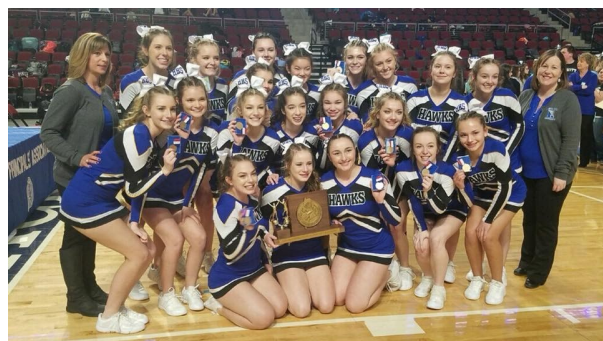
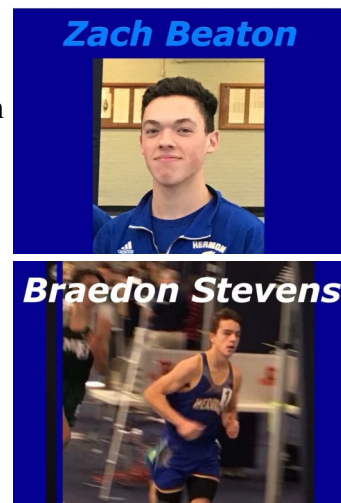


The Hermon Connection

Vol. 24 Issue 2 • Mar 2018

Hermon School Winter Sports

The 2017-18 Winter Sports season will go down as one of the best in Hermon High School history. This winter there were 40 student athletes crowned State Champions. Two individuals from the Indoor Track team won state championships at the State Meet on Saturday, February 18th. Braedon Stevens was the winner of the 800m run while his teammate, Zach Beaton, won state championships in the 55m Hurdles, the high jump, and the triple jump. Zach also won all three of these events at the Penobscot Valley Conference's Eastern Maine Indoor Track League Championship meet. At the PVC EMITL meet Zac was named Outstanding Performer of the Meet.



The Cheerleaders continued their dominance winning their 9th state championship in the last 11 years. The girls also won the Penobscot Valley Conference competition, and the Northern Maine Regional Championship. The girls and their coaches demonstrate an incredible commitment to excellence. With only three seniors competing, the team is prepared to continue their success for years to come.

The most recent state championship team was crowned this past Friday at the Cross Center. For the first time in the school's history the Boys Basketball team won the title by defeating Wells High School 55-34. The boys finished the season with a perfect 22-0 record. The boys used incredible team defense and balanced scoring all year long to win 21 of their 22 games by double figures. In addition to the state championship, the boys were also the Big East Conference Champions and Northern Maine Regional Champions. Hermon Boys Coach Mark Reed, was named Big East Conference Coach of the Year and eclipsed 200 career varsity wins during the season.



Town of Hermon

Howard Kroll

Town Manager

PO Box 6300

Hermon, ME 04402

207-848-1010

Fax: 207-848-3316

krollh@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 23, 2018

Reminder:

As set by the
Town Council,
all tax payments
will be due in full by
April 1, 2018.

From The Town Manager

CONGRATULATIONS!- I want to take this opportunity to commend the Hermon High School Cheering Squad and Boys Basketball team on winning the State Championships! A lot of hard work and dedication went into their preparation and planning and it is paid off! WELL DONE!

RECYCLING COMMITTEE- The Town Council has made forming a recycling committee a goal for FY 2017-18 a reality. The Committee is tasked with looking at recycling options for the Town and to make recommendations to the Town Council to consider implementing. Currently we have 5 containers behind the Public Safety Building that residents can drop off eligible recycling material.

BEST WISHES- Ruth Nickerson, Town Clerk, gave me her resignation on January 24th. Her last day with the Town was Friday, March 2nd. I want to take this opportunity to wish her and her family all best in their future endeavors.

TOWN REVALUATION STATUS- In case you weren't aware the Town is conducting a in-house revaluation of property values across the Town. Each property owner was mailed a 2018 Residential Data Verification Form with hopes of it being returned to our Assessor, Josh Berry. The form is merely used to confirm what your tax card indicates you have for buildings and acreage is accurate. There is no obligation to return the form but if you feel your tax card is inaccurate I recommend you return it and setup a time to meet with Mr. Berry @ 848-1042 to correct your information. I would like to thank Josh and his staff for doing a great job on this project and being available to the public.

WELL DONE!- Patrol Officer Kenneth York of the Police Department recently completed his 18 weeks of basic law enforcement program certification training at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. Congratulations on this achievement!

THANK YOU- I want to take this opportunity to thank the Penobscot Snowmobile Club, Hermon Volunteer Rescue & First Aid Squad, LLC, Capital Ambulance, Penobscot County Sheriff's Department, Maine State Police, Maine Warden Service and Hermon Fire Department for all their efforts and teamwork.

FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE- Mary Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, mentioned the recent Father-Daughter Dance was a sold out event and a huge success! Thank you Morgan Hill Staff, Mary and her staff for making this a memorable event for all those who attended!

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS- Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) recently announced that Union Street, beginning in Levant 0.37 miles southeast of Wagner Road and extending southerly 7.78 miles, ending in Bangor will be paved this summer. This includes the Union Street section of Hermon!

In addition, MDOT is going to do another project in Hermon. This section is on the Coldbrook Road beginning .06 miles northeast of Autocar Lane and extending southeasterly 2.59 miles, ending at Route 202 in Hampden.

Both these projects are important to our road/street inventory and are obvious priorities to the state.

Spring is right around the corner- If you are in need of some time outside during the remaining winter months, I encourage you to use our valuable natural resources! They are some of the best in the state!

More than 295 Veterans, Military Family Members Hired through annual Maine Hire-A-Vet Campaign



This current campaign for those employers participating in 2017's Maine Hire-A-Vet Campaign, hired 296 veterans and military family members during its 100-day initiative. One-hundred-and-fifty-four employers from all 16 Maine counties participated in the campaign, with an average placement wage reported of \$23.16 per hour. The campaign provides support for employers to expand the hiring of veterans, including a network of state and federal agencies, resources and nonprofits, education on military language and culture, assistance with recruiting, hiring, assimilation and retention, and recognition for the hiring and advancement of veterans.

The 2017 campaign's numbers were an increase over the 2016 campaign by six participating employers (148 in 2016), 296 hires (197 in 2016), and reported wages of plus \$0.93 per hour (\$22.23 in 2016). Of the 296 total hires, 275 were veterans and 21 were military family members. Women veteran hires were 52 of the 275 reported (roughly 20 percent). Female veterans make up 10 percent of Maine's total veteran population. Participating employers were not required to hire veterans or military family members they interviewed in order to be a part of the campaign.

Employers or veterans can contact the Maine Department of Labor's Veterans' Program Manager, Auta Main at (207) 623-7975 or auta.m.main@maine.gov for more information or contact their closest Maine CareerCenter. Services offered to veterans through Maine CareerCenters are also available to their military family members at no cost. A list of CareerCenters is available **at** www.mainecareercenter.gov. Don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions at Roger.Reed@Legislature.Maine.gov.



M A R C H

SENIOR PROGRAMMING

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 March 5, 12, 19, & 26 BOWLING 11:00 a.m. Family Fun Lanes 15 Hildreth Street Bangor \$2.50 per game Shoes are FREE	March 13 LUNCH 11:30 a.m. Longhorn Steakhouse RSVP by Mar. 8 (848-4075) March 20 MOVIE 11:10 a.m. Odlin Road Movie is FREE (snacks are not) RSVP by Mar 16 (848-4075) March 27 CRAFT 10:00 a.m. Boulter Place Light snack provided Class is FREE	March 7 BINGO 1:00 p.m. Boulter Place Theme: SURPRISE 2 wrapped items March 7, 14, 21, & 28 WALKING 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. March 21 SENIOR DINNER 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Hermion Elementary \$5.00 per person RSVP by Mar. 16 (848-4075)	March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 BOARD/CARD GAMES 12:00 p.m. Boulter Place FREE	 March 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 SWIMMING 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lura Hoyt Pool in Hampden



Child Seat Safety



Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of unintentional deaths of children under 16 years of age in the United States. The proper use of child restraints (i.e., car seats, booster seats, seat belts) are the most effective methods available to prevent fatalities in a motor vehicle crash.

Upwards of 3 out of every 4 children in child restraints are not properly secured, some not restrained at all. Only consistent and correct use of child safety seats will offer the protection your child's needs. Looking for the "right" safety restraint? To get the "right" seat, choose a seat that fits your child and your car, and be sure to read the instructions carefully, and use the seat correctly on every trip. There are several types of child safety seats, and car seat installation methods for securing these seats to a vehicle. One method is with the use of seat belt systems, lap belts or lap and shoulder belts. Another method is LATCH, which is an acronym for Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children. Remember to NEVER combine installation methods, use seatbelts or LATCH but never both together. Exceptions can only be made if it states specifically to use both in the car seat owner's manual. The best method to use for car seat installation is the method you understand and can install correctly every time (see the four easy steps below).

Car seat Installation, four easy steps:

1. Read the manufacturer's instructions for your car seat.
2. Face the child safety seat in the proper direction.
 - A. Infant seats always face backwards. Baby rides in a semi-reclining position facing the rear of the car.
 - B. Convertible seats face backwards in a semi-reclining position for children. By law, caregivers must follow the car seat manufacturer's weight and height requirements before turning a child forward facing. Recommended best practice, for greater safety, has children riding rear facing as long as the car seat parameters allow.
3. Secure your child snugly in the car seat.
 - A. Always buckle the seat's harness system securely to hold your child safely in the seat.
 - B. The harness strap must be snug, with no excess to pinch the harness strap at the child's collarbone.
4. Secure the child safety seat with a seat belt system OR LATCH.
 - A. Anchoring the seat properly is critical. A seat that is not secured properly to the car can tip over, slide sideways or, in a crash, be ejected from the car.
 - B. The seat belt or lower anchors should be tightened so that the restraint moves less than an inch side to side or front to back at the belt path.

If your child's safety seat is involved in a vehicle crash remember to replace it as the seat may become damaged and not function properly. **Our children are our future so let's keep them safe!**

Hermon Recreation Youth programming

Parent's Night Out

Friday, April 13
6pm - 10pm
Open to grades K - 8 at
Hermon Elementary.
\$15 Registration Fee
Games, Crafts, Open Gym
& dinner offered at the
event.

April Vacation @ Rec

Tuesday 4/17 thru
Friday 4/20
Program open to grades
K - 8 at Hermon
Elementary
from 6:30am - 6pm.
Field Trips and themed
days filled with fun
during school vacations!

Summer Rec Program

Open to Hermon
residents entering
grades K - 6
Part-time and Full-time
packages available for this
8 week program.
Limited space available.
Registration opens 8am
on Saturday, 3/31



**For more information and registration,
please visit www.hermonrec.com**



Open to Hermon, Carmel and Levant residents
Offered to players ages 8-9 and 10-12

Follow Hermon Little League on Facebook where
you'll find a registration link for clinics and
up to date information on try outs for Majors!

Contact Jason Largay with Little League questions: 217-4671

Introducing a new Hermon Business...

Doug Guerrette



When businesses like *Doug Guerrette's State Farm* move to Hermon to own a property and offer professional services they are making a solid investment for the future in Central and Eastern Maine!

Meet Doug and Louise Guerrette...

Doug and his wife Louise are raising three children. Brad is in college at the University of Maine and his siblings Allison and Taylor still attend High School. Both parents work together in their newly renovated location at 1723 Hammond Street. Doug has formed a licensed team with over 50 years of combined insurance experience in Auto, Home, Life, Health and State Farm Banking services.

Doug was born and raised in St. Agatha, while his wife was originally from Fort Kent. After earning his BS in accounting from Bryant University and an MBA from Southern New Hampshire University, he worked in the financial management field before becoming a State Farm Agent in Caribou, September of 2003.

Guerrette's experience in insurance grew rapidly by working as an Agency Field Consultant in South Portland, a State Farm Agent in Houlton, and a State Farm Administrative Leader in Pennsylvania before replacing Dick Hogan at the Bangor State Farm office in 2015.

The new location (formerly *Swagelok*) at 1723 Hammond Street provides a quality professional office setting for Doug's team in Hermon. Quality finishes inside and out transformed the property into an attractive and convenient space for *State Farm* policyholders.

The Town of Hermon is proud to call this new addition one of our professional service providers for residential and commercial insurance needs. Call them today or stop by and welcome them to our community as a new Hermon business member!



Doug Guerrette State Farm

1723 Hammond St, Hermon, ME 04401

Phone: 207-947-4579

Fax: 207-848-0435

www.insurebangor.com

doug@insurebangor.com

Photo from left to right (top: Teresa Eaton, Wes Caparratto, Doug Guerrette,
bottom Tiz Jordan, Louise Guerrette)

Story: Scott Perkins, DECD Director

THE HERMON FIRE DEPARTMENT.....did you know?

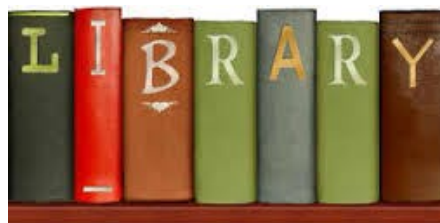
- In 2017 the Hermon Fire Department responded to 352 calls for service. An all time department record but not unexpected given the continued growth of Hermon.
- The month of January saw 36 calls for service. Another monthly all time record.
- As “First Responders” the Hermon Fire Department is automatically dispatched on certain high risk EMS calls to assist the Hermon Volunteer Rescue Squad (HVRS). Our EMTs will respond and assist the HVRS on calls such as heart attacks, strokes, difficulty breathing and multi system trauma. The Hermon Fire department does not provide ambulance service.
- The Hermon Fire Department has two full-time employees. A Fire Chief and a Firefighter/EMT. Both work during the week. Evening and weekend coverage is handled by our paid volunteer members who also respond to calls during the week days as they are available and able to do so.
- We train every Monday night from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Ever had an interest in becoming a firefighter? Stop by on a Monday evening and see what we are all about, and if YOU might be the next member of the Hermon Fire Department!
- Two students from the Eastern Maine Community College Fire Science program “live” at our station during the school year. These student interns receive room and board in exchange for being “on duty” during certain times of the day and on weekends. They are trained as basic firefighters and EMTs. The Hermon Fire Department has for many years been a partner with EMCC in this program.
- Mutual Aid is when fire departments from other surrounding towns and cities responding to assist the Hermon Fire Department on certain call types and is critical to our being able to provide service to our citizens. The Hermon Fire Department both gives and receives mutual aid on a regular basis. Without a robust mutual aid response, Hermon and most of our surrounding communities would be hard pressed to adequately respond to the various emergencies that we see over the course of any given year.
- Want to know more about YOUR Hermon fire department? Please feel free to stop by the station and visit with the firefighters or call us at 848-1046 to set up a time to take a tour! We would love to see you!

Hermon High Library Events

On March 28th Hermon High Library presents OPEN MIKE at the library from 2:30 to 4pm. Please sign up in advance. We will have music and a concentration on poetry. Light refreshments served.

The Library Media Center is open from 2:15 to 6pm during the school year for the residents of Hermon, Carmel, and Levant. To celebrate our community, spring and the love literature, the Hermon High School Book Club is planning a Paint and Tea Party. Teas, Coffees, and Cocoa will be served. Art supplies such as paints and canvasses will be provided. A \$2 donation is suggested. The event is on Wednesday, April 4th from 3pm to 4:30pm. While at this event, if you are interested in using computers, we will have staff available to help you!

Kara Schwartz M.L.I.S
Library Media Specialist
Hermon High School
848-4094



Code Enforcement Department

PATRICIA A. DURAN - SCHOOL ADDITION



The hard work being put in by Dunbar and Brawn's construction crew is really starting to pay off. The weather this winter has been brutal on the crew but that hasn't scared them a bit. They have been working 6, and sometimes 7, days a week to keep this project on schedule and to be ready for the 2018-19 school year. Let's hope some warm weather and sunshine are in the near future, as we can't thank them enough for what they are doing for us!

Assessing Department

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

THE ASSESSING OFFICE HAS MAILED THE
ANNUAL BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY DECLARATION FORMS

Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program (BETE)

For property placed in service after April 1, 2007, the Business Equipment Property Tax Exemption (BETE) program applies; commonly referred to as the "BETE" program. The exemption applies to most depreciable business equipment, however, certain items are excluded, such as, 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. A **NEW** BETE application must be filed **ANNUALLY** with the tax assessor by April 1 of each year, extensions may be granted up to May 1st.

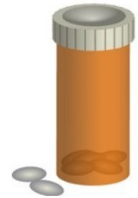
To find more information on the BETE Exemptions and other exemption programs offered you can visit our website at WWW.HERMON.NET/ASSESSING, send us an email at Assessor@Hermon.Net or give us a call at 848-1044 or 848-1042



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The Senator's Corner

Two years ago, the Educational and Natural Resource Committee asked the University of Maine's Mitchell Center to prepare a report on food waste in Maine. Last month, our Committee received an excellent report titled *"Waste is Not the Maine Way"*.

The study found that Americans - and Mainers- waste an unbelievable amount of food. 30% to 40% of the food produced on our farms ends up in the trash. That's the equivalent of going shopping for food, purchasing five bags of groceries, and then throwing two into the trash bin by the door. Here in Maine, the average family of four spends \$1500 each year on food they don't use. This is at a time when one out of six Maine families face hunger or what we now call "food Insecurity."

The study reinforces the importance of the 'food hierarchy' (see diagram) and explores solutions: raising awareness, careful shopping, food donation, waste diversion, and decreasing waste in school lunch programs. It is an excellent read.

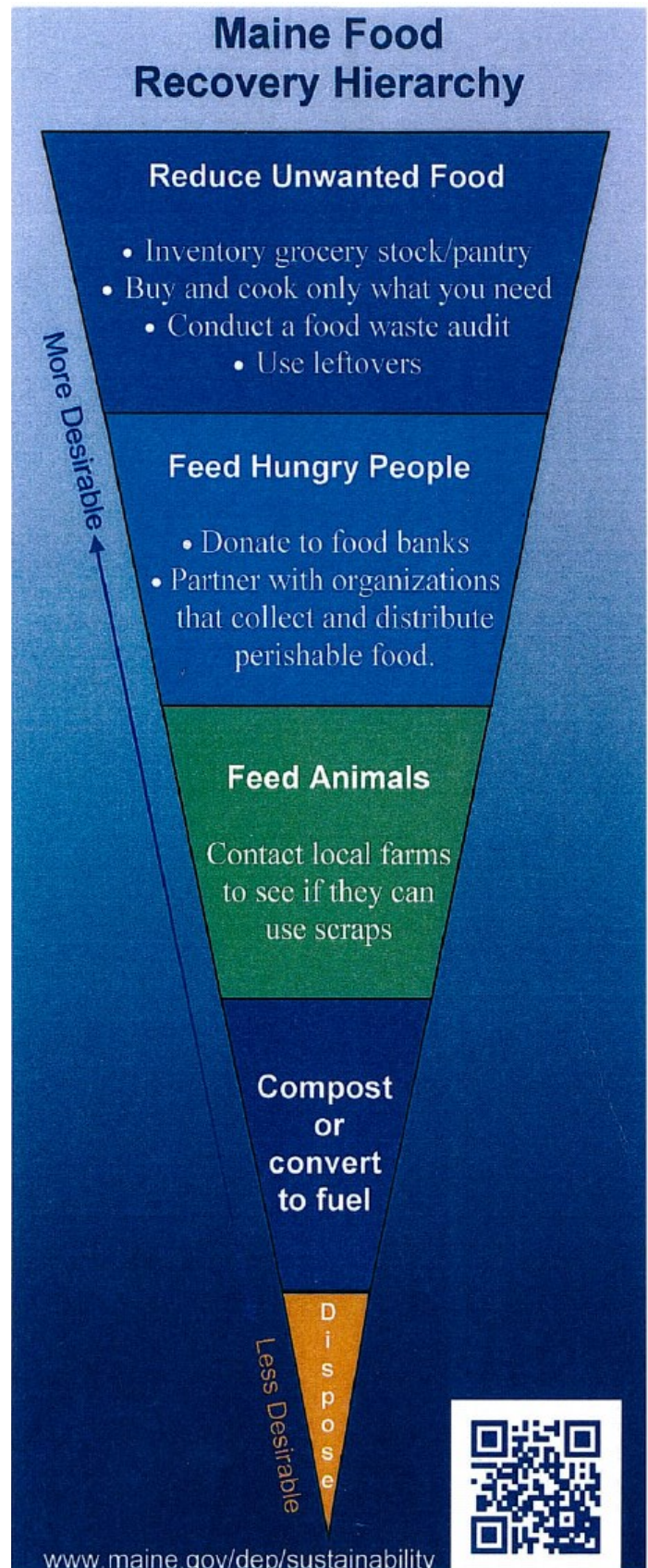
Waste in school lunch programs is an important part of the whole. Schools in the U.S. throw out an average of 36 pounds of food yearly per student, regardless of demographics, socio-economic status, size of the school, or age. If this average of 36 lbs. per student were applied to our 1,400 students in Hermon, for example, it would mean that a substantial amount of taxpayer money is wasted in purchases, handling and disposal of 50,400 pounds of unused food.

Fortunately, the Hermon School Department has made an excellent start and is ahead of most other school districts with its *"Share Table"* for unopened and safe food. But the impact of wasted food is still high – in budgets, landfill costs and environmental degradation.

Our Committee has highlighted the problem with the help of scientists at the University. The next step in solving any public policy issue is to tap into the creativity energy of Mainers. There are lots of ingenious folks in Hermon and I welcome your thoughts.

You can get in touch with me at home 947-0637, in Augusta at 287-1515, or by email at geoff.gratwick@legislature.maine.gov.

Thanks! Geoff



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DANFORTH'S PLAZA

2402 RT 2, Hermon, ME 848-2181

www.danforthssupermarket.com

Postal Customer

Senior Citizen Community Meals

Where: Hermon Elementary School

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Fee: \$5.00 per person

Reservations please:
Contact the Rec office at 848-4075

Wednesday - March 21

Beef Stew
Squash
Pudding Cake



Wednesday - April 18

Lasagna
Salad
Bread Pudding

Have you been thinking about how you can serve your community? Do you ever wonder what happens at a Council Meeting or School Committee Meeting? Your town needs you and your input.

Soon there will be two vacant seats on the Council as well as on the School Committee. Nomination Papers will be available in the Clerk's Office on Friday, March 2, 2018. Once you have collected a minimum of 25 signatures those papers need to be returned to the Clerk for validation, by Friday, April 13, 2018 at 5:00pm.

The Municipal Election will take place on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at the Patricia A. Duran Elementary School Gym. Polls will open at 7:00am and will close at 8:00pm. Annual Town Meeting is scheduled to follow on Thursday June 14, 2018, 7:00pm, at the Hermon High School Auditorium.