

# The Raymond Road Runner

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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RAYMOND, ME  
PERMIT #11

ECRWSS

A Raymond School District & Town of Raymond Publication  
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

MAY 2004

## Comprehensive Plan Update: Vote Postponed

By: Jim Stephenson, Co-Chair, Comprehensive Plan Committee

The vote on the Comprehensive Plan revision will need to be tabled pending further review by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and State Planning Office (SPO). The Committee wanted the Town to have the opportunity to vote on the revised Comprehensive Plan at the annual town meeting. However, the State Planning Office informed the Committee just this week that the Plan contains certain inconsistencies with Maine's Growth Management Act. Compliance with the Act is necessary to maintain validity and enforceability of any ordinances or policies the town may adopt based on the Plan. After conferring with the Town Manager and our planning consultant, it was determined substantive changes may be required based on the SPO review. The vote on the proposed Plan revision therefore will likely be postponed until after the SPO's comments and recommendations have been addressed. Once this has been accomplished another

public hearing will be held to explain any changes based on the SPO review, and a vote then scheduled for another town meeting.

Areas of concern as cited by the SPO include:

1. Not designating enough area or enough density in the area designated to accommodate the projected growth.
2. Not analyzing Raymond's affordable housing situation from a regional perspective.
3. Not providing a justifiable basis for a town-wide residential growth cap.

The SPO review did however commend the work of the community in glowing terms. The SPO's review stated, "...The plan is truly an impressive effort. The

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## Raymond School Department's Proposed Budget Up 6.8 Percent

By: Sandra S. Caldwell

The proposed 6.8% increase in the Raymond School Department's budget will allow all students to learn and grow by assuring a safe, clean environment and by continuing to recruit and develop a highly competent workforce. These priorities are being addressed in this \$8,128,353 budget with sensitivity to where the taxpayers of Raymond are. Since October we have worked to reallocate existing personnel to keep our student/adult ratios low and avoid staff cuts, both of which were priorities with the School Committee, parents and staff.

The major focus of our curriculum work supported by this budget is in the areas of mathematics and literacy. Next year, we will be piloting and selecting a K-8 mathematics program that is aligned with standards. This initiative will be supported by purchasing math curriculum materials and resources and providing training to

staff that will include instructional strategies to ensure equitable learning opportunities to all students. This will be the first time in the memory of administration, staff and parents that a K-8 coordinated approach to teaching and learning in mathematics has been provided for our children. This is a critical priority, as our present eighth graders will have to show that they have met the mathematics standards in the Maine Learning Results as a requirement of graduation from any one of the area high schools they attend.

A large percentage of next year's proposed budget, \$7,314,326 or 89.9%, represents "fixed costs." These costs include the 52% in negotiated salaries and benefits for all staff. Professional staff will be entering the second year of a three-year negotiated contract. We are currently involved in negotiations with all support staff, which includes educational technicians,

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Vote on Friday, May 14th, 2004, 7am-8pm, at Jordan-Small Middle School

Annual Town Meeting offers perhaps the most open form of democracy in existence. Bring your Town Report and help make Raymond a better place to live by participating and contributing your ideas.

Attend Town Meeting on Saturday, May 15th, 2004, 10am at Jordan-Small Middle School

## Raymond Municipal Budget Proposed at 5.48% Increase

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

After considerable review and discussion, the Board of Selectmen and Budget/Finance Committee have agreed on a proposed municipal spending plan for the 2004-2005 FY, which would result in a Budget increase of 5.48%. This increase comes from the Town Budget alone, which is proposed at \$3,134,370 as compared to the 2003-2004 FY Budget of 2,971,565. When all Budgets are combined (town, school and county) an estimated increase of 6.42% or approximately \$1.14 on the property tax mil rate is projected. In an effort to provide as much information as possible in advance of the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2004, at 10am at the Jordan-Small Middle School Gymnasium, I am providing a brief overview of the areas of change in the proposed Municipal Budget.

### 2004-2005 FY Budget Overview

**Administration:** Salaries. The Selectmen approved, prior to last year's Budget process, a three-year program to align Raymond's municipal employee wages

with the market average by position for our region. Data was collected from communities within a 20-mile radius of Raymond and a market average pay established. The 04/05-Budget draft includes the second installment of this pay adjustment.

For positions that were already aligned with market wages, a 3% Consumer Price Index increase is proposed. One of the primary reasons for making this change is to attract and retain quality employees by paying market wages. At the conclusion of the three-year adjustment process next year, my recommendation will be to maintain future wage and salary adjustments at the Consumer Price Index annual inflation level.

Other changes in the administration line include full funding of the Code Enforcement Officer's (CEO) salary in administration. In prior Budget years, a portion of this salary was included in the Dispatch Budget in recognition of supervisory services provided. A downward adjustment in the CEO's salary was not made to reflect the transition of

Dispatch supervisory duties to the Fire Chief, as the overall level of compensation for the CEO was appropriate for this position alone as measured by market indicators.

The Assistant CEO is a new position established by a stand-alone warrant article at last year's Annual Town Meeting. This year 16 hours per week is once again budgeted for this position and now included in the Administrative Budget. CEO Jack Cooper has found this position to be extremely helpful in meeting demands associated with the continuing active real estate and development environment.

Projected office equipment expenses have decreased as the Town was fortunate to obtain a good deal of modern, high quality office furniture and equipment from a larger private business through the efforts of Raymond citizen Bob Murray at a near donation total cost.

**Assessing:** In the 2003-2004 FY a transition was made from contract

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### Road Runner Staff:

Kevin Woodbrey Laurie Forbes  
Norma Richard Elisa Trepanier

### Visit Us on the Web

Make sure to see the on-line archives at the Raymond, Maine, web site:

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

Look under Events & News



## Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Program

The GIS Program was initiated by the Website and Technology Committee and approved by the voters at Raymond's 1998 Town Meeting. Since its implementation, a substantial amount of data has been collected. 2003 has been a productive year for the GIS Program. Some of the projects accomplished by the Program this year include the following:

- Digital tax maps. Tax maps are available to the public at the Town Office and on-line at [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org). These tax maps will be instrumental in the upcoming town-wide revaluation scheduled to begin in 2004.
- Raymond Comprehensive Planning Committee Maps.
- Implemented GIS within the Raymond Fire/Rescue Department. The Raymond Dispatch Office and Fire/Rescue now have Arc Explorer 2 which provides online access to a current Street Index as well as parcel and hydrant locations.
- Preparation of an Open Space Map for the Raymond Conservation Commission delineating 25 acre and 50 acre parcels.
- Raymond Rattlers Snowmobile Trails Map. The Town of Raymond website now features the Snowmobile Trail Map at [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org).
- Raymond Street Index updates using Global Positioning System (GPS). Continued development in Raymond requires frequent updates to the Street Index to track new roads.

If you would like additional information regarding GIS in Raymond, please feel free to contact Elisa Trepanier, GIS Coordinator, at [elisa.trepanier@raymondmaine.org](mailto:elisa.trepanier@raymondmaine.org) or by telephone at 655-4742 ext. 61.

## Raymond Village Library Seeks Your Support

The Raymond Village Library, a non-profit organization, needs continued municipal support in order to meet the service needs of our growing community. The library gratefully acknowledges the Raymond community's past support, particularly the positive comments received during the neighborhood meetings conducted by the Comprehensive Plan Committee and the voters' approval of its funding requests during past town meetings. This year, instead of being included in the Unclassified Account, the Raymond Village Library will be presented in its own warrant article. The Library's Board of Trustees and staff encourage your attendance at town meeting and your vote of support.

The library's mission is to provide quality services and resources to the entire community in a welcoming atmosphere. In addition to the town funding, the library also needs community involvement in a number of volunteer activities to fulfill this goal. Since the beginning of the year, the Board of Trustees has formed newly invigorated committees that are crucial to its operation. A new long-range planning committee in its initial stages is looking at the Raymond Comprehensive Plan's details of the town's demographics, both current and projections for the future, and how the population changes may impact library services. Realistically, the planning committee is addressing, for the next three to five years, the best utilization of space within the present building and a review of patron services. The fund-raising committee is exploring new ideas to supplement the current income

sources of town funding, annual appeal and the annual plant, book, and bake sales. Volunteers who can devote three hours twice a month to staff the circulation desk are always welcome. Other volunteers are needed behind the scenes to assist the staff in processing new items for the collection. Persons interested in learning more about how they might help are asked to contact the library or any of the Board of Trustees.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome at the library at 655-4283 or by email at [rlibrar1@maine.rr.com](mailto:rlibrar1@maine.rr.com) by Library Director Barbara Thorpe or Youth Services Coordinator Sue Ellen Gendron and by all members of the Board of Trustees:

Louise Murray, President, 655-7162  
([cmurray1@maine.rr.com](mailto:cmurray1@maine.rr.com))  
Laurie Forbes, Vice President, 655-4107  
([rforbes1@maine.rr.com](mailto:rforbes1@maine.rr.com))  
Sandi Severn, Secretary, 655-3936  
([nssevern@aol.com](mailto:nssevern@aol.com))  
Karyn Knights, Treasurer, 655-3926  
([rknights@earthlink.net](mailto:rknights@earthlink.net))  
Charlie Hewson, 655-3658  
([chewson@maine.rr.com](mailto:chewson@maine.rr.com))  
Diane Cole, 655-6923  
([dcole001@maine.rr.com](mailto:dcole001@maine.rr.com))  
Lori Rand, 655- 4277  
([lrland@prexar.com](mailto:lrland@prexar.com))

## Planning And Appeals Board Vacancies

We are looking for people who would be willing to volunteer to serve on the Raymond Planning Board and the Board of Appeals.

The Planning Board holds their regular meeting the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the Town Hall to review new subdivisions, commercial site plans, and ordinances. Site walks when needed are usually held on a Saturday.

The Board of Appeals meets the last Monday of the month at 7pm at the Town Hall to review applications for vari-

ances and waivers requested for Raymond's ordinances on projects which owners want to do on their land. Their site walks are held on the Sunday the week prior to the meeting.

If you think you would like to volunteer or just want to know more, please call Louise Lester or Karen Strout at the Town office 655-4742 or email [louise.lester@raymondmaine.org](mailto:louise.lester@raymondmaine.org) or [karen.strout@raymondmaine.org](mailto:karen.strout@raymondmaine.org).

## May 2004

## Events and Meeting Schedule

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FB=Fire Barn JS=Jordan-Small KC=Kokatosi Campgnd PS=Public Safety Bldg. RE=Raymond Elementary	TG=Town Garage RT85 TH=Town Hall VL=Village Library VC=Village Church VT=Village Tennis					1
2	3	4 4:00PM Mill Street JSMS Baseball: St. John's @ Raymond	5	6 4:00PM Litchfield JSMS Baseball: Raymond @ Litchfield	7 4:00PM Mill Street JSMS Baseball: Holy Cross @ Raymond	8
9	10 10:00AM VL Babytime	11 4:00PM Hebron JSMS Baseball: Raymond @ Hebron 6:30PM RE PTA Meeting 6:30-8:00PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM PS 302 Beautification Committee	12 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 12:30-1:45PM RE Karate 12:30PM VT Raymond Rec Tennis 1:00PM RE Kindergarten Screening 7:00PM TH Planning Board	13 4:00PM Mill Street JSMS Baseball: Durham @ Raymond	14 7:00AM-8:00PM JS TOWN ELECTIONS 8:30-11:30AM RE Granparents Day 10:00AM RE Good News Assembly 4:00PM Mill Street JSMS Baseball: Buckfield @ Raymond	15 10:00AM JS TOWN MEETING
16	17 10:00AM VL Babytime 7:00PM VL Raymond-Casco Historical Society	18 1:30PM RE Kindergarten Concert 4:00PM Minot JSMS Baseball: Raymond @ Minot 6:30-8:00PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen	19 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 12:30-1:45PM RE Karate 12:30PM VT Raymond Rec Tennis	20 9:00AM VL Library Board Meeting 4:00PM Mechanic Falls JSMS Baseball: Raymond @ Mechanic Falls	21 4:00PM Mill Street JSMS Baseball: Monmouth @ Raymond	22
23	24 10:00AM VL Babytime 7:00PM TH Appeals Board	25 10:00AM JS Concert 4:00PM Mill Street JSMS Baseball: Sabattus @ Raymond 6:30-8:00PM VC Troop 800 Meeting	26 10:00AM VL Toddler time 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 12:30-1:45PM RE Karate 12:30PM VT Raymond Rec Tennis 7:00PM JS Spring Concert 7:00PM TH Conservation Commission	27 6:30-7:30PM JS Swim Program Signup 7:00PM TH Cemetery Committee	28	29 12:00PM TH Boad of Appeals Application Deadline
30	31 MEMORIAL DAY NO SCHOOL					

## Panther Pond Association Completes Watershed Survey

By: Ben Severn, Vice President, Panther Pond Association

The past year has been a busy one for the Panther Pond Association (PPA), an organization formed in 2002 by landowners concerned with protecting the long-term viability of Panther Pond and a desire to bring together residents, road and neighborhood associations to provide a local organized effort in solving Panther Pond watershed issues.

PPA decided to forego the grant funded process for watershed surveys to avoid a one-year delay. With help from technical staff from Maine DEP, Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District, and RWPA, in April 2003 the PPA began the initial watershed survey work with an enthusiastic group of 25 trained volunteers. This past fall, technical staff checked the original work and drew up recommendations for the identified problem sites.

PPA thanks all who assisted in the survey: the volunteers, the technical staff, and especially the landowners who let us walk their properties. For those who did not allow access to their properties, we naturally respect your decision, but hope it will not preclude you from participating in future PPA activities.

### Watershed Survey Results

Volunteers and technical staff identified 84 sites in the Panther Pond Watershed that are currently affecting or have the potential to affect water quality of the lake. Almost half of these sites were found in residential areas. These sites tend to have less severe erosion and can be easily fixed at low cost. When added together, these smaller sites can have a big impact on water quality. The good news is only 17 of the 84 sites were considered high impact. We anticipate receiving conservation grant

funds to help offset fixing some of the more expensive erosion sites.

### Watershed Survey Reports

All PPA members and those landowners with an identified problem will receive a copy of the Panther Pond Watershed Survey Report this month. A copy of the survey is also available at the Raymond Library, or contact PPA or RWPA (671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org) if you would like to see a copy.

### Upcoming Meeting May 22, 2004, from 1-3pm at the Public Safety Building

We invite all landowners and residents within the Panther Pond watershed, whether or not current members of PPA, to attend our upcoming meeting. We have a great deal to discuss including the nomination of officers, overview of the past year, milfoil, and the watershed survey. Wendy Garland (Maine DEP) and Noralee Raymond (RWPA) will discuss the watershed survey, the next steps for addressing sites identified, and answer any questions. RWPA will describe organization changes occurring and how lake associations such as PPA are essential to this effort. Non-PPA residents can contact PPA for a detailed agenda at pantherpondassoc@aol.com or Ben Severn at 655-3936. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Join Us

Annual individual dues for Panther Pond Association are \$20. These funds will help to produce and distribute the survey reports and provide the necessary local matching funds we will need when we apply this spring for the conservation project grants to fix erosion sites.

Write to PPA at PO Box 68, Raymond, Maine, 04071, or e-mail pantherpondassoc@aol.com for more information.

## Town Office/Library Building Committee Update

Periodically throughout the past year, the Town Office/Library Building Committee has been meeting in an effort to identify the Town's future needs with respect to municipal offices and the town library. These efforts have included a) evaluating potential sites within the Comprehensive Plan Growth Area for new or expandable buildings; b) evaluating the viability of Town-owned properties for one or both buildings; c) assessing the benefit of both buildings being adjacent or within walking distance of one another; d) undertaking a detailed needs assessment for present and future demand for municipal and library services; e) participating in a detailed evaluation/building inspection of the existing Town Office; and f) developing valid data that can be relied upon for future building space planning. It will take much of this year to complete the detailed needs assessment and an evaluation of services and spaces utilized in Maine communities of similar size and demographics.

The Building Committee appreciates that moving forward with any ideas will not occur as quickly as had originally been hoped, based on the message received at last year's Annual Town Meeting. It recognizes, however, the importance of projecting future needs due to the cramped and deteriorating Town Office and the Library's space squeeze. When the appropriate time arrives to address these problems, the data and information necessary to make informed decisions will be available.

The Building Committee would like to encourage public input and participation in upcoming meetings. Its next meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2004, at 7pm at the Raymond Public Safety Building. Additional information regarding future meetings can be found at the Town's website located at www.raymondmaine.org under Municipal Calendar.

## Why Are We Doing a Revaluation?

By: Ada Brown, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, and Amanda Simpson, Assessor

The Board of Selectmen approved a full revaluation of the town last year, and data collection work is to begin in June of this year. Many inquiries to the Assessing Office have been made regarding the revaluation and what its effect will be on property taxes. Hopefully the information outlined below will answer your questions. If not, we urge you to contact Assessors' Agent Amanda Simpson at 655-4742 ext. 51 or amanda.simpson@raymondmaine.org for more information.

### What is a Revaluation?

A revaluation is the process of equalizing the values of all properties within the town for the purpose of a fair distribution of the tax burden.

### Why is a Revaluation needed?

The State of Maine requires that cities and towns maintain average values that reflect no less than 70% of current market value. We are currently at 70% overall with the range in value from 20% to 80% depending on the type and location of the property. The last complete revaluation was performed in 1989, with an adjustment of waterfront land in 1998. Over time, Raymond has continued to grow, and the market value of properties has changed substantially in the last 15 years.

### What is market value, and who determines my property value?

Market value is determined by the local real estate market and the general economy. Raymond sales will be the basis of determining market value. The value of property is based on an analysis of the entire market for the full two calendar years before the completion of the revaluation.

The revaluation includes research and analysis of values in any particular area or neighborhood. In effect, it is the same process that you would use to determine the selling price when putting your property up for sale. Specific guidelines from the State are followed, and include

factors such as location, size, quality of construction, age of improvements, topography, utilities, and zoning restrictions.

### Will a Revaluation increase taxes?

A revaluation may result in an increase or decrease of individual assessments; it does not mean that all property values will increase. Assessments are the base that is used to distribute the tax burden. The tax burden is the amount that the town must raise to operate the town and school, as well as pay the county tax assessment, minus

all other revenue sources such as licenses, fees, and state revenue sharing. As an example, if the same amount of money is to be raised after the revaluation as the previous year and all assessments increase, the tax rate would be reduced proportionately.

Town meeting each year determines the amount of revenue that is generated through taxation. As the population increases in town, the demand increases for municipally provided services. Keeping property values current assures that each property owner pays their fair share.

### Memorandum

**To:** Raymond Citizens  
**From:** Robert F. Faunce

Shipping Containers, Storage Lots and In-law Apartments Amendments to the Land Use Ordinance: Articles 37 & 38 of the 2004 Town Meeting Warrant.

The shipping container amendment is intended to eliminate unnecessary and unsightly "shipping containers." As you can see from the definition, they typically include old semi-trailers, "piggy-back" containers, boxcars, etc. They would be prohibited from residential zoning districts except that one could be kept if it was in use as of January 1, 2004, and the owner applies to keep it within 6 months of the effective date of the ordinance. If the owner has more than one shipping container, they would have to be removed. This section provides for the temporary use of shipping containers.

Shipping containers could be used in the commercial or industrial district with some restrictions, upon site plan approval by the Planning Board.

Also included is a change to the definition of a storage lot. It reduces the threshold of lot coverage by the listed materials. This change in the threshold area was not supported by the Planning Board or the Board of Selectmen.

The in-law apartment amendment is intended to permit it to be located in a separate building, such as a freestanding structure or the second floor of a detached garage. Currently, it must be located within the principal residence.

## Meet The Candidates For Raymond Public Office

### Board of Selectmen Candidates

#### **Teddy Coffin**

This candidate did not choose to submit an article.

#### **Dana Desjardins**

This candidate did not choose to submit an article.

#### **Mark Gendron**

I believe I have the skills and knowledge essential to the role of Selectman. My wife Sue and I have lived in Raymond for twenty-one years. It was a wonderful community to raise our two children Stacey and Matt. We now have the pleasure of seeing our grandchildren benefit from the Raymond schools and all the community has to offer. My wife is a dedicated educator who now serves our state as Commissioner of Education. I am the co-owner of Lake Region Imports, Inc. of Westbrook, Maine. My partner and I successfully developed a dealership specializing in Subarus over a twenty-five year period by providing competent, friendly and honest customer service. These are the very skills that will guide my leadership as a Selectman for Raymond. I believe it is necessary for individuals to demonstrate strong interpersonal skills when working for the public. Communication, listening, problem solving and commitment are some of my strongest qualities.

Raymond's future will depend on individuals who can help define an affordable comprehensive vision for growth and development. My vision would include promoting housing for the elderly, continued recreational growth, and economic development that maintains the rural character of our community. Serving on the Raymond Ordinance Review Board in the nineties provided me with the insight to understanding the need for economic development, while maintaining a balance with residential and recreational areas with responsible access to our natural resources.

Having served on the Westbrook Fire Department for ten years, I understand the importance of community involvement. One of my first recommendations as Selectman would be to develop a comprehensive planning process that invites all citizens to offer their opinions about the future of our community. This process would help define our goals for the library, fire department, police services, schools, town hall, recreation, roads, technology and other initiatives desired by citizens. These goals would then help to shape the annual budget for our town. It is imperative that as a Selectman I demonstrate the ability to help our community sustain its services in a fiscally responsible manner and insure that our residents can afford to live here.

I would be honored to serve our community as Selectman. Please feel free to contact me at 655-3452 or at markyski@maine.rr.com. Please remember to vote either by absentee ballot or on May 14, 2004, at Jordan-Small Middle School.

#### **Charles Leavitt**

Mr. Leavitt has been active in federal, state, and local public service programs and policymaking positions throughout his career. In 1979, as executive director of a federal and state funded non-profit organization, he developed and helped implement Maine's Community and Worker Chemical Right-to-Know law. He has also served as both a gubernatorial and legislatively appointed member of several boards and task forces. As the City of Portland's risk manager for 3 years, he was responsible for over \$20 million of health, workers compensation, and retirement accounts affecting nearly 4,500 employees and retirees. He has been working in the private sector for the past 15 years and is currently president of one of Maine's leading asbestos, lead, and mold remediation firms.

Mr. Leavitt believes that public service, from volunteerism to elective office, is the responsibility of every citizen in a free democracy and the foundation of a healthy community. He wishes to thank the people of Raymond who donate their time and energy to make this

town a great place to live for all our residents, and in particular our senior citizens and children. Raymond faces many future challenges. By utilizing our abundant natural and human resources, we, as a people and government, can meet the needs of our community in an efficient, compassionate, and responsible manner.

Mr. Leavitt has lived in Raymond for 22 years, resides on Raymond Hill with Maryann Amrich, and is the proud father of Amanda and Charles, graduates of the Raymond and Windham public school systems. He is honored to have served as your Selectman for the past three years and would appreciate your support for another term in office. Thank you.

#### **Mike Reynolds**

I would like to introduce myself to the town of Raymond. My name is Michael Reynolds, and I am running for Board of Selectmen. Some of you know me from coaching baseball and soccer, or through scouting. To most of you, however, my name probably does not ring a bell. I live in Raymond with my wife and son because we found a home in a beautiful rural setting that is convenient to all that Southern Maine has to offer.



Each of you has your own reasons for living in Raymond. Maybe you are one of the lucky ones who have lived here all your life. If so, you've witnessed lots of changes that overall have preserved Raymond's rural character while consistently providing a level of service most communities would be proud to achieve.

Maybe you moved here or stayed here because of our excellent schools. Schools that have teachers, administrators and volunteers who really care about our kids. Or maybe you are here for the slower pace of life not offered by larger communities. Whatever your reasons for living here, you share them with many of your neighbors.

I have followed town politics since moving here and am compelled to run for the Board of Selectmen this year. I am running because I have seen a change in the direction of Raymond's leadership that I feel will not provide our community with what we have come to expect and respect about our town in the long-term.

The list below contains some of the issues I see as important to Raymond in the next few years.

- Infrastructure support for our town hall, fire & rescue and roads that is consistent and does not put off to tomorrow what should be maintained today.
- Environmental concern and action that respects all points of view, from both inside and outside of town boundaries.
- School resources at the level that once enabled us to be recognized as a National School of Excellence.
- A comprehensive land management program that continues to be citizen led.
- An approach to technology that allows Raymond to be viewed the way we were when we became the second community, after Portland, to receive high-speed internet access.

Is it possible to have all of this and more? The answer to that question lies with each of you. Recently I feel the citizens of the town have reacted to fear of the unknown and made decisions not based on the facts but based on that fear. We have stumbled in our responsibility to this town and our neighbors by not taking the time to be informed and make fact-based decisions. I am running for Selectman to do my part to change this slide toward

apathy that is creeping into our community. I am running for Selectman because I think more decisions have to be made with the future in mind not just the short term.

A little about my background: I am a General Manager for a small manufacturing and wholesale fundraising company. I am a former President of the Board of the Maine Publicity Bureau and Treasurer of the New England Ski Areas Council. I was appointed by the Governor to the Maine Tourism Commission and was a founding member of the Maine Tourism Coalition. If elected, I will bring this leadership experience and my personal interest in the future of Raymond to the Board of Selectmen.

I believe I can help **Preserve Raymond's Future.**

Please vote for me either by absentee ballot, available at the town hall, or at the town election Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, at Jordan-Small Middle School.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at 655-2884 evenings or e-mail mikereyn@maine.rr.com.

### Budget/Finance Committee Candidates

#### **Leonard Adams**

This candidate did not choose to submit an article.

#### **Wilbur C. Bell III**

3 Lyn Court, Raymond

Objective:

To obtain a position on the Budget Committee

Education:

Maine Maritime Academy, B.S. Marine Engineering 1967

Qualifications:

Former President of M.B. Born and Son, from 1971-1992

Former CEO of the following  
Pioneers Coating and Water Coating 1975-1985

B&B Equipment and Supply 1971-1995  
Associated Septic Services 1980-1995

Raymond Fire Department for 2 years (since residency)

Windham Planning Board 5 years

Windham Fire Department 10 years

#### **Jean Carter**

299 Meadow Road  
Candidate for Budget Committee  
Retired, Volunteer  
Husband Tom Carter  
Grown Children  
8year resident

I have a great fondness for Raymond, having summered many years at Crescent Lake while my children were young. Now a full time resident, I would like to give back a little. I find local government interesting and have over twenty years experience serving on various town boards from Town Councilor, School Committee, COG representative, etc. to Raymond Comprehensive Plan, Cemetery Committee and Fire Station Committee.

I would like to be a member of the Budget Committee because its oversight function is so important. The Committee reviews the annual town budget and other financial actions contemplated by the Town Manager and the Selectmen .

I believe we must be vigilant if we want to keep control of our town. It is necessary to assure that all town and school departments remain in balance if we want our town character to remain constant. If elected, my knowledge of town boards and affiliated groups plus my years of experience working with local government will be utilized to help keep Raymond on a moderate, affordable path.

## Meet The Candidates For Raymond Public Office

### Dennis Cole

This candidate did not choose to submit an article.

### Frank McDermott

Age: 63  
 Address: 10 McDermott Road  
 Occupation: Director of Education, Elan School  
 Family: Wife Betty & 5 grown children  
 Previous political experience: School Board 6 years - various committees and boards  
 How long a resident of Raymond: 36 years

Presently, I am finishing my second term on the School Board. I would like to continue serving the citizens of Raymond in some capacity, and I feel that I have the knowledge and background to be a contributing member of this committee. As Raymond's population continues to expand, the demands for services will continue to grow. We must set priorities and plan for controlled growth. Much more thought and discussion must be given to developing a Capitol Plan for spending which will allow us to meet the vital needs of the community. The Selectmen, School Board and the Budget / Finance Committee must spend much more time together planning effective and efficient ways to meet the needs of the community and its citizens. Together, the three boards have the capability to cut costs and develop better delivery systems that will allow us to continue to meet the demand for services as efficiently as possible.

### School Committee Candidates

#### Deborah Adams

My name is Deborah Adams, candidate for Raymond School Committee.



I am a 1988 graduate of Maranacook Community School in Readfield, Maine (just west of Augusta), and a 1992 graduate of the University of Vermont, where I earned a B.S. in Biomechanical Engineering and met my husband, David.

Following completion of my degree, I worked as a biomedical engineer at Organogenesis, Inc. in Canton, MA, where I contributed to the design and evaluation of implants for vascular and orthopaedic applications. I then accepted a position at Smith & Nephew, Inc., Endoscopy Division in Mansfield, MA, as a research and design engineer. My responsibilities included project management and efficiency studies as well as research activities in technological and materials science arenas.

Following the growth of our family to include Ellie and Michael, my professional objectives shifted, though my enthusiasm for science and math persisted. In 2001 I found an opportunity to utilize my experience and training

while working a flexible schedule at Central Maine Community College. I currently enjoy teaching three courses in the Math & Science department.

When I am not in the classroom, I enjoy skiing, canoeing, camping, coaching Michael's soccer team and cooking with Ellie.

As I watch my kids grow and learn, I know they will face challenges throughout their education. I also understand that the school leadership team and school staff face challenges as they endeavor to provide our students all the tools required for success and achievement.

As a parent and as a member of the Raymond community, I am proud of the quality of our school system and I realize this is something that takes a great deal of work to maintain. There are many challenges ahead— budget limitations, state and national standards requirements, and resource allocation. I believe we can model efficiency by maximizing creative use of technological assets and capitalizing on the expertise of our staff.

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, I ask you to trust in my abilities and devotion to realize the Raymond School Department vision to "prepare each child for a global society that is evolving and dynamic."

#### Diana Pecoraro

This candidate has decided not to run at this time due to unforeseen circumstances.

## Bridgton to Windham Shuttle Bus Pilot Project

### Concept

Implement a six-month shuttle bus pilot program on Mondays between Bridgton and Windham, for use primarily by senior citizens.

### Background

Regional Transportation, Inc. (RTP) currently transports clients in the Lakes Region. There exists an opportunity to operate a 9am to 3pm service between Bridgton and Windham on Mondays. Staff from RTP, the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG) and several municipalities met in January 2004 and expressed support for such a project.

### Vehicle

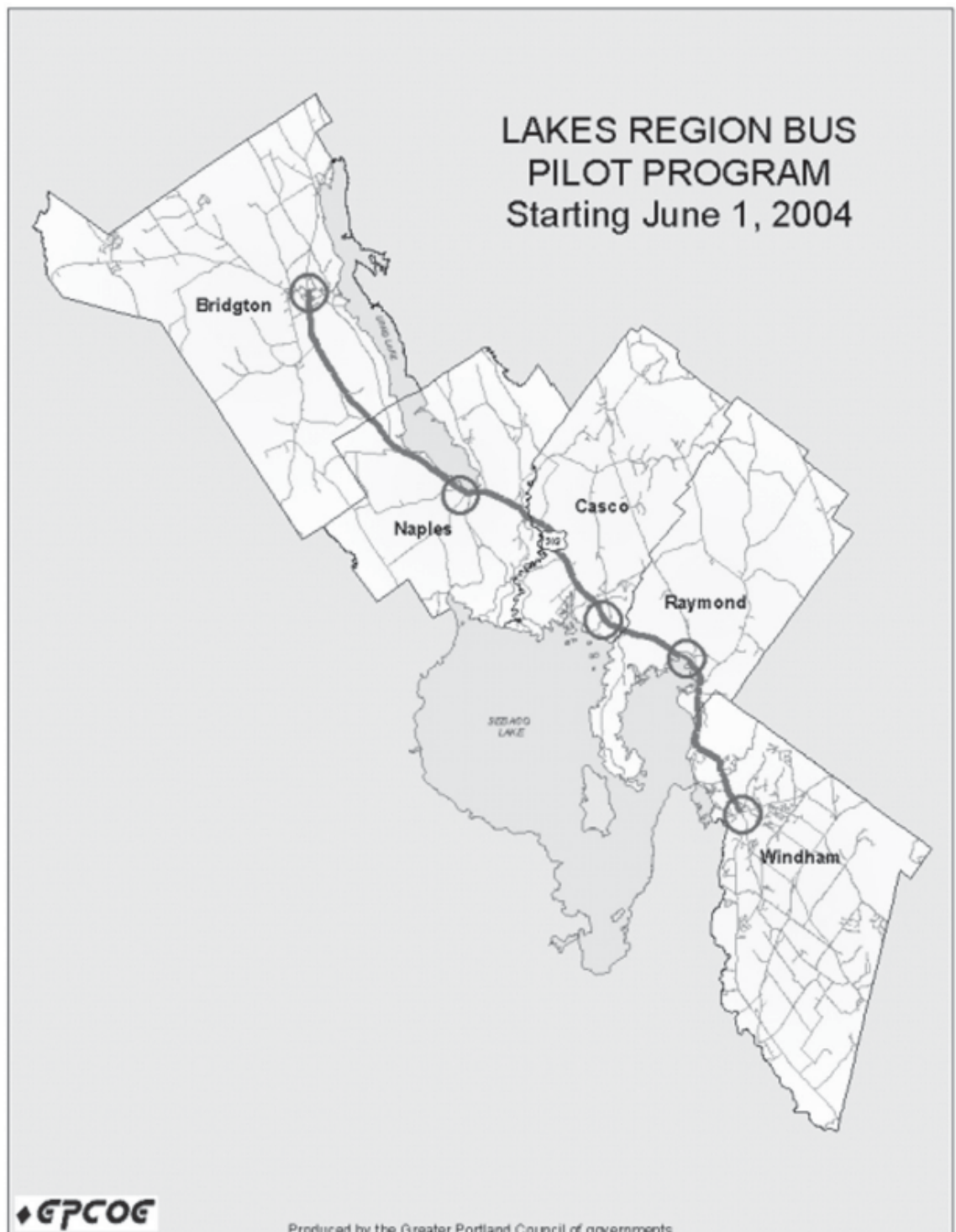
2004 Thomas Bus, 18+2 Passengers (18 seats, 2 wheelchair spaces)

### Proposed Schedule, Mondays

Morning		Afternoon
9am	Bridgton	3pm
9:20am	Naples	2:40pm
9:40am	Casco	2:20pm
10am	Raymond	2pm
10:30am	Windham	1:30pm

### Proposed Project Timetable

June 1, to November 30, 2004



## RES Students Show Great Community Spirit

We are always proud of the many ways our students and families are involved in community service throughout the year. In the past four years that we have been at the Raymond Elementary School our students have achieved the following accomplishments that demonstrate how much we care about our community.

- Raised over \$2000 through the Pennies for Parks and Pledges for Parks programs. These funds were used to purchase a handicap beach wheel chair for use at Tassel Top Park in Raymond.
- Raised over \$12,000 to benefit the American Heart Association and raise awareness for heart disease prevention through Jump for Hearts.
- Supported over 150 Raymond families through Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets and toy drives.
- Donated over two vans full of pet food and supplies to the Harvest Hills Animals Shelter.
- Adopted 20 Maine servicemen in Iraq.
- Supported the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer research.
- Collected funds for the flagpole at the new Raymond Public Safety building.

## Grandparents' Day On May 14

Grandparents' Day is always a special event at the Raymond Elementary School. This year we invite grandparents to join students at school on Friday morning, May 14, from 8:30 – 11:30. Grandparents and other special guests will join the children in their classrooms for morning classes. They are also invited to attend a special Good News Assembly for grades K – 2 at 10am. We look forward to sharing our school with them, and thank all grandparents for supporting our students in their learning.

## We Need Your Talents!

Are you interested in sharing a hobby, talent or interest with middle school students? JSMS's Student Assistance Team is looking to organize after school activities for the 2004-2005 school year. If you would be interested in sharing your talents (carpentry, music, art, crafts, etc.), please contact Lynn Davis at JSMS. 655-4743.

## Raymond, Maine, "Odyssey of the Mind" Teams Come Away From State Tournament with Extraordinary 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Wins

*~ Problem the Teams Need to Solve Now Is Raising Money to Get to "Worlds" ~*

Raymond, Maine: April 24, 2004 – This year's "Odyssey of the Mind" competition yielded extraordinary results for one small town – Raymond, Maine. There are 28 Maine teams qualified to go to World Finals this year, being held the last weekend of May, in College Park, Maryland. Five of the qualifying teams come from the small town of Raymond, Maine.

With 123 Maine teams competing this year at the State Tournament held at Bates College on Saturday, April 3rd, Raymond's teams represented only 6% of the entrants, but accounted for nearly 20% of all the teams qualifying for the World Finals. Raymond's teams comprised 3<sup>rd</sup> graders through 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Two of their teams achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place standings, and 3 teams attained 2<sup>nd</sup> place standings, qualifying all of these 5 teams for Worlds. One of those 1<sup>st</sup> place teams accomplished an amazing 346.96 points, of a possible 350!

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Raymond has entered teams into the Odyssey of the Mind competition in Maine. Two years ago, there were 2 middle school teams. Last year there were 2 elementary school teams and 3 middle school teams. One of Raymond's middle school teams went on to Iowa, for last year's World Finals.

"World Finals is not something to take lightly", says Fern Brown, one of Maine's state directors of the program. "These kids are going to a world-class competition. They are the 'best of the best' from Maine competing with the 'best of the best' from around the world. It is an opportunity for these kids to get to meet children from as many as 20 different countries and compete with approximately 700 teams."

Last year 100 teams competed in the Maine State Tournament. Maine kids were the 4th highest state in the number of trophies earned at last year's Worlds. The states that received 1st, 2nd, and 3rd were all teams that had 1,200-1,500 teams within their states. You don't need to spin that percentage to figure out these Maine kids certainly earned an "honorable distinction".

"This program is about creative problem solving," says Brenda McMackin, one the Raymond coaches. "Now, as team coaches and kids, we all have to figure out how to raise the money to take our kids to their next competition! We will offer companies and individual contributors sponsorship opportunities. The program will be publicized on [www.raymondmaine.org](http://www.raymondmaine.org) very soon."

McMackin continues, "The kids have come up with some

creative fund raising ideas! It will cost each team \$4,000-\$5,000 to go to World Finals. Three of the five qualifying teams have taken on the challenge of raising the necessary funds to compete at the Worlds Competition. \$15,000 is a great deal of money to raise by any standards, but it will be a real feat for our small town, with the World competition in only four weeks: from May 29<sup>th</sup> – Jun 1<sup>st</sup>."

The students have already planned a school dance, car wash, yard sale, public supper, candy sales, and teacher breakfasts as fundraisers, but would really appreciate the support of anyone interested in helping these creative, problem-solving teams achieve their goal! They would greatly appreciate contributions to their trip fund, and donations may be made to:

Odyssey of the Mind World Competition Teams  
c/o Ellen VanHaastern  
Jordan-Small Middle School  
423 Webbs Mills Road  
Raymond, Maine 04071

### About "Odyssey of the Mind"

The renowned Odyssey of the Mind program is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. The mission of the program is to promote divergent thinking, teamwork skills, and self-confidence in young people, by providing them the opportunity to participate in creative problem solving competitions. The program can boast some amazing results, with over 95% of kids who continue with OM going onto college.

There are five problems and three divisions for each problem, Div I (3-5th grade), Div II (6-8th grade), Div III (9-12th grade). Teams have 5-7 members; they compete with other teams who have solved the same problem in their division. Teams placing 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> are invited to compete in World Finals.

### About Raymond, Maine

Raymond is a small town, with a population of approximately 4,000 year round residents. Raymond Elementary School (grades K-4) holds 310 students, and Jordan-Small Middle School (grades 5-8) has 271 students. The High School students are dispersed to various area high schools. Considering the size of the town and their achievement at this year's state competition, on a per pupil basis Raymond had the most creative kids in the State of Maine.

## Kids 2 Kids: Growing Through Mentoring

By: Lori Rand

Learning to be a leader.  
Communicating without being bossy.  
Working as a team.  
Making new friends.  
Having more patience.

These are skills our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Kids 2 Kids mentors have been learning since last October. Mike Churchill, Kris Burgess, Brittany Byrnes, Erin Durkan, Chad Zawistowski, Shana Jones, Patrick Martin and Taylor Parker have spent two or more hours a week learning to work together as a group first, then as mentors to students at Raymond Elementary School. They've learned the value of diverse friendships, teamwork, and what it takes to support each other. These mentors also created the program name and logo to express what the program means to them.

In addition to many training hours, the K2K mentors spend about an hour a week planning for their mentoring time, practicing team building skills, and discussing and reflecting on their experience. They spend most of the second hour with their RES mentees, playing games, reading, drawing and writing. The mentees have benefited from these relationships as well; the mentors describe



their younger friends as growing more confident, comfortable and better at communicating over the past several months.

The K2K mentors have also developed a community service project as one of this year's culminating activities. They've decided to organize and provide childcare services for the town meeting this year. The planning process included brainstorming, action planning, and giving and receiving feedback positively as they coordinated this project themselves, with just a little guidance from program staff.

Thanks go to Debra Martin for coordinating this program, Betsy Stout for facilitating the activities and Suzanne Cobleigh for assisting. RES and JSMS support has helped make this a successful first year as well. But these committed, amazing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are who really made the program work.

Kids 2 Kids is an initiative of the Raymond Mentoring Partnership, a program that also matches adult mentors with Raymond students. We now have over 50 participants in the mentoring program! For more information, read about us in the town report or call our office at 655-8672, ext. 107.

# Odyssey of the Mind Fundraisers

**Saturday May 15, 2004**

**Faith Lutheran Church**

**988 Roosevelt Trail (Route 302) Windham, Maine**

## All Day Community Yard Sale

**8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

Clear out closets, basements, and garages to make room for the new treasures you find.

Support the Raymond Teams who have won the honor to go to World Finals  
Drop off your donations Thurs May 13 and/or Fri May 14 at 5-8pm

Wonderful Raffle Prizes  
Table Rentals---\$25

**FOR SALE**

## Irish Supper

**4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.**

Enjoy a corned beef and cabbage dinner with Irish music and friendly leprechauns.

Adults-----\$6.00  
Children under 12----\$3.00



For more information contact  
Melinda Zimmer-Rankin @ 655-2547 mzimmerr@maine.rr.com

### Jordan-Small Middle School 2nd Trimester Honor Roll

5th GRADE HIGH HONORS

Haley Acker  
Molly Cloutier  
Drew Gagnon  
Alyssa Elhajji  
Elizabeth Shively

Megan Stevenson  
Justin Terry  
Chelsea Tevanian  
Julia Trepanier  
Ethan Ward

7th GRADE HIGH HONORS

5th GRADE HONORS

Andrew Bennett  
Spencer Brown  
Jennifer Cobb  
Daniel Connor  
Cody Gagnon  
Cassandra Gordan  
Colin Gordan

Logan Cline  
Taylor Duncanson  
Laura Sanborn  
Alyson Schadler  
Ashley Waldron

7th GRADE HONORS

Kyle Hargreaves  
Olivia Hurd  
Mollissa Keane-Dreyer  
Lydia Manchester  
Jenna Martyn-Fisher  
Weston Masi  
Christopher McDonald  
Connor McGhie  
Abigail Morneau  
Alexander O'Neill  
Alysha Orsini  
Bryan Peterson  
Madison Rankin  
Amanda Ross  
Abigail Streeter  
Lauren Trickey  
Lindsay Webber  
Deanna Weeks  
Cameron White  
Tyler Winde  
Samantha Zawistowski

Ashley Baker  
Courtney Bruno  
Josiah Coyle  
Phoebe Crockett  
Sibyl Cunningham  
Bethany Dudley  
Alyson Feltovic  
Evan Flynn  
Rebekah Gagne  
Nickolas Gerry  
Adam Greenwood  
Megan Harding  
Hannah Huber  
Shana Jones  
Chey King  
Ali Knight  
Steven Lentine  
Patrick Martin  
Nina McNally  
Amanda Meyer  
Brandi Mitchell  
Rebecca Morris  
Andrew O'Neill  
Jacob Perry  
Kayla Phinney  
Brittany Plummer  
Elizabeth Prout  
Lindsay Ryan  
Laura Sanborn  
Jacob Trickey  
Danielle Walton  
Lauren Weeks  
Erik Wisutskie  
Chad Zawistowski  
Breeanna Zoidis

6th GRADE HIGH HONORS

Kaitlyn Chandler  
Dean Darien  
Haley Desjardins  
Emily Dodge  
Jenna Eastman  
Amber Gillis  
Hannah Lachance  
Katherine Lentine

6th GRADE HONORS

Robert Allen  
Jordan Baker  
Abigail Brockelbank  
Anthony Dighello  
Jordan Flynn  
Maria Fusco  
Nicole Fusco  
Lindy Haycock  
Patricia Haycock  
Samuel Hutchinson  
Zachary Knights  
Emma Levinsky  
Katelyn Lloy  
Chantelle Lydick  
Devin MacKenzie  
Abigail McIvor  
Nathaniel Ohman  
Arthur Olsen  
James Plummer

8th GRADE HONORS

John Atwood  
Harmony Brown  
Kurt Crockett  
Markie Desorbo  
Alison Gagnon  
Alexandra Gordan  
Travis Guerrette  
Sidney Hethcoat  
Danielle Holman  
Amy McIntire  
Lucas McNally  
Brittany Michaud  
Michael Orsini  
Douglas Remick  
Robyn Stillings  
Elizabeth Stevenson  
Justin Woodbrey



Robbie Lentine, 4th grade, is proud of his work on Maine Studies at the RES Academic Fair.

### Candidates Night

On Monday night, May 3rd, Raymond voters were given the opportunity to meet, and ask questions of, many of the candidates running for municipal office.

The Raymond Lions sponsored and moderated this event, which was videotaped for rebroadcast on the Public Access Channel. Be sure to catch the broadcast and to vote on election day, May 14th.



## Music Man Junior Plays To Packed Houses

A cast of 43 students from Jordan-Small Middle School presented *The Music Man Junior* to packed houses on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 9th and 10th. Between 400 and 500 people attended each night as students in grades 5-8 presented rousing performances.

"These students were real professionals," commented a spectator after Friday's performance. "They showed a great deal of energy and engagement. This was truly a wonderful show."

Culminating almost two months of daily practice and hard work, the performances included ten dramatic scenes, solo, small-group, and large chorus musical numbers, detailed choreography, colorful sets, and lively costumes typical of the early 1900s. Accompanying the show were

Henry Kramer, 11th grade pianist from Cape Elizabeth, drummer Patrick Nyron, Scott Gordon on trumpet, and Randy Crockett playing trombone. Patricia Feeney coordinated special choreography for two of the musical numbers.

Directors Marilee Dunklee and Mary Thornton expressed pride in all the students and appreciation for all who made the show such a smashing success.

"The best thing of all is how the kids felt about themselves," said Dunklee. "All the cast members invested so much time and energy to achieve a high standard of excellence. They wanted to knock the socks off the audience and felt terrific when they did."

"We could not have done such a show without the help of a dynamite parent support group," said Thornton. "Parents brought food throughout the rehearsal season as well as for the shows, built set pieces, provided publicity and costumes, put together the program, held raffles, worked backstage, and did myriad other tasks. The show was the result of a huge combined effort on the part of students, staff members, parents, and other community members."

*The Music Man Junior* is the second large-scale musical production presented by Jordan-Small students, following *Annie Junior* presented in the spring of 2003. Students and parents are already asking, "What are we going to do next year?"

## Town Office Phone Extensions

### Town Clerks

- 21 Louise Lester, Town Clerk
- 22 Donna Lovely, Certified Tax Collector, Welfare Director, & Deputy Clerk
- 23 Nancy Yates, Deputy Treasurer
- 24 Rita Theriault, Deputy Clerk
- 25 Louise Murray, Deputy Registrar

### Town Manager & Finance

- 31 Don Willard, Town Manager
- 32 Elizabeth Cummings, Finance Director

### Code Enforcement

- 41 Jack Cooper, Code Enforcement Officer
- 42 Paul White, Assistant Code Enforcement Officer
- 43 Karen Strout, Code Enforcement Secretary

- 51 Amanda Simpson, CMA, Assessor

### Technology

- 61 Elisa Trepanier, GIS and Data Services
- 62 Kevin Woodbrey, Technology Services



Paige Richards, grade 3, demonstrates a simple machine to Mrs. Spencer at the RES Academic Fair.



## Raymond Waterways Protective Association Gears Up for 2004 Season

By: Noralee Raymond, Executive Director, Raymond Waterways Protective Association

Raymond Waterways Protective Association has been very busy over the winter months preparing for the upcoming season and incorporating many of the ideas developed at the Watershed Forum in April 2003 into our goal of providing comprehensive water quality protection on all of Raymond's lakes and ponds.

### Strategic Development

In order to clarify what services RWPA provides and to apply for grant funding we have developed a mission statement and strategic plan with five main objectives. Our mission is *to protect and improve pond and lake water quality and foster watershed stewardship*. To support this mission we have developed the following five objectives:

### Water Quality Monitoring

- Train and coordinate volunteers who monitor lake water quality on all lakes and ponds and publish water quality monitoring data.

### Milfoil Protection

- Provide milfoil and invasive aquatic species education and prevention through the milfoil ranger program by conducting boat ramp inspections and annual lake plant surveys and developing milfoil management plans.

### Watershed Stewardship

- Assist lake associations in conducting watershed surveys and implementing lake protection projects to document and control erosion and polluted runoff.

### Technical Support

- Provide technical support to towns, lake associations, and individual landowners.

### Education & Outreach

- Create a directory of contacts for lake associations, road associations, and homeowner associations – updated annually to provide a “central clearing house” for information sharing between lakes, road associations, and individuals.
- Foster working partnerships with existing state and local watershed protection groups and assist in the formation of lake and road associations on all the lakes and ponds.
- Develop outreach and education programs to promote public awareness of all watershed issues.

### Milfoil Prevention Program

RWPA will once again be hiring two part time Lakes Protection Rangers to inspect boats and trailers at the five primary sites including the Raymond Beach access off 302 and the Crescent Beach launch. Our rangers inspected over 400 boats and trailers last summer at four sites, which is a 40% increase from 2002 inspections. Look for our rangers and volunteers at these sites throughout the summer during peak launch times on weekends and weekdays.

In 2003 shoreline surveys were completed on Panther Pond, Crescent Lake, and Raymond Pond with no milfoil found. Thank you to our volunteers on those lakes for helping to complete surveys. Without our own boat or trailer it is essential we have trained volunteers on all our lakes. We plan to complete the milfoil surveys on all four lakes this year.

RWPA is working with the Jordan Bay Marina to coordinate a removal effort of a colony identified in our detailed shoreline survey of the northeast shore of Jordan Bay. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, divers trained by the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants will remove the milfoil present in this area, and a benthic barrier will be placed over the area to prevent further growth. We will continue to monitor this area as well as other known colonies.

### Milfoil Identification Training –June 22, 5-8:30pm, Jordan-Small Middle School

Mark your calendar! Raymond Waterways is once again

sponsoring the hands on plant identification workshop led by the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) and the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants (MCIAP). Come learn how to identify invasive plants using live plant samples of both native and invasive species. Proper identification is essential to keeping these plants out of our lakes. An RSVP is appreciated so that VLMP can bring enough materials.

### Plant Removal Training- June 14, 8-4pm, Sebago Lake State Park Headquarters

Sponsored by the Sebago Lake State Park and Maine Department of Conservation, this workshop is organized by the MCIAP and intended to provide training for those interested in direct involvement in hand removal projects. RSVP is required. For more details contact us at lakes@raymondmaine.org or 671-3329.

### Volunteers Needed

RWPA needs volunteers to help inform boat owners and ensure that any plant material is removed from propellers, trailers, anchors, lines, and fishing equipment. Your commitment can be just one afternoon or more. With two lake protection rangers and five launch points we cannot have all the boat ramps covered for each lake without the help of volunteers. Spend an afternoon lakeside and spread the word, not the weed. Please contact us: lakes@raymondmaine.org or 671-3329.

### Watershed Stewards Program

RWPA began the Watershed Stewards Program last summer. The main focus of this program is to address the erosion sites identified in the surveys completed on all four of Raymond's lakes and to provide assistance to interested residents to fix those sites. Watershed surveys have been completed on four of Raymond's lakes. Surveys' dates and results: Raymond Pond, 1999, 71 sites; Crescent Lake, 2000, 139 sites; Thomas Pond, 2001, 125 sites; and Panther Pond 2003, 84 sites.

With help from the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Raymond Conservation Commission fixed 20 high priority sites on Raymond and Crescent using federal grant money. In their last season of a federal grant, Thomas Pond Improvement Associations will fix 34 sites with help from CCSWCD. Panther Pond will apply for the same federal money this spring to address sites identified in their 2003 survey. Now that RWPA has the technical capabilities, they will provide the project management for this grant.

This season RWPA will be contacting landowners to stabilize sites identified in each of the completed surveys that have not yet been fixed in one of the federal grant conservation projects. Our goal is to fix five sites on each lake. If you are aware of a site on your property and would like assistance, please contact Noralee at lakes@raymondmaine.org or 671-3329.

### Support

RWPA has greatly appreciated the ongoing support of the Town of Raymond and the community. The rangers for this program are employed through the Town with 100% reimbursement from RWPA funds, which includes \$9,000 from the Town, grant funds, and donations. RWPA appreciates any and all support from the community in helping to protect our valuable lake resources.

Help us develop a directory of contacts for information sharing between lakes, road associations and individuals. Please write us at RWPA, PO Box 1243, Raymond, Maine, 04071, or e-mail lakes@raymondmaine.org and let us know who you are, how to contact you, and what role you take in protecting your lake. We are also looking for lake representatives on our board for Raymond Pond and Thomas Pond. Help keep residents on your lake informed and have an active voice in the protection of your lake.

## Great Outdoor Summer Job! Two Lakes Protection Rangers Needed \$13/hour on Raymond Lakes

The Raymond Waterways Protective Association (RWPA) is seeking applications from environmental professionals, conservation minded College level students, graduates, teachers or other qualified people for a summer position based in Raymond, Maine. Milfoil and other Invasive Aquatic Plants (IAP) pose a real and substantial threat to Maine's lakes. Raymond's lake resources support a major portion of the local economy and the milfoil/IAP threat can not be ignored. Stewardship and active management are essential to preserving the quality and character of our waterways.

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/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.

Monitoring our lakes for milfoil and other IAP.

Identifying safe, convenient locations where boats can wash off.

It is anticipated that the Rangers would each spend about 25 hours per week on boat ramp inspection and education (six hours on each Saturday, three hours each Sunday, and several hours per day three days per week), during July and early August. A reduced level of effort is anticipated for June and September, focusing coverage on weekends. Five hours per week would be allotted to on water patrolling, coordinating volunteers and town wide education.

Compensation for this position will be in the \$12 to \$14/hour range, according to experience. Prior experience with milfoil/IAP is preferred but not required. The RWPA will pay for the cost of training (boat inspection, plant identification). Experience or familiarity with lake water quality issues (i.e. Non-Point Source Pollution/Erosion Control/Vegetated Buffers and Camp Road Care) or other natural resource/Ranger experience will be considered a benefit. A home computer with email would be beneficial, but not required. Actual work hours will depend on available funding. Interested people should send a resume including a list of related experience and references to:

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

## Math Budget Priorities

By: Principal Norma Richard

The proposed 2004-2005 school budget includes priority funds in the textbooks and professional development lines to support K – 8 math instruction. Last year the faculty reviewed the math curriculum to align it to Maine's Learning Results. Key mathematical ideas in each content strand were identified for each grade level. We then provided grade level math standards to elementary parents and provided feedback on each child's performance in meeting the standards with report cards. These were important conversations for both teachers and parents.

We are currently researching standards based math programs that have been identified to improve student achievement in mathematics. Teachers will be visiting area schools that have implemented these programs. Plans are underway to pilot a math curriculum strand next year in all math classrooms for all students at all grade levels. Ongoing staff training and support is essential as we preview curriculum materials, pilot the identified math strand, and select a standards based program to implement the following year. Parent forums will also be coordinated next year to help our families understand the goals of the new math curriculum.

As we continue this important work to improve math instruction for all of our students, it is essential for teachers to have access to the resources and instructional materials to support the curriculum. These may include a variety of textbooks, manipulatives, math kits, and assessment materials. Some of these resources will need to be purchased during next year's pilot stage. Other program materials will be purchased next spring in order to implement the full math curriculum when we start school in the fall of 2005.

I value a strong math program that provides many opportunities for all children to reach high levels of achievement through a high-quality curriculum and high-quality instruction. This is important and exciting work for our teachers, and I encourage your support of this work.

## Internet Book Buddies

By: Ann Marie Malnati and Judy Tounge

We have been teaching in Raymond for more than twenty-seven years and have been enjoying our participation in a program we developed called "Internet Book Buddies." Our two third grade classes at the Raymond Elementary School have been personally e-mailing their assigned college freshman book buddy from Saint Joseph's College in Standish, Maine. The students at the college are enrolled in a children's literature course.

Before actual discussion of the book takes place, both groups of students exchange biographical information. This builds a comfortable relationship between the elementary student and the college freshman.

Each student participates in a weekly e-mail book chat relating to the assigned literature, which has been selected by the supervising teachers. The program lasts one college semester, beginning in mid-January and ending in late April. Because elementary children are contacting college students, the children develop an excitement for reading and writing while the college students experience their first teaching contact with elementary students.

In February, after the program has been in place a month, the freshman come to visit the elementary students to direct a small project relating to the book. E-mailing contacts continue through the months of March and April, until a culminating activity between the two groups

occurs at Saint Joseph's College. The students share a lunch, a final group discussion including an evaluation, and some hands-on activities relating to the chosen texts. This year the children participated in a variety of group directed activities about their books, *Charlotte's Web* and *The Trumpet of the Swan*, both by E. B. White.

This is the third year we have been involved with Internet Book Buddies. It has evolved into an exciting, meaningful, educational experience for all the participants. In January after applying to SEED, an educational organization in Maine, we were awarded a grant to recognize our usage of technology in the classroom. Our project will be on their website with other Maine teachers' ideas. These ideas and projects will be available to be shared with other teachers throughout the world.



Raymond SEED Grant recipients Mrs. Ann Marie Malnati and Mrs. Judy Tounge, with June Marshall, St. Joseph's College, coordinate the Internet Book Buddies

## Health Curriculum In The Works

By: Jerilyn Ward RN

With the expansion of our schools to include 7th and 8th grade we have found ourselves in need of revising and developing a K-8 comprehensive health curriculum. Presently the process is at the beginning stages and will continue over the next 3 years. Involved in the curriculum work will be a team of administrators, teachers, health professionals and community members. Our goal is to provide students with the health information and support they need to be independent, responsible and healthy young adults.

Extending health information and education to the Raymond community is also a goal that we share as educators. Forming a wellness committee is a step in that area. This would allow us the opportunity to exchange ideas to benefit both children and adults. So many of us need to be aware of the ever-changing world in which we live. Educating one another on health, physical activity, disease, aging, medical advances, nutrition, wellness, alternative treatments, and the impact of making healthy lifestyle choices will keep us informed and in charge of our own well being.

I would like to invite you to be a part of this work as we seek to bring health to the forefront of our school and community over the next few years. To be a part of the wellness committee, or to be involved at any level, feel free to call Jerilyn Ward RN at the Raymond Schools or email: [jward@raymondmaine.org](mailto:jward@raymondmaine.org).

## Dr. Seuss Night

The RES gym was teeming with odd creatures, and over 125 children, on March 3 as we celebrated Dr. Seuss's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Dr. Seuss Night was a great collaborative effort between the Raymond Elementary School and the Raymond Village Library. It was a wonderful example of how community organizations can work together to share

resources and to have a great time. The efforts of Deb Keef, RES librarian, and Sue Ellen Gendron, Youth Services Coordinator at the Raymond Village Library, are to be recognized, along with the many school and library volunteers who helped to plan and present an outstanding program. We look forward to next year's celebration!



Thing One (really Mrs. Burton) at Dr. Seuss Night

## The Value Of Professional Development

**By: Patricia Allen, kindergarten teacher**

I would just like to express a few thoughts on how vital I believe professional development is to the creation of excellence in our schools. I have a photo I found once tucked inside my closet door that inspires me every day. It's of a Kindergarten student going off to school on the first day with sweater and lunch box in hand, standing beside a very elderly woman dressed the same way off to face a new day out in the world or maybe even going back to school. I labeled it, "Learning, a goal for life."

If we expect to be the best we can be, then we need to open our minds and our traditional tried and true ways to learning new things every day. Isn't that what we hope for our students, that they leave us every day with new knowledge, inspiration and feelings of success? I look forward to and value the opportunities to attend professional conferences or observe other teachers and teaching in other schools each year. It provides me with that time to learn new ideas and current methods and weave them into my curriculum and teaching style. It gives me time with outside peers to discuss problems and frustrations and learn about successes and solutions. Sometimes it teaches me that others are learning from my shared experiences, and that's a great reward. I always

come back refreshed, with new ideas to try and share with my teammates, along with new excitement for just being a teacher.

I always feel that spark of joy to see my students whom I realized I really missed and that they've missed me, too. It's not easy for a teacher to just go to a conference and not be in attendance at school. It takes a lot of extra time and planning for the classroom and students the next day. So I carefully select conferences that I feel will benefit my teaching. The process of preparing for a sub always makes me more fully realize how much I'm doing every day to know and understand my students' needs down to the last detail. It makes me value the time away.

Yes, we can all learn from books, publications, and each other by staying "in-house" but, as teachers, we well know that students (people) learn better from active hands-on activities, a variety of materials, different styles and new experiences. Shouldn't we expect and demand the same for ourselves? The field of education is changing more than ever today. Let's continue to be schools and teachers of excellence by staying informed and motivated to always strive to be learners among learners. Teachers need professional development to be professionals in their jobs.

## JSMS 7<sup>th</sup> Graders To Attend Camp Kieve

On May 12, 13, and 14, Jordan-Small Middle School's seventh grade students will be attending the Camp Kieve Leadership Decisions Institute (LDI) at their facility in Nobleboro.

The Kieve Leadership Decisions Institute provides programming that supports the basic principles of a sound character building philosophy. The curriculum is directly tied to the Maine Learning Results.

The core classes they offer are:

1. Interpersonal Skill Building: verbal and listening skills, conflict resolution skills.
2. Relationships: skills to build positive relationships-school, friends, family and romantic relationships.
3. Adventure: using the ropes course and the climbing wall, students practice skills learned in classes.
4. Decisions: Information on the effect of alcohol and other drug use, strategies to avoid using drugs.

5. Teambuilding: skills necessary to be a positive, contributing member of a classroom or any other group situation.
6. Solo: students examine "internal" communication-the messages we send ourselves and their effect on our decisions.

All of these skills are critical components to a sound character education. Some communities utilizing both the outreach and residential programming from Kieve are Bar Harbor, Old Orchard Beach, Falmouth, Damariscotta and in Yarmouth, NYA.

The staff at Camp Kieve LDI is creating a three-day program for the Raymond students that best meets their needs. We are very fortunate to have secured a grant from the Cole Family Foundation to help to offset the cost of this valuable program.

If you have questions about this trip, please feel free to contact the main office at JSMS.

## Comprehensive Plan Update: Vote Postponed

**Continued from page 1**

*community took great care to identify issues that would be of concern and carefully crafted a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory strategies to achieve a notable set of goals. The detail with which the community described land use and the wide variety of non-regulatory strategies to implement the future land use pattern is exemplary. This aspect of Raymond's plan will serve as an example in other communities in the state regarding the variety of non-regulatory techniques that can be employed in its plan to augment the important regulatory techniques."*

The CPC will resume meeting to examine the concerns and recommendations of the SPO.

## JSMS Entertainment!

On Saturday, June 5th, 2004, the Jordan-Small Middle School in Raymond, Maine, will be hosting an elaborate all day affair with music and other varieties of entertainment. The purpose of this event is to raise money for the performing arts program at the school and to get the school and community better connected through music and the arts. The show will consist of students, teachers, and willing, generous community members. If you or someone you know would like to participate in this event, or if you think you would like to contribute to the cause in any way, please contact Jordan-Small Middle School directly at 655-4743, or contact Patrick Nyren for more information at 712-2611 or e-mail at black\_bird311@yahoo.com We hope to see a lot of you there, and we would like to see as many people participate as possible!

## Raymond Lions Scholarship Application

The Raymond Lions Club is pleased to announce that an application for its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual scholarship have been mailed to all graduating seniors that live in Raymond.

Applications are also available at the Raymond Town Office, the Raymond Village Library and on the town's website for those currently attending post-secondary school.

The Lions encourage those attending trade and 2 year schools and those who have gone back to school to improve their life to apply.

The deadline for postmarking the application is May 15. It should be mailed to Raymond Lions Club, PO Box 1057, Raymond, ME, 04071. Any questions can be referred to Dale Gilman at 655-4114 or Bob Jones at 655-7163.

## A Lesson In Interdependence

**By: Nicole Beers**

First graders have a lot of energy and zest for life. As a teacher, I try to help them find things to be passionate about, igniting a spark that will hopefully encourage them to do great deeds. I never thought that I would do that for a parent, but that is what happened early in December.

With the holiday season already here, I began thinking of activities that I could do with my class. I focused on community type projects. I had a brief conversation with a volunteer, Gail Cole, and mentioned that it would be nice to adopt some soldiers to send care packages to. Given the short time frame, I was sure it couldn't be done. Mrs. Cole seized on my idea and went right to work. By the next day, she had made lots of contacts to try to get addresses of troops in Iraq. We quickly realized it wasn't as simple as going to the phonebook. Luckily, she visited the Maine Mall where a woman named Nadine Molley-Tingley was promoting her Send, Show and Share holiday campaign for troops overseas. A Christmas tree was brimming with names and addresses of area soldiers. She chose 20 names, one for each student in my class.

Mrs. Cole worked tirelessly making numerous phone calls and visiting local businesses looking for donations to make up our care packages. My role was to communicate with parents and organize all the incoming donations while marveling at Mrs. Cole's energy. After two weeks, we had more than enough items to pack 20 shoe boxes. With help from older siblings, parents and even a grandfather, we were able to have a packing party on the Thursday before December's vacation. Firefighter Josh Stevens stopped in to tell us what it's like to be in the military and how happy he was to have received a care package while stationed out of the country. We made sure to include a letter from our class, a questionnaire and children's artwork.

After Mrs. Cole carted away the boxes to the post office, I felt very privileged to be a part of this experience. We decided that we would try to send more packages in March with the leftover donations. Vacation came and went. Near the end of January, we received five letters from soldiers from the 94th Military Police. We were thrilled to read them, and they are still proudly displayed outside our classroom.

In March we sent out 20 more packages, but not to the 94th M.P. because they were due home in April. We were excited at the prospect of having a few of the soldiers visit our classroom and Mrs. Cole called some of the families to gather information about these men. Again, she secured some special donations as welcome home gifts. Unfortunately, on Easter weekend, we found out from watching the local evening news that their tour was extended. These individuals and their families continue to need our support, and I would encourage people to write to them.

Not being from a military family or having any loved ones overseas, I couldn't comprehend what it's like to have someone away at war. This has truly been an eye-opening endeavor and brought the reality closer to me and everyone involved, including my students. When they remember back to this time in history, they can feel proud that they did their part. Thank you to all who contributed in any way to this project and to Gail, you have been an inspiration to me. I am forever grateful.

## Presenters

Last month Mrs. Gosselin and Ms. Feeney presented at the New England League of Middle Schools' annual conference in Providence, Rhode Island. Middle level educators from around New England received CEU's for attending their presentation, "History Lives," which shares their methods of planning and organizing a two year looping social studies program for fifth and sixth grades. While there, our teachers also attended various workshops by national speakers. Both Mrs. Gosselin and Ms. Feeney agree it was a worthwhile and inspiring experience.

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## Editorials

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### Road Runner

When my wife and I moved to Raymond, it was Road Runner that provided us with a running commentary about what was going on in Town. We had no children or grandchildren in the schools. We did not know many people in Town. We did not know the members of the Town government, nor did we know any of the Town employees.

Road Runner and the Town web site introduced us to Raymond.

Last year Road Runner was cut from the budget. I thought that was a mistake then, and I do now again. When the suggestion was made to publish this special issue of Road Runner, I felt it was essential that there be a forum for

Town Meeting so that those coming could make informed decisions and could understand why/how recommendations were being brought forward to citizens.

I volunteered to try to raise sufficient funds to publish this issue. Some 18 families contributed the \$1,500 that was needed. My personal thanks goes to those who let me twist their arms because they understood how important this issue is for public dialogue.

However, at the same time that I was raising funds for this issue, the majority of the Select Board voted 3-2 to recommend that the Road Runner budget be cut again. One Selectman flippantly said that if there was so much success in getting donations, then let it be done that way again next year. Ironically, that Selectman was the first

candidate to submit a statement to the Road Runner for publication in this issue.

We strongly disagree with the position taken by 3 members of the Select Board. The Road Runner and the web site are the primary ways that residents can learn what is going on in their Town - before it happens. Recommendations for improving Road Runner are a separate issue. First, we, as a Town, must decide to support the concept of communication any way we can.

I therefore ask that you DO NOT support the recommendation of the 3 Select Board members that would have us "know less" about what is going on in Town.

Thank you.  
Franklin Dexter

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### Technology: It's Working for Raymond

"Technology Director Hired Against Your Vote"; "techno-terrorism"; "illegal this" and "non-standard that." If you've been in Raymond for the past year or so, you've probably heard some of these remarks. I can't explain to you why anyone would say such things, but "accuracy of information" does not appear to be part of the criteria.

I'm writing to make a case for one of the best deals, from any perspective, that I've ever seen the Town in danger of passing up. Why wouldn't you already know what a good deal we're all getting? Well, the rumor mill grinds inexplicably but effectively on, and we, the Technology Committee, can't seem to nail down the basis or source of the rumors or of the contention.

The issue here is the Town's Network Administrator position, presently held by Kevin Woodbrey (part-time, \$40,000, no benefits). According to his contract, Kevin is supposed to work less than 30 hours per week maintaining the network. In fact he takes care of practically everything that plugs in - at all of the Town's facilities; deals with software, hardware and training way beyond the scope of "network administration"; puts in way more hours than he's being paid for and is on call 24/7. His expertise and knowledge are legendary.

That's only part of the "good deal," but let's step back for a minute. You may recall that one of the items which was supposed to be "hot stuff" at last year's Town Meeting was the position of Technology Director. We never got a chance to talk this over at Town Meeting because of the vote to forego discussion of individual warrant articles and instead limit the municipal budget to an overall 6% increase over the previous year's budget. (Paraphrasing) "We'll let each department figure out how they're going to stay within the 6% because they are the experts."

So we removed the "Technology Director" position and a number of other items from the Technology Budget, and at the request of the Selectboard, we advertised and sent out an RFP for Network Administration Services, which was not a bone of contention - someone has to do this for us. We received 5-6 bids, selected what we thought was the best offer (Kevin's), brought it to the Selectboard, and in September they voted 3-2 to approve our choice.

This is when we started hearing, among other inaccurate things, that the Town had hired a Technology Director. Are we splitting hairs here? What's the difference, if any, between a Technology Director and a Network Administrator? Here are some examples: an ob-gyn specialist vs. a

delivery room nurse; an architect vs. a drywall installer; a librarian vs. a circulation desk clerk. Positions on the left side of the "vs." require people who have broad and deep expertise, officially recognized by the appropriate licensing and degrees. The people on the right side of the "vs." may have deep knowledge and official credentials, but their knowledge is not broadly applicable to all aspects of the discipline. You don't consult the delivery room nurse on infertility issues; you don't ask the drywall installer to design a building; you don't ask the circulation desk clerk to set collection development policy. The "left side" people have more responsibility and accountability; expectations of them are greater; they're usually paid more.

Rumors... rumors.... Talk now is the Town should get rid of Kevin when his contract expires in June. We would then hire a consultant to assess the network, form a committee to write a proposal for network services, accept bids, Kevin's would be the best and we would hire him as a consultant. That's one rumor. And doesn't that sound an awful lot like what we've already done? (Minus the part where we know ahead of time it will be Kevin, which we didn't know last September.) The difference between what's in place and what's being proposed is that Kevin is presently a loyal, dedicated Town employee instead of a "stick to my contract" consultant. Kevin has paid for his salary over and over since coming on board last September and has otherwise saved the town a fortune, not only in money, but in time, frustration and headaches.

Kevin has a **ton** of work in progress, involving many people. For example, the next phase of "functionality vs. expense" is a hard look at proprietary software and applications and an exploration/assessment of open source opportunities. Is this something you ask Network Administrators to do? Nope. Kevin is also working on his own time to teach people, including folks from the Historical Society, how to use the web editor so that they can maintain their own pages of the Town's website. We have other applications (GIS/GPS, for example) that we've barely scratched the surface of. A recent accomplishment there for Emergency Services is a Dispatcher's ability to immediately view a map to a caller's location.

But another rumor is that we should get rid of all the "technology," too. I'm not sure what this means because I'm not sure how the people who are considering such action define "technology." To me, "technology" is like "electricity": there are that many diverse applications and uses. Maybe they're thinking, "I don't use e-mail myself, so let's get rid of e-mail." Never mind that hundreds of people in town **do** use e-mail. Or "Let's take the website

down." This would not only be a giant step backward but would fly in the face of the spirit of state and federal guidelines and regulations which require that services provided for some citizens be provided for, and usable by, all citizens. This legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act and its web component, Section 508, is heart-warmingly egalitarian; and it goes without saying that any one of us might someday have to "benefit" from its existence. Compliance with such legislation is an obligation and a privilege, and we on the Technology Committee are ready to help with the "technical" aspects of it.

Back to "good deals." We're running elegantly simple and lean, thanks to Kevin. It is my opinion that we can't afford **not** to have the Network Administrator position with him in it. Anyone who's ever been on forays with him to the State Surplus facility in Augusta knows a magician when they see one. He can turn \$100 into many thousands of dollars worth of useful, usable equipment. (He cut the AC cord off an old printer with his Leatherman before he let me take it to the dump! "We can use that!")

Yes, but what is Kevin making out of all these spare parts? A bunch of weird, nerdy stuff that only a few people benefit from? Nope, again. But we don't like secrets or insider knowledge, so come see for yourself! We want to offer Raymond citizens training, or at least overviews, in whatever "technology" topic you want to know more about, including showing you the nuts and bolts of your Town network. Whatever else "technology" means, it also means "freedom" and "opportunity" for all of us. Information is empowering, and we're here to help you get it. Find out from us how. We're available any time.

Do you like statistics? According to Augusta, the most frequently asked question of a town by prospective residents is "Do you have broadband?" The current "best thing" a Town can provide for its citizens, according to a recent ADA seminar, is a well-designed website.

Raymond **has** those things, and we can make them better. The Technology Committee thinks that helping people stay informed and safe is fun. Saving money is fun. Coming up with creative and innovative solutions is fun. Looking over our shoulders and listening to sarcasm, unfounded accusations and rumors is not fun. We're Raymond citizens, too, and it's our goal to do a wonderful job - for everyone in Raymond. I think we should be high-fiving one another in the halls of the Town Office and celebrating our many successes at Selectboard meetings. Instead we're fighting not to be discouraged. We're counting on your support at Town Meeting.

Laurie Forbes, Technology Committee Chair

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## Editorials

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## Editorials

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## Editorials

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## School Department's Budget Up 6.8 Percent

**Continued from page 1**

transportation, food services, maintenance and secretarial personnel. High school tuition for both regular and special education students represents 26% of the budget. The remaining 11% of "fixed costs" includes debt service, contracts and leases, utilities and transportation costs.

The impact of cuts that had to be made in last year's budget following our first town meeting was assessed and taken into consideration with this proposed budget. The summer school program is included in this proposal, which will allow our learners to once again have the extended learning time needed to support them in meeting standards. Academic fieldtrips which will enhance learning for all K-8 students and that support curriculum work have been returned to both the Raymond Elementary School and Jordan-Small Middle School's cost centers. The supply and textbook accounts had to be cut last year and have been increased in this proposal to support the curriculum work that is being done to meet the timelines for state and federal requirements. We postponed the purchasing of the necessary tools to support the seventh and eighth grade laptop initiative. These teaching tools are included in this year's budget. We cannot send our eighth graders to area high schools not having had the same technology opportunities as their peers.

When the administrative team began its budget work in October of 2003 we vowed to be extremely sensitive to the taxpayers of Raymond. We pledged to look at only the critical needs, as opposed to "what might be nice to have." We used this approach as a roadmap to guide the work that has been done over the past five months with the School Committee, Finance Committee, Select Board, parents, staff and community members. Special consideration was also given to the Special Education Utilization Review that was conducted last spring and to the Essential Programs and Services Funding Model, both of which you can visit at our website. In November we were initially looking at an 8.9% increase with an 11.6% increase in the town share. With hard work, creativity, and "our collaborative best thinking" with many folks, we were able to reduce our proposed budget to 6.8% with a 6.9% increase in the town share, representing a 4.7% decrease in the town's share from the initial thinking in November to the collective best thinking at the end of March. We encourage all of the citizens of Raymond to recognize these efforts and to support our children and our schools by attending our May 15th Town Meeting and supporting our school budget.

## How Did This School Budget Get Developed?

**By: Brenda Stevenson, School Committee**

The development of the school budget, a long and arduous process, began in January when the administrators (working with input from staff members) began looking at their current budget and projected needs for the next school year. This "first pass" was presented to the Superintendent, and the administrative team reviewed and prioritized the district's needs and the relationship of these needs to the budget requests. All of the prioritized items were linked to district goals as they pertain to student achievement, our facilities, personnel and programs.

This first budget was presented to the School Committee in January. Multiple versions of the budget have been considered over the 3-month period. These versions were discussed in regular school committee meetings

along with special school committee meetings specifically focused on the budget. A Public Forum on the budget was held in February as well as meetings with the Town Budget and Finance Committee. As new information has become available (for example, updated projected health benefit costs) or decisions regarding reallocations were made, the budget numbers would be re-run to reflect these changes. During the initial budget consideration in January, the increase in the town share was at 11.6%. By the end of February, that number had moved to 8.3%; and when the budget committee voted on our proposed budget, the increase in town share was at 6.9%. This budget reflects our commitment to allowing all students to improve and grow in a safe and pleasant environment, while at the same time being sensitive to the taxpayers in Raymond.

## Raymond Fire/Rescue

**By: Denis Morse**

In less than two weeks you, the citizens, will be asked to attend the Town Meeting to decide the direction and funding level of our different services. This past year you were emphatic in your approach to the bottom line increase. Thus this year the Fire and Rescue Department's operational budget has kept the increase to just under 5%, and our scheduled Capital Improvement Budget was slashed by over 2/3 by a creative bonding message recommended by the Town Manager.

Four years ago we recommended, and you accepted, a CIP Budget that would allow for level funding of our needed Apparatus Replacement Program. This was to be a planned, scheduled replacement of a very aging and necessary fleet of trucks. The planned purchase of ambulances every five years would allow a fifteen year rotation of our ambulances, thus reducing the high maintenance cost while providing a reliable, safe means of rescue services. Rescue Two is a 1986 patient compartment refurbished onto a 1995 Ford chassis. This unit's wiring continues to fail, putting the Rescue out of service and costing thousands in on-going costs. It has served our community for 18 years and is scheduled to be replaced in next year's budget.

The replacement of Engine One, a twenty three year old failing pumper, is scheduled for this year. The engine as well as the compartments have been rebuilt and refurbished once already. The worn out truck was pump tested by an outside vendor and not only failed the needed

ISO ( Insurance rating) pump test due to engine wear but was basically condemned as too old to keep spending major funds on. The importance of passing the pump test can not be ignored because of our use of drafting (the act of sucking) water from our lakes and streams. As our engines wear out, drafting becomes more difficult, if not impossible. To complicate the matter, the test could not even happen at all without two garden hoses placed running into the radiator to keep the engine from overheating. This obviously can't happen during a fire.

Most front line fire apparatus has a rotation of 15 to 20 years depending on use. Engine One has lasted 23 years, and has served the community well, but every truck has an end to its use. Our second engine, Engine Two, is a 1991 Pumper and is beginning to cost more in maintenance, but again it is 13 years old and has been moved into a more active role with Engine One's ongoing problems.

These two pieces of apparatus are essential to maintaining our continued service and would be bonded over ten years, eliminating our CIP funding for six years, thus reducing the overall costs for the next six years. Our ongoing CIP Budget was approximately \$150,000 per year. The new bond related to apparatus would be approximately \$65,748.70 or a reduction of \$84,000 per year for six years.

Any questions can be answered by Chief Morse at his home at 655-2725 or at the Town meeting May 15<sup>th</sup>. Please attend and support our needed funding and long term success.

## Town of Raymond Paving Bond

**By: Nathan White, Public Works Director**

The Town of Raymond's road reconstruction program is funded through CIP budget appropriations. Each year it becomes increasingly difficult to appropriate adequate funding. As a result we cannot keep up with the deterioration of paved roads.

There are 39.32 miles of town roads, ¾ of a mile in gravel and 38.57 miles in asphalt. Currently, with the crew and equipment available, the Public Works Department prepares an average of 2 miles of road for reclaiming and base pavement or 2 to 3 miles for surface pavement per year. This equates to approximately \$65,000 per mile or \$150,000 per year. Using these calculations, it would take approximately 19 years and \$2.5 million to complete the 38.57 miles of road. Not every road needs to be reclaimed and/or rebuilt, and we have completed several miles to date. Many of the roads need surface pavement, and a majority need to be rebuilt.

Facing the 2004/2005 budget year, we need to consider how can we raise the necessary funding for paving without raising the mil rate and still maintain a good road maintenance program. There are several of options:

1. Continue funding at the present rate of 2.5 miles a year, with very little surface pavement; or
2. Increase the CIP Paving Budget by \$170,000 to \$200,000 per year.
3. Bond enough money to pay for a 3 to 4 year plan.

Public Works has planned on incorporating the following roads into this year's pavement management plan: Raymond Hill, North Raymond Road, Mountain Road, Carriage Hill Road.

The Bond would give Public Works a jump-start to the paving program. We anticipate that by mid-August we will have a Pavement Management Program (Maine Department of Transportation model) in place. The program is designed to maintain an inventory of all roads, supply data on condition and past repairs, and will be used to prioritize long-term paving/road maintenance.

### FAQ's

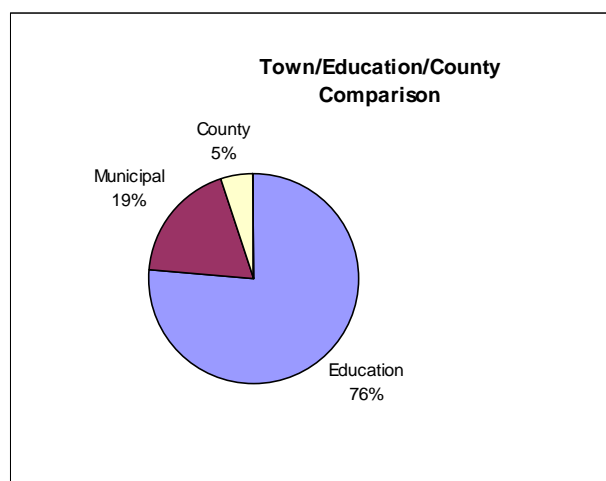
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| <p>Q What benefit is there to paying for a 3 to 4 year paving plan over 10 years?</p> | <p>A A proposed bond will cost \$110,00 per year for 10 years. At the end of the 3 to 4 year plan it will be necessary to add \$150,000 a year to CIP in order to continue the same level of maintenance of the roads. Therefore, by the fourth year the overall road reconstruction/paving cost would increase to \$260,000 a year. Without the assistance of the bond the Town would spend up to \$320,000 a year in the first year four years.</p> |
| <p>Q What is the advantage of overlaying as compared to rebuilding all the roads?</p> | <p>A Many of the roads will only need resurfacing. However, some have deteriorated to the point that resurfacing would actually be a waste of money, due to increased traffic volume and the need for widening.</p>   |
| <p>Q Will we reach a point where reclaiming and rebuilding will not be necessary?</p> | <p>A Eventually, after all major work is completed, annual funding will be used largely for resurfacing and maintenance.</p>  |

## Raymond Municipal Budget Proposed at 5.48% Increase

continued from page 1

assessor Michael O'Donnell who worked one-day per week at the Town Office to a 32-hour per week in-house Certified Maine Assessor position filled by Amanda Simpson. The Assessing salary account includes the second installment of the market salary adjustment outlined under Administration. The contract assessor Budget line was eliminated. O'Donnell and Associates were paid \$25,000 for their one-day per week contract and had expressed the need for additional hours to continue, given the growth in the demands for their services. In the past, the Town also assumed the cost of secretarial support for the contract assessor as well as coverage of the office during the week when the contract assessor was not available. Combining the cost of additional contract assessor time with secretarial support would have met or exceeded the assessing proposal in the Budget proposal for substantially fewer hours of coverage. At a time when the Town is embarking on a town-wide property tax equalization project (revaluation), it seems prudent to have professional technical support available for Raymond citizens on a more regular basis.

State law requires that communities maintain assessed values that represent a minimum of 70% of market value. Raymond's current value ratio is 71% and will fall below the required 70% this year.



This chart represents a breakdown of the apportionment of tax dollars between the Town, School Department and County as proposed in the 2004/2005 Budgets.

**Town Office:** Actual expenses are reflected in this account group with estimates for utilities and heating oil. Over the past year, a good deal of low cost, light renovation and repair work has been done by both the Public Works Department employees and community service volunteers. For this reason I do not anticipate the need for any major changes or improvements in the 04/05 FY Budget.

**Insurance:** In the 03/04 FY Budget, 85% family health care insurance coverage was approved by the Town Meeting, consistent with coverage offered to many of the Raymond School Department employees. This change was also consistent with the Cumberland/Androscoggin Counties Municipal Labor Market Benefits Survey. This year, although the number of full-time employees will decrease by one due to a retirement and replacement by part-time employees, an estimated increase in health insurance premiums of 10% and a 5% increase in dental insurance premiums results in one of the areas of increase (\$10,845) in the account group. Other increases include Social Security \$10,111; Workers Compensation \$9,805; and Municipal Risk \$7,813.

**General Assistance:** The General Assistance Officer and Finance Director have begun to notice an upward trend in the number of requests for assistance. Although no major expenditures have been made to support qualifying residents experiencing extreme levels of poverty, the likelihood does exist that the Town may have to provide individual or family assistance at some point in the future. In order to have adequate funding available, an increase in this account is proposed from \$1,000 to \$2,000. All costs incurred under General Assistance are reimbursed by the State of Maine at a 50% level and appear as revenue in the Town's Revenue Budget.

**Technology Department:** This area received a great deal of scrutiny in the 03/04 FY Budget and due to the Budget cap was changed (reduced) significantly from last year's original Budget proposal. The major cost center is the appropriation to support the Network Administrator's salary. After seeking competitive proposals, the Selectmen did decide to accept a part-time employment proposal from former long time Web and Technology Committee volunteer Kevin Woodbrey based upon an annual salary of \$40,000 for a 26-hour workweek. In an effort to be as fiscally responsible as possible, no change is proposed in the 04/05 Budget. It is also important to note that competitive private sector proposals were solicited through an RFP process that yielded no contractor willing to provide the level of services provided by Mr. Woodbrey for costs competitive to his proposal. There apparently has been some discussion in the community regarding the appropriateness of this decision. It also is important to make clear that the Selectmen obtained a legal opinion from the Maine Municipal Association Legal Department confirming their authority to select an alternate proposal, which is in the financial best interest of the Town, from amongst the other responses received. The Selectmen made this decision based upon obtaining the highest level of service for the Town within the existing Budget appropriation approved by Town Meeting and at the recommendation of the Web & Technology Committee.

**Community Development and Services:** The most significant increase is a request for additional legal and planning services needed to help facilitate anticipated Land Use Ordinance revisions. The Planning Board has requested funding to undertake major revisions to the Land Use Ordinance due to the anticipated new Comprehensive Plan and other necessary changes in order to both clarify and improve the existing ordinances. The Open Space Reserve Fund is recommended at \$15,000 or an increase of \$10,000 over the sum which was approved in the 03/04 FY Budget.

**Fire Department:** Changes in the Fire Department Budget include the creation of the EMA/Daytime Deputy Chief position to help improve management of staff, training and coverage levels. This position was funded in the 03/04 FY Budget by utilizing funds that had existed to support other part-time departmental positions. The change required the elimination of the Assistant Chief position and reallocation of funding effort to the EMA/Day Deputy Chief. The other central element of the Fire Department Budget request is the continued reliance upon standby pay to forestall the creation of any additional full-time permanent positions.

**Dispatch:** The salary line was increased 3% over 2003/2004 and the Dispatch supervisor wages were moved to Administration. In the area of dispatch services, there is a great potential for reduction of costs by regionalization through merger with one of Raymond's neighboring communication centers. It is possible to move at least two shifts of dispatch service to the Naples Communication Center. Talks regarding such a cost saving arrangement were somewhat slowed by the receipt of a citizen initiated petition to maintain the Raymond stand-alone dispatch center at the new Public Safety Building. Fire Chief Denis Morse and I are now exploring alternative communications plans. In my view, it is inevitable that Raymond will be faced with having to consolidate/reorganize dispatch services with neighboring communities and/or Cumberland County in the near future. It is also likely that any change will engender a level of adverse public opinion in that some residents may believe that combined dispatching will not be as reliable as the present locally based services.

**Animal Control:** State law requires certain animal control revenues to be dedicated for animal control expenditure purposes only. Last year more funding was available to support animal control than this year, resulting in a \$2,100 increase directly related to the 41.18% reduction in revenue available.

**Infrastructure:** This account supports the cost of all municipal street lighting except the ornamental lights on Route 302, which are part of the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Budget. The monthly charge for the Town's 110 streetlights from Central Maine Power is \$1,499 with an annual cost in FY 04-05 of \$17,988.

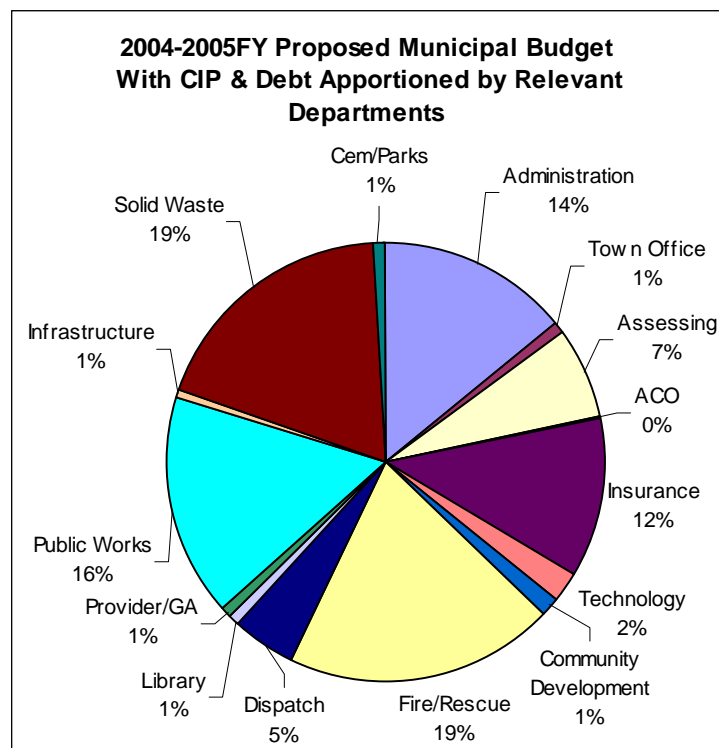
**Public Works:** In the area of salaries, a proposal is being made to establish the Public Works Director/Road Commissioner position as a salaried position. In the past, the Town has paid wages in excess of the proposed salary due to the inability to precisely control the use of overtime that is largely governed by weather and emergency conditions. If the Public Works Director position were established at a salary, personnel costs could more accurately be projected in the future. The recommendation is that this position be established at an area market salary and adjusted in subsequent years based on the Consumer Price Index. Very few communities continue to maintain an hourly public works supervisor position.

In the supplies and uniforms Budget line, a \$3,500 increase is projected to pay the cost of uniforms previously paid by the Raymond School Department. In prior years, there has been an exchange of services between the Town and School, with the Town receiving uniforms in exchange for school plowing services. A meeting was recently held between the Town and School to discuss all existing budgetary connections and to set a goal of establishing more equitable financial arrangements. Other areas that could potentially be impacted in the future include the School's use of the District 2 Public Safety/Public Works Building, utilization of school grounds and facilities by the Town, and various smaller agreements that have historically existed between the parties for provision of services. Year two of the Public Works five-year snow removal contract with P & K Sand and Gravel reflects a 4.25% increase or \$5,127.

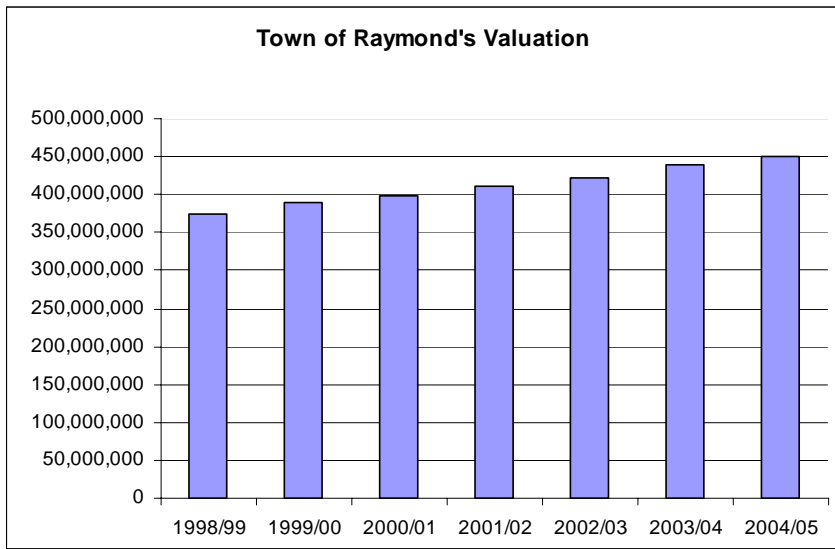
**Solid Waste:** Reductions in recycling pickup and hauling as well as roadside pickup are a favorable consequence of entering into a new three-year contract with Pine Tree Waste Industries. The largest area of increase continues to be utilization of the Casco Bulky Waste Facility. Each year a much greater level of materials are being taken to the facility. One conclusion that can be drawn is that use of the bulky waste facility is aligned with the increased building and development growth Raymond continues to experience.

**Cemeteries:** An increase of \$1,048 to reflect actual 04/05 FY contract-mowing services.

**Parks:** The Raymond Beach operations expenditure of \$5,300 has been moved to the Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) Budget.



This chart delineates how each major category of Town spending relates to the total.



This graph shows how the Town's property valuation has increased.

**Unclassified:** Social service and provider agencies were flat funded at 03/04 FY levels. The Raymond Village Library request was increased by \$900 and moved to a stand-alone Budget category.

**Capital Improvements:** The principal change in this account group is the proposal to finance the capital road program and the acquisition of a replacement ambulance and fire engine through utilization of municipal bonding as opposed to a "pay in full as you purchase" or a capital reserve (savings) program. The proposed \$950,000 road reconstruction bond will meet capital construction objectives for a three-year period, and the \$550,000 Fire/Rescue bond will address equipment needs until 2011 with repayment on both bonds based upon a ten-year amortization schedule. The first expenditure out of the Public Works bond will be a professional pavement management program at an approximate cost of \$10,000 including inventory, analysis and a comprehensive work plan by year. The Town of Windham recently completed a plan and bonded over \$3,842,000 in road improvements. In year one, FY 04-05 interest only accrues and is due and payable. In subsequent years, the appropriation for the proposed improvements is outlined in an estimated amortization schedule available from the Town Office. The advantages of bonding include historically low interest rates and the ability to implement Budget savings and realize the desired improvements in the short term while spreading the cost over a longer time frame. Another advantage is that bonding avoids the diminishing purchasing power of the capital reserve Budgetary approach in a time when inflation and the future cost of goods and services outpace the interest earned while saving over a period of years for improvements.

Another capital improvement returning in this year's Budget after being removed from the 03/04 FY Budget to meet the Town Meeting spending cap is the Revaluation Project. Given that a contract between the Town and Vision Appraisal Technology, Inc. has recently been executed contingent upon the remaining funding being raised by this and next year's Annual Town Meetings, an appropriation of \$157,750 will be necessary in the 04/05 Budget. The reason for the appropriation is that in order to have the project complete by the 2005 tax commitment, this is the level of funding that will be necessary to make progress payments. An appropriation of \$47,000 to complete the project is anticipated in the 05/06 fiscal year Budget. Work on the project will commence with the \$68,250 already available in a capital reserve fund and raised originally in the 02/03 Budget. The total cost of the contract portion of the revaluation is \$260,500, with computer equipment, telephone, and other office materials budgeted at \$12,500, for a total revaluation cost of \$273,000.

**County Tax:** A 6.06% increase over last year's appropriation of \$405,202. Even though the County's Budget grew by only 2.49%, Raymond's share increased at a greater rate due to our relative level of increase in valuation as compared to other Cumberland County communities.

**Tax Increment Financing District:** The Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) account group includes Geographic Information System (GIS) and data management services, technology services, including computer hardware and software supplies and upgrades

as expenses under the original TIF development plan filed with the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development. Both the waterline and the Route 302 Improvement Project bond payments are in the second year of fifteen-year repayment schedules. Maintenance and operations costs including ornamental street lighting for the Route 302 Corridor from Raymond Beach to the Business District are outlined in detail and contained in the TIF Budget.

Two new fire hydrants will be installed along a section of Route 85 located off Route 302 to support a proposed new residential subdivision. All costs of actual in ground infrastructure including purchasing the hydrants will be borne by the private developer. The total cost of hydrant rental from the Portland Water District is \$5,345 for the 25 fire hydrants in the Raymond system.

Since its inception, the TIF has supported the Lake Region Development Council with a \$10,000 appropriation. A new economic development entity in the TIF this year is the Greater Bridgton Lake Region Chamber of Commerce with a request for \$1,000 in annual membership dues. Another new request is a \$2,000 appropriation to support the Raymond/Casco Historical Society

**Municipal Non-property Tax Revenues:**

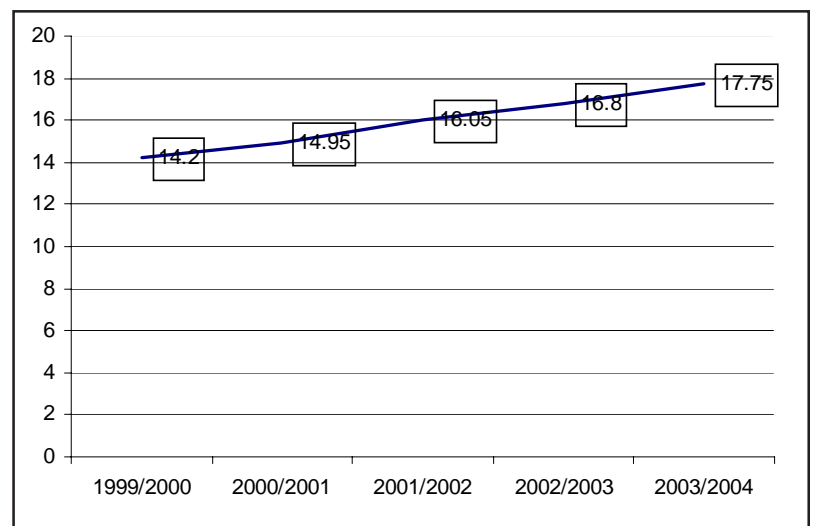
An overall decrease is projected at \$187,022 or negative 9.85%. The reason for the decrease is the low level of undesignated fund balance or surplus now available to help offset increases in expenditures. In the 03/04 FY Budget a larger than typical level of surplus, \$450,000, was proposed in order to offset what was planned to be a one-time larger than typical increase in expenditures. Although the town meeting capped expenditures at 6%, the fund balance contribution from surplus was not reduced. For this reason, the total level of surplus was decreased to \$1,484,552. Best management practice would suggest a surplus level of \$1,700,938 to \$2,437,781 depending upon the calculation method chosen. On a more positive note with respect to revenues, motor vehicle excise taxes continue to increase. An increase of \$80,000 is expected or 12.31%. Most other municipal revenues appear to be relatively stable with the exception of interest income. Given the present low rate of return on short-term investments, it is unrealistic to project interest income at historic levels of receipts. The Budget recommendation projects a reduction in interest income by \$45,000 or 45%. Inter-governmental revenue sources from the State of Maine such as municipal revenue sharing and local road assistance are being budgeted at flat funding levels. Maine Municipal Association typically provides detailed estimates to communities on an annual basis. With the great uncertainty over the state Budget situation, accurate estimates are next to impossible to project this year. The best information at this time is that significant decreases from last year's levels will not materialize. A \$10,000 increase is projected in Fire/Rescue income based upon actual collections and increased activity levels.

A new revenue is Raymond Schools - Public Works Service \$5,886. In order to

fairly charge for services provided (as outlined previously) to the schools and services received, an effort has been undertaken by the Town and school to assign a cost value to respective services. Raymond Schools - Public Works Service includes plowing and sanding in the winter as well as spring clean up and sand sweeping.

Other new revenues include Sebago Water Safety Watch (\$1,000) which are funds to be received from private contributions to help offset the cost of a proposed Public Safety/Rescue initiative that will be considered as a part of the Fire/Rescue Department Budget.

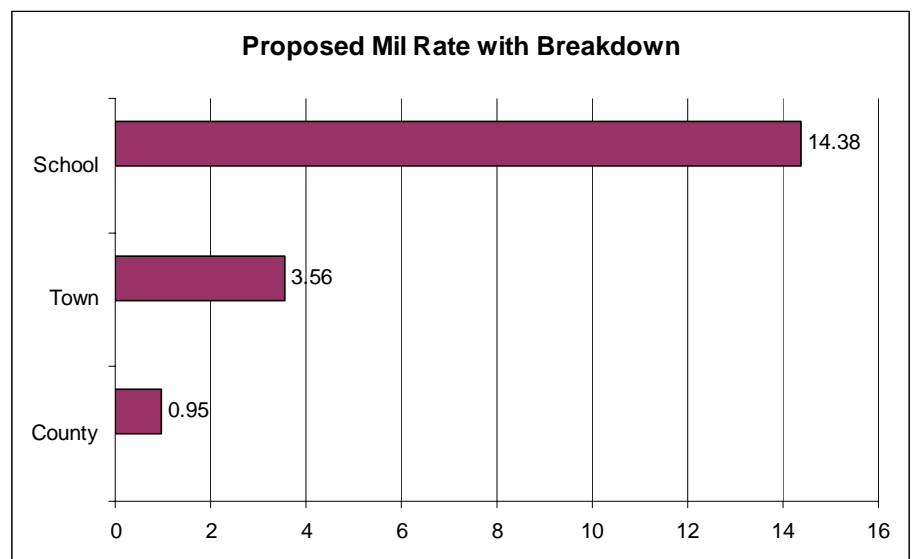
GIS Revenue (\$2,000) is a new category to reflect charges for mapping services and/or other geographic data requested by the public. Clerk Fees are projected to increase by 86.67% or \$1,300 to reflect increased activity. The most significant revenue decision made annually is to determine the level of undesignated fund balance or surplus to use to offset increases in expenditures. Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) was allocated this year. Unfortunately, the decision to utilize a high level of undesignated fund balance or surplus last year (\$450,000) placed the Town in an unfavorable revenue position this year. Had last year's budget increase been approved, it was expected that the revaluation would be well underway by now and that the resulting captured new value would have helped to stabilize the Town's finances moving forward. The good news is that after the revaluation is complete, I do expect



This graph depicts the mil rate history since 1999, which includes all Town, School and County Budgets.

the Town's overall valuation base to increase substantially, perhaps even by a factor of two. The substantial change in the value of the community will significantly reduce the property tax mil rate.

In closing, I would like to encourage you to contact either me at 655-6994 ext. 31 or Finance Director Elizabeth Cummings ext. 32, or by e-mail don.willard@raymondmaine.org or elizabeth.cummings@raymondmaine.org if you wish to receive any additional information or clarification. We will make every effort to provide any information you may require to properly evaluate the recommended 04/05 FY Municipal Budget.



This graph depicts how each major category of spending is impacting the tax rate during the 2004/2005 FY. The estimated mil rate is \$18.89 of which \$.95 is for the County taxes, \$3.56 is for municipal services and \$14.38 is for education.

## Art Abounds At JSMS

The third trimester is in full swing. I wonder why the year is passing so quickly. I think part of the reason is the amount of work we have been doing in the art room at Jordan-Small Middle School. Time flies when you are busy?

We had a huge, well attended, and interesting Japanese Pageant in January. People explored Japanese culture and met our Japanese teacher. There were demonstrations, Japanese food, and music.

In March the Academic Enrichment Team hosted the annual Academic Enrichment Night with performances and artwork. Every square inch of the school was transformed into gallery space to exhibit the student achievements.

Fifth grade recently explored clay by transforming bowls into creatures. We made pinch pot tea bowls of clay for our Japanese Pageant. Using this new skill, the students made bowls that sprouted legs and other animal parts. Now, they are using these creatures as the subject of a comic strip. Drawing a comic is a great way to learn to



communicate. The pictures need to be clear, specific, and detailed to express an idea. Some of them are very funny, too. Do we have a future cartoonist in our school?

Sixth grade had been painting in an ordered manner like decorative and mathematical artist, M.C. Escher. Then

they let loose with expressions and impressions as we learned about other artists and styles of painting. The results are beautiful tributes to Van Gogh and Renoir. They are on display to brighten the main hallway to the office. A nice harbinger of spring. 6th grade is now creating masks of paper mache. They will be stylized to reflect the cultures of Australia, Alaska, or Africa.

Seventh grade students have completed the sculpture unit and are studying perspective drawing. This is traditionally one of the most difficult units, but they are learning and seeing the depth. This will afford so many new possibilities for drawing and composition. All students are excelling,



but this is the project that the future engineers and mathematician enjoy the most. Association philosophy.

As eighth grade prepares to move on to high school, the students are concentrating on reflective projects, literally and figuratively. We are using chalk and clay to create self-portraits. With years of foundation laid and careful instruction, the students are able to create images that really resemble their own faces.

I treat the classroom like an artists' studio with materials, concepts, instruction, and ideas flowing. I am trying to instill a sense of appreciation and a value of the materials and supplies. We are economical, we save, reuse, recycle, and use materials in innovative and unusual ways.



I try to foster self-direction and responsibility. Many students visit the art room instead of study hall to work on independent projects.

Student art work is on display at the State House, Auburn Mall, Good Life Market, and often at the Portland Jetport.

I work the students very hard, as I expect a great deal from them. They are jumping the hurdles by leaps and bounds.

If we removed all the art in the lives of our children, there is no way that adding more math, increasing more reading, requiring more science, or buying more computers could replace what they have lost. This is National Art Education

## Troop 800 Donates To Animal Refuge League

By: Jamie Wiley, Troop Scribe

On Monday April 19th, a group of scouts from Boy Scout Troop 800 went to the Westbrook ARL, which stands for Animal Refuge League, to give them a check for the money we raised during the fishing derby on Sebago Lake on the 21st of February. The group of scouts included Jamie Wiley, Josiah Coyle, Kyle Woodbrey, and Erik Woodbrey. Before we gave them the check, the ARL representative, Carol Ann, gave us a tour that included a room for cats that are short term residents, a room for cats that had been there for a long time, a room for the small animals such as hamsters and guinea pigs, and last but not least a two level room for dogs. After the tour we presented Carol with a check for \$420 which surprised her greatly. It was a worthwhile trip in my mind as well as a noble cause supported.

From left to right: Kyle Woodbrey, Jamie Wiley, Erik Woodbrey, Josiah Coyle, and a representaviee from the Animal Refuge League.

