

# The Hermon Connection

Vol. 29 Issue 6 • November 2022

## Hermon Rec Seniors

Article & Photo Submitted By: Lindsey Ouellette

Did you know that Hermon Recreation has a Seniors group? We offer our senior citizens a variety of weekly activities from bowling to board games and crafts to luncheons. We focus on the importance of community and socialization. We continue to look for new and fun activities for our seniors and encourage newcomers to join our growing group!



# NOVEMBER '22

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am	2	3 Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am  Cards @ Boulter Place 12:30pm	4
7  Bowling Family Fun Lanes 12pm \$3.00 per game Shoes are free	8  <b>Election Day</b>	9	10  Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am  <b>Lunch @ Boulter Place 12:00pm, cards to follow</b>	11  <b>Veterans' Day</b>
14  Bowling Family Fun Lanes 12pm \$3.00 per game Shoes are free	15  Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am  <b>Craft Day @ Boulter Place, 12:30pm</b>	16	17  Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am  Cards @ Boulter Place, 12:30pm	18
21  Bowling Family Fun Lanes 12pm \$3.00 per game Shoes are free	22  Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am	23	24  <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>	25
28  Bowling Family Fun Lanes 12pm \$3.00 per game Shoes are free	29  Walking @ PADS 6:15am-7:15am  <b>Movies or Bingo, Boulter Place, 12:30pm</b>	30  <b>Interested in joining the Hermon Rec Seniors? We'd love to have you! Please contact Lindsey at 207-848-4064 to sign up for activities or for additional information.</b>		



## HERMON REC SENIORS MONTHLY CALENDAR

Town of Hermon  
**Joshua Berry, Interim Town Manager**  
 333 Billings Rd, Hermon, ME 04401  
 Tel: 207-848-1010 Fax: 207-848-3316  
 berryj@hermonmaine.gov  
 www.hermonmaine.gov

If you have a news story or article for publication in the next edition of *The Hermon Connection*, please send it to: ouelletel@hermonmaine.gov

Deadline for submissions: December 19, 2022

## From the Interim Town Manager

By: Josh Berry

**WINTER IS COMING:** Winter weather is unpredictable and at times dangerous. Driving this time of year requires extra caution and attention. Be safe and enjoy the season. Gardner Construction is responsible for plowing most of the municipal roads and streets from Fuller Road to I-95. Fuller Road intersection toward Union Street and all of the side streets and roads off of Union Street are maintained by The Town of Hermon Public Works. If you have questions regarding plowing please call Ralph Shaw, Public Works Foreman @ 570-6494. Mailboxes are the responsibility of the property owner and they must be installed within USPS standards. The Town assumes no liability for mailboxes damaged during winter plowing operations.

**TAX BILLS** – the Town has once again kept the current mil-rate @ 11.99. per thousand dollars of property taxes. For every dollar raised .71 cents goes to the school department, .11 cents goes to Penobscot County and the other .18 cents goes to municipal operations such as fire, law enforcement services, public works, code enforcement, etc. I would like to thank Michael Chamings, Finance Director and Rylee Cushman, Assessor for putting together this year's tax commitment- it was great to see the teamwork required for this important part of our operation. I should be receiving your new tax bill by the end of the month.

**VETERANS DAY!**- On behalf of the Town Council I want to thank our veterans for their sacrifice and service to our country. The Town will be observing Veterans Day on Thursday, 11 November 2021.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!** - I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a great fall!

**On behalf of the Town of Hermon Town Council and Staff we wish you all a great Fall!**



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## From The Clerk's Office

By: Kristen Cushman

November 24 & 25, 2022 - Closed – Thanksgiving and day after Thanksgiving

December 26, 2021- Closed for Christmas

December 31, 2022 - 2023 Dog registration final due date

January 2, 2023 - Closed for New Year's Day

February 1, 2023 - \$25.00 per dog late fee starts

**Dog Licenses:** 2023 dog tags are available as of October 15, 2022.

Residents who need vet care or rabies for their animals should make their appointments **NOW** for 2023 licensing. Information has been communicated by the State Vet Association that they are experiencing a vet shortage / lack of remote clinics and resources.

Please license your dog before January 31. The State of Maine demands a \$25.00 late fee for any dog renewal license after 1/31/2023. Go to [https://apps1.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/dog\\_license/index.pl](https://apps1.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/dog_license/index.pl) to license a previously registered dog or a new dog online.

If you no longer have a dog to license, please let us know here at the Town Office at 848-1010.



## Legislative Update

### *2022 Legislative Session Update With Rep. Jim Thorne House District 103 - Carmel, Etna (part), and Hermon*

#### **We need to work together going forward**

By now the 2022 election results may be in. As I write this update, the election is still some three weeks away. I hope that you voted and that you are satisfied with the results. It is sad that our state, like much of the country, is so polarized.

Even though I was unopposed in the election, I still campaigned because I wanted to hear directly from voters what they want from their elected officials. This coming term, I encourage you to contact me if I can be of assistance or if there are pieces of legislation that are important to you. My job is to represent everyone to the best on my ability.

What I heard from people is that they are tired of the negativity and just want people to work together on the everyday problems that Mainers are experiencing. They want the legislature to focus on true needs, not agendas, or wants. The infusion of over \$18 billion in federal pandemic aid to Maine is going to cause problems when the money is gone.

Mainers, especially our most vulnerable citizens, cannot endure additional price increases or higher taxes. When government gets too big, we get smaller. I want small businesses, nonprofits and community serving organizations to recover and prosper in the years ahead.

I pledge to work hard and cooperatively with others elected on November 8. Our state needs to pull together and move forward.

I appreciate the support I have received from constituents and the opportunity to continue serving you in the Maine House. If there is anything I can do to assist you, or if you have questions regarding eligibility for the tax refund, please contact me at [Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov).

Sincerely, Rep. Jim Thorne

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Jim Thorne".

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## **The Duran School and Families Support Kids at Christmas**

By Melissa Davis (Ed.D)

The Patricia A. Duran School staff and the PTA are teaming together again to support elementary school families in need this holiday season. As we have done in previous years, we will collect gifts for children in our school community who are in need. In the past we've used a board with paper mittens at the entrance of the school. To make the process easier, we've converted to an online platform. The link will be posted on the school's web page and Facebook page at the beginning of November. Community members are welcome to sign-up to sponsor a child.

We ask that gifts are brought to the elementary school unwrapped. We provide families with wrapping paper and materials so they are able to wrap their child's gifts. All gifts are due back to the elementary school by December 5th. This will ensure that we are able to organize and prepare the gifts for distribution during the week of December 12th. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please send all donations to Mrs. Davis at the elementary school office in an envelope marked "Helping Hands." We will make sure your donation goes directly toward the purchase of student gifts. Thank you all for your generosity and making this holiday season special for all of our students!



*Hermon partners with MaineDOT “BikePed” Program to fund safety improvements near Hermon Middle School...*

The MaineDOT’s federally-funded “Bike Ped” Program was created to help communities improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, and to provide options that relate to surface transportation under the eligible categories outlined under the *FAST Act* and prioritized by MaineDOT. The priorities include improved safety for walkers and bikers, safe routes to school for non-drivers, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and utilization of transportation corridors for bike/pedestrian trails including sidewalks and trails.

The BikePed Program principally supports locally-initiated projects that improve the community’s transportation environment, economic vibrancy, safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, downtown revitalization initiatives and environmental mitigation. Hermon was awarded a funding opportunity to enhance safety, ADA accessibility, and efforts to ensure that school age children can safely access their schools and afterschool programs. The Hermon project will improve pedestrian safety with a cross-walk and sidewalk improvement from the Hermon Middle School property to Schoolhouse Lane.

MaineDOT annually allocates to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program about \$3.0 million in federal funds for this statewide program. Each project has a 20% local match requirement with a maximum federal allocation of \$400,000 per project. Hermon’s DECD office applied for the grant and was funded for preliminary engineering and initial right-of-way activities with \$68,000 in federal transportation funds with a local match of \$17,000. The full project estimate total contingent on MaineDOT receiving adequate federal funding for MaineDOT’s 2022-23-24 Capital Work Plan is \$496,472.

The MaineDOT Municipal Partnership Program, Business Partnership Initiative Program, Federal Highway Safe Route to Schools Grant (*FAST Act*) and the MDOT Highway Safety Program has helped the Town of Hermon accomplish one of our identified goals of improving critical infrastructure in an efficient and cost effective way by leveraging locally administered project supervision using Federal and State dollars for community interest capital plans. Since 2016 improvements to “State Aid” and federal highway systems have totaled over \$6,855,937 dollars. Hermon’s share for the period 2016 through FY 2023 equals \$1,917,680.



2022 Middle School Bike/Ped Grant



2020 Route 2-Annis Safety Improvement

MaineDOT Municipal Partnership, Business Partnership and Safety Grants

<u>Year</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Status</u>
2016	Fuller/Klatte Road MPI	\$960,423	50% match – completed
2017	Coldbrook/Newburgh	\$1,211,548	50% match – completed
2017	Traffic Signal – Dysart’s	\$325,000	10% match – completed
2017	Route 2 Sidewalk	\$1,395,566	80% match – completed
2018	Coldbrook to I-95 CPR	\$341,546	100% MDOT– completed
2020	Billings Road—Union St.	\$515,154	50% match – completed
2020	Hammond Street– BPI	\$158,700	100% MDOT–completed
2020	Annis/Route 2 Safety	\$1,126,000	100% MDOT- completed
2021	Billings Road – Route 2	\$325,000	50% match – completed
2022	Middle School SRS Grant	\$497,000	20% match – FY 2024

Questions on grant projects? Contact the Hermon DECD office:  
848-1010 or [SPerkins@Hermonmaine.gov](mailto:SPerkins@Hermonmaine.gov)

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# Code Enforcement Update

By: Jessefa Murphy

With colder temperatures upon us, it is a great time to think about getting your home winterized. Efficiency Maine is offering a \$100.00 DIY Winter Prep Rebate. Eligible products are weather stripping; window and door caulking; spray foam sealant; window insulation shrink kits; pipe insulation; duct insulation; duct sealant; tank wrap; and foam board insulation. To qualify, items must be purchased October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022, customers commit to self-install in a Maine home within 30 days of purchase, the rebate claim form emailed or postmarked within 90 days of purchase, and copy of receipts showing purchase date, price, and product description attached to rebate claim form. On receipts, circle or highlight products eligible for rebate. For more information go to <https://www.energymaine.com/at-home/100-diy-winter-prep-rebate/>

## Hermon Recreation Football Program

By: Isaiah Marseille

October 25th night marked the final game for our youth tackle football teams in 2022, and what a fantastic season it was! Our 7/8 boys battled in a rough game to complete their season UNDEFEATED - also joining our 5/6 teams who remained undefeated throughout the season. In what is certainly not an easy sport, all teams worked extremely hard and will continue to grow and develop in the future. Thank you to all the parents and families who support their kids, this program, and those who put in the extra time to help whenever needed. Thank you to Kyle Gallant and the Hermon High School football team for their continued time and support of our youth throughout the season. Thank you to all the businesses that assisted with getting our new uniforms this year: Maine Mosquito Man LLC, Bangor Lawn and Landscape, Sweep & Slate, Danforth's Down Home Supermarket, Trusty Wrench Property Maintenance, Convenient MD, First National Bank, Douglass Photography, Blackbear North Basketball, Bangor Auto & Truck Center Inc, JM Brown General Contractors Inc., Fathers Farm, Tensegrity Health & Aesthetics, My Best Health, Midnight Customs & Detailing, and Leonard Heavy Rescue. And finally, thank you to our amazing head coaches and their staff for another successful season - Eric Curtis, Jason Largay, Josh Kelsey, Jermaine Walker, & Chris Mclellan. The future is bright!



A special **THANK YOU** to our soccer coaches this year for stepping up and volunteering their time to further develop our youth! And as always, shoutout to coach **Kyle Gallant** and the **High School Football team** for their continued time and support put into our youth tackle football, and flag football programs.



Mike Cianchette  
Rachel Deabay  
Josh Masterman  
Jillian Ingerson  
Cassandra Deprey  
Jesse Keith

Sean Ward  
Tina Phair  
Jonathan Stewart  
Jeremiah Rancourt  
Ana & Ella Johnson  
Kristian Nelson  
Bill Robinson

Finally, thank you to **ALL** of our youth tackle football coaches. It was a fantastic season!



**ERIC CURTIS**

**JOSH KELSEY**

**JASON LARGAY**

**JERMAINE WALKER**

**CHRIS MCLELLAN**

Ricky Hughes  
Brendan Robinson  
Rebecca Hubbell  
Kelly Sheehan  
Louie Morrison  
Abby Chapman

Ashley Burgess  
Sam Michaud  
Teresa Goodrich  
Adam Duplisea  
Brett Danforth  
Jen Brown

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**Happy Holidays!**

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