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# *The Hermon Connection*

Vol. 25 Issue 3 • May 2018

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Hermon Recreation is fundraising for new playground equipment

Please help us to make the public playground at the elementary school safer, up to date, and more enjoyable for our kids.



Please mail donations to:

Hermon Recreation  
PO Box 6300  
Hermon, ME 04401

or drop any donation off  
at the Town Office.

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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:  
June 23, 2018



## *From the Town Manager*

**FY18-19 Municipal Budget** - On Thursday, May 25, 2018 The Hermon Town Council approved the following PROPOSED FY18-19 Municipal Budget Annual Town Meeting Warrant **(subject to change)**:

**ARTICLE 3:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$6,012,212.**

**ARTICLE 4:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$2,233,246.**

**ARTICLE 5:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$0.**

**ARTICLE 6:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction: Summer School, Extra and Co-curricular Activities.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$447,062.**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$1,398,871.**

**ARTICLE 8:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$376,022.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for School Administration.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$702,337.**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Student Transportation and Buses.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$616,307.**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$1,614,447.**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$470,810.**

**ARTICLE 13:** To see what sum the Hermon School Department will be authorized to expend for Other Expenditures including School Lunch.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$35,000.**

**ARTICLE 14:** To see what sum the Town of Hermon will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

**Recommends \$10,090,814** and to see what sum the Town will raise as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$4,104,799.**

*The school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

**ARTICLE 15:** To see what sum the Town of Hermon will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the town voters for non-state funded school construction projects, or non-state funded portions of school construction projects in addition to funds appropriated as local share of the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$470,810.**

*Non-state funded debt service is the amount of money needed for annual payments on Hermon's long-term debt service for major capital school construction projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters.*

**ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town of Hermon raise and appropriate \$374,291 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$374,291 as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

The School Committee recommends \$374,291 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model. Additional funds needed for increases in salaries and benefits, loss of part of State subsidy for System Administration costs, and coverage of co-curricular and athletic programs not fully funded by the State EPS formula.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$374,291.**

*The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town of Hermon's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help the Town of Hermon budget for educational programs.*

**ARTICLE 17:** To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Act, non-state funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for support of schools.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$13,906,314.**

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will authorize the school committee to expend in addition to Article 17, any sums as may be received from state and federal grants, aid, and receipts during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 for school purposes provided that such grants, aid and receipts do not require expenditure of local funds not previously appropriated?

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES**

**ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Region Four Vocational Budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for the year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 be approved in the amount of \$2,651,077?

*Cooperative Board for Regional Vocational Budget is not subject to amendment from the floor. It may be accepted or rejected by the voters. Hermon's share of the Region Four budget is \$0.*

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see what sum the Town of Hermon will raise and to appropriate the sum of (Recommend \$35,000) in additional local dollars in support of the food service program.

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends \$35,000.**

**ARTICLE 21:** In the event that the Hermon School Department receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Committee be authorized to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase the allocation of finances to reserve funds approved by the School Committee?

**School Committee & Town Council Recommends YES**

**ARTICLE 22:** Shall the Town vote to appropriate the revenues received for the following accounts to offset the associated expense accounts, for fiscal year 2018-2019 with approval of the Town Council?

**Revenues**

10-130 Hermon Connection Revenue  
10-121 Local Plumbing Fees  
14-140 Transfer Station Fees  
14-150 Tipping Fee Revenue (PERC)  
12-182 Police Revenue  
12-185 Fire Dept. Revenue  
35 Recreation Enterprise Revenues

**Expenses**

10-13-04-05 Hermon Connection Expenses  
10-13-05-04 Local Plumbing Expenses  
14-01 Landfill Expense  
14-02 Household Waste Expense  
12-01 Police Expenses  
12-02 Fire Dept. Expenses  
35 Recreation Enterprise Expenses

*( Explanation: The listed revenue accounts are special funds received by the Town for specific purposes. Approval by the citizens will allow the Town Council to expend these revenues for the expense accounts listed above.*

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 23:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the following sums of money for each of the listed reserves?

HERM01 Police Equipment Reserve	\$ 25,000
HERM02 Unemployment Reserve	\$ 5,000
HERM04 Cemetery Reserve	\$ 8,000
HERM05 Fire Equipment Reserve	\$ 53,000
HERM06 Highway Improvement Reserve	\$ 250,000
HERM08 Public Works Facility/Equip Reserve	\$ 77,000
HERM09 Recreation Equip/Facility Reserve	\$ 22,000
HERM11 Municipal Office Reserve	\$ 8,000
HERM12 Sewer Maintenance Reserve	\$ 15,000
HERM17 Public Safety Building Reserve	\$ 10,000
HERM19 Town Office Equip. & Tech. Reserve	\$ 10,000
HERM28 Jackson Beach Reserve	\$ 3,000
HERM30 Rural Fire Protection Reserve	\$ 1,000
HERM32 Veterans Memorial Park Reserve	\$ 3,000
<b>Total Appropriation to Reserves</b>	<b>\$ 490,000</b>

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 24:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$10,800 from the Police Equipment Reserve (HERM01) to pay for three (3) new police cruiser laptops?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 25:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$82,800 from the Fire Equipment Reserve (HERM05) to purchase a four (4) new fire thermal imaging cameras (\$30,800), a Cascade/Compressor (\$44,000) and a new dryer for fire gear (\$8,000)?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 26:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$175,000 from the Highway Improvement Reserve (HERM06) in addition to the amount raised in the annual operating budget for drainage improvements, culvert replacements and surface repair for several Hermon Roads including Smith Road, Skyway Valley, School House Lane, Skyway Drive, Bond Road, Stoney Brook, Reed Hill Road, Copper Ridge, McDougal Drive and Westwood Drive?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 27:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$75,000 from the Highway Improvement Reserve (HERM06) for clearing trees and brush from the right of way for several Hermon Roads including Smith Road, Skyway Valley, School House Lane, Skyway Drive, Bond Road, Stoney Brook, Reed Hill Road, Copper Ridge, McDougal Drive and Westwood Drive and for curing other necessary sight distance issues?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 28:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$12,000 from the Recreation Reserve (HERM11) for repairing fences (\$6,000-Baseball Field & Softball Field), purchasing wood fiber chips for the area around playground equipment (\$3,000) and to make improvements to the walking trail (\$3,000)?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 29:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfer of \$100,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the Fire Department Reserve Account (HERM05)?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 30:** Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$81,852 from the Public Works Reserve (HERM08) to purchase a ¾ ton pickup truck with a Fisher Plow (\$28,000), a Steamer/Trailer (\$3,000) and the final debt payment for the 2018 Western Star truck (\$50,852)?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 31:** Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$8,100 from Municipal Office Reserve (HERM11) to purchase 9 new voting booths?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 32:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfer of funds from Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) Revenue in the amount of \$396,072, to off-set authorized expenditures for Economic Development general accounts #11-01-01-01 to 11-01-20-06 in the amount of (\$146,072); for account #30-16-57-16 Economic Development Reserve HERM16 (\$100,000); and account # 19-02-25-03 TIF Credit Enhancement Agreements(\$150,000)?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 33:** Shall the Town vote to authorize expenditures of up to \$100,000 from the Economic Development Reserve (HERM16) for improvements to Freedom Industrial Park (\$50,000) Freedom Industrial Park Entrance sign (\$25,000) and improvements to Coldbrook Industrial Park (\$25,000)?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 34:** Shall the Town vote to authorize an expenditure of up to \$25,000 from Sewer Reserve (HERM12) to install a SCADA System at Hammond Street Pump Station, complete manhole riser repairs, clean and televise lines near Propane Lane and repair main line connections per Sewer Maintenance Plan?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 35:** Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of \$200,000 from the School Tax Stabilization Reserve (HERM24) to offset a portion of the cost for the Hermon Middle School debt service in addition to the local appropriation for education?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 36:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate for municipal purposes for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 the following sums of money?  
Appropriation by category:

General Government/Administration	\$925,776
Economic Development/Technology	\$146,072
Public Safety	\$869,236
Public Works	\$950,466
Solid Waste	\$558,026
Recreation/Social Service/Library	\$143,971
Debt Service	\$ 89,900
Reserves	\$490,000
Special Assessments	\$859,548
General Assistance	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Total Municipal & County Appropriation	<b>\$5,037,995</b>

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**ARTICLE 37:** Shall the Town set the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Tax Commitment excluding the Overlay Account as follows:

Municipal Expenses:	\$ 4,328,447
County Assessment	\$ 709,548
Local contribution to Schools:	\$ 5,005,440
Total Expenses	\$ 10,043,435
Less Municipal Revenues	- \$ 3,579,645
<b>Total Commitment less Overlay</b>	<b>\$ 6,463,790</b>

**ARTICLE 38:** Shall the Town appropriate from Overlay Account an amount not to exceed \$60,000 for tax abatements?

**Recommended by the Town Council**

**Annual Town Meeting-** The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2018 @ Hermon High School @ 7:00 p.m. The warrant and articles will be posted 7 days prior to that meeting at three (3) locations throughout the Town. Town will be voting on the School and Municipal budget (see above) the same evening.

**CONGRATS-** I would like to thank Janis Dow for her 15 years of service to the Town! Janis retired on Friday, May 25, 2018 and will be greatly missed!

**SENIOR PROGRAMMING-** The Town of Hermon has an excellent senior program within our Recreation Department in great part to the service of Janis Dow and the citizens that use the service. If you or anyone has recommendations for making the program better please call or email me with your suggestions.

**Finally- I want to congratulate all of our Hermon High School seniors who will graduate in June!**

**Good luck to each of you!**

### Connection Advertising Increase

The increase for advertising in the  
Hermon Connection,  
will be effective July 1, 2018.

One 1/4 page ad will increase to \$50.00 per issue.

One 1/8 page ad will increase to \$25.00 per issue.

### Morita's School of Dance Est. 1968

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moritasschoolofdance.net  
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### Upcoming Events at Ecotat

Hermon Steel Pan Drums – June 5  
(rain date June 7) @ 5:30 pm

Sebasticook Valley Band - June 24  
@ 5:30 pm

Please bring a lawn chair and park in  
the Annis Road parking area.





## Municipal Elections/Primary/ Referendum Election June 12, 2018

June 12 - Election Day

Tuesday - Polls open 7am to 8pm at the Hermon  
Elementary School Gym

June 14 - Annual Town Meeting

Thursday - 7pm at the Hermon High School Auditorium

The Town Council has two vacant seats. Douglas Sinclair Sr. and Steven Thomas have both submitted papers for these seats. The School Board has two vacant seats. Debora Farnham and Teddy Harris have submitted papers for these seats.

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of our community's election process. If you would like to participate as a write-in candidate for either the School Committee or the Town Council a letter of intent to run as a write-in candidate must be filed with the Town Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the opening of the polls. The letter of intent must include the name, legal address, telephone number and personal signature of the person intending to run. Votes for any person not filed as a declared write-in candidate shall not be counted.

*(Town of Hermon Charter Section 9.09)*

## A Special Thank You

The Town of Hermon would like to say a special thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Witham for their hard work and dedication in putting over 400 flags on the graves of our veterans in all of the town's cemeteries. They have voluntarily spent countless hours for many years to accomplish this task. If you would like to help honoring our veterans by placing flags, please contact the town office. Thank You!





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# News from the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office

Article by SSgt. Bobbie Pelletier



As spring and summer approaches the weather will become warmer. People will be out and about more often, especially during the night time hours.

Over the past couple of weeks some surrounding towns have been hit with several residential and motor vehicle burglaries. Some of these burglaries have occurred during the night time hours. It should be known that burglars are not always from the same town or from the areas where the burglaries occur. We have seen in the past where some

burglars drive to areas in surrounding towns and get out and walk on foot during the night time hours. Town residents may live in a nice quiet neighborhood, but sometimes these are the areas which burglars target as they know they are quiet and often property is unsecured.

Here are a few safety tips to help prevent crime in your area:

1. If you leave home lock all your doors and windows. Even if it is for a short time. Daytime burglaries are more frequent as burglars know that residents are usually at work during the day time hours.
2. During the night time hours lock your doors and all single level windows to your residence. Also lock the doors to your vehicles and never leave the keys in the ignition. People are out and about at night as the nights are warmer. Motor vehicle burglars typically do not target locked vehicles and they move on.
3. If you keep valuables in your vehicle, store them out of plain sight.
4. Leave outside lights on at night or install motion detection lights. Burglars do not like to be visible at night and often this can create a deterrence.
5. If you go away to camp, go on vacation or leave for the weekend tell a neighbor. This is a good way to meet your neighbors and maybe you can return the favor for them if they go away.
6. If you go away make your home look occupied. Connect interior lamps to automatic timers.
7. Don't let daily deliveries of mail or newspapers build up. Contact the post office or have a trusting neighbor or friend pick them up for you.
8. Arrange your lawn to be mowed if you are going away for an extended period of time.
9. Always lock your garages, shed and basement windows.
10. Never leave notes on your door such as "gone shopping", "gone for the weekend", "be back soon", etc.
11. If you observe suspicious people, vehicles or activity, **report it to the police immediately**. Write down license plate numbers and descriptions. Do not wait! You have to be the eyes in your neighborhood.
12. If you notice a burglary report it **immediately**. Do not enter your home or vehicle. Do not touch or clean up anything. Call from a cell phone or a neighbor's residence. Wait for the police to arrive.

If you follow some of these tips you are less likely to become a victim. **DON'T BE A VICTIM!**

***If you SEE something, SAY something!***



## The Senator's Corner

### Ranked Choice Voting



Maine voters approved Ranked Choice Voting in November 2016 and the Maine Supreme Judicial Court recently ruled that it is constitutional. **All** candidates in the June 12, 2018 **primary** will be elected by Ranked Choice.

#### How does Ranked Choice Voting work?

“Votes are counted in rounds. In the first round, if a candidate receives more than 50% of the first choice votes, that candidate is declared the winner and the election is over. If no

candidate receives a majority of first-choice votes, the election continues to another round, and the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated from the race. Next, the ballots of the voters who selected the eliminated candidate as their first choice are re-assigned to their second-choice candidate. If any candidate achieves a majority in the second round, that candidate is declared winner and the election is over. If there is still no majority winner, the tabulation process continues, round by round, until one candidate reaches a 50% plus one majority.” (from the League of Women Voters website, ranked choice vote).

You can see a facsimile of the new ballot on the League of Women Voters web site.

There are a number of details to be worked out by the November election. I will post further details before then. The June election is all set to go forward. This new method allows you to weigh in more fully with your preferences regarding all the candidates and assures that no votes will be wasted. Contact the League of Women Voters or me if you have any questions.

**Be sure to vote!**

**Geoff Gratwick 947-0637**



#### Season Greens Fees Membership

**Single \$625**

**Family \$850**

**Junior \$225**

**Young Adult \$450**

**Senior \$525**

**Active Military \$500**

**50 Round Pass \$600**

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## Department of Economic & Community Development

Report 2017-2018

It is important to measure progress concerning Hermon's growth so we can be sure to invest our resources appropriately when considering economic and community development. Looking back over the last year we grew our business list substantially by adding new companies with wide and varied interests while others expanded in place adding additional jobs.

*Landscape Supply, Fine Line Striping, Queen City Paving, The Shop, Doug Guerrette's State Farm, First Choice Realty, Ted McLeod Water Wells, Marsh Property Realty, Wicklow Home Builders, Maine Salt Company* and the *Early Learning Center* invested over 2.5 million dollars in Hermon adding 60 new jobs. For each direct job created it is estimated that two other employment opportunities are realized regionally.

Real estate improvements are not the only way to measure gains when looking at levels of progress. The BETE program currently generates over \$260,000 dollars worth of revenue for the Town by protecting 100 businesses from having to pay taxes on \$42,930,200 worth of personal property items used for commercial purposes. When combined with the Tax Increment Finance program which shelters \$34,165,400 from being used as part of our total valuation for State assessment, Hermon benefits by receiving healthy school funding and a lower county tax while contributing dollars to a sinking investment fund used to incentivize business.

As we think about Hermon's low taxes and add strong municipal service, quality education and our premiere location, Hermon is leading regionally as a top growth location in central and eastern Maine residentially and commercially.



### Industrial and Commercial

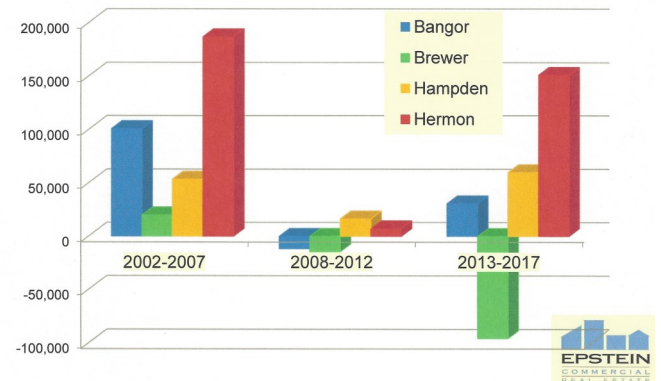
When Hermon considers its industrial inventory, the four leading communities in our area are Bangor (4,189,721 sf), Hermon (1,318,629 sf), Brewer (1,058,195 sf) and Hampden (833,233 sf). Over the last four years our continued growth in industrial square footage creation outpaced all communities shown in the graph below with Hermon adding double the amount of square footage as our closest competitor.

Another leading indicator of healthy business activity is the vacancy rate. Available industrial and commercial spaces shows Hermon at less than 1% currently. With businesses purchasing lots adjacent to their existing properties and inquiries increasing, the DECD office expects the trends of low vacancy rates **and** positive growth to continue.

March 21, 2018

Bangor Area Market Overview, Carol Epstein

### Industrial Growth



**Would you like to contact Hermon  
Economic and Community Development?**

Town of Hermon  
333 Billings Road  
Hermon, Maine 04401  
207-848-1010 (office)

SPerkins@Hermon.net  
Hermon.net/Economic Development





# Senior Activities for June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		For questions or more information, please contact the Rec Office at 848-4075				
					1	2
3	<b>Bowling</b> 4 at Family Fun Lanes 11:00 am \$2.50 per game Shoes are FREE	<b>Movie</b> 5 at Odlin Rd, Cinema	<b>Lunch</b> 6 Chase's Rest. arrive by 11:30 am	<b>Board/Card Games</b> 7 Boulier Place 12:00 pm Games are FREE	<b>Picnic</b> 8 at Hermon Pond at 11:30 am "Bring a lunch and enjoy the weather" (if weather permits)	9
10	<b>Bowling</b> 11 at Family Fun Lanes 11:00 am \$2.50 per game Shoes are FREE	<b>Salad Bar</b> 12 <b>Pizza Hut</b> (across from Best Buy) arrive by 11:30 am	13	<b>Board/Card Games</b> 14 Boulier Place 12:00 pm Games are FREE	15	16
Happy 17 Father's Day	<b>Bowling</b> 18 at Family Fun Lanes 11:00 am \$2.50 per game Shoes are FREE	19	<b>No</b> 20 <b>Senior Dinner</b> <b>til</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>October 17</b>	<b>Board/Card Games</b> 21 Boulier Place 12:00 pm Games are FREE	22	23
24	<b>Bowling</b> 25 at Family Fun Lanes 11:00 am \$2.50 per game Shoes are FREE	<b>Craft</b> 26 Boulier Place at 10:00 am Light snack provided Class is FREE	27	<b>Board/Card Games</b> 28 Boulier Place 12:00 pm Games are FREE	<b>Picnic</b> 29 at Hermon Pond at 11:30 am "Bring a lunch and enjoy the weather" (if weather permits)	30



**Tammy Smith** **Shari Garland**



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Friday & Saturday 9-6



## BURN PERMITS



With the arrival of spring, it is time to clean up from whatever winter may have left behind on your property in terms of branches, brush and other material that may be disposed of by controlled burning.

A burn permit IS REQUIRED for any burning of materials beyond what might be best described as a small recreational campfire. You will need to assure that sufficient adult supervision of the burn is in place and proper tools and equipment are present to control the burn as well.

In all cases, these materials are prohibited to burn; plastic, rubber, Styrofoam, metals, food wastes, chemicals, treated wood or other solid wastes, except for wood wastes.

Burning is allowed only if winds are not expected to be greater than 10 mile per hour and the State Forest Division has classified the fire danger at a Class One or Class two rating for that day. Permits are only valid for the day of issue.

You may receive a free burn permit by stopping by the Hermon Fire Department located at 327 Billings Road (staff is on duty at this location Monday through Friday from 7:00am through 3:00pm) or by going online to the Maine Forest Service website and purchasing a permit for \$7.00 at [www1.Maine.gov](http://www1.Maine.gov). You may also ascertain the fire danger rating for the particular day you want to burn at this site.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Hermon Fire Department if you have any questions about open burning. We would be happy to inspect your potential burn pile and location in advance of your burn as well. Be aware, that persons burning without a permit or in violation of the conditions of an issued permit may be subject to costs associated in the extinguishment of such a fire, and may be found to have committed a Class E crime.

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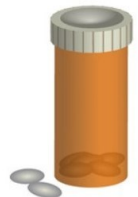
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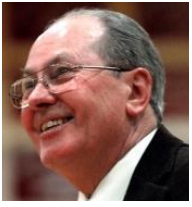
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## From the Desk of State Representative Roger Reed



Due to the passage of a citizen's referendum, Maine citizens will now be required to use a brand new system of voting. It is called Rank Choice Voting (RCV). On June 12, 2018, this method of voting (RCV) will be used for the first time ever in a statewide election as voters cast their ballots in the Primary Election. **Secretary of State has unveiled a new section of the department website** offering several informational resources for voters who are seeking to educate themselves about ranked-choice voting. I kindly ask you to familiarize yourself with this new form of voting. I also strongly recommend if you have elderly family or friends to also help to prepare them for the introduction of RCV. Sample ballots

for all ranked-choice voting races (Only races with three or more candidates will employ the ranked-choice voting process, which requires that one candidate receive a majority of the vote) are available.

On this website you will find:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- A printable PDF "RCV Fact Sheet" for voters to review and share with others in preparation for marking their ballot
- An implementation plan showing the department's progress and preparation for ranked-choice voting
- A timeline showing how the State of Maine came to use this voting method in the June 12, 2018 Primary Election
- The draft rules that will govern the process of administering ranked-choice voting, along with the public comments on those rules

**Additional resources will soon be added to the RCV Resources page, including:**

- The final version of the rules, as they have not been completed yet.
- An easy-to-understand animation explaining how to mark the ranked-choice ballot and how votes will be tabulated.

Follow the Maine Department of the Secretary of State on Facebook to receive updates regarding additional information and voter education outreach efforts prior to the June 12 Primary Election. To obtain an absentee ballot, visit your town office or use the Online Absentee Ballot Request service. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns. [Roger.Reed@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Roger.Reed@legislature.maine.gov)

### *Box Tops for Education*

Would you like to help earn cash for our schools every time you shop? Clip Box Tops for Education from hundreds of your favorite products. Each Box Top UPC is worth money for our schools and it adds up fast!

The school department invites the community to be on the lookout for Box Tops for Education coupons! Clip them and drop them off at the Superintendent's Office, or at the Town Office. This is free money that can be put towards extra activities or supplies for our schools. Together, we can earn more!

To learn more about this program, visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).



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# Tax Assessing & Code Enforcement Department

## Spring Inspection Time



Spring is finally here and its time for the Assessing/Code Department to start there annual inspections. If you have pulled a permit in the last year you can expect a visit from one of our staff members to check on the progress you've made with your project. This will be the first year that we will be conducting both code and assessing inspections at one time. This will ensure homeowners and builders are not burdened with multiple inspections by code and assessing, slowing down production. We look forward to offering this new, more efficient, service to the community this year and for many years to come.

## Planning Board Meetings

**Meeting Times: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the Month 6:30 PM**



The Planning Board will be going live on the public access channel this fall. If you are unable to make it to the regularly scheduled meetings I encourage you to tune in on the Tuesday nights we hold our meetings. Check the Town Calendar (Top Left) on the [WWW.HERMON.NET](http://WWW.HERMON.NET) website to see when we will be meeting. We only hold meetings when we have agenda items to discuss.

The Planning Board plays a vital role in the development of the town, ensuring all new uses and developments are complying with the town's Land Use Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. Board members Edward Marsh (Chair), Jaylyn McCue (Vice Chair), Sherry Andrie, Josh Pelletier, Shannon Giles, Marylyn White and Ralph Allen deserve a round of applause for the time they have put in to serving this very important board.

## Assessing Department

**William Perkins – Residential Lister**



I would like to take a moment and thank William Perkins for the work he has put into the Assessing Department this past year. Will filled the roll of Residential Lister in June of 2017 and has helped us tremendously in bringing the in-house revaluation to a close. Will is graduating from Husson University this spring, with a degree in Financial Management, and has accepted a position with Bangor Savings Bank in the Commercial and Small Business Servicing Dept. We wish Will all the best and hope he has a great career in the banking industry.

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding these departments please give Josh Berry a call at 848-1042 or email him at [Josh.Berry@Hermon.Net](mailto:Josh.Berry@Hermon.Net)**

# Recycle Committee



The Recycle Committee has been tasked with looking at recycling options for the Town and to make recommendations to the Town Council to consider implementing.

If you would please fill out this survey and return it to the committee, it would be very much appreciated. You may send it by email to Scott Perkins at [sperkins@hermon.net](mailto:sperkins@hermon.net), by mail at PO Box 6300, Hermon or just drop it off at the town office. If you want to fill this survey out online, go to <https://goo.gl/forms/w6TacAcCc1N1Cty33>

If you would like a chance to win a prize, please put your name & phone number on this sheet.

## Recycle Survey Questions

1. Do you recycle?

If not then

2. Would you like to recycle?

3. What prevents you from recycling?

- a. Too much trouble
- b. Not sure where to take my recycling or how to recycle
- c. No place to keep recycle material at home
- d. Dumpster location is not convenient
- e. Dumpsters are always full
- f. Other \_\_\_\_\_

4. What could be changed for you to start recycling?

- a. Recycling containers provided for home use
- b. Curbside recycle pickup
- c. Trash collection needed to switch to a pay-per-bag system
- d. Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you currently use the transfer station on the New Boston Rd?

- a. Yes, happy with current service
- b. Yes, and would like to see more hours & accepting of recyclables
- c. Yes, would like to see it open year round
- d. No, I don't want to pay the \$5.00 transfer fee
- e. No, why not \_\_\_\_\_

6. Would you like to have free community days for electronic waste or hazardous materials?

7. Do you have any recommendations/ideas for our community recycling program?

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