

The Raymond RoadRunner

A Raymond School District & Town of Raymond Publication
<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

Volume X, Issue VIII

AUGUST 2006

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Raymond Veterans' Memorial Update

The Raymond Lions Club recently presented Howard Stiles, chairperson of the Raymond Veterans' Memorial Committee with a check for \$1,600.00 to cover the cost of the flags and the flag pole. We would like to encourage the Raymond Business Community to purchase/sponsor a granite paver to support our Veterans' Memorial. These pavers would have the business name on them.

Also, we continue to encourage each and every veteran or families with veterans to purchase a granite paver. For more info or questions, please call Howard at 655-4193.



Howard Stiles receives a check for \$1,600 from the Raymond Lions Club's Bob Gilmore to cover the cost of flags and a flag pole.

Trash Barrels Required in September

By Louise Lester, Town Clerk (The Trash Lady)

Beginning in September, all residents will be required to put their trash bags in solid trash barrels. Any trash bags left on the ground may not be picked up. Barrels must also have the address of the household from which they come plainly written on them.

The practice of leaving plastic or other bags beside the road for pickup is being discouraged. Because of the mess left by animals/birds getting into the trash and the possibility of it being hit or blown around, the overall appearance of the town will be improved with more permanent containment. The addresses printed on the barrels will help the trash men understand how many barrels are being attributed to each household.

IDS Major League Baseball Champs

IDS fought their way out of the loser's bracket to win the Sebago Long Lake Major League Playoffs. IDS beat the Naples Bandits in a nail biting double header. Both games were won in the sixth inning with IDS winning 2-1. Way to go IDS!



Team players: Rob Cave, Jake Desjardins, Riley Flynn, Drew Gagnon, Kyle Hargreaves, Pat LaChance, Dakota Partridge, Spencer Reynolds, Nick Rodriguez, Lonnie Taylor, Zach Tolman, George Whitcher. Coached by Lonnie Taylor and Patrick Flynn

Hazardous Waste Day Not Offered This Year

Hazardous Waste Day will not be held in 2006. Instead, the following facility will be able to take your hazardous waste: the Maine Environmental Depot (Lewiston Solid Waste) facility, at 424 River Road in Lewiston. Their online address is www.envdepot.com or www.avcog.org.

DIRECTIONS: From I-95, take Exit 80 (southbound, take a LEFT off the ramp and go under the turnpike, northbound, take a RIGHT off the ramp). About 3/4 of a mile down, turn left on River Road just after the Wal-Mart Distribution Facility. Lewiston Solid Waste is about a half mile on the left. Proceed through the main gate by the scale house and around the main building. The Depot will be in front of you.

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

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

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

rug, upholstery and spot cleaners, swimming pool chemicals.

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED: Latex paint (dry paint and cans go to bulky waste), waste motor oil (clean oil can go to bulky waste free of charge), alkaline batteries (throw in trash), biological waste (ask your doctor), compressed gas cylinders (small 4# canisters can go in trash and large ones to distributor), explosives and ammunition (ask at gun shop or sporting goods store), and prescription medicines and syringes (ask doctor).

How to deliver:

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

Mentoring Ends Its Fifth Year

The Raymond Mentoring Partnership recently finished its fifth year of coordinating mentoring relationships. In May, mentoring pairs visited a local greenhouse to select plants, and then as a community service project planted the gardens at the Sheri Gagnon Park playground. We celebrated the end of the year with activities at Camp Hinds, including archery, nature bingo and kite making, and then welcomed families and mentors to share a BBQ dinner together. RMP also sponsored a program for JSMS 8th graders in which two teens currently in recovery with Day One spoke about substance abuse issues. RMP co-sponsored bringing Ed Webster, renowned Mount Everest climber, to speak at JSMS. While the end of the year was a happy one, we were sad to say goodbye to our long-time Director Lori Rand. Lori has done a fantastic job over the years supporting and growing RMP into the successful program it is today. Although we will not be working with her on a daily basis, we look forward to future collaboration on other community initiatives. Good luck, Lori, in your new endeavors! We also said goodbye to two of our mentees who are moving out of town, and two of our high school mentors who are off to college. We wish them well. We look forward to welcoming some new faces into the program in the fall, both as mentees and mentors. If you would like more information about the mentoring program or are interested in volunteering, please contact Christina Lamarre or Candace Woolston at RES at 655-8672 ext. 107, or via e-mail at mentor@raymondmaine.org.

Tassel Top Beach

Park/beach hours, weather permitting:

7:30pm - daily business ends, incoming gate closes.

7:45pm - last call to vacate park.

8pm - park closed/gate locked, no trespassing.

Note: Park may open late, or close early due to inclement weather or lack of business.

Telephone: 655-4675

Road Runner Articles

Articles for the next edition of the *Road Runner* newsletter are due by Thursday, August 24th. Please provide them by any of the following methods:

E-Mail; Diskette; Paper; CDROM

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

Road Runner Staff:

John Hanley Laurie Forbes
 Norma Richard Kevin Woodbrey

Visit Us on the Web

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

To learn more about what's new in Raymond, visit our website at:

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

On-line services now include:

- Automobile registration
- Hunting and fishing licenses
- Assessment information
- Property & other maps

Did you know the Raymond Road Runner can be mailed to your winter home or to an out-of-town relative or friend? A subscription is \$8 per year. Contact: Louise Lester, Town Clerk, 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071, 207-655-4742, x-21, louise.lester@raymondmaine.org

News From the Raymond Village Library

At a Glance

Monday, August 21 – Summer Reading Program Party.

Wednesday, August 30 – Book Discussion Group

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day

Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading Program will end on August 21 with a party at the library. For more information, please call 655-4283.

Children's Programs

There will be no children's story times for the month of August. They will resume at the regular times on Monday and Wednesday mornings in September.

Book Discussion Group

The book group will meet at the library on August 30 at 7pm. The selected book is the classic "Cry, the Beloved Country" by Alan Paton. We are pleased that so many of our summer friends have come back to join us, and we extend an invitation to anyone who loves to read and would like to share thoughts and opinions on the chosen book.

Book Sale

The Annual Book Sale is still in full swing! The books are plentiful, the prices are very low and the selection is varied. Come in and gather your annual reading, pick up books for your personal library or find those special books for those special people in your life.

We have both hardcover and paperback books available for purchase, as well as videos, audio books and puzzles. There are always new books arriving, so be sure to come in more than once.

We are always accepting donations of gently used books for the library collection and for book sales.

The library will be closed on September 4, celebrating Labor Day.

Raymond Road Runner Deadline Reminder

Articles for the September issue are due
Thursday, August 24th

Your Voice Counts

by Senator Bill Diamond

Recently, I sent a legislative newsletter to all households in Raymond as well as to the other towns in Senate District 12. In that newsletter I included a survey entitled "Your Voice Counts," asking residents to tell me their priorities concerning several state issues that will be considered in the next legislative session. Even though there are still responses coming in every day, I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage Raymond citizens to complete the survey and send me their thoughts.

I am very pleased with the high number of returned responses to date, and in a couple of weeks I will be able to compile all of the results from those who responded, and we will have a good picture of what people consider as their top priorities regarding these issues.

The list of specific issues to be prioritized included the following: Consumer Protection, K-12 School Funding, Environmental Protection, Energy Conservation and Independence, Access to Health Care, Jobs/Economic Development, Taxes, Higher Education Funding and Roads and Bridges. The results to date show that health care, taxes and environmental issues seem to rate as certainly high priorities. However, I should point out that several surveys are coming in each day both online and through the mail, and therefore some of the other mentioned issues may rise to the top as well.

The survey also asked five specific questions which when answered will give me some background information that will also provide useful information for planning purposes. For example, it is important to find out if people are taking advantage of the newly expanded Circuit Breaker and Homestead property tax relief programs. Is the Circuit Breaker providing meaningful relief and are a meaningful number of property owners able to qualify for the program? Are there adjustments that need to be made to the program to allow more people to qualify?

Another question asks if establishing a "rainy day fund" for the state to use in cases of emergencies is a good use of state funds. Over the past couple of years the legislature has saved approximately \$100 million and put that money in this special account to be used for true emergencies. Some feel that adding to that amount would be prudent, while others feel that keeping the total at \$100 million is about right.

The survey also encourages any additional comments the

responders wish to make regarding any of the issues mentioned as well as items not addressed on the printed survey. To date these general comments have provided some new information for me, which I truly appreciate.

All of this information is very helpful, and if you haven't yet returned your survey either online or via the mail then please consider doing so as soon as possible. The information provided will all be entered into the final compilation, and I will share the results with you in the Road Runner. If you did not receive a newsletter and the survey, please feel free to contact me by e-mail: diamondhollyd@aol.com or call me at 892-8941, and I will make sure you get one without delay. To complete the survey online, visit www.mainesenate.org/diamond. Your opinion does matter.

If there is anything I can do for you as your Senator, please contact me. I enjoy working for you and helping people as they have to deal with the various state bureaucracies.

On a personal note, I am very proud to tell you that when you read this, my daughter Kristin will have just had a new baby, who will be a sister to daughter number one, Ella Dumont.

Have a safe remaining summer.

Super Box Tops

There is something new to look for while grocery shopping. In celebration of Box Tops for Education's 10th Anniversary, they are offering limited edition Super Box Tops on specially marked packages of participating Box Tops brands. Each Super Box Top is worth 30 cents, which is in addition to the 10 cent box top. Some of the products include Honey Nut Cheerios, Kix, Hamburger Helper, Milk and Cereal Bars, Fruit Roll-ups, and Pop Secret Microwave Popcorn. There is a complete listing at www.boxtops4education.com. They are also offering an additional 7 box tops to those newcomers who sign up online as a booster club member. When shopping for back to school clothes and supplies, consider purchasing online through the Box Tops for Education Marketplace. Our schools will receive up to 8% from your qualifying purchase at stores like Sears, JC Penney, Lands' End, Staples, Kohl's and Gap. Simply start at www.boxtops4education.com and click on Marketplace. Our schools have the potential to earn up to \$60,000 a year from Box Tops for Education programs, which include the clipping of box tops, shopping through the Marketplace, and using the Box Tops for Education Visa card. Thank you for your participation in this fundraiser.

August 2006

Events and Meeting Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00PM TH Selectmen's Meeting re- placed meeting of 7/4	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 6:30PM JS One Raymond Committee	9 6:30PM TH Planning Board Meeting	10	11	12
13	14 7:00PM VL Library Board	15 7:00PM TH Selectmen's Meeting	16	17	18	19
20 10:00AM TH Appeals Board Site Walk	21 VL Summer Reading Program Party	22	23	24 7:00PM TH Cemetery Committee ROADRUNNER DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE ARTICLES	25	26
27	28 7:00PM TH Appeals Board Meeting	29 7:00PM MB Board of Assessment Review Workshop	30 7:00PM VL Book Group	31 Teacher Workshops RES & JSMS	FB=Fire Barn JS=Jordan-Small KC=Kokatosi Campgnd PS=Public Safety Bldg. RE=Raymond Elementary CL=Casco Library	SG=Sheri Gagnon TG=Town Garage RT85 TH=Town Hall VL=Village Library VC=Village Church VT=Village Tennis MB=Modular at JSMS

Municipal News Brief

By: Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen recently took the following actions:

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

- 1) Consideration of abatements – Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell, O'Donnell & Associates. In the absence of the Contract Assessor, the Town Manager presented a group of abatements recommended for approval to the Board of Selectmen. After consideration of these abatements they were approved unanimously.
- 2) Approval of revised town fee schedule - Louise Lester, Town Clerk. The Town Clerk reported that fee additions are being proposed to support the Town's Dog Ordinance, which was approved at the 2006 Annual Town Meeting. These fees need to be added to the 2006 Fee Schedule that was previously approved. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the fee additions as recommended.
- 3) Appointment of Samuel Gifford to the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee – Louise Lester, Town Clerk. The Town Clerk reported that Mr. Gifford had withdrawn his name from consideration.
- 4) Request for "Letter of No Objection" from Bradford Post, General Contractor on behalf of Dorothy Cotton - Jack Cooper, CEO. This request was to facilitate the remodeling of a cottage, which was moved back from Panther Pond, causing the new septic system to encroach slightly onto the Town's right-of-way. Mr. Cooper indicated that such septic encroachments are common throughout Raymond due to the large number of small lots. All of the abutters have been informed about this issue and raised no objections. The septic encroachment will not affect the Town's maintenance or management of the right-of-way. In this case the encroachment was not the actual septic system itself but some of the fill on the periphery of the system. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved issuing a "Letter of No Objection" to the Maine Department of Human Services as requested by the applicant.
- 5) Certificate of Appreciation for Lori Rand, Director, Raymond Mentoring Program. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mark Gendron and Vice-Chairman Michael Reynolds presented Mrs. Rand with a certificate of recognition to express the Town's appreciation for her dedicated work in establishing and developing the successful Raymond Mentoring Program. This program has been of immense benefit to many local children, and its success would not have been possible without the commitment and hard work of Mrs. Rand. The new director Christina Lamarre is working to expand the program and will continue to actively pursue funding through grants.



Town Manager and Selectboard members with Lori Rand. L-R: Don Willard, Joe Bruno, Lori Rand, Dana Desjardins, Mark Gendron, and Mike Reynolds.

6) Old unfinished business

- a) 2006/2007 Board of Selectmen appointments. The Town Manager outlined the Selectmen liaison appointments still vacant, which included the Cemetery Committee, Tassel Top Board of Directors and the Library. Dana Desjardins volunteered to represent the Selectmen on the Tassel Top Board of Directors and was appointed to this position. Mike Reynolds announced that he had been appointed by the Greater Portland Council of Governments' Board of Directors to the GPCOG Steering Committee, which has five members. The Town Manager announced that Tony Plante, Town Manager of Windham, would

not be seeking re-election to the Maine Municipal Association Legislative Policy Committee. The Town Manager had spoken with Joe Bruno about his interest in serving, and he has agreed to represent the region on this committee if the other Selectmen so desire. The Selectmen need to nominate Joe Bruno to serve in this capacity and then an election is held by MMA communities within our district to select two representatives. The Town of Casco also nominated Mr. Bruno. Chairman Gendron was pleased that Mr. Bruno was interested and felt that having him on the committee would be very beneficial to Raymond and our area. A motion was made to nominate Joe Bruno as a member of the MMA Legislative Policy Committee, which was approved unanimously.

- b) Consideration of One Raymond Committee recommendations: GIS Needs Assessment - Mark Gendron, Co-Chair. The Town Manager reported that he now had a proposal from Independent Consultant Jim Thomas of GIS Solutions to provide contract GIS work for an annual total of between \$10,000 and \$15,000, depending on the scope of services selected by the Town. Mr. Thomas will not keep regular business hours at the Raymond Town Office but will travel to Raymond as needed to complete any necessary on-site work. He will work primarily from his home office under the supervision of Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey and in consultation with involved department heads. This range of cost is below the Town's budget of \$20,000 and significantly below costs incurred in the past utilizing a full-time employee. Mr. Thomas will be providing detailed reports on a quarterly basis outlining his progress on a range of GIS projects that are currently on-going. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved entering into a contract for a one-year period with Mr. Thomas. The Town's future GIS needs will be evaluated and a decision made as to the scope of service and duration of contract necessary for any future work. In a related matter, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to continue the contractual arrangement established with Network Administrator Kevin Woodbrey for full-time work for the current fiscal year. A detailed needs assessment will be completed before the 2007/2008 budget deliberations in order to evaluate future technology service needs and the scope of contractual services required.
- c) Entitlement County Proposal, Community Development Block Program – Approval of Cumberland County Community Development Block Grant and Home Program Cooperation Agreement. The Town Manager recommended approving and signing the Entitlement County Agreement with Cumberland County as authorized at this year's Annual Town Meeting. This proposal will allow Raymond to cooperate with neighboring communities in Cumberland County for the application and receipt of grant funds for eligible federally sponsored projects.

7) Town Manager Report & Communications

- a) Kyle Woodbrey – Eagle Scout Project. The Town Manager outlined a proposal by Kyle Woodbrey to satisfy his Eagle Scout requirements by completing a public service project to construct a new reader board sign for the Town Office. Originally it was hoped to utilize a new technology known as "white paper." This technology, however, is not financially and technically attainable at this time. Instead Mr. Woodbrey proposes to install a new reader board that will utilize letters arranged by hand as does the current sign but will improve significantly upon its capacity for messages and aesthetic appeal. Provisions will be made in the sign for electronic conversion when "white paper" automated technology is available at a favorable cost to the Town. The cost of the project is funded through a combination of fund raising and other private contributions. If you would like to assist with this project, please contact Kyle Woodbrey at 221-2726 or Town Manager Don Willard at the Raymond Town Office at 655-4742 x31.

8) Approved payroll & appropriation warrants dated July 11, 2006.

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

- 1) Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mike Reyn-

olds presented certificates of ReCOgnition from the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG) to members of the Raymond Beautification Committee in recognition of their "Walk and Weed" program and to representatives of the One Raymond Committee which has promoted municipal and school cooperation to both improve service and reduce costs. Beautification Committee chairperson Sharon Dodson and Mike McLellan, Director of the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, accepted the award on behalf of the Beautification Committee. Mrs. Dodson noted that "Walk and Weed" meetings occur on Fridays at 8am, with volunteers gathering at Sunset Variety. New participants are always welcome. Mr. McLellan, who through the Chamber of Commerce helped organize the successful volunteer program, made a point of specifically recognizing the dedicated individuals who have made the program a success. The One Raymond Committee representatives included Suzie Brockelbank, a former member of the Budget Finance Committee, and Deborah Adams, Chairperson of the School Committee, as well as Selectman Mark Gendron. Mr. Gendron thanked the Superintendent of Schools, Town Manager and the volunteer members of the committee who had been working to enhance Raymond's facilities and realize cost savings. Mrs. Brockelbank reminded the public that another citizen volunteer is still needed to fill one vacant seat on this committee.



Mike Reynolds (left), Selectboard Vice-Chair, presented a Certificate of ReCOgnition from GPCOG in recognition of the "Walk and Weed" program to Beautification Committee chairperson Sharon Dodson and Mike McLellan, Director of the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, accepted the award on behalf of the Beautification Committee.



Certificates of ReCOgnition from GPCOG presented to representatives of the One Raymond Committee, which has promoted municipal and school cooperation both to improve service and reduce costs. (L-R) Mark Gendron, Selectboard Chair; Suzie Brockelbank, Budget/Finance Committee; Deborah Adams, School Board Chair.

- 2) Recycling and municipal solid waste pick-up policy discussion – Phil Hammett, Recycling Committee Chairman. This issue was tabled until the Tuesday, August 1st, meeting.
- 3) Old unfinished business – none
- 4) Town Manager Report & Communications
 - a) State liquor store applicants – The Town Manager informed the Board of Selectmen that both the Good Life Market, located on Rt. 302 and Rt. 85, and DJ's Pizza at the Raymond Shopping Center had applied to the State Liquor Agency to be Agency Liquor Store locations.
 - b) 2005/2006 Appropriation Report – The Town Manager provided preliminary information to the Board of Selectmen regarding year-end 2005/2006 fiscal year appropriations. The Town is once again in very favorable financial condition, with additional information to be coming shortly from Finance

Director Nancy Yates. A final audit report will be completed in the fall.

c) Former landfill, Egypt Road and access road – The Board of Selectmen had a brief discussion about potential issues at the former landfill on Egypt Road, as reported by local residents. Both the Town Manager and the Public Works Director will investigate concerns and report back shortly. At this writing, no formal use plan has been developed for the land, and no plans are pending for road improvement. In the event that the Town were to utilize the facility in the future for municipal activities, participation in the cost of the development of the road will be necessary.

d) Lake Region Suburban news article re: Right to Know Law – The Town Manager informed the Board of Selectmen that there was an implication in the Lake Region Suburban News last week that Raymond's tax collector was not knowledgeable or forthcoming with information as a consequence of a covert operation to gauge municipal understanding of Maine's Right to Know law by the Freedom of Information Coalition. Although Raymond provided a detail of legal expenses as requested, the Deputy Tax Collector misunderstood the nature of the second request for a non-specific list of delinquent taxpayers. It should be noted that this information is widely and publicly available in both the town report and published on the website. The Deputy Tax Collector believed the request was for a list of properties to be sold by the Town as tax acquired property. It is Raymond's policy to avoid this process by working closely with taxpayers in arrears to work out acceptable payment arrangements and/or strategies to address delinquencies such as abatements for poverty. The Town Manager assured the Board of Selectmen that efforts are always ongoing to educate all clerks on the requirements of the Right to Know law and other relevant legal requirements. He will also encourage the Maine Freedom of Information Coalition to take positive steps in a similar fashion as opposed to the current method of evaluating compliance.

e) Road paving – The Town Manager announced that paving work had begun on Raymond Hill Road and that the Public Works Department will be putting a skim coat on the Valley Road from the bottom of the hill to the intersection with Raymond Hill Road in order to smooth the riding surface. This temporary repair, which will be done at as low a minimal cost as possible, will not address the longstanding repair issues on this roadway but will facilitate both safe travel and plowing activity until major reconstruction can occur.

f) J's Hot Dog Cart – The Town Clerk reported that J's Hot Dog cart had been observed operating from the Fisherman's Net as opposed to its approved location at the Car Wash on Rt. 302. Code Enforcement Officer Jack Cooper will be investigating this Peddler License infraction.

5) Approved payroll & appropriation warrants dated July 11, 2006.

The Board of Selectmen held only one meeting during July. In August the meeting schedule will return to normal with meetings scheduled for August 1st and August 15th. Information from these meetings will be published in the September Road Runner. All Raymond meetings are public, and citizens are encouraged to attend. You may also watch rebroadcasts of municipal meetings on Public Access Channel 2, which is the government channel. Channel 3 is the Education/School channel. A program listing is available on-line at www.raymondmaine.org.

Election Clerks Needed

In preparation for the 2006 General Election on November 6th, we would appreciate hearing from anyone who would like to be an election clerk. No special knowledge or training is necessary - we will train you. If you would like more information, please call Louise Lester, Town Clerk, at the Town Office at 655-4742 ext. 21 or e-mail louise.lester@raymondmaine.org.

We work in four-hour shifts during the day, and after 8pm the ballots are counted and stored, which usually takes about two hours. You will receive a small compensation and a meal for the time of day that you are working. Come join us and help democracy in Raymond.

RED Program School Year Registration

Registration for the RED Program's upcoming school year program will be open to all current RED families (those enrolled in the 05-06 school year program and 06 Summer program) from Monday, July 31 - Friday, August 4. After August 4th enrollment will be open for all other families wishing to register and will remain open until the program is full. Applications can be picked up in the JSMS cafeteria and in the RES office. If you have any questions, please contact Kristi at 650-4470.

Teen Drinking and Driving Is Highest During July and August

by Steve Danzig, LSW, LADC

Last month, I warned you that June 15th officially starts the summer season for increased teen drinking. This month, AAA released a study that found that the summer months can be deadly for teen drivers. Of the 6,000 fatal car crashes per year involving drivers 16-21 years old, the highest percentage of those crashes occurs in July and August. What a terrifying combination!

Like scary statistics?

- Every 22 minutes someone dies in an alcohol-related motor vehicle accident.
- On any given weekend evening, 1 in 10 drivers on America's roads has been drinking.
- One out of 10 children ages 12 and 13 uses alcohol at least once a month.
- 70% of all teenagers drink alcohol.
- 60% of all teen deaths in car accidents are alcohol-related.
- According to AAA, in a single year, 522 children under age 14 were arrested for driving while intoxicated (113 of them were under 10 years old).

Why are teenagers drinking and driving?

It's hard to say. There are several explanations for the disproportionately high numbers of teenage alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents - explanations that range from the false notion on "teenage invincibility" to the increase in personal freedoms (i.e. reaching the legal ages for driving and later, for drinking). For some, letting or encouraging an intoxicated person to drive seems funny. And, of course, there's the "I can handle it" syndrome, where the person figures they can "hold" their liquor or that they haven't had enough to seriously impair them. Few people realize the effect a mere drink or two can have on one's system. For instance, teenage boys with a Blood Alcohol Level ("BAL") of .05-.10 are a staggering 18 times more likely to suffer a single vehicle crash than their non-drinking counterparts. Teenage girls at the same levels are an incredible 54 times more likely to crash. FYI, Maine's legal limit is .08 BAL for people 21 years old and over. For anyone under 21 years old, the legal Blood Alcohol Level limit is ZERO!!!

How do you stop your teens from drinking and driving?

The best way to prevent your teens from drinking and driving is to teach your children about the dangers. Explain to them that you don't have to be "legally drunk or a .08 BAL in Maine" to be seriously impaired. In addition, communicate and reinforce your expectations about their behavior. Lastly, convince them that they can always call you "no matter what" to come get them. And as always, if you suspect that your teen has a drinking problem, schedule an assessment with a licensed alcohol and drug counselor ("LADC") to begin the treatment process.

One last statistic:

As a drinking driver, you're four times more likely to crash and be killed or injured than you are to be arrested for exceeding the legal limits of O.U.I. So if you're concerned about being caught driving drunk, think again ... there's an even better chance you might be caught dead.

RWPA Annual Meeting & BBQ – August 12, 4pm, at Camp Timanous

by Noralee Raymond, Executive Director, Raymond Waterways Protective Association

- RWPA Annual Meeting & BBQ
- Remember to Inspect Your Boats!
- RWPA Newsletters in the Mail and On-line

RWPA Annual Meeting & BBQ – August 12th, 4pm

Join us by car or boat for our 2006 Annual Meeting on August 12th at 4pm at Camp Timanous. A BBQ event will follow from 5-7pm. Come hear about our activities of the summer, get the most recent information on our invasive plant program, view project photos, and meet our staff and volunteers. Please RSVP, so we can purchase the correct amount of food.

We will have live plant samples with tips for how to identify invasive plants, demonstration models of common conservation practices, and a water quality monitoring kit.

The BBQ event will immediately follow the meeting. We are providing the burgers, hot dogs, and lemonade. Bring salad or desserts and other beverages. If you are interested in donating food to this event please contact us.

Directions: Camp Timanous is located at the north end of Panther Pond off the Plains Road, ~ ½ mile from the Route 85/Plains Road intersection or ~ 1 mile from the Route 121/Plains Rd intersection.

Dock space is limited, so please bring an anchor if you come by boat.

We apologize if the late date makes it hard for some of our summer residents to attend. August 12th was the soonest available date. We would like to thank Camp Timanous for the use of their facilities.

We hope you can join us! E-mail or call today to sign up for the BBQ – lakes@raymondmaine.org or 207-671-3329.

Remember to Inspect Those Boats!

Lakes Rangers Al Lamanda, Tom Clancy, and William Koscielny are working hard to protect our precious lake resources from the threat of invasive plants. Through July 15th our rangers have inspected almost 1700 boats at the four launches. For more details on the boat inspection program, attend our annual meeting. If you see our rangers at the ramps, be sure to thank them!



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

RWPA Newsletter in the Mail and On-line

Newsletters were mailed in mid-July to "Raymond Postal Patron" and to out-of-town donors. Due to the bulk mail method, sometimes newsletters are not received (bulk mail is not forwarded). If you did not receive yours in the mail, you can view it on-line at our website at: <http://www.raymondmaine.org/committees/waterways/default.htm>. If you did not receive a copy by mail and would like a paper copy, please contact us and we will send another copy.

We hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather on Raymond's lakes! Be sure to give us a call or e-mail and come to our annual meeting on August 12th!

Results of Legislative Questionnaire

Rep. John Robinson

Earlier this year I mailed out a Legislative Questionnaire asking what your stance would be on proposed pieces of legislation that the Legislature would be addressing and your opinion on other matters of importance. Some of you have already received the answers, but I wanted to make the results available to all Raymond residents:

Eighty-three percent do not believe the Dirigo Health Plan is working as it should. Fifty-one percent suggested we do away with the plan. Some felt it was either too expensive to participate in or too expensive for the state to maintain; others felt we should open the plan to competition from other providers.

Over half believe that our current term limit of four two-year terms should not be changed.

I asked about providing a driver's license for a non-resident only for their legal length of stay within this state. Overwhelmingly the response was "no." Currently, a person who is neither a U.S. citizen nor a legal resident can apply for a Maine driver's license if they provide written proof that they are legally within the country. Representative Larry Jacobson of Waterboro sponsored a bill that would have required that driver's licenses issued in such a scenario would only be valid for the length of time a non-resident and/or non-U.S. citizen's papers were valid. This proposal was defeated in committee. Representative Ron Collins of Wells also submitted an amendment, which was debated and defeated, that would have required non-residents and/or non-U.S. citizens to show written proof, evidence, or documentation each time they apply for a Maine driver's license.

When asked about program reduction, "the Department of Health and Human Services" was the most frequent answer. Many of our neighbors expressed frustration over the Department's inability to accurately track those receiving services and the number of persons who abuse the system. Some suggested there be a residency requirement before aid is given and that there be a time limit on how long a person can receive welfare. Other interesting suggestions made by quite a few were some type of "work to receive" or "volunteer to receive" programs.

When asked what should be done to create and sustain job growth within our state, many of you answered that taxes on businesses needed to be reduced. Several suggested tax breaks and incentives to encourage relocation and/or expansion. Also cited as a restriction for growth were overabundances of state and federal government regulations.

Several of you stated that you were not aware of my voting record. Unfortunately, not every legislative document receives a roll-call vote, which records how individual Representatives voted on that proposed piece of legislation. For those of you with computer access, you can search for roll calls at the Maine State Legislature website. You can also search state statutes from that web page. Follow the links from

<http://www.maine.gov/portal/government/legislature.html>. For those without computer access, please feel free to contact me to inquire about my stance on an issue of your interest.

I truly have enjoyed my first Legislative term, though not quite finished, as your elected official to Augusta. It is my intention to always best reflect the wishes of those I represent. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you ever want to discuss any of these issues. I can be reached at my home in Raymond at 655-8657 or e-mail me at RepJohn.Robinson@Legislature.Maine.Gov.

State Rep. John C. Robinson (R-Raymond) serves on the Business Research and Economic Development Committee and on the Advisory Committee on Legislative Ethics.

Attention, Veterans

Raymond Veterans are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to support the Raymond Veterans' Memorial Project by buying a granite paver that they can put their name on. Pavers are \$50 for a 4"x 8" size and \$100 for a larger 8"x 8" size. Granite benches to honor a veteran can be purchased for \$1,500. Forms are available at the town office and on line on the Raymond website. All donations are welcome and most appreciated. Donations are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to the Town of Raymond with a memo for the Vet Committee. Questions? Please call Howard Stiles at 655-4193.

Audition Notice

Coming in November 2006
Windham Center Stage Theater
Presents

OLIVER!

Nothing works on the stage like a well-crafted tale, and OLIVER! is just such a show. Based on the Dickens novel, it engages the audience with its pathos and drama, while delighting everyone with outstanding musical numbers.

"Food, Glorious Food," "I'd Do Anything," "Where is Love?," "Consider Yourself," "As Long As He Needs Me," "Who Will Buy" and "Reviewing the Situation" are musical theatre classics. Dickens' characters are brought to life - perhaps larger than life - with all their facets glowing in the production

**Auditions: August 4, 5, & 6 2006, at the
Windham Community Center, School Road**
Friday, Aug. 4th from 6:30-9pm
Saturday, Aug. 5th from 11am-2:30pm
Sunday, Aug. 6th from 1-2pm
Call backs Sunday 2-4pm

Roles: men, women and children age 10 and up. Please bring a prepared musical piece to sing at time of audition.

Cast list of characters includes Fagin, Nancy, Bill Sikes, Mr. & Mrs. Bumble, Oliver Twist, The Artful Dodger, and The Magistrate.

Call 893-2098 or visit
www.windhamtheater.org for details

Produced by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark,
560 Lexington Ave, New York, NY

Thank You!

Raymond Baseball and Softball would like to thank their team sponsors for the 2006 season. This league could not be run successfully without the help of the following businesses. Thank you so much for supporting all the kids! We would also like to thank all of the businesses that have signs on our fence at the Sheri Gagnon Memorial Park and for everyone that helped support our Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.

Aubuchon Hardware
Chalmers Insurance Group
Community Pharmacies
Downeast Energy
Innovative Distribution Services (IDS)
Key Bank
Krainin Real Estate
Port Harbor Marine
Sabre Yachts
Sebago Lake Chevrolet
The Good Life Market
Trico Millwork

Kindergarten Visit Day at RES

Kindergarten Visit Day will be held at the Raymond Elementary School on Wednesday, September 6, starting at 9am. Parents are asked to bring their kindergarten student to school on that day. The children will have the opportunity to meet with their teachers, do an activity in the classroom, have snack and recess, and take the first of many bus rides. Parents will have the chance to meet with principal Norma Richard and discuss the routines and procedures that are in place for our youngest students. The first school day for kindergarten will be on Thursday, September 7. If your child will be 5 on or before October 15, is a Raymond resident, and is not yet registered for kindergarten, please call the school office at 655-8672. The RES office will be open for new student registrations each Tuesday.

RWPA Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 12th, 4pm
BBQ & Fun Activities 5-7pm
Camp Timanous off Plains Road
We will provide burgers and hot dogs.
Bring salad or dessert to share.
RSVP: 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org

Local Legislator Encourages Attendance at Maine's Summer Fairs

Representative John C. Robinson of Raymond would like to remind residents and visitors that Maine's agricultural fair season is just around the corner. Throughout the summer and early fall more than 20 licensed fairs will be held throughout the state. The Skowhegan Fair, which began in 1818, claims to be the oldest continuously-running fair in the United States. Maine's fairs are excellent educational entertainment for the entire family.

The first licensed fair of the 2006 season was the Houlton Fair, which opened on July 1st and ran through Independence Day. The fair featured livestock, crafts, a mid-way and stage entertainment. Many fairs this season will feature harness racing, most notably the Bangor State Fair in late July and the Oxford County Fair in mid-September. Maine's fair season will wrap up in October with the Fryeburg Fair, the largest agricultural fair, set in beautiful western Maine during prime foliage season.

It is only through your continued attendance and support that fairs in Maine exist as a vital part of the agricultural community. More information, including all locations, dates and websites, is available at

www.maineagriculturalfairs.com or by calling the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs at 268-4631.



WANTED Soccer players & coaches Fall Soccer K-6th Graders

We really need players of all ages so we can make enough teams to have a season. Boys and girls in 5th and 6th grades, please sign up (get your friends to join you) and get in shape and also have lots of fun. Forms are available on the Raymond website or contact Dana at 655-5351.

The soccer program will not continue if no interest is shown! Deadline is August 15th. We need to order shirts by the 22nd so we can have them for the season's start after Labor Day.

http://www.raymondmaine.org/recreation/raymond_rec/soccer/registration_form.pdf

Children's Summer Sunday Program Features Western Theme

by Rev. Nancy Foran, Pastor
Raymond Village Community Church

The Circle G Ranch is the theme for the Summer Sunday Children's Program at the Raymond Village Community Church (United Church of Christ) beginning at 10am each Sunday through August 13th. Children entering Grades 1-6 will explore how God's door is always open using a Vacation Bible School format with games, crafts, and music, as well as Biblically-based lessons. All children will be given their own bandannas to wear each Sunday. Cowboy hats will also be available for participants.

The Raymond Village Community Church invites all people to worship each Sunday at 10am. Nursery care is provided for infants through children entering Kindergarten. Wherever you are on your life's journey, you are welcome at the Raymond Village Community Church. For more information, phone 207-829-6351 or 207-650-7845 or e-mail nancy1@maine.rr.com.

The Raymond/Casco Historical Society

Report on Our Prehistoric-Indian "Artifact" Collection

by Alvin Hamblen Morrison Ph.D., ethnohistorical anthropologist and Society member, November 2005

The RCHS's Prehistoric-Indian Stone "Artifact" Collection took a trip to Augusta and back on 28 October 2005 to be triaged by the Maine State Museum's Chief Archaeologist Bruce Bourque and MSM Curatorial Assistant Robert Lewis into these three categories:

- 1 Artifacts Datable
- 2 Artifacts Undatable
- 3 Non-Artificial (Natural) Items.

The term "artifact" means something human-made (i.e., artificial), and the format (i.e., shape and style) of an item

often-but-not-always can be recognized as being from a particular time period of the past. Most of the datable artifacts found in the Lakes Region of Maine seem to be from some sub-period of the "Archaic" Period (i.e., Post-Glacial Hunting & Gathering, but Pre-Gardening) — meaning that populations here must have been high during those "Middle Stone Age" times.

The old idea that all Indian artifacts were "weapons" is now regarded as simple racial prejudice. However, the actual uses to which Indian artifacts were put probably varied: some of the same stone tools that men made to gouge out tree-trunks into "dugout" canoes undoubtedly were used by women to process animal hides into leather for clothing etc.

"Scientific" archaeological analysis can go only part way to our better understanding of stone items. "Humanistic" ethnological appreciation can take us a bit further — and that is what is required to conjecture the possible "uses" of our Non-Artificial (Natural) Items (sometimes termed

"geofacts" because they were formed by geological forces, often collectively called "weathering").

Ethnologically, we know that there is a Historic-Indian Oral Tradition among the Wabanakis about "Clay-Cakes Baked by the River-Elves" to account for the presence here in the Northeast of what geologists call "concretions" of sedimentary rock. There are several small specimens of these in our RCHS Collection. Humanistically, we can appreciate equally the fascinating aesthetic formats of the several other geofacts of rather stiffer rock that our anonymous* donor(s) left for us, too, to wonder about — and to assume quite reasonably that if and when both Prehistoric and Historic Indians found these same items, their sense of wonder about them was no less than ours. However, other "uses" of them besides "Wonderments" must be formally limited to "Possibly Ceremonial Items."

* anonymous donor(s): RCHS's Stone "Artifact" Collection now seems to lack any paper-trail as to who donated it. Any member or friend who can help us to identify the donor(s), please contact any RCHS officer, or contact Al Morrison at 655-4548 or at mawushen@maine.rr.com — Thank you!

April 2006 RCHS Monthly Meeting

Mrs. Louise Lester made a formal presentation to the society of an 1870 Harmon horse-drawn pung. It is the sleigh in which her grandmother, as a child, rode to Raymond's Mill Street school. (From the American Heritage Dictionary, "pung: noun, New England, a low, one-horse box sleigh. [Short for dialectal tom-pung, from an Algonquian language of southern New England.]")

WANTED

Stories and pictures need not be old, just related to Raymond-Casco with some historical significance and worthy of saving.

You do not have to give your memorabilia to RCHS; we have the facilities to copy your treasures. Of course, sleighs are a different matter. It is our goal to someday have a building to permanently display our growing collection of area artifacts.

Toward that end, an Endowment Fund was established in 2004 to be used for the benefit of the historical society.

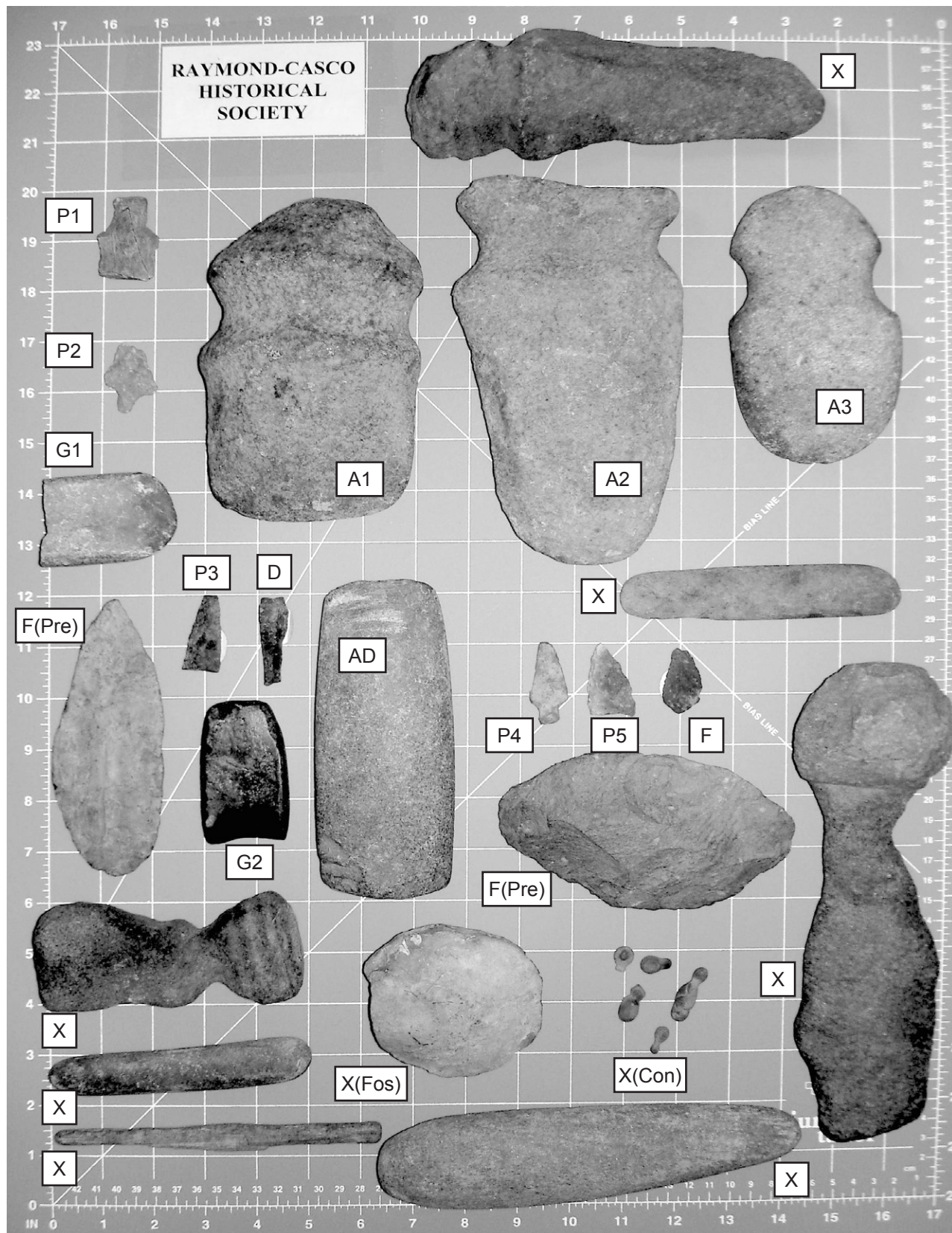
Help save your Maine heritage by donating to the Endowment Fund, sharing your pictures and stories, and becoming a RCHS member.

Family	\$15
Individual	\$10
Corporate	\$25
Student	\$2

Tax-deductible Endowment donation

Make your check payable to RCHS, mail to: RCHS, P.O. Box 1055, Raymond, ME 04071

For memorabilia contributions, contact Joseph Webber, RCHS president: (207) 232-2392



Key to Symbols on Artifacts Photograph

- BP = Before Present = Years Old
- A = AXES (grooved for haft [= handle])
- 1 Middle Archaic Period (c.7500 BP)
- 2 Archaic Period unusual style (maybe c.7500 BP / maybe c.3500 BP)
- 3 Late Archaic Period's Susquehanna Tradition (c.3500 BP)
- AD = ADZE (used both hand-held and hoe-hafted, in woodworking & fleshing) Ceramic Period (< 3000 BP)
- D = DRILL (with point broken off) Archaic Period with southern influence (maybe c.7500 BP / maybe c.3500 BP)
- F = FLAKE (used as mini-knife) (undatable)
- F (PRE) = PRE-FORM (blanks, to make specific tools from later) (undatable)
- G = GOUGES (curved chisels, to make dugout canoes) 1 & 2 Middle or Late Archaic Period (between c.7500 BP and c.3500 BP)

- P = POINTS FOR PROJECTILES (spear-points in prearrow times)
 - 1 Late Archaic Period's Susquehanna Tradition (c.3500 BP) [tip broken off]
 - 2 Early Middle Archaic Period Neville Point (c.7500 BP) [tip broken off]
 - 3 Archaic Period (unclassifiable fragment, so only can say > 4000 BP)
 - 4 Late Archaic Period (badly-weathered; so only can say > 3000 BP)
 - 5 Latest Ceramic Period fragment Side-Notched? Point (c.1000 BP-c.500 BP)
 - X = GEOFACTS (Nature-made, in many shapes & sizes; surely wonderments)
 - X (CON) = CONCRETIONS (clay)
 - X (FOS) = FOSSIL (mollusk [clam])
- For comparative reference, remember that the era of stone pyramid construction in Egypt began c.4500 BP (i.e., c.4500 years ago = c.2500 BC plus c.2000 AD).



Mrs. Louise Lester and Historical Society President Joseph Webber.



Louise Lester, Al Morrison, Joseph Webber and Betty McDermott, society treasurer, and the 1870 Harmon sleigh.

Substitute Teachers for 2006 - 2007

Applications are now being taken for Substitute Teachers at the Raymond Elementary School and the Jordan-Small Middle School.

Qualifications:

2 years of college (minimum)

Desire to work in a caring school environment

Love of children and learning

State of Maine fingerprinting required.

Applications are available in the Raymond School District business office, upstairs at the Raymond Elementary School.

Animal Control Report June-July

6/19	Small dog on beach - removed
6/20	Looking for escaped dog
6/20	Dog got out of car
6/21	Barking dog
6/21	Owner found escaped dog
6/22	Picked up trap
6/22	Crow playing ball
6/23	Stray cat in trap
6/23	Dog fight - written warning
6/23	Animal Refuge League
6/25	Posting NO DOGS at ball field
6/27	Dog at large - gone on arrival
6/28	Dead cat in road
6/28	Buried cat
6/29	Dog on ball park
6/30	Fiscal year end maintenance
6/30	Dead cat in road
7/1	Buried cat
7/1	Barking dog complaint
7/1	Dog on beach - removed with verbal warning
7/1	Two stray dogs in yard - gone on arrival
7/3	Dog at large - 2-hour delay
7/3	Cat missing
7/4	Dog on beach - removed with verbal warning
7/4	Dog spooked by fireworks
7/4	Dog found in Route 302 (Casco end) - located owner who picked up
7/6	Dog running south on Rt. 302
7/6	Dog and goat complaint - no water - seemed fine
7/6	Barking dog
7/7	Dogs on beach - removed with verbal warning
7/9	Dog at large - gone on arrival
7/10	Groundhogs - information given
7/10	Wild rabbit - information given
7/11	Dog at large - gone on arrival
7/13	Dog at large - verbal warning
7/13	Dog on beach - removed with verbal warning
7/13	Left trap for rabbit
7/13	Relocated skunk

Cemetery Committee Needs Help

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

Don't Throw Money Away

The PTA had a wonderful year last year supporting the schools. We were able to do the valuable work we do because of the fundraising support we get from our parents and community members. Not all of our fundraisers involve spending MORE money. Some are simple, and there is NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU!

1. The Box Tops for Education program raised over \$1500 last year! Please look for these logos on the food you buy. Each one is worth ten cents. If you have some, cut them out and drop them off at the schools, the library or the town hall. Every box top helps our schools! Product lists will be available at the drop off locations.
2. We are collecting empty printer cartridges (both ink jet and laser). This year we earned over \$1000 with your help. The only cartridges we CANNOT take are EPSON ink jet cartridges. We take all others. Each empty ink jet cartridge is worth \$2 to the school! Laser cartridges are worth from \$1 to \$12 EACH!!! Not only do we earn money, but we are recycling too! When you have an empty cartridge, drop it off at either school. The drop boxes are located inside the schools.
3. The Innisbrook fundraiser at the Raymond Elementary School has always been very successful and will continue at RES again this year. QSP will be the major fundraiser this fall at the Jordan-Small Middle School. In addition to sending information home with students, brochures will be available at the schools, town hall and town library if anyone is interested in ordering. Check out the wonderful wrapping paper and gifts to be delivered in time for the holidays.
4. Finally there are the Scholastic Book Fairs scheduled at RES. There are always quality children's books at very good prices. Look for announcements in future Road Runners.

Thank you to all of you who support our fundraisers each and every year. You have been able to help send kids to college, provide needed supplies, support field trips and much more. If you have any questions about any of these programs or would like to assist with these efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Deb Cutten, PTA President, (pta@raymondmaine.org)

Our first scheduled meeting of the 2006/2007 school year is September 12th at 6:30pm in the RES library. We hope to see you there!

Summer Sunday Music Program at Raymond Village Community Church

by Rev. Nancy Foran, Pastor
Raymond Village Community Church

Each Sunday through September 3rd, the Raymond Village Community Church invites area, as well as out-of-state, musicians who summer in Maine to participate in the worship service. A variety of music has been offered so far this summer, including songs performed by soloist Anthony Farides, and selections on the bagpipes performed by Elwood Beach. The schedule for the remaining summer Sundays is as follows:

July 23

Jerry Cobb and Nancy Cash-Cobb, vocalists with guitar

July 30

Sarah Montalvo, vocalist

August 6

Diane Goosetrey, piano
Georgia Humphrey, trombone
Scott Gordan, trumpet

August 13

Lori Lambert, vocalist

August 20

Senior choir, Raymond Village Community Church

August 27

Adrienne Milics, vocalist

The Raymond Village Community Church is located on Route 121 just off of Route 302 in Raymond and invites all people to worship each Sunday at 10am. Nursery care is provided, and a Summer Sunday Children's Program is offered. Wherever you are on your life's journey, you are welcome at the Raymond Village Community church! For further information, contact me by phone at 207-829-6351 or 207-650-7845, or by e-mail at nancy1@maine.rr.com.

Panther Pond Association Notes

By Ben Severn, PPA President

- Reading Assignments
- Getting Educated in the Fall

Rain, rain, more rain; bionic grass; to do lists; great beach and boat weather; and impending grandson visit all got in the way of this month's column. Next month, look for details of the late July Annual Meeting plus the Boat tour and Picnic, with discussion of water levels, streams, and the conservation project.

Reading Assignments: In the meantime, during the August hiatus there is some mid-summer's night reading that might just lead each of us to become a better steward of this jewel we call Panther Pond. Go to your, or the Raymond Library's, computer and take a moment to visit:

1. http://www.mhbriverwatch.dst.mn.us/publications/lakeshore_property.pdf - A study of the impact of reduced water clarity on property values.
2. <http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/doceducation/nps/nutrients.htm>
Background from DEP on phosphorus pollution.
3. <http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/doceducation/nps/prevention.htm>
DEP suggested steps we landowners can take.
4. <http://www.mainecola.org>
Learn what the Maine Congress of Lakes can do for us.
5. <http://www.pwd.org/news/publications.php>
Portland Water District fact sheets on common erosion control measures.
6. <http://www.yardscaping.org/>
A great site for caring for green yards, with links to similar sites.

Items 2-4 can be found at the PPA website, reached through the Committees selection at the www.raymondmaine.org website.

In closing out this section, I would be remiss if I did not highlight two premier sites that you should visit with some regularity and even get on their emailing lists. The work these two organizations carry out year in and year out to further the understanding of our lakes and how to protect them is phenomenal. What is being done at the local level here in Raymond and surroundings by RWPA and PPA, to name two groups, is due in large part to the pioneering and ongoing efforts of these two organizations:

- The Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and Maine Center for Invasive Plants Program at: <http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/>
- The Lakes Environmental Association at: <http://www.mainelakes.org/>

Getting Educated in the Fall

Finally, be sure to read the article by Noralee Raymond in this edition of the Road Runner on the upcoming Watershed Stewards Training Program scheduled to begin September 12th at the Public Safety Building.

It is an extraordinary opportunity over 7 weeks to learn how to protect our lakes. Sign up today and become a better Steward of Panther Pond.

Innisbrook Sale at RES

Innisbrook Wraps is celebrating its 25th Birthday with the most spectacular selection of gift wrap and gifts ever. The Raymond Elementary School fall Innisbrook sale will begin on September 15 and run through October 2. Just wait until you see this year's catalogue!

- Award Winning Gift Wrap Designs
- Great Gift Products for the Holidays
- Delicious Gourmet Foods and Chocolate

Innisbrook schools can also order on the web 365 days of the year at www.innisbrook.com. The Raymond Schools' customer number is 104999. Families and out-of-town friends can order and reorder over 150 Innisbrook products on-line all summer long! It's a great way to buy gifts and have more time to spend on your summer. Products will be delivered right to your door, and your child's school will receive the 50% profit.



Lush Lawns for LeSS

Provided by Noralee Raymond

We Love Lawns. They are part of our image of what home should be and, when healthy, they can provide a personal refuge and a place to play.

Maintaining a healthy lawn is the best way to combat weeds, diseases, and pests. If you find you have to continually add pesticides and fertilizers to your lawn to keep it looking good, this could indicate an underlying problem.

A YardScaping lawn can be healthier, and the bonus is that it is also healthier for your children, pets, your wallet, and the environment.

Fertilizer: more is not necessarily better! The iridescent, emerald-green lawn acquired by overfeeding with fertilizers, especially nitrogen, is actually unhealthy turf that's under stress. In this condition, the lawn is vulnerable to plant diseases, weeds and drought. Maine soils are rich in phosphorus, so phosphorus-free fertilizer is generally all you need for an established lawn.

Pesticides can be toxic if overused or carelessly applied. Pesticides (fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides) are used to control diseases, weeds, and insect pests. The long-term effects on human health from continuous exposure to low levels of chemical pesticides is a subject of ongoing debate.

"Weed and Feed" is a combination of both pesticides & fertilizers. Because these products are generally applied to the entire lawn, you may be applying unneeded chemicals. For example, there may be areas of the lawn without weeds that don't need pesticides. Or using "weed and feed" may result in applying fertilizer at a time of the year when the grass is not growing, and the fertilizer won't be absorbed. This can waste money.

What You Can Do, If You Do It Yourself.

- If you do fertilize your lawn, hold off until late summer or early fall. Between Labor Day and Columbus Day is the best time for the uptake of nutrients, so your money will not be wasted.
- If you currently use "weed and feed," consider spot-treating your weeds and then applying your fertilizer separately in late summer/early fall.
- For additional information about low-impact lawn care alternatives, check out YardScaping for a Healthy Maine: www.yardscaping.org
- What You Can Do, If You Hire a Lawn Care Company.
- Ask your provider whether the insect and weed controls are applied on a fixed schedule. If so, they are not the company to hire.
- Make sure your provider does a soil test before fertilizer is applied.
- For additional information about selecting a natural, pesticide-free lawn care program, go to <http://www.yardscaping.org/hire.htm> or check out Paul Tukey's People, Places & Plants Tips of the Week: <http://www.ppplants.com/resources/tip/04-04-06.html>.

YardScaping hopes to inspire Maine people to create and maintain healthy landscapes through ecologically based practices that minimize reliance on water, fertilizer, and pesticides. The Maine YardScaping Partnership was formed out of the rising concern among statewide organizations and agencies over the possible pollution caused by yard care chemicals washing away into water bodies, as well as the risks of pesticide exposure to people, pets, and wildlife.

Watershed Stewards Training Program

By: Noralee Raymond, RWPA Executive Director

Maine lakes are at risk of pollution. It is up to us, Raymond residents, to protect our lakes. Here's a chance to learn how: sign up today for the Watershed Stewards Program.

The Watershed Stewards Program is a 7 week course starting September 12th, offered to interested local residents by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension (UMCE) on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9pm at the Raymond Public Safety Building. This program trains Maine residents to identify pollution sources and how to correct them.

Water specialists from around the state will come to Raymond this fall and speak about the following topics: Maintaining Gravel Roads, Designing Vegetative Buffers, Safe Lawn Care and Gardening Techniques, Invasive Aquatic Plants, Well Water, Septic Systems - Care and Maintenance, Landscaping to Protect Maine Lakes, Lakes 101, and Shoreland Zoning.

This program is free to all landowners within Raymond and Casco, with the expectation that participants will return at least 25 hours of service to their watershed for the 25

Watershed Stewards Program
 Tuesdays, September 12th – October 24th
 6:30-9pm
 Raymond Public Safety Building
 Sign up today!
 Contact Laura Wilson, UMCE, at
 581-2971 (800-870-7270 toll-free in Maine)

training hours. For more information or to register, contact Laura Wilson, UMCE, at 581-2971 (toll-free in Maine 1-800-870-7270) or Noralee Raymond, RWPA, at 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org.

This program is offered as part of the Thomas Pond Conservation Project. We will focus on the Raymond and Casco watershed areas, as we partner with the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District, RWPA, and the Thomas Pond Improvement Association. We hope you can join us and learn how to protect our lakes!



Thomas Pond Watershed Improvement Project

Casco - A new grant has been awarded to the Town of Casco and the Thomas Pond Watershed to fix erosion problems contributing pollutants to Thomas Pond. The \$115,059 grant will be implemented by the Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District and will help to pay for construction work on private and public property to fix eroding camp roads, ditches, and driveways and install conservation landscapes. The grant will also provide matching funds to qualified residences, free technical assistance and outreach and education programs to protect the lake.

Thomas Pond is a 497-acre lake located in the Towns of Casco and Raymond. The lake's watershed (area in which all precipitation drains into the lake) encompasses 4.5 square miles and drains into Sebago Lake. The lake has approximately 7.5 miles of shoreline most of which is developed and privately owned, with over 300 seasonal and year round homes. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection has placed Thomas Pond on their list of *Lakes Most at Risk from Development* under the Maine Stormwater Law, as well as on the State's *Nonpoint Source Priority Watershed's* list.

Sediment is the number one type of pollution affecting Maine's waterbodies. Erosion causes soil particles to enter our lakes. These particles can carry the nutrient phosphorus, essentially "fertilizing" the pond and decreasing water quality. Excess phosphorus can also harm fish habitat and lead to nuisance algae blooms – a mat of green scum. And studies have shown that as water quality decreases, property values also drop.

Over the next two summers, watershed residents can get help with reducing the chances of algae blooms and property value decline. Free technical assistance will be made available to all interested watershed residents. Conservation matching grants of up to \$300 will be offered to 23 priority sites within the watershed needing conservation improvements, and conservation practices will be installed at 9 predetermined road and trail sites within the watershed to improve water quality. Workshops will also be offered to help citizens learn conservation techniques to use on their own property.

For more information on this grant and/or to take part in the opportunities it has to offer, please contact Heather True at the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District at htrue@cumberland-swcd.org or 892-4700.

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