

The Raymond Road Runner

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

Volume VIII, Issue II

POSTAL CUSTOMER

FEBRUARY, 2005

Raymond International Support Effort - R.I.S.E.

The death and destruction caused by the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Southeast Asia has created a wave of humanitarian response as enormous as the tsunami itself. People have rushed to donate to international relief agencies as they struggle to meet the immediate needs for food, clean water, and disease prevention. Concerts and other fundraising efforts continue as the world comes together in an outpouring of aid. People in Raymond were no less affected and have

been no less generous in their initial giving.

Raymond has a long history of community service and volunteerism. Residents have worked together for the common good in times of emergency, providing a sound citizenship role model for the young people of Raymond. This

that if possible, our town's donation should go to a specific reconstruction project in a "sister" village with ongoing contact. The group also left open the possibility to respond to other disasters.

The next steps are to identify an appropriate international relief agency to be the recipient of dollars raised and to

website for updates, and by providing space for the staging of the "thermometers" to track our fundraising progress when it gets under way. If you are interested in helping to address the long term needs of the victims of the tsunami, please fill out and submit the form on page 5 of this issue. You may also contact Susan at 655-2581 or by email

Road Runner Articles Due

Articles for the next edition of the Road Runner newsletter are due by February 17th. 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:

kevin.woodbrey@raymondmaine.org or drop them off at the Town Office or at one of the school offices.

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Visit Us on the Web

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

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

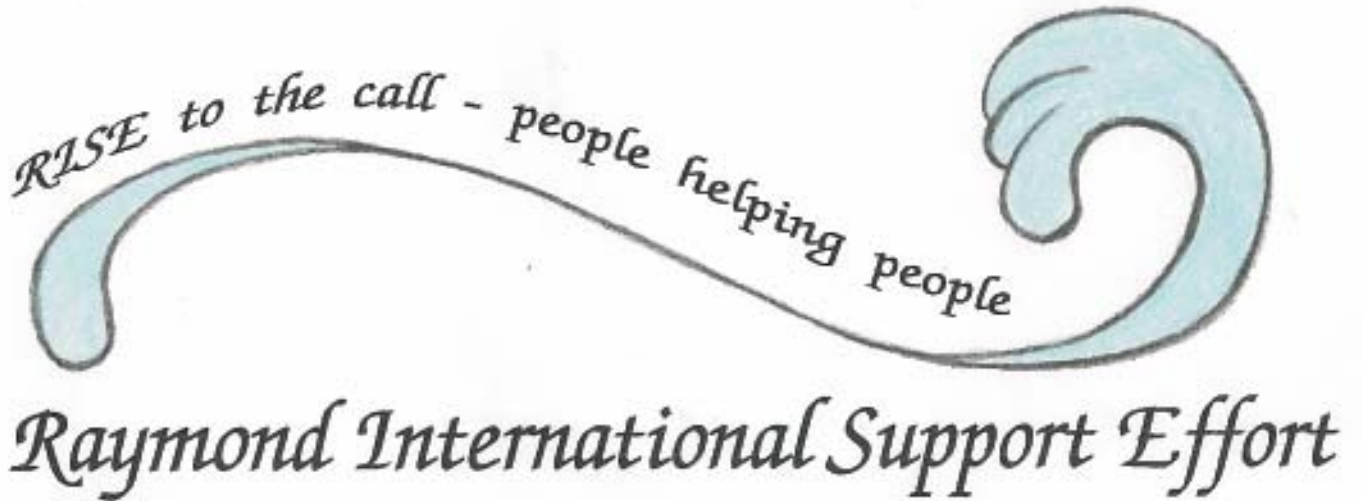
Look under Calendars & News

To learn more about what's new in the Town of Raymond, visit our website at

<http://www.raymondmaine.org>

Online services now include:

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



backdrop of collective civic pride has given birth to R.I.S.E. (Raymond International Support Effort).

On January 9th, residents, school representatives, and business people of Raymond met to discuss how to address long-term relief needs. The group (R.I.S.E.) agreed on the importance of our community giving as a community, and

establish the appropriate mechanism to receive the donations to be raised by R.I.S.E. The town has already risen to the challenge by permitting use of some of the space on the East Raymond meeting reader board, by allowing temporary signage to be put on or over existing town signs, by placing a donation box in the Town Office and Public Safety Buildings, by allowing the use of Road Runner and the Town's

shirsch@maine.rr.com. Please help make this a town effort.

R.I.S.E. Members:

Priscilla Barber, Barbara Burnham, Gail Cole, Jani Cummings, Jessica Fay, Kevin Fay, Susan Hirsch, Ellen Van Haasteren, Christina Keilt, Lou Nerren, Norma Richard, Ben Severn, Judy Stephenson

An Interview With...

Sandra Caldwell, Raymond School District Superintendent

Q. Can you tell us a little about yourself?

A. My husband Michael Denniston and I moved to Naples five years ago from the Saco area. At that time it was a conscious effort to move to an area that enabled us to live where we loved to play and commute to work. The reverse scenario of living where we worked and commuting, in many cases very long distances, to where we loved to play had been true. That move brought us closer to the places where we loved to golf, ski, boat, swim hike and ice skate. It is an area we absolutely love, and it was the perfect location for us. My husband commutes daily to Kennebunk where he works as a 7th grade science teacher.

We each have a daughter, and together we share two grandchildren, Ellie who is six and Henry who is four. They live in Saco

and discovered very early on that Nana and Papa live in a great place to play. We love and enjoy nothing better than having them come to spend time with us. This winter we are teaching them to ski. I like to spend my quieter hours reading. As is true so often in many of our lives, Mike and I now

began my teaching career in Van Buren as a 5th grade teacher. I have taught 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades in Saco and Kennebunk. I found middle school students to have just the right "mix of magic" for me to fuel my love of teaching. I then spent 14 years as a middle school principal at the Middle

School of the Kennebunks. My next educational adventure was spent as the Director of Teaching and Learning in MSAD #15. Prior to coming to Raymond, I worked at the Center for Educational Services in Auburn. I discovered immediately that I had accepted a position that was much too far away from that "mix of magic" that comes with teaching and learning. It was at that time that I made the decision to come to

Raymond. Unlike my husband with his long daily commute, I got to live both where I loved to play and loved to work.

Q. What is a typical week in the life of our part time superintendent?

live in an area where we summered as children.

Q. Can you talk a little about your experience prior to your superintendency in Raymond?

A. I have always been an educator. Teaching is truly a passion of mine. I



Continued on page 7

Raymond Village Library News

Winter doldrums got you down? Check out what's happening at your library to cheer up your winter days and nights.

Valentine's Day Craft with "The Crafty Ladies".

Sunday, February 6, from 2 to 4pm, our favorite Crafty Ladies will conduct a hands on craft workshop at the library. This is a paper craft workshop. They will provide all the supplies you'll need, so don't miss this opportunity to create something special for your loved one, or just learn a new craft. This is a fun program for the whole family. Our "Crafty Ladies" are such skilled and enthusiastic teachers. Their programs are always interesting and fun.

Tying Knots with the Raymond Village Boy Scouts

On Wednesday, February 9, from 7 to 8:30pm, the Raymond Boy Scouts will give a hands on demonstration of knot tying. The whole family can learn something new from this program. How often do you get a chance to learn tying from some of the best? The skill of knot tying can be used for many everyday circumstances, from moving Grandma's antique bureau to securing the cover for your boat.

Craft for Kids

Duct Tape Crafts will be featured during February Vacation Week on Wednesday, February 23, at 2 pm at the Raymond Village Library. No sign up is necessary. Sounds like lots of fun! See you there!

Dr. Seuss Night

Mark this one on your calendar. March 2 at Raymond Elementary School at 6:30pm is the time and place of this year's famous, huge Dr. Seuss Night. An event not to be missed! For more information, contact Sue Ellen at 655-4463.

Computer Education Series

Learn the basics of Microsoft Word on Monday, February 28, at the library from 7 to 8:30pm - an

opportunity to learn how to work with Microsoft Word, creating letters and more! This is not a hands on class. You will receive step by step directions, along with examples and tips. Our Windows and Excel classes were a big success, and participants felt they learned a lot. Don't miss out on this chance to learn Word!

Book Group

This group of readers meets the last Wednesday of the month at the library at 7pm to discuss a mutually chosen piece of writing. This could be fiction, non-fiction, poetry, essays, plays, etc. All are invited to attend. Please call the library, 655-4283, for this month's selection. February's meeting will be February 23.

President's Day

The library will be closed on President's Day, Monday, February 21.

Young Adult Books for the Busy Mom

There is a trend of late at the library with many busy mothers checking out books from the Young Adult section of the library. Many of these Moms do not have the time to read as much as they would like, so they are choosing books that will suit their tastes and busy lifestyle. The Young Adult area can satisfy an avid reader with a very interesting story line and with time manageable books. A few examples of books known to please are:

- Catherine, Called Birdy, by Cushman
- The Midwife's Apprentice, by Cushman
- Dragon Rider, by Funke
- Inkheart, by Funke
- The Golden Compass (series), by Pullman
- Speak, by Laurie Halse Anderson
- Sahara Special, by Esme Raji Codell

Books by Gary Paulsen
Another great bonus to reading Young Adult books is staying in touch with what our youth today is reading. It is important to know what literature is making an impact with today's youth as well as what issues/pressures are related in story form.

So on your next visit to Raymond Village Library, try browsing through the growing YA area and check out a book. You may be pleasantly surprised.

Town Of Raymond Nomination Papers Are Available

For The Offices Of
**Selectman,
School Committee
Budget/Finance Committee**

Papers deadline
April 6, 2005 at 4pm

For more information: Louise Lester,
Town Clerk 655-4742 ext.21 or
louise.lester@raymondmaine.org

SAND/SALT FOR RAYMOND RESIDENTS

will be available beginning
Monday, December 8th

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

Monday - Friday from 7:30am to 3pm

**ALL ENTRY WILL BE DENIED DURING
ICE OR SNOW STORMS.**

Public entry into the sand/salt building is
prohibited.

There is a limit of 2 five-gallon buckets a load.

NO COMMERCIAL USE IS ALLOWED

February 2005

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	SG=Sheri Gagnon TG=Town Garage RT85 TH=Town Hall VL=Village Library VC=Village Church VT=Village Tennis MB=Modular at JSMS	1 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting	2 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime	3 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting	4	5
6 2:00-4:00PM VL Valentine's Day Crafts	7 10:00AM VL Babytime	8 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 6:30PM RE PTA Meeting	9 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00PM TH Planning Board 7:00-8:30PM VL Knot Tying	10 7:00PM TH Raymond Conservation Commission	11	12 JSMS Basketball B-Team @ Richmond
13	14 10:00AM VL Babytime	15 3:00PM TH Planning Board Deadline for March 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting	16 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 7:00PM RE School Budget Public Hearing	17 Road Runner Deadline for March 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting	18 9:00AM VL Library Board Meeting	19 Town Office Closed
20	21 Presidents' Day Library Closed School Vacation	22 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting School Vacation	23 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 2:00PM VL Duct Tape Kids Crafts 7:00PM TH Raymond Conservation Commission 7:00PM VL Book Discussion Group School Vacation	24 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting School Vacation	25 Town Officer Nomination Papers Available School Vacation	26 12:00PM TH Zoning Board of Appeals Deadline for March
27	28 10:00AM VL Babytime 6:00PM RE Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:00PM TH Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00-8:30PM VL Using Microsoft Word	1 6:30PM VC Troop 800 Meeting 7:00PM TH Selectmen Meeting	2 10:00AM VL Toddlertime 10:45AM VL Preschool Storytime 6:30 RE Dr Seuss Night	3 6:30PM KC Lions Club Meeting	4	5

Municipal News Brief

By Don Willard, Town Manager

The Raymond Board of Selectmen took the following actions in January 2005.

1. Junk Yard Ordinance update. Code Enforcement Officer Jack Cooper reported on the status of two ongoing complaints located at 41 Main Street and Raymond Hill Road, as well as a possible new violation located on Webbs Mills Road. It is expected that the two ongoing concerns will be compliant with applicable ordinances or otherwise resolved by the end of February.
2. Consideration of appointment of Louise Murray as Registrar of Voters for a two-year term. The Selectmen unanimously voted to appoint Louise Murray as Voter Registrar for another two-year term.
3. Discussion of Sheriff's Department proposal for patrol office at Public Safety Building - Denis Morse Fire Chief. Chief Morse reported on a request received from the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department to utilize office space at the new Public Safety Building as a regional sheriff's patrol office. Under the proposed arrangement, the county would pay the Town of Raymond a sum equal to the sq. ft. cost of utilities for the office on an annual basis, which would total approximately \$300. This modest proposal was offered in order to increase the visibility of the Sheriff's Department's rural patrol in the Raymond area. The Selectmen unanimously approved the proposal to make an office available at the Public Safety Building for the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department's Patrol Division.
4. Ambulance replacement request. Fire Chief Denis Morse explained the departmental need to replace Rescue 2 earlier than anticipated due to frequent and costly repairs. Originally a replacement unit was anticipated in the Capital Improvement Plan for spring 2005. Chief Morse proposed that the Selectmen authorize the purchase of a replacement ambulance as soon as possible. Investigation will be conducted to determine whether switching from a one-ton van based vehicle to a more heavy-duty truck based ambulance would make economic sense from a maintenance standpoint. A search will be conducted for demonstrator units that would enable the acquisition cost of the new ambulance to come within the planned budget of \$140,000.
5. Consideration of member qualifications and rules of procedure for Board of Assessment Review (BAR) - Assessors' Agent Amanda Simpson. Proposed BAR regulations, procedures, and standards documents were presented by the Assessor for consideration and possible future adoption by the BAR once formed. No action was taken on this agenda item pending further revision to the proposed draft and final approval of the advertisement seeking interested volunteers to serve on the BAR. This agenda item will be considered again at the January 18, 2005, meeting.
6. Raymond Waterways Protective Association Year-End Report and funding request - John Rand. Raymond Waterways Protective Association provided a three-part report, including a discussion by Noralee Raymond, Director, reviewing the various activities of the Raymond Waterways Protective Association for 2004, including highlighting that over 1,800 boats were stopped and inspected for invasive aquatic plants and actually prevented harmful plants from entering Sebago Lake. Charlie Turner, President of Raymond Waterways Protective Association, outlined an ongoing concern about oxygen depletion in our lakes and ponds. These phenomena may have occurred over a period of years due to drought conditions, with pollutants being washed into water bodies through rainfall. John Rand discussed the 2005/2006 Raymond Waterways Protective Association budget request. The association will be seeking \$12,000 for the 2005/2006 season. As in prior years, the budget will also be supported by significant private contributions, foundation grants and allocations, as well as a possible grant from the Portland Water District. Chairman Betty McDermott thanked the Raymond Waterways Protective Association representatives for their work and positive accomplishments in protecting Raymond's bodies of water.
7. Selectmen Bylaws and Policies for consideration and possible adoption. The Selectmen unanimously approved adopting the Town of Raymond Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Selectmen, with the exception of Section 8 (Meetings) to be considered at a later meeting along with a proposed public participation policy.
8. Public Hearing - Consideration of Adoption of 2005 General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices. After conducting a hearing to receive public input, the Selectmen unanimously approved adopting the 2005 Appendices to the Town of Raymond General Assistance Ordinance outlining maximum levels of assistance for basic necessities in compliance with state law.
9. Communications.
 - a. The Town Manager announced that he had received a letter from Robert Williams of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IF&W) indicating that the State of Maine had decided not to purchase a public boat access point on Raymond Pond due to problems obtaining an easement to utilize Knapp Road for access to the site.
 - b. Speed Zoning Request - Cape Road. The Town Manager reported that the Maine Department of Transportation had re-designated the speed limit on Cape Road as follows: 25 mph from the Casco/Raymond town line to the junction with Hawthorne Road; 40 mph from the junction of Hawthorne Road to Shaw Road; and 35 mph from Shaw Road to Wild Acres Road.
 - c. Reclassification of Egypt Road and North Raymond Road as minor collector roads by the Town of Gray.
10. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Town Manager announced that the 2005/2006 CIP is prepared and a meeting will be held on Monday, January 10, 2005, with the Budget Finance Committee. Provider agencies are scheduled to meet on January 13, 2005, with the Selectmen and Budget Finance Committee.
11. Raymond International Support Effort (R.I.S.E.) - Susan Hirsch, Spring Valley Road. Ms. Hirsch is organizing a local group seeking financial endorsements from the Raymond community for the tsunami disaster as well as other disaster relief in the future. The current goal of R.I.S.E. is to raise \$15,000 and possibly adopt a village and/or fund a clinic or school. Ms. Hirsch explained that R.I.S.E. would like to use the *Raymond Road Runner* and the Town of Raymond website to let people know what they are trying to accomplish. The Selectmen voted to allow the newly formed R.I.S.E. to use the website and *Raymond Road Runner* to help get their organization started.
12. Consideration of member qualifications and rules of procedure for Board of Assessment Review (BAR) - Assessors' Agent Amanda Simpson. Ms. Simpson presented a second draft of regulations for the BAR to consider for adoption, which was endorsed by the Selectmen. An advertisement for volunteers to serve on the newly formed BAR will appear in the February issue of the *Raymond Road Runner* with an application deadline of March 30th. Applications will be available on the town's website at www.raymondmaine.org. The Selectmen voted to accept the regulation changes proposed.
13. Annual Windham Rotary Ice Fishing Derby - February 25th through 27th. Event planning discussion - Tom Noonan. Mr. Noonan informed the Selectmen that the annual derby has already netted \$100,000 for charity and involved the participation of 52 businesses. This year's event will feature a car race on the ice at Point Sebago on Friday as well as an air show off Raymond Beach on Saturday with a snow date of Sunday. Governor Baldacci will be the Grand Marshall of this year's event. Mr. Noonan noted that *Field and Stream Magazine* named the derby one of the top five events on ice in the nation in their December issue. The Selectmen voted to authorize the Town Manager to coordinate arrangements for the Ice Derby with the Windham Rotary Club.
14. Establishment of 2005 Raymond scholarship funding - Town Clerk Louise Lester. The Selectmen voted to grant the same scholarship amounts as last year, as follows: \$1,000 Carleton E. Edwards, \$500 Collins-Day, \$500 Alva E. Clough, and \$500 George E. Wood. Additional information and applications are available on the town website at www.raymondmaine.org or through the Town Clerk's Office.
15. Request for capital reserve utilization - Nathan White, Public Works Director. This item was tabled.
16. Amendment to Board of Selectmen Bylaws and Policies, Section 8, Meetings/Public Participation Policy. This item was tabled.

Cardboard Recycling

The Town of Raymond recycles corrugated cardboard at three sites: District II Fire House/Public Works Garage on Webbs Mills Road, Raymond Elementary School, and Jordan-Small Middle School. Because of limited space, it is imperative that you break down the boxes left at those sites. If the boxes are left without breaking down, they take up an extraordinary amount of room which leaves the dumpsters unavailable for their full capacity.

Road Runner Subscriptions

For anyone who would like to have the *Road Runner* come to them First Class mail, the Raymond School Department would be happy to comply, with an annual donation for postage of \$8. Please mail your donation to Dot Mowatt, Finance Director, Raymond Elementary School, 434 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, Maine 04071.

Raymond Needs You!

The Town of Raymond established a Board of Assessment Review at the Special Town Meeting held October 14, 2004. As a result, the Selectmen will be appointing five members to this new board: 3 regular members (1 for 1 year, 1 for 2 years and 1 for 3 years) and 2 alternates (1 for one year and 1 for two years). The purpose of the board is to hear appeals from decisions made by the Board of Assessors (the Selectmen) regarding property values. Typically the board will meet infrequently, but after the finalization of the revaluation there may be a series of meetings necessary.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and reside in Raymond. No experience is necessary, but an interest in or knowledge of real estate appraisal, assessing, land use development, or planning is a plus. Interested persons should submit an application to the Board of Selectmen c/o Louise Lester, Town Clerk, at 401 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071 by noontime, March 30, 2005. You may also fill out an application online at www.raymondmaine.org or contact Amanda Simpson at 655-4742 x 51 for more information.

Moose Lottery Permits

The 2005 Moose Permit applications are available at the Town Office. Applications must be sent in no later than April 1, 2005. The applications are also available online at www.state.me.us/ifw/index.html

2005 Dog Registration

Dog licensing was due January 31st. If you have a dog over the age of 6 months, it should be licensed. A Rabies Certificate must be produced and if neutered, a Neutering Certificate if the Town Office does not have it on file. The fee for a neutered dog is \$6 and non-neutered is \$10. Dogs licensed after January 31 will incur an additional \$15 late fee.

Please understand that by having your dog licensed, anyone finding your stray pet will be able to trace it to you, thereby alleviating the possibility that it will go to a shelter. Licensing funds contribute to stray animal care in the town and state and support the State Veterinarian Laboratory in Augusta as well as Maine State Humane Agents, which investigate animal abuse cases.

Panther Pond Association Notes

By: Ben Severn, PPA President

Preparing to Implement the Panther Pond Conservation Project

Over the past two years, we have published various articles on PPA in the Road Runner (see August, October 2004 publications) that explained the impetus for the formation of PPA, discussed the decision to follow the lead of other ponds in the area to undertake a Panther Pond Watershed Survey for the purpose of identifying runoff pollution sites, described the decision to expedite the process, thus saving a year, and discussed the decision to apply for a federal grant to help offset the costs of fixing some portion of the sites identified in the Survey. In the most recent article, we announced that PPA had received a grant from the Maine DEP and US EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act for the Panther Pond Conservation Project- Phase I

The \$83,770 (\$43,945 federal/\$39,825 match) 319 grant will begin in April of this year (2005) and will extend through August 2007. Noralee Raymond, the Executive Director of RWPA (Raymond Waterways Protective Association), will provide the technical expertise and day to day management of the project as Project Manager funded through the grant. Noralee has been of immeasurable help to the PPA Board of Directors and brings a great deal of experience in designing solutions to runoff problems, as well as having easy access to expertise within other environmental groups in the area. A PPA Steering Committee will be responsible for the logistics of each improvement activity, responsible for assuring that all materials and people are at each site in a timely fashion.

In summary, over the next two years Panther Pond watershed residents will have the opportunity to participate in this grant to reduce erosion problems in their watershed. Financial assistance and free technical assistance will be made available. Workshops will be offered to help landowners learn conservation techniques to use on their own property.

The Survey identified 84 sites in the Panther Pond Watershed that are currently affecting or have the potential to affect water quality of the lake. Almost half of these sites were found in residential areas. These residential sites tend to have less severe erosion and can be easily fixed at low cost. When added together, however, these smaller sites can have a big impact on water quality. The good news is only 17 of the 84 sites were considered high impact. Each landowner has been notified, and we

have continually stressed that the recommendations are simply that; that no landowner has to take any action. Our hope, of course, is that most landowners will embrace the proposed solutions. Portland Water District and PPA itself have pledged some matching funds to help alleviate the burden on the landowners, especially those faced with more expensive solutions. We anticipate that 42 of the 84 sites will receive funding.

Twenty-two sites within the Panther Pond watershed can qualify to have the grant pay a portion of road or driveway repair, bank and path stabilization, and vegetated buffer plantings. These sites were nominated from the Panther Pond Watershed Survey based on the level of impact to the lake. We will be contacting these landowners in the spring. Through the grant, the landowner or road association will receive up to 50% of the cost of the entire project. The remaining 50% can be matched either in cash, materials, or labor.

The grant will also provide the opportunity for free technical assistance to any landowner in the Panther Pond watershed. Do you have a lawn that runs down to the edge of the lake? Does your gravel road or driveway wash out every year? Noralee Raymond can visit your property to give you ideas for these and other common damaging problems. Contact Noralee at 671-3329 or lakes@raymondmaine.org to schedule a time this spring for someone to visit your property with you. We will provide you with a free packet of materials specifically designed to help you fix your problems. Any recommendations we make are voluntary to you. Twenty matching grants (up to \$100) will be offered toward the purchase of vegetation for buffers or erosion control materials to those landowners receiving technical assistance.

At least one workshop will be held annually to demonstrate best methods for planting shoreline vegetation and the construction of common conservation practices. Workshop participants will take an active part in conservation as they help plant native plants, install walkways and mulch, and construct roof dripline trenches or gutter drywells. Guided tours will be held to visit sites that were fixed through the project at the end of each summer. Keep an eye out for advertisements in the Road Runner and PPA's website, or contact Noralee Raymond today to get on the mailing list for workshop and tour announcements.

The Challenge—What Can You Do?

We have come a long way since that first tentative organization meeting. We dreamed we could get this far.

We did. It is no longer a dream but a reality. We've gotten people engaged, and we have obtained funds. Yes, we have come a long way, but we have much to do before we can sleep.

As I noted in October, the immediate challenge is to assure that as many as possible of the sites with significant runoff problems are improved over the next two years, and that all the funds provided by the grant are used effectively. We have worked hard to identify the runoff problems and to obtain funds to fix them. We now must rise to the challenge to provide volunteer assistance to those landowners that are receptive to the suggested fixes but either physically or financially cannot do all of it alone. We are quite fortunate to have as project manager Noralee Raymond, the RWPA Executive Director. With Noralee's experience, dedication, and boundless energy to push and guide us, and with volunteers like you, we can look forward to realizing our goal of improving the water quality of Panther Pond through the effective and efficient use of the 319 Grant funds.

What can you do to help?

- Contact PPA to volunteer for the steering committee.
- Sign up to assist landowners with fixing erosion problems (planting, building runoff diverters).
- Donate to PPA to help us meet our \$2,000 cash match to the grant.
- Sign up for workshops and tours to learn how to identify and fix erosion.
- If you have erosion on your property, contact us to request free technical assistance

The key word is Volunteers. We are searching for volunteers who are interested in serving on the project steering committee to help guide the project, work with landowners, and organize workshops and other activities. Volunteers are also needed on a site by site basis for planting, digging infiltration areas, spreading mulch, or building infiltration steps and water diverters. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the PPA Board of Directors at ppa@raymondmaine.org or Noralee Raymond at lakes@raymondmaine.org

To talk to someone, call me at 655-3936 or Noralee Raymond at 671-3329. Check PPA postings at the Town of Raymond's website at www.raymondmaine.org.

Raymond Considers Preserving Undeveloped Properties

By: John Balentine, Staff Writer, Lakes Region Suburban Weekly

Article reprinted courtesy Lakes Region Suburban Weekly

Five years ago, the Raymond Conservation Commission tried to convince residents that the town should consider purchasing and preserving large tracts of land in an effort to keep Raymond looking rural. Because of budgeting concerns the townspeople didn't go for it.

Five years later, with more and more people moving to the well-situated town and large tracts of land becoming scarce, the commission is again approaching Raymond residents for help preserving open space.

Led by residents John Rand and Elizabeth Algeo, the RCC secured \$3,000 from the Board of Selectmen last month to draw up an Open Space Plan. According to RCC representatives, the plan will identify ecologically important parcels in town, rank them according to several criteria and identify possible funding sources in an effort to eventually purchase them.

The Open Space Plan comes as a direct result of the town's newly adopted comprehensive plan. According to Rand, the comprehensive plan specifically directs the RCC to work with the selectmen and town officials in an effort to prepare a plan to preserve prime working forests, trails, recreational resources and natural areas.

"Things have changed from five years ago," Rand said. "Land is much more expensive and people, I think, have realized that before prices get any higher, now is the time to pursue these large tracts of land before they are sold and gone forever. People, I think, are coming around to the idea that Raymond is a beautiful place and they want to keep it that way."

Rand quickly adds that any eventual land purchase would first have to go to town meeting for approval by residents and would only come from willing sellers.

"I don't think the plan will be a hard sell. There aren't a lot of people in town who want to see the sprawl and build-out ruin the rural character of Raymond," Algeo said. "But funding it will be another wake-up call. That's where it may get difficult."

Rand said the town's current open space reserve fund totals \$40,000, which represents a combination of private and public monies. But to preserve any meaningful tracts of land around Raymond, Rand envisions taxpayers spending much more than that to secure quality parcels. He said the cost to taxpayers would be at least in the hundreds of thousands of dollars range since the plan is only looking at parcels 25 acres or more.

"Raymond is developing 150 acres a year due to residential development. That's 1,500 acres in the last decade," Rand said. "I'd like to think we could preserve 10, or 20, or 30 percent of that at the least. Ten percent would be baseline."

But the initial cost for buying available tracts, Rand said, will come back to taxpayers in savings by not having to provide services to an ever-increasing population. He said the town's preservation of lands would act as a sort of growth cap essentially putting a limit on population and housing growth, and, as a result, town services and expenses.

"What it does is cap the ultimate density of the town by bumping some of the population growth to other towns," Rand said. "Rather than building out the town in 20 years and losing all our large tracts in the process, we might be able to save some semblance of what we enjoy today."

Algeo said the town would not necessarily be alone in providing the money to buy land. As someone who has helped write grants, Algeo said many granting institutions want proof that towns are invested in land preservation before offering grants to private land-preservation groups within a town.

"There are all sorts of private granting non-profits that want to first see that a town is truly putting its money where its mouth is concerning land purchases," Algeo said. "There may be 20 communities vying for one grant and the town that has taxpayers involved in the process will have a better chance securing the grant. And nothing says that better than taxpayer funding helping to preserve land."

Currently, Rand and Algeo said there are attractive parcels for sale but declined to identify any out of respect for the landowner.

"This plan is going to help us organize which lands are important and communicate to the town why that is," Rand said. "Making the plan is the first step, talking with landowners and then convincing the town about specific purchases will come later."

In February and March, the RCC will hold workshops to get public input, in addition to RCC regular meeting held Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the portable classroom building at Jordan Small Middle School. The group hopes to have the plan ready for a presentation at the annual town meeting in May.

Raymond Fire/Rescue HOT SPOT

"KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE THROUGH EDUCATION"

Greetings!!!! This month I would like to share some statistics from your Fire and Rescue Department. During the year of 2004 the department responded to 674 calls. These calls range from emergency rescue calls, fires and car accidents to general calls for assistance such as wires down, false alarms, and unpermitted burns. The Fire/Rescue Department currently has 54 members on its roster that includes Firefighters, EMT's and fire police. Many of our members are cross trained, which means they can be both a firefighter and/or an EMT at any given time. Our members have shown a great deal of commitment to the Department, Town and citizens this year by providing over 39,500 hours worth of training, calls, public education, inspections and work details such as hydrant shoveling. Though this number works out to about 733 hours per member, we have a core group of 18 active members that, combined, contributed 36,000 hours, including 9 members that gave more than 1,000 hours, 3 members who gave more than 2,000 hours and 2 members who gave more than 3,000 hours. We have experienced as many as 9 emergency calls in an 11 hour period, and 16 emergency calls in a 24 hour period. If you are interested in volunteering on the fire/rescue department, please calls us at 655-7851. Until next month...work safe, play safe, STAY SAFE!!!

Please send any requests or comments to josh.stevens@raymondmaine.org

Open Space Meets NEMO In Raymond!

Land Conservation, Land Development And Water Quality Workshop
February 10, 7pm, Town Office

By now we have all heard about Open Space in Raymond and the benefits it provides to the quality of life we enjoy. But what is NEMO?

- NEMO is an educational program for land use decision makers that addresses the relationship between land use and natural resource protection, with a focus on water resources, nonpoint source pollution, and stormwater runoff.
- NEMO explains the link between land use, water quality, and community character. The program offers follow-up presentations and material to help communities advance their natural resource-based planning.
- NEMO can help communities identify their special areas for preservation (including how to characterize, prioritize and acquire Open Space), as well as map out areas suitable for development.

The presentation will start with a brief introduction of the Raymond Conservation Commission's current Open Space map which has been prepared with the good skills of our GIS Coordinator Elisa Trepanier. A brief discussion of the Open Space planning process will follow, with an opportunity for board and public input. The presentation will then shift into NEMO mode and will be led by LaMarr Cannon, who is the Maine NEMO coordinator. LaMarr's PowerPoint presentation will include the relationship between development and pollutants, methods for low impact development, and planning tools to reduce impact (including open space planning).

LaMarr has been with the NEMO program for a year and worked previously at the Maine DEP as a Project Manager. Her background is environmental engineering, with a Masters Degree from Oregon State in 2002. She was born and raised in Alaska, and (lucky for us) married a Mainer who moved her back east in 2002.

For more information on the NEMO program, see <http://www.mainenemo.org/index.htm>

The presentation is open to all Board and Committee members and the public.

NEMO = Non-point source Education for Municipal Officials

Coming In March..... Help With Parenting—That Most Important Job

Are you looking for a new way to discipline? Feeling frustrated by your children's behavior? Wanting some new ideas? Join other parents with Peggy Jensen, Home-School Coordinator/Early Intervention Specialist, for lively discussions and some new ideas

Wednesdays, March 9-30, 6:30-7:30 at RES
Materials and BABYSITTING SERVICES provided by the 21st Century grant (Thank you, Mrs. Davis!)

Sixth Annual Maine Milfoil Summit

Friday, February 25th
University of Southern Maine Lewiston-Auburn
9am until noon.

Registration is from 8:30 to 9:00 and is free

Please RSVP by emailing lakes@megalink.net (pre-registration is not required to attend, but it would help the organizers - a lot!)

What you will learn.....

The results from more than 30,000 boater surveys
New initiatives on the local level
Program summary for 2004
Program priorities for 2005
And more

For more information on the 2005 Summit or to join the Milfoil mailing list, contact Peter Lowell at the Lakes Environmental Association (LEA)
lakes@megalink.net or 207-647-8580 / 230 Main Street, Bridgton ME 04009

LEA's summit organizing efforts and invasives program are sponsored by the G.L. Connolly Foundation

Raymond-Casco Historical Society Question Corner

What Should We Know About Sebago-Area's Indians?

By: Alvin Hamblen Morrison, ethnohistorical anthropologist

Nineteenth-century writers popularized a mistake which real estate developers and sporting clubs still make today: Even though "Sokokis" might sound like a good name for the Saco River Indians, it was not their name. Scholars now know that the real Sokoki Indians lived on the Connecticut River in north-central Massachusetts. Nineteenth-century writers also popularized a misleading name which several new books or tourist pamphlets today still use unawares: to call Chief Polin and his people "Rockameecooks" only makes for confusion. If by that name is meant only that they were closely tied to Pigwacket, then it would be far better to call them Pigwackets / Pequawkets. (The Pigwackets had a fort called Narracomecock / Narrackamagog on Saco River near now-Fryeburg, ME.) Modern researchers put the real Rocameca Indians on Androscoggin River in the Jay Point & Canton Point area, west of Livermore Falls, ME. So both "Sokoki" and "Rockameecook" are now inappropriate and deceiving names for 21st-century persons to continue to apply to the former natives of the Sebago-Presumpscot region.

On the web, at www.lakesregionofmaine.gen.me.us/sebago_anthro, see Sebago-Presumpscot Anthropology Project (SPAP) Reports, as well as Mawooshen Memos, for further information on these and related topics.

Vocational Service Grant

The Lake Region Development Council would like to announce the availability of a grant program for individuals with disabilities in the Lake Region who are seeking opportunities for entrepreneurship. Grant amounts will range in the amount of \$1,000 to \$2,500 to be used for business start up purposes. Business assistance counselors will be available to those applying to assist in the development of a business plan. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact LRDC for more information. LRDC, 5 South Casco Village Road, South Casco, 207.655.2700 fax 207.655.2727 email info@lrdcmaine.org

R.I.S.E. DONATION – VOLUNTEER FORM

Please fill out the information below so you will not be solicited again.

Name: _____ Telephone #: _____

Address: _____ Cell #: _____

Email: _____

We hope to publish the names of all donors in the Road Runner. If you wish to remain anonymous, please check box below. Thank you.

I wish to remain anonymous.

Please make all checks out to: R.I.S.E. – Town of Raymond

and drop off or mail to: Town of Raymond
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, ME 04071

Volunteers are needed for the following:

- provide space at my business for a donation box
- donate materials for posters, the thermometers, donation boxes
- distribute posters/donation boxes
- help construct the "thermometers"
- help with a telephone/email tree
- write future articles for the Road Runner
- help update the "thermometers"
- serve on the R.I.S.E. committee
- other

Please call Susan at 6455-2581 or email at shirsch@maine.rr.com

Windham Rotary Ice Fishing

Derby Fest - February 25 -27, 2005
Planned Events

- ICE FISHING DERBY – This is the core event. It will take place on February 26 & 27. Prize pool of \$30,000. To be held on Sebago Lake, unless there is bad ice. In that case, it will be held on several lakes in Southern Maine. THIS IS Maine's richest and largest Ice Fishing Derby.
- ICE RACING- Car racing on the ice "Under the Lights" on Friday night, 2/25. Drivers will compete for a \$2,000 purse in Maine's first night ice racing event. Proceeds to benefit Camp Sunshine.
- Snow Sculpture/Slide at Raymond Beach both days.
- Free Ice Skating at Raymond Beach both days.
- Saturday, 11am to 1pm – Air Show. Primary viewing area will be at Raymond Beach. Donations for admission to support the families of Maine servicemen. Governor Baldacci as Grand Marshal.
- "Polar Ice Dip". The Maine Children's Cancer Program will have swimmers solicit pledges for the mass "Dip" on Saturday at 2pm.
- The "Maine Ice Fisherman's Championship". This will be a contest where fishermen will compete in heats showcasing their strength, speed & skills in a series of ice fishing tasks. Similar in nature to the "Woodsman Day" contest at the Fryeburg Fair. This event will take place on Sunday during the day.
- Cross-country ski and snowshoe races to be held Sunday at Raymond Beach. Special "kids races" with snowshoes provided.

Got Questions or Ideas ?

Call 1-888-ICE-FLAG

Or visit us at: www.icefishingderby.com

PTA College Scholarships Available

The Raymond PTA is offering two \$1,000 college scholarships to Raymond high school students. Any Raymond resident who will be graduating from high school this spring and is planning on attending college in the fall is encouraged to apply.

Applications can be obtained at http://www.raymondmaine.org/civic_groups/pta/. All applications must be submitted by April 1, 2005.

Revaluation Update

Vision Appraisal Technology, Inc. is on schedule! The first complete round of data collection has been completed. If you did not receive a visit from Vision, you should be receiving a letter requesting an appointment to complete the data collection (a "callback"). Callbacks for year-round residents will begin this winter and continue into the spring. Callbacks for seasonal properties will begin sometime around Memorial Day.

The next step of the process is the sales analysis. Sales data from Raymond during the last year or so will be evaluated to begin the complex process of creating pricing schedules for property. This portion of the revaluation will not require fieldwork.

It is anticipated at this point that letters of value will be mailed during the month of July. The letter will indicate the value placed on your property and indicate how you can contact Vision to discuss the value. You will have an opportunity to review the value with Vision appraisers prior to tax commitment.

If you have any further questions, please contact Amanda L. Simpson, Assessors' Agent, at amanda.simpson@raymondmaine.org or 207-655-4742 ext. 51.

Who Does The Derby Benefit?

2004 Direct Contributions

- Maine Children's Cancer Program (\$43,000)
- Camp Sunshine (\$20,000)
- Inland Fish & Wildlife (\$15,000)
- Rotary Foundation (\$4,000)
- Town Of Raymond - Emergency Generator (\$3,000)
- D.A.R.E. (\$1,000)
- Sebago Anglers Smelt Restoration Project (\$1,000)

Indirectly

Local Economy - Warden Service estimated 5,000 people on the ice last year plus 1,000 attending the Polar Ice Dip. All area motels were full. Restaurants reported a great increase in business that weekend.

Salmon Fishery - Over 1000 Togue were caught. Hundreds were examined by State Biologists, thus helping a management objective for the Dept. of IF&W.

Troop 800's Fishing Derby Food Booth

By: John Hanley, Troop 800 Committee Chair

For the third year in a row Troop 800 will be manning a food booth at the Windham Rotary Fishing Derby, Saturday, February 26th. This is the second year that all proceeds raised will be donated to a worthy cause. At this time we are still determining the charity or organization the money will go to pending research and presentations by our Patrols, then to be voted on by the whole Troop.

The Troop 800 food booth will be selling breakfast sandwiches well into the morning, after which we will switch over to homemade soups, stews and desserts for lunchtime. Soft drinks, hot chocolate and coffee will also be available. There will be a Scouts Skills demonstration adjacent to our food booth, too.

If you are out on the ice, fishing or checking out the activities join us for breakfast or lunch. You'll be helping us to make a difference.

Raymond Rec Sports

Raymond Rec will offer the Indoor Swim Program for 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades at Colonial Mast Pool in March and April. The program will be on Wednesdays after school. The bus will take the children to the pool, and parents must pick them up.

Spring tennis will be offered from the end of April through May for 3rd and 4th grades. The program will be on Wednesdays after school. The bus will take children to the courts on Mill Street, and parents must pick them up.

Watch for program details and registration materials to be sent from school and at www.raymondmaine.org.

October, November and December Permits

- 9 new homes, stated value \$1,595,000
- 11 sheds, value \$123,472
- 16 additions/alterations, value \$577,668
- 5 garages, value \$101,900
- Permit fees collected, \$9,348.30
- Total value of all permits, \$2,577,460

Hebron Second Annual Founders Day Community Skating Party

Join students, faculty and friends of Hebron for this annual celebration Sunday, February 13, 2:30-4:30pm, in Robinson Arena. Hebron Academy will be turning 201. Parking is available in the arena parking lot, just off Route 119 in Hebron. This event is open to the public and free of charge.

Senior Citizens' Monthly Dinners

Dinners are held the third Wednesday of the month at Jordan-Small Middle School. Upcoming dinner dates are as follows:

February 16th
March 16th
April – none
May 18th

Please join us for a social evening and a wonderful meal. A \$2 donation per person is appreciated. Call JSMS #655-4743 a few days in advance to make your reservation.

College Goal Sunday - Assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms.

Augusta, Maine - Representative John C. Robinson of Raymond is pleased to announce College Goal Sunday, a program sponsored by the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), which will assist families and students in the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.

On Sunday, January 30 at 2pm at fifteen sites across the state, the College Goal Sunday coaching staff will walk high school seniors and their families through the FAFSA form, line by line.

"This is a great opportunity to have assistance with a rather complicated application," said Representative Robinson. "This form, which could be called the gateway to all college financing, is necessary for determining eligibility for federal and state financial aid for higher education."

Anyone needing assistance paying for higher education for the 2005-06 school year should attend one of these College Goal Sunday sessions listed below. Participants should bring their most recent tax information.

Augusta:	University of Maine
Belfast:	Hutchinson Center
Biddeford:	University of New England
Calais:	Washington County Community College
Dover-Foxcroft:	Penquis Higher Education Center
Ellsworth:	Downeast Family YMCA
Farmington:	University of Maine
Fort Kent:	University of Maine
Houlton:	Houlton Higher Education Center
Lewiston:	Multipurpose Center
Machias:	University of Maine
Nobleboro:	Camp Kieve
Orono:	University of Maine
So. Portland:	Southern Maine Community College
Wells:	York County Community College

For more information contact FAME at 1-800-228-3734 or visit FAME's website at www.collegegoalsundaymaine.com

An Interview With...

Continued from page 1

A. These last two weeks have been pretty typical. Being an early morning person, my days begin at 4am. I savor those quiet hours of early morning and find that that's when I can do my "best" work. Networking responsibilities with area colleagues these past two weeks have included my participation in the Sebago Alliance in Gorham, a breakfast meeting with Don Willard to continue dialogue around One Raymond initiatives, attendance at the two day winter convocation for superintendents in South Portland, and attendance at the Cumberland County Superintendent's meeting in Westbrook. Those connections are more critical now than I can ever remember in my entire educational career. With NCLB, Essential Programs and Schools, and Learning Results initiatives, the lay of the educational landscape is changing weekly. Being a person who thrives on uncertainty, that works for me! With uncertainty comes the "gift of possibilities."

My in-district responsibilities following the winter break have included hours of budget work with our Leadership Team and business manager, policy work meetings, a facilities committee meeting, a School Board meeting and workshop, meeting with the Leadership team at Jordan-Small Middle school and a debriefing meeting with a team of teachers and administrators who attended a "Putting the Breaks on Special Education" conference

to determine our next steps locally. Then there are the routines. ... dealing with a High School discipline issue that needed immediate attention (now there's a routine piece of my job that is unique to a community that doesn't have a High School and provides transportation to our High School students!). There are the daily phone calls from parents and e-mails that await response. The January challenges have included behind the scenes negotiations underway with both support staff and professional staff. That's a glimpse of the nature of my work over a two-week period. One of the greatest challenges of a part time superintendency is finding time when I don't work. Today is actually the first day in January that I "think" I can *not* go into my office. And it's the only time that I have had to respond to these interview questions! Therein lies the conundrum! I love this work and the balancing act that goes with it. Raymond has a spirit and an energy that makes it okay for me to work almost every day!

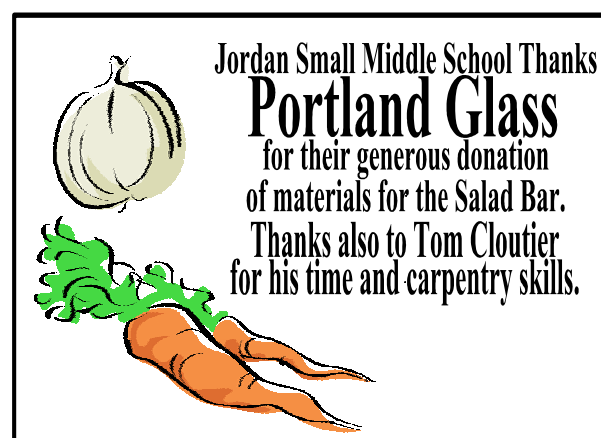
Q. What's next on the educational radar screen for you?

A. It has always been critical to me in each leg of this educational journey to establish a shared vision, to set goals that scaffold reaching that vision and to see a beginning, middle and end to all aspects of the work. The word 'end' is truly a misnomer in education. It is truly a profession that requires a strong commitment to the "continual state of becoming." The underlying theme of our work yesterday, today and tomorrow is searching for and discovering ways to establish more efficiencies through group efforts.

Art Appreciation And The Anonymous Face Of Travel

By: Mike Hughes

Over the last several months I have become somewhat of a "frequent flier." My work at Hebron Academy has me going to different training sessions. My position as the Sergeant Major has me traversing the east coast quite often each month. While in an airport recently, I wondered how many people were in transit at any given time. This "random population" must number in the hundreds of thousands at any given moment. It seems to me that this mass of the American traveling public abandons all the rules of courtesy and respect. An unspoken culture of "I'm going to get there before you" is disheartening. No one holds the doors. No one gives simple salutations. No pleases. No thank yous. It can be truly automatus and unpleasant. Every time I leave my family and the comfort of my Raymond home to subject myself to these "unfriendly skies," I feel a twinge of loneliness. On a recent trip to Walter Reed Army Medical Center to visit one of my injured soldiers, I wandered around the airport in Portland while I patiently waited for my long delayed flight. My schedule for my trip was now shot. I was beginning to feel the stress as I imagined the great race that lay ahead when and if I landed in DC. Lost luggage, traffic on the Beltway, etc., etc. As I strolled through the terminal, I caught a glimpse of an owl in a glass case. Upon further observation of this wildlife, it became apparent that these winged creatures inhabited several of these showcases. That morning I toured every showcase. Seeing these birds helped to put my traveling woes into perspective. These birds, you see, were the artistic creations of the sixth grade class from Jordan-Small Middle School. Each piece was a signed work. Recognizing all of the names and admiring their fine work succeeded in sprinkling just a little familiarity onto the anonymous face of travel. Although your project may have seemed insignificant at the time, I can assure you it was not! On the behalf of myself and all of my fellow anonymous travelers, I thank you.



2005 School Scholarship Applications Available

The 2005 Raymond Scholarship applications are available at the Town Office and Jordan-Small Middle School. The Carleton E. Edwards, George Woods, and Alva Clough Scholarships have a deadline for submission of March 1, 2005.

There are also other scholarships available from several organizations in Raymond.

- Lions Club Scholarship can be obtained from Betty McDermott, 10 McDermott Road, Raymond, ME 04071
- Betts-Douglas-Hickey Scholarship from Linda Alexander, 1 Pine Lane, Raymond, ME 04071
- Semi-Circle Scholarship from Diane Goosetrey, 28 Deeracres Road, Raymond, ME 04071
- Raymond PTA Scholarship from Lynn Davis, Jordan-Small Middle School, 423 Webbs Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071

8th Grade News

Planning for this year's completion ceremony and end of the year celebrations has begun. Parents interested in becoming involved should contact: Ellen van Haasteren #655-4282 or Debra Martin #655-3318 Watch for more information in future editions of the Road Runner.

Legislative Update

By: John Robinson, State Representative

The legislative session is now in full swing. Early debate has been dominated by L.D. 1 "An Act to Increase the State Share of Education Costs, Reduce Property Taxes and Reduce Government Spending at All Levels." It is a piece of legislation designed to implement the school funding passed last June within the MMA citizen initiated referendum and also to provide property tax relief. The legislation has been promoted by the Governor as addressing the public outcry for lower taxes. I do not wholeheartedly agree with L.D. 1 and view this as only a small step forward in an ongoing process of lowering taxes for all Mainers.

First, and most importantly, L.D. 1 does not represent meaningful property tax relief for Raymond. The opportunity to do the right thing and bring forth a proposal which would have addressed the real problem of overspending which exists at every level of government in Maine is not present. The Joint Select Committee, which debated and reworked the bill, was handed a school funding bill and told to provide tax relief using that as a vehicle which is analogous to handing someone one oar and telling them to row in a straight line. I am hesitant to support legislation that is partially based upon a formula that lacks clear detail and thus is difficult to fully understand.

The spending caps that made their way into the final legislation are significant when one considers that spending reform was hardly mentioned just six years ago. The idea that the Maine Legislature would embrace any spending cap proposal was completely divorced from reality. Since that time, with great persistence, Republicans have been steadily advancing the concept of limiting spending. About two years ago a small amount of editorial support began appearing, and now members from all political persuasions are admitting it might be necessary to control spending.

The Legislature is now poised to pass legislation which will impose spending caps. The caps are not strong when considering the weak override protection, but nonetheless are an improvement from not having a cap. I, along with the entire Republican caucus, will continue pushing for a 2/3 cap override provision and a Constitutional protection for the state cap.

The establishment of spending caps is the first step in achieving long-term tax relief, if the majority party honors the state spending caps. Unfortunately, I believe L.D. 1 to be a school funding bill and not the tax relief bill that many had hoped to see. I look forward to continuing the debate on tax reform and continuing to help formulate policies that lower the tax burden for Raymond and all Mainers.

JSMS Yearbook 2004-2005 Sales

The final deadline for ordering is March 1, 2005. The cost of this year's hardcover book is \$20. Order envelopes are available from Ms Griffin in the library. Please return completed envelopes to the main office.

Don't be left out!

Baby Pictures

We are currently collecting baby pictures for this year's book. We would like to include pictures of all the 8th graders. Please send a baby/toddler picture in to school with your student. We will not be returning the pictures & names should be written lightly on the back with pencil.

"Best Wishes" Ads

At this time we are collecting "Best Wishes" ads, as well. Any 8th grade parent interested in purchasing one or more for \$5 each should send a short message along with payment attention: yearbook. Example:

"Good Luck , Susie, we're proud of you!
Love Mom & Dad."

Real Estate Corner

By Mary Jane Vandersluis & Cathy Dodge

Residential real estate is a complex, multi-faceted industry that affects the very foundation of our lives. Whether "real estate" means a home, vacation or investment property, many factors must be taken into account in order to ensure a smooth, successful transaction.

During the coming year we will explain many aspects of today's fascinating marketplace. We will explore everything from maximizing your profit by enhancing your home's environment to obtaining the optimum financing for your particular situation. This column will also cover refinancing, investing, buying "fixer-uppers" and a variety of other topics. If you are a first-time buyer, you will discover that buying a home is more possible than you may think. This column is also an open forum that will present answers to your specific questions regarding real estate. We hope that you will join us as a regular reader!

JSMS Special Olympics

On a beautiful, sunny January 7th winter day, Jordan-Small Middle School Special Olympians Jackie Guisley and Patrick Huber enjoyed participating in the Special Olympics Winter Fun



fun! They each received nice participation ribbons for their fine efforts.

Coach Keller would like to express his sincere thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Guiseley and Mr. Huber for their support which led to a fun and successful day!



Day at Lost Valley Ski Center in Auburn.

Jackie took part in Nordic Skiing events and Patrick participated in Snowshoeing activities. Both athletes received some good exercise and had



It's Time to Have Your Voice Heard

By: Senator Bill Diamond

Following the in-depth committee work and legislative debate of the Governor's property tax relief package, the legislature is now back to what could be described as the more traditional chaos such as holding public hearings, debating the various bills and reviewing the several other important issues facing the legislature. There is much to be done, and we'll have to put in some long hours if we're going to finish the people's business by the end of May or certainly by the first part of June.

One issue which has generated a lot of discussion and one in which almost everyone has a strong opinion is the proposal which would allow hunting on Sundays during the months of October and December. The Governor has included this as part of his budget for the next biennium, and I would certainly like to hear your opinion on this issue as we get into the full debate.

Another item which will ignite passionate debate is the proposal to prohibit the snaring of bears. As we all remember, during the last November election the people of Maine voted on the "bear referendum," and the majority of voters supported keeping the bear hunting laws in their current form.

According to the discussions in the halls of the legislature, several people felt that the current bear hunting laws were acceptable except the law allowing the snaring of bears. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has stated that only about 72 bears are caught by trap or snare annually. Your thoughts on this issue would be appreciated as well, since it appears that some hunters support allowing snaring and some hunters see it as unnecessary.

Raymond Village Library's Exhibiting Artist Don Verger

Don started biking to the park to photograph squirrels when he was seven, and then went to the Bronx Zoo for elephants. Today, as a resident of the scenic Lakes Region area, he photographs the light, color, lines and moods that catch his eye.

Don was the Program Director for the Massachusetts Audubon's Drumlin Farm, taught 7th grade math and was a licensed family day care provider. He is the Founder and President Emeritus of the Children's Discovery Museum and the Science Discovery Museum, both in Acton, Massachusetts. His Discovery Museums have been visited by millions of children from around the world, who enjoy his creative exhibit designs.

Don has chaired the Advisory Boards of UNICEF of New England and the Bridge Over Troubled Waters in Boston. He has also served on the boards of directors of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and of Wheelock College.

Don is donating to UNICEF 100% of the proceeds of all images sold. You may make a check payable to UNICEF, and all donations will be sent directly to that organization. View Don's work on the Web at <http://www.pbbase.com/donverger>.

Committee Work

The Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, of which I'm proud to be the Senate Chairman, has jurisdiction over all of the correctional facilities including the Maine State Prison, Maine Correctional Center in Windham and the juvenile facilities in South Portland and Charleston. One of our early objectives is to visit all of the correctional sites around Maine, as well as the sites of our other areas of jurisdiction such as the Maine State Police and county facilities. This will give us a firsthand exposure to these organizations and how they operate.

If you have any interest in sharing thoughts or concerns regarding these areas of criminal justice or public safety, be sure to let me know (1-800-423-6900).

As I know you are aware, Representative John Robinson serves on the Business Research and Economic Development Committee which is a very important committee in the legislature, given the importance of our economy in Maine. Considering John's important committee seat and my seats on the Transportation Committee and the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, I think we are positioned well to serve many of Raymond's needs.

I look forward to working with you and hearing your thoughts and opinions as the legislative session proceeds.

Lake Region Grants Network

The Lake Region Development Council's next meeting of the Lake Region Grants Network will be held on Tuesday, February 8, from 8:30 to 10:30am at the Bridgton Community Center, Depot Street, Bridgton. The LRDC is interested in providing a forum for grant writers and other non profit staff to come together to bring new resources into our communities. Keynote speakers will be William Stockwell of William F. Stockwell & Associates, LLC. Registered with the State of Maine and bonded as a professional fund raising consultant since 1984, William F. Stockwell has gained invaluable experience in the field by consulting with institutions for their fund raising and development efforts. The successful implementation of record keeping systems, long range plans, annual funds, capital campaigns and major gifts has been the backbone of his practice. For more information or to RSVP, please contact LRDC, 207.655.2700 or info@lrdcmaine.org.



2005 - Pack 800 Pinewood Derby Winners

Pos	Car	Driver	Rank	Den	Min Time
1	64	Tim Morris	Webelos II	Den 6	2.1900
2	95	Anthony Wedge	Wolf	Den 9	2.1920
3	60	Robert Cave	Webelos II	Den 6	2.1970
4	70	Corey Cole	Webelos I	Den 7	2.2070
5	71	David Cosgrove	Webelos I	Den 7	2.2120
6	63	Patrick Lachance	Webelos II	Den 6	2.2140
7	76	Brian Murray	Webelos I	Den 7	2.2150