
The Hermon Connection

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Improvements at Jackson Beach and the boat landing facility have been completed except for paving. The paving project should be completed within the next few weeks. The project includes a new bathroom facility, new dock and improved parking areas and walkways. I hope the citizens continue to use the facility and help keep it in good and clean condition. The improvements were made possible due to grant funds received from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry totaling \$100,198 and funds from the Recreation Enterprise Account.



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If you have a news story or article for publication in the next edition of *The Hermon Connection*, please send it to:
scottwl@hermon.net
date for submissions:
August 21, 2015

TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE



At the time this article was being written the Legislature was in the process of overriding sixty-three of the Governor's line item vetoes in order to adopt a state budget for the 2015-2017 Biennium. Based on recent legislative updates, I do not believe there are going to be any significant legislative changes for the 2016 fiscal year that will affect the municipal budget. The municipal budget was approved at the annual town meeting on June 11, 2015 resulting in a decrease of \$29,612 in comparison to the previous year. The School Budget was approved at a special town meeting held on May 27, 2015 resulting in an increase in local taxes of \$249,433. The result will be an increase in the tax rate of .55 mill or \$55 per \$100,000 of valuation.



Improvements at the Transfer Station, located off the New Boston Road, have been completed. No more demolition debris or metal goods will be disposed of on the ground. Debris is disposed of in roll-off containers and transported to a nearby landfill or recycling facility. The risk of contamination has been drastically reduced. The new leaf and grass clipping composting pad is complete. Beginning July 11, any Hermon resident who has obtained a Transfer Station permit will be able to dispose of leaves and grass clippings at the transfer station free of charge. Leaves and grass clippings must be kept free of debris and loosely dumped on the pad. The composted material will be mixed with loam and used at numerous town projects.



Improvements to Route 2/Billings Road intersection are underway. The project should be completed by the beginning of September 2015. The sidewalk project and improvements to the remaining section of Route 2 will be going out to bid the latter part of the summer and completed by August 2016. The project will include a new sidewalk extending from the Billings Road to the Plaza, new lighting, granite curbing, drainage and shoulder improvements, and new paved travel way. The project will also include three pedestrian crossings each equipped with a pedestrian traffic light. Eighty percent of the new sidewalk will be paid for by a federal grant received from MDOT, fifty percent of the shoulder and drainage improvements will be paid for by a Partnership and Initiative Grant received from MDOT, and one hundred percent of the cost of shimming and overlaying the travel way will be paid by MDOT.

A Partnership and Initiative Grant in the amount of \$500,000 will be received from MDOT to complete improvements to a section of the Fuller Road beginning at the intersection of the Billings Road and extending to the Annis Road, and a section of the Klatte Road beginning at the intersection of Route 2 and extending to the Newburg Road. Both projects are currently under design. Residents will be asked to consider the projects once cost estimates are available. The projects are targeted for the 2016 construction season.

From the Assessing Office

Article By: Ben Birch, Assessor



To All Property Owners:

Starting this summer through fall the Assessing Office will be updating photos of all structures on properties in the Town. These pictures will be added to property files used in the Assessing Office. A Town employee will be taking only exterior photos of all existing structures on each property within Hermon. The employee will have an Official Town of Hermon ID with them. If you have concerns or questions if a person taking pictures of your property is from the Town, please ask to see the ID. Many of the photos may be taken from their vehicle in which they will not need to get out; they may need to just enter into your driveway. However, there will be properties not visible from the street/road in which they will need to walk on your property for photos. The Assessing Office will maintain a daily list of the areas in Town where they will be taking pictures.

Please feel free to contact the Assessing Office if you have questions.

From The Clerks Office

Article By: Ruth Nickerson, Town Clerk

The Town of Hermon recently held its 2015 Municipal Elections. The Special Town Meeting, to consider the School Budget, was held on May 27, 2015. 84 registered voters attended and participated in the meeting, approving all of the warrant articles as they were presented. The School Budget was then offered on the ballot for a booth vote along with the nominees for School Committee and Town Council. The polls were open on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 from 8am to 8pm. 367 voters (.09% of total registered voters in Hermon) took the time to vote, either by absentee ballot or at the polls. Two seats were vacant on both the School Board and the Town Council. There were two nominees for School Committee. Debora Farnham received 286 votes and Teddy Harris had 275. Three Hermon residents were nominated for Town Council. Steve Thomas received 225 votes, Douglas Sinclair, Sr., 207 votes and Donald Pelletier had 187. The election was followed by the Annual Town Meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2015. 33 voters reviewed 21 warrant articles approving the Town's municipal budget for 2015-2016. A big thank you goes out to those who took the time to support Hermon's local government by participating in the election process.

The Town of Hermon has long participated in the tradition of the Boston Post Cane. This tradition was established in 1909 by Edwin Grozier, Editor and Publisher of the Boston Post Newspaper. On August 2, 1909 Mr. Grozier sent letters to 700 Boards of Selectman in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island asking them to be trustees of the 700 ebony, gold topped canes that he had commissioned to be made during the previous year. 431 New England towns responded to Mr. Grozier's letter and received their special cane to be presented as an honor to each town's oldest resident. The recipient held the honor as long as they lived. Upon death, the cane would be awarded to the next oldest resident. A stipulation in the letter was that the Cane would belong to the town and not the resident who received it.

Hermon's original cane is on display at the Town Office. Dorothy Overlock was born on November 6, 1917. She has the current honor of being our oldest citizen and was presented an commemorative cane for her possession. If you were born before 1930 and have lived in Hermon for a significant part of your life, we want to know. Please contact the Town Clerk's office if you or someone you know should be considered to receive the recognition of being a Boston Post Cane holder.

From the Desk of State Representative Roger Reed

127th Legislative First Session



As this first half of the 127th Legislative Session draws to a close, I wanted to express my appreciation to all of the people of Hermon who voted for me to be your voice in Augusta. It is something that I have tried to do with the utmost integrity each day as I have traveled to our state's capitol.

It has been my intent to do what is right, not what is expedient. As with any elected official, I am well aware that every vote that I have cast will not make all of my constituents happy, but I have tried to keep the people that I represent in mind while constantly fighting the pressures to imprudently spend taxpayers' money. Again, it has been a privilege to represent the people of Carmel, Etna and Hermon. Thank you!

Resource Directory for Older People in Maine

The Office of Aging and Disability Services under the Department of Health and Human Services has compiled a useful directory of statewide resources for older people in Maine. From adult day services to educational opportunities, from caregiver support to housing needs, this booklet has it all. To request a copy contact my office at (207) 287-1440, or email me at RepRoger.Reed@legislature.maine.gov and I will be happy to have one forwarded to you.

2015-2016 TOWN COUNCIL/TOWN MANAGER GOALS

At the beginning of every fiscal year, the Town Council is asked to approve goals the town manager and department heads are to address during the new fiscal year. The Town Council began the discussion at their July 2, 2015 meeting for fiscal year beginning 7-1-2015 and ending 6-30-2016. The Town Council will be asked to finalize the list of goals at the July 29, 2015 town council meeting. If any citizen would like to add to the list, you are encouraged to contact a member of the Town Council, Town Clerk or Town Manager and indicate your interest. The information will be shared with the Town Council prior to the adoption of the final list. Here is your opportunity to inform the Town Council of an issue or issues you believe would benefit the citizens of this community. Contact information may be found on the town's website at www.hermon.net or by contacting the Town Manager at 848-1015. The Town Council looks forward to hearing your comments and desires.

1. Continue to work with the owner of the Plaza to develop a new water supply, assist to identify financial support, and complete the project.
2. Administer the Route 2 sidewalk and intersection improvements.
3. Work with the Economic Development Committee to develop an economic development plan and marketing strategy for the community.
4. Administer and complete the financing cost for the project to improve the state owned portions of the Fuller Road and Klatte Road.
6. Implement the 2015-2016 Capital Improvement Plan.
7. Update the Capital Improvement Plan for 2016-2017.
8. Help develop a strategy to bring assisted living units to Hermon.
9. Complete improvements at Jackson Beach.
10. Update the Cemetery Maintenance Plan.
11. Update the Sewer Maintenance Plan.
12. Continue to pursue with the City of Bangor a request to assess a fee for sewer users for maintenance and improvements to the sewer collection system located in Hermon.
13. In partnership with the School Department, pursue plans for space improvements at the Hermon Elementary School for the Hermon Recreation Day and Summer Programs.
15. Continue to work with the assessor to update assessing records for all properties in Hermon.
16. Implement a new Technology Program for town departments including in house mapping and archiving of records program.
17. Continue to work with the School Department to develop a Capital Improvement Plan for school facilities and equipment.
18. Assist the Town Council to update the Charter regarding budget approval process, term limits, and other items of interest noted by the Council and Town Clerk.
19. Pursue long term agreement with Ryder.
20. Update the Highway Improvement Plan.
21. Complete update to the Land Use Ordinance.
22. Prepare specifications and submit RFP seeking a long term contract for maintenance of roads during the winter season.
23. Implement discussion with the City of Bangor and Bangor Water District to determine the capacity and terms for water and sewer extensions.
24. Work with MRC and PERC to identify an option to the PERC facility after April 2018.
25. Work with key public safety personnel and Town Council to develop a long term plan for the delivery of emergency services to citizens in the Town of Hermon.
26. Continue to monitor motor vehicle accidents occurring at the intersection of Route 2/Annis Road/Klatte Road in order to determine whether the current traffic signs are addressing the safety concerns of the traveling public.

27. Market the Town of Hermon by improving the Town's website.
28. Develop a plan for archiving the permanent records for the Town.
29. Develop a training plan for all employees that is affordable and effective.
30. Develop a brand for the Town of Hermon
31. Develop a beautification program for the Town that promotes the Town's image.
32. Implement recommendations provided by the auditor to improve the Town's financial status.
33. Develop the Hermon Recreation Program to be more community focused.

2015-2016 Council Members & Meeting Schedule

July 2, 16, 30
 August 13, 27
 September 10, 24
 October 8, 22
 November 5, 19
 December 3, 17
 January 14, 28
 February 11, 25
 March 10, 24
 April 7, 21
 May 12, 26
 June 23

Tim McCluskey	848-5072
Council Chair	
Alden Brown	974-6765
Council Vice-Chair	
Donna Ellis	944-8794
Doug Sinclair	848-3266
Steve Thomas	975-6141
Bill Scott	735-0371
Anne Freeman	848-3241



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Ms. Sampson Goes to Washington

Article By: Kaarie Burns & Jordan Ryder

Photo By: Kaarie Burns



Our names are Kaarie Burns and Jordan Ryder. We are juniors in Hermon High School's Bridge Year program and were assigned by our history teacher to compete in Maine National History Day at the University of Maine, Orono. The theme of the competition changes each year and this year's theme was Leadership and Legacy. We chose to dedicate our project to Deborah Sampson, the first female of the U.S. military.

The more we researched, the more fascinated we became. We were astonished by the bravery of this woman and her accomplishments. She gave speeches about her war experiences, helped motivate other females into joining the military and advocated for veterans.

Deborah Sampson was a small town farm girl from Plympton, Massachusetts. She frequently read the newspaper where she followed the events of the Revolutionary War. She decided that even though she was a woman, this was her fight too, and wanted to defend her country along with the other soldiers. She knew there was only one way she could do this, so she disguised herself as a man and enlisted in the military under a false name. She went to extreme measures to keep this secret including removing a musket ball in her upper thigh on her own so the doctors would not discover her true identity! We wanted to make our exhibit unique, something that would represent Deborah herself. We built a newsstand and made all of our paperwork look like flyers to symbolize Deborah's love for reading the newspaper.

We were awarded a silver in the state competition and qualified for Nationals to be held near Washington D.C. We reviewed the judges' feedback and decided on ways to improve our project. We took our work to the University of Maine Fogler Library and received expert assistance from professionals there. We also went to numerous teachers and the librarians at Hermon High School for feedback and suggestions. En route to Maryland, we stopped in Massachusetts and visited Deborah's statue, birth place, death place, gravestone, memorial rock, and the local fire department where employees wear Sampson on their patches and included photos of all our stops in our project.

In addition to correcting our project, we had to raise enough money to cover the trip expenses and the competition registration. We did bottle drives, hosted a spaghetti dinner, and solicited donations from businesses. We could not have done this without the help and support of our friends, families, and our teachers.

The trip was a 12 hour drive to Washington D.C. We followed a set schedule for the competition established by the National History Day staff. However, when we had time in between events, we did go sightseeing and did a lot of walking around. We saw the White House, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, WWII Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, and the Korean Memorial. We also met Senators Collins and King with other NHD delegates from Maine! These places along with the competition were spectacular.

National History Day was an amazing experience. Although we did not place, we tried our hardest and had a lot of fun. There were 2,871 entries so we had the opportunity to meet a lot of new people. We traded state buttons with people from all over the nation and met students from different countries including China, Korea, and Guam. This assignment helped us to improve our teamwork and work ethic. We spent countless hours working on our project, and it was all well worth it. We have already started brainstorming ideas for the next competition and cannot wait to see what we come up with!

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Ecotat Gardens

will host its second annual "Art in the Gardens" featuring local artists and artisans on Saturday, August 15, 2015, from 9 am - 3 pm.

The entry fee is \$10.00. 10' x 10' canopy rentals are available for \$20 each.

The complete registration form is available on Ecotat's Facebook page or by email via info@ecotat.org

Questions, please call Carol Brodeur at 478-5644 or Gaynor Reynolds at 848-5946.



Upcoming Events This Summer!

Saturday, August 15



Co-Ed Softball Tournament



5K Run/Walk Race

For more information, visit our website at www.hermon.net or contact the Recreation office at 848-4075.

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Economic and Community Development Report

Article By:

Scott Perkins, Interim Economic and Community Development Director



Hermon is experiencing business investment at levels not seen since the first industrial parks were created on Hammond Street in the 1970's. Business owners are expanding by constructing new facilities and new companies are moving to Hermon seeking larger lease spaces. Some local businesses are out growing lease situations and they are choosing to stay in Hermon by building new facilities while other multiple site business owners are adding Hermon as their newest location. This is an exciting time for our community with many local and regional projects concerning infrastructure underway.

Hermon's competitive advantage continues to be a low mill rate, our convenient location to highway, rail and air systems and quality

municipal services Provided efficiently. Most importantly, the people who live here continue to be our most important resource as they attract business owners and developers looking to invest in an area with a quality workforce.

Covey Physical Therapy- building a new 3000 sq.ft. business in the Village Commercial District on Route 2 in Hermon that will house six examination rooms, a reception area, and a 30'x 23' gymnasium used for treatment. Currently, they are working from a leased space at Morgan Hill Event Center.

Advanced Modifications- this owner was previously a tenant leasing space and has decided to invest in a new building on Hammond Street across from White Pine Road. This new building consisting of 5,640 sq.ft. will provide additional work space when modifications are completed to vehicles for clients with adaptive and special needs. The space will also include a large showroom and office space with meeting rooms.

Maine Construction Group- a new business owned by a Father and Son with a team of construction professionals who can design your home with AutoCAD on the premises while walking you through a remodel, renovation or new home construction project. Ron and Ryan Francis are currently at 60 Freedom Parkway.

Hermon Eye Care- John Hersey, Founder of *Hersey Eye Care* will open his fourth location for eye care services in Hermon on Route 2 in the old *M&K Carpet* building. Construction is underway to remodel the existing building to add four exam rooms, a pre-test room, office space, reception, and waiting area with lab facilities to make 3600 sq.ft. total at completion.

Greenway Equipment- this new addition at the corner of Freedom Parkway and Hammond Street is hard to miss after the old Maine Trailer lot had sat vacant for an extended period. Construction on the selling and display floor is complete which now houses a complete product line of outdoor equipment and attachments.

Dunkin Donuts Commercial Kitchen- a new 15,000+ sq.ft. commercial kitchen serving central and eastern Maine will be constructed at Freedom Park on Elaine Drive. This business will employ between 30-35 individuals who will operate a state of the art kitchen serving all Dunkin' restaurants in the area.

Northeast Restorations- this business (formally of Freedom Parkway) has recently constructed a new 2400 sq.ft. building for operations at 1779 Hammond Street. Employing between 12-15 skilled workers in fire/water restorations and the building trades. They have been a Hermon business since 2009.

Bangor Drive-In-with all new upgrades complete such as bathrooms, concession areas, parking, playground equipment, sound delivery systems, and digital projection equipment including two new projection houses, the Bangor Drive-In presented itself to a preview audience on June 29 for a viewing of Jurassic World. The outdoor theater will feature only first line movies and will play double features most nights on two different screens. The public opening will be July 1st.

Muttnosebest- this brand new business in Hermon has just moved into Pine Wood Park in part of the old Maine Janitorial Supply location. This group does light manufacturing of pet products. Their ingredients come from natural and organic material that mix with fresh scents like blueberries, pumpkins and sea lavender to provide top quality specialty treatments and skin care shampoos for your pet.

Many community projects that contribute to an exceptional quality of life experience are currently underway. Good roads, waterfront park improvements, updated boat launch facilities, cemetery expansions and their associated maintenance plans, transfer station upgrades and community athletic area projects are all examples of Economic and Community development. Upgrading infrastructure for business development and for residential life creates a community that is welcoming and enjoyable to live in. These efforts at the municipal and school administrative levels lead to positive growth issues that cause a stable and skilled workforce to desire Hermon as a place to live.

Recreational Area Improvements- new goal posts, scoreboard for all sports, field drainage improvements and electricity upgrades were provided in large part by Bill Hartt and Friends of Hermon Football. Gardner Construction and Ted McLeod Water Wells also worked to contribute materials and labor to projects at Hermon Recreation facilities this season and their efforts made a large difference!

Three phase power, sewer and water main extension project on Elaine Drive- this project will service the new commercial kitchen at Elaine Drive in Freedom Park and will go out to bid after designs are completed.

Sewer structure design for new business on Hammond Street-directional boring across US Route 2 to the lot at Hammond Street for Advanced Modifications will bring sewer service to the south side of the highway.

Drainage Upgrade at Freedom Parkway Entrance- this drainage project will involve property adjacent to Greenway Equipment within the Town's drainage easement. The clean up includes a connected drainage system design with gravel and loam finish to prevent future maintenance issues.

Lastly, the *Economic and Community Development Committee* met again this month and decided to hear presentations from *Planning Decisions*, *Eastern Maine Development Corporation* and similar firms that can research the statistics required to move forward with an economic development plan. The group was strong in its membership with 13 in attendance. Many of Hermon's competitive strengths and advantages were discussed which lead to formation of a sub-committee for marketing Hermon with a consistent brand and methods for best results.

Do you have questions or ideas to send our way? Call 848-1010 or email SPerkins@Hermon.net



Hermon High JROTC Leads Tour For Foreign Military Representatives

Article and photos by Cadet 2LT Emma Shaw



The Hermon JROTC program received international attention this May as representatives from the Montenegro and United States militaries would appear in one classroom of the ever-growing program at the high school.

The Hawk Battalion gave a tour of the ever-growing program to the guests, led by Senior Army Instructor Major (R) Marcel Fortier and Battalion Commander Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Kyle Barnes. The US and Montenegrin Delegation members viewed the supply and storage rooms, taking a notable liking to the facility's professional appearance.

Montenegro is a Baltic country in Europe that recently applied for membership to the European Union and NATO. It is a member of the United Nations and many other European councils. After Declaring independence from Yugoslavia in 2006, the nation has been rated as an upper-middle class income country, and has partnered with the United States since their establishment.

The delegation expressed an interest in possibly creating a program similar to the American JROTC.

The guests would end their tour in front of the class. Assisted by a translator, Montenegrin representatives asked the group of cadets why the program had become so meaningful to them.

"You enter the high school not knowing how to take yourself out of your comfort zone or how to be a leader for those around you," Cadet Command Sergeant Major Ryan Byers answered, "However, after their time in the program, most cadets know how to accomplish both of these tasks, and do them well."

The Hermon High School JROTC program has over 130 cadets planned for the 2015-2016 school year.

Hermon Key Club Makes A Splash With New Fundraiser

Article and Photos by: Emma Shaw



On May 28th, Key Club members joined forces to bring children, teenagers, and even a few adults together with some old school fun. Lieutenant Governor Matt Nichols prepared and hosted a Water War on the Hermon High School field hockey field, charging a ten dollar admission fee for unlimited water balloons, snacks, and pizza.

With gates opening at 3:15, participants lined up, awaiting the event. Meanwhile, attending Key Club members from around Maine joined in and helped the host school fill up balloons.

The fundraiser, with intentions to raise money for the Kiwanis Eliminate Project, was deemed a success. The president of the Hermon Key Club, Kate Lusignan, noted that it raised "about four-hundred dollars."

The Eliminate Project is a global campaign to end maternal/neonatal tetanus, a disease that often targets children in poor areas around the world. The international assignment has raised over \$100 million US dollars towards the world's leading preventable cause of mental retardation.

Nichols hopes this is not the last time the school hosts a Water War, and anticipates its annual return. Some changes he hopes to make? "We need way more water balloons next year," he mentioned, after the three-thousand filled for the event were diminished by eager customers.

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15th Annual Lobster Bake

Sunday, August 16, 2015

1:00-5:00



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Snowmobile Club
Bog Road, Hermon

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\$13 per ticket and extra lobster \$7

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Gardens and Arboretum *Article by: Gaynor Reynolds & Avery Curtis*
Administrative Report 2014

This year marked the most significant transformation of the gardens and grounds in nineteen years. Committed members, volunteers and trustees gave generously of their time, various talents and resources to work toward the goal of opening up the gardens as a colorful and season changing welcome to those who enjoy nature and all it offers whether walking, sitting on one of the many benches to enjoy the view or to read, painting, hiking, attending a concert or event, and/or cross country skiing.

Activities included a band concert, "Art in the Gardens" organized by AMP (Art Minded People) who meet in the gardens to paint, and both a hydrangea and balsam fir wreath workshop. The "Art in the Gardens", held as part of Hermon's August Summer Sizzler Bicentennial celebration, featured artists and artisans from near and far. This event was well received and plans are to invite more artists next year. Craig Colson and Lindsey Mills with Channel 7/Fox 22 returned to Ecotat for a live news broadcast on August 9.

In June a 42" Cub Cadet lawn mower was purchased from Freedom Power Equipment.

The following individuals and/or businesses are recognized and thanked for their much appreciated contributions to the continued growth of Ecotat: Boy Scout Troop #25 of Hermon, Mrs. Ann Cliff, Dead River Company, Ellie's Daylilies of Unity, Fed Ex, Freedom Power Equipment, Girl Scouts, Brownies and Daisies with Troops #1285 and #1340 of Hermon, Mr. Geoffrey Gratwick, GreenCare, Hermon Fire Department, Hermon Meadows Golf Course, Hermon High School football team, Hermon Public Works, Mrs. Denise Kimball, Landscape Supply, Lanham Blackwell & Baber, Means Wealth Management, Modern Woodmen of America, Pottle's Transportation, Mrs. Karen Schacht, Thomas Tax, Town of Hermon.

Garden Report 2014

The work at the garden resumed in 2014 after much of the snow had melted. Shrubs were ordered over the winter for planting in the cathedral. A work session was planned in March but once on site, volunteers agreed the snow was too deep to work. Lots of trees, mostly around the Cathedral and the Route 2 gardens, had been cut down in place. A mother turkey nicknamed "Bertha" had made a nest and laid eggs in the garden brush, and it was agreed to wait for the eggs to hatch before bringing in an excavator. The work began with cutting the trees into smaller pieces. The branches were then hand dragged to large piles in the area between the Cathedral and Annis Road for burning. The logs were stacked and volunteers picked up loads to use as firewood. With the help of Tim Schoppe and his excavator, the piles of brush were consolidated into larger piles and burned with supervision of the Hermon Fire Department.

The majority of the dwarf Alberta spruce and blue spruce hedges in the Route 2 garden were cut, dragged and piled to the side for later removal.

Once the brush and logs were removed from the Cathedral, removal of all the stumps began. Stumps were uprooted, had excess soil shaken off, piled and removed off site. The soil was groomed and smoothed for future planting. The garden next to the Cathedral, now known as the "Bridge Garden," had many trees removed except for a large, healthy red pine that was labeled as part of the Tree Trail. This area was landscaped into a new garden planted almost exclusively with plants donated by GreenCare when this Route 2 nursery closed. The garden contains a walking path which leads to a small bridge built over a small 'bog' that is intended to hold excess rain water and contains moisture loving plants. A large rock was unearthed from the area and used as a landscape feature in this new garden. A bench was relocated into the Oval garden facing the Cathedral. The garden was a delight to visitors who commented on this addition.

The Oval garden was rejuvenated by removing overgrown perennials and replacing them with new varieties to add color and increase the number of specimens. The gardens were edged and topped with a fresh layer of wood chips. A new garden was created in the center of the Oval, replacing the old center which had been overgrown with dying trees and shrubs. This garden was sponsored by Lanham Blackwell & Baber, Bangor attorneys who funded a majority of the supplies, and contains a water feature fountain that flows up through two grindstones, one being handmade on site with concrete. Water spills over the grindstones and falls into a grate covered reservoir covered in river stone to give the appearance of water disappearing. An underground electrical trench to power the foundation was hand dug by a volunteer. The garden features a weeping crab-apple, three tree peonies, three rose bushes and various perennials selected in honor of Sam Lanham and his love for gardening. The area was edged and mulched from a donation made by Landscape Supply Center of Hermon. A plaque is planned to designate the garden in honor of Sam Lanham. A plaque in memory of Howard Crosby, which was donated by the Bangor Nature Club, was removed from a damaged bench. This plaque was mounted on a new bench, which was then placed at the outer edge of the Oval. Many new butterflies, hummingbirds and pollinating insects were seen frequenting the Oval.

An area behind the Crosby House was used to house many donated perennials and shrubs. The area also received two cold frames constructed by Rylee Cushman of Hermon Troop #25 as his Eagle Scout project. The cold frames were put to use housing cuttings donated by the University of Maine botanical garden.

The Fairy garden was cleaned and weeded by a Boy Scout and his grandfather. The Fairy garden is undergoing construction to improve old features that have weathered.

The daylily beds continued to grow with donations made by a local breeder and a daylily farm from Unity, Maine -- Ellie's

Daylilies. Many new cultivars were added. A second daylily bed was created at the north edge of the gardens to house a second, larger donation made by Ellie's Daylilies later in the season. A plaque is planned to thank the owners for their donations.

The Butterfly garden was planted with annuals and a few perennials grown from seed. The garden was periodically weeded over the summer. The plants received many nice comments.

A river birch damaged by the winter was cabled together to prevent further damage. The gardens were treated for poison ivy.

The Cathedral garden was replanted with shrubs that had been ordered over the winter. The garden was mulched with wood chips, excepting an area left open for the excavator to resume work in the spring. It was watered using new, donated garden hoses. The Herb garden in the center of the Cathedral was also spruced up with heavy weeding, edging and fresh mulch. Fresh rock and a large concrete urn with colorful flowers were added to the center area. An overgrown dogwood shrub was removed. The plants responded very well to the abundance of sunshine that had previously been shaded by the outer spruce trees. A rare tree peony was donated and added to the Cathedral in the fall. The yellow tree peony from the Route 2 garden was dug, divided into two plants with one planted in the Cathedral and the second in the Bridge garden.

The pink Breast Cancer garden was weeded and mulched. New plants were added periodically throughout the summer, including three donated 'Remember Me' hosta bred in honor of breast cancer victims.

For the first (and hopefully last) time, vandalism occurred with spray paint on various signs, structures and rocks. The vandals were soon caught, have sanded one sign to remove the paint and paid for the cost to replace another. They volunteered until cold weather caused all volunteering to cease but will continue come spring until the hours required by trustees are met.

A large wooden cedar pole was added to the center of the small, circular Siberian iris bed near an entrance to the Oval. The pole is for two American bittersweet vines to climb, one of which is a rare variety that is self fertile and produces larger berries than the species. It's named "Autumn Revolution."

The remaining perennials located in the Route 2 garden were transplanted into a holding bed near the river birch. All shrubs of value were marked in place in anticipation of the excavator's arrival to remove the remaining stumps. Plans are in place for a new garden featuring a pergola.

Various trees and shrubs were pruned throughout the garden, including a majority planted around the Crosby house.

The Purple Iris Foundation donated two bearded iris to the gardens. The Peony Society of Maine donated two award winning peonies which were planted in the Oval.

Volunteers came to all of the Wednesday night meetings and a few new regulars joined in the fun.

In the fall work began on removing a line of spruce trees that ran through the garden. The excavator used this route to work its way to the front of the garden. Another burn pile was made. The project will continue next year.

Construction started on a cold hardy cactus and succulent garden next to the Butterfly. Gravel was brought in to form a desert-like environment. It was constructed to look like a natural area where cactus and drought tolerant plants would grow. Plans are to order more specimens.

The annual fall cleanup was held October 25 and many volunteers and Girl Scouts were present on "Make a Difference Day." The gardens were cut back and cleaned up for the winter. The fountain was turned off and the pump stored in the Guy Brown building. A lunch was served after the work.

2014 was a productive year for the gardens!

John Snyder, Chairperson - Jojo Brigham - Roger Raymond - Tim Schoppe - Curtis Kimball
John Selleck - Tony Reynolds - Barbara Cardone - Gaynor Reynolds

_____ I would like to become a member of / renew my membership to Ecotat Trust for 2015.

_____ Individual \$15 _____ Family \$25 _____ Donor \$50 _____ Sponsor \$100 _____ Lifetime \$1,000

Checks should be made payable to Ecotat Trust and mailed to P.O. Box 6233, Hermon, ME 04402-6233.
Ecotat is a 501 (c) (3) organization.

Please print:

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Date _____



A Magnolia tripetala tree (commonly known as the Umbrella magnolia) is located to the east of the Crosby House.

Photo By: Gaynor Reynolds

Postal Customer

So You Think You Know Hermon (then and now)



Answer to May Question:

During a Town Meeting there were 2 major items that were discussed and approved, which still exist today, though many changes and updates have happened to both, they were and still are intended to help shape the growth and children of the community. The major items were the adoption of the first zoning ordinance and the formation of the first recreation committee.

The year was 1958

Thirteen to Two

By: Douglas J Plenge

Me and my friend Jeb, one day,
Were sitting around with nothing to say.
When the good old topic of baseball came up,
Jeb's ears suddenly perked up.
He said, "Doug, there were many great teams
All through these year.
Some made you laugh and some
Caused you tears.
Some were all black,
Some were all white,
Some were good hitters,
Some were a fright.
But if you had to name the team,
Who would be the best in your dream?"
I said, "But to pick out one team, Jeb,
This would be hard to do."
Jeb said, "Just one team will do."
The greatest team I ever saw play
Lost the game the other day.
The hope and dreams to do the best they could do,
Even though they lost - thirteen to two.
But the baseball field broke out with applause,
Even though my team lost.
Little League Baseball!
That's where to be!
That's the best team
I ever did see, don't you agree?

