

The Raymond RoadRunner

A Raymond School District & Town of Raymond Publication
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RES C.A.T.S on the Prowl

This year 27 fourth grade students at Raymond Elementary School were recently selected to be C.A.T.S. C.A.T.S are members of the Caring Assistance Team. The team is challenged to improve the school climate at RES by recognizing students when they demonstrate our I CARE RULES. The C.A.T.S hand out tokens to students, which are then collected in the office. When the token jar is filled, the whole school celebrates with a special activity. Students can also receive tokens for positive bus and lunchroom behavior.



The C.A.T.S' mission is for our school to be a safe and caring place for all children. The C.A.T.S will also be on the lookout this year for third grade K.I.T.S (Kits In Training).

Town Office Holiday Schedule

This is to announce the office hours of the Town Office over the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays.

- Thanksgiving - Closed for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 23rd, 24th, 25th
- Christmas - Closed Saturday, December 23rd
- New Year's - Closed Saturday, December 30th

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Tax Bills Are Out

The tax bills are being mailed. Due to the revaluation, the 2006-2007 tax bills have been delayed. Because of this, the Board of Selectmen have decided that although the date for payment will remain October 31st interest will not begin accruing until 30 days from the postmark on the bill. If you pay your taxes within that time, interest won't be charged even though the date of payment is after October 31st.

GENERAL ELECTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2006

JORDAN-SMALL MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

7AM TO 8PM

A Voter Registrar will be available during regular office hours at the Town Office.

The Voter Registrar will also be in attendance on Election Day from 7am to 8pm.

When registering to vote, please appear with two forms of identification, one with a photo, and both stating your physical address in Raymond.

Raymond PTA Becomes Raymond PTO

After discussing the pros and cons of being part of the National PTA, it was decided that the Raymond PTA will become the Raymond PTO. We will not renew our affiliation with the National or State PTA. Raymond has joined the majority of parenting groups in the U.S, 75% of which are now PTOs.

As part of the National PTA we had to remit \$4.75 of every \$5 membership fee we collected. In addition, we had to commit to sending at least two officers to the State convention at a cost of \$130. It was felt that those monies could be better spent in our schools and community. Benefits that the National PTA offered, such as online parenting resources and access to expertise on children's issues, are available at no cost through the national PTO (www.ptotoday.com).

Our mission to advocate for children, enrich educational programs, support faculty and staff in their work, and collaborate with community organizations will not change, however. Our by-laws will be rewritten to reflect our new status as an independent PTO. You'll be seeing this change starting in November.

If you any concerns about the change in our status or would like your membership dues reimbursed because of this change, please feel free to contact us at pta@raymondmaine.org.

Calling All JSMS Students

Do you have a special talent? If you do, share it with the school during our Community Service Winter Talent Show production. The sign-up sheet is on Ms. Loux's door. Space is limited, and you must be signed up by November 20th. Sorry, only staff and students may audition. See Ms. Loux for more details. We hope to see you there!

Brownie Scouts Focus on Water Quality

Brownie Girl Scout Troops 1748 and 2093 started this year with a surface water demonstration by Noralee Raymond, Executive Director of Raymond Waterways Protective Association. The girls were challenged to design landscapes that would reduce runoff into area lakes. They came up with some very creative and useful solutions, from increasing the number of plants leading to the shore, changing where driveways should be placed, and even changing the direction of a roof pitch away from the water to slow runoff.



This meeting was followed up a week later by actually testing the water quality in two locations here in town. Troop 2093 did water testing at Panther Pond; Troop 1748 did their testing at the Jordan Bay boat launch/beach on Sebago Lake. Tests conducted were for pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature and turbidity. Test results, which were favorable in both locations, were posted at www.worldwatermonitoringday.org. World Water Monitoring Day is held annually between September 18 and October 18. Communities in 50 countries around the world participate in this program to monitor the condition of local water bodies.

Both Troops are focusing on water quality and protection this year as part of the Water Drop Patch Project and related Try-It work.

Road Runner Articles

Articles for the next edition of the *Road Runner* newsletter are due by Wednesday, November 22nd. 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

Raymond Village Library News

At a Glance

Wednesday, November 15 – Pajama Story Time at 6:30pm

Sunday, November 26 – Annual Tree Lighting at 5pm

Monday, December 4 – Raymond Village Library Board Meeting at 7pm

Sunday, December 10 – Annual Bake Sale begins at 10am

Pajama Story Time

Acclaimed storyteller Jody Fein will help celebrate National Children’s Book Week with fun stories and silly movements. So all you elementary school children, put on your P.J.’s and come on down to the library on Wednesday, November 15, at 6:30pm. You can bring your siblings and parents, too, but everyone must wear their pajamas!!!

Tree Lighting

The tree lighting will take place at the library on Sunday, November 26, at 5pm, preceded by a story time for youngsters at 4:30. This annual event is provided by the Raymond Lions Club in conjunction with the Raymond Village Library.

Book Group

The book group will read and discuss the classic and humorous play “She Stoops to Conquer” by Oliver Goldsmith. The group will meet on Wednesday, November 29, at 7pm. For more information, please call Jane at 655-5354.

Audio Books

There is always something new at your library. This month we have added to the audio book collection. Now there are more audio books from which to choose, so it’s a great time to drop in to the library and find the new audio book to listen

to, the DVD to watch or a great book to read!

In Lieu of Flowers: Happy Story Time Memories Lead to Memorial Donations to the Library

Library story times have given generations of Raymond families happy memories. One might think that those memories are all the children’s. Not so. Those times and happy remembrances also belong to the parents and grandparents who bring the children to the library to help develop a love for words and to know the joy of reading that will last a lifetime.

Recently, the Henry Beaumier family requested that memorial donations in their father’s name be sent to the Raymond Village Library, in lieu of flowers, based on a surprising find. As the family was cleaning out his wallet they found library information with the story times highlighted. For a man in his seventies to carry that particular item in his wallet spoke volumes about how he valued the time he had shared with his children and grandchildren at the library. When told of the family’s decision to designate, in his obituary, the library for memorial donations, one granddaughter wept and said, “Clifford, the Big Red Dog.” It was her favorite book from when “Papa” took her to the library’s story times.

Memorial donations to the library are considered “living gifts.” The gifts not only honor the memory of a loved one or special friend, but they are also a source of funds that help the library provide its programs and services to the community. If a family has not designated a specific use for memorial funds, Library Director Barbara Thorpe personally contacts them to determine how best to honor the deceased – most generally by books added to the specific area of the library’s collection that closely reflects the interests of the deceased. Memorial bookplates are inserted in the items added to the library’s shelves.

In memory of “Papa,” there will be new children’s books in the collection – and when one is read at story time, his memory will be further honored.

TOWN OF RAYMOND Lake Region Development Council Board

The Town of Raymond is requesting applicants for a position on the LRDC board This volunteer position would be to represent Raymond in this regional organization to promote the town and the lakes region. It would require a monthly meeting the third Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm at the Welcome Center at Point Sebago Campground, Riggs Road, off Route 302 in South Casco. There would also be an opportunity to be involved in committee work associated with the interests of the LRDC. For more information call Mike McClellan, Director, at 647-3472 or e-mail mikem@mainelakeschamber.com

Please forward your letters of interest, including a short resumé, to Louise Lester, Town Clerk, 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071 or e-mail louise.lester@raymondmaine.org. A volunteer application is also available on our website www.raymondmaine.org which will be automatically forwarded to Mrs. Lester.

November 2006

Events and Meeting Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 6:30PM RE School Committee Meeting	2 6:30PM PS Raymond Lions Club Meeting	3	4
5	6 10:00AM VL Library Babytime	7 7:00PM TH Selectmen’s Meeting	8 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 6:30PM TH Planning Board Meeting	9	10	11
12 10:00AM TG Appeals Board Site Walk	13 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 7:00PM RE Recycling Committee	14 6:30PM RE Parent Teachers Organization	15 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 6:30PM RE School Committee Workshop 6:30PM VL Pajama Story Time	16 7:00PM MB One Raymond Committee 7:00 PM TH CPIC 6:30PM PS Raymond Lions Club Meeting	17	18
19 10:00AM TH Appeals Board Site Walk	20 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 6:30PM TH Free Computer Workshop	21 7:00PM TH Selectmen’s Meeting	22 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime ROADRUNNER DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE ARTICLES	23 THANKSGIVING DAY TOWN OFFICE CLOSED	24 TOWN OFFICE CLOSED	25 TOWN OFFICE CLOSED
26 5:00PM VL Tree Lighting	27 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 7:00PM TH Appeals Board Meeting	28 7:00PM TH Conservation Commission 7:00PM TBD Possible Board of Assessment Review	29 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 7:00PM VL Book Discussion Group	30 7:00PM TH Cemetery Committee 7:00PM MB Building Committee	FB=Fire Barn JS=Jordan-Small KC=Kokatosi Campgnd PS=Public Safety Bldg. RE=Raymond Elementary CL=Casco Library TBD=To Be Determined	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, October 3, 2006

- 1) Discussion of mailing tax bills in late October – Mark Gendron, Chair of Selectmen

Chairman Mark Gendron discussed the timing of the fiscal year 2006/2007 property tax bills with Contract Assessor Mike O'Donnell. Although Mr. O'Donnell was not certain as to the exact date that taxes will be committed and bills produced, he does recommend, as has been the practice in prior years, that the first half due date remain fixed at October 31st, 2006, but that a 30-day period be allowed from the date of the mailing of the tax bills until interest begins to accrue. The delay in establishing this year's tax rate is directly related to the time involved in processing all of the 2005 individual abatement requests. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved allowing a 30-day grace period after tax bills are mailed for payment without interest.

- 2) Tri-town/county meeting – Selectmen follow-up discussion

Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mark Gendron reported on the recent meeting between the towns of Windham, Gray and Raymond and the Cumberland County Commissioners. He noted that Raymond was well represented by Selectmen and municipal officials, including the Town Manager and Fire Chief. An opportunity was offered for the towns to discuss issues of concern, but due to a limited amount of time available for the meeting, a full discussion was not possible. Selectman Mike Reynolds felt the Commissioners defended their positions but didn't really listen to the concerns expressed by the towns. Selectman Dana Desjardins thought that the county should have more than three commissioners and felt that by adding two commissioners for a total of five, towns like Raymond would have much improved representation. There was a general consensus that an additional meeting, as promised by the county, should be held. To date, no communications have been received from Cumberland County to set up such a follow-up meeting. Selectman Joe Bruno recommended that the Board of Selectmen send a letter to the County Commissioners asking for a meeting to explain, among other things, the large proposed budget increase which will directly affect Raymond in the upcoming fiscal year. This motion was approved unanimously.

- 3) Consideration of abatements – Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell, O'Donnell & Associates

Contract Assessor Mike O'Donnell explained that he is working diligently to get all abatements processed before tax commitment time. Over the past several meetings he has brought forward several groups of abatements for Selectmen consideration. Mr. O'Donnell indicated that of approximately 4,000 properties, there were fewer than 400 abatement requests, which is a typical number of abatements to be considered following a revaluation. During his time as Contract Assessor, he has made a dedicated effort to make adequate time to listen to taxpayer concerns, hear evidence and process abatement requests as expeditiously as possible. After Mr. O'Donnell's presentation the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the 59 abatements presented.

- 4) One Raymond Committee update – Mark Gendron & Dana Desjardins, Co-Chairs

Chairman Mark Gendron outlined recent One Raymond Committee activities, including work by the One Raymond Building Subcommittee, which has recently considered several location possibilities for a new combined Town Office, Library and Community Center. Locations discussed included using a part of the Jordan-Small Middle School and/or the ball field adjacent to this school. Recently, the possibility also emerged to look at the parcel of property that comprises approximately 7.84 acres located behind the District 2 Fire Station/Public Works Garage/Bus Facility. A site walk was scheduled for Sunday October 8th at 8am. The Board of Selectmen also inquired about the possibility of using the new Public Safety Building as a Town Office location. The Town Manager will provide copies of the deed, which includes a restriction limiting the use of the building to Public Safety purposes only. A discussion ensued over the timing of the activation of live cable broadcasting, including the

timing of televising School Committee meetings. The Town Manager will shortly be developing a timeline with the Network Administrator for the activation of live broadcasting and will contact the Superintendent of Schools to make her aware of this capability for School Committee meetings. The implementation of the project has been delayed on account of the fact that a good deal of complex technical installation work will need to be completed locally by the Network Administrator along with his many other duties and work priorities. The only solution to make the project occur faster would be to engage an independent contractor. The Board of Selectmen declined to consider that possibility, given the need to stay within the original budget approved by Town Meeting for the project.

- 5) Old (unfinished) business

- a) Consideration of recycling totes – Phil Hammett, Recycling Committee Chairman

The Board of Selectmen unanimously decided to purchase 100 totes and to pursue the possibility of splitting an order with another town to reduce cost.

- 6) Town Manager Report & Communications

- a) Sex Offender Concerns

State Representative John Robinson asked for an opportunity to address the Board of Selectmen on sex offender legislative issues. Representative Robinson explained that he had recently been contacted by several Raymond constituents with concern over local and state regulations with respect to sex offender policies and minimum residency distances from schools and other public facilities that are not currently covered by state statute. The Town Manager indicated that he had also been contacted and would be scheduling a discussion of this issue as soon as possible after speaking with representatives of the County Sheriff's Department. Selectman Joe Bruno said that Waterboro had an ordinance in place and that other towns were looking into it. The Town Manager was directed to gather information from these towns in preparation for the upcoming discussion. Mr. Robinson also reported that a legislative judicial committee met to look into revamping the current state program, with levels of sex offenders identified by their potential for recidivism and the degree of threat that they pose to the community. Mr. Robinson felt the legislature would have something developed by next winter. School Committee Chairperson Roger Ginn, whose profession is forensic psychology, felt that there are more low risk sex offenders in the registry which tended to dilute attention which should be focused on high risk offenders who are sometimes lost in the numbers. He felt that treatment was a key to rehabilitation and those who attended treatment were far less likely to offend again than those who did not participate. He continued that community input would be very beneficial from the school's point of view, and we needed to be diligent in monitoring the activity of high risk offenders.

- b) MMA Convention

The Town Manager reported that he would be going to the Annual Maine Municipal Association meeting on Wednesday and that Town Clerk Louise Lester would be attending on Thursday.

- 7) Fiscal Warrants - Approved payroll & appropriation warrants dated October 3, 2006

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

- 1) Conditional Rezoning discussion regarding proposed Raymond House Condominium project located off Route 85 - Peter Busque, Owner/Developer

Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mark Gendron introduced this discussion item by outlining to the Selectmen the discussion at an earlier meeting between various town officials and Mr. Busque regarding the potential for changes to his proposed development located off of Route 85 that would be beneficial to the town and Mr. Busque from a development, aesthetic, and sales perspective. The parcel proposed for development is located on about sixty acres in the village residential district approximately one quarter of a mile from the intersection of Webbs Mills Road and Route 302. The project was first brought to the Planning Board in December 2004 for a pre-application sketch plan review. At that time 109 units in a mix of multi-family and duplex buildings using common septic systems were

proposed. The planning board, after considering this proposal, requested additional information regarding the septic design. In May 2005, the town voted to enact several land use changes that altered the density calculations and affected the project. Mr. Busque returned to the Planning Board for another pre-application review in April 2006 with a proposal for 129 units with individual septic systems for each unit. These were mostly single-family two bedroom units which were proposed to sell for approximately \$250,000 a piece. Each unit would include a limited common element, which is a lot essentially for the use of the owner of that unit, but legally still land held in common ownership of the association. Mr. Busque proposed that there would be four or five model units to choose from and that the project would be one that would be age restricted to 55 years and older in accordance with state law. The Planning Board, upon review, informed the applicant that the number of building units was not allowed under current zoning, as the project comprises only 49 acres of buildable area. A maximum number of single-family dwelling units would be approximately 53, with the maximum number of duplex units approximately 106, which translates into 53 separate duplex buildings. If the applicant were to propose multi-family buildings, the maximum number of dwelling units would increase to about 140, but those would be buildings of three units or more. The purpose of the meeting was to convey the Selectmen's interest in working toward a project that would be both in the best long term interest of the town and to Mr. Busque's development plans. In that regard the Selectmen also expressed a willingness to explore potential approval timelines that would be mutually advantageous to the parties with respect to a conditional rezoning of the site. After meeting with the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Busque indicated that he will discuss the possibility of making a formal conditional rezoning request with his engineering consultants and report back directly to the Town Manager.

- 2) Set 2006/2007 fiscal year municipal property tax mil rate – Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell, O'Donnell & Associates

Contract Assessor Mike O'Donnell presented the Selectmen with a suggested mil rate of \$10.20 per thousand valuation based upon approved town, school and county budgets, reduced overall valuation on account of approved abatement requests, and the need to maintain an adequate level of surplus to be available for on-going future abatement requests. The increase in this year's tax rate was aggravated by the fact that last year, through an inadvertent error in the Assessor's Office, the tax rate was set lower than would have been the case had the Selectmen's selected level of surplus been raised. It is expected that the current rate will be more stable than the rate of \$9.30 that was selected last year, as most major abatements have now been processed and the town's valuation is likely to begin increasing again. Selectman Joe Bruno noted that a significant factor in the increase in the tax rate was the decision by the Town Meeting to approve increases above LD-1 in both town and school funding. He said it is particularly important for the town and school both to be fiscally responsible moving forward in order to maintain as closely as possible the new tax rate. The Board of Selectmen, at the conclusion of Mr. O'Donnell's presentation, unanimously approved setting the 2006/2007 fiscal year municipal property tax mil rate at \$10.20 per thousand valuation.

- 3) Consideration of abatements – Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell, O'Donnell & Associates

The Board of Selectmen approved eight abatements as recommended by Mr. O'Donnell.

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

Co-Chair Mark Gendron reported that a site walk of the 7.84 acres of land behind the Webbs Mills Public Works building on Route 85 was conducted, and the land appears suitable for building. This is a possible site for a new town office to be built on the uphill end, which is dry. The attendees also looked at the 83-acre parcel owned by the town on Egypt Road, a small portion of which was formerly used as a landfill and could possibly be used as a recreation area in the future, including the construction of new ball fields. The Town Manager said he had previously secured the promise of assistance from the Maine Army National Guard to

Continued on page 4

Municipal News Brief continued from page 3

assist with rebuilding the road and rough grading into this location.

5) Old (unfinished) business

a) Recycling

Mrs. Louise Lester updated the Selectmen on the recycling bin purchase. There are three other towns looking to purchase bins at this time, and she will look into whether we can place an order jointly with them for cost savings.

b) TV Broadcasting

It was reported that Kevin Woodbrey is still working on the wiring for this system and is asking for volunteers to help with installation and also to train on running the system. It is noted that the School Board could be broadcast live as well. Mr. Woodbrey is indicating that the system will be complete in three to four weeks. Mr. Gendron mentioned that the people who train to run the system would be paid to videotape the meetings.

Mr. Reynolds said that the School Board should decide the utilization of the access channel for the school. The Town Manager offered that Superintendent Caldwell has indicated that this subject is included on their next agenda. Mr. Gendron encourages the School Board to take advantage of this community communication opportunity.

c) Meeting Room Chairs

The Town Manager mentioned that the chairs in the town office meeting room will be moved to the modular conference room, where live broadcasts will originate, and that temporarily the antique wooden chairs will be returned to the town office until such time as new chairs can be purchased for this meeting room.

d) Code Enforcement Office

The Town Manager gave an update on the search for a new Assistant Code Enforcement Officer. Seven applications have been received, and interviews will begin on Friday, October 20th.

e) Sex Offender Ordinance

Mr. Gendron would like to see the issue of the sex offender ordinance on the next agenda. The Town Manager said it would appear on the agenda for the second Selectmen's meeting in November because the first meeting is Election night and the Sheriff is unable to attend. Mr. Desjardins asked that protection of our public parks, beaches etc. be included in any local ordinance. Mr. Gendron requested that once the ordinance is updated, it be sent to the County Sheriff's department.

f) Meeting with Cumberland County Commissioners

Mr. Gendron asked if the Town Manager had heard anything about a tri-town meeting with the County Commissioners. The Town Manager replied that he had received a call from the County Manager who indicated he would explore the issue and would like suggestions for subject matter from the Selectmen. Mr. Bruno received a call from the County Manager about the budget process but hasn't heard anything further. The Town Manager said that last week he had requested minutes relative to their meetings regarding the decision to build a new dispatch center and exclude the Raymond Public Safety Building from consideration, but he hasn't received them yet. He said that Raymond still hasn't received information relative to a problem at the Cumberland County facility in September around the time of the lightning storm. Mr. Gendron asked the Town Manager to forward the two-page document outlining concerns with the county to the press. Mr. Desjardins notes that Gray is voting tonight as to whether they would join with county dispatch.

6) Town Manager Report and Communications

7) Fiscal Warrants – Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated October 17, 2006

a) County tax payment now due.

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.

SAFE Program to Address Traffic Concerns

Hebron—Complaints of speeding and other traffic violations in the vicinity of Hebron Academy have prompted the Oxford County Sheriff's Office to undertake a program known as Strategic Area Focused Enforcement (SAFE), whose purpose is to heighten awareness of and compliance with local traffic laws.

Starting the week of October 23, motorists transiting the Hebron campus on Route 119 and Station Road will be stopped by members of the Sheriff's Office, who will distribute literature explaining the hazards posed by pedestrian traffic in the area. The outreach effort will be followed by a period of "zero tolerance" enforcement of the speed limit and traffic rules.

"There's been an increase in traffic along 119 in recent years," Lieutenant Christopher Wainwright of the Sheriff's Office said recently, "and I share the concern of school and town officials. The cooperation with the community has been great. We want to take a proactive approach to the situation before anyone is hurt or injured."

Road signs on the approaches to the campus announce a 30 MPH speed limit, with a further reduction of speed to 15 MPH indicated by flashing yellow lights in the vicinity of three crosswalks on Route 119. The lights are currently set to flash during high traffic periods, when students regularly cross the highway to pass between dormitories, classrooms, athletic fields and dining facilities. In addition to a public awareness and enforcement campaign, the program includes plans for improved signage and sensors controlling how crosswalk lights are activated.

Jack Leyden, Assistant Head of Hebron Academy, acknowledged the school's concerns and welcomed the new program. "We are delighted to team with the Oxford Sheriff's Office in its inaugural effort with the SAFE program, which will provide additional assistance in the ongoing education of our students about their responsibilities as drivers and pedestrians."

Established in 1804, Hebron Academy is a boarding and day school that currently serves some 252 students in grades 6 through Post-Graduate.

As the November Election Closes In

By Rep. John C. Robinson

It has been a great honor to serve the people of Raymond, Poland, Standish and Frye Island as the State Representative for District 103 in the 122nd Legislature. I would like to thank everyone who contacted me over the last two years. It has been a pleasure to work with Senator Bill Diamond and the entire Lake Region Legislative Delegation to achieve goals for our region and constituency.

As the November elections approach, I would like to leave residents with these thoughts:

Maine faces substantial fiscal challenges in the upcoming years, with hundreds of millions in unpaid obligations looming. Maine is in desperate need of implementing real spending reform, lowering our tax burden, and lowering the cost of health insurance. We need to stop the alarming growth of state government and to prioritize funding for critical services. There should be no question that Maine is at a crucial crossroads, and now as much as ever is the time to send people to Augusta who are committed to spending the Maine people's tax dollars more wisely! Working together with the right vision and leadership, we can make Maine a thriving state in which to do business again and an attractive place for working families to live.

It is critical that leaders who are committed to making Maine a more competitive place to do business and to lowering the over all tax burden step forward. I fought for these principles during my first term, and I will continue to battle for those priorities in the next session of the Legislature. I will continue to bring my business experience and sense of fiscal responsibility to Augusta, to work toward lowering the tax burden and to build a business friendly environment in Maine once again. Mainers deserve to work and live without the cumbersome burdens of state government.

State Rep. John C. Robinson (R-Raymond) serves on the Business Research and Economic Development Committee and on the Advisory Committee on Legislative Ethics. He can be contacted via phone at 655-8657 or e-mailed at RepJohn.Robinson@Legislature.Maine.Gov

Human Trafficking - A Serious Crime in Maine

By Senator Bill Diamond

Human trafficking has become a serious issue in Maine, resulting in countless victims, many of whom are under the age of 16 years old. Recognizing the seriousness of this issue, the legislature passed a bill during the last session to create a task force to specifically study the problem and how it relates to Maine. I was asked to be the Senate Chairman of the task force, and we had our first meeting on Tuesday, October 31.

There have been several television documentaries showing the depth and severity of the problem around the country. One television show, Frontline, did an hour-long documentary recently that focused on the aspect of human trafficking, including forced prostitution of minors. Many states are passing laws to prohibit the wide-ranging problem of what human trafficking has become.

Human trafficking can be anything from abusing an individual through forced labor and selling individuals for monetary profit for sexual exploitation to threatening to report illegal immigration status for the purposes of extorting money. Of course, simply reporting illegal immigration status to the proper authorities is not a crime.

The problem has been recognized as widespread and expanding especially in third world countries. For example, there have been many attempts by legal authorities from several countries, including the United States, to crack down on illegal victimizing and trafficking of children and adults in Thailand. Unfortunately, there are many other countries that are experiencing this problem as well.

As you would expect, we in Maine are not exempt from the problem and are being told by law enforcement authorities that it is time that we too had laws to protect our children and other victims from those who seek to benefit from the selling of humans of all ages and for all purposes.

Many of the New England states, where human trafficking has not been as prominent, have generally not enacted extensive laws to deal with the issue. However, many states in the south and mid-west have experienced the problem for years and thus have more experience in enacting laws to address this illegal activity.

For example, in Florida if parents, legal guardians or others with custody of a minor sell, transfer custody or offer to sell or transfer custody of the minor for the purposes of prostitution, they are committing a 1st degree felony. In Georgia trafficking in persons for labor or sexual servitude is punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

Because Maine is a rural state and has thousands of miles of unprotected coasts, we are an attractive location for the transferring of those who are being held in illegal servitude. Also, because Maine has been somewhat off the radar screen in terms of illegal human trafficking in general, we have become a choice site for those who deal in this activity and feel they have more flexibility here.

By the time this article is published in the Road Runner, we will have already had our initial meeting and will have a better idea as to the specific direction we need to take in formulating appropriate laws in Maine. If you have specific thoughts or information that may be helpful to my committee, then I urge you to call or e-mail me (diamondhollyd@aol.com) sooner rather than later. This is one of those issues where if we fail to act in a timely manner, the problem could escalate, leaving in its wake many victims, too many of whom would be children.

Have a safe November and a wonderful Thanksgiving, and I look forward to writing to you again in December.

Christmas Holiday Help

The Raymond Holiday Helpers, sponsored by the Raymond Snowmobile Club, would like to help add joy to the holiday season for you and your family. If you, your family or someone you know need assistance during this Christmas Holiday Season, please contact Sandy at 655-4736 or Lori at 655-5469. The deadline to sign up for assistance is November 30th. (Exceptions to this deadline will be made.) If you would like to make a donation or help sponsor a family this Christmas Holiday Season, please contact Sandy at 655-4736 or Lori at 655-5469.

Kindergarten Fall Fest

The Kindergarten classes at Raymond Elementary School enjoyed the annual Kindergarten Fall Fest activity on Thursday, October 19. It was a wonderful dry, warm fall day in between the wet days of the rest of the week. The children have been learning about the observable changes of fall in Maine, from weather changes to leaf and tree changes, to bird and butterfly migration, to apple, corn, potato and pumpkin growing and harvesting. They have been involved in a wide variety of projects including special children's literature stories, nonfiction materials, writing activities, and science observations both inside and outside by using their senses and magnifying glasses as tools for learning. They've had fun making many art and math projects using collected treasures from our environment. This special outdoor event allowed active fun and added authenticity to their learning.

The activities of the day included corn husking, apple passing, potato digging, leaf raking, scarecrow stuffing, pumpkin jumping, pumpkin bowling, migrating south like birds, dressing up in farmer clothes to shoo the crow out of the cornstalks, face painting and hay wagon rides. Students, teachers and parent helpers also enjoyed games of "Farmer in the Dell." Everyone enjoyed their picnic lunches and snacks of apples and apple juice outside in the gorgeous, cooperative fall weather.

The Kindergarten staff would like to graciously thank so many families that lent and donated needed supplies for this event. This special day would not have been possible without the support we especially received from those parents that were able to come and help set up, clean up and so enthusiastically supervise and guide the children through each event. We are so appreciative for their time, support and spirit, which they shared with us throughout the day. Our special thanks go out to:

Chris Mulvihill, Shirley Collins, Suzie Bradford, Wendy Plummer, Margie Teufel,

Lori Wood, Eric Richmond, Monica Timmons, Renee Jordan, Brenda Dionne, David Lind, Jennifer Kisel, Danielle Lewis, Stratos Demakis, Holly Mitchell Chapman, Debbie Wallingford, Jenny Floyd, Karen Gordon, Tina Hermansen and Carrie Colby. Our extra special recognition and thanks go out to April & Ross Wisutskie for transporting the hay bales to and from our school.

It was wonderful to have several of the upper grade classes and Kindergarten "Book Buddy" classrooms come outside for a few minutes in their day to watch, cheer and share our outdoor learning fun. Most of them can now remember when they had their Fall Fest. This is one example of how our Full Day Kindergarten program has created a strong connection to the older students in our school.

The event also helped to develop new friendships among the Kindergarten, as the children from each classroom were divided up on each team. Our thanks to our own young students who did such a wonderful job participating, cooperating, listening, following directions and demonstrating good sportsmanship. We were very proud of you all! Sincerely, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Gillis, Mr. Seymour, Ms. O'Donnell & Ms. Bailey -

Kindergarten Teachers, R.E.S.

● REMINDER! ●

Raymond Rec Winter Sports Sign-ups will be Wednesday, November 8th, from 6-8PM at the JSMS Gym

This is for youth basketball as well as the Wednesday and Friday skiing programs.

As always, we are looking for volunteers!

4th ANNUAL RAYMOND PTO HOLIDAY FAIR

Friday, December 8, 2006
6 - 8PM

Raymond Elementary School

HOLIDAY SHOPPING

A holiday gift shop especially for children

ALL GIFTS - \$2

Shop for families, friends and pets!

CAKE WALK and GIFT WALK

It's the best game in town, join the fun and win a cake!

DESSERT CAFÉ

Yummy desserts, come early for the best selection

PACK YOUR OWN COOKIES SALE

Choose from a great selection of home baked treats!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Shop for holiday gifts for family and friends. (Books make great gifts for teachers!)

MAKE AND TAKE GIFT CRAFTS - FREE!

STORY TELLING - FREE

HOLIDAY FUN FOR YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY INCLUDING PRESCHOOLERS!

2006 Mil Rate

by Michael O'Donnell, Assessor's Agent

The 2006 mil rate was set on Tuesday, October 17, 2006, at \$10.20 per thousand (the 2005 rate was \$9.30). Approximately \$0.09 of the increase is due to an increase in the municipal budget, \$0.34 is due to an increase in the school budget, and \$0.03 is due to an increase in the county budget. There was also an increase of \$0.18 that resulted from assessment administration during the 2005 revaluation. This portion of the increase included a commitment calculation error that set the 2005 overlay below that set by the Selectmen. The low overlay, combined with a delay in processing many of the 2005 tax abatements, pushed significant expense from 2005 to 2006. The 2005 tax rate was also artificially low because the 2005 taxable valuation erroneously included some tax-exempt property, the incorrect pricing of some Tree Growth properties and overvaluation of a number of properties by Vision Appraisal. The Selectmen set the 2005 rate at the minimum required based on the information available at that time. Due to the problems just noted, the \$9.30 rate turned out to be too low and made the increase in 2006 larger.

Since this tax increase may prompt discussion of tax caps, LD1, Essential Programs and Services and TABOR, I also provide the following: Article 9 in the 2005 town report asked for \$175,000 over the LD1 limit for paving. This article added \$0.18 to the 2006 tax rate, the exact amount estimated in the town report. Article 10 asked for \$85,000 for a fire department reserve account that also exceeded LD1. This article added \$0.09 to the 2006 tax rate, again the exact amount estimated in the town report. Finally, Article 69 notes that the school budget exceeded the minimum amount described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act by \$941,462. This equates to \$0.99 added to the tax rate (which includes the \$0.34 noted in the first paragraph).

It is unfortunate that assessment issues of the past year caused the 2005 tax rate to be set at an artificially low level and therefore may have made it more difficult to make prudent spending decisions at the 2006 annual town meeting. However, as can be seen from the numbers above, the increase in the mil rate is primarily driven by voter-approved spending. We are making great strides in improving the assessment administration, and the Selectmen are committed to holding new spending to an absolute minimum; so I believe that we can look forward to more stable tax rates in the future.

Tax Relief "Circuit Breaker" Program

Tax and Rent Refund Program qualifications for the state Circuit Breaker Program.

If you are single and your 2005 household income was \$77,000 or less; or you have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2005 household income was \$102,000 or less

AND

Your 2005 property tax was more than 4% of your 2005 household income; or the rent you paid in 2005 was more than 20% of your 2005 household income.

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

Applications are available at the Town Office or online at www.maine.gov/revenue or write to Maine Revenue Services, PO Box 9116, Augusta, Maine 04332-9116

General Information: 207-626-8475 weekdays 8am to 5pm

Call for forms: 207-624-7894

Refund Information: 207-626-8461 (Have your Social Security number and total income amount available.)

NexTalk (TTY service): 888-577-6690 weekdays 8am to 4:30pm.

Other property tax relief programs: (All applications must be submitted prior to April 1st.)

Homestead Exemption: this program provides property tax relief for Maine residents who have owned a homestead in Maine for the twelve months immediately preceding April 1st.

Veteran Exemption - A veteran who is a Maine resident and who served active duty during a recognized war period and who is 62 years or older, or who is receiving 100% disability as a veterans, or who became 100% disabled while serving, is eligible for property tax relief. [An honorable discharge certificate (DD214) is required.]

Paraplegic Veteran - A veteran who received a federal grant for a specially adapted housing unit may be eligible for property tax relief.

Blind Exemption - An individual who is determined to be legally blind is eligible for property tax relief.

What the PTA Did for Raymond Last Month

At our October 10th meeting we voted to support two projects towards our mission to advocate for children, enrich educational programs, support faculty and staff in their work, and collaborate with community organizations:

Raymond Village Library was granted \$100 toward programming that will be held at the library. Pajama Story Time with Jody Fein is an ever-popular program with the young kids. Her fabulous and fun storytelling technique has the kids rolling in the aisles. The library will also provide a craft project for elementary age children during February school vacation. By supporting these projects, it helps us to fulfill our mission of collaborating with community organizations

The PTA also voted to fund an additional \$2000 toward the Circus Smirkus artist residency program at RES. The residency will take place February 5 - 16, 2007, and will provide each child four opportunities to learn, through a non-competitive physical art form, with the circus arts trainer. The artist will teach children the circus arts (juggling, tumbling, clowning, circus history, balance skills and more). The expectation is for teachers to include circus arts in other areas of the curriculum during the residency, creating an atmosphere of excitement around all subjects.

Our next PTA meeting is on November 14th. All are invited to attend and share their thoughts and ideas.

December's PTA Meeting has been rescheduled from December 12th to December 5th due to a conflict with the Chorus Concert.

The PTA can provide you with many ways to help Raymond, too. If you are interested in improving our schools and community, please join us on the second Tuesday of every month in the RES library at 6:30pm. Hope to see you there!

JSMS Principal's Report

by Randy Crockett, Interim Principal

Safety and security continue to be a priority for the Raymond schools. Although the new security system and improved building access control procedures have been an adjustment for staff and parents, we believe the improvements outweigh the occasional inconveniences. The JSMS students and staff have practiced the lockdown procedures, and the district's crisis plan is being updated.

Congratulations go to the members of our soccer and cross-country teams for an excellent season. The students not only compiled many victories but also demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and a strong work ethic throughout the fall season. I also tip my hat to the large number of students who participate in intramural athletics, co-curricular music and the wide variety of programs sponsored by SEARCH. The combined impact of the extra-curricular offerings available to Raymond students enhances the educational experience for everyone.

This year a community service program has been implemented as part of the Academic Enrichment class offerings. Our district social worker, Mrs. Loux, helps each class identify a need and develop a plan of action. Over the first two months of this new program, a wide variety of projects have been initiated.

Grade five community service students have served as teacher helpers at RES and JSMS, cleaned up the playground areas, implemented fundraising projects and organized a candy drive for the Main Street neighborhood during Halloween. The sixth grade classes are collecting items to create care bags for young children entering foster care, assisting staff in a variety of capacities and writing to sick children identified by makeachildsmile.org. A major goal for some of the seventh and eighth grade groups is the establishment of a skateboard park for the town. Some students are working on the fundraising aspect of this ambitious project, while others are doing research, meeting with town officials and developing the plans needed to make their goal a reality. Additional grade seven and eight projects include helping at a local hospital and assisting an animal shelter. The amount of positive energy and enthusiasm the community service program has generated in its brief history is awesome!

The sum total of the impact our programs, student involvement and staff dedication creates a vibrant school community. This safe, positive school climate is an essential part of the foundation of skills and knowledge our students will need as they prepare for the next phase of their education.

Brendan Koza Awarded Scholarship

Portland Water District Board President Charles Hamblen presented Brendan Koza their 2006 DiPietro Memorial Scholarship for \$1,500. Mr. Koza plans to study construction technology at Southern Maine Community College and ultimately own an environmentally conscious construction company in the Sebago Lake area.

Animal Control Report September-October

9/19	dogs with no water or shelter
9/19	dog at large - owner picked up dog
9/21	dog chasing cat
9/21	dog chasing children at bus stop
9/23	barking dog complaint
9/24	dog chasing cat
9/25	dog at bus stop
9/25	dog chasing cat again
9/26	found small goat
9/27	found kitten
9/27	located goat owner
9/29	raccoon on deck - notified wardens
9/30	dogs barking because hung up
10/2	stray cat
10/6	dog at large - gone on arrival
10/6	stray cat
10/7	dog at large - delivered to Animal Refuge League
10/7	visit to ARL
10/8	dog chasing children at bus stop - verbal warning to dog owner
10/9	dogfight - quarantined both dogs
10/10	follow up on dogs of 10/9
10/13	dog in road - gone on arrival
10/13	skunk in trap - advised to call warden or set free
10/15	dog chasing people walking
10/16	cat in trap
10/16	cat to ARL
10/17	stray cow
10/17	stray kitten
10/17	stray cat
10/17	took cat and kitten to ARL
10/17	information requested

November begins large animal hunting. Please be sure that your pets, especially dogs, are confined and not able to run at large. With the exception of dogs used in hunting, if your dog is found chasing wild animals, he might be impounded or shot by IF&W wardens. Also, be sure that all outside animals have sufficient shelter, food, and water to keep them warm and comfortable.

NFIB Names Rep. John Robinson as "Guardian of Small Business" for Strong Voting Record

AUGUSTA – State Rep. John Robinson has received a perfect 100% rating from the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) for his voting record during the 122nd Maine Legislature.



Rep. Robinson, a first-term Republican legislator from Raymond, received a "Guardian of Small Business" award for consistently voting in the interest of small companies, which form the backbone of Maine's economy.

The NFIB scored all 186 members of the Legislature based on their votes on 10 key bills considered to be important to small business. The bills dealt with a range of issues, including health insurance, business equipment taxation, and broadening the sales tax base to include services.

The NFIB award marks the second time in recent months that Rep. Robinson has been honored for his voting record. In July, the Maine Economic Research Institute (MERI) awarded him a "gold star" rating of 86.5 and a certificate of "economic excellence" for his votes on a series of bills considered by MERI to be important for job creation, business success and increased prosperity for the state.

"Small business is the foundation of the Maine economy," said Rep. Robinson, president of Robinson Manufacturing Co. "Small companies employ the majority of people in our workforce. Unfortunately, they have to fight an uphill battle to survive and do well in Maine, due to our extremely high taxation and our health insurance costs, which are the second highest in the country.

"We should be focused on creating more economic opportunity here, so our young people wouldn't have to leave Maine to find work. So one of my main concerns is to vote to preserve the jobs we already have and to foster policies that will enable us to create more good jobs. As I see it, voting for a stronger Maine economy should not be a partisan issue."

One of the bills in the NFIB composite sought a statewide referendum on expanding Maine's sales tax to personal, business, professional and amusement services. Even such mundane things as haircuts would have been taxed. It was defeated in the House, 83-56. Another bill dealt with Health Savings Accounts. It allows a state income tax deduction for contributions to accounts designed to help people pay routine medical expenses, enabling them and their employers to carry higher-deductible insurance policies, thus reducing premiums. HSAs were approved as part of a supplemental budget.

Absentee Voting Available

The Town Clerk's Office is accepting absentee voting. If you find that you will not be in Raymond on November 7th for the General Election, you can vote at the Town Office before that date. Your ballots will be sealed in official envelopes and voted by the elections staff on Election Day. Your ballot will be handled in such a way that it will remain a secret ballot.

If you would like to vote in this manner, come to the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours. You can vote the ballot at that time; or if you wish to take it home for your deliberation, you will be asked to fill out an application and then a clerk will give you the ballot and an envelope for the ballot's return either in person or by mail. If a voter cannot come in to the Town Office, please call the Clerk's Office at 655-4742 and ask to have a ballot sent to you. A clerk will fill out your application and promptly mail you a ballot and return envelope. If you wish to have a ballot sent to an immediate family member, come into the Clerk's Office and fill out an application and the clerk will mail the ballot and return envelope to the voter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Clerk's Office at 655-4742.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

Maine Environmental Depot, Lewiston Solid Waste Facility
424 River Road, Lewiston
www.envdepot.com or www.avcop.org or 783-9186

Open the FIRST and THIRD Saturdays of each month from APRIL through NOVEMBER Hours 8am to 1pm.

If the Saturday falls on a holiday weekend, IT WILL BE CLOSED

Directions: From I-95, take Exit 80 (southbound, take a LEFT off the ramp and go under the turnpike; northbound, take a RIGHT off the ramp). About ¾ of a mile down, turn left on River Road just after the Wal-Mart Distribution Facility. Lewiston Solid Waste is about a half mile on the left. Proceed through the main gate by the scale house and around the main building. The Depot will be in front of you.

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

Raymond Preschool Program

Welcome to Raymond's Preschool Program. I am Ivy Jordan, and my position is the Preschool/Home-School Coordinator at the Raymond Elementary School. My goal is to meet every child and family that will be entering Kindergarten in September 2007. The importance of meeting every new kindergartener and family is to develop a relationship and to help you and your child with this big developmental milestone. This will help your child to have a connection with the elementary school and to feel more comfortable with this transition.



I will be available to do home visits on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year beginning in October through April. If these two days do not work for you, I can be reached at the school daily and we can make other arrangements. I encourage you to contact me as soon as conveniently possible to schedule your home visit. This home visit is informal and fun for all of us. I will bring my bag of fun activities to do with your child. This is a great time for parents to fill out registration paperwork as well as discuss any concerns or questions about your child and your child's journey in education. I have community resources available as well as giving you a Growing Together Newsletter, which is a newsletter for parents of preschool children. I would appreciate it very much if you would contact me as soon as possible to schedule your child's fall enrollment. I will be facilitating the formal Kindergarten Screening Process at the Raymond Elementary School with the administration and teachers on May 17 and 18, 2007.

Please feel free to contact me by phone or by e-mail at 655-8672 ext. 108 and ivy.Jordan@raymondmaine.org. Thank you, and I look forward to meeting you and your child soon!

School Picture Retakes at RES

Al McKeen of North Atlantic Studios has scheduled school picture retakes on Friday, November 3, at 12:30PM at the Raymond Elementary School. Students who were absent on picture day in September will have their photograph taken. Picture retakes will be done for children who bring back their picture packages. Please keep the class picture in the package, if you are having a retake.

New Voting Machine for Visually Impaired

The Secretary of State's Department of Elections has provided a phone designed to allow visually impaired individuals to vote unassisted. This machine will read the ballot to those who wish to use it, and voting will be done on a keypad so that voters who can't read well can vote unassisted. The machine will then deliver a paper ballot, which is printed with the choices and will be put in the ballot box by the voter.

Each town in Maine has been given one of these new voting machines under the federal legislation commonly known as the Help America Vote Act or HAVA. If anyone wishes to vote by this machine, they are welcomed.

Hebron Academy Middle School Students Camp Overnight

Hebron, ME (October 5, 2006) -- The Hebron Academy Middle School recently spent the day at Basin Pond Campground in Evans Notch. Students trekked Blueberry Mountain, canoed and fished on the pond, made some nature observations, and the brave ones dove into Rattlesnake Pond. The 8th graders camped overnight as part of a leadership program for the Middle School's Outdoor Education Program, spearheaded by director Paul Brouwer. For more information, interested families should check the Middle School section of the Hebron Academy website at www.hebronacademy.org.



(front kneeling, l-r) Matt Braley (Bethel), Bryce Richmond (Mason Township), Eli Gabrielsen (Norway); (standing l-r) Jon Adley (Harrison), Malorie Johnson (Minot), Laura Dow (Norway), Paul Webster-Pact (Leeds), Tom Cummings (Norway), A.J. Keith (Bethel), Taylor Theriault (Minot), Alec Randall (Turner), Garrett Van Wie (New Gloucester), Lonnie Taylor (Raymond), Harry Trask (hidden) (Norway), Mike Minigell (Norway), Steve Middleton (back) (Hebron), Max Middleton (Hebron), Isabel Kannegieser (Minot), Polly Drown (hidden) (Leeds), Matthew Fensore (New Gloucester), Lindsey Hughes (Raymond), Adria Hughes (hidden) (Raymond), Annalyn Bachmann (Auburn), Sydney Randall (New Gloucester), Allison Cummings (Norway and Portland), Emily Desgrosseilliers (Auburn), Rebekah Jett (Norway), Rosalyn Moisan (Raymond), Jamie Fey (Hebron).

Hebron Academy was founded in 1804 and is an independent, co-educational boarding and day school that serves grades six through postgraduate. The Academy's mission is to inspire and guide students to reach their highest potential in mind, body, and spirit. Two hundred-fifty students from throughout Maine, New England, the United States, and the world attend the school. For more information, please visit www.hebronacademy.org or call (207) 966-2100.

Raymond Lions Club Seeks Members

Through attrition, our membership is dropping to a point where we're concerned about our ability to continue to provide the Raymond community with a number of important programs and services, such as:

- Two blood drives a year
- Vision screening for our preschoolers
- The Holiday Tree-lighting program at the Library
- Funds for the Library to purchase large print books and audio tapes
- Monetary support for eyeglasses and hearing aids to low income people, including but not limited to our seniors
- A handicap equipment loan program
- Several thousand dollars in scholarships to our residents yearly

If you can spare a couple of hours two evenings a month, plus some personal time, you can have a very rewarding experience with the Raymond Lions Club and enjoy good fellowship with our members. The Lions' motto is "We Serve."

For more information, call Dale Gilman @ 655-4114.

Please Join Your Children for Breakfast at School This Year

The PTA is sponsoring simple breakfasts for students and their parents (or other important person in their life). We've invited their teachers to come, too. We thought it would be a nice, informal way to socialize and get to know each other over a healthy breakfast. The schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten	October 27th
1st grade	November 17th
2nd grade	December 22nd
3rd grade	January 26th
4th grade	February 9th

The breakfast at RES will be in the library from 7:45 to 8:15. Parents are invited to join their child at Friday morning Opening in the gym from 8:45 to 9:15.

The breakfast at JSMS will be in the cafeteria from 6:45 to 7:15 and the schedule is:

5th grade	October 27th
6th grade	November 17th
7th grade	December 22nd
8th grade	January 26th

Bagels, muffins, cereal bars, fruit, yogurt, milk, juice and coffee will be served.

Wanted at RES

If you are updating electronic equipment at home and have a DVD/VHS player in good working order, then consider donating it to the Raymond Elementary School. The children and teachers will benefit from your donation.

RAYMOND REC CITRUS FUNDRAISER

When you think "fruit for the holidays," we hope you will remember purchasing Florida-fresh Indian River grapefruit and oranges from the Raymond Recreation Association. We have conducted this fundraising campaign for 13 years. The sale will run through November 22nd. Advance orders only, with payment, are preferred. Direct shipment from Florida is scheduled for the week of December 6 and will be available for pick-up at 5 Damon Road off Rt. 85 (as in the past, follow signs) on Saturday, December 9, from 9am to noon. Prearranged pick up could be scheduled at Windy Hill Farm on River Road in Windham during that week.

Proceeds go to support our Summer Swim Program at Crescent Beach. If you do not wish to purchase a box of fruit for yourself, perhaps you would purchase a box that could then be delivered with the food baskets prepared by the Raymond Rattlers Club. Just indicate "For Christmas Food Boxes" on the order form.

To order or make a tax-deductible contribution, mail check and form to:

Raymond Rec, 33 Wawenock Road, Raymond ME 04071

Questions, call 655-4657.

*Raymond Recreation Fruit Sale
Still at 2005 Prices!!!!*

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

E-Mail ADDRESS _____

CIRCLE ITEM CHOICE(S) AND GIVE QUANTITY ORDERED

ITEM	BOX SIZE		Amount Due
	2/5 Bushel Small No. Ordered	4/5 Bushel Large No. Ordered	
Navel Oranges	_____ 19.00ea	_____ 26.00ea	_____
Tangelo Oranges	_____ 19.00ea	_____ 26.00ea	_____
Pink Grapefruit	_____ 18.00ea	_____ 25.00ea	_____
Mixed Box, Oranges & Grapefruit	_____ 20.00ea	N.A.	_____
Total Due			_____

Mail to: Raymond Rec, 33 Wawenock Road, Raymond, ME 04071

Middle Schoolers Delve into Hebron Academy History

Hebron, ME (October 11, 2006) -- Hebron Academy's 6th grade history class started off the year by researching the Third Academy Building, which was the third building built on its campus in 1847 and subsequently razed in 1891. "The purpose of this unit was for students to do historical research on something that had some relevance to them," says Steve Middleton, Hebron Academy Middle School history teacher.

On the lawn in front of the Treat Science Center on campus lies a granite step—the only remnant of the building. Students are using their common sense and skills as well as research from the book *History of Hebron Academy* by Harold E. Hall and old pictures from the school's archives to learn about the building and make logical inferences.

The students recreated a scaled-down version of the building first on paper, including the footprint of the first and second floors, the location of the stairs, fireplaces, office, classrooms, and even the desks and chairs. The students then painted a white outline of their findings to scale on the actual site of the Third Academy Building for the school's Homecoming Weekend celebration, which was October 6 and 7. After painting the layout, student Sydney Randall said, "I can't believe how small it turned out to be. How could all the students fit in there?" There is an engraving on the granite step that reads in Latin, "Cara illius temporis studentibus," meaning that the building was "dear to the students of that time."

For more information, interested families should check the Middle School section of the Hebron Academy website at www.hebronacademy.org



Teacher Steve Middleton (Hebron) and students Leila Magee (Bethel), Sydney Randall (New Gloucester), and Adria Hughes (Raymond) look on while classmate Rosalyn Moisan (Raymond) paints the first line of the Third Academy Building.

Gun Safety – Keeping Our Kids Safe

by Ivy Jordan, Preschool/Home-School Coordinator

We live in a hunting community, where you and your family may hunt or know someone who goes hunting. With hunting season upon us, many are planning hunting trips with their friends and family members. It is a big tradition in Maine, and many of us may take for granted that our children know about gun safety. By talking with our children about gun safety, they will be able to make safer choices. Your child needs to learn from you, his guardian, that guns are not toys and should never be played with or handled. This is an issue that should be discussed openly and often with the youngest child to adolescent in every family, regardless if you own a gun or not, as your child may visit a friend and have an encounter with a gun.

You may be asking yourself the question, "Why should I discuss this with my child, who knows this information already?" Statistics indicate that violence related to dangerous weapons is epidemic among young adolescents. Over 2,911 American children are killed every year by guns. By the time a child is one year old, he can squeeze your finger with seven pounds of pressure, enough to pull a trigger on a gun. Every year hundreds of children accidentally shoot themselves and others. According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, there are over 200 million privately owned guns in the U.S. It is estimated that 50% of families own at least one gun. Most times, it has been purchased for protection and is kept loaded, ready for use. In Maine, the percentage is greater due to the sport of hunting.

**STOP! DON'T TOUCH, LEAVE THE AREA
AND TELL AN ADULT**

The NRA's Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program offers these

important tips when talking to your children about gun safety:

1. Guns are not toys! Don't touch one, even if a friend says it's ok, or that it's locked or unloaded.
2. If a child sees his friend with a gun, he should assume that it's loaded. He should leave the place immediately and tell an adult what he saw.
3. Explain the difference between actors who use guns in movies and television and the tragedies of real-life gun violence. Use newspaper stories appropriately to back up what you say.
4. If your child likes to play with toy guns, please think about buying ones that don't look real.

Should you keep all guns out of your home? Some persons, such as anyone in law enforcement and security guards, are required by their jobs to have a gun in their home. Most other people have a choice. Younger children don't know the difference between a real gun and a play gun. To keep children safe and prevent injuries, it is important to restrict access to guns by children and adolescents. Proper storage of a gun includes keeping the gun in a locked drawer, closet or cabinet. The gun should have a trigger lock and should be stored unloaded with the bullets locked separately. Your child should not have access to the key. So keep your children safe and teach them often about gun safety. Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns about this article and any other child developmental-related issues @ 655-8672 Ext 108.

Article Resources: The Growing Together Newsletter, June 2005 PG 2., Keepkidshealthy.com/welcome/safety/gun-safety.html and www.nrahq.org/safety/eddie/ or e-mail: eddie@nrahq.org

2007 Dog Tags Available

Dog licensing will begin October 15th for 2007. If you have a dog over the age of 6 months, it should be licensed. A rabies certificate must be produced and if neutered, a neutering certificate, if the Town Office doesn't have it on file. The fee for a neutered dog is \$6 and non-neutered is \$10. All dogs must be licensed by January 31, 2007. Dogs licensed after January 31 will incur an additional \$15 late fee. Beginning in 2005 all adult rabies vaccinations are effective for three years.

Licensing funds contribute to stray animal care in the town and state and support the State Veterinarian Laboratory in Augusta. The Maine State Humane Agents, who investigate animal abuse cases, are supported by dog licensing fees. There are only six for the entire state, with one for southern Maine. No other state funds are budgeted for this service. If you feel that additional humane agents are necessary, licensing compliance will increase the Animal Welfare budget. There is also a check box on your Maine Income Tax form to donate to the fund.

We will again host a rabies clinic on Saturday, January 20, from 1pm to 3pm. Jordan Bay Animal Hospital is donating their time for this clinic. The vaccinations will be \$10 cash each for dogs and cats. You need not be a resident of Raymond to participate.

Raymond Village Community Church News

RVCC installs four Elders

On October 15th, the Deacons of the Raymond Village Community Church, United Church of Christ installed four new elders during the worship service. The office of Elder is a way to honor those in the church family who have contributed generously of their time over the years and who continue to attend worship and participate in church events as they are able. The Deacons were proud and honored to install as Elders the following special people: Grace "Ginny" Parker, Albion Rowe, Charlotte Rowe, and Rosemary Tripp.

Join us for Advent and Christmas celebrations at RVCC

December 3rd – First Sunday in Advent

Hanging of the Greens Service with Lighting of the Advent Wreath at 10am, followed by an All-Church Potluck Brunch and caroling throughout the Village in a horse-drawn wagon

December 7th – Candlelight Healing Service at 7pm

A quiet and contemplative service of carols, Scripture, and other readings to help us let go so we can grab hold of all that Advent and Christmas are meant to be. Please bring a small stone.

December 10th – Second Sunday in Advent

Worship at 10am, which includes Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Communion.

December 17th – Third Sunday in Advent

Worship at 10am, which includes Lighting of the Advent Wreath and a Children's Christmas Pageant followed by a birthday party for Jesus.

Afternoon Christmas Concert with combined choirs of Raymond Village and Casco Village Churches – watch for details!

December 24th – Fourth Sunday in Advent and Christmas Eve

Family Candlelight Service at 4:30pm, followed by traditional Scandinavian Christmas cookies and hot cocoa in the Vestry. The choir will sing a family-oriented cantata featuring familiar carols, readings, and LIGHT!

Candlelight Service at 11pm, with carols, readings, and communion. This is a quietly beautiful way to usher in Christmas Day.

There will be no morning worship service on Christmas Eve!

December 31st – First Sunday after Christmas

Worship at 10am, with Christmas carols and special ways to bid good riddance to the old and best-forgotten parts of 2006, so that we can embrace 2007.

January 7th – Epiphany Sunday

Worship at 10am, with a special visit from the Three Kings, as they finally reach the stable in Bethlehem.

RVCC establishes Halloween tradition

The Raymond Village Community Church United Church of Christ was the site of lighted pumpkins and luminaria on Halloween night as hundreds of costumed children stopped by the Church Vestry for a treat. Because of the church's strong commitment to both local and global mission, members initiated a new slant on the old tradition of trick or treating.

A year ago, the Raymond Village Community Church Council voted to be a "Fair Trade Congregation" and pledged to use Equal Exchange products as much as possible. The Raymond Village Church is one of only five churches in the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ to be a "fairly traded congregation."

On Halloween, each trick-or-treater who stopped by the church received a fairly traded chocolate bar. By supporting fair trade, RVCC is helping to ensure that small cocoa farmers in Costa Rica, Peru, Paraguay, and the Dominican Republic receive fair wages and are able to viably farm using economically and environmentally sustainable practices.

In addition, the Raymond Village Community Church organized the first Raymond Village Pumpkin Display. Not only was the church brightly lit with carved pumpkins and

luminaria, but those who donated a carved pumpkin also donated \$1 to UNICEF.

RVCC recognized for mission efforts

The Raymond Village Community Church United Church of Christ was recognized recently at the Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference United Church of Christ for its outstanding commitment to mission. The church was one of only a handful of United Church of Christ churches in the state to be designated a "5 for 5" church. To be recognized, the Raymond Village Church contributed to the United Church of Christ "Our Church's Wider Mission" Basic Support and the four special United Church of Christ mission offerings last year! In addition, the Raymond Village Church is involved in over a dozen other outreach activities, including providing over 20 Thanksgiving baskets to local families, Project Linus, Seafarers' Mission, health and school kits, and local emergency assistance.

Public Access Computer in Town Office

The Town of Raymond has installed a public access computer in the research/map area of the Town Office. Some of the things that are accessible through this recycled computer are: the town website (including ordinances, tax maps, zoning requirements), the Vision Assessing Database, the Cumberland County Deed search function, and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles Rapid Renewal.

Next time you're in the Town Office, pop around the corner to check out this new addition. We're excited about being able to offer this option to our residents who don't own computers or even to our residents who do but would like to check out something on-line while visiting the Town Office.

Raymond School Board Takes Position on TABOR by Adopting Resolution

At a special Board meeting, the Raymond School Board voted on October 18, 2006, to adopt the following resolution:

The responsibility of the Raymond School Board is to ensure that the children of Raymond get a quality education. Given the demands of a changing world economy, as well as the expectations for achievement by the community, the state, and the federal government, the School Board is constantly challenged to balance the needs of the children with the financial concerns of the taxpayers of Raymond. With this in mind it, is necessary for us to look at the proposed Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) and its impact on the Raymond schools. From our perspective TABOR offers nothing positive for education. The law as it is written could have a number of unanticipated negative consequences that may significantly impede the School Board from upholding its responsibility. There are many unanswered questions.

The School Board has historically worked very hard to balance the needs of the children of Raymond with those of the citizens. The checks and balances for the school budget, including the finance committee and our town meeting approval process, have worked well.

After conscientious and diligent review of the proposed TABOR law (Question 1 on the November ballot), the Raymond School Board cannot support its adoption. The risk of negative repercussions to our children is too great, and it is not in the long-term best interest of the future of the children of Raymond.

Windham Center Stage Theater

in its 32nd season presents



OLIVER!

November 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 at 8pm

November 5, 11, 12, 18 at 2pm

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.

Directed by Leo Lunser

Windham Community Center
School Road, Windham

Reservations call 893-2098
Tickets \$10 Seniors/Students,
\$12 Adults

www.windhamtheater.org

Produced by special arrangement with

Tams-Witmark
560 Lexington Ave
New York, NY

Music, Lyrics and Book by Lionel Bart

Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee

The Comprehensive Plan was adopted at a special town meeting on October 14, 2004. The CPIC committee needs help in creating and adopting certain draft ordinances for future town meeting consideration which will address the goals and objectives within in the 2004 Comprehensive Plan.

If you are interested in being a part of this work, please call Louise Lester, Town Clerk, Town Office, 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071; 655-4742 ext 21; or e-mail louise.lester@raymondmaine.org. You can also fill out the volunteer form on our website www.raymondmaine.org which will come directly to Mrs. Lester.

PTA Volunteer Needs

Parent/Student Breakfasts

The PTA will be sponsoring monthly parent/student breakfasts as a way for parents, students and teachers to socialize over a healthy breakfast. The PTA will provide all the refreshments. We need a couple of adults to set-up them up and then clean up afterwards. Time commitment: 45 minutes to one hour one time. The dates and times are:

- K & 5th grade October 27th
- 1st & 6th grades November 17th
- 2nd & 7th grades December 22nd
- 3rd & 8th grades January 26th
- 4th grade February 9th

The breakfast at RES will be in the library from 7:45 to 8:15. The breakfast at JSMS will be in the cafeteria from 6:45 to 7:15.

Ink Cartridge Recycling

One adult volunteer is needed to coordinate and supervise a couple of 6th grade students who will be packing ink cartridges as part of their community service project. Time commitment: Tuesdays, 9:15-10am

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held December 4th - 8th. Volunteers will be needed to help set-up the display on Friday, December 1st, and to take it down on Friday, December 8th. Time commitment: approximately one hour. Volunteers will also be needed during school hours that week to sell books. Shifts are in two-hour increments. If you can help out, please contact Wendy Trask at 655-4446 or wtrask1@maine.rr.com.

Holiday Fair

Our Holiday Fair will be Friday, December 8th, from 6-8pm. We will need lots of helpers to get organized and to help at the Fair. We need helpers at our make & take craft tables, holiday store, gift wrap table, Present Walk, game booths and refreshment table. Time commitment: 2-3 hours.

If you can volunteer for any of these projects please contact us at PTA@raymondmaine.org

Thanks

Road Maintenance Associations Wanted

The Town Office is going to be keeping a list of private road associations. With the change in ownership of many homes, the Town Office frequently is asked about private road maintenance associations. If your private road has an association or group of residents taking responsibility for their private road, the Town Office would like to have a contact name, address, and phone number for that person. If you can help us gain this information, the Town Office would be most appreciative. This is for residential information use only.

RES Principal's Report

By Norma Richard

SAFETY in our schools is becoming more and more important during these very troubling times. Each student's safety is a high priority at the Raymond Elementary School, and we are putting new procedures in place, and revising prior procedures, to reinforce security measures. This may mean that schools are more restrictive to parents in the future. Please understand that all decisions are based on keeping our school community and your children safe. Safety procedures will include the following.

- ✓ Making SAFETY a priority at our school.
- ✓ Identifying each member of the faculty with a picture ID, and having all visitors and volunteers sign in and wear an ID badge.
- ✓ In the short-term, locking all exit doors except for the front handicap door during the school day. All staff, parents, RED parents and visitors are asked to enter and exit through this door only.
- ✓ In the long-term, locking all entrances and installing a buzzer system to monitor all visitors to the school. This will be comparable to the new security measures at JSMS.
- ✓ Monitoring the front entrance and hallways via security cameras. A video screen in the main office will allow us to monitor student and adult movement in the school.
- ✓ Installing a NOAA Weather Radio in each school and the superintendent's office, which will alert us to weather hazards and assist us in monitoring hazardous conditions.
- ✓ Planning and practicing fire drills, evacuations and lock down drills in order to be better able to respond to an emergency or crisis.
- ✓ Controlling access to classrooms and the learning environment by limiting distractions to the classroom. Phone calls during the day are routed to a teacher's voice mail. Students are dismissed from their classrooms to the office if leaving early. Parents will leave items for their students in the office rather than interrupt the classroom.
- ✓ Developing a parent-awareness program so that parents are aware of our school safety and emergency response plans. It will be especially important for the school to have clear procedures in place for parents to sign out children in the event of a crisis at school.
- ✓ Working collaboratively with Raymond Fire and Rescue to coordinate safety plans for children, families and the community.

Raymond Road Runner Deadline Reminder

Articles for the December issue are due
Wednesday, November 21st.

Are You "Up-To-Date"?

Does your town department or organization have webpages on the Raymond website?

Be sure your organization's meetings and events are up-to-date on the Raymond website's Events Calendar and review your organization's webpages to see if all the information is current. The webmaster regularly receives inquiries about outdated or lack of information for a variety of things; people are visiting the website, so staying current ensures they'll return again.

If you need assistance or have questions contact: webmaster@raymondmaine.org - there is a small number of us working at maintaining webpages, so additional volunteers with web editing experience are welcomed.

Veterans' Memorial Update

November 11th is Veterans Day. It is time to pause and reflect on the service and sacrifice all Veterans make to this great country of ours. As the saying goes, if you can read this newspaper, thank a teacher. If you have the freedom to go to school, the church of your choice, to read what you wish and pursue the career of your dreams, thank a Veteran. Remember Freedom is not Free.

Planning continues, and the goal is to have the dedication ceremony on Memorial Day, May 28, 2007, at the Panther Run Rest Area. This fall we will be putting in the foundations for the monument and the flagpole. We want them to sit and settle during the winter to see if we have frost heave issues in the spring.

Fundraising continues, and we are almost at the 75% level of our goal of \$20,000. The levels of support for the granite pavers are \$50, \$100, and \$150, each paver being a little larger. All veterans should have a granite paver. Remember you can honor a family veteran from away. Also, we now offer businesses the opportunity to obtain a granite paver with their business name engraved. To be all-inclusive, every citizen/family in Raymond that would like to support this community project will also receive a granite paver with the appropriate donation. Remember, all donations are tax deductible.

As we honor veterans on Veterans Day, it is appropriate that we remind ourselves that our Raymond Monument will be honoring all Veterans past, current and in the future.

We would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to those who have contributed as of 16 Oct.

Businesses/Organizations

Hawthorne Garden Club	Raymond Lions Club
Raymond Founders Day	Cricket's Corner Shoppe
Sabre Corporation	Raymond Laundry
Hole in the Wall	Norway Savings Bank
Lee's Family Trailer	Community Pharmacy
Raymond Shopping Center	

Families and Individuals

Betty and Frank McDermott	George Place
Steve Yusem	Vernon Watters
Melanie and Bruce Champriss	Trish and Don McClellan
Eileen and Howard Stiles	Don Willard
Charles L. Cragin	Joan and Pat Lawler
Peter Walgreen	Mary Carey
Helen and Paul Cobb	Karen Banks
Robert Meserve, Sr.	Bob Dunklee
Barbara and Suzanne Elcik	Sylvia Lydick
Laurie, Kathryn and Bob Wallace	Judy and Dick Day
Patricia and Henry Beaumier	Ernie Allen
Lynn and Claude Fongemie	Ellen and Hank Williams
Cheryl Lunde and Roger Ginn	Suzanne and Joe Bruno

A Very Special Thanks for Benches

Susan and Mark Gendron	Dielectric
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Send donations to the Raymond Town Office, 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071. Make checks payable to Town of Raymond/Vet Memorial. Questions: call Howard Stiles @ 655-4193.

Why Go to Counseling?

by Steve Danzig, LSW, LADC

Every day of our lives we make choices - from the very mundane, like what to have for breakfast or which shirt to wear, to the life changing, like taking on a new job, asking for one's hand in marriage, or moving somewhere you've never been. However easily these questions (and others) may be answered by some, there are many who have difficulty because the answers are not always so clear. Counselors/therapists are people who can help in these moments of uncertainty. Whether it is a few hours of voicing your concerns or several months of assistance, a counselor can help you tackle your life's challenges more easily.

There are also people who find themselves requiring help with specific issues and disorders such as: substance use issues, anxiety problems, ADD/HD, depression, bipolar disorder, having young children in the middle of family issues, couples trying to work out their relationship differences, etc. The reasons for which individuals enter into a counseling relationship are almost as numerous as the population. In our fast-paced society we can often find ourselves having difficulty keeping up with all of our responsibilities. This issue is compounded by the fact that our world is expanding by the use of computers, cell phones, and other technology, which paradoxically is creating a world where human interaction is declining at the same rate. As a result, people can feel disconnected and alone. Some believe that there is nowhere to turn or that their concerns/issues may not warrant the type of intervention that a counselor or therapist might suggest. That is simply untrue. A counselor will be there for you regardless of the size of your problem. And they can offer approaches to solutions that you would never have thought of because they have both objectivity and professional training.

Many of the concerns that people bring to counseling can often be addressed fairly quickly. However, when we feel that our issues are not extensive or 'bad' enough to bring to a counselor, we put it off. Then the issues can grow to the point where they become too much for us to handle, creating negative side effects in our lives, relationships, and careers.

Counselors/therapists deal with an array of life stressors every day. They are the ones who can assist you in defining a life course, help you find your way out of the bottomless pit you may have created, deal with the feelings of loss, help you stop drinking, identify new ways to handle stressful situations and be an unbiased ear and voice for you whenever you need them.

If you or someone you know is having some type of difficulty, call a counselor. Many will discuss with you over the phone the nature of your concern and whether or not they are the right person to assist you. Nearly all aspects of counseling are confidential. If you are not sure what is, just ask. Most insurance and Medicaid (MaineCare) will pay for counseling, and most counselors offer a sliding scale for those who wish to pay by other means.

To find a counselor, ask your friends/family, ask your family physician, or flip open the yellow pages. The phonebook usually separates counselors into their different specialties of counseling, which may help you find the type of counselor that will work best for you.

Motor Vehicle Vanity Plates Available Online

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

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

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

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

Raymond Lions Present Certificates to Town and Jordan Bay Animal Hospital

At a recent meeting at the Public Safety Building, the Raymond Lions Club presented certificates of appreciation to the Town of Raymond and its residents for the use of its property for collection of redeemable bottles and cans. Also, the Lions presented certificates to Dr Jim Stephenson and his wife Judy, former owners of Jordan Bay Animal Hospital, and to newcomers to the community, Dr Eric Riddell and his wife Kim, who purchased the practice in September.

Over the past 8 to 9 years, 50% of the proceeds (close to \$10,000) has been given by the Town of Raymond and the Raymond Lions Club as a direct result of the hundreds of thousands of redeemable containers being dropped off. The balance of the funds has been used for vision and hearing related services both locally in Maine and worldwide, plus other projects taken on by the Lions. One hundred percent of the funds received through these collection bins goes back to the public in these and many other ways.

If anyone is interested in the Raymond Lions or Lions Clubs International, please contact Dale Gilman at 655-4114.



Mike Reynolds, Don Willard, Bob Gilmore of the Lions Club, Joe Bruno and Dana Desjardins.



Judy Stephenson, Jim Stephenson & Bob Gilmore.



Eric Riddell, Kim Riddell and Bob Gilmore.

Let's Win \$1000 Again This Year!

How? Save Those Hannaford School Dollars!

Hannaford supports local schools with a fundraising program called Hannaford Helps Schools. Customers are awarded "school dollars" based on their purchases of participating products. Just look for the little green signs under products at the store that read "Earn School Dollars." Each purchase of 4 participating products equals 3 school dollars. Customers receive school dollar certificates at the register when they check out. The certificates look similar to the cash register receipts. Send the certificates in to either RES or JSMS, or drop them off at the PTA's Box Top collection sites at the Raymond Village Library or the Town Office. The PTA will turn the school dollars in at the end of the program and will receive a check from Hannaford for the amount of school dollars they collect over the 3 months the school dollars are being distributed. Last year we raised \$876 in school dollars and won an additional \$1,000 for being the area school that raised the most dollars!

This year's program runs from September 3rd to December 2nd, 2006. The PTA will turn in all the School Dollars at our North Windham Hannaford Supermarket by December 15th, 2006.

A list of participating products can be viewed on Hannaford's website www.hannaford.com or on the PTA's bulletin board at RES. Thank you for participating in this fundraiser and supporting your school and community.

Trash Barrel Stickers Required in November

Beginning in November, all residents will be required to put their trash bags in solid trash barrels; lids are optional. Any trash bags left on the ground will not be picked up. Barrels must also have a town sticker on each barrel, which can be acquired free of charge at the Town Office. Each household will be allowed two (2) 32-gallon trash barrels per week for collection, which will be strictly enforced. This has long been the town's contractual limit for our roadside pickup vendor. All trash must be secured in plastic bags in the barrels. Raymond does not have a location where you can take your household trash; it must be picked up curbside. If you have more than the two 32-gallon barrels, bag stickers can be purchased at the Town Office for \$1 each for each bag of overage. The trash held by the bags with overage stickers must also be put in a solid barrel; however, that barrel does not need a town sticker.

If you have any questions please contact Louise Lester, Town Clerk, at 655-4742 ext. 21 or e-mail louise.lester@raymondmaine.org

Most materials that are not considered household trash can be taken to the Lake Region Bulky Waste Facility in Casco. Vehicle stickers (dark brown) can be picked up at the Town Office at no charge. Annually, coupons for 1,000 pounds of acceptable bulky waste paid for by the town are available at the Town Office for \$5. Bulky waste disposal questions can be answered at the Town Office, 655-4742 ext. 21, or at the Facility, 627-7585.

COMING IN DECEMBER THE RAYMOND SCHOOLS' SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR FUNDRAISER



THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT FOR ALL AGES
DECEMBER 4-8
WITH EVENING HOURS ON FRIDAY, THE 8TH
FMI: 655-4446

Conquer New Heights with Mentoring

By Christina Lamarre

It is fall once again, children are back at school, and mentoring has begun. This September the Raymond Mentoring Program kicked off the year of mentor/mentee activities with a hike up Rattlesnake Mountain, with our pairs enjoying some nature activities and letterboxing along the way. Mentees also worked with their mentors to set goals for the year, specifically a physical, a creative and a community service goal. We ended our afternoon with a picnic together.

In October, pairs enjoyed the beautiful fall weather, some Halloween crafts and pumpkin carving. Our annual fall family spaghetti dinner, catered by Mains' Pizza, will be held on Thursday, November 9. Mentors and mentees will enjoy swimming at Colonial Mast prior to the dinner.

Our middle school Kids 2 Kids mentoring program will be starting up in November with a ropes course activity and BBQ at Camp Hinds. There is still space available for any 7th and 8th graders interested in becoming mentors to elementary "little buddies." Activities will include team building and leadership games, as well as spending "buddy time" doing fun activities. Please contact Barb Loux at JSMS for more information.

We are pleased to welcome four new mentors to our program this year! We do still have children waiting for mentors, however. If you have an hour or so a week during the school year to give to a young person and would like more information about becoming a mentor, please contact either Christina Lamarre or Candace Woolston at 655-8672 ext. 107, or e-mail us at mentor@raymondmaine.org.



Callie conquers Rattlesnake!



Colin and Seth enjoying a snack at the top.

First Unicyclist Pedals 25 Miles for Loon Echo Land Trust

By Carol Meader

The first ever unicyclist joined 200+ riders and attended the Sixth Annual Loon Echo Land Trust Bike Trek on Saturday, September 23, cycling over scenic and challenging Maine roads to raise money to help protect land for future generations. No unicyclist has ever attempted the trek before until Corrie van Haasteren decided to give it a try. A significant accomplishment in itself, this feat is more special because Corrie was only 12 years old!

What led a 12 year old to pedal 25 miles on a unicycle? Apparently, I was a factor in his decision. In a conversation this summer regarding my bicycle race up Mt. Washington, I mentioned that a few unicyclists also raced it. Although he did not comment much at the time, a few days later I received an e-mail from his mom who wanted to let me know that "Corrie had become obsessed with riding and was hoping to race up Mt. Washington some day." She claimed I inspired him!

For the remainder of the summer, Corrie could be seen logging miles up and down the hills of Raymond as he perfected his riding. Corrie is extremely talented with his unicycle and can perform jumps, tricks and even climb stairs. Distance riding was somewhat new to him but before long, he was riding several miles at a time with ease.

How does a 12 year old begin unicycling? According to his mother Ellen, she was searching for a Christmas gift a



Corrie and his unicycle.

few years ago and saw a unicycle hanging in the window of a bicycle shop. Having always had a secret desire to try one herself, she purchased it on a whim. Over the course of the next several months, Corrie practiced and became quite good. He has since upgraded to a better unicycle and is well versed in unicycling technology.

Although the weather forecasters assured me it would not rain until early Saturday afternoon, I was soaked within moments after I began riding at 8am. Of the three treks offered by Loon Echo (25, 50 and 100 miles), I had chosen to do the century. Many of those who pre-registered did not ride at all, and several turned back or quit altogether due to the rain. Despite the heavy downpours all day, I did not quit. I thought of Corrie on his unicycle. As I shifted through the multiple gears my bicycle offers to make pedaling easier, I thought of Corrie. His unicycle has only one gear. As I used my handlebars to shift my weight, change positions and use my upper body to help relieve stiffness and soreness, I thought of Corrie. He was pedaling without the comfort and security of handlebars.

I was so happy to see Corrie at the festivities at Shawnee Peak at the end of the day. He had successfully completed the trek and accomplished his goal. He did not quit. In fact, he was talking about saving his money for a unicycle with gears and a larger wheel. He was also talking about doing the 50-mile trek next year! In an era when our children are more overweight than ever and in a culture which nurtures electronic toys, iPods, cell phones and excessive television viewing, this boy was riding his unicycle 25 miles in the pouring rain on a Saturday morning in September. He will always hold the title of First Unicyclist to Complete the Loon Echo Land Trust Bike Trek and he was only 12 years old! He claims I inspired him. Maybe I did, but in my eyes, he is the true inspiration.

Innisbrook Thank You

On behalf of the students and staff at the Raymond Elementary School, Principal Norma Richard would like to thank everyone who supported this year's successful Innisbrook fundraiser. We have sent in over \$11,000 in orders and hope to receive them back within the next few weeks. The proceeds from this year's sale will be used to support classroom programs, field trips, special projects and events at RES, as well as to support PTO scholarships and the many outstanding efforts of the Raymond Parent-Teacher Organization. Once again, thank you for supporting the Innisbrook sale!

Second Free Computer Workshop for Raymond Residents and School Employees

Microsoft Excel:

Doris Horne, Data Strategist, will be offering a second computer class for adult community members wanting to learn to use Microsoft Excel at a basic/intermediate level. This two-night workshop will be held in the Raymond Elementary School computer lab on Monday, November 6 and 13, 6:30-8:30pm. To register, contact Doris at doris.horne@raymondmaine.org or at 655-8666.

This free workshop is available thanks to a Raymond School Department and Raymond Village Library collaboration.

Car Wash Benefits Community Service

The 5th Grade "Geek Squad" had a successful carwash on Oct 14th at Varney's Auto Body in Windham. The hard working team, plus some siblings and parents, managed to raise over \$200 for community service projects. Special thanks to the Callahans, Diane Melvin, the Lloys, and Lisa Conley for helping for the whole afternoon! The kids included Hannah Lloy, Zach and Jake Callahan, Hailey and Jacob Melvin, Kaitlyn Morse, Morgan Richmond, Eric Schadler, Abby Gardiner, Katelyn Tucker, Kurt and Chris Heywood (Ms. Loux's sons) and Tyler Woolstrom.



Local Boy Wins Trophy at Cumberland Fair

Kyle Nelson, who is in Ms. Cummings's first grade class in the Raymond Elementary School, participated in the Pedal Tractor Pull at the Fair on September 24th. There are two classes of competition based on weight. Kyle competed in



the "up to 40 pound" class and won first place. He peddled for a distance of 13 feet. His prizes were a trophy and a first place ribbon. Kyle is becoming a champion, as he also won the same competition in 2005. Atta boy, Kyle!

Want To Learn About Digital Broadcasting?

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