
The Hermon Connection

Vol. 22 Issue 2 • March 2016

HHS Students Meet Maine Astronaut at MSMA Fall Conference

Article By: Gaynor Reynolds

Photos By: Brian Walsh

On Thursday, October 22, Hermon High School students, senior, Madalyn Jackson and junior, Michael Lana had the opportunity to attend the Maine School Management Association Fall Conference with representatives from the Hermon School Committee. In addition to attending sessions on drop-out prevention, drug abuse, proficiency based education, and meeting the new Commissioner of Education, Dr. William Beardsley, the students had the opportunity to listen and meet with the key note speaker, U.S. Navy Captain (and former SEAL team member) and NASA astronaut, Christopher Cassidy - from York, Maine. Captain Cassidy shared with the group his journey from high school student in Maine to his six months on the international space station. The students as well as the adults found Captain Cassidy's presentation entertaining and informative. Four years ago, Hermon High School was fortunate to host Captain Cassidy as part of our cultural enrichment seminar program.



Hermon High School junior, Michael Lana and U.S. Navy Captain and NASA astronaut Christopher Cassidy.



Hermon High School Senior Madalyn Jackson and U.S. Navy Captain and NASA astronaut Christopher Cassidy.

Town of Hermon
Roger Raymond
Town Manager
PO Box 6300
Hermon, ME 04402
207-848-1010
Fax: 207-848-3316
raymondrr@hermon.net
www.hermon.net

The Hermon Connection

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
Deadline for submissions:
April 20, 2016

Reminder

As set by the Town Council, all tax payments will be due in full by April 1, 2016.

Town Manager's Report

A great deal of time has been spent these last few months considering several options available to dispose of the Town's municipal solid waste (MSW) once the PERC contract expires on April 1, 2018. The options include the Municipal Review Committee's (MRC) choice, Fiberight, which proposes to build a \$75 million anaerobic digestion (AD) facility off the Coldbrook Road in Hampden, PERC which would continue to operate its current facility in Orrington, EcoMaine which operates an incinerator and recycling facility in the Portland area or any of the above options after removing the recyclables from the waste stream.

Regardless of the option selected, the tipping fee currently being paid will increase substantially. The tipping fee at PERC after applying funds from the Tipping Fee Reserve administered by the MRC is \$57.00 per ton. The proposed fees from the options noted above range from \$70 to \$85 per ton. This does not include the transportation cost to the facilities. Also, because of the high risk associated with the PERC and Fiberight facilities, increases in the tipping fee above annual CPI during the term of the contracts are inevitable.

The following is a brief comparison of the PERC and Fiberight options:

Topic	MRC Agreement	PERC Agreement
Parties	"Joining Member" and MRC	"Municipality" and PERC
1. Term of Agreement	Section 2.1. 15-year Initial Term with up to five 5-year Extension Terms (on 12 months' notice, subject to MRC termination or Fiberight decision not to extend) for up to 40 years total.	Section 6 and Schedule A. Begins April 1, 2018 and there are two options: 10 years or 15 years, with an automatic renewal for the same duration unless terminated by either party with at least 12 months' notice.
2. Waste Delivery Commitment	<p>Section 3.1. "Joining Member shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the [Fiberight] Facility under the Master Waste Supply Agreement on an exclusive basis all Acceptable Waste generated within its borders the collection and disposition of which is under its control."</p> <p>Joining Member and MRC discuss and arrive at an "Estimated Delivery Amount" for annual delivery of Acceptable Waste. No penalty for failure to deliver Estimated Delivery Amount of Acceptable Waste itself, but:</p> <p>-Penalty if Acceptable Waste is diverted to other facilities (Delivery Diversion charge).</p> <p>-If MRC does not deliver 150,000 TPY to Facility, it owes a Delivery Sufficiency Payment to Fiberight and can assess a Delivery Diversion charge on Joining Member.</p> <p>Joinder Agreement calls this a "commitment."</p>	<p>Two differing obligations and an estimate:</p> <p>Section 3.) (a) "The Municipality shall deliver all Acceptable Waste that is generated within the Municipality to the PERC Facility."</p> <p>Section 3.) (c) "The Municipality shall deliver to the PERC Facility the available estimated tonnage of Solid Waste under its direct control; and (2) pay to PERC the tipping fee (the "Tipping Fee") for each ton of Solid Waste delivered by the Municipality to the PERC Facility"</p> <p>Schedule A 3.) Requires Municipality to state an "Estimated Tonnage" – annual tonnage of MSW to be delivered by the Municipality. Parties acknowledge and agree not a guarantee Municipality will deliver minimum tonnage annually. "Estimated tonnage" a "good faith estimate of annual tonnage Municipality believes will be generated within it and is under Municipality's direct control, and is subject to change due to increased recycling." However, "Notwithstanding the fact the Estimated Tonnage is not a commitment" to deliver a minimum amount of MSW to EPRC Facility, "the Municipality acknowledges and agrees" it is signing the Agreement in good faith "and that PERC is relying upon the Municipality's commitment to deliver to the PERC Facility the Solid Waste generated within the Municipality and under its direct control."</p>
3. Tipping Fees and Adjustments	Section 4.1. \$70 per ton plus annual CPI adjustment. No amendment to Tipping Fee without Joining Member authorizes MRC to amend it by amending this Joinder Agreement	Schedule A. 2.) and 4.) 15 years (2018-2033), \$84.36; 10 years (2018-2028), \$89.57, adjust annually by change in CPI; renewal terms are on same basis Contract for fewer than 10 years priced on case-by-case basis at market rate.
4. Existing and New or Expanded MSW Recycling and Reduction Programs	Can continue existing programs but cannot expand programs without approval of the MRC. Regarding organics, must obtain approval from MRC and Fiberight.	No restriction for existing and new or expanded MWS recycling and reduction programs

5. Unacceptable Waste	Section 3.5. Joining Member shall not deliver Unacceptable Waste to the Facility and shall use reasonable efforts to offer local options for household hazardous waste disposal. Joining Member shall pay its full cost for and indemnify and hold harmless MRC and Fiberight from any liability, claim or damage arising from its delivery of Unacceptable Waste to the Facility.	Section 3.) (a) “The Municipality agrees to use its best efforts to avoid delivering any Unacceptable Waste to the PERC Facility and shall not knowingly mix any Unacceptable Waste with Acceptable Waste.”
6. Alternative Waste Disposal Arrangements	Section 6.2. Acceptable Waste that cannot be accepted at Fiberight Facility: 1) between expiration of PERC Agreement and Fiberight Commercial Operation Date is called “Bridge Capacity Waste”; and 2) after Commercial Operation Date, is called “Bypass Waste.” Both go to Backup Facility, Crossroads Landfill in Norridgewock, under 10-year agreement with Waste Management. Tipping Fee for Bypass is same as for Acceptable Waste; for Bridge Capacity, in accordance with Agreement at MRC’s direction.	Bypass Waste goes to Juniper Ridge Landfill (“JRL”) in Old Town; if for temporary EPRC shutdown for maintenance repair, at regular MSW tipping fee; if for PERC permanent closure then at \$60/ton. (However, if MSW goes to JRL because of PERC’s permanent closure, not “bypass” and can only go to JRL if Casella seeks and DEP grants amendment of 81,800 TPY permit limit on MSW or Casella refuses other waste – amount of MSW Casella can accept at JRL is capped.)
7. Conditions to Commencement of Operations -- What happens if insufficient commitment of waste or lack of financing? When?	MRC asks for commitment by May 1, 2016; under site lease, date for closing on construction financing and for commencement of construction is no later than January 1, 2017. Under Master Waste Supply Agreement, if Fiberight fails to commence Commercial Operation before January 1, 2020, that Agreement terminates automatically unless parties agree to extension.	Section 5.) recites that “After signing this Agreement,” such parties acknowledge and agree that PERC requires commitment from other municipalities and private businesses to assure continued operation of PERC Facility. Section 7.) (c). Either party may terminate PERC Agreement if PERC receives insufficient written commitments to deliver Acceptable Waste (but no date by which PERC must secure sufficient commitments).
8. Oversight	MRC is to oversee Fiberight operation.	No MRC oversight role contemplated.
9. Indemnification, Dispute Resolution	<p>Section 8.1 and 8.2. Reciprocal indemnifications.</p> <p>Joining Member to defend, indemnify and hold harmless MRC, each other Joining Member and their members, directors, elected officials, officers, agents and employees against claims resulting directly from any failure by Joining Member to perform fully in any respect, its obligations under the Joinder Agreement.</p> <p>MRC to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Joining Member and its elected and appointed officials, officers, agents and employees from claims resulting directly from MRC’s willful or negligent act or omission, and its failure to perform fully, in any respect, its obligations under the Joinder Agreement.</p> <p>Section 8.5 requires the parties to resolve disputes by good faith informal resolution during 14 days following written notice of dispute, followed by submittal of the dispute to binding arbitration under the American Arbitration Association’s commercial arbitration rules before a single arbitrator, unless they cannot agree, in which case there will be a panel of three arbitrators.</p> <p>Section 8.7 contains a limitation of liability provision that bars a party’s recovery of indirect and consequential damages except for fraud.</p>	<p>Section 8.) Broad reciprocal indemnity; PERC and Municipality each mutually agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other from all loss, liability, damage and expense caused by breach of Agreement, negligent or willful act or omission, or violation of applicable laws, regulations, permits or licenses. Indemnifying party controls conduct of litigation, but no settlement can be entered into without written consent of both parties.</p> <p>Section 9.) (d) limitation on liability - excludes liability for special, incidental, exemplary, punitive or consequential damages</p>

10. Termination	<p>Section 10. Agreement terminates upon expiration of the Master Waste Supply Agreement, but could terminate sooner. Either party may terminate upon event of default of other party that is not cured (no cure period is specified). MRC has a right to terminate on 9 months' notice at end of Initial Term or any Extension Term.</p>	<p>Section 7.) Agreement terminates at end of term as stated in Schedule A unless automatically renewed upon expiration of term; or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Upon parties' mutual agreement; -Upon a party's material breach not cured within 60 days after receipt of notice of breach; -Upon "Deemed Termination" by the Municipality (for failure to deliver all solid waste to PERC Facility); -By either party if PERC receives insufficient written commitments to deliver Acceptable Waste; or -By either party in event of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings. <p>Schedule A. 6.) also provides for early termination by Municipality on 90 days' notice to PERC, but in case of such Municipality Termination or Deemed Termination, but within 30 days must pay amount equal to three times the average annual amount of Tipping Fees paid in the two years immediately preceding termination.</p>
11. Sharing of Rebates	<p>Section 4.0. Under the Master Waste Supply Agreement, Fiberight pays a rebate based on revenues that exceed the revenue attributable to a baseline of 150,000 tons per year; the rebate is paid quarterly to MRC, which, under the Joinder Agreement, manages payment of rebates to Joining Members or offsets rebates against any amounts owed by Joining Members.</p>	<p>None under PERC Agreement, but separate Limited Partnership would be available.</p>

The Town Council will begin to deliberate the issue at the March 24, 2016 Town Council meeting. A decision regarding the Fiberight option must be made by May 1, 2016. No deadline exists with any of the other options. One of the key issues the Town Council has with the Fiberight option includes the Tipping Fee Reserve currently being managed by the MRC as part of the existing PERC contract. The Town has approximately \$500,000 accumulated in the Tipping Fee and Debt Service Reserves. If the Town Council selects the Fiberight proposal all the funds will be transferred to several reserve funds to support the construction and operation of the new Fiberight facility. If the Town Council chooses any other option, the \$500,000 will be returned to the Town which can be used to offset future tipping fees for the option selected.

We encourage the citizens of Hermon to attend the workshops so you can become informed and provide input to the Town Council. We look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 848-1010.

Roger Raymond, Town Manager



735-6662

Complete Lawn Maintenance

Landscaping | Snow Removal
Free Estimate | Fully Insured

207-735-6662



ALLSPORT PERFORMANCE INC.

Everything for your toys!

ATV's • Snowmobiles • Motorcycles

Save up to 35% on discount parts & accessories!

Guns • Ammo • Accessories

BUY - SELL - TRADE

Huge Selection!

207-848-4995

681 Bog Rd. • Hermon, ME

ALLSPORTPERFORMANCE.BIZ / MAINEGUNDEALER.COM

 Find us on Facebook



News from the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office

Article by: Sgt. Bobbie Pelletier

It's that time of year again when everyone has to file their taxes. In past years people have filed their taxes to only find out from the IRS that someone has already filed taxes in their name fraudulently. We would like to share a few tips to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of tax refund fraud.

1. File your tax return as early as possible. If you can beat the criminals to the punch and your legitimate return is filed first, then any subsequent fraudulent return filings will be rejected.
2. Do not provide any personal information in response to requests through email, especially emails that appear to come from the IRS.
3. If a member of your family has passed away during the tax year, file a "final" tax return for that individual as soon as possible. Thieves are notorious for filing returns for deceased individuals.
4. Be suspicious of phone calls from the IRS. If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, request the person's "IRS Badge Number" immediately **and** contact the IRS independently to verify the badge number. The IRS will rarely contact a taxpayer by phone and will do so **only** after many notices have been sent by mail.

You should also be aware of IRS phone call scams. The IRS will not call you and demand immediate payment without having sent you a bill in the mail. The IRS will allow you to appeal any amount you may owe. They will not require you to pay your taxes in a certain way, such as a prepaid debit card. They will never ask you for your credit or debit card numbers over the phone. The IRS will also never threaten to have the police or other agencies arrest you for not paying your taxes.

If you believe you have been a victim of an IRS scam or have any questions about suspicious activity involving the IRS, please contact the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office at (207) 945-4636 and we will gladly assist you and help you with any questions you may have..

From the Captain's Desk

Article By: Chandler Corriveau
Captain, Hermon Fire Dept.



2015 marked another busy year for the Hermon Fire Department averaging 240 calls for service. Although this is a decrease from the previous year, we responded to more fires. We saw a 17% increase in building fires (33) and 26% increase in fires overall (58). 2015 was also another deadly year for Maine residence, with 19 fire deaths, most of these preventable, if working smoke detectors would have been installed or working properly.

The Hermon Fire Department would like to remind everyone to test your smoke detectors monthly and those smoke detectors older than 10 years need to be replaced. You should have working smoke detectors installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home. The department has both smoke and carbon monoxide detectors available. If you have questions or need help with an installation please call the department to set up an appointment at 848-5986.

As a reminder, the Fire Department is a combination department providing day time coverage Monday through Friday 7 am to 5 pm with two career firefighters and supplemented by paid on-call firefighters. Someone is not always in the station, especially at night or on the weekends. If you have an emergency please call 911.

The start of the New Year turned out to be a busy one with 22 calls for service in January. Also the department was very proactive procuring funds from grants through several different agencies to purchase new equipment. We received a total of \$1,425.00 dollars from the Maine Forest Service Grant which will assist us in purchasing new communications pagers and class A foam. We also received \$2,433.51 dollars from the Emergency Management Performance Grant through Maine Emergency Management Agency which will allow us to purchase new radio communications equipment and supplies for the Town's Emergency Operations Center.

We are always looking for new members, no experience is necessary. You must be at least 18 years of age, live within a reasonable distance of the Town, hold an active Maine driver's license with no significant violations and no criminal record. Being a member of this department is very rewarding but is a major commitment and requires a considerable amount of time. Most of our members provide five to ten hours of service each week responding to emergencies and attending weekly trainings.

If you are interested in becoming a valuable member of this department or have questions, please contact us by calling 848-5986 or emailing firechief@hermon.net



Hermon Business News!

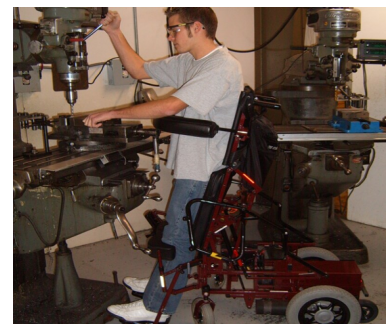
Advanced Modifications, Inc. has moved to a new location at Hammond Street in Hermon! Previously located in the Coldbrook Park, Gina Bennett decided to move from lease to ownership and invest in Hermon with a new building directly across from Pinewood Park at 1766 Hammond Street. This move has increased opportunity for her business to showcase adaptive equipment that improves the quality of life for individuals seeking greater mobility.

Advanced Modifications understands that their customers have unique needs and preferences. AMI offers a wide array of specialty vehicle sales and services to both individual consumers and commercial customers. Providing personalized service that focuses on meeting the unique needs of each customer is key. "Our goal is to work with customers, over time, building a relationship that serves them now and in the future", says Gina.



With a modern showroom that encourages customer interaction with the equipment, customers can get acquainted with the products that will satisfy their unique and individual needs. Advanced Modifications focuses on providing motor vehicle adaptations in conjunction with agency referrals and support services so that Maine individuals, community by community, may gain freedom while safely, enjoying independence on the road.

Advanced Modification's new location also hosts a support group for the region called *Alpha One Disabilities Peer Group*. Discussions with guest speakers cover wide and varied topics related to services and supports for people interested in increased mobility. The guest speaker in March will be Scott Liesch who is a Standing Wheelchair Specialist and user, representing *The Standing Company*, which offers opportunities for certain traditional wheel chair users to be upright and more mobile.



About AMI's service...

Their certified technicians will work with you to make the best choices about vehicle repairs and optimal vehicle performance. With each customer, Advanced Modifications provides an individual evaluation. Options are explained to customers so that functionality, costs, and timing are considered so customers can make the best choices for their families.

Advanced Modifications, Inc.
1766 Hammond Street
Hermon, Maine 04401
<http://AdvancedModifications.com/>
p. 207-848-8226 | f. 207-848-8227



HERMON MEADOW GOLF CLUB



Season Greens Fees Membership

Single \$600
Family \$850
Junior \$200
Senior \$500
Active Military \$500
50 Round Pass \$500

Hermon Meadow Golf Club & Driving Range

281 Billings Road | Hermon, Maine 04401 USA

Phone: 207.848.3741

www.hermonmeadow.net

RUSSELL D. PATTEN INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC

Family Owned & Operated Since 1952

PERSONAL

- Auto
- Homeowners
- Motor Homes / Campers
- Snowmobiles
- Boats
- Life / Disability
- Mobile Homes
- Many Other Types of Insurance

BUSINESS

- Business Auto
- Contractors
- Garage / Auto Dealers
- Apartments / Rental Units
- Workers' Compensation
- Group Health
- Professional Liability
- Bonds

TRUCKING

- Long-Haul Trucking
- Bobtail
- Cargo
- Fuel Oil Dealers
- Logging
- Dump Trucks



848-3326

1-800-365-7440

156 Billings Road, Hermon

www.patteninsurance.com

CALL & COMPARE!

Insurance At The Right Price...
With Low Monthly Payments



"Big Enough To Compete, Small Enough To Personally Serve You!"

Psst! Open a new account for

FREE



Open a new account at our Hermon branch and we'll waive the \$5.00 account fee.*



SEABOARD
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The smart place for your money

Conveniently located in the Danforth Plaza • 2410 Route 2
Hermon, ME 04402 • 207.848.9995 • www.seaboardfcu.com
Open Monday-Friday 8-4:30, Saturday 8-Noon

Proudly serving Hancock, Penobscot, Waldo and Washington Counties with today's most advanced financial services.

*When you present this ad, Seaboard FCU will deposit \$5.00 to open your new account. Membership eligibility required. Offer subject to change without notice.



Danforth's

Down Home Supermarket



We Proudly Carry
Hannaford Brand
Products

\$5.00 OFF

Purchase of
\$50.00 OR MORE

Excludes alcohol, tobacco and
any service desk purchases.

Must present coupon to redeem.

Expires March 19, 2016 PLU # 550

We are a unique locally owned and operated store with
many manager specials that other stores don't have.

Thank you for shopping with us,

Dick & Marly Danforth

DANFORTH'S PLAZA

2402 RT 2, Hermon, ME 848-2181

www.danforthssupermarket.com

THE ASSESSING OFFICE HAS MAILED THE ANNUAL BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY DECLARATION FORMS (706)

READ BELOW TO SEE IF YOUR BUSINESS IS ELIGIBLE FOR THESE MAINE BUSINESS EQUIPMENT PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS

The State of Maine has two business equipment property tax relief programs designed to reduce the burden of personal property taxes that businesses pay. The programs vary based on the date the property was placed in service in the state.

Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program (BETE)

For property placed in service after April 1, 2007, the Business Equipment Property Tax Exemption program applies; commonly referred to as the “BETE” program. The exemption applies to most depreciable business equipment, however, certain items are excluded, such, vehicles subject to excise tax, office furniture, lighting, gambling equipment, and property located at a retail sales facility and used primarily in a retail sales activity. Retail equipment will continue to be covered under Maine’s Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement program, (BETR) as discussed further below.

A BETE application **MUST be filed ANNUALLY** with the tax assessor by April 1 of each year, but an extension to May 1 is automatically granted. Further extensions beyond May 1 will need to be requested in writing to the local assessor.

Filing the BETE application on time is critical, as property will be disqualified from the exemption for any year the report is not considered to be timely filed. The exemption application **MUST LIST ON THE APPLICATION** all eligible exempt property purchased after April 1, 2007 *each year*, not only in the year of purchase. There is no time limit on the number of years the exemption may be claimed, but the business or business owner must apply annually with a completed itemized application of the personal property that the exemption is being requested on.

The BETE Application can be found at the Maine Revenue Services website: prop.tax@maine.gov

Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement Program (BETR)

The BETE program described above is in addition to the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement referred to as (BETR) program. This program applies to eligible equipment first placed in service in Maine after April 1, 1995 and on or before April 1, 2007. Certain retail equipment excluded from the BETE program continues to be eligible for the BETR program (retailers should consult Maine Revenue’s Guidance Document found on the Maine Revenue Services website):

<http://www.maine.gov/revenue/propertytax/propertytaxbenefits/bete.htm>

The BETR eligible personal property definition is essentially the same as for BETE, and can be claimed at 100% of the assessed amount for 12 years. Beyond 12 years the reimbursement rate is reduced to 75% or less of the assessed tax.

There is a two-part process for receiving reimbursement under the BETR program. First, Form 801A (for the first 12 years) or 801B (for subsequent years), Assessor Notification, must be filed with the local assessor. The assessor has 60 days to complete the form. Second, Form 800, Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement Application, is filed by the taxpayer with the State along with the completed Form 801. The State releases these forms August 1st of each year. The reimbursement program is for taxes paid in the prior year, which means payments made in 2015 may be reimbursable between Aug. 1st through December 31st, 2016. Form 800 must be filed with the state by December 31, 2016.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AND VETERAN EXEMPTION FILING DEADLINE IS APRIL 1, 2016.



Better Homes
and Gardens.
REAL ESTATE

THE MASIELLO GROUP

RENÉE JARVIS - REALTOR®
reneejarvis@masiello.com

Mobile 207-631-8081
Direct 207-812-7135
Office 207-942-6711

www.masiello.com

LICENSED IN ME

1162 Union Street
Bangor, ME 04401

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

Elections

Article By: Ruth Nickerson

The Town Council has three seats that expire June 30, 2016, and the School Board has two. If you are interested in serving your community and would like more information about what serving as an elected official in Hermon is about do not hesitate to contact me at (207) 848-1010.

Nomination Papers will be available in my office on March 11, 2016. Candidates are required to obtain 25 supporting signatures. Those signatures are due back by 5:00pm on April 22, 2016.

Alumni News

Article By: Sharon Nickerson

The Hermon Alumni Association will meet at the home of Hattie Stickney, 575 Newburgh Road, on Sunday, March 13 at 1:00pm. Plans are being made for the 11th Annual Reunion to be held July 15, 16 & 17, 2016. This year promises great changes to the reunion format. We need at least 8 people to assist with developing a program book to include stories, alumni information and advertising. Please come and help. For more information contact Karen Higgins at (207) 852-6299 or email at khiggins@email.com.

We need YOU!

Morita's School of Dance *Est. 1968*

207-848-5083
msdancestudio68@hotmail.com
moritasschoolofdance.net
2256 Route 2, Hermon, ME 04401



**Registration for summer classes
and camps are now being take.**

Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Pointe, Hip Hop, Contemporary,
Yoga, Ballroom, TRX, Acro/Tumbling, Mommy & Me,
Zumba, Zumba Toning & Zumba Gold

**Low cost inspection
of your audio equipment**

**Public Address,
Amps, Tubes,
& Musical
Equipment Repair**



We offer testing, evaluations, repair & more.
We can come to you or stop by our shop.

**Give your old equipment some new life
and enjoy that great sound again!**

Contact Miguel at:
207-848-8207 or MBasaldua2854@gmail.com

facebook.com/audiomaine/
A Maine Veteran Owned Business

COMMUNITY PHARMACY OF HERMON NOW OPEN!

Visit us now **inside** Danforth's Down Home
Supermarket in Hermon!



New patients always welcome!
We will make transferring your
prescriptions here easy!

www.communityrx.com

Community Pharmacy of Hermon
Inside Danforth's Down Home Supermarket
2402 U.S. Route 2, Unit 1
Hermon, ME 04401
Phone: 848-5020
Fax: 848-3909

Hermon Community Holiday Party 2015

Article By: Janice Clain



The Hermon High School Student Leader Panel, a group of class and club officers, hosted their annual Holiday Community Party on Saturday, December 19. This was their sixth event, and they continue to add activities for local children Pre-K to fourth grade. They sent announcements of the event through the schools in Hermon, Carmel, Levant and the Hermon Rec Program. Student leaders and their advisors planned a variety of activities that included crafts, games, a short film and a visit with Santa. They solicited help from other high school students, who could earn community service credit by their participation. The children decorated cookies, made reindeer food, colored holiday pages, created Christmas craft ornaments, won cupcakes in a cake walk, and bowled, a favorite. They watched a short holiday video, then wrote letters to Santa. They listened to Santa read “Twas the Night Before Christmas,” then personally delivered their letters to the big guy in red. A large group of high school students monitored

activities and worked hands-on with the little ones to help them create their holiday treasures and navigate between activities. Each child left with a bag of treats for themselves and their families. The high school volunteers had as much fun as the little ones, and look forward each year to helping with the event.

The Student Leader Panel is pleased with its efforts, and is looking forward to next year with even more activities.



from left to right: Neily Raymond, Hermon Middle School Principal Jerry Kiesman, Brooklyn Brown, Kaden Nevells, Maddie Baker, Isaac Parent, Malaya Jelks, Senator Gratwick, Gabe Sherman, Alex Kivell, Kathleen Thayer, and Parker Pettingill.

“The Senator’s Corner”

Geoff Gratwick, District 9, Hermon and Bangor

I had the pleasure of hosting a group of students from the Hermon Middle School and their principal, Mr. Kiesman, last month at the Senate. They were honorary pages for our morning session – that is, they assembled at the front of the Senate chamber and carried messages to and from the Senators and staff.

Hustle and bustle marks our work on legislation. Pages are a holdover from earlier times when we were not all plugged in electronically. Seeing them at work is a reminder that communication is essentially personal: the message, the messenger, writer and recipient are all essential parts of governing. Student pages play an important role.

Whenever possible I recommend that older students also attend committee hearings and work sessions. Committees convene at 1:00 p.m.

most afternoons - after everyone has had the chance for a nice lunch in the Cross Café.

At the committee level you witness democracy in action - the back and forth, the substantive discussions, proposals and rebuttals, agreements and disagreements. Sometimes the issues are obscure and tedious but most often bills focus on the central issues we read about daily. Students can see that governing is hard work and requires careful attention. In a committee anyone can testify, students included.

Committee discussions are polite, respectful, orderly, and focused. Political rhetoric is infrequent, recrimination rare, bad behavior almost non-existent. To be sure there are disagreements because democracy requires that everyone listen to a wide variety of points of view. Well-argued alternative points of view make the legislature’s decisions better and all of our lives richer. Constructive debate is the crucible where we create a democracy that serves us all, regardless of income, influence or involvement.

Reports of discord in the Legislature enchant the media. Please remember: sometimes the purpose of a media story is to sell newspapers and TV spots.

A visit to the Capitol is a great opportunity for Maine students to see up close and personal how government really works. Their generation is soon going to be in charge; their votes will count and their voices will determine our future laws. Call 287-1515 or email me at ggratwick@gmail.com if you, or a young person you know, would like to join me at work.

**Save
The
Dates**



**Save
The
Dates**

Senior Citizen Community Meals

Where: Hermon Elementary School
When: 3rd Wednesday of each month
Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Fee: \$3.00 per person

Reservations please:
 Contact the Rec office at 848-4075
 or email mthayer30@gmail.com



Wednesday - March 16
 Chicken Alfredo
 Green beans, bread, cake
 RSVP by March 11

Wednesday - April 20
 Eggs, bacon, sausage
 Home fries, muffins
 RSVP by April 15



Adult and Community Programming

2016 Spring Session



Contact us:

Hermon Recreation Depart.
 Michelle Thayer
 Parks & Recreation Director
 PO BOX 6300
 Hermon, Maine 04402

Email: mthayer30@gmail.com
Office Phone: 207-848-4075

*Watch your mailboxes for the
 informational flyer!*

Register online at www.hermon.net
 beginning March 21 for the
 spring session to start in April.



Tackle Football Informational Meetings



Do you have a child in grades 3 thru 8 that is
 interested in being part of our tackle football
 program? If so, please attend one of
 our informational meetings.

Dates and times are noted below.

Wednesday, March 16
 6:30 @ Susanne Smith Elementary
 School

Wednesday, March 30
 6:30 p.m. @ Hermon Middle School

Wednesday, April 13
 6:30 p.m. Caravel Middle School



**Summer is
 coming...**

Hermon Recreation
 is now accepting
 applications for our
 'Summer Program'
 For children in grades
 K thru the 6th Grade

*Register early...
 spots will fill up fast!*

Forms available on:
www.hermon.net

Summer Rec will begin
 the week of June 13

Field trips along with daily
 enrichment & fitness
 activities with a
Professional Staff!

Swimming
 Playground Games
 Field Trips
 Arts & Crafts
 Harry Potter Day
 Popcorn Movies
 Scavenger Hunts
 Olympic Day
 Zumba Kids
 "Kids Choice"
 Picnics
 Special Snacks
 Carnival Day at Sawyer Park

**Come join us for
 some**



**Fun in
 the Sun!**

Postal Customer

Morita's School of Dance

Article & Photo By: Morita Tapley



Front Row: Amanda Bustard, Chloe White, Nicole Peterson
Middle Row: Natasha Call, Rachel McMannus, Ally Scuderi, Meagan Berry, Makayla McKenzie,
Back Row: Hope Grant, Megan Johnston, Erin Kilpatrick, Alex Chamberland, Faith Sickler

Morita's School of Dance will have 13 dancers representing the State of Maine at the 25th Anniversary of Dance Excellence in Anaheim, CA., March 25th to April 2nd, 2016. This is a week-long convention designed for dancers, as they will be taking classes with incredible instructors, compete in the Performance Boards and also perform in Disneyland. The dancers will work with the Young Americans, who come to Hermon HS every 3 years for their amazing workshop for 3rd-12th grades. The 13 dancers range from 10-19 years old. The groups consist of 31 people, including the dancers, family members, assistant director, Denise Knowles and the director, Morita Tapley.

The Dance Excellence Dancers and Stars Dance Team will be performing all of their dance routines on Friday, March 11th, 6:30 PM at the Hermon High School Auditorium. This is open to the public and the admission is a donation at the door. Please come and support these young, talented dancers!

For more info on how to support these dancers or enroll in classes, please call 848-5083 or email at: msdancestudio68@hotmail.com or moritasschoolofdance.net