

# *The Hermon Connection*

Vol. 28 Issue 5 • September 2021

## STATE CHAMPIONS!



The Hermon 14U softball team concluded it's summer as the Maine class "B" 14U state champions. This team also ended the summer as 14U twilight league champions. Their final summer record was 26-3. This is a community team with all members being future/current Hermon Hawks.

Players (L to R) Ava Dean, Taylor Sherrard, Katie Fowler, Molly Simcox, Mikelle Verrill, Jadyn Krueger, Braelynn Wilcox, Olivia Johnston, Norra Idano, Sophie Peterson, Addy Waning. Coaches (L to R) Dan Fowler, Jody Theberge, Aaron Oakes.

Town of Hermon  
Howard Kroll *Town Manager*  
333 Billings Rd, Hermon, ME 04401  
Tel: 207-848-1010 Fax: 207-848-3316  
krollh@hermon.net, www.hermon.net

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](mailto:scottwl@hermon.net)  
Deadline for submissions: October 22, 2021

## From the Town Manager



### **2022 PROPERTY TAXES –**

The Town had a solid fiscal year 2021 despite a world wide pandemic- I can say with all certainty the mill rate, currently at 11.99, will be the same for fiscal year 2022. I want to thank you, the tax payer, for your support and we look forward to a safe 2022. Tax bills for 2022 will be due on April 1, 2022 and will be going out in the mail around mid-late October 2021.

### **HERMON HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT PROJECT**

Hopkins Paving of Hermon did a superior job (as always) on repairing the sidewalks, drainage and parking lot at Hermon High School. The parking lot is now draining properly and should last the Town for many years to come with this investment. I want to thank Scott Perkins for working with the School Superintendent Jim Chasse and Jason Davis, School Facility Director on this project- well done!



### **HERMON SCHOOL REOPENING**

Residents were recently informed of the Hermon School Department's plan to reopen schools this fall. While the plan is being implemented I strongly encourage each of you to reach out to the Superintendent of Schools, Jim Chasse, on any questions you might have regarding this very important endeavor. Mr. Chasse, school committee members and staff have worked hard on this plan- the safety of our children, family and staff is very important to us all.



### **ROUTE 2/MILLER HILL/ANNIS ROAD INTERSECTION PROJECT**

Maine Department of Transportation has completed the Route 2/Miller Hill/Annis Road intersection project with a safe turning lane onto the Annis Road and incorporating new blinking lights and signage to make this intersection more safe. As much as the town and state share in these projects it can't be stated enough that drivers need to obey the speed limit and be respectful of other drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists and work crews while they are in the right of way.



### **BILLINGS ROAD PHASE II PROJECT**

Maine Department of Transportation is also working on repair of the Billings Road from the intersection of Fuller Road to Route 2. B&B Paving of Hermon is the contractor and I have full faith they will do an outstanding job on this project. Phase II is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2021.



***I would like to wish each of you a safe, healthy and positive fall. Stay safe***



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## **ALERT: New Hermon School Zone**

Hermon has a newly posted school speed zone located on the Billings Rd in the area of the Hermon Middle School. The school speed signs have been posted by MDOT and are as follows:

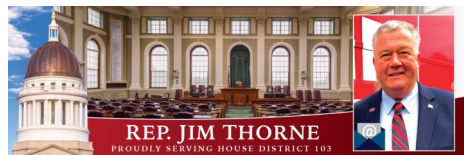
### **SCHOOL ZONE POSTED 15 MPH**

**Monday thru Friday between 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM / 1:42 PM -2:42 PM**



**WARNING:** Special Radar Enforcement Details will be set up around these times to help gain voluntary compliance with the newly posted speed limit. Fine amounts for speeding (29A-2074-1A) in a posted school zone is very expensive. The fine amounts are as follows:

- Speeding 1 – 9 MPH over limit in school zone - \$203.00**
- Speeding 10-14 MPH over limit in school zone - \$233.00**
- Speeding 15-19 MPH over limit in school zone - \$315.00**
- Speeding 20-24 MPH over limit in school zone - \$435.00**
- Speeding 25-29 MPH over limit in school zone - \$531.00**



## **Legislative Update**

*2021 Legislative Session Update  
With Rep. Jim Thorne  
House District 103 -  
Carmel, Etna (part), and Hermon*

The first regular session of the 130<sup>th</sup> Legislature is has ended. It was unprecedented in so many ways due to the ongoing pandemic. Over 200 bills have been carried over for consideration in January. The Second Regular Session, beginning in January, is limited to consideration of emergency matters, but that can be a subjective standard. Between now and then, we are likely to meet and vote on a bipartisan redistricting plan that adjusts the boundaries of Maine's congressional districts and all 186 state legislative districts.

The first regular session's prolonged budget process spent more than I would have liked due to one-party control. In the near future, Maine is not likely to experience a budget shortfall because of the billions of federal dollars that have poured into our state for covid relief. This will not always be the case. Whenever possible, I supported using one-time monies to address underfunded priorities instead of new programs.

Here are a few results that I believe will help Hermon, Maine, and the towns I represent.

- For the first time since Maine voters passed a referendum in 2004, the state will fulfill its commitment to Maine schools, municipalities and teachers by funding 55 percent of K-12 public education costs.
- Municipal revenue sharing increased, helping to ease the burden on local property tax payers. Municipal revenue sharing will increase from 3.75% to 4.5% in Fiscal Year 22 and 5 percent in Fiscal Year 23.
- The Property Tax Fairness Credit was expanded and the Homestead Property Tax Exemption was strengthened, increasing the state reimbursement to towns and cities.
- Capital improvements will be made to Career and Technical Education Centers.
- Over 500,000 tax filers will receive relief in the form of a one-time \$300 payment to Mainers earning \$75,000 or less as an individual; \$150,000 or less for joint filers. This recognizes and supports Mainers who worked under hazardous circumstances during the pandemic.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your State Representative, and welcome your thoughts, suggestions and advice. If I can be of assistance to you, feel free to contact me at [Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov).

*Sincerely, Rep. Jim Thorne*





## Project Updates and DECD News

September 2021

At the Annual Town Meeting, June 10, 2021, Hermon residents voted to invest in a project to improve the Veteran's monument and brick walkway at *Veteran's Memorial Park* on Billings Road. Howard Kroll has instructed our office to replace the laser engraved bricks and build a "walkway" on both sides of the paved surface that meets with the parking lot to honor Hermon's military service members. The center walkway paving will be replaced with new surface to meet with the design so that access is both convenient and safe. Hermon staff will also be improving the system for ordering naming opportunities and forms will be available online at Hermon.net for any military service member wanting to be included in the memorial. Work is scheduled to begin around the first week of September at the site! Questions regarding the project can be directed to the DECD office.



The Economic Development office is working to advance natural gas infrastructure in Hermon to accommodate business interests and commercial growth in our industrial sector. Extensions were previously completed at Logistics Lane by extending from the Coldbrook/Odlin/Emerson Mill road intersection. From Logistics Lane a connection has been extended into Coldbrook Business Park to give business owners more options concerning heating their facilities. Property owners may contact Bangor Natural Gas directly to inquire about connections if interested at 941-9595.



As the community growth numbers reveal in the 2020 Census, Hermon is one of the fastest growing communities in the State of Maine per capita having increased by 1,000 residents over the last ten years. When we consider safety, schools located on major connector roadways such as Billings road are in focus. Limited sight distance close to the Schoolhouse Lane intersection along with increased use of the Billings road locally and regionally have caused MDOT to implement a *School Speed Zone* at the Hermon Middle School location during the hours when school is opening and closing. Hermon has applied for additional safety improvements at this location with the MDOT Bike/Pedestrian grant process and will complete pedestrian safety projects if we are fortunate enough to be awarded after Town Council approval. Thanks to all drivers for observing this speed zone change so we can safely access the Middle School facility during their most busy times!



Department of Economic & Community Development

333 Billings Road  
Hermon, Maine 04401

<https://www.hermonmaine.gov/economic-development/>  
Phone: 848-1010 Email: SPerkins@Hermon.net

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## **HERMON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

### **Special Education Child Find Notice**

The Hermon School Department is in compliance with federal and state regulations regarding the delivery of services to all children with special needs.

Federal statutes (I.D.E.A.) requires that the School Department identifies, locates and evaluates all children with disabilities, age 3-20, residing within the school district. Residents who believe that their child is in need of special education services, whether attending public or private school, should contact Cindy Badger, Director of Student Services, 31 Billings Road, Hermon, ME 04401, Tel. 848-4000, X 6004.

### **Annual Notice of Student Education Records and Information Rights**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") provides certain rights to parents and eligible students (18 years of age or older) with respect to the student's education records. A copy of the Hermon School Department's policy statement and administrative procedure is available in each school.

#### **Inspection of Records**

Parents/ eligible students may inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of making a request. Such requests must be submitted to the Superintendent or building administrator in writing and must identify the record(s) to be inspected. The superintendent or building administrator will notify the parent/eligible student of the time and place where the record(s) may be inspected. Parents/eligible students may obtain copies of education records at a cost of ten cents (\$0.10) per page copied.

#### **Amendment of Records**

Parents/eligible students may ask the Hermon School Department to amend education records they believe are inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's right to privacy. Such requests must be submitted to the Superintendent or building administrator in writing, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the superintendent or building administrator decides not to amend the record as requested, the parent/eligible student will be notified of the decision, their right to request a hearing and information about the hearing procedure.

#### **Disclosure of Records**

The Hermon School Department must obtain a parent/eligible student's written consent prior to disclosure of Personally identifiable information in education records except in circumstances permitted by law.

#### **Directory Information**

The Hermon School Department designates the following student information as directory information that may be made public at its discretion: name, participation and grade level of students in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight of student athletes, dates of attendance in the Hermon School Department, and honors and awards received, and photographs and videos of student participation in school activities open to the public (except photographs and videos on the Internet). Parents/eligible students who do not want the Hermon School Department to disclose directory information must notify the Superintendent in writing by September 15<sup>th</sup> or within thirty (30) days of enrollment, whichever is later.

#### **Military Recruiters / Institutions of Higher Learning**

Military recruiters and institutions of higher education are entitled to receive the names, addresses and telephone numbers of secondary students, and the Hermon School Department must comply with any such request, provided that parents have been notified of their right to request that this information not be released without prior written consent. Parents/eligible students who do not want the Hermon School Department to disclose this information must notify the Superintendent in writing by September 15<sup>th</sup> or within thirty (30) days of enrollment, whichever is later.

#### **School Officials with Legitimate Educational Interests**

Education records may be disclosed to school officials with a "legitimate educational interest." A school official has a legitimate educational interest if he/she needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility. School officials include persons employed by the Hermon School Department as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); members of the Hermon School Committee; persons or companies with whom the Hermon School Department has contracted to provide specific services (such as attorneys, auditors, medical consultants, evaluators or therapists); and



parents, students and volunteers serving on an official committee (such as a disciplinary or grievance committee) or assisting a school official in performing his/her professional responsibilities.

### Health or Safety Emergencies

In accordance with federal regulations, the Hermon School Department may disclose education records without prior written consent in a health and safety emergency to any person whose knowledge or the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

### Other School Units

As required by Maine law, the Hermon School Department sends student education records to a school unit to which a student applies for transfer, including disciplinary records, attendance records, special education records and health records (except for confidential health records for which consent for dissemination has not been obtained).

### Other Entities / Individuals

Education records may be disclosed to other entities and individuals as specifically permitted by law. Parents/eligible students may obtain information about other exceptions to the written consent requirements by request to the Superintendent or building administrator.

### Complaints Regarding School Department Compliance with FERPA

Parents/eligible students who believe that the Hermon School Department has not complied with the requirements of FERPA have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education. The office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C.



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## Hermon Fire Department

*Article & Photos from Chief Roma*

After a year's absence due to the pandemic, the Hermon Fire Department was happy to host the Hermon Seniors group for lunch at the station on August 11! We missed seeing our friends and it was great to catch up with them and share with them what has been going on in the HFD during the last year.



September 11 will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9-11 attacks on America. It is sad but many have forgotten the events of that terrible day even though we continue to live with the many impacts of that day. As a reminder and in recognition of those who lost their lives on 9-11, all our apparatus and equipment have had 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorial decals placed on them. We hope that all take a moment to reflect on the events of that day on September 11<sup>th</sup>. NEVER FORGET!



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## CEF Club in the Local Schools

What is CEF? It is an organization (Child Evangelism Fellowship) that is Bible centered to teach boys and girls the Word of God and to help them grow in character (obeying parents, respecting adults, stop lying and fighting with siblings, etc.). These clubs are called Good News Clubs and are held after school. Before the COVID situation, we met in many of the local schools in our area (Hampden, Winterport, Hermon, Carmel, Levant, and many others).

The clubs consist of games, snacks, Bible lessons, memorizing Scripture, missionary stories, singing, learning to pray, and contests. All children are welcome and the program is FREE. Club will be held every Tuesday after school, starting on the 12th of October. The Hermon Baptist Church bus will pick up the children at school at 3:15 and take them to the church. Parents may pick up their children at 5 o'clock.

Permission slips will be available at the Town Office or the C&K store at the light in Hermon. We need the slips filled out and signed for the school to dismiss your children to ride the bus to the church. The GNC staff have all been cleared with background checks. We want to keep your children safe. Hope to see many of you this school year.

Thank you, Sharon Pedersen, Club Director  
385-6035 - call anytime if you have questions.





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## Postal Customer

September 6 - Office Closed – Labor Day  
October 4 - Absentee ballots available.  
October 11 - Office Closed - Indigenous Peoples' Day  
October 15 - 2022 dog tags will be available. Your dog must be licensed for 2022 by 12/31/21 to avoid paying the \$25.00 late fee on 2/1/2022.  
October 15 - 2022 Snowmobile Registrations will be available for purchase.  
November 2 - State of Maine Election at the Patricia A. Duran Elementary School Gym.  
Polls open from 7AM – 8PM  
November 11 - Office Closed - Veterans Day  
November 25 - Office Closed - Thanksgiving  
November 26 - Office Closed - Thanksgiving Friday  
December 24 - Office Closed - Christmas  
December 31 - Office Closed - New Year's Day

*Kristen Cushman, Town Clerk*



***Hermon's Senior Program is BACK!***

Thursday October 7th  
12:30 pm  
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*We look forward to seeing you!*