

**Updates • News • Events • Information**

## Community Indoor Children's Yard Sale



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

# HERMON RECREATION YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAMS



## K-6 PROGRAM

Hermon Rec's Summer Camp serves youth entering K - 6th grade. We're happy to announce that we will provide an 8-week program Monday-Friday during summer vacation!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

H-Nation is a summer day camp for middle school students (5th-8th grade) with a focus on getting the kids out of the house, allowing them to spend time with their friends for daily activities, games, competitions, and weekly field trips!

## GRADES 5-8 DAY TRIPS

Youth Summer Day Trips are field trips for Hermon, Carmel, and Levant residents entering 5th-8th grade that are offered over summer vacation with Hermon Recreation! We are currently scheduling trips to Funtown, Aquaboggan, Portland Seadogs, Acadia National Park, and Monkey C Monkey Do.



**VISIT [WWW.HERMONREC.COM](http://WWW.HERMONREC.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION**

## The Community Returns "In-Person" to the Duran School

*by Melissa Davis, Patricia A. Duran School Principal*

There is no question that one of the impacts that COVID-19 has had on our school is the restrictions on community participation and presence. We have been very excited to return to community participation this year! Having our youngest students see how passionate the Hermon community is about education and its students is incredibly important to the success of all of our learners.

We started off the school year with a sneak-a-peek (open house) for all students. This allowed them to meet their teacher and see their classroom prior to school starting. Instead of a virtual tour, students were able to bring their families. We continued with in-person parent/teacher conferences. It was so refreshing to meet parents in-person and have those important conversations face-to-face.

We were also able to bring back our concerts and academic showcase nights. This past February, our first and second graders performed for a packed house! They performed a variety of songs, including classics like "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" and "You're a Grand Old Flag." We look forward to the other grade-level concerts planned for this spring.

In addition to "returning to normal" with our typical family events, we have also been able to partner with Junior Achievement. Through this program, we were able to bring in community members to work with our 4th graders on entrepreneurship. Our students had a blast learning about starting a business and the businesses that exist in our community. We are very thankful for the community members that volunteered their time to work with our students on these valuable real life skills. We are also excited that they want to continue this work with our 3rd grade students!

Finally, we had a successful "Family Learn to Snowshoe" event. This was our second annual event. We provided snowshoes and cocoa. Families showed up and were able to snowshoe around the field, or follow the story walk created by our staff. We were happy to provide this opportunity for our community, and were pleased with the number of families that participated. As always, we are thankful for the town of Hermon and are excited to continue to show our students how important it is to belong to a community.





# MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER SKILLS CLINICS

**GRADES 6 - 8**

**REGISTER NOW!**

[WWW.HERMONREC.COM](http://WWW.HERMONREC.COM)

# MIDDLE SCHOOL HAWKS TRACK & FIELD

**GRADES  
5-8**

**\$65**

**REGISTER BY SUNDAY APRIL 2ND**



[WWW.HERMONREC.COM](http://WWW.HERMONREC.COM)

## **Want to contribute to the Hermon Connection?**

Have something you want to share with the community? If you have an item of interest pertaining to the Town of Hermon we want to hear about it! Submitting an article in the Hermon Connection is a good way for residents and organizations to share stories of interest with the community. If you would like to submit an article, please email it to Lindsey Ouellette at [ouellettel@hermonmaine.gov](mailto:ouellettel@hermonmaine.gov). In order for Hermon residents and/or organizations to submit articles to be published in the Connection, the following criteria must be met:

1. The person submitting the article must be a resident of the Town of Hermon.
2. The organization submitting the article must be location within Hermon's geographic boundaries.
3. The organization has a lawful purpose which does not pose a threat to public order, to the safety of the public, or to the safety of any individual.
4. The organization does not have as its primary purpose marketing products of services or making a profit.

Please be aware that any articles and notices submitted by community members and community organizations may not contain offensive language, slander, advocate violence or unlawful activity, or pose a threat to public order or to persons or their reputation. When determining whether or not to submit an article, please be aware the deadlines for submission are approximately the 20th of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Once you have submitted your article, Town staff will be in contact with you to let you know if the article you submitted will be published.





## Comprehensive Plan Committee

Update - March 2023

***The Town of Hermon has formed a Comprehensive Plan Committee to advise the Town Council regarding our next 10-year plan for the community as required by the State of Maine. See below for information about the process and useful links to scheduled meetings, agendas and survey information.***

### ***What is a comprehensive plan?***

A comprehensive plan requires community visioning and strategies for future success. Imagining how your community could be at its very best 10-20 years out and creating a viable plan to reach those goals is critical to well run municipalities and the entire region. It's about understanding the forces of change and working with them to achieve a better future. The most critical ingredient to forging a strong comprehensive plan is articulating a compelling vision that is achievable for the future, which requires taking a hard look at current policies and future trends, and a commitment to effective approaches likely to result in positive, measurable outcomes consistent with the community's overall goals.

Comprehensive plans are also the legal underpinning of zoning ordinances—intended to assure that the power of zoning is not used arbitrarily, unfairly, or without attention to identified and documented needs after considering current data and conditions. State of Maine requirements for any approved comprehensive plan are described in the *Maine Growth Management Act Title 30-A*.

Commonly addressed issues in comprehensive plans include:

- growth, both commercial and residential
- education and schools
- open space issues
- the environment
- economic development, economic diversification
- housing affordability
- elderly issues and services
- changing demographics
- recreational opportunities
- community image
- traffic, congestion
- regional concerns

### ***How do residents contribute ideas?***

As part of the process of planning, a public participation program will be offered to residents including a Town wide survey available in March 2023 at the website link:

<https://www.hermonmaine.gov/town-government/town-committees/comprehensive-plan-committee/>

Interested parties can also scan the QR code below to visit the site:

For more information,  
progress updates, and  
public input opportunities:



[www.hermonmaine.gov](https://www.hermonmaine.gov)



## ELECTIONS

*By Kristen Cushman, Town Clerk*

On June 13, 2023, we will have a Municipal Election.

The Town Council has two (2) seats, and the School Board has one (1) seat that will all expire June 30, 2023. If you are interested in serving your community and would like more information about what serving as an elected official in Hermon is about do not hesitate to contact me.

Nomination papers will be available in my office on March 6, 2023. Candidates are required to obtain 25 valid supporting signatures. Those signatures are due back by 4:00pm on April 4, 2023.

On November 7, 2023, we have a Referendum Election for the State of Maine.

## PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

*By Rylee Cushman, Assessor*

### **THE ASSESSING OFFICE HAS MAILED THE ANNUAL BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY FORMS (706-A REQUESTS)**

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

#### **Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program (BETE):**

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

A BETE application **MUST be filed ANNUALLY** with the tax assessor by April 1 of each year, but an extension to May 1 is automatically granted. Further extensions beyond May 1 may be requested in writing to the local assessor. Filing the BETE application on time is critical, as property will be disqualified from the exemption for any year the report is not considered to be timely filed. The exemption application **MUST LIST ON THE APPLICATION** all eligible exempt property purchased after April 1, 2007, *each year*, not only in the year of purchase. There is no time limit on the number of years the exemption may be claimed, but the business or business owner must apply annually with a completed application and itemized list of personal property requesting exemption on.

Please contact our office at 207-848-1044 or email us at [Assessor@HermonMaine.gov](mailto:Assessor@HermonMaine.gov) for more information on the above programs or help with declaring your Business's Personal Property.



*The Town Council members invite  
you to...*

## Coffee & Conversation



*Join us on  
4/4/2023!*

*9:00AM-11:00AM*

*Council Chambers*

*333 Billings Rd*



# DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!



As set by the Town Council, all tax  
payments will be due  
in full by April 1, 2023

Interest will start accruing on  
April 4, 2023 at a rate of 4% annually on  
any unpaid taxes.

If you have any questions, please contact  
Michael Chammings, Tax Collector  
or call 848-1010 option 3 and ask for The  
Deputy Tax Collector.

## *Hermon Business reaches 10th Anniversary!*



The Hermon community congratulates *Bangor Glass & Graphics* on its tenth-year anniversary! Over the past decade, the company has undergone an expansion allowing it to offer new services to its clientele. The company now has the space to service large vehicles and box trucks, they have upgraded their stock to accommodate larger signs and graphics. With more than 20 years of experience, owners Stephen Roberts and his wife Jeanette opened their family-owned auto glass business in 2013. Since then, they have added a full-service sign and graphics shop.

Bangor Glass & Graphics ensures quality installations. When it comes to your vehicle glass replacement and safety, they choose to employ certified technicians with over twenty years of experience. Bangor Glass & Graphics uses the best quality products and tools to guarantee a quality install that ensures a safe install for your vehicle by replacing or repairing to factory standards. Their glass comes from two highly rated U.S. suppliers. They are one of the few glass companies that offer a thirty-minute safe driveaway time and offer high-performance vinyl to increase the longevity of your sign, banner, building, or lettering. The business offers a wide variety of services including; auto glass replacement, stone chip repairs, Lexan, heavy equipment glass, side view mirrors, signs, banners, vehicle lettering, magnetics, printing, and a wide variety of promotional products. Along with offering in-shop services, *Bangor Glass & Graphics* provides free mobile services to your home, work or wherever is most convenient for you!

*"They are exactly what you would expect from a local business and more. The job expectations were set straight up front and the results were on point thereafter. A very honest, engaging, and caring staff made sure that we were well taken care of while my hyperactive 2-year-old daughter and I waited for the repair. I highly recommend this business!"*, says Nabil Salim.

Visit this Hermon business for you lettering or glass replacement needs today!



**Bangor Glass & Graphics**

60 Freedom Parkway Suite 2 Hermon, ME 04401  
(207) 848-9800  
Fax: (207) 848-9805  
Email: [info@bangorglass.com](mailto:info@bangorglass.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/bangorglassme>



Vehicle lettering by *Bangor Glass & Graphics*

Story by: Shelby Reynolds, Hermon DECD Office

## **New Legislature Passed Energy Bill, is Focused on State Budget**

On December 7, 2022 members of the 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature raised their right hand and swore an oath to uphold the Constitution. I again thank those who placed their trust in me over the next two years. I will do my best to represent everyone, regardless of political party or persuasion.

The Legislature is now in the process of considering over 2,200 pieces of legislation and crafting a state budget for the next two years. I am the Ranking Republican on the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources and also proudly serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. I am pleased with these assignments based on my background and interest in the Maine outdoors.

I remain concerned that Maine state government is taking in too much money from taxpayers that are struggling to pay higher cost on virtually everything needed to live. Maine has over-collected \$1.5 billion in tax revenues over the last year. Some of it has gone back to taxpayers in the form of relief checks. Most recently \$450 energy relief checks were approved and have begun going out to people that filed state tax returns in 2022.

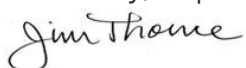
This is only short term relief. Every month our energy bills are increasing with no end in sight. We need to take a hard look at state energy policies that are contributing to high electric, oil, and gas prices. Everyone needs a seat at the table and a willingness to consider all options, not just the ones favored by lobbyists. I hope that significant legislation emerges that can be acted upon to bring down prices in the long-term.

I want small businesses, nonprofits, and community serving organizations to recover and prosper in the years ahead. I also want a state that our young people choose to stay in, and one that attracts others to move here. A culture that favors work and job creators will lower taxes for everyone and provide appropriate safety nets without over-burdening taxpayers or retirees.

I will work hard and cooperatively with other members of the 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature over the next two years. If we work together, we can move Maine forward by restoring what has been lost.

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 or concerns involving state agencies, please contact me at [Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov).

Sincerely, Rep. Jim Thorne





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# CLOTHING SALE

Morgan Hill Event Center will be hosting a  
three-day women's clothing sale April 14, 15,  
16. All items will be \$5 or less and brand new  
with tags. Over 12,000 pieces will be brand  
names from a big "Bullseye" box store and  
the leading online "A to Z" retailer.

Follow our Facebook page  
for more information!



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