Tassel Top Cabin Rental Raffle
Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________

- Entrant must be the person named on this ticket
- Entrant must be 21 years old or older
- Entrant must be a year round Raymond resident

Wellness Committee Survey

Please help the Raymond School Department Wellness Committee with future community programming by completing this short survey.

1. Do you currently participate in any fitness activities or programs? If so, what?
2. If an Adult Walking Program were offered during the winter next year in the Raymond Elementary School gym, would you be interested in joining? YES NO (please circle one)
3. If yes, would you prefer: (please circle one)
   a) early mornings – Monday / Wednesdays
   b) early evenings – Tuesday / Thursdays
   c) both / either
4. Would you be willing to pay a small fee to participate? YES NO
5. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for community wellness programs?

Please drop your completed survey at the Raymond Elementary School Office or at the site you picked up this survey. Thank you for your participation.
- The Raymond School Department Wellness Committee

Child Care “Quality Certificates”

Did you know...

The Maine legislature passed a law that expands the income tax credit for child care expenses. A Maine taxpayer who enrolls a child in a child care center or home with a Quality Certificate is eligible for a double child care tax credit on their state income tax return. Currently an individual is allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due in the amount of 25% of the federal tax credit allowable for child and dependent care. In the new law, this credit doubles in amount if the child care expenses were incurred through the use of quality child care. The credit may result in a refund of up to $500.

In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services, Community Services Center (CSC), will pay a quality differential reimbursement rate to quality child care providers for the units of child care slots and child care vouchers purchased. To be eligible for the 10% quality differential, the child care services purchased by the CSC must be provided by a “quality” child care center or licensed family child care provider.

“Quality” is defined as meeting at least one of the following standards:
1. Current accreditation by one of the following agencies:
   a. National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
b. National Association of Family Child Care (NAFCC)
c. National School Age Care Association (NSACA)
3. A family child care provider who holds at least one of the following credentials or degrees:
   a. Child Development Associate (CDA); or
   b. Associate’s, Bachelor’s, Master’s, PhD in early childhood education, child development, or related degree. Providers with related degrees will need at least 12 credits in early childhood education. Providers with related degrees will also need to complete a 3-credit course in early childhood education or child development or 45 hours in the Maine Roads to Quality Core Knowledge Training every 3 years. In addition, providers in this category will need to satisfactorily pass a quality checklist as administered at their next licensing visit.

For more information, please contact the Department of Human Services at (207) 287-5099 or follow this link: http://www.state.me.us/revenue/incomeestate/_childcare.html

Poison Control

The Northern New England Poison Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The center is located in Portland at Maine Medical Center and manages calls from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. The staff at NNEPC comprises nurses, pharmacists and others trained in emergency medical services.

The staff is available at 1-800-222-1222 to help with emergencies and to answer general questions about:
- Exposures
- Medication safety
- Drug interactions
- Pill identifications
- Side effects
- Pet exposures

Information, updates and newsletters are available on the website at: www.nnepc.org
Great Outdoor Summer Job!
$10/hour on Raymond Lakes
Three Lakes Protection Rangers Needed

The Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) is seeking applications for three Lakes Protection Rangers based in Raymond, Maine.

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

- Hours: 20-25 hours/week (both weekend days included), June - August
- Compensation: $10/hour

Prior experience with milfoil/IAP is preferred but not required. RWPA will pay for training (boat inspection, plant identification). Familiarity with lake water quality issues (i.e. non-point source pollution, erosion control, vegetative buffers) or other natural resource/ranger experience will be considered a benefit.

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

Calling all Kids!
Summer Tennis Camp
Hebron Academy
Summer 2008

*June 23rd - June 27th Monday through Friday
*Certified Staff/Nationally-ranked Pro
*Ages 8-17 All levels
*Learn/Improve/Have Fun!
*Groups limited to first 20 applicants
*Group 1 Ages 8-12 9am - Noon
*Group 2 Ages 13-17 1pm - 4 pm
*$199 for the week pp

Register online @www.planettennisusa.com
Or by phone Toll Free @1-888-USA-GREG
Greg Reardon 746 Wilkie Street Dunedin, Florida 34698
Name____________________ Level____ Phone_____ 
Address__________________ Age____
Email (parents)________________
Deposit ($10 required to reserve spot)

Raymond-Casco Historical Society
By Anne Miller

The Raymond-Casco Historical Society met for the first time in their brand new building on April 15. The newly built museum donated by Henry and Zeena Watkins is located adjacent to the Watkins Farm on Route 302, South Casco. The conference room and office are just waiting for a few finishing touches. Plans are now underway for a grand opening for the general public on June 21, 2008.

Greg Watkins, well-known theatrical set and lighting designer for Lake Region High School, attended our first meeting at the new museum to advise members on the art of display and appropriate lighting. His advice was truly appreciated. Wayne Holmquist, RCHS, pointed out there is still a lot of work to be done. Area residents are encouraged to join us in this exciting endeavor.

Other RCHS news is that historians Elizabeth Bullen and Laurie Cook recently attended the first of two day workshops sponsored by the New England Museum Association, Maine Archives-Museums and the Maine Humanities Council. The workshop was entitled “A Primer for Small Museums and Historical Societies.” Both women reported to the RCHS members that they learned a great deal and look forward to attending Part 2 at the end of May. The workshops were held at the Kennebunk Brick Store Museum.

On April 14, RCHS President Wayne Holmquist, Elizabeth Bullen, VP, and Anne Miller attended a SOLVE meeting held at the Pennell Institute in Gray. The object of this meeting was to share ideas on all aspects of running a local museum. Other historical societies attending were Cumberland, Falmouth, Gray, Poland and Windham. RCHS members came away with a wealth of good ideas and in turn they were very interested in what we had to offer. The SOLVE group will hold their June meeting at our newly built museum in South Casco.

On March 25, RCHS member Anne Miller, together with Carolyn Paradise, Casco librarian, attended a training session held at Farmington Library in readiness for a possible grant promoting community through the exploration of local history. The Maine Historical Society and the Maine Memory Network sponsored it. For further information look at www.mainemememory.net/mchp.

The next RCHS meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, at 7pm at the Raymond-Casco Historical Society Museum, located on Route 302 in South Casco. Just look for the Red Barn with the magnificent mural painted on the side.

RCHS always welcomes new members. Please plan to join us and get involved in your community. By the way, as you start your spring cleaning, you may come across a family treasure that you would like to preserve forever. How about donating it to your museum?

Write to us at Raymond-Casco Historical Society, PO Box 1055, Raymond, ME 04071 or check out our website at www.raymondmaine.org/historical_society.

Free Children’s Clothing Share
Good Shepherd
United Methodist Church
151 West Gray Road, Gray, ME
Rt 115/202 just west of Marden’s (same side)
Saturday, May 10th, 8am - noon

All clothing is for KIDS (infants through size 16), and all is FREE. Bring your outgrown kids’ clothing in good condition (no rips, holes or stains, please) and trade for what you need. The Children’s Clothing Share is a ministry of our church and is open to all. It is not necessary to bring in clothing in order to take. This ministry helps provide families with needed clothing and also allows an opportunity to reuse and recycle. Bring only clothing, shoes and outerwear in good condition. If you have donations for pickup, or any questions about the Children’s Clothing Share, please contact Bethany Smart at 829-4207 or the church at 657-2009.
Hazardous Waste Goes to Lewiston Recycling

The Maine Environmental Depot at the Lewiston Solid Waste facility, 424 River Road in Lewiston, will accept hazardous waste from Raymond. Their web address is www.envdepot.com or www.avcop.org and the phone number is 783-9186.

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 ½ 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.

The Depot is open the FIRST and THIRD Saturdays of each month from APRIL through NOVEMBER. Hours are from 8am to 1pm. If the Saturday falls on a holiday weekend, the Depot WILL BE CLOSED.

PAYMENT: Each unit of 5 gallons, 20 pounds, or combination thereof will be charged $27 CASH PER UNIT.

ITEMS ACCEPTED but not limited to: aluminum cleaners, bug sprays, drain cleaners, floor care products, furniture polish, metal polish with solvents, oven cleaners, cutting oil, solvents and solvent based glues, oil based paint, stain and varnish, paint (auto and marine), paint brush cleaning solvent, paint thinned and strippers, primers and wood preservatives, auto body repair products, auto transmission fluid, battery acid, brake fluid, car wax with solvents, driveway sealer, engine degreaser, gasoline, antifreeze, cleaners, transmission fluid, gasolines, herbicides, pesticides, poissons, fertilizers, lighter fluid, moth balls, photochemistry sets, dry cleaning solvents, fiberglass epoxy, flea pesticides, fungicide, insecticide and pesticide, rat poison, diesel fuel, roofing tar, weed killer, chemical fertilizer with pesticides, fungicide, insecticide and pesticide, rat poison, chemistry sets, dry cleaning solvents, fiberglass epoxy, flea control products, formalin, formaldehyde, gun cleaning solvents, hot tub chemicals, light fluid, moth balls, photographic chemicals, rubber cement, rug, upholstery and spot cleaners, swimming pool chemicals.

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED: Latex paint (dry paint and cans go to bulky waste), waste motor oil (clean oil can go to bulky waste), transmission fluid, engine degreaser, gasoline, kerosene or diesel fuel, roofing tar, weed killer, chemical fertilizer with pesticides, fungicide, insecticide and pesticide, rat poison, chemistry sets, dry cleaning solvents, fiberglass epoxy, flea control products, formalin, formaldehyde, gun cleaning solvents, hot tub chemicals, light fluid, moth balls, photographic chemicals, rubber cement, rug, upholstery and spot cleaners, swimming pool chemicals.

How to deliver:
- Pack materials in original, secure containers;
- use boxes or plastic bags when appropriate.
- Place materials in trunk or truck bed.
- Drive up to the Scale House at the River Road site.
- Enter the Depot when directed.
- Remain in your vehicle.
- Pay in cash only.

Non-Resident Boats Require Milfoil Stamp

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife requires a milfoil stamp on all non-resident motorized boats that will be using Maine inland waters. The change is that the cost of the milfoil stamp is now included in the cost of registering resident boats, so there is only one pair of stickers. This money will be used for programs to study and prevent the water plants, especially the Eurasian milfoil, from permeating Maine’s fresh waters. The Eurasian milfoil plant is an invasive plant which eventually chokes fresh water lakes, ponds, and rivers. Once established in a lake, it can become impossible to control. Maine is trying to keep milfoil from its waters, and this program endeavors to keep our lakes, ponds, and streams from becoming clogged.

The fee for a non-resident milfoil sticker will remain $20. The cost for resident registration will be $21 [0 to 10 hp], $26 [11 to 50 hp], $32 [51 to 115 hp], $40 [116 and over] and $40 [PWC jet skis} which includes the milfoil fee. A non-resident boat is one which is registered outside the State of Maine.

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.

Fleas can 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 free of fleas 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.

Raymond to Have a Hazardous Waste Day

Plans are being made to provide a Hazardous Waste Day next summer. Dates have not been confirmed, but the location will be at the sand/salt shed in CASCO, across from the entrance to the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility on Leach Hill Road in Casco.

Some of the items that can be deposited are: oil based paint, antifreeze, cleaners, polishes, solvents, transmission fluid, gasoline, herbicides, pesticides, poissons, fertilizers, lighter fluid, moth balls, and mercury containing items. There will be a 50% charge for your waste to be determined by the hazardous waste contractor.

For more information call the Town Office 655-4742 ext. 21.
Raymond’s Beautification Committee Needs You!

The Raymond Beautification Committee came together over four years ago to look at ways to maintain and refine the extensive landscaping put in place under the Route 302 Improvement Project of 2003. The committee works with town government, local businesses and volunteers known as “Walk ’n Weeders” to enhance the atmosphere of the busy Route 302 corridor. Last year volunteers contributed approximately 550 hours of pruning, weeding and watering in over seventy gardens along Route 302 and at the schools.

The long term viability of the Route 302 Improvement Project depends on participation of the businesses that line the corridor, as well as individual volunteers and community groups. The Beautification Committee’s “Adopt a Garden” program is gaining strength, with approximately 35 businesses, groups and individuals maintaining specific garden areas. The committee’s goal is to find adopters to weed and prune all 70 planted locations. Small signs recognizing the adopters serve as advertising as well as incentive for others to participate.

The Town of Raymond recently approved the Beautification Committee’s request to accept tax deductible donations. Donations could be used to plant annual flowers at community areas like the Walk ’n Weed garden and the Welcome to Raymond signs, and to provide gloves and tools for volunteers. This is a great way for citizens to contribute to the project, even if they cannot actually get out there to weed and prune.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Walk ’n Weed – Volunteer just once or as often as you like. Contact Louise at the Town Office.
- Adopt a Garden – Weed and clean your own landscaped area about once a week. Contact Louise at the Town Office.
- Donate to: The Beautification Committee Town of Raymond 401 Webb’s Mills Road Raymond, Maine 04071 207-655-4742

As more people take part in the routine care of the corridor’s landscaping, its visual impact will be more consistent and both residents and visitors will sense the welcoming feeling of community.

Tennis, Anyone?

Hebron Academy Middle School students are anxiously awaiting the melting of the snow so they can begin tennis, an activity some chose for the spring trimester. Each spring, the middle school students have one class period per week where they choose a spring activity. This year, kids chose rock band with Middle School Director Mr. Brouwer, cultural cuisine with English teacher Ms. Lee, tennis with Science teacher Ms. Reedy, History Detectives with History teacher Mr. Middleton, and Frisbee golf with Latin teacher Mr. Jones.

While the tennis and Frisbee groups will have to make due until the snow melts, the History Detectives got off to a great start in the attic of the clock tower of the school building by finding pieces of some rather interesting 1920s motivational posters with sayings like “The world gives its biggest prizes to those who can do the right thing without being told.” They also found the metal container of a mimeograph machine from the early 1900s. The cultural cuisine crew got off with a bang by making a delicious Korean spicy pasta dish, which was devoured by the group. Rock band is always a favorite at the Spring Concert, with past performances of tunes by Joan Jett and Pink Floyd. “It’s a great way for us to interact with the kids outside of the classroom and share mutual interests,” says Mr. Brouwer. For more information about the Middle School, interested families should check the Middle School section of the Hebron Academy website at www.hebronacademy.org.

Kindergarten Readiness Workshop

Saturday, May 3, from 9-10:30am at Raymond Elementary School

The Kindergarten Readiness Workshop is for parents of children who will be entering kindergarten this coming fall. Childcare is provided. To RSVP, please call Ivy Jordan 655-8672 ext 108.

Cardboard Recycling

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

Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk®

The Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk® is our national signature event and brings together family, friends, caregivers and concerned community members — who all want to make a difference. Since 1989, Memory Walk has raised more than $200 million to help those battling Alzheimer’s disease.

The annual Memory Walk in Maine will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2008, or Saturday, October 4, 2008, in fifteen sites across the state. Online registration and fundraising for Memory Walk is now available.

For the Greater Portland area

Where: St. Maximilian Kolbe Church 150 Black Point Road Scarborough, Maine

When: October 4th, 2008

Length: 6 miles, 3.5 miles

Details: Registration begins at 7am. Walk begins at 8am.

For all the information go to: www.alz.org/maine/

Raymond Road Runner

Deadline Reminder

Articles for the June issue are due Thursday, May 15th.