

The Raymond RoadRunner

A Raymond School District & Town of Raymond Publication
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In This Issue

Raymond Conservation Commission Needs Your Input!.....	1
April 1st Deadline for Property Tax Exemptions.....	1
Minor League Pitching Star Leads Clinic for Area Youth.....	1
Trash/Recycling Pick-up Contract Goes to Pine Tree Waste	1
Raymond Village Library News	2
Raymond Hosting Compost Bin Sale	2
Municipal News Brief.....	3
RES Principal's Report	4
Raymond Elementary School	4
CHIP at RES	4
Driver Safety Is "Elementary"	4
Illness Guidelines.....	4
Only Joking?.....	4
North Yarmouth Academy First Trimester Honor Roll.....	4
Hebron Academy Middle School Presents Fall Honor Roll.....	5
"No School" Announcements	5
Kindergarten Workshop.....	5
Hebron Academy Celebrates the Season	5
Budget Development Schedule.....	5
2007 Raymond Rabies Clinic	6
Property Tax and Rent Relief.....	6
Beginners Ballroom Dance Class	6
From the Tax Collector's Office	6
Judging Ice Conditions	6
Flu Facts.....	7
PTO News	7
Community Forum Planning Process	7
Girl Scout Silver Award Project.....	7
Community Service Updates	8
Campers Give to Help Preserve "Summer Home".....	8
Ice Rink.....	8
Raymond Village Community Church News.....	8
Compost Bin Order Deadline March 30th.....	8
Animal Control Report	9
Mardi Gras	9
Blue and Gold Banquet!.....	9
Sand/Salt for Raymond Residents	9
Farmers' Market to Open in North Windham	9
Maine Warden Service Urges Caution Before Venturing on the Ice	10
Nomination Papers Are Available.....	10
Aluminum Can Tabs	10
Barking Dogs Are Not Happy Dogs	10
Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	10
New Psychedelic Drug in Maine: Salvia.....	10
Criminal Justice Committee Has Full Agenda.....	11
Want to Learn about Digital Broadcasting?.....	11
Rep. John Robinson Appointed to Powerful Appropriations Committee	11
"High Five" for Ed Friedman!	12
Paper Cranes in Grade 3	12
The Raymond Veterans' Memorial Committee	12
Hebron Academy 7th Graders Have Roman Party	12
A Skatepark is On the Way	12
Ken and Janet Matthews Celebrate 40 Years of Marriage.....	12
Raymond Recreation Friday Skiing.....	12

Raymond Conservation Commission Needs Your Input!

By John Rand, Co-Chair, Raymond Conservation Commission

A high-priority policy for Raymond is to "Increase Open Space," as stated in the 2004 Comprehensive Plan. The plan directed the RCC, the Selectmen and the town to prioritize special areas for conservation. In response, the RCC decided the best way to identify high-value conservation areas was to complete an inventory of our Natural Resources.

We prepared the inventory using Geographical Information System (GIS) technology. This approach allowed us to use many data layers that were available electronically from the Maine Office of GIS, the Maine State Planning office and other sources. Our work would not have been possible without the expert consulting services of Hugh Coxe, who is Raymond's contract Town Planner. Hugh has provided essential guidance and implementation for not only this RCC effort but other core planning functions in town.

We have now completed a draft inventory. The results are a set of beautifully colored maps that portray the most important natural areas and features in Raymond.

But..... we need your help! Starting this winter, we will be presenting the draft maps to Raymond landowners so that we can collect additional information about special places or trails of significance to our town. Look for information in the Road Runner and on the Public Access Channel, and for a workshop in late winter. Please come and let us know where your favorite places are or which resource is most important to you! For more information, contact John Rand at 655-4277 or jbr@fairpoint.net. All RCC meetings (generally the last Tuesday night of each month during the school year) are wide open to the public.

Minor League Pitching Star Leads Clinic for Area Youth

By Lisa Conley

Thomas "Tip" Fairchild, star pitcher for the Houston Astros minor league, led an elite pitching clinic for select Sebago Long Lake Cal Ripken players. The 16 players, ages 9 to 11, were handpicked based on their ability, desire to learn, attitude, and commitment to continued learning about baseball and pitching.

Participants from Raymond were Zack Conley, Mike Cormier, Chris Gagne, Chase Gendron, Aaron Guisely, Victor Klinkerch, Mitch Lorenz, Jarron Nadeau and Landen Rankin.

The clinic, held at JSMS on January 3rd, focused on drills, pitching mechanics, pitching styles, flexibility, safety (including correct pitching styles for their age group), and sportsmanship. In addition, Tip stressed the importance of not just focusing on baseball, but also becoming involved in other activities and/or sports.

The clinic wrapped up with Tip giving each participant individual coaching and things to work on with their pitching in the off season. The kids and parents were then given an opportunity to ask any questions they wanted.

Tip, from Monmouth, Maine, was drafted by the Astros in 2005 while attending his 3rd year at USM as a business major. Since then, he has proven to be a top pitcher in the minors, dominating in 2006 with a record of 10-3 and a 1.66 ERA. He also became the first pitcher to get eight wins in the South Atlantic League, made up of 15 teams.

During the regular season he was privileged to meet and spend time with his idol Roger Clemens, who pitched for his minor league team before returning to the majors.

Tip has been invited to attend his own elite pitching clinic led by Nolan Ryan, Roger Clemens and Dave Wallace (former pitching coach for the Boston Red Sox). He was selected as one of only six pitchers to attend. Last year, five out of the six pitchers chosen were moved up to the majors.

Tip returned to Maine this off season to continue his classes at USM toward his business major.

If you would like to read more information on Tip, you can "Google" him online or check out www.mlb.com.



April 1st Deadline for Property Tax Exemptions

The Town of Raymond and the State of Maine provide the opportunity for residents to get certain exemptions from the property tax. These exemptions represent a certain amount of value, which will be subtracted from your total real estate property valuation. The values may vary from year to year. If you qualify, the exemption(s) will apply to the 2007-2008 tax year.

- Homestead Exemption: If the owner is a legal resident of Raymond, come to the Town Office and fill out an easy one-sided application.
- Veterans Exemption: If the owner is 62 years of age by April 1st, a veteran of a federally recognized war period, and can provide an honorable discharge DD214, come into the Assessing Office and apply.
- Blind Exemption: If the owner is legally blind and can provide a note from his/her doctor stating that fact, come into the Assessing Office and apply.

Trash/Recycling Pick-up Contract Goes to Pine Tree Waste

On Tuesday, January 16th, the Board of Selectmen voted to renew a 3-year contract with Pine Tree Waste, Inc. to pick up Raymond's curbside trash and recycling. The Selectmen were very pleased with the bid offered by Pine Tree and felt that our association would continue to be a very positive one. The recycling side of the bid was for 5-sort recycling which is identical to our present service.

Pine Tree Waste explained that they were in the process of arranging to have single stream recycling in Maine within a year. The Selectmen and Recycling Committee are very excited about this change because it would allow a wider range of items to be recycled, and there would not be a need for any sorting of product by the residents. Single stream recycling would also allow for curbside cardboard pickup rather than the drop-off point recycling we are presently using. The Selectmen arranged with Pine Tree that at the time they can manage single stream recycling, Raymond would be able to renegotiate our contract for that service.

Road Runner Articles

Articles for the next edition of the *Road Runner* newsletter are due by Thursday, **February 15th**. 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

- Monday, February 5 and 12, Computer Workshop, RES from 6 to 8pm
- Wednesday, February 7, Library Board Meeting, RVL at 7pm
- Wednesday, February 21, Craft Workshop for school children, RVL at 2pm
- Wednesday, February 28, Book Group, RVL at 7pm
- Friday, March 2, Dr. Seuss Party, at Raymond Elementary School at 6:30pm

February at the Raymond Village Library is filled with activities for all ages. Now is the time to learn new, fun ways to use your computer, read a new book to discuss with others; or for the younger members of the family, enjoy a fun craft class and take part in the best birthday party of the year!!

Computer Workshop

Fun with Graphics will be held at the Raymond Elementary School computer lab on Mondays, February 5 and 12, from 6-8pm.

Thanks to a collaboration of the Raymond Village Library and the School Department, Doris Horne will present another free adult workshop for Raymond residents and school employees. You will learn how to use the Drawing Toolbar and WordArt, create 3D effects, manipulate pictures and

much more. Using these tools, you will design a special certificate as a final project. Contact Doris at doris.horne@raymondmaine.org or at 655-8666 to register. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early.

Board Meeting

The Library Board will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 7, at 7pm at the library.

Craft for Kids

Sue Carr will be showing how to work with polymer clay at our annual vacation craft day at the library. This is for school-age students K-8 and will be held at the library on Wednesday, February 21, at 2pm. It is sure to be a fun-filled afternoon, so be sure to sign up early at the library, as the number of participants is limited.

Book Group

The reading group will meet at the library on Wednesday, February 28, at 7 pm. The book chosen for February is Pat Conroy's *The Water Is Wide*. Copies of the book will be available by request at the library. New members are always welcome, so if you'd like to add some new reading and sharing to your winter days, please join us.

Dr. Seuss Party

The annual Dr. Seuss Party will be held at the Raymond Elementary School on March 2, 2007, beginning at 6:30pm. Please note that the date has changed, so be sure to put the correct date on your calendar. As usual, there will be activities set up for participants ages 3 through 93, and this looks to be the Biggest and Best Party yet!! See you there.

Raymond Hosting Compost Bin Sale

The Town of Raymond is planning to hold a backyard "Compost Bin & Kitchen Waste Pail Sale" for Earth Day 2007.

Are you tired of seeing all of those kitchen leftovers from preparing meals and snacks get thrown out in the trash or eaten by critters in your makeshift composting bin in the backyard? Here's your chance to turn those scraps into a rich soil amendment.

As part of Earth Day 2007 celebrations, Raymond is participating in a statewide backyard composting bin sale. Through April 2nd, 2007, a home compost bin and how-to guide with a combined retail value of \$80 can be purchased for only \$39.50 (tax included). The bin is black, has a 10-year warranty, and is made of 100% recycled plastic. It's approximately 35" high and 33" wide, or large enough for the composting needs of a family of five. Kitchen Waste Pails, for all your kitchen food scraps, are also available for sale at \$10.50 each.

It's estimated that 25 percent of the average household's waste consists of yard trimmings and kitchen scraps, which can be easily composted. Raymond's residents can save money for every ton of waste they compost because it is not shipped out of town for disposal.

To learn more or obtain an order form, contact Louise Lester, Raymond Town Clerk, at 207-655-4742 ext. 21 or louise.lester@raymondmaine.org. Raymond already recycles many of its disposables. Let's increase our recycling while helping our gardens grow! This promotion is not just for Raymond residents – anyone can order.

February 2007

Events and Meeting Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30PM PS Raymond Lions Club Meeting	2	3
4	5 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 6 - 8:00PM RE Computer Workshop Fun with Graphics	6 7:00PM MB Selectmen's Meeting 7:00PM MB Conservation Commission	7 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 6:30PM RE School Committee Meeting 7:00 VL Library Board	8	9	10
11	12 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 6 - 8:00PM RE Computer Workshop Fun with Graphics	13 7:00PM MB Tassel Top Board of Directors 6:30PM RE Parent Teachers Organization	14 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 7:00PM MB Planning Board Workshop	15 7:00PM MB One Raymond Committee 7:00 PM TH CPIC 6:30PM PS Raymond Lions Club Meeting ROADRUNNER DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE ARTICLES	16	17
18 10:00AM Appeals Board Site Walk	19 10:00AM VL Library Babytime	20 7:00PM MB Selectmen's Meeting	21 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 2:00 PM VL Kids Craft Workshop 7:00 PM MB Budget Committee 7:00 PM JS CPIC/PB Public Hearing	22 7:00 PM MB Building Committee 7:00 PM TH Cemetery Committee	23	24
25	26 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 7:00PM TH Zoning Board Appeals 7:00 PM MB Budget Committee	27 7:00PM TH Conservation Commission 7:00PM TBD Possible Board of Assessment Review	28 7:00PM VL Reading Group		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, January 2, 2007

- 1) Next steps for a Raymond Skate Park – Community Service Class, Jordan-Small Middle School

Members of the Jordan-Small Middle School Community Service Class and advisor Barbara Loux outlined their ideas for a Raymond Skate Park and sought Selectman feedback on this concept. The Board of Selectmen were receptive to the possibility but advised the students that before any formal consideration or decisions could be made a development plan would need to be formulated, including potential sites, construction costs and a program for undertaking a successful fundraising drive. In that regard, Selectman Lonnie Taylor indicated that he would match the first \$2,500 raised by the students. There was also discussion about the \$50,000 surplus half pipe that the town recently received from the Town of Camden as a donation. Town Manager Don Willard and Public Works Director Nathan White will be making the final trip to pick up the remainder of this equipment in the near future. For the time being it will be stored at the Plains Road Public Works site. The Town Manager also expressed his willingness to meet with the students again, at their convenience, to help develop a plan that could then be discussed by the Board of Selectmen.

- 2) Liquor License Renewal – (Class XI Restaurant/Lounge) – William & Kimberly Hines, Whines Ent. Inc. d/b/a Cafe Sebago, 1248 Roosevelt Trail and Town of Raymond Fire Inspector

After a report from the Town Manager indicating that there have been no concerns or issues related to the previous liquor license for Cafe Sebago, a motion was made by the Board of Selectmen to approve a renewal license. This motion was approved unanimously. Town Clerk Louise Lester reported that Cafe Sebago would also be applying for a special amusement permit, which will be on the next Selectmen's meeting agenda.

- 3) 2007 Scholarship Funding – Town Clerk Louise Lester

A motion was made to table this item until the next meeting, pending additional information from the Town Clerk. This motion was approved unanimously.

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

The One Raymond Committee will meet again on Thursday, January 18th, 2007.

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

No abatements were presented by the Contract Assessor for consideration.

- 6) Executive Session: Discussion of acquisition of real property as authorized under Maine Statutes Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(C).

After meeting in Executive Session, the Selectmen resumed regular session at which time a motion was made to proceed with an eviction order for non-payment of taxes, in consultation with the town attorney, to acquire property at Map 19, Lot 32A. This motion was approved unanimously.

- 7) Old (unfinished) business.

a) None

- 8) Town Manager Report and Communications.

a) The Town Manager passed around and briefly discussed the fiscal year 2007/2008 Capital Improvement Program Budget for consideration by the Board of Selectmen, prior to the joint meeting with the Budget/ Finance Committee, scheduled for January 8, 2007, at 7pm at the JSMS Broadcast Studio.

- 9) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – January 2, 2007.

Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated January 2, 2007.

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

- 1) Public Finance discussion – Dick Ranaghan, Senior

Vice President Public Finance, Gorham Savings Bank

Mr. Ranaghan spoke to the Board of Selectmen regarding selected topics of current general financial management interest, including calculations to determine the appropriate level of fund balance and the relative merits of capital reserve budgeting, vs. bonding, for public improvements. He also discussed the development and implementation of specialized financial management policies to improve the function of the town. He volunteered to help with modeling and analysis to address such issues as evaluating the town's present combined debt load (town, school and county) and the possible advantages of borrowing funds in anticipation of taxes. The idle proceeds of tax anticipation notes could then be periodically reinvested to earn income, given today's favorable public sector borrowing and investing environment.

- 2) Special Amusement Application – William E. Hines Jr. and Kimberly Y. Hines, Whines Enterprises Inc., dba Cafe Sebago

A renewal special amusement permit for Cafe Sebago was approved unanimously by the Board of Selectmen to allow activities including DJ/karaoke, acoustical acts and occasional small bands. Mr. and Mrs. Hines received a special amusement permit last year for the identical list of activities, and there have been no issues or concerns related to that permit.

- 3) Personnel Policy Amendment, Section XXI, Employee References – Town Manager Don Willard

The Town Manager drafted a new section to the town's personnel policy for Selectmen consideration regarding references provided to former employees. Several Selectmen had expressed concern over the lack of any formal town policy. This concern, coupled with potential legal liability exposure, prompted the Selectmen to suggest a policy, based upon many that are in place in the private sector, that provides for the release of only dates of employment and employee classification. The policy will also provide any other information covered under Maine's Freedom of Access Act. An amendment to the policy was offered which restricted release of information by the town to the Town Manager and/or designated employees only. Article XXI as proposed with this amendment was subsequently approved unanimously.

- 4) Review and approval of fiscal year 2006/2007 contract for Assessing Services – John E. O'Donnell & Associates

The Town Manager introduced this item for Selectmen consideration and explained that language had been added by the contractor at his request to clarify insurance requirements, and also wording to support the town's ongoing compliance with state mandated financial reporting, including information related to the town's implementation of LD1 spending limits. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the fiscal year 2006/2007 contract for Assessing Services with John E. O'Donnell & Associates.

- 5) Consideration of Curbside MSW and Recycling bids – Town Clerk Louise Lester

The Board of Selectmen, upon receipt of information from the Town Manager, Town Clerk, and Recycling Committee Chairman, approved a three-year contract with existing solid waste provider Pine Tree Waste. This contract will be for the current five-sort recycling program. It is likely however that single stream recycling will become available during the life of this contract and can be implemented through a contract amendment. (See related article in this month's issue of the RoadRunner.) After considerable discussion, including interaction with Pine Tree Waste representatives Karen McNaughton and Dave McNally, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved entering into a new three-year contract with Pine Tree Waste Inc.

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

The next meeting of the One Raymond Committee will be Thursday, January 18, 2007, at 7pm at the JSMS Broadcast Studio.

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

In the absence of Mr. O'Donnell, the Town Manager introduced four abatement recommendations related to

the town's 2005 revaluation project. A motion was made and unanimously approved to grant these abatements as recommended by Mr. O'Donnell.

- 8) Old (unfinished) business.

a) Executive Session: Discussion of acquisition of real property as authorized under Maine Statutes Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(C)

The Board of Selectmen entered Executive Session to discuss an ongoing issue related to collection of delinquent taxes on a parcel of real property located at Map 19, Lot32A. After a short Executive Session, the Board of Selectmen instructed the Town Manager to proceed with the acquisition of this property as authorized under Maine law.

- 9) Town Manager Report and Communications.

a) Municipal Budget deliberations 2007/2008

The Town Manager reviewed the Selectmen's directives for the development of this year's budget. The goal will be to keep the municipal budget under the level of spending increase allowed by LD1, which is 3.47% this year. The Selectmen want to increase the town's spending in the area of road improvement while at the same time reducing the use of undesignated fund balance or surplus to improve the town's financial position. The budget should fund core services as its primary directive. Given the strong sentiment of the voters of the Town of Raymond to reduce costs, as evidenced by the local passage of TABOR, municipal funding efforts outside of core service areas may need to be re-evaluated in order to stay within the spending strictures of LD1. It is expected that the town manager's draft budget will be complete and released to the Selectmen and Budget Finance Committee for consideration on or about February 1, 2007, with the first budget hearing to occur on February 26, 2007, at 7pm at the JSMS Broadcast Studio.

b) Local Schools/Regional Support Summary – Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mark Gendron

Chairman Mark Gendron provided a detailed overview of the Local Schools/Regional Support reorganization plan proposed by Governor Baldacci and Maine's Commissioner of Education Sue Gendron. This initiative would shift local and state financial emphasis toward improving educational offerings and equity within Maine's schools. A substantial reduction in administrative costs is proposed under the plan to be achieved by reducing the number of school administrators and support staff from 152 to 26, based upon the current regional vocational districts. The proposal seeks to improve operational efficiency through the elimination of unnecessary and duplicative administrative costs in the delivery of school services as recommended by three separate and independent reports. These reports suggest that a reduction in school costs would promote both state economic vitality and also allow additional funds to be dedicated directly to educational opportunities for Maine's school children. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation on LSRS, developed by Commissioner of Education Sue Gendron, has been posted on the town's website at www.raymondmaine.org.

c) Public Works Truck

Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mark Gendron had requested detailed information from Public Works Director Nathan White regarding the mechanical specifications of the 1995 Public Works truck that Mr. White is seeking to replace. This information was distributed to the Board of Selectmen preliminary to any decisions being made over the possible replacement of this vehicle.

- 10) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – January 16, 2007.

Approved payroll and appropriation warrants dated January 16, 2007.

All Raymond meetings are public, and citizens are encouraged to attend. You may also watch live broadcasts 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.

RES Principal's Report

I want to express my sincere thanks to our students, their families, the RES staff, and the Raymond community for their outstanding efforts during the holiday season to collect and distribute toys and food to our community. It was such a pleasure to see the students maneuver the shopping cart each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and to see the wonderful donations that were brought into school. Everyone who worked on these projects, including the Harvest Hills Animal Shelter collections, should feel a lot of community pride.

We were wondering when winter would arrive this year, and the mid-January temperatures were a reminder that colder temperatures and severe weather would be in the forecast for the next few months. I want to thank all of the parents who send their children to school each day dressed appropriately for winter weather. On the coldest days we provide inside recess for all children, but it is still important to have each child warmly dressed for the bus ride to and from school and for any emergency evacuation that might happen. I also want to remind parents that we require updated busing and parent pick-up information in the office in the event of an early dismissal due to snow or other emergency condition. Your child's teacher will appreciate your attention to this detail, as early dismissal days tend to be hectic for adults and children alike at school (and for parents!).

I want to recognize the hard work done each and every day by our bus drivers. They have one of the most difficult jobs in our school district. The poor road conditions due to the ice and snow make their work even more difficult. Children riding the bus are expected to stay seated at all times (remember the rhyme, "Bottom to bottom, back to back, with my backpack on my lap"). Children who do not stay in their seats, who are not sitting properly, or who are moving when the bus is in motion put themselves and others at risk for an injury. Parents are asked to review bus procedures with their children on a frequent basis, and to recognize the great efforts of our bus drivers.

The phone system was down for a few days in January due to the limitations of an aging computer running this system. Due to the outstanding efforts of our technology coordinator, Mr. Dennis Dorey, we were quickly up and running again. In the event of another equipment failure or other problems with the phones, you can always contact the school in one of the following ways:

- E-mail our front office at mindy.mckinney@raymondmaine.org
- Call the Jordan-Small Middle School at 655-4743 and they will get a message to RES.
- As our fax is a landline, send a fax to RES at 655-8664.
- E-mail your child's teacher.

Students in grades 3 and 4 will once again participate in the Maine Educational Assessments. This year the MEAs will start the week of March 5. We will send home specific testing dates and times in mid-February, but I would like to ask parents to mark the mornings of March 5 – 13 on their home calendars. We schedule our testing sessions in the morning, so any health or other appointments should be made for afternoon or after school.

Raymond Elementary School

Monday, March 5, 2007

6:30pm RES GYM

Public Hearing for the proposed 2007 – 2008 School Budget.

CHIP at RES

Once again the Freemasons of Maine will be working with the Raymond Elementary School to offer CHIP (Child Identification Program). This is a free program created to address the growing national problem of child abduction.

This program has been very, very successful, with the majority of our students participating over the past years. This year CHIP is moving to a digital format to make it easier for families to store their children's ID information and fingerprints. It will also improve the effectiveness of the program by allowing information to be shared electronically and quickly, a key in getting data to law enforcement in the event of a missing child or child abduction.

The Raymond Elementary School would like to thank Wendell Graham and the Freemasons of Maine for offering this valuable service to Raymond families. We hope that all children in grades K - 4 participate in CHIP. Look for permission slips and updated information forms coming home in the RES responsibility folders.

Driver Safety Is "Elementary"

Principal Norma Richard would like to thank all of those parents and visitors to the Raymond Elementary School who obey the speed limit on school property of 15 miles per hour in the driveway at all times and who follow safe driving procedures when dropping off or picking up their students. The majority of visitors to RES do a great job.

Unfortunately, there are still parents, especially in the morning, who use excessive speed coming down the driveway, or who present a risk to students and other vehicles in the parking lot. Ms. Richard would like to remind these drivers that cars are not allowed in the circular bus drive, that cars may not pass a bus that is dropping off children (this has been a problem on rainy or very cold days when we discharge all of the children at the main entrance), and that parents should never leave their vehicles unattended at the curb in front of the school. She and the entire RES staff thank you for your support of these very important safety procedures.

Illness Guidelines

by Jerilyn Ward, RNC-BSN, and Denise Plummer, MA

Your child should not attend school if he/she exhibits one or more of the following symptoms:

- ✓ **Fever** – fever is defined as having a temperature of 100.5 degrees F or higher (taken orally). Your child should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- ✓ **Diarrhea** – watery, foul-smelling, runny and/or bloody stools.
- ✓ **Vomiting** – one or more times in the last 24-hour period.
- ✓ **Nasal discharge** – runny, yellow-greenish mucous accompanied by fever, vomiting or diarrhea.
- ✓ **Sore throat** – accompanied with difficulty swallowing, enlarged glands, vomiting, earaches, irritability or fever.
- ✓ **Pink eye** – drainage from the eye or redness and swelling of the mucous membranes of the eye. Children may return to school after receiving medication for a full 24 hours.
- ✓ **Rash** – an unexplained rash with fever or behavioral change. Children can return to school if a physician has determined the illness is not communicable and fever is gone.
- ✓ **Bacterial Infections** – like Strep Throat and Impetigo, which require antibiotics. Keep your child home until they have been on their medicine for a full 24 hours.

Children with these illnesses cannot comfortably participate in program activities and unnecessarily expose others. If you believe your child is too sick to go out to recess, they are probably too sick to attend school. We appreciate your cooperation in adhering to these guidelines.

Please encourage your children to wash their hands before eating, after using the bathroom and after sneezing or blowing their noses. By creating these habits, we can all stay a little healthier. If you have any questions, please give your School Health Office a call.

Only Joking?

by Randy Crockett, J.S.M.S. Principal

In my brief tenure as a middle school principal, I have already lost count of how many times I have had a student say to me "I was just joking" in response to my questions regarding a disagreement or altercation. Adolescents have a difficult time understanding the adult concept that what you say to one person in jest might be heard in an entirely different way by another. It is no longer socially, or legally, acceptable to subscribe to the thinking that "boys will be boys." Actions that used to be culturally accepted as part of growing up are now defined as harassment, bullying and hazing.

A few years ago I was fortunate to attend a presentation by the director of The Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence as part of a class I was taking. That experience opened my eyes to the potential impact language can have on a school's culture and an individual student's educational experience. At the middle school level, student interactions go underground, and telling the teacher when someone is bothering you is definitely not "cool." Sometimes students feel they are just teasing in a playful way and do not realize the effect that their words are having on their peers. At other times, harassment or intimidation is clearly the goal. Students use the internet, make comments in the hallways, at lunch or on the playground and confront their target in the bathroom.

Harassment and bullying take many different forms and directions. The student who is the victim will often initially try to respond with similar language or threaten the other student to try to solve the problem himself. Other students will attempt to avoid those who are bothering them. In any case, once the student has asked someone to stop or to be left alone and the problem continues, the line has been crossed from "just joking around" to harassment.

I believe that students who feel less than 100% safe in school do not perform to their full academic potential. It is the responsibility of every adult who has contact with our students in and out of school to help them understand how to act in a manner that is both ethically and legally responsible. It is equally important that the students help each other by speaking to an adult when they see someone who is being harassed or bullied. Younger children routinely let an adult know when another child breaks the rules or is "being mean." Unfortunately, as our students move into more sophisticated and complex thinking academically, they also challenge us with more complex behaviors. We are fortunate in Raymond to have relatively few problems of this type as compared to some larger middle schools. Nonetheless, if even one student is a victim, then there is work to be done. The task of creating a safe educational experience for every student requires constant and ongoing attention by our entire community, including our students.

For information on the Raymond School Department, go online to the School's website. Complete school department information with links to Jordan-Small Middle School and Raymond Elementary School websites.

www.raymondmaine.org/rsd/welcome.html

North Yarmouth Academy First Trimester Honor Roll

The following students from Raymond attained honor roll status for the first trimester:

High Honors:

Grade 10: Steven Lentine

Grade 09: Samuel Hutchinson and Katherine Lentine

Grade 07: Robert Lentine

Honors:

Grade 12: Kevin Catir and Katherine Knight

Grade 11: Sarah Crockett

Grade 06: Timothy "Cameron" Patch

“No School” Announcements

The school cancellation procedures were published in the school calendar/handbook sent to all Raymond households in August. To review, in the event of no school due to weather or other emergency conditions, the cancellation announcements will be broadcast on the local television stations (Channels 6, 8 and 13) and radio stations (WPOR, WMGX, & WGAN) as soon as possible.

Safety is always the first consideration in canceling or delaying the start of school. These are coordinated with the receiving school systems, Westbrook, Windham, Poland and Gray; so weather in these districts may affect busing for our elementary and middle school students. Buses will run their routes in the same order as on regular school days.

Alternative plans in the event of an early dismissal (either weather or emergency related) were included on your student’s emergency sheet this year. Please alert the school office if there has been any change in these plans. We are unable to contact parents directly in the event of an early school closing, so it is very important that you have made alternate arrangements for your student in advance.

Please note that when school is cancelled, all afternoon and evening activities for school or the community held at RES or JSMS are also cancelled.

Town of Raymond
Fiscal Year 2007/2008

Budget Development Schedule

Corrected as of 01/05/2007

- December 4, 2006, Monday, 7pm, Modular – Joint meeting with Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee. Review/revise tentative 2007/2008FY budget schedule and set directive for budget process.
- December 7, 2006, Thursday - Town Manager submits standardized instructions and directives to Department Heads and “Provider Agencies” for budget requests, to be submitted to the Town Manager by January 3, 2007.
- December 19, 2006, Tuesday – CIP Budgets submitted to the Town Manager.
- January 2, 2007, Tuesday – All budgets, other than CIP, are submitted to the Town Manager.
- January 2, 2007, Tuesday - Town Manager submits proposed CIP to Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.
- January 3, 2007, Wednesday, 6:30pm, Modular – Budget Committee meets with School Department to review budget schedule and set directive for the budget process.
- January 8, 2007, Monday, 7pm, Modular – Selectmen and Budget Committee review CIP proposal
- January 11, 2007, Thursday, 7pm, Modular – Selectmen and Budget Committee review Provider proposals. Agencies are requested to attend meeting.
- February 1, 2007, Thursday – Town Manager submits budget (not including school department) to the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee.
- February 9, 2007, Friday – School Budget is submitted to the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen.
- February 26, 2007, Monday, 7pm, Modular – Selectmen and Budget Committee review proposed budget expenditures and projected non property tax revenues
- March 5, 2007, Monday, 6:30pm, Raymond Elementary School – Public Hearing for the proposed school budget
- March 9, 2007, Friday –Final School Department proposed budget is submitted to the Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen.
- March 13, 2007, Tuesday, 7pm, Modular – Selectmen consider (vote on) recommended municipal budget. ** Selectmen may change this date **
- March 19, 2007, Monday, 7pm, Modular – Budget Committee reviews school department budget.
- March 26, 2007, Monday, 7pm, Modular – Budget Committee requests to consider (vote on) recommended school budget and municipal budget. This can also be used for a possible reserved meeting for the Selectmen and Budget Committee for any unfinished work.
- April 11, 2007, Wednesday - Budget to be submitted to the printers to be included in the Town Report.
- May 19, 2007, Saturday – Annual Town Meeting

The School Committee is scheduled to have a public hearing on the School Budget some time before it is submitted to the Budget Committee. Along with all members of the public, the Selectmen will be invited to this hearing, which will provide an opportunity for review and input.

Kindergarten Workshop

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

Date: Saturday, February 3rd

Time: 10am until noon.

Location: Raymond Elementary School Library

- ✓ A presentation and discussion about the school’s Kindergarten curriculum and how parents can help get their preschooler ready for Kindergarten.
- ✓ Great handouts and a great way to meet other parents.

Please call Ivy Jordan to register today at 655-8672, ext. 108. If you need childcare, please call for arrangements before January 25th. We look forward to seeing you!

Hebron Academy Celebrates the Season

The Hebron Academy community welcomed the holiday season with the annual Vespers service, “Winter Wonderland.” At dusk, students walked to the Hebron chapel carrying candles, as music teacher Forest Perkins’ carols sounded across the campus and senior Taylor Fey of Raymond played the bagpipes. During the service, organized by teacher Cynthia Reedy, students offered readings reflecting on the winter solstice and were joined by faculty in singing songs of the season. Also performing were the Hebron Dance Troupe and the Middle School and Upper School choruses.



Pictured above are members of the Upper School Chorus, directed by Deborah Perkins. From left: Melanie Kleven and Emily Powers (both of Auburn), Cassandra Benson-Abrams (FL), Mary Randall (New Gloucester), Annmarie Tedesco (Kittery), Claire Cummings (Norway), David Delgado (IA), Q Shin (Korea), Calvin Moisan (Raymond), and Jaehyung Park (Korea). (Photo by Bill Chase)

Hebron Academy Middle School Presents Fall Honor Roll

By Christine Hemmings

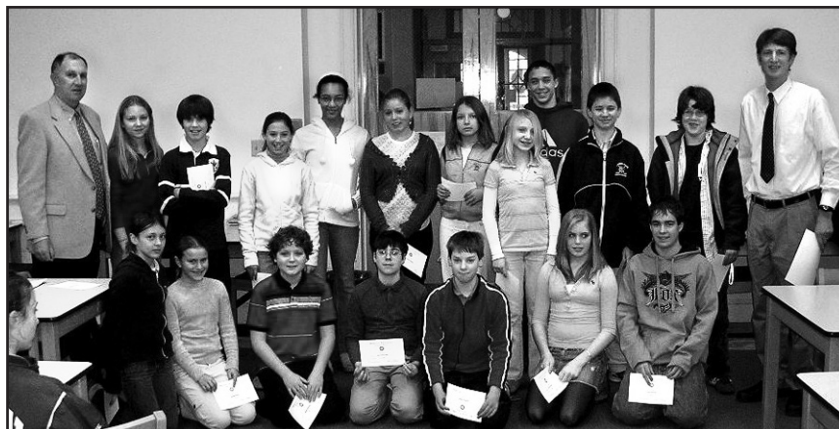
Hebron Academy Middle School Director Paul Brouwer and Headmaster John King recently presented certificates for the fall trimester honor roll.

Highest Honors (A- average or higher): Annalyn Bachmann, Thomas Cummings, Polly Drown, Adria Hughes, Rebekah Jett, Isabel Kannegieser, A.J. Keith, Sydney Randall, and Harry Trask.

High Honors (B+ average or higher): Laura Dow, Lindsey Hughes, Maxwell Middleton, Rosalyn Moisan, and Garrett Van Wie.

Honors (B average or higher): Matthew Fensore, Malorie Johnson, Taylor Theriault, and Paul Webster-Pact.

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



(Front row kneeling l-r): Linsey Hughes (Raymond), Rosalyn Moisan (Raymond), Max Middleton (Hebron), Paul Webster-Pact (Wales), Matt Fensore (New Gloucester), Malorie Johnson (Minot), Taylor Theriault (Minot). (Back row standing l-r): Headmaster John King (Hebron), Sydney Randall (New Gloucester), AJ Keith (Bethel), Isabel Kannegieser (Minot), Rebekah Jett (Norway), Annie Bachmann (Auburn), Adria Hughes (Raymond), Polly Drown (Leeds), Garrett Van Wie (New Gloucester), Tom Cummings (Norway), Harry Trask (Norway), Middle School Director Paul Brouwer (Hebron). Missing: Laura Dow (Norway).

Property Tax and Rent Relief "Circuit Breaker" Program

DEADLINE MAY 31, 2007

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.

2007 Raymond Rabies Clinic

On Saturday, January 20th the Town of Raymond Animal Control Office sponsored a pet Rabies Clinic. With the help of his wife Kim and staff from Jordan Bay Animal Hospital, Dr. Eric Riddell vaccinated more than 70 dogs and cats. Dr. Riddell is the new owner of Jordan Bay Animal Hospital, and we welcome his continuing association of Jordan Bay with the Town of Raymond.

Also helping with the clinic was Jason from Blue Seal Feeds and Needs located in South Windham. They provided information on pet nutrition and gave sample bags of dog and cat food to the clinic attendees. Don Alexander, Animal Control Officer, was helping pet owners control their dogs and cats along with volunteer Tacy Hartley. Dog licensing was also available for the Raymond dogs.



Beginners Ballroom Dance Class

Friday, February 2, at 7pm

Faith Lutheran Church
988 Roosevelt Trail,
Rt. 302
Windham

Refreshments

For more information:
839-4257



Girl Scouts
Where Girls Grow Strong™

Discover. Connect. Take Action.

Join Girl Scouts

*For more information
about joining Girl Scouts
or becoming a volunteer
contact us at:*

207-772-1177

1-800-660-1072

www.gskc.org

kennebec@gskc.org

Judging Ice Conditions

**"Thick and blue, tried and true.
Thin and crispy, way to risky."**

- The ice traveler should look for bluish ice that is at least 4 to 6 inches thick, in order to support people and their gear. Even if the weather has been below freezing for several days, don't guess about ice thickness. Check ice in several places. Use an auger, spud, or axe to make a test hole, beginning at shore and continuing as you go out.
- If ice at the shoreline is cracked or squishy, stay off. Don't go on the ice during thaws. Watch out for thin, clear or honeycomb-shaped ice. Dark snow and dark ice are other signs of weak spots.
- Choose small bodies of water. Rivers and lakes are prone to wind and wave action, which can break ice up quickly. Avoid areas with currents, around bridges and pressure ridges.

"Wait for a long cold spell, then test the ice thoroughly."

- In the wintertime, outdoor enthusiasts frequently need to know how thick the ice is and whether it is safe to walk across it. The American Pulpwood Association has published a handy reference chart that gives a good rule-of-thumb for ponds and lake ice thickness.
- This table is for clear, blue ice on lakes. Reduce the strength values by 15% for clear blue river ice. Slush ice is only one-half the strength of blue ice. This table does not apply to parked loads.

Ice Thickness (in inches)	Permissible Load - Clear, Blue Lake Ice (Reduce strength values for other types of ice)
2	One person on foot
3	Group of people walking single file
7½	Passenger car (2 ton gross)
8	Light truck (2½ ton gross)
10	Medium truck (3½ ton gross)
12	Heavy truck (7-8 ton gross)
15	Heavy truck (10 ton gross)
20	25 tons
25	45 tons
30	70 tons
36	110 tons

What if I break through the ice?

- If you break through the ice, don't panic.
- Don't try to climb out - you'll probably break the ice again.
- Lay both arms on the unbroken ice and kick hard. This will help lift your body onto the ice. Roll to safety.
- To help someone who has fallen in, lie down flat and reach with a branch, plank, or rope; or form a human chain. Don't stand. After securing the victim, wiggle backwards to the solid ice.
- The victim may need treatment for hypothermia (cold exposure), artificial respiration or CPR.
"If your feet are cold, put on your hat."
- That may seem odd, but it's good advice. Most of your body heat is lost through your head and neck. So wear a hat and cover your face and neck.
- Dress in layers. Wool, silk and certain synthetics are best; they'll keep you warm even if they're wet.
- Insulated, waterproof boots, gloves and a wind-breaker are very important. Take extra clothing.

From the Tax Collector's Office

The second half of this year's taxes will be due April 30th. If you didn't receive a bill or are paying after that date, please contact the tax collector at 655-4742. Any balance left unpaid June 30th, 2007, in addition to any previous years' taxes, will be listed in the Town Report.

Flu Facts

What is influenza (the flu)?

Influenza, commonly called "the flu," is caused by the influenza virus, which infects the respiratory tract (nose, throat, lungs). The flu usually spreads from person to person when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks and the virus is sent into the air. Unlike many other viral respiratory infections, such as the common cold, the flu causes severe illness and life-threatening complications in many people.

What are the symptoms of the flu?

Influenza is a respiratory illness. Symptoms of flu include fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches. Children can have additional gastro-intestinal symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, but these symptoms are uncommon in adults. Although the term "stomach flu" is sometimes used to describe vomiting, nausea, or diarrhea, these illnesses are caused by certain other viruses, bacteria, or possibly parasites, and are rarely related to influenza.

Does the flu have complications?

Yes. Some of the complications caused by flu include bacterial pneumonia, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes. Children may get sinus problems and ear infections as complications from the flu. Those aged 65 years and older and persons of any age with chronic medical conditions are at highest risk for serious complications of flu.

Will this year's flu vaccine protect me from the flu?

Influenza viruses are changing all the time, and vaccine effectiveness depends, in part, on the match between vaccine strains and circulating viruses. Because flu viruses are already circulating in some communities, it's even more important to get the vaccine now. There is plenty of flu vaccine available, and it's especially important that those people who are recommended for vaccination get the vaccine this year.

The influenza vaccine is safe and is the most effective way to prevent the disease and its complications.

How soon will I get sick if I am exposed to the flu?

The time from when a person is exposed to flu virus to when symptoms begin is about one to four days, with an average of about two days.

How long is a person with flu virus contagious?

The period when an infected person is contagious depends on the age of the person. Adults may be contagious from one day prior to becoming sick and for three to seven days after they first develop symptoms. Some children may be contagious for longer than a week.

What are Good Health Habits for Preventing the Flu?

1. Avoid close contact.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others.

2. Stay home when you are sick.

If possible, stay home from work, school, and running errands when you are sick.

3. Cover your mouth and nose.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or into the sleeve of your shirt when coughing or sneezing.

4. Wash your hands often.

This is the number one way to prevent yourself from getting sick.

5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Touching something that is contaminated with germs and then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth may make you sick.

6. Practice other good health habits.

Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.



PTO News

By Deb Cutten

Request for Funds

At our January 9th meeting we voted to support a request from the 7th grade team. Marilee Dunklee requested \$500 to help fund the cost of admission to the Chamber Repertory Theatre's "Encore!!" performance. The total cost for the performance is \$1062. The remaining balance will be paid for by the students. Seventh graders will be going to the Merrill Auditorium in Portland on April 5th. By supporting this project it helps us to fulfill our mission of enriching educational programs.

Fundraiser Updates

Our Fall Scholastic Bookfair yielded a profit of \$1021.71. A big heartfelt Thank you to all of you who donated your time to help out at the book fair and to all of you who purchased books at the fair. This year we decided not to sell the toys/trinkets that Scholastic usually sends, though we were unsure how this would affect sales. It didn't seem to have a negative effect, and parents were pleased not having the items available.

The Hannaford Helps Schools program was somewhat disappointing this year. We only turned in \$333 School Dollars compared to over \$800 last year. This was due, in part, to the reduction of healthy eligible items. New this year was a carousel at the check-out for people to deposit their School Dollars in. It is not known how many Dollars were deposited in the Raymond slot. In March we will receive a check for the \$333 we turned in as well as whatever was deposited in our slot. We will also find out at that time whether we were the top school in our area and if we will receive the \$1000 bonus this year.

We have received \$3000 from RES as our portion of the Innisbrook Gift Wrap sale held at the beginning of school. Principal Norma Richard does the lion's share of the work for this fundraiser, and her generosity in giving the PTO half of the proceeds is greatly appreciated.

Though we do not look at the Holiday Fair as a fundraiser, we did earn almost \$200, after expenses, as a result of the Gift Shop, Present Walk, Cookie Table and Café. The PTO would like to thank Greg Curtis for his generous donation of toys/gifts for the Holiday Fair. Mr. Curtis had been the local sales representative for the QSP Fundraising program for many years and had accumulated an entire garage full of contest incentives. His retirement and subsequent move has resulted in various Town organizations benefiting from his donations. We'd like to also thank all the volunteers who helped with the Holiday Fair. We couldn't have done it without you.

Valentine Dance

Once again the PTO will be collaborating with The Raymond Mentoring Partnership and S.E.A.R.C.H. to put on a family Valentine's Dance. The Dance will be held at Jordan-Small Middle School on Friday, February 9th. The dance is free and open to the public; all ages are welcome. The Disclaimers will be providing live music. Refreshments will be provided by the PTO. We need your help. If you can donate healthy food items such as fruit, pretzels, cheese, crackers, etc., it would be greatly appreciated. We also need help for setting up and cleaning up. If you can donate food or help with set-up/take-down please contact me at dcutten@maine.rr.com.

Scholarship Committee

We need a new member on our scholarship committee. Ellen van Haastern, our chair, has stepped down after eight years of service to the PTO. We appreciate all she has done in this valuable role. The job of a committee member is to review anonymous scholarship applications that are provided to them and score the applications using a very specific scoring rubric that has been developed by the Committee. Discussion takes place with the other four Committee members, and three candidates are chosen. The Chairperson notifies the recipients. This position only requires a commitment of 2-3 hours and is very rewarding. If interested, please contact me at dcutten@maine.rr.com.

By-law Update

The PTO is developing new By-laws, now that we are no longer members of the State PTA. At our January meeting copies of the draft By-laws were distributed for public comment and review. The By-laws are also available on our website at www.raymondmaine.org/civic_groups/pto. Unless there is a need to make additional changes, we will vote to accept the new By-laws as written at our February

meeting. Please contact Vice-President Wendy Trask at wtrask1@maine.rr.com with any comments.

The Giving Tree

These are items teachers and staff need for their classrooms. If you have extra at home or would be willing to pick something up when you are out shopping, please bring/send in items and put them in the drop boxes near the school front doors labeled "Giving Tree," or you can leave them in the Office. We will deliver them to the teachers within 2 days. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, call Deb at 655-2877 or e-mail at dcutten@maine.rr.com.

RES

Ms. Stinehour needs - 2 or 3 rolls of transparent Scotch tape

Ms. Parisi needs - a dozen travel plastic soap dishes, to keep our Everyday

Math card decks in.

Mrs. Blanchard needs - a dozen little plastic "do-dads" that you use to hold a single sheet of paper while you type at the computer.

Mrs. Wiley needs - Spell checkers, CD players with headphones, large headphones to muffle noise.

Mrs. Weeks needs - portable CD/cassette player and 2 tape recorders for cassette tapes.

Mrs. Gorham needs - 3 or 4 heavy-duty, sound-blocking headsets.

JSMS

Ms. Griffin needs - two sets of speakers for the projector/DVD carts. These carts are used for presentations in class, and the sound on the projectors is not loud enough for entire classroom viewing. If anyone has any speakers they would like to donate, we could really use them.

Ms. Worth needs - 22-25 inexpensive calculators (nothing with moving parts); the small dollar calculators from Wal-Mart would be fine!

Ms. Stokes needs - new and/or used books for ages 9-12 for her classroom library.

Ms. Irish needs - 100 inexpensive 1 gallon zip-lock storage bags for air tight overnight storage of 7th grade projects. She also needs a Play-Doh sample pack, one Silly Putty egg and an Etch A Sketch.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, call Deb at 655-2877 and leave a message or e-mail at PTO@raymondmaine.org

Community Forum Planning Process for Raymond and Casco Lakes

Throughout the upcoming months a planning committee will be meeting to help design a half-day community watershed forum to be held this summer. This forum will bring together everyone who lives, works, recreates, and has any stake in water resources within the Towns of Raymond and Casco. The goal of the forum will be to discuss the future of water resource protection and improvement and derive an action plan to achieve agreed-upon next steps. If you are interested in helping with the planning process for this event, please contact Heather True of Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District at 207-892-4700 or htrue@cumberlandswcd.org.

Girl Scout Silver Award Project

Hello, my name is Katie Allen. I am a freshman at Poland Regional High School and have lived in Raymond all of my life. I am currently planning my Girl Scout Silver Award project. I plan to complete my project within the first few days of March. I am planning to work with local Girl Scout troops to put together kits for newly adopted kittens from the Animal Refuge League in Greater Portland. I am in hopes that these kits will include toys (made by local Girl Scouts and donated), food, litter boxes and kitty litter, among other items. I am also in need of supplies such as socks, felt, fleece and cat nip (to create toys).

What can you do? My project will be made solely of donated items. If you wish to donate, please contact me at 655-7440 or put donations in a donation box that I hope to distribute around town soon. My deadline for this project is March 1st. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.



Raymond PTO Scholarship Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Parent's Name, Address and Telephone number: _____

How many years did you attend Jordan-Small School? _____

How many years have you been a Raymond resident? _____

Are you currently a Raymond resident? _____

What college or university do you plan to attend? _____

Please attach the following:

1. Three personal recommendations from teachers, employers, coaches, etc.
2. High school transcripts.
3. A brief description of school-related extracurricular activities and community-related activities. Describe in detail your involvement in at least three of these activities.
4. Write an essay stating your reason for pursuing a college education and include a description of your personal and career goals. Include the following in your essay:
 - a. State why you have chosen the college(s) listed above and how you decided on your career goals.
 - b. Explain how your past experiences (extracurricular and community activities) have helped you develop your career goals.
 - c. Describe how the college you have chosen will help you attain your goals.
 - d. Identify barriers that could affect your ability to achieve your goals and how you plan to overcome these obstacles.
 - e. Describe why your achievements and values would make you a good candidate for receiving a PTO scholarship.

DEADLINE: May 1st, 2007

Please send your completed application to:
Raymond PTO Scholarship Committee
c/o Raymond Elementary School
434 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, ME 04071

Recipients of scholarships will receive the scholarship money after the PTO receives their first semester college transcripts indicating an overall GPA of 2.5 or above.

Community Service Updates

By Barb Loux

Besides the ice rink and the skatepark for the Town of Raymond, there have been other classes working on some projects. All the classes will be have a fundraiser the first week of February to benefit leukemia. This is called "Pennies for Patients" and is a national campaign to help children with leukemia and other blood cancers. The community service class to raise the most money will be treated to a pizza party. Please look for these boxes around town and help with this worthy cause.

Another class had a chance to visit Harvest Hills Animal Shelter and bring some donations that have been collected over the past few months. It was a fun trip and a great learning experience for the group of children that went. We got a tour of the shelter and learned how people can continue to help these animals.

There is one class getting ready to bring donations in to Preble Street, a homeless shelter in Portland. There have been many items that are ready to go. This is another great learning experience!

Several classes are going to RES to help with younger students. Some are using after-school time to mentor a younger student, and some are helping with projects and errands that need to get done. There is never a lack of children willing to help with any task that you give them!

We received a thank-you note from a serviceman that we had written and sent Christmas cards to. This was a very moving experience for the kids and really brought home the idea that there are real people serving in this war, and it is so important to support them. Thank you to the community for the growing support of this community service program here in Raymond!

Campers Give to Help Preserve "Summer Home"

Campers at Kingsley Pines recently gave \$1023 to the Panther Pond Association to help preserve the pond and the community they consider their summer home. The money was raised from the sale of Kingsley Pines water bottles.

Camp owners Pat and Joyce Coughlan said, "One of Kingsley Pines' goals is to help campers learn how to be responsible members of the community." They added, "The campers felt by donating this money, they could give back to the community of Raymond, their summer home."

"What an incredible gift!" said Panther Pond Association President Ben Severn.

"We will make sure the funds are used wisely."

The Association was founded in 2002 with the mission "to preserve a quality lake environment." With help from the DEP, it conducted a watershed survey of the pond to determine erosion points. Many sites already have been remedied with the aid of a USG grant, many volunteer hours, the DEP and the Raymond Public Works Department.

Ice Rink

By Barb Loux

A community service group at JSMS is in the process of putting a public ice rink in Raymond in the soccer field in front of RES. The liner has arrived as well as other supplies; however, we are waiting for some donations of more lumber and help setting up and tearing down. The town has generously offered help in both these areas, but we could use others. Please call Ms Loux at 655-4743 x107 if you have any expertise in this area!

Raymond Village Community Church News

Ash Wednesday Service to Begin Season of Lent

There will be an Ash Wednesday Service beginning at 7pm on Wednesday, February 21st, in the sanctuary. Though this is a new service at RVCC, it is a traditional one in many churches.

The season of Lent is a time to prepare oneself for Easter. It is a time to look inward and reflect upon where we have been and where we want to be. In many ways, it is a journey to the new life Easter brings to our lives. We hope that during Lent we can shed those old and moldering parts of ourselves, so we have room in our hearts to embrace the newness and rebirth associated with Easter.

The Ash Wednesday Service is an opportunity to start the Lenten journey with your church family and will be quiet and contemplative with hymns, readings, and time for reflection. Those who wish may receive ashes as a symbol of repentance and turning toward a new path.

Lenten Discussion Group to Begin

Area United Church of Christ churches are coordinating a Lenten Bible Discussion Group. Sessions will be held on the following Wednesdays from 7-8pm during Lent: February 28th, March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. The location will rotate among Raymond Village Community, Casco Village, North Windham Union, Windham Hill, and East Windham Community churches. Discussion leadership will rotate among the pastors of those churches.

The basis of the discussions will be a recent Collector's Edition of U.S. News & World Report entitled "Mysteries of Faith: The Prophets" and will center on prophets from the Old Testament, New Testament, the Koran, and the New World. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about our Bible and other religious texts, as well as exchange ideas with people not only from RVCC but also from other area churches.

Contact the Raymond Village Community Church Office at 655-7749 for more information.

Day Trip to Camden Snow Bowl Planned for Middle School Youth

Any 6th, 7th, or 8th grader is invited to join the Raymond Village Church Youth Group on a day trip to the Camden Snow Bowl on Saturday, February 10th. In addition to youth from the Raymond Village Church, this trip will include the Middle School youth groups from Casco Village Church, North Windham Union Church, Windham Hill Church, and East Windham Community Church.

Everyone will meet at 11:30am at the Camden Deli for a quick and inexpensive lunch and spend the afternoon skiing, tobogganing, tubing, and just having fun. The Snow Bowl closes at 4:30, so folks would be home by 6:30-7pm.

For more information, contact the Church Office at 655-7749.

Compost Bin Order Deadline March 30th

You have until March 30th to place your order for the Maine Resource Recovery Association compost bin. Orders will be taken at the Town Office at \$39.50 each (tax included). Checks should be written to "MRRA" (Maine Resource Recovery Association).

These bins have a 10-year warranty and are made of 100% recycled black plastic. They are approximately a 40-gallon size, 35" high and 33" wide. It is estimated that Raymond residents can save \$138 for every ton of waste they compost.



This year a covered kitchen scrap pail is also available for \$10.50. Both these items are displayed at the Town Office, Raymond Elementary School, and Jordan-Small Middle School.

These bins and pails will be available for delivery on or about May 7th.

For order blanks and ordering, please contact:

Louise Lester, Town Clerk
Raymond Town Office
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071
655-4742 ext. 21

louise.lester@raymondmaine.org

Animal Control Report December-January

- 12/14 Dog attack complaint - in yard on arrival
- 12/18 Dog at large - gone on arrival
- 12/20 Dog barking - verbal warning
- 12/20&21 Administrative work
- 12/21 Dog barking - verbal warning
- 12/21 Dog attack - insufficient evidence
- 12/24 Dog at large - gone on arrival
- 12/26 Check on dog's well being
- 12/27 Cat dropped off at Animal Control
- 12/28 Cat to Animal Refuge League
- 12/28 Dog attack - received photos
- 12/29 Picked up dog for Sheriff's Department
- 1/2/07 Dog at large
- 1/2 Dog in yard
- 1/3 Animal in cellar - set trap
- 1/3 Dog in yard
- 1/3 District Court
- 1/4 Reset trap in cellar
- 1/10 Dog at large - gone on arrival
- 1/10 Dog at large - picked up
- 1/10 Dog missing
- 1/10 Strange dog on porch
- 1/17 Dog in yard - gone on arrival
- 1/18 Dog barking

During the winter, even longhaired, fuzzy dogs and cats can become cold. The most obvious symptom is shivering. The body will shake to stimulate blood flow, attempting to keep the areas warm which have become cold. Other less obvious signs are a distressed look in the pet's face. The pet's body will also appear stiff and hard. The dog or cat won't be able to move well because its body and joints have become too cold to be well lubricated internally. The hair coat will be standing up and bristly appearing. A very cold animal won't want to eat or drink because its organs have become tight and uncomfortable.

The best way to prevent this is to be aware of your pet's condition when he/she is comfortable. When that countenance changes try to determine its cause and change the pet's environment. If the animal is kept outside, be sure that it has sufficient shelter and bedding to keep it warm. Regular meals and water are also essential so that the animal can stay at its maximum efficiency. A warm meal and tepid (not hot) water during cold weather are helpful and probably appreciated by the pet.

Sand/Salt for Raymond Residents

Fire Lane 89 on the Plains Road at the
Public Works shed.

Monday – Friday
from 7:30am to 3pm

Saturday from
8:30am to 12pm

Public entry into the fenced area is prohibited.
There is a limit of 5 five-gallon buckets a load.

NO COMMERCIAL USE IS ALLOWED.

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.

Farmers' Market to Open in North Windham

Are you dreaming of sweet strawberries for your cereal or longing to smell a fresh-picked tomato? Well, winter is still here, but come spring, Windham will welcome the Lakes Region Farmers' Market. The market will open the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend, May 12th, and run every Saturday 8-12 through Columbus Day weekend, October 13th. We will feature seasonal products from local producers, including plants, maple syrup, honey, vegetables, fruits and meats. In addition to locally produced food, there will be handcrafted wood items from our larger producers. We are inviting Maine-based acoustic musicians to play and will be having special events throughout the market season.

We are currently looking for interested musicians, local producers of agricultural products, including baked goods, cheese, and preserves to contact our board about participation with the Lakes Region Farmers' Market. Also, individuals and organizations are encouraged to contact us about volunteer opportunities.

Currently, there is a course series offered through Windham Adult Education for interested vendors to find out what they need to do to participate in the market, including insurance coverage, state requirements, display options, product pricing and more. The course starts on Wednesday, February 28th, and runs for four weeks in the evenings from 6:30-8pm at the Windham High School Library. The fee is \$25 for residents and \$30 non-residents. More information is available either through the Windham Adult Ed. office, 892-1819, or online at http://www.windham.k12.me.us/wsd_adulted/business.cfm.

Our board members are available to answer specific questions and provide detailed information about how to participate with the Lakes Region Farmers' Market in Windham. We will have fresh strawberries waiting for you and more!

Contact:

Allen Pollock, Market Manager – 318-9106

Mercedes Foster-Dougherty, Assistant Market Manager – mercedesgfoster@yahoo.com

Scott Libby, Treasurer – 831-1623 or scott@libbyslandscaping.com

Bob Wedmeyer, Secretary – 892-0293

Mardi Gras Blue and Gold Banquet!

Saturday - February 10, 2007

Blue and Gold Banquet is the annual event where we honor our volunteer leaders and have a lot of fun. It is a birthday dinner for the Cub Scouting Program that began in February 1920.

Raymond Pack 800 is celebrating the Blue and Gold Banquet on February 10th at the Jordan-Small Auditorium. The theme this year is Mardi Gras, and it is a great time for family and friends to get together and enjoy great food and fun. The scouts make table-top decorations and cakes for the decoration contest, which result in some spectacular entries of colorful and flavorful dining for all!

Many awards are typically given out to the volunteers who make Pack 800 successful, such as parents, leaders, scouts and community leaders. We are inviting and honoring our community sponsors and hoping to see many of our scouts and their families, including new folks who may want to join our Raymond Pack 800 family.

If you are interested in joining our celebration, please contact Ivy Jordan, Blue and Gold Banquet Coordinator, at 655-1098 or 939-8159, or e-mail ivy.jordan@raymondmaine.org.



TOWN OF RAYMOND

Nomination Papers Are Available

Friday, February 23RD

FOR THE OFFICES OF

SELECTMAN (2 positions), SCHOOL COMMITTEE
(1 position), and BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE
(3 positions)

Submission deadline:

Wednesday, April 4, 2007, at 4pm

For more information:

Louise Lester, Town Clerk 655-4742 ext.21
or louise.lester@raymondmaine.org*Taken from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife E-Newsletter, December 26, 2006***Maine Warden Service Urges Caution Before Venturing on the Ice**

AUGUSTA - Due to the season's unusually warm temperatures, the Maine Warden Service is urging people to use extreme caution before venturing out onto any ice covering Maine's waterways.

Many of Maine's lakes and ponds do not have any ice cover, but smaller ponds and waterways in central and northern Maine do. Ice conditions vary greatly throughout the state, and while ice conditions may be safe in some spots, it can be very dangerous in others. The Maine Wardens Service is recommending that people check the thickness of any ice before venturing out for any activity on frozen water.

If you must go on the ice, the Maine Warden Service offers these tips for ice safety:

- Never guess the thickness of the ice - Check it! Check the ice in several different places using an auger or some other means to make a test hole and determine the thickness. Make several, beginning at the shore, and continuing as you go out.
- Check the ice with a partner, so if something does happen, someone is there to help you. If you are doing it alone, wear a lifejacket.
- If ice at the shoreline is cracked or squishy, stay off it. Watch out for thin, clear or honeycombed ice. Dark snow and dark ice are other signs of weak spots.
- Avoid areas with currents, around bridges and pressure ridges. Wind and currents can break ice.
- Parents should alert children of unsafe ice in their area, and make sure that they stay off the ice. If they insist on using their new skates, suggest an indoor skating rink.

If you break through the ice, remember:

- Don't panic
- Don't try to climb out immediately - you will probably break the ice again. Reach for solid ice.
- Lay both arms on the unbroken ice and kick hard. This will help lift your body onto the ice. Once on the ice roll, DON'T WALK, to safety.
- To help someone who has fallen through the ice, lie down flat and reach with a branch, plank or rope or form a human chain. Don't stand. After securing the victim, wiggle backwards to the solid ice.

Aluminum Can Tabs

Hold onto the can tabs from aluminum cans! These tabs mean money for a child sponsored by Pack 800 of Raymond. Scouts continually collect these tabs and turn them in to their Den leaders to be brought for processing, where they can be turned into cash for a child who is in great need. It is really a simple task to remove these tabs prior to throwing them into a recycle bin, and it can mean improved quality of life for a young child who is physically and mentally challenged.

If you have any questions, please contact Sue Ellen at 655-4463. Don't know where to bring the tabs? Contact any Cub Scout in Raymond. Don't know any Cub Scouts? Call Sue Ellen at the number given above.

Barking Dogs Are Not Happy Dogs

When you come home and your dog(s) barks in greeting, that dog is a happy dog. However, when you're not there or when the dog is left alone, that barking dog is a very unhappy dog. Dogs generally bark because they are uncomfortable, possibly cold, wet, hungry, or afraid. They also bark to give warning. When a dog is left alone, whether he/she is in a yard or tied, he feels unable to protect himself or his territory - his yard. The resolution is to try to keep your dog(s) happy.

The Town of Raymond has a Barking Dog Ordinance, which was enacted to help neighborhoods be peaceful. Our Animal Control Officer is ordered to react to all complaints concerning domestic animals in our town. Part of that job is to answer calls regarding barking dogs. If you have had a complaint that your dog(s) is barking whether it be a formal complaint by the Animal Control Officer or from a neighbor, please take it seriously and find a way to make your pet comfortable and happy.

New Psychedelic Drug in Maine: Salvia

by Steve Danzig, LSW, LADC

Salvia Divinorum, more commonly known as Salvia, has been gaining more popularity in the last few years. Recently it has been identified in Maine as a new favorite recreational drug among teenagers and early 20-somethings.

Salvia is a psychoactive substance producing effects similar to LSD, psilocybin (mushrooms), and mescaline. However, unlike those psychotropics, Salvia works in different regions of the brain. As such, the medical community does not fully understand why it has the same effects on the brain as other psychotropic drugs. Consequently, the short-term and long-term health risks have yet to be identified. But there is always the immediate risk of danger to the user when using a psychedelic drug, since they are in a "dream-like world" and cannot make rational decisions about personal safety. Therefore, medical personnel have issued strong cautions against using Salvia alone. Most of their discussions about the substance suggest that users have a 'sitter' keep an eye on them during use.

First effects are noticed between 20 and 60 seconds after smoking, increasing to peak effects within 1 to 2 minutes. The primary effects of Salvia last between 5 and 15 minutes. Then there is a come-down period of 20 to 40 minutes before returning to baseline. Depending on the dosage taken, the Salvia experience can vary from a subtle intoxication to a full-blown psychedelic experience. At higher doses, users report dramatic time distortion, vivid imagery, encounters with beings, and travel to other places, planets or times. Once these full effects are achieved, many people find Salvia to be unpleasantly overwhelming and more scary than fun.

There are numerous countries around the world that have made Salvia illegal by placing it in the same classification as LSD and other hallucinogenic drugs. And at least ten states have also classified Salvia as a controlled substance, making it illegal to possess. But since Salvia has not been classified as illegal by the federal government, each state has to come to their own conclusion regarding the legality of the substance. Maine has had discussions around the topic of Salvia, but further information on any final decision is not available at this time.

Salvia is in the sage family of spices. It is available in many smoke shops and places that specialize in herbs and spices, including sites on the internet. This makes it easily available to anyone wishing to experiment with Salvia. But because it's like a spice, it is difficult for parents to recognize it visually. However, given the recent increase in use, as well as its potential for abuse, it would be wise for parents of teens and young adults to be very conscientious and critical of any substance their children are or may be smoking. You should also be suspect if your child has a new interest in "cleansing the energy of their room by sage-ing it". This is a cover-up for explaining the sage-like smell.

If you suspect that your child may be using Salvia, immediately schedule an assessment with a licensed alcohol and drug counselor ("LADC") or other qualified alcohol and substance abuse provider that specializes in adolescent/young adult treatment. If the assessment indicates that there is a problem, your alcohol and drug counselor can recommend the best course of treatment.

Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife**E-mail Newsletter Available**

If you want up-to-the minute information about Maine's hunting and fishing, Warden Mark Latti produces a weekly e-mail newsletter with current information about what is happening in Maine. The information about safety on ice came from one of these newsletters.

You can be added to Warden Latti's list by e-mailing him and requesting to be included at: mark.latti@maine.gov

Senior Citizen Valentine's Day Supper

Wednesday, February 14th
5:30 pm in the JSMS Cafeteria

Menu:

Tossed Salad
Chicken Pot Pie
Baked Potato
Rolls
Dessert

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we will be playing card and board games after dinner, so bring along your favorites!

Call the JSMS Office to make your reservations. 655-4743

Criminal Justice Committee Has Full Agenda

By Senator Bill Diamond

I am pleased to have been once again appointed Senate Chairman of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. This is one of the busiest committees in the legislature and we deal with critically important and extremely sensitive issues. We will be holding public hearings on nearly 60 bills related to sex offenders, in excess of 10 drunk driving bills and at least another 10 bills related to guns. This does not include other proposed legislation we'll consider pertaining to county jails and state prisons.

And that's not all. As our committee name suggests, we have jurisdiction over the Department of Public Safety, which includes the State Police and the Department of Corrections, including all state prisons and youth retention centers.

This year our workload will be increased, since we recently learned that the Commissioner of Public Safety, Michael Cantara, will be leaving his job to become a new District Court Judge. As a result, the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee will be responsible for holding a "confirmation hearing" to choose his replacement. I expect the governor will be announcing his choice to replace Commissioner Cantara in the near future.

And just in case that wasn't enough, the Chief of the Maine State Police, Colonel Craig Poulin, recently announced his resignation, and the governor will soon be nominating someone to replace him, also, and again our committee will be holding the confirmation hearing for that nominee as well.

The Maine Constitution requires that certain top level positions in state government must be appointed by the governor and must be confirmed by a process known as a confirmation hearing, which is a public hearing allowing the public and others to provide testimony either supporting or opposing the nomination. Following the confirmation hearing, the committee members vote as to whether or not they support the governor's nominee for the position. The results of the committee vote will be sent to the Maine senate, where a vote is taken on whether or not the senate agrees with the decision of the committee. It takes a two-thirds vote by the Senate to override the majority decision of the committee, whatever that may be.

For example, let's say that following the Confirmation Hearing for the position of Commissioner of Public Safety, the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee votes in favor of the governor's nominee. It would take a two-thirds vote of the senate to overturn the decision of the committee. The Maine Constitution sets a well-thought-out procedure that includes the governor, the legislature and the public. After all is said and done, the legislative committee holding the confirmation hearing is given a great deal of responsibility in the process and their decision is difficult to overturn.

Stay tuned for all of the interesting business of the legislature and be sure to let me know of your opinions and concerns regarding the various issues that come before us.

Rep. John Robinson Appointed to Powerful Appropriations Committee

Representative John Robinson, a second-term legislator from Raymond, has been appointed to the legislature's powerful Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, known as the gatekeeper for the state's finances.

Rep. Robinson's House District 103 includes Frye Island, Raymond, and parts of Poland and Standish.

"I'm honored to be appointed to a seat on the Appropriations Committee," he said. "It is an important committee that does significant work for the people of Maine. I promise to be a strong advocate for fiscal responsibility."

All House Republican committee assignments were made by Rep. Joshua Tardy of Newport, the new leader of the House GOP caucus, and Rep. Robert Crosthwaite of Ellsworth, the new assistant leader.

The joint standing committees are central to the legislative process. Any bill submitted – 2,436 so far – is referred to whichever of the 17 committees has jurisdiction over the subject matter. The committees hold public hearings on legislation, conduct work sessions on each bill assigned, negotiate amendments and vote on the legislation before it goes to the House and Senate. Each joint committee has 13 members – three senators and 10 representatives.

The Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee is pivotal to legislative proceedings. It negotiates the state budget, handles bond issues that go to Maine voters for approval and has jurisdiction over general fiscal policy. Rep. Robinson is highly qualified for the position. He is currently the president of his family-run business and holds a degree in industrial engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. During his first session in the legislature, Rep. Robinson served on the Business, Research and Economic Development Committee.

Other Republican members of the Appropriations panel are Reps. Patrick Flood of Winthrop, Sawin Millett of Waterford, Jayne Crosby Giles of Belfast, and State Senator Karl Turner of Cumberland.

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.

“High Five” for Ed Friedman!

by Jessica Tomlinson, Director of Public Relations, Maine College of Art

In December, Ed Friedman of Raymond participated in a group exhibition at the Maine College of Art entitled “To Go Forward, One Must Think in Reverse.” Friedman is enrolled in the Bachelor of Fine Arts program at MECA. This marks a new career for Friedman, who was formerly a surgeon.

The art show was held at the Student Gallery on campus and featured the work of students enrolled in the course “Mold-making: Form and Transformation.”

The object of the course was to allow artists to examine concepts through the use of multiples, transformation, alteration, and anomaly. Friedman displayed a wax sculpture entitled “Departed,” which he will eventually cast in bronze. Other students from different majors used materials such as rubber, plaster and resin. The exhibition showed how artists from various disciplines implement techniques and processes of mold-making to express individual investigations.



Over the holiday break, Friedman also exhibited work in the Student Gallery. On display was “High Five,” a sculpture that stemmed from his course work in a class on public art. The sculpture is a three-dimensional form that aims to share the value that “our children are our future community.” Maine College of Art students and faculty and West School children, teachers and staff worked together in a



series of small group workshops where they traced and colored hand silhouettes on drawing paper. The silhouettes were used in the creation of a sculptural collaborative work that reflects the community’s working together, and results in a colorful and portable wall relief of many hands forming one. The project is home-based at the West School and will travel and be shown at

Paper Cranes in Grade 3

Mrs. Malnati’s and Mrs. Tounge’s third grade classes have been reading Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr, a true story of a courageous Japanese girl. As the children read the book, they are learning about the country of Japan. Sarah Mains’s mother, Mrs. Athena Mains, came in our classroom to show some items she was sent by her Japanese pen pal, Michiyo Kobayasha. They have been pen pals since they were fourteen years old. The third graders will be trying their hand at Haiku, a type of Japanese poetry, and will be sending it to Ms. Kobayasha.



The Raymond Veterans’ Memorial Committee

would like to wish everyone a

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY

and encourage you to purchase a granite paver for that favorite Veteran of yours. Remember your family members from away, too. Pavers are \$50, \$100 and \$150. Details and an order form are on the Raymond website or in the entry to the town office. You can also call Howard Stiles at 655-4193 for more details or help.

Many, many thanks to those who have given!!!



Family Valentine Dance

**With the live band
THE DISCLAIMERS!!!**

**Plus lots of great activities
for all ages K-8!!**

**Christy Murray Photography will
again be offering Family Portraits
(for a nominal fee)**

**Friday, February 9, 2007
6:30 - 8:30pm
at JSMS Gymnasium**

FREE FAMILY EVENT

*Sponsored by S.E.A.R.C.H.,
Raymond Mentoring Partnership,
and Raymond PTO*

Hebron Academy 7th Graders Have Roman Party

By Christine Hemmings, Middle School Office Administrator

Hebron Academy Middle School 7th graders recently finished a cross-subject unit on Ancient Rome covering English, History, and Latin. The culmination of their efforts was a Roman party, where students came dressed in Roman clothing, put on a Roman play, ate Roman food, and played Roman games.

In English, the class has been reading *The Eagle of the Ninth* by Rosemary Sutcliff, a historical novel about the Roman Empire. Latin and History came together to look at neo-classical architecture and art around campus, as well as a general survey of Roman influence around Hebron. They also teamed up to look at Roman artifacts ranging from pots to jewelry to coins from the age of Constantine. The students cleaned the coins to try to pick out the Latin phrases, words, or numbers in order to determine exactly where and when the coin was made. At the Roman party, the Latin class put on a play in Latin called *Anna et Rana*, and the History students assumed the persona of a famous Roman and gave a brief presentation.

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



Front, kneeling, l-r: Jake Irish (Turner), Lonnie Taylor (Raymond), Matt Braley (Bethel). Standing, l-r: Bryce Richmond (Mason Township), Paul Webster-Pact (Wales), Allison Cummings (Norway, Portland), Max Middleton (Hebron), Eli Gabrielsen (Norway), Rebekah Jett (Norway), Isabel Kannegieser (Minot), Harry Trask (Norway), Lindsey Hughes (Raymond), Annie Bachmann (Auburn), Matt Fensore (New Gloucester).

A Skatepark is On the Way

By Ryan Szantyr and the Friday Afternoon Community Service Class

A community service group at JSMS decided that a skateboard park should go in Raymond. They have worked extremely hard to get this up and running. They have written letters, gone to speak to the School Board and the Board of Selectmen and have brainstormed fundraising ideas. They have had a \$50,000 half-pipe generously donated for the purpose of the skatepark, and we have had an offer of all the manual labor to be provided by inmates from Cumberland County Jail. We have also had a generous offer of matching the first \$2,500 raised. There is still no location; however, we are confident that this will happen soon. Any donations or support would be appreciated! Look for our thermometer in front of the school measuring the amount of money we have raised. Our goal is to reach \$60,000!!

Ken and Janet Matthews Celebrate 40 Years of Marriage

by Terri, Tammy, Burt, and Nicholas

Sunday, January 14, Ken & Janet Matthews of Tenny Hill Road celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a re-commitment ceremony held in the presence of their family and friends. After the ceremony, a toast was given by Janet’s sister Marilyn Roberge and her husband Peter, who were their Maid of Honor and Best Man when they were first married in 1967. This was followed by individuals sharing stories from the past, beginning with the phrase “I remember when...” “Boy, did we learn a lot! Ken & Janet have lived in Raymond for 7 years and have 2 daughters: Terri, her husband Burt Babbidge and son Nicholas of Limington and Tammy of Lewiston. Ken is employed as a real estate agent by Allied Reality in Windham, as well as owning his own propane consulting business. Janet is employed by Lowe’s in Windham, where she enjoys working in the paint department. They both share an enthusiasm for NASCAR and spending time cruising Sebago Lake on their boat. They also enjoy driving their classic 1948 Chevy Business Coupe and going to car shows; and they belong to Two Trail Cruisers, an antique automobile club. Ken is currently building a 1936 Ford pick-up Street Rod, while Janet enjoys planning her ever-growing flower gardens.

Congratulations Mom and Dad; we love you both very much.



L-R: Tammy Matthews (younger daughter), Janet Matthews, Ken Matthews, and Terri Babbidge (eldest daughter)

Raymond Recreation Friday Skiing

by Peter Walgreen, Friday Skiing Director

Raymond Recreation Friday Skiing for Grades 7-12 has 65 participants, including 55 students and 10 adult volunteers. In 2005 there were 78 students, and in 2006 there were 74 students.

We ski at Shawnee Peak, Bridgton, leaving Raymond at 4:45pm and returning at 10:30pm. There are 34 boys and 21 girls in the program. Student ages and numbers of students are: 8 who are 12 years old, 20 who are 13, 16 who are 14, 6 who are 15, and 4 who are 16 years old.

Think snow!

