

Welcome new Finance Director and Treasurer for the Town of Raymond, Alexander C. Aponte

Alexander Aponte was appointed as the new Finance Director & Treasurer for the Town of Raymond on December 1st of 2020. He was unanimously voted into the role on December 8th by the Board of Selectmen. Alexander has over 20 years of accounting and finance experience, 10 years of management experience, and 12 years of self-employment experience. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Studies with a concentration in Accounting.



Photo by Kaela Gonzalez

Alexander grew up in Boston and moved to Maine in 1997. He lives in Topsham with his husband, Kevin, and two sons, Dalton and Brayden, and one dog and two cats. They are also currently the foster parents of two boys. In his spare time, Alexander enjoys reading, biking, and spending time with his boys.

He looks forward to utilizing his knowledge and experience to support the Town's finances. Most of all, he is eager to get to know the citizens of Raymond, as well as the overall community.

Employment Opportunities

- Full-time Paramedic/Firefighter
- Part-time EMT/Firefighter
- Part-time Assistant Animal Control Officer
- Part-time Videographer

For job descriptions and more info visit: www.raymondmaine.org

TOWN OF RAYMOND PUBLIC NOTICE – NOMINATION PAPERS

will be available beginning 8:30 a.m., Monday, March 1, 2021 for the following positions:

- Selectman – 1 position for a 3-year term
- Budget/Finance Committee – 3 positions for 3-year terms
- Budget/Finance Committee – 2 positions for 2-year terms
- RSU #14 Board of Directors – 1 position for a 3-year term

Positions to be elected on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at Jordan Small Middle School gymnasium

Nomination papers are available at the Raymond Town Office, 401 Webbs Mills Road, during regular office hours. 25, but not over 100, registered Raymond voter signatures are required to be added to the ballot.

The DEADLINE for submission of nomination papers to the Town Clerk is Friday, April 9, 2021, at 4:00 pm.

For more information contact Sue Look, Town Clerk via email at sue.look@raymondmaine.org or via phone at 207-655-4742 x121.

Where IN RAYMOND?

Pismire Mountain seen from Crescent Lake



Photo by Kaela Gonzalez



RAYMOND ROADRUNNER

TOWN OF RAYMOND – FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Winter Bingo Contest

- Below are Winter activities that will help you enjoy the season. Fill in the boxes below as you complete them, and be sure to take a photo of each activity.
- FIVE in a row across, down, or diagonally earns a Bingo! When you've earned a Bingo, turn in your photos and Bingo Card by emailing Raymond.Parks@RaymondMaine.org or turn in at our office at Town Hall.
- Bingo cards must be returned by Sunday, March 7th to receive a prize.
- The prize is a raffle entrance for a family season pass membership at Tassel Top Park for the 2021 season!

Please remember to observe proper social distancing guidelines while playing Bingo; travel only with immediate family, allow at least 6 feet of distance between groups of people, and wear masks when you cannot physically distance six feet.

Find the largest rock at Tassel Top Park beach. Nicknamed Big George.	Go on a sledding adventure.	Try ice fishing on a local pond.	Ice skate at an outdoor location if conditions allow.	Find animal tracks in the snow. What kind of animal made them?
Draw a picture of something you've seen at one of the parks or trails.	Show us your best snowball launcher invention.	Take a photo of a beautiful outdoor location.	Snowshoe or hike at Morgan Meadows Preserve. (Take picture with trailhead sign)	Do you snowmobile? Snap a photo of your adventure?
Find evidence of wildlife. (Perhaps footprints, or impact on plants and trees.)	Find the largest icicle at your house.	 FREE SPACE	Catch a winter sunset at Raymond Beach	Build a snowman or snow sculpture.
Snowshoe hike at Raymond Community Forrest. (Take picture with trailhead sign)	Build a cardboard sled out of household materials and test it outside.	Have a snowball fight with a family member.	Find a trail marker or blaze that will help you stay on the correct trail.	Snowshoe at night. (Perhaps under the light of the full moon!)
Hike Tassel Top Park trails. (Take picture with the Tassel Top Sign)	Make a snow angel.	Join Snowshoe Day with Loon Echo Land Trust and RPR on March, 6th from 9am - 12pm at Raymond Community Forrest.	Build a marshmallow snowman.	"Paint" on the snow. Fill up 2-3 squirt bottles with water add drops of liquid gel food coloring. Use the snow as a canvas!

FMI and to download release form visit: www.Raymond.RecDesk.com or call 655-4742

Snowshoe Day At Raymond Community Forest

WHEN: Saturday, March 6th

TIME: 9:00am to 12:00pm

WHERE: Raymond Community Forest (Trail Head)

Description: Loon Echo Land Trust and Raymond Parks and Recreation Department are teaming up to have families try snowshoeing for FREE! We will have snowshoes available to use on the trails from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Please remember to observe proper social distancing guidelines while participating; travel only with immediate family, allow at least 6 feet of distance between groups of people, and please wear a mask when you cannot keep 6 feet apart.



DID YOU KNOW?

Several years ago, the town set up a community assistance fund to help residents with the high cost of heating homes in the winter. This fund was designed to target working people who fell outside of the general assistance guidelines and would be funded by donations from fellow citizens.

Many residents have contributed over the years, continuing its vital role in helping those in need. Since its conception, the fund has expanded and assists with utilities and basic needs as well.

Last summer, this fund was also used to help with the Backpack program that offered weekly groceries to families in need while school was not in session.

To contribute please send a check made out to Raymond Community Assistance to 401 Webbs Mills Rd, Raymond ME 04071.

Raymond Fire and Rescue THANK YOU!



Connor Galvin, FF/EMT, demonstrates the new Lucas Tool "Thumper". The Raymond Fire/Rescue Department extends their sincere thank you to all who donated and made this purchase possible!



GET OUTDOORS! Spending time outside increases attention span, reduces stress, and just makes you feel good!

For information on area trails to explore this winter visit: www.loonecholandtrust.org/news/winterrecs/

*The trails and preserves listed on the website have plowed parking areas thanks to the support of Loon Echo Land Trust donors and generous local businesses.

Attention residents 70 & older COVID-19

Vaccines are now being offered!

Some of the local sites are listed below - but please note all are still waiting to receive vaccines at this time.

Our recommendation for those over age 70 is to call the numbers below and try to secure an appointment. We understand the frustration many are having in trying to find a site to get your vaccine- all we can say is keep trying!

There is NO out of pocket charge for the vaccine, but you are asked to bring your insurance card if you have one.

- Bridgton Hospital- call 207-520-2917
- Central Maine Medical Center - call 207-520-2917
- Maine Health- call 877-780-7545
- St. Mary's Hospital - call 207-755-3100
- Northern Lights Sites- call 207-204-8551
- Walmart pharmacies may also receive doses in the next few weeks.



Virtual St. Patrick's Day Concert with Jennifer Armstrong

March 17th at 6:30pm via Zoom



Jennifer has spent her life writing, singing, and making music with fiddle, bagpipe, banjo and words. She is a storyteller, singer, instrumentalist, poet, and published author.

She works as an artist-in-residence in folk arts, storytelling and writing as well as a private teacher and a performer across the country. Jennifer was a featured teller at the National Storytelling Festival in 1998 and 2010, has been heard on NPR and has music recordings and published books to her credit.

Join us via Zoom on St. Patrick's Day, as Jennifer shares her Scottish border clan heritage in a program of mouth music, ballads, bagpipes, fiddle, and Celtic tales.

FMI or to register for this free Zoom program, please contact the library at 207-655-4283.

ABOUT BROWNTAIL MOTHS – Part 2

How to identify winter webs and steps to take to avoid reactions

Browntail moths spend the winter as colonies of caterpillars in white silk tightly woven around a leaf or leaves in trees or shrubs. These webs can contain 25 to 400 caterpillars, and are spun in the early fall, and remain firmly attached to the tips of small branches all winter. Their webs are often confused with silken structures formed by other less serious species of moths, so be sure to identify the web correctly before taking action.

BROWNTAIL PRECAUTIONS

- Avoid places heavily infested by caterpillars
- Take a cool shower and change clothes after activity that might involve contact with hairs
- Dry laundry inside during June/July to avoid hairs getting onto clothing
- Use caution cleaning debris left by caterpillars because the toxin is extremely stable and remains a hazard for several years.
- In heavily infested areas, wear respirator, goggles, and coveralls (tightly sealed at neck, wrist, and ankles)



Photo credit: maine.gov

BROWNTAIL WINTER WEB DESCRIPTION:

- 2-5 inches (5-10 cm) long
- white silk tightly woven around a leaf or small number of leaves
- string of white silk tying leaf petiole to twig
- small brown hairy caterpillars inside dense silk web
- on branch tips of oak, apple, crabapple, cherry, shadbush and rugosa rose (occasionally other trees as well)