

The Raymond RoadRunner

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

Volume XI, Issue IV

September 2007

**LOOK inside for the
 Raymond School District
 Handbook and Bus
 Schedule for 2007/2008**

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RWPA Milfoil Remediation Projects in Progress

August was a busy month of milfoil remediation for RWPA volunteers and staff. Here are a few highlights:

Dingley Brook

This brook is located on the Raymond and Casco town line. It is the outlet of Thomas Pond into Sebago Lake. In our fourth season of milfoil remediation we are beginning to see some very positive results. We currently have benthic barriers in a ~22'x220' area where the plants were very dense. Benthic barriers (black tarps weighted with rebar) prevent sun from reaching the plants causing the plants to die. Our survey this season showed a 30'x15' area with dense plant growth and several small patches of plants are scattered throughout the brook. In August divers worked to remove these plants.



RWPA Lakes Rangers Jared Marcinuk and Shaughn Allen and friends assist Bay View Estates with removing benthic barriers.

In September we will conduct one more diver plant removal and remove the tarps. We are hopeful that this site will only require minimal maintenance after this season. RWPA would like to thank the landowners along Dingley Brook, Scott Crockett, Bruce Mitton, and members of Tallwoods, for their time and effort in managing the milfoil.

Bay View Estates

Landowners at Bay View Estates have been working hard to remove benthic barriers from their canal. Over the past few years, residents at Bay View had placed tarps along much of Canal 1. This method has significantly reduced the milfoil in this area. However, some of the tarps moved around and milfoil is growing in the gaps.



Volunteers placing benthic barriers in the Jordan River.

Our goal this season is to remove all the tarps and begin to tackle the remaining plants with divers and smaller tarps. Each tarp is approximately 12'x 75', extending the width of the canal. Removing these tarps has not been an easy task, as they are very heavy! On August 23rd RWPA Lakes Rangers Jared Marcinuk and Shaughn Allen, along with four of their friends, assisted the Bay View group with removing tarps (see photos).

Jordan River (Panther Run)

Gordon Strout, landowner next to the Jordan River, contacted RWPA with an interest in controlling the growth of Variable milfoil in the Jordan River. RWPA offered to deliver benthic tarps donated from the Bay View project. Gordon organized former co-workers from Gorham High School (Bob Clark, Windham; Darrell Morrow, Gorham; and Robert Crowley, South Portland) to assist him in placing 225' of benthic tarps in the river, slightly upstream of the Route 302 and Route 85 intersection. Take a look at the photos. Once the water levels have lowered this fall, RWPA will be organizing volunteers to pull plants in the upper section of the Jordan River, downstream of the Panther Pond dam. If you wish to be contacted when we have scheduled a date, please give us a call at 207-671-3329 or e-mail lakes@raymondmaine.org.



Jordan River before placement of benthic barriers.



Jordan River with benthic barriers covering the variable milfoil.



Open House at the Raymond Elementary School

This fall the RES staff is scheduling two nights for Open House. Please add these dates to your September calendar.

- Tuesday, September 11, at 6:30pm:
FAMILY NIGHT for parents and their students in grades K – 2.
- Tuesday, September 18, at 6:30pm:
PARENTS' NIGHT for grades 3 – 4 parents only.

Tax Bills on Time This Year

By Donna Lovely, Dep. Tax Collector

The Board of Selectmen are planning to set the mil rate at their meeting on September 18th. Therefore, the tax bills will be in the mail by the first of October. Deadline for payment without interest will be October 31st for the first half. The second half will be sent the first of April, and the payment deadline without interest is April 30, 2008.

Selectmen's Meetings

Tuesday, September 4th, 7pm and
 Tuesday, September 18th, 7pm
 Live on Time Warner Cable Channel 2

Road Runner Articles

Articles for the next edition of the *Road Runner* newsletter are due by **Thursday, September 20th**. 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 – September 3, Library Closed – Labor Day
- Wednesday - September 5, Board meeting: the Annual Meeting.
- Monday – September 10, Story Times resume
- Wednesday – September 12, Nonfiction/Classics Reading Group, 7pm at the library
- Wednesday – September 29, Library Reading Group, 7pm at the library

Labor Day

The library will be closed on September 3 in celebration of Labor Day. We wish our patrons a safe and enjoyable long weekend.

Story Times

The children’s story times will resume on Monday, September 10, with Chrissy Zidle facilitating the program. Story Times are as follows: Baby Time (Birth – 18 months) Mondays at 10am. Toddler Time (18-36 months) Wednesdays: First session begins at 10am; second session begins at 11am. Preschool Time (3-5 years) Mondays at 11am. For more information, call the library at 655-4283.

Nonfiction/Classics Reading Group

This reading group will meet on September 12, 7pm, at the library. The topic is Pagan Days. Our names for the days of the week are hangovers from our pagan past: Sun, Moon, Tiw/Tyr, Woden/Odin/ Wotan, Thor, Frigg(a), Saturn. Find

your own book(s) telling about one, some, or all of these objects of veneration, then come and share stories about them. For more in formation, call Al Morrison at 655-4548.

Library Reading Group

The reading group will meet on Wednesday, September 29, 7pm, at the library. The book to be discussed is *One Thousand White Women* by Jim Fergus. We invite all interested readers to join us for this discussion. The book will be available at the library upon request.

Wireless Access

The Raymond Village Library has wireless Internet access, so summer visitors as well as residents are invited to bring your laptops to the library and take advantage of this.

Book Sale

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who took part in our annual book sale.

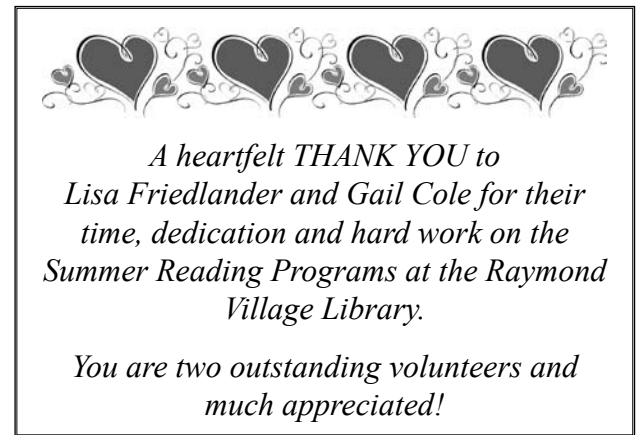
Whether you donated items, purchased merchandise or helped in the setting up and preparation for this event, we want you to know that this doesn’t happen without your participation and help. Thank you again for making this another successful fund raiser.

Back to School

It’s here again!! Time to get your youngsters ready for school. There are clothes to purchase, school supplies to get together and schedules to organize. There is one item that doesn’t cost a cent and may be the most valuable asset you can provide for your student. A LIBRARY CARD!!! Be sure to put that on your “must get” list. It’s as easy as going into the library and filling out a short form. The library is open Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am to 7pm.

Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading program at the Raymond Village Library ended on August 9th with over 75 children, ages 8-14, participating. Gail Cole ran “Camp Wannaread,” and Lisa Friedlander ran the new teen program “Get a Clue at the Library.” This was the first year for our teen program, which was generously supported by local businesses from Windham and Raymond including: Allied Realty, Ultimate Hair & Tanning, The Dugout, Seacoast Fun Park, Subway, Sunset Variety, Dave Rowe, and the Raymond PTO. Lisa Phelps of the Cumberland County Extension Service and Kathy Lynn Emerson, a mystery writer from Wilton, donated time to provide workshops for the teens. “Camp Wannaread” was entertained by Sparks’ Ark for a final evening where Mr. Sparks brought his furry, feathered and sometimes funny friends from the wilds of Maine. This program was generously supported by the Helen Allen Fund of the Loon Echo Trust. Both programs received funding from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation. Congratulations to all of you who completed the program, and we look forward to seeing you all again next summer!



September 2007

Events and Meeting Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FB =Fire Barn JS =Jordan-Small KC =Kokatosi Campgnd PS =Public Safety Bldg. RE =Raymond Elementary 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 BC =Broadcast Studio					1
2	3 Labor Day - Library closed.	4 7:00PM BC Selectmen's Meeting	5 No Library Toddlertime 7:00 VL Library Board	6 6:30PM JS Teen Summer Reading Program	7	8
9	10 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 11:00AM VL Library Preschool Storytime	11	12 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime Session I 11:00AM VL Library Toddlertime Session II 7:00PM VL Nonfiction Reading Group 7:00PM BC Planning Board	13	14	15
16	17 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 11:00AM VL Library Preschool Storytime	18 7:00PM BC Selectmen's Meeting	19 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime Session I 11:00AM VL Library Toddlertime Session II	20 ROADRUNNER DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE ARTICLES	21	22
23	24 10:00AM VL Library Babytime 11:00AM VL Library Preschool Storytime 7:00PM BC Appeals Board	25	26 10:00AM VL Library Toddlertime Session I 11:00AM VL Library Toddlertime Session II 7:00PM VL Book Discussion Group	27 6:00PM BC Building Committee 7:00PM BC One Raymond Committee 7:00PM TH Committee Plan Implementation Committee	28	29
30						

Municipal News Brief Change

In an effort to find ways to be more efficient and deliver quality information to Raymond citizens, the format of the Municipal News Brief will change commencing with this issue. In the past the Town Manager has drafted a separate review of the meeting agenda items and Board of Selectmen decisions. Recently the Selectmen adopted a policy to produce abbreviated minutes and rely upon electronic copies of archival DVDs for detailed information regarding public meetings. With the advent of abbreviated meeting minutes, they can be published in their entirety here in the Road Runner. By moving to this format now, an exact copy of the official meeting minutes of the all Selectmen meetings will be published on a monthly basis in the Road Runner.

Additional information can be obtained at www.raymondmaine.org and by watching live and rebroadcast Selectmen's Meetings on Raymond cable channel 2. Citizens may also now directly view approved minutes, as well as the monthly meeting packet delivered to the Selectmen. This information is known as the town's "e-packet" and can be found by selecting the date of the meeting from the online Minutes calendar and following the links to the associated PDF files. These files are formatted to follow the meeting agenda, which is also available from this link.

Code Enforcement Office Notes

By Will Cook

When Do I Need to Get a Permit?

If you are building something new, you need a permit; if you are fixing something old, you don't need a permit.

Sounds simple, and it really is. If you are building a new house on a vacant lot, you need a permit. If you are building a new addition to your home, you need a permit. If you are building a new accessory building, such as a garage or storage shed, you need a permit. If you are building a new den or bedroom in an unfinished basement, you need a permit. If you are putting in new plumbing, you need a permit.

The permit allows the Code Office to know that the construction is occurring so that we can perform safety inspections during construction and verify that septic systems and plumbing are properly installed. A Certificate of Occupancy is issued when the house, addition or renovation meets all health and safety codes.

If you are replacing an existing structure, such as a deck, septic system, water heater, rotten sills or crumbling foundations, then you are building something new and you need a permit. Usually a Certificate of Occupancy is not issued for minor replacements, but septic systems must be inspected during construction and all work must meet health and safety requirements.

Repairs, such as replacing the shingles on a roof, fixing rotten siding, putting new decking on a porch, or replacing a sink fixture, are fixing something old and you don't need a permit. Unsure whether the work is considered "fixing something old" or "building something new"? Call us at 655-4742 ex. 41 (Jack) or ex 42 (Will), and we can help you out.

Also, remember that almost anything you do near lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands requires approval of the Code Office and/or the State DEP. You may not need a written permit, but our approval can help you avoid problems with Shoreland Zoning or Land Use restrictions. If you are considering landscaping or clearing of trees or vegetation, a site visit from the Code Officer is helpful - and free!

Absentee Voting Available

The Town Clerk's Office is accepting absentee voting. If you find that you will not be in Raymond on November 6th for the Referendum Election, you can vote at the Town Office before that date. Your ballots will be sealed in official envelopes and voted by the elections staff on Election Day. Your ballot will be handled in such a way that it will remain a secret ballot.

If you would like to vote in this manner, come to the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours beginning September 25th. You can vote the ballot at that time, or if you wish to take it home for your deliberation, you will be asked to fill out an application and then a clerk will give you the ballot and envelope for the ballot's return either in person or by mail. If a voter cannot come into the Town Office, please call the Clerk's Office at 655-4742 and ask to have a ballot sent to you. A clerk will fill out your application and promptly mail you a ballot and return envelope. If you wish to have a ballot sent to an immediate family member, come into the Clerk's Office and fill out an application and the clerk will mail the ballot and return envelope to the voter.

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

In order for the town to better serve you, would you please return this form to the Town Office so that we know who should be contacted for concerns on private roads.

PRIVATE ROAD ASSOCIATION

Road Association Name: _____

President or contact person: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: summer: _____

winter: _____

Email: _____

Number of homes on your road: _____



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AGENDA SUMMARY
Tuesday, August 7, 2007
7:00 p.m.
JSMS Broadcast Studio
423 Webbs Mills Road

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

To consider miscellaneous amendments to the Raymond Land Use Ordinance as adopted May 21st, 1994 and amended through May 21st, 2006. Copies of the Special Town Meeting warrant, including the complete text with the changes, are available at www.raymondmaine.org, at the town's legal posting locations, or upon request at the Raymond Town Office. (See warrant dated June 19, 2007.)

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

1) Call Selectmen's meeting to order.

2) Minutes of previous meeting dated July 10, 2007.

3) New business.

a) Presentation of certificates of appreciation to Eagle Scout candidates Kyle Woodbrey and Steven Lentine in recognition of their public service projects / Raymond Town Office reader board sign and Veteran's Memorial Park walkway

Eagle Scout candidate Kyle Woodbrey is responsible for the project planning, fund raising, design, material selection, and construction of the town's new reader board sign at the Town Office. This sign is designed to accommodate a future conversion to electronic "white board technology" and has a value of approximately \$20,000.

Eagle Scout candidate Steve Lentine is responsible for the planning, design, and construction of the brick walkway to the town's new Veteran's Memorial. The walkway is made up of over 3,000 red bricks and over 70 engraved granite pavers. The project took over five months from the first meeting to completion and included help from another scout, family members and friends.

b) Insurance Review proposal with Scott Simmons CPCU, ARM – Selectman Joe Bruno

After the recent insurance bid process, Selectman Bruno recommended that the Town of Raymond take the additional step of completing an expert "due diligence" insurance review. Upon investigation of qualified consultants, that have successfully performed such reviews locally, town staff is recommending Scott Simmons, CPCU, ARM, a consultant from Saco. Mr. Simmons will complete a review of town insurance policies, including property, liability, directors & officers, crime, employment practice liability, errors & omissions, umbrella liability, business auto policies, workers compensation, boiler & machinery, and other related insurance policies. This project will make specific recommendations to remediate any coverage deficiencies and assist in implementing any adjustments that the town wishes to make to our current insurance program. The project will result in the following outcomes: Increased comfort in the quality of insurance protection, based upon an unbiased knowledgeable review; a greater understanding of the risk base and how our insurance policies respond to those risks; unlimited assistance implementing the adjustments that the Board of Selectmen approve, and objective advice on future renewals and insurance program management strategies. The fee for this project is \$3,500 which would be payable at the commencement of the project and could be applied to a bid package program within the next three years. All ordinary consultant expenses are included and the consultant has indicated that his work is guaranteed to meet the town's objectives. If the consultant fails in that regard, he will refund all or part of the fee, if exercised within a 45 day period. It is the recommendation of the Town Manager and Finance Director that a "due diligence" insurance review be completed on the aforementioned outlined terms and that the town then proceed on a reasonable time table toward another bid solicitation proposal done by staff, using the report recommendations for the town's insurance services. Adequate funds exist in the insurance account line group as the town saved 11% or \$11,063 over quoted budget estimates through the previous competitive bidding process. Selectman Joe Bruno, the sponsor of this initiative, will be speaking to the agenda item.

c) Annual Election of Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Vice President and Executive Committee – Don Willard Town Manager

I am enclosing the annual MMA voting ballot for your consideration. The candidates were all nominated by the MMA Nominating Committee. There are no contested elections this year as no candidates were entered onto the ballot through the outside nomination process, which allows for additional candidates to be considered. I am acquainted with two of the town manager candidates but do not know them well enough to offer any information as to their suitability for these offices or interest in obtaining the same. Summary biographical information has been provided by MMA for each of the candidates and is enclosed in the e-packet.

d) Fiscal year 2006/2007 municipal budget year-end budgeted adjustments – Finance Director Nancy Yates

A memorandum is enclosed from Finance Director Nancy Yates outlining two areas overspent in the fiscal 2006/2007 municipal budget. The amount of \$121.99 was overspent in the Animal Control account due to an unforeseen increase in the contract cost which occurred mid-year during the town's budget cycle. The other overdraft occurred in the Technology Department, which was exceeded by \$2,846.80, largely on account of the unforeseen installation of the Broadcast Studio air conditioning system and general equipment purchases related to the regional Naples dispatch center upgrade/support work. The Board of Selectmen, through authority granted each year by town meeting, have the ability to transfer funds among accounts to address such overdrafts. The Town Manager and Finance Director are recommending that the two outlined overdrafts totaling \$2,968.79 be covered through a transfer from the administrative salaries account line, where there is a \$16,085.76 balance. Although the entire budget is still awaiting the annual audit, by Wayne Smith & Associates, it does appear as though the town will realize a budgetary surplus of approximately \$150,000. The auditors will be arriving during mid-August and will make available, as soon as possible, a final determination as to the level of undesignated fund balance to go to the surplus fund for the 2006/2007 fiscal year. Since the Finance Director will be unable to attend the meeting due to a staffing shortage at the Town Office on Tuesday evening, the Town Manager will present this item.

4) Old (unfinished) business.

a) none

5) Town Manager Report and Communications.

6) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – August 7, 2007.

7) Adjournment.

INNISBROOK HAS GOT THE BEAT!!!

Innisbrook Wraps presents the ultimate gift wrap collection this fall at the Raymond Elementary School. Our Innisbrook sale will begin on September 14 and run until October 1. Just wait until you see this year's collection!

- Award Winning Gift Wrap Designs – great holiday wrap this year for the pet lover!
- Great Gift Products for Kids of All Ages
- Gourmet Foods and Special Treats

Proceeds from our Innisbrook sale are used to support classroom programs and the Raymond PTO scholarships. These funds have had a positive and direct impact on your child's classroom and our school program. Last year, Innisbrook funded the very successful two-week residency for Circus Smirkus and three \$1,000 scholarships.

For your convenience, Innisbrook orders can also be placed on the web 365 days of the year at www.innisbrook.com. The Raymond Elementary School customer number is 104999. Families and out-of-town friends can order and re-order over 150 Innisbrook products online all year long! Products will be delivered right to your door, and RES will receive the 50% profit.

RES Principal's Report for September

The first week of September is a very busy time, with children returning to school and families returning to the daily (and nightly) routines to start the new school year. I hope that all of our RES families had a safe, healthy and happy summer break. I am sure that we will be hearing about many interesting adventures that have taken place during the past few months.

Many exciting things have happened at RES since our students left in June. SEARCH coordinated a very successful summer school program for students in grade K – 8. Sixteen teachers and staff also went to school and completed a weeklong course in Responsive Classroom. I participated in this training and am looking forward to implementing new skills for working more effectively with staff, students and families this year.

Our custodial staff worked tirelessly over the summer to clean classrooms, offices and other spaces in the school. We are all very excited about the new tile floor that was installed in the cafeteria, replacing the damaged and difficult to clean green synthetic floor. Not only do the tiles match the colors on our playground, but the floor was designed to direct the "traffic flow" during lunch. I am sure the students will love the new design. New interior doors with a buzzer system are being installed at the elementary school as part of our school safety plan. Like the middle school, we will now be able to control entry into RES through the front office, improving safety for students and staff.

RES students will see a number of teacher changes due to last year's retirements and resignations. I am very pleased to introduce the following new staff, and share the following new teacher assignments. We are also hiring a new K - 5 art teacher.

LEESA SMITH is our new PE/Health teacher. Mrs. Smith, a Raymond resident, has a strong fitness background to bring to our program.

SUE ELLEN GENDRON will be the new RES librarian. Mrs. Gendron, also a Raymond parent, brings her experience as Youth Services Coordinator for the Raymond Village Library to RES.

SUE HARMON will be joining the staff as a primary resource room teacher. She is an experienced special education teacher and is delighted to be working at RES.

BONNIE WILEY is moving from the primary resource room to 1st grade. She brings her skills and training in special education to her new classroom assignment.

MARY ELLEN O'DONNELL is moving from kindergarten to 2nd grade. With a small incoming kindergarten class, Ms. O'Donnell is looking forward to the opportunity to expand her love of reading and literacy at the 2nd grade level.

MARTHA SPENCER and JENNIFER POTTER will be teaching 3rd grade as the first year of a new looping program in grades 3 – 4. Mrs. Spencer and Mrs. Potter will also be teaming and sharing teaching responsibilities in 3rd grade with Mrs. Malnati.

ANN STINEHOUR will be teaching in 4th grade this year. Ms. Stinehour and Mrs. Crockett will be the second pair of looping teachers and will work with Mrs. Blanchard on this year's 4th grade team.

I am looking forward to a very successful school year. With the school consolidation initiative moving forward, this will most likely be our last year as part of the Raymond School District. As we make this move toward consolidation, I want to thank Raymond Superintendent of Schools Sandra Caldwell and our district office staff for their outstanding work on behalf of all Raymond students in grades K – 12.

In closing, I would like to encourage all of our school parents to support the Raymond PTO. The PTO needs new leadership and increased parent and teacher participation to continue its mission of supporting our schools.

Raymond School Department 2007 - 2008 Bus Schedule

Any questions or concerns please call Paul at the bus garage (655-5372).

Raymond Elementary School

#2 NORMAN

7:55 Ferry Landing/Cape Rd.
7:57 Anderson Rd.
8:00 Zephyr Rd.
8:02 Shaw Rd.
8:04 Casselton
8:06 Hawthorne Rd.
8:08 Rt. 302/ Mains Pizza
8:10 Murray Drive/ Country Bumpkins
8:12 Rt. 302/Thomas Pond/Oakledge
8:15 Main St. to Mill St.
8:25 RES

#8 SISSY

7:50 Brown Rd./Ball Drive
8:05 Gore Rd./Dolimont Rd.
8:07 Rt.85/Presidential View
8:08 Rockwood Acres
8:10 Tarkiln Hill
8:12 Sloans Cove Rd.
8:13 Egypt Rd. /Town Line
8:20 Town Line to Rt. 85
8:25 Rt. 85 to RES

#13 GLEN

7:50 Mill St. to Main St.
7:55 Main St. to Rt.302 Deep Cove
8:00 Deep Cove
8:08 Bright Beginnings
8:12 Old Canal Rd.
8:15 Main St. to Mill St.
8:20 Mill St. to Rt. 85

#14 LINDA

7:55 No. Raymond Rd.
8:00 No. Raymond Rd./Notched Pond Rd.
8:05 Pond Rd.
8:07 Shaker Rd.
8:10 Ganderbrook to Poland Town Line
8:12 Ledge Hill Rd.
8:15 Valley Rd.
8:20 Valley Rd. to RES

#11 SHARON

7:55 Spiller Hill Rd.
8:02 Corner Mountain/Spiller/Raymond Hill
8:05 Conesca Rd.
8:10 Mountain Rd.
8:15 Tenny Hill
8:20 Raymond Hill/Spiller Intersection
8:22 Swans Rd.
8:22 Swans Rd. to Valley Rd.
8:25 RES

#12 CINDY

7:55 Corner Rt.85/Mill St. to Rt. 302
8:00 Peterson Rd./Crocket/Caton
8:02 Bayview
8:03 Rt. 302 / Clearwater Drive
8:05 Viola Ave./Pine Lane
8:10 Portland Glass/Patrica Ave.
8:15 Rt.85 to RES

#1 CAL

7:50 Rt.121
7:52 Kristen Lane
7:54 David Plummer Rd.
7:55 Daggett Drive
7:58 Tower Rd./Lookout Lane
8:05 Plains Rd./ Rolfe Brook Rd
8:07 Plains Rd./Camp Hinds
8:10 Rt.85/Casco Line
8:15 Casco Line to Martin Heights
8:20 Martin Heights to
8:25 RES

Jordan Small Middle School

#2 NORMAN

6:50 Ferry Landing
6:53 Anderson Rd.
6:55 Zephyr Rd.
6:56 Shaw Rd.
6:57 Casselton
7:00 Hawthorne Rd.
7:05 Thomas Pond/Rt. 302-Oakledge
7:20 Main St. to Mill St. to
7:25 JSMS

#8 SISSY

6:45 Brown Rd./Ball Rd.
6:55 Rt.85/Gore Rd.
7:00 Gore Rd./Dolimont Rd.
7:05 Rt.85 /Sloans Cove Rd.
7:12 Rt.85 to Casco Town Line
7:20 Rt.85 /Martin Heights
7:25 Martin Heights to JSMS

#14 LINDA

6:55 Egypt Rd.
7:05 No. Raymond Rd./Pond Rd.
7:10 Ganderbrook/Poland Line
7:15 Ledge Hill/ Valley Rd.
7:20 Raymond Hill
7:25 JSMS

#11 SHARON

6:55 Spiller Hill Rd.
7:02 Corner Spiller Hill & Mountain Rd.
7:05 Conesca Rd.
7:10 Mountain Rd.
7:15 Tenny Hill Rd.
7:20 Raymond Hill/ Spiller Hill Inter.
7:22 Swans Rd.
7:22 Swans Rd. to Valley Rd.
7:25 JSMS

#1 CAL

6:48 Key Bank
6:55 Behind Raymond Shopping Center
7:00 Patricia Ave.
7:05 Rt. 302 to Canal Rd.
7:07 Main Street
7:10 Deep Cove
7:25 JSMS

#12 CINDY

6:48 Main St./Rt.121
6:50 David Plummer Road
6:53 Daggett Drive
6:55 Tower Road
7:00 Plains Road
7:05 JSMS

High School

#2 NORMAN

6:05 Ferry Landing
6:08 Anderson Rd.
6:11 Zephyr Rd.
6:12 Shaw Rd.
6:13 Casselton
6:14 Hawthorne Rd.
6:15 Thomas Pond Rt. 302-Oakledge
6:20 Deep Cove
6:30 Main St. to Mill St.

#8 SISSY

6:00 Rt. 85 Casco-Raymond Town Line
6:05 Kokatosi
6:06 Crescent Lake Cottages
6:08 Martin Heights
6:10 Rt. 85-District 2 Fire Station
6:13 Rt. 85 to Gore Rd./Tarkiln Hill
6:15 Gore Rd.
6:23 Brown Rd./Ball Rd.
6:30 Mill St.

#14 LINDA

6:00 Egypt Rd.
6:05 No. Raymond Rd. /Pond Rd.
6:10 Ganderbrook/Poland Line
6:15 Ledge Hill/Valley Rd.
6:25 Raymond Hill
6:30 Mill St.

#11 SHARON

6:00 Tenny Hill
6:05 Mountain Rd.
6:10 Conesca Rd.
6:15 Spiller Hill Rd.
6:20 Raymond Hill
6:30 Mill St.

#1 CAL

5:56 Plains Rd.
6:00 Tower Rd./Rt.121
6:03 Daggett Drive/Rt.121
6:05 Kristen Lane/Rt.121
6:08 Main St.
6:10 Rt.302/Sunset Varsity
6:12 Peterson Rd. / Bayview
6:15 Clearwater Drive/Rt.302
6:17 Viola Ave./Pipeline Rd.
6:20 Patricia Ave.
6:25 Canal Rd.
6:30 Rt.85 / Mill St.

Raymond School District Handbook

2007-2008

Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

As we begin our 2007 – 2008 educational journey, I want to welcome each and every one of you and invite you to play an active role in guaranteeing high achievement for every child in the Raymond School System. We are fortunate and appreciative to have the continued support from parents, staff and community members to assist in making this year be an outstanding experience for all of our children. This collaborative commitment to excellence is a gift that is unique to our community. I feel honored to continue to work in a community that fosters high quality teaching and learning.

Although many of our learners are spending the summer playing, relaxing and becoming re-energized, our schools are buzzing with activity. Maintenance staff is taking tremendous pride to ensure learning environments that are conducive to learning. Teachers are designing invitational spaces for learners by painting and creating displays that teach. Teacher Leaders are working on curriculum development and assessment work. Administrators are committed to continuous improvement as they collaborate and plan for the upcoming year. Our SEARCH program has summer learners motivated and excited!

Our focus will continue to be students FIRST. We owe it to them and our community to continue to strive for excellence. I am proud, enthusiastic and honored to work in a community that puts children first. I look forward to working together to make the journey the reward.

Sandra S. Caldwell
Superintendent of Schools



Special Education Department / 504 / GT Program for Advanced Learning

Childfind

Each year we attempt to locate children in the community who may require special education services. If you have a question about your child's development in the area of speech and language, gross and fine motor (using large and small muscles), hearing, vision, or learning, please call the school. If your child is three or older we will conduct a free screening at home. If your child is younger than three, we can provide some screening services in your home, and/or make arrangements for screening at the appropriate community agency. Our obligation also extends to Raymond students who attend private schools. If your child attends private school and you feel he or she may require special education services please notify us.

If you know of a Raymond child (your neighbor, niece, nephew, or the child of a friend) who may need this service please encourage their parents to call the school.

All screening is done only with parental permission and participation. If a problem is found an appropriate referral is made with parental permission. The results of the screening are confidential and the rights of both parents and children are protected under Maine Special Education Law. Students who do not require special education services may require 504 accommodations. Additional screening may be necessary to make this determination.

If you have any questions or wish to refer a child for screening, please call Pat Menzel, Director of Student Services, at 655-8666 ext. 4.

G/T Program for Advanced Learning

The Raymond District's G/T Program identifies students in grades 3-8 who demonstrate significant advanced learning needs. Information about the G/T program is available on the district's website at WWW.raymondmaine.org/rsd.

Local Entitlement

This year Local Entitlement funds are again being used to pay for educational technicians in Special Education. These educational technicians will be working with students to help reduce the pupil/teacher ratio in Resource Rooms and to give students more individual attention in the regular classroom, helping them to be more successful. In addition, money will be combined with local and other federal funds to improve math and literacy and writing skills for all teachers. As in years past, a small portion will be used to support additional contracted services in the areas of evaluation and tutoring. Funds are also used to support high school students programming.

Local Entitlement money is that money set aside by the Federal Government to help fund special education. The money flows through the

State to local districts where it is used at the district's discretion for special education programming.

FERPA – Student Records

Pupil Records are defined as anything concerning a pupil which is for others to see or hear, whether it is in writing, on film, or on tape. A pupil record is distinguishable from private notes in that the latter is intended for the use of the collector only. Such notes do not become a pupil record until they are made available to a person other than the pupil. Such sharing automatically makes the notes a pupil record, subject to the policies and regulations governing pupil records.

Directory information is not considered confidential. This information consists of published lists including, but not limited to, honor rolls, awards, and homeroom assignments.

Content of Records

1. Student's records maintained in his/her permanent file may include the health record, progress records, interviews, official reports, and test data. If the child is referred to the Pupil Evaluation Team, his/her record then includes other pertinent data.
2. The Superintendent has ultimate responsibility for the maintenance of all records, while all professional, clerical, and consultant staff have access to the records for the purposes of updating, evaluation and review.
3. The student's permanent file will be reviewed at least once a year for the purposes of updating, with all out-dated or non-essential information removed at this time.

Rights of Parents

1. Parents shall have the right to inspect and review any and all official records, files and data related to their children within forty-five days of requesting a review. All requests should be made in writing to the Superintendent.
2. Parents shall have the right to obtain copies of a student's records at 10 cents per copy.
3. Parents shall have the right to give prior written consent before student's records are released.
4. Parents shall have an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the contents of their child's school records, to ensure that the records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of students, and to provide an opportunity for the correction or deletion of an inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise inappropriate data. The school will arrange for a hearing with an independent hearing officer when such a request is made.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

We believe that:

- all children are life-long learners.
- high but realistic expectations encourage excellence.
- each student is unique, worthy of respect, and has special talents that can be developed.
- each child can be a successful learner in an environment that is optimistic, safe, healthy, and based on mutual respect and the acceptance of individual responsibility.
- success is dependent upon cooperation among children, parents, teachers, administrators, and the community.
- learning should be student-centered with a small student/teacher ratio and grouped to create a highly stimulating and supportive environment.
- using effective teaching methods based on proven research enhances student learning.

Vision: In Raymond our vision is to prepare each child for a global society that is evolving and dynamic. With a strong foundation in basic knowledge, students will be effective communicators, independent thinkers and problem solvers who exhibit evidence of emotional, physical and mental well-being.

Mission: Raymond schools will provide an excellent education and service to the community in a nurturing environment, preparing each student to be a competent, responsible citizen of the 21st century.



GENERAL INFORMATION

The intent of this handbook is to provide information concerning general school policies and procedures. For information concerning specific situations or occurrences, please contact the school offices:

Jordan-Small Middle School at 655-4743 and Raymond Elementary School at 655-8672.

School Hours

The school hours for the **Raymond Elementary School** are from 8:30 am to 3:15 pm. On Wednesdays students are dismissed at 12:30 pm.

The school hours for the **Jordan-Small Middle School** are from 7:30 am - 2:00 pm Monday-Friday.

Parents are expected to adhere to school hours when transporting children to school themselves. Children should arrive on time and be picked up on time or be enrolled in the Raymond Extended Day (R.E.D.) or other child care program.

Visitors – Safety for students and staff during the school day is now more important than ever. Parents, volunteers and visitors to the school are all required to enter through the main entrance, sign in at the school office, and wear an ID badge or sticker while in the building. Parents who pickup children at the end of the day will wait in a designated space until dismissal. At RES, parents will wait in the library.

Questions or Concerns – We encourage you to contact your child's teacher or teachers directly if you have questions or concerns relating to your child. The principal is available to discuss unresolved issues after you have spoken to the teacher.

Use of Telephone - In case of an emergency children may, with their teacher's permission, use the telephone to contact parents.

ATTENDANCE

Regular timely attendance is necessary for good school work and successful learning. Frequent absences and habitual tardiness interrupt the learning sequence and create a hardship for the student. Lost time cannot be fully made up. In addition to the academic instruction which is missed, lost time interrupts the development of good work habits.



Recognizing that on occasion some loss of class time may occur, we urge parents to contact the classroom teacher for any make-up work that may be necessary.

The school principal will monitor attendance and notify parents of their child's poor attendance and its effect on student performance. Please note that new Maine State Legislation regarding truancy will be in effect this year.

Absence From School

If your child is going to be absent from school, please phone before the start of the school day. As part of our "**Child Watch**" program, the schools will follow up on absent students for whom parents have not called in. Your call before school opens will speed up the process and improve the safety factor. Your message can be conveniently left on the office voice mail for the school receptionist.

When the student returns to school a written statement, signed by the parent, should be brought to the teacher explaining the cause for the absence.

A student with an excused absence should make arrangements with the appropriate classroom teacher to make up missed work as promptly as possible.

A child who is absent twenty days or more during the school year may be in danger of having to repeat that school year.

Late Arrival

A student who arrives after the start of the school day or may be absent for the first part of the day must report to the office and receive an "Admit to Class" slip. Tardies are also unexcused absences and should be kept to a minimum. Please note that new Maine State legislation regarding truancy will be in effect this year.

Early Dismissal

If it is necessary for children to leave school early, parents first must sign them out at the office. The office will then dismiss the student from class. Parents are also required to sign students out if they are not taking the bus home.

Trips



We encourage families traveling for an extended period of time to do so during the scheduled school vacations. We recognize the educational value of some travel for children, however lost instructional time is extremely difficult to make-up. Since class work involves direct instructional time, guided practice and written homework it is our procedure not to provide additional work beforehand, but to follow up with the student upon his/her return.

No School Announcements

No school announcements due to inclement weather or other emergencies shall be broadcast on television and radio stations as early as possible. Tune to television stations: WCSH (Ch. 6), WGME (Ch. 13), WMTW (Ch. 8), and radio stations: WPOR, WMGX AND WGAN.

Weather conditions can vary widely in Raymond, therefore parents may decide to keep their child home. If you choose that option, please be aware that, although it will be considered an excused absence, it is nevertheless an absence.

When school is cancelled, all afternoon and evening activities are also cancelled.

If an occasion arises that requires early dismissal, announcements will be made on local radio stations. Buses will run their routes in the same order as on regular school days. **It is important that parents who are not home during regular school hours make emergency plans with neighbors or relatives, discuss these plans with your child, and notify the school in writing of these plans. Emergency closings can happen at anytime, not only during winter months, and we are unable to call parents for busing plans on these days.**

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Raymond School Board is committed to maintaining a supportive and orderly school environment in which students may receive and staff may deliver a quality education without disruption or interference and in which students may develop as ethical, responsible and involved citizens.

To achieve this goal, the Raymond School Board has established a set of expectations for student conduct. These expectations are based on the values identified by the community as essential to ethical and responsible behavior.

These core values are:

- Respect
- Honesty
- Responsibility
- Tolerance
- Courage
- Compassion



The Raymond School Board believes that each member of the school community should take responsibility for his/her own behavior. To that end, the Board recognizes the need to define unacceptable student conduct, identify the possible consequences for unacceptable conduct, and ensure that discipline is administered fairly, promptly, and appropriately.

Having considered the input of administrators, parents, students and the community, the Board adopts this Student Code of Conduct (Code), consistent with the requirements of 20-A MRSA § 1001(15).

The Code applies to students who are on school property, who are in attendance at school or at any school sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline, or general welfare of the school.

Policies related to the Code of Conduct can be found on the district Web-Site. www.raymondmaine.org/rsd/welcome.html.



Title I Program



We at Raymond Elementary School and Jordan-Small Middle School are notifying you as one way to fulfill our obligations under the "Parent's Right to Know" requirements of the federal NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT (NCLB). Under this requirement, you have the right to request the professional qualifications of your child's teacher.

We believe that a caring, competent, and qualified teacher for every child is the most important ingredient in education reform, and we want to assure you that we are working to have all of our teachers fully qualified for their positions. Teachers are currently entitled to teach under Maine's strict certification requirements, have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues his/her own learning through professional development activities. Our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

Working with parents is an important aspect of our efforts to help students learn and we welcome your interest. Please let us know if you have questions or would like further information. Specific district policies regarding Title I can be accessed at www.raymondmaine.org/rsd/welcome.html.

Sandra Caldwell, Superintendent of Schools

PEST CONTROL

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Staff Member,

The Raymond School Department is writing about three subjects that can affect children’s health in school: pests, pesticides and your right to know.

Pest Control

Because pesticides pose risks, the school uses an alternative approach to merely applying pesticides. Control of insects, rodents, and weeds at our school focuses on making the school buildings and grounds an unfavorable place for pests to live and breed. Through maintenance and cleaning, we will reduce or eliminate available food and water sources and hiding places for the pests. We will also routinely monitor the school area to detect pest problems and prevent the pests from becoming established. Some techniques we will use include pest monitoring, sanitation, pest exclusion, proper food storage, pest removal and--as a last resort--pesticides. This holistic approach is often called Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Pesticide Use

Sometimes pesticide use may be necessary to control a pest problem. When that happens, the school will use the lowest risk products available. If higher risk pesticides must be used, notices will be posted at application sites and parents, guardians and staff have a right to know.

Your Right to Know

Parents, legal guardians, and school staff will be notified of specific pesticide applications made at the school. Notification will be given at least five days before planned pesticide applications during the regular school year. In addition, for pesticides applied anytime during the year, notices will also be posted in school and on school grounds two working days before until 48 hours after the application. Notification need not be given for pesticide applications recognized by law that pose little or no risk of exposure to children or staff.

The school also keeps records of prior pesticide applications and information about the pesticides used. You may review these records, a copy of the School’s Integrated Pest Management Policy and the Pesticides in Schools regulation (CMR 01-026 Chapter 27) by contacting our IPM coordinator, Richard Dwinnell, at 655-8672 – ext. 555.

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Dwinnell (IPM Coordinator) or Sandra Caldwell (Superintendent). For further information about pests, pesticides and your right to know, call the Board of Pesticides Control at 207-287-2731 or visit the Maine School IPM web site at www.thinkfirstspraylast.org/schoolipm.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Policies and procedures regarding health issues are designed not only to promote a positive outlook on healthful practices, but also for the protection of staff and students. Good nutrition, proper rest and a strong preventative medicine program are essential keys to student success.



Parents are urged to make the school aware of any health conditions which may require special attention.

Physicals / Screening

1. All students, upon entrance into Kindergarten, shall be required to have a physical examination. Such examination may be given by any qualified physician.
2. Vision and hearing tests for all children in school shall be conducted in accordance with the law and regulations set by the Department of Human Services and the Commissioner of Education.
3. One dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is required for students entering Kindergarten and grade 1.
4. Failure to comply with required screenings and immunizations may result in your child being restricted from school.

Medication

1. If at all possible, medication should be taken at home.
2. Medication which must be taken at school will be administered only at the specific written request of the parent/guardian and the student’s personal physician. All such medications shall be given to the Nurse or Health Aide in the original prescription container. They in turn will dispense the medication as prescribed. We are happy to provide a copy of Administering Medications to Students (Policy JHCD) to any parent requesting one.

Communicable Diseases

1. Children having communicable diseases shall be excluded from the school as prescribed by law or shall observe other protective procedures according to the recommendations issued by a physician.
2. When a child returns to school after having a communicable disease, a certificate from the attending physician is required. The principal or school nurse must give permission before the child is re-admitted to class.

School Illness / Accident

1. All parents are required to provide emergency phone numbers where they or responsible adults may be reached in case of emergency.

2. Parents are reminded that the school **may not** administer any treatment other than emergency first aid in the case of accident or illness. The local rescue unit shall be called if recommended by the parent, first aid personnel, or by the principal. Any decision regarding further treatment is the responsibility of the parent, and the parents are responsible for any fees in connection with action taken. Parents may consider purchasing school accident insurance.

Smoking - Federal law and school policy prohibit smoking in school buildings, on school grounds, or in any town owned building at any time.

Substance Abuse - The school shall carry out programs and activities to develop an awareness of the dangers of substance abuse. This may include a wide range of substances, but specific reference will be made to drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Possession of an illegal substance on school property shall result in suspension or expulsion.

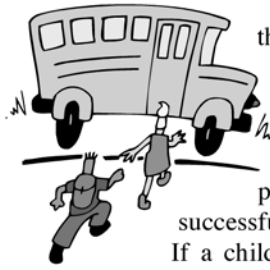
Weapons - Federal law requires suspension or expulsion of students in possession of guns or other weapons on school property. This prohibits students possessing knives, including jack knives, at school.



Raymond School Department Contacts

Central Office 655-8666	Raymond Elementary School 655-8672	Jordan Small Middle School 655-4743
Superintendent – Sandra Caldwell – ext. 4 Business Manager – Dot Mowatt – ext. 2 Special Services – Pat Menzel – ext. 4	Principal – Norma Richard – ext. 400 Secretary – Mindy Mckinney – ext. 0 Nurse – Kristina Truesdale – ext. 402 Food Service – Kim Williams – ext. 155 Guidance Counselor – Deb Hutchinson-ext. 109 Social Worker – Barbara Loux – ext. 110	Principal – Randy Crockett – ext. 401 Secretary – Kerry Glew – ext. 402 Health Aide –Denise Plummer – ext. 101 Guidance Counselor – Lynn-Eve Davis – ext. 103 Social Worker – Barbara Loux – ext. 108 Activities Director –Jack Fitch – ext. 127
Bus Garage 655-5372	Maintenance 655-8672	School Committee
Transportation Supervisor – Paul Godwin	Maintenance Supervisor – Rick Dwinnell – ext. 555	Teresa Sadak - chair Roger Ginn Liza Friedlander Wendy Trask Kevin Woodbrey

Transportation



One of the major support services provided by the school is the transporting of students to and from school. The safety of each student is of prime importance. Bus drivers must have clear authority in providing for the well-being of students. As in all other areas, parents are asked to assist in promoting those behaviors necessary to ensure the successful operation of our program.

If a child is to be transported someplace other than home, parents must submit a written request to the office for alternative arrangements after checking with the school office.

It is expected that parents will be present to supervise kindergarten children at the bus stop as they are picked up for and dropped off from school. Kindergarten students will be returned to school if no adult is present at the bus stop.

Expected Student Behavior

1. Pupils should be ready in the morning at the usual time the bus arrives at their home or at the bus stop.
2. Pupils must stand off the roadway while waiting for the bus.
3. When the bus is in motion, standing, moving around or extending arms and heads out the window is not permitted.
4. Students should behave in a manner that is respectful to staff, fellow students and property.
5. Students should recognize the authority of the bus driver and act respectfully.
6. Students are required to remain in assigned seats.
7. There is no eating on the bus.

*** Students who become a serious discipline problem on the school bus may have their riding privileges suspended by their principal. In extreme cases suspension may take place on the first offense.**

Notice To Parents: Transportation Discipline Procedure for Middle School and High School

High School Students: Disciplinary issues regarding high school students will be handled through the Superintendent's Office.

1st Slip: Written Warning.

2nd Slip: Restricted from bus transportation to and from school for 2 days.

3rd Slip: Restricted from bus transportation to and from school for a minimum of five (5) days. The exact length of restriction after 5 days to be until a meeting including student, parent, bus driver and principal is held.

4th Slip: Off school bus for the rest of the year.

Notice To Parents: Transportation Discipline Procedure for Elementary Students K-4th Grade

1st Slip: Written Warning.

2nd Slip: Written Warning – meeting with principal and bus driver.

3rd Slip: Restricted from bus transportation to and from school for 2 days.

4th Slip: Restricted from bus transportation to and from school for 5 days.

5th Slip: Meeting with student, parents, bus driver and principal. This could result in restricted bus transportation for the rest of the year.

The principal will notify the parents in writing, and by phone if possible, and the pupil will be transported home that day. The notice will contain the reasons for suspending bus privileges and the conditions for reinstatement.

Exceptions to the above procedure may occur when, in the opinion of the driver and principal, the incident warrants immediate suspension.

Special Requests - Busing

If a student must take a bus other than the one he/she regularly takes, or needs to be dropped off at a different location, he/she must bring a note indicating parental permission for such a change. Written requests will be honored when possible, providing space is available on the alternative bus.

September 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	Kindergarten Visit Day 9:00-11:00am Board Meeting 6:30pm	5	6	7
	Labor Day	1st School Day Grade 1-8	1st Kindergarten Day			8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		RES Family Night Grd. K-2 6:30pm		JSMS Parent Night Grd 5-8 7:00pm		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		RES Family Night Grd. 3-4 6:30pm	Board Meeting 6:30pm			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			JSMS Early Release			
30						

October 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Board Meeting 6:30pm	Denim Day for Breast Cancer Research	K-8 Parent-Teacher Conf. no school	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Columbus Day- no school					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			Board Meeting 6:30pm			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
			JSMS Early Release Day Halloween			

November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
End of Daylight Savings Time			Board Meeting 6:30pm			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Veterans Day- no school					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		JSMS Early Release Day Board Meeting 6:30pm	Thanksgiving Day-no school	No School		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
					1st Trimester Ends	



HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

Good nutrition is an essential component for student success as well as growth and development. Hot lunches are available for all students grades K - 8. Individuals may also bring cold lunch if they wish. Milk can be purchased separately for snack or lunch. Snack milk is not eligible for free or reduced prices. A student hot lunch includes milk at \$1.75 per meal. Snack and separate lunch milks are \$.35.

Students will be provided with application and qualification materials for free or reduced lunch. Parents are encouraged to review the material carefully. If there is any question of eligibility, please call our Food Service Manager, Kim Williams, at 655-8672 – ext. 155.

A menu is provided at the beginning of each month. Each student is assigned a lunch ID number and parents are asked to pay for lunch and milk weekly or monthly on account.



Moving Maine Forward

Rep. John C Robinson

Rumors are flying that Governor Baldacci will call the Legislature back for a special session sometime this fall. His purpose would be to bring forth a bill to reform the state's tax system. According to new reports, his office is already working on the proposal.



In all likelihood, the governor's plan will not include broadening the sales tax to include services. A legislative proposal that added hundreds of services to the sales tax rolls went down in flames in June, after a firestorm of opposition swept the state. Even though that plan would have lowered the income tax, the people of Maine knew that it was merely a tax shift.

The people of Maine want genuine tax relief. We shoulder the second highest state and local tax burden in the nation. We also face the highest property taxes in the country, based on ability to pay. Our top income tax rate of 8.5 percent kicks in practically at the poverty level. Then there's the tax everyone hates: the so-called "excise tax" on your car or truck.

This is no longer acceptable. The staggering tax burden is smothering our economy. Job creation has hit a wall, our incomes lag the rest of New England, entrepreneurship has been stifled, and too many of our young people have to leave Maine to find work. This is a beautiful state and a great place to live, but as the saying goes, "You can't eat the scenery."

We will wait to see what the governor comes up with. He knows that resentment about our taxes is boiling right beneath the surface. He also knows the damage that our extreme taxation is doing to our economy and our citizens.

If I were rewriting Maine's tax code, I would tackle the income tax first, because that is probably our most damaging problem.

Step One would "pay for" the reduction, and I would look to Medicaid, or MaineCare, for the savings, Maine currently has 270,000 people on Medicaid, which provides free medical and dental care. Per capita, we run the largest Medicaid program in the nation, costing Maine taxpayers and the federal government about \$2 billion a year. But here's the real problem: Maine's Medicaid recipients each cost nearly twice as much as the national average. Every Maine recipient consumes \$8,050 in medical services every year, while the national average is \$4,236.

If Maine had average Medicaid spending and continued to cover everyone already in the program, the overall cost of MaineCare would drop by nearly \$1 billion. Two thirds of that would be federal savings, since Medicaid is a federal-state shared program. Maine would save \$346 million – about 30 percent of the entire amount collected by the state's personal income tax.

If we simply limited our Medicaid system to the benefits allowed in other states – we run the most generous program in the nation – we could cut our income tax burden by almost one third, from 8.5 percent to 6 percent. And remember, this is without removing a single person from the Medicaid system.

Lower taxes, ironically, always increase revenues to the state. They generate increased economic activity: more companies, more jobs, more buying and selling. This is the concept of "supply side economics," and it never fails.

When President Kennedy cut taxes, revenues climbed from \$94 billion in 1961 to \$153 billion in 1968. Total tax revenues soared by 99.4 percent after the Reagan tax cuts of the early 1980s. Those results are even more impressive when looking at what happened to personal income taxes. Once the economy received an unambiguous tax cut in 1983, income tax revenues jumped dramatically – by more than 54 percent by 1989.

Slicing Maine's top rate from 8.5 percent to 6 percent will actually bring in more money to the state treasury. And I would make sure that all revenue surpluses were returned to the taxpayers of Maine in the form of continued tax reductions. This would rid us forever of that clever fake Vacationland license plate we sometimes see: the one reading "Taxationland."

State Rep. John C. Robinson (R-Raymond) serves on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and is the Republican Lead on the House Ethics Committee. John can be contacted via phone at 655-8657 or e-mailed at RepJohn.Robinson@legislature.maine.gov

Safe Driving Is "Elementary" at RES

Principal Norma Richard would like to remind parents and visitors to the Raymond Elementary School that the speed limit on school property is 15 miles per hour in the driveway at all times. Unfortunately, there are parents, especially in the morning, who use excessive speed coming down the driveway and present a risk to students and other vehicles in the parking lot. It is especially important to follow safe driving procedures when dropping off or picking up students. Parents of students in the RED program are also expected to follow the speed limit of 15 mph.

Ms. Richard would also like to remind all drivers that cars are not allowed in the circular bus drive, that parents should never leave their vehicles unattended at the curb in front of the school, and that cars may not pass a bus that is dropping off children. This has especially been a problem on rainy or very cold days when we discharge all of the children at the main entrance. She and the entire RES staff thank you for your support of these very important safety procedures during the 2007 – 2008 school year.

Tax Relief Form Help

On Saturday morning, **November 10, 2007**, Representative John Robinson will be helping anyone who needs assistance filling out their **2006 tax year State Tax Relief** form. He will be in the Town Office from 8:30am to noon. No appointment will be needed. If you don't have a copy of your 2006-2007 tax bill (last year's), the Town Office will be able to give you a copy. You will also have to know what your annual income was for last year. Refunds are available up to \$2,000 per household.

Tax and Rent Refund Program qualifications. If you do not have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2006 household income was \$80,750 or less; or you have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2006 household income was \$105,750 or less

AND

Your 2006 property tax was more than 4% of your 2006 household income; or the rent you paid in 2006 has more than 20% of your 2006 household income.

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

Applications must be filed by June 2, 2008

NOTICE

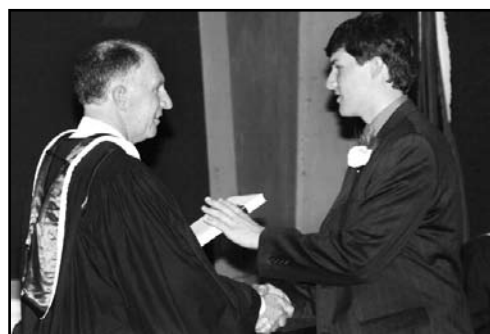
IF&W License and Registration Purchases

When purchasing your new hunting and/or fishing licenses or recreational vehicle registrations, IF&W has asked that the clerk see your Maine driver's license or State ID. If you are purchasing a license for another person, their license or a photocopy of it is necessary at the time of purchase.

Hebron Academy Awards Diplomas and Prizes

Local Students' Accomplishments Honored

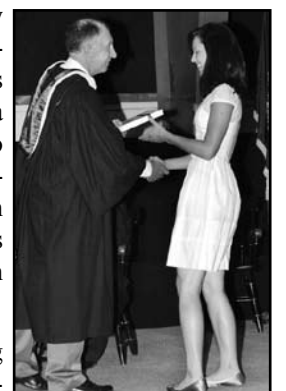
Hebron Academy held commencement exercises on May 26, awarding diplomas to 83 graduates representing 15 states and 6 countries and provinces. Raymond students receiving honors in the graduating class included the following:



Joshua Taylor of Raymond receives the Phemister Award from Head of School John King.

Joshua Taylor of Raymond was the recipient of the Phemister Award, given in memory of David Kent Phemister II, President of the Class of 1962, by his friends and classmates to honor a Senior who has shown outstanding leadership and responsibility. Taylor also received the Reed Award in recognition of fine spirit, improvement in skill, devotion to athletic teams, and an unselfish determination to contribute to Hebron's athletic success. While at Hebron, he captained varsity hockey and soccer teams and was a member of the baseball team and a Green Key tour guide. He was selected by residential faculty at Hebron to be a Student Proctor this year, a position awarded to students who demonstrate leadership, communication skills, and the ability to work well with their peers. They are instrumental in managing the school's Residential Life Program. Taylor is planning to attend Hobart and William Smith College in Geneva, NY, in the fall. He is the son of Stacey and Lawrence Taylor.

The Bessie Fenn Award, given for superior performance in the field of athletics, outstanding cooperation, leadership and fair play, was awarded to Taylor Fey of Raymond. Fey was a four-year member of the girls' soccer, hockey and lacrosse teams, and of the community service club. She plays the bagpipes and performed in many of the school's special events. Fey plans to attend Oberlin College in Ohio in the fall. She is the daughter of Robert and April Fey. (Photos: Bill Chase)



Taylor Fey of Raymond receives the Bessie Fenn Award from Head of School John King.

THE R.E.D. Program Is Hiring!

The Raymond Extended Day Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **Assistant Director:** Experience working with children is a plus. This position is 30-32 hours per week during the school year.
- **Child Care Supervision Specialists:** This is a general staff position and hours are fairly flexible.

Please call Kristi Curtis for more information or to schedule an interview at 650-4470.

Mentoring News

The Raymond Mentoring Program would like to welcome everyone back to school! This year we will be holding our kickoff event at the end of September. As always, we are **actively recruiting** new mentors to work with children this year. We need both adults and high school students for traditional one-to-one friendships with K-8th grade students for the school year, and we also need 7th and 8th graders to be Kids 2 Kids mentors. Simply one hour a week of your time can help a student immensely in areas such as social skills, confidence, self esteem, positive outlook toward school, and increased knowledge of our community.

We are extremely excited to announce our new RMP website this month also! We would like to put out a very, very, very big **THANK YOU** to Patrick LaChance, one of our own JSMS students, who has put in countless hours of his own time this past school year and summer to create this website for us. Pat had to teach himself an entirely new website creation tool in order to make this site. We are fortunate to have such a talented young man in our town. Pat, thank you! Please check out our new site at mentoring.raymondmaine.org (do not type in www. before the address). You can also access this site under Community Organizations from the Raymond town website.

If you are contemplating a way in which to volunteer this year, please consider working with an elementary school student for an hour a week. For more information, check out our brochures around town, our new website, or please contact either Christina Lamarre or Candace Woolston at 655-8672 ext. 107, or via e-mail at mentor@raymondmaine.org.

Animal Control Report

June - August

- June 19 Dog in ball field - verbal warning
Dog in yard - gone on arrival
- June 21 Loaned live trap
Phone information
Phone information on cats
Reference trapping cats
- June 22 Possible dog abuse investigation
Information on cats
- June 25 Dog in yard - gone on arrival
Check on suspected abused dog
- June 26 Dog barking complaint
Dogs barking complaint
Dog hit by car
- June 27 Dogs on beach - verbal warning
Call on large spider
- June 28 Set trap for groundhog
Dogs barking complaint - verbal warning
- June 29 Checked trap
Two dogs on Rt. 302 - took to Animal Refuge League
Dog in yard - gone on arrival
- July 1 Two dogs at large
Two dogs attacked two other dogs
Dog at large
- July 2 Checked on dog bite
- July 3 Maintenance of equipment
- July 4 Check on dogfight complaint
- July 5 Possible dog abandonment
- July 6 Met with Naples Animal Control Officer
- July 7 Dog at large - ticket to owner
- July 8 Dog at large - gone on arrival
- July 9 Dog at large - ticket to owner
- July 10 Dog missing
Dog at large - gone on arrival
Dog at large - ticket to owner
Met with town manager
Three dogs on beach - verbal warning and told to leave
- July 11 Met with cat owners
Dog at large in Veterans Memorial Park - verbal warning
- July 13 Dog at large
summons to court
- July 14 Investigated dead dog report; it was a deer
advised Public Works
Dogs barking complaint
- July 16 Cat bite complaint
Follow up on several complaints
Dogs chasing joggers
- July 18 Dog hit by car - advised owner
Stray pet pigeon in yard
- July 19 Information given
Administrative work
- July 20 Dog barking complaint
- July 21 Recall on several complaints
- July 22 Dogs on beach - verbal warning
Dog at large - gone on arrival
- July 23 Barking dogs - gone
Dog barking complaint - ticket given
Stray kitten picked up
- July 24 Information on barking ordinance
Kitten - taken to Animal Refuge League
Took pigeon to coop
Dog at large - left card
- July 25 Checking on dogs at large
Dog investigation
Information on dogfight statute
Dog at large - gone home
- July 26 Dog in yard
- July 28 Dog at large - gave ticket
Dog at large - gave ticket
Dog spooked by storm - found and returned
Dog at large - gave ticket
Investigated damage by neighbor's dog
Dog at large on road
- July 30 Information on animal welfare laws
- July 31 Information on dung disposal
Missing dog - returned to home
Barking dogs - verbal warning
- August 1 Dogs on beach - verbal warning
Two bats in house
- August 2 Dogs barking
Dogs barking
- August 3 Signs on beach missing - replaced
- August 6 Dogs at large - verbal warning

- August 7 Administrative work
- August 8 Dog bit and killed skunk
- August 9 Follow up on dog that killed skunk
- August 11 Two dogs running on Rt. 302 - gave ticket
Dogs at large - owner found dogs
Loaned trap for cat
- August 14 Dogs barking
- August 15 Picked up trap
Dogs barking - gave ticket
- August 16 Dog bite

If your dogs and cats have been living outdoors for the summer, it's a good time to check them for fleas before it's time to bring them in for the winter. Ask your veterinarian about the best way to bathe and spray your pets for fleas. If you think you have fleas in your house, your veterinarian can suggest a good bomb or spray to clean them out before the house is closed up for the cold weather.

Bird hunting season begins in October. Please be sure to wear fluorescent orange when walking in the woods and possibly put a fluorescent orange collar or coat on your dog, as well. November brings large game hunting. Maine has no hunting on Sundays, but take horsewoman Louise Lester's advice and stay out of the woods when riding. Also, please keep your dogs from running at large, so that they don't get mistaken for a deer.

Faith Lutheran Church
988 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, presents

Mystery Dinner Theater

'I Buried An Idol'

Saturday, Sept. 22nd, 5pm
Italian dinner menu
Donation \$15

For more information, call 655-5012

A Lesson in Business

By Michael Hughes

"Ahh! The Blueberry House!" That is the exclamation often heard when we give directions to our home. Little Elijah Hughes began selling blueberries from our family's driveway in 2001. Throughout the years, sales, and the friendships that come with good business, have grown. Although the business still carries his name, Elijah has passed the "franchise" on to his younger sisters Lindsey and Adria. Traditionally, the business opens for 10 days beginning in early August. In the best seasons, Elijah has moved up to 1200 pounds of blueberries through what quite possibly could be the only "drive thru blueberry" stand around. This year, the girls were expecting a banner year as a good crop was projected. Preparations for the season included signs, tent, buying berry boxes, telemarketing to return customers, and getting the berries. The source of the berries is a farmer in the Farmington area. The farmer harvests for about two weeks early in August. He then distributes the berries to similar roadside stands throughout southern Maine. After covering such low overhead costs as paying their parents for gas to pick up the berries, and purchasing the boxes and paint for the signs, the girls can turn a modest profit. The "blueberry experience" has been a wonderful entrepreneurial lesson for all of our children. Even more valuable is the lasting friendships that have developed with their clientele. "Each year, we have watched Elijah grow," remarked a couple from Connecticut. Just as quickly as this season kicked into gear, though, it came to an abrupt end. A tremendous hail and wind storm swept through the blueberry fields of Franklin County on August 3rd. Whole crops of several farmers in the region were lost. Elijah's Blueberries opened for one day only this year. After covering their expenses, the girls barely broke even. Even worse, they were so loyal to their customers that we were only able to keep less than one quart for ourselves! However, the lessons learned from the abbreviated season are invaluable. Longtime customers reluctantly accepted smaller orders so that at least everyone could have a taste of the 2007 crop. Even after getting the second call from the girls telling them of the crop loss, customers made the trip to Elijah's to compliment the girls on their business savvy and to offer generous tips. The Franklin County crop is a scarce fraction of Maine's total crop. There are other blueberries available. But come August of 2008, most of the people listed in the "blueberry notebook" have pledged to make the trip up Route 85 to the "Blueberry House."

Summer Trash/ Recycling Schedule Ends October 4th

The summer trash/recycling schedule will end October 4th, with service continuing only for those private roads that have four (4) or more year-round residents.

If you live on a road with fewer than 4 residents, please take your trash and recycling to the nearest town road for pickup.

Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber News

Raymond Businesses!

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce is working with Joan Gardner of Pongratz Law P. C. to host an open house at the Pongratz Law Offices located at 1250 Roosevelt Trail (Rt. 302) in Raymond. Their office is across the street from the Raymond Shopping Center. The open house is a way to learn more about the chamber and what it has to offer Raymond businesses. Of course, there will be food available, as well as door prizes and discounts on chamber membership. The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce wants YOU as a member. Please visit this open house to learn more. The event will be held from 5pm to 7pm on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, with food to be supplied by Pam Larracey of Anytime Subs and Wraps. For more information on this open house or the chamber, simply call (207) 647-3472 or Joan Garner at Pongratz Law P. C. (207) 655-8760.

Chamber Brewers Festival

The Fourth Annual Lakes Brew Fest is set for Saturday, September 29, 2007, at Point Sebago Resort in Casco, Maine. This event serves as a great day of fun, while helping fund chamber activities such as a year-round information center. We are currently expecting 19 brewers, 11 restaurants, the annual art festival and, of course, music. This year's show is highlighted by Raymond favorites, The Disclaimers. Also playing will be The Blue Willow Band, Blue Steel Express and Mr. Tux. Each of these four pieces alone could easily cost you the entry price of \$22. At the Lakes Brew Fest you get all four for one low price! Contact the chamber now to get the discounted price of \$18. This is a great way to start the fall, so join us at the Lakes Brew Fest!

Visit <http://www.lakesbrewfest.com> for the complete list of sponsors, brewers, food providers, music, and other attractions. We are expecting 2,000 and WILL stop tickets sales at 2,000. Over 600 tickets sold to date.

September Is Open House Month

Raymond Village Community Church
(United Church of Christ)

A moderate church committed to justice and mission where all are welcome!

Everyone is invited to join us!

Sunday, September 9th
10am

Homecoming and Rally Day

Kick Off with Sunday School
Registration for all ages

September 16th, 23rd, and 30th
10am

Worship and Sunday School

Tassel Top Beach

By Ranger Sue

We are winding down another season, so our hours are getting shorter as are the days. We will be open from 9am to 6pm each good day from Aug 15th through Labor Day, and if we have a warm September we will be open on the weekends as well, as long as we have enough business.

We will be renting the cabins on either a weekly or daily basis for September and October for individuals, small business gatherings, classes etc. Please call 655-4675 or 310-0482 to reserve your space during this peaceful and beautiful time of the year.

We are gathering suggestions from our patrons regarding what we can do to continue to improve the park as we move forward into the coming year. Kindly worded, constructive suggestions may be sent to the Town Office, given to a Ranger at the beach, or you may call Ranger Sue at the numbers above. This park is Raymond's treasure and is visited by thousands of people from all over the world in the course of the summer. A wonderful crew of very dedicated people work very hard at making it family-friendly, clean and safe. What else could we be doing to make it better?

We want to express our heartfelt thanks to the Raymond Public works crew, Nancy Yates, Rita Theriault, Louise Lester, Red Mill Lumber, Family Dollar Store, Aubuchon Hardware, Wal-Mart and Chipman Farms for all of their help making this another great season.

We want to give a standing ovation to our regular patrons and renters, who set the bar for our other visitors by being clean, responsible and respectful of the beach, the park, the wildlife, and the crew who put so much of themselves into their jobs. Thank you for making our jobs so enjoyable!

Last, but not least, a huge THANK YOU to an outstanding crew of Rangers. These people work tirelessly and with a smile and constantly have gone that extra mile. My deepest appreciation to Barry Alden, who does most of our carpentry projects, Ian Theriault, Sally Gorrill, Elliot LaMarre, Meg LaMarre, Charlie Scribner, Duce Lester, Jeff Larocque and Lauren Weeks. Good Job!!!

Remember: if you see the orange OPEN flag flying, come on down to the beach. We'll see you there!

Rep. John Robinson Named to Alternative Education Programs Committee

AUGUSTA – State Rep. John Robinson (R-Raymond) has been appointed as a member of a legislative study committee that will review the state's alternative education programs and how they are beneficial to Maine youth. The appointment was made July 20 by Speaker Glenn Cummings.

Rep. Robinson is one of 13 members of the Alternative Education Programs Committee, established by the Legislature earlier this year. The group comprises four state representatives, three state senators, and a number of others with expertise in alternative education programs and at-risk students.

"Different approaches to teaching and learning are important when students aren't conforming to mainstream education programs," Rep. Robinson said. "Alternative forms of education certainly need to be available as an option. We just need to make certain that students are learning fundamental academic and social skills that will help them adapt to the adult world."

The committee will determine the number and types of "kindergarten to grade 12" alternative education programs that currently exist in Maine as well as the number and types of students who participate in these programs.

The committee will also determine how Maine's alternative education programs help in raising graduation rates, lowering drop-out rates, and preparing students for college and the workforce. Members will also identify geographic regions that do not have access to alternative education programs.

A final report must be submitted to the Legislature's Education and Cultural Affairs Committee by December 19, 2007, including the task force's findings, recommendations and suggested legislation.

Rep. Robinson is serving his second term in the Maine House representing the towns of Frye Island, Poland, Raymond and Standish. He serves on the Legislature's Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee" and on the "Ethics Committee."

Coming This September: Maine Harvest Lunch Day!

By Lisa Friedlander

Many schools across Maine will be celebrating local Maine foods by serving them for a special school lunch at the end of September. Raymond plans to be one of those school districts, so if you have a garden and would like to contribute salad items, corn or other produce that you think would work well for school lunch, call Lori at 655-4277. Volunteers to help organize that day are needed as well. Here's to all our local farmers and businesses who support our ability to eat fresh, nutritious food!!

For more information on Maine Harvest Lunch Day, go to www.maine.gov/education/sfs/farm.html

Recycling Bins Available

Raymond's Recycling Committee has arranged for the Town Office to have blue recycling bins for sale. They would like to encourage recycling in Raymond and felt that having the bins available to the residents was one way to enhance the program. The price of a bin is \$6.15, which is the cost to the town. Bins are available at the Town Office during regular business hours.

IFW Video Productions Are Now Available on MyOutdoorTV.com

AUGUSTA, Maine -- The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is now one of the country's first state wildlife agencies to offer their own video productions on the world wide web. These videos promote hunting, fishing, boating, wildlife-watching, and other natural resource topics pertinent to Maine.

The department is partnering with MyOutdoorTV.com to bring these produced shows to a worldwide audience on MyOutdoorTV.com. These videos will cover a wide range outdoors and conservation topics via links to this website. Videos will cover various department programs, as well as interesting fish and wildlife resources and outdoor experiences. All will be available on demand, and hosted by MyOutdoorTV.com at no charge to the department. Previously, these videos were available only for a fee through the department.

Those interested can find the videos by visiting MyOutdoorTV.com and clicking on the "State Explorer" link, then clicking on Maine. Shows and materials provided by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will also be included and available on a site search engine on the MyOutdoorTV.com site. Maine's portion of the site features video subjects from whitetail deer and turkey hunting, to brook trout or bass fishing. Topics also include wildlife watching, wildlife management, and Warden Service topics.

"More and more people get their news and information via the web. Therefore, we are thrilled to partner with the team at MyOutdoorTV.com," stated Roland D. Martin, Commissioner, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. "Outdoor enthusiasts will find great videos and information covering the numerous fish and wildlife stories and outdoor experiences that we have to offer. This partnership provides a cutting edge tool for our department to reach a larger and more diverse audience with information that will enhance their knowledge and appreciation for Maine's fantastic fish and wildlife resources."

"Maine is an outdoorsman's paradise, and we're pleased to be the forum for the world to see what it has to offer," said Chris Moise, CEO of MyOutdoorTV.com. "We congratulate Maine for their progressive wildlife agency that was quick to come on board with us."

MyOutdoorTV.com is the world's largest internet video network for outdoor TV programming, currently streaming over 70 shows on the shooting sports, fishing, and boating. In addition, it hosts radio shows, outdoor videos, and the new "State Explorer" section. For more information, visit www.MyOutdoorTV.com.

COMMUNITY BEAN SUPPER

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

4:30 - 6pm

\$6 for Adults

\$4 for Children

RAYMOND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, 121 MAIN ST.

Beans, hot dogs, potato and pasta salads, cole slaw, homemade biscuits, desserts

TO BENEFIT HONDURAS MISSION TRIP

Horse Show News From Serendipity Farm

On Sunday, August 12, eight Raymond riders from Serendipity Farm on the Cape Road participated in the Pine Tree Sizzler Horse Show at the Hollis Equestrian Park. The weather was beautiful as the riders took the ring in nine classes, placing in many of the events.

Erin Fraser riding Tess took 6th place in both the Hunter Pleasure Horse Open and the MHA Pleasure Horse Open classes.

Kaitlyn Lloy riding Tess and Katie Leask riding Taz participated in the Hunter Seat Equitation on the Flat and the Youth Activity Pleasure Horse or Pony Open.

Morgan Lamontagne riding Lilly took 7th place in the Walk-Trot Equitation Open, 4th place in the Walk-Trot Pleasure Horse/Pony Open, and 5th place in the Walk-Trot Pleasure Horse or Pony Championship.

In the Academy Walk Trot Equitation, Hannah Brackett riding Dan took 2nd place, Jondra Madden riding Kodi took 3rd place and Mary Brackett riding Taz took 4th place.

In the Academy Walk Trot Pleasure, Katie Gordon riding Dan took 1st place, Jondra Madden riding Kodi took 2nd place and Mary Brackett riding Taz took 4th place.

Congratulations to all the riders for a very successful show! For more information about Serendipity Farm, please visit us at www.serendipityhorsefarm.com.



Katie and Dan

Meeting DVDs Available at Town Office

If you have Time Warner cable at home, you might have already visited Raymond's access channels. Channel 2 is the municipal channel and channel 3 the school channel. Our meetings are televised live and are taped for future viewing. There is a calendar of meetings on our website www.raymondmaine.org or in the ROAD RUNNER.

Our website also has a schedule of reruns which are shown 24 hours a day. However, if you don't have cable TV, the town office can lend DVDs of any of our meetings. These DVDs can be borrowed during regular business hours. There isn't any specific time for return, but we would ask that they come back within two weeks. All you have to do is sign a DVD out.

Free Adult Computer Workshop

Microsoft Word and Excel "Mail Merge"

Tuesday, September 25th, 6:00-8:30pm at the RES computer lab

Learn the steps involved to create form letters or mailing labels by merging Excel data sources into a Word document.

Please contact Doris at doris.horne@raymondmaine.org or 655-8666 to register. Space is limited.

The Raymond Village Library and the Raymond School Department have collaborated to bring you this workshop.

Coming in October: Microsoft Word formatting tools, Tuesday, October 16th. Workshop ideas are welcomed.



"Rock Snot" Could Be Coming to Maine

Didymosphenia geminata, DIDYMO, OR ROCK SNOT is the invasive aquatic algae which was spotted along the White and Connecticut Rivers several weeks ago. The states of Vermont and New Hampshire are beginning a comprehensive campaign to stop its progression by educating the public to properly disinfecting anything that will meet their lakes and streams, including boats, fishing lures and line, and clothing.

So far, the algae – which threatens the health of many species of fish – has been confirmed in the upper Connecticut River and in two locations six miles apart on the White River in the towns of Royalton, Bethel and Stockbridge.

Believed to be native to far northern regions of Europe and Asia, didymo has been expanding its range and tolerance for warmer, more nutrient-rich water conditions during recent years in Europe and North America. Accompanying this expansion have been increasing reports of massive blooms that reach nuisance levels, forming thick mats of cottony material on the bottoms of rivers and streams that can potentially smother aquatic plants and destroy fish habitat.

There are currently no known methods for controlling or eradicating didymo once it infests a water body. Anglers, kayakers and canoeists, boaters and jet skiers can all unknowingly spread didymo. The microscopic algae cling to fishing gear, waders, boots and boats, and remain viable for several weeks under even slightly moist conditions.

New Hampshire and Vermont have supported a sign-posting strategy, as well as a strong Internet-based education effort in which disinfection techniques are described. The websites of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Environmental Conservation, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department all contain extensive didymo information.

On a more personal note, rock snot is very ugly visually, spreads quickly, and when found in large quantities has a dead fish smell.



Repulsive in name and appearance, "rock snot" forms dense mats with two- to three-foot stalks and can destroy the habitats in rivers and streams.

Seven-Year-Old Climbs Mt. Washington

by Carol Meader

Carol Meader is always keeping an eye out for interesting townspeople - or for ordinary townspeople doing interesting things! If you know of such a person, please contact Carol at carol.meader@raymondmaine.org. If selected, she will tell your story in an upcoming issue of the Road Runner. To kick this feature off, read about Carol's little daughter and the conquering of Mt. Washington.

Given the multitude of options on how to celebrate the 4th of July, my seven-year-old daughter passed up BBQs, fireworks and huge crowds and chose the less sparkly option. When her dad received four free tickets to the Red Sox game, he and her brothers were thrilled, but she did not want to go. Besides, we are a family of five which doesn't work so well with tickets for four, so we started scheming.

The boys (both young and not-so-young) were very excited to take the Downeaster to Boston and spend the 4th as Red Sox fans. That left us to fend for ourselves, and I told Danielle she could do anything she wanted to do. We talked about shopping (blah!), looked into seeing a children's theatre production or a dance performance, going to the pottery place, museums, etc. She then suggested going on an adventure like kayaking, biking or hiking. After discussing some options, she said, "Can we go climb Your Mountain?" (In our household, Mt. Washington is known as My Mountain because I have become somewhat obsessed with it over the past few years!) I laughed and told her that we could not go there: she was only seven years old and even adults had a hard time climbing My Mountain. She looked at me and said those words we tell our children, "There is nothing we can't do, and you and I can climb your mountain, I know we can!" It took me only a fraction of a second to say yes, and from that moment on, we were both very excited!

The 4th came, and we were driving to NH as the boys were heading to Boston. We drove to Pinkham Notch and started hiking Tuckerman's Ravine Trail at 9 am. Danielle talked, sang and told jokes the entire way and needed no coaxing, coaching or encouragement. She was a girl on a mission, and nothing was going to get in her way. I thought we would walk for an hour or so and then turn back, but I was wrong. We saw lots of people at the base and on the trail, and they all made a big deal of "The Little Girl in Pink." Somehow she got it in her head that she was going to be the youngest girl to hike up Mt Washington without being carried at all. I think this was motivating her, but mostly we were simply having fun together in a beautiful environment.

We got above the tree line and spotted lots of snow. She was so delighted to see snow on the 4th of July! We ran up to it and had a snowball fight! Again, I tried to encourage her to go back down and reminded her that it also takes energy to descend. She would just shake her head and remind me that she was going to the TOP! When we climbed over the ridge, she was excited because you could see part of the weather equipment on the top, and we could also smell and hear the train chugging. She picked up her pace, but it was very



The Little Girl in Pink.

windy and rocky, and climbing was difficult and slower.

Slightly before 2pm, five hours after we began our hike, we made it to the visitors center at the top of the mountain. She literally jumped up and down with joy! She made it! We went inside, had lunch and hot chocolate and ran into several people who were quite surprised "The Little Girl in Pink" made it to the top. After an hour of eating, playing around at the summit and enjoying the views, she said she was ready to go down. We left at 3 pm, and the clouds were rolling in. We headed down the Lions Head Trail, which was difficult at first because of the heavy winds and rocks. Eventually, we got down to the Alpine Garden area, took another break without so much wind, and continued on. We were approximately half way down and it started raining, but it was light, didn't last long and we barely got wet.

After a long descent filled with wonderful conversation, we reached the parking lot at 7:30pm. She had hiked for nearly ten hours! It did not matter to me what she accomplished; I was just pleased that she was happy and that we had such an incredible day together. After stopping for pizza, we started driving home, and she fell fast asleep. We got home around 10pm, and I put her in her bed where she slept soundly all night. The next morning, she came running down the stairs before 8am and said she did not hurt at all. She was full of energy and ready for another fun day!

When given the opportunity to spend the entire day doing whatever she wanted to do, she chose to hike up the biggest mountain in New England. She decided what she wanted to do and then did it without ever looking back. I was moved by the way she laughed and smiled the entire day! We had a wonderful day together, while surrounded by beautiful mountains! Life can be so fulfilling if you just decide what you want to do and believe you can do it. I have thought a lot about the emotional-physical relationship to all our actions. This was a very difficult hike, yet Danielle was never sore or tired. Is this she is physically stronger than others? Of course not! It's just because she believed she could do it, she wanted to do it, and she was having a fabulous time doing it. Her physique didn't empower her to experience our day; her spirit did. Amazing!

Summer Reading Program

Camp Wannaread

By Gail Cole

The 2007 summer reading program, "Camp Wannaread," came to a close August 8th. During the six-week program the children participated in a variety of crafts, games and fun all focused on the exciting things to see and do during the summer season in Maine. Included were topics such as star gazing, Mother Nature and wildlife, as well as suggested reading lists and websites that the children enjoyed over the summer months. The program finalized with the interactive program "Sparks Ark." David Sparks, along with his many furry, feathered and four-footed friends, entertained the children and their parents alike! The Raymond Village Library is very fortunate to have been chosen to receive grant monies from the Helen Allen Fund of the Loon Echo Trust for "Sparks' David Sparks brought his furry, feathered and sometimes funny friends from the wilds of Maine." Ark" as well as from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation for the Summer Reading Program.



David Sparks brought his furry, feathered and sometimes funny friends from the wilds of Maine.

