



April 17, 2002

Raytheon donates money to town

**By MELISSA BEECHER
STAFF WRITER**

The cleanup effort of the former Raytheon site on Route 20 will be a little easier for Wayland residents to understand thanks to a \$25,000 deposit made by the former defense contractor last week.

The money was given to the town after Raytheon and town officials signed a Memorandum of Understanding earlier this month. The money will be spent to pay for a License Site Professional (LSP) - an engineer that will recheck data acquired in Raytheon's cleanup efforts, or other wetland consultants regarding the site cleanup.

" I am very pleased with this huge step forward, " said Selectmen Linda Segal. " This would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of everyone involved. It is just such a different experience when the two parties involved have similar interests and an understanding of the issues. "

Representatives from several of Wayland's town offices have taken an active role in the dialogues between the town and Raytheon.

" We're obviously very pleased that Raytheon has agreed to work cooperatively with the town and fund the costs associated with the LSP to help bring this matter to conclusion, " said Jeff Ritter, Wayland's executive secretary.

Amy Hosmer, a media relations representative at Raytheon, said the company is equally happy about the recent progress.

" We see this as a great opportunity to work with the community and the town, " said Hosmer.

Raytheon leased property at 430 Boston Post Road for over 40 years. For the past 20 years, the company has been working with state environmental agencies to identify and clean toxins in the land. As a Tier 1B site, the area is overseen by the DEP, but not forced to have data analyzed by an independent LSP.

The town and Raytheon are married through Public Involvement Plan (PIP) guidelines, where documentation of the environmental cleanup must be kept at a repository in the town library so the public has access to all information regarding the cleanup efforts. Currently in the Phase IV - the physical remediation - of the cleanup effort, Raytheon has decided to delay submission to the Department of Environmental Protection until more public discussion takes place.

Phase IV has also been delayed because of the expected release of water into the Sudbury River by the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority, according to Segal. The delay is being looked at as time to better educate residents about test findings and the remediation process.

Some concerns have arisen due to low levels of chemicals in the Baldwin Pond field wells - a drinking water source in town. Extensive testing has been done not only by Raytheon but also the DEP.

The Memorandum of Understanding states that the consultant hired by the town will work with Raytheon representing the interests of Wayland and be responsible for communication of the town's concerns. The consultant will represent the various boards that have been working on this project including the Board of Health, the Conservation Commission, the Water Department and the Selectmen.

Raytheon's next PIP meeting will be held May 14 at 7 p.m. at the Wayland Town Building. Background information and results from its tests as well as tests that were conducted by the DEP will be discussed. A question and answer period is scheduled in the meeting.