

The Hermon CONNECTION



Vol. 32 Issue 3 - May 2025

Updates • News • Events • Information

Hawk Battalion Cadets Go On Incentive Refueling Flight

Article & Photos Submitted by: Mackenzie Oiler



On the morning of April 24, several Hermon High School junior and senior cadets participated in an incentive flight with the 101st Air Refueling Wing. The cadets, alongside Vice Principal Bieberstein and School Resource Officer Deputy Boyd, took flight in a KC-135, with a mission to refuel several F-15C fighter aircrafts. Cadets took

off at around 09:30 and headed to an area off the coast of New England. Cadets got to experience many parts of what happens on a refueling mission, including watching the boom operators and sitting in the cockpit during takeoff and landing. Our cadets, as well as Vice Principal Bieberstein and Deputy Boyd, would like to thank the MAINEiacs of the 101st for this special experience.

Town of Hermon
Stephen Fields, Town Manager
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sfields@hermonmaine.gov
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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
Deadline for submissions: June 20, 2025
Next Edition will be published mid-June

Message from the Town Manager

The fiscal year will be ending on June 30th with the new one beginning on July 1st. The Town and School administrations have worked diligently on providing budgets for the voters to operate the municipality. Thank you all to have assisted and participated in the process.

The summer season is coming soon. Weather is changing and nice to see after a long winter, so please be cautious with children in the neighborhoods playing. Recreation is preparing for the summer season of programs and sports.

Thank you to Councilor Chair John Snyder, Councilors Derek Wood and Richard Cyr for their time on the Council. I would also like to thank the School Committee members whose terms are ending for supporting the education of the children.

This summer, may you continue to stay safe and enjoy the wonderful community in this great State of Maine, the Town of Hermon, a great little town in the heart of Maine to Live, Work and Play.

Sincerely your Town Manager,
Stephen Fields

School and Municipal Voting

Submitted by: Kristen Cushman, Town Clerk

May 8 - Public Hearing for School Budget & Municipal Budget
Public Safety Building 6:30pm

May 12 - Absentee Ballots are available for voters and walk-in voting at Town Office
June 10 - Election Day to vote on School Committeeperson and Town Councilperson
Hermon High School gym from 7:00am to 8:00pm

June 12 - Annual Town Meeting - School Budget meeting with warrant articles and
Municipal budget with warrant articles
Hermon High Auditorium 6:30pm

The Town Council has three vacant seats. Richard Cyr, Jason Forbes, and Chad Leonard have submitted papers for the seats.

The School Committee has two vacant seats. Caroline Delmonaco, Haily Keezer, Jonathan Smith and Eugene Sullivan Jr. have submitted papers for the seat.

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 Town Council or School Committee 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 and telephone number, and 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)

GOOD NUMBERS FOR HERMON

Article Submitted by: Senator Joe Baldacci

It's been a busy few months in the Legislature, but I'm proud to have taken actions that benefit our district, especially folks in Hermon.

The Town of Hermon and its schools stand to benefit from the recently passed continuing services budget that I supported and helped pass. Because of those efforts, in Fiscal Year 2026, Hermon will be receiving approximately \$810,000 from revenue sharing, which is almost \$80,000 more than last year. The State has also kept its promise of funding 55% of public school costs, so Hermon schools can expect to receive over \$8 million, another double-digit increase for Hermon.

My hope is that these funds can be used to further improve our school programs, keep our property taxes down, and continue to show what makes Hermon such a great place to live, work and raise a family. But the final decisions on that funding are up to the Hermon Town Council and the Hermon School Committee – so let them know how you want it spent!

If you have any questions or need help getting in touch with a government agency, feel free to reach out to me at Joe.Baldacci@legislature.maine.gov or call my legislative office at 207-287-1515 or my office in downtown Bangor at 207-945-3333.

2nd Annual Pins and Pines Golf Scramble to benefit Pine Tree Camp

Swing it for a good cause!

When: Saturday, July 26, 2025 | Tee off at 9:00am

Where: Hermon Meadows Golf Club

Cost: \$80 per person / \$320 per foursome

Details: Scramble format. Net and gross prizes. Try your luck at the casino hole, closest to the pin, and straightest drive contests. 50/50 raffle. Bonus: all registrants receive a complimentary \$30 green fee for a future game!

[Register: Learn more and register today before spots fill up: https://pinetreesociety.org/pins-and-pines-golf-scramble-for-pine-tree-camp/](https://pinetreesociety.org/pins-and-pines-golf-scramble-for-pine-tree-camp/)

Why: Pine Tree Camp is a place where kids and adults with disabilities can get outside and do all the things most of us take for granted, but are not so easy when you have a disability. From fishing to archery to biking to sleeping in a tent under the stars to climbing up into a fully-accessible tree house, at Pine Tree Camp you can do it all.

And here's the best part: No camper is ever turned away due to their ability to pay. Every dollar from this tournament supports our open door tuition fund. Which means someone in your community gets to go to camp and have the experience of a lifetime this summer because you stepped up to support Pine Tree Camp!

Contact:

Audra Gordon, Community Engagement Manager

P: 207-386-6033 / E: agordon@pinetreesociety.org



**Spaghetti
DINNER
SILENT
AUCTION**

**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
FUNDRAISER**

 **Saturday, July 19th**

 **4 - 7 PM**

 **Hermon High School
2415 US-2, Hermon, ME**

-Matthew Sforza-
8/14/2000-

Please join us at Hermon High for a memorial scholarship fundraiser in July! This fundraiser, dedicated to the late Matthew Sforza, will help raise scholarship funds for an existing Hermon High School student who will be attending the University of Maine or a community college with a business management degree. There will be a 50/50 raffle, silent auction, and spaghetti dinner by donation. We hope to see you there!

-The Sforza Family & Friends

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. In order for Hermon residents and/or organizations to submit articles to be published in the Connection, certain criteria must be met.

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. We look forward to hearing from you!

Husson University Nursing Students Host Teddy Bear Clinic for Pre-Kindergarten Students

Article Submitted By: Melissa Davis, Ed.D.



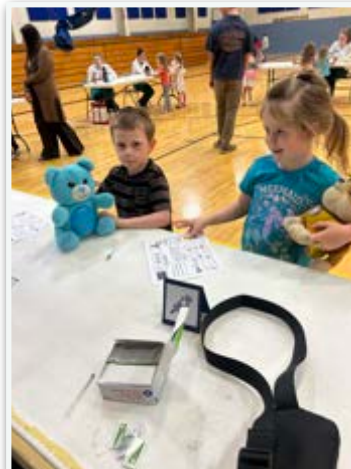
During the month of April, nursing students from Husson University visited our PreK classroom to conduct a "Teddy Bear Clinic," providing our young learners with a unique and educational experience.

During the clinic, each child brought their favorite stuffed animal to serve as a "patient." The nursing students guided the children through various medical procedures, such as checking vital signs, applying bandages, and listening to heartbeats using real medical equipment. This hands-on approach helped demystify medical processes and made the experience both engaging and informative.

The primary goal of the Teddy Bear Clinic was to familiarize our PreK students with medical procedures in a friendly and non-threatening environment. By role-playing as healthcare providers for their stuffed animals, the children gained a better understanding of what to expect during medical visits, which can help reduce anxiety and build trust in real-life healthcare situations.

This initiative aligns with research indicating that such clinics, led by nursing students, can significantly enhance health knowledge among preschool children and foster positive community relationships.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Husson University nursing students for their dedication and for creating a nurturing environment where our young learners could explore and learn about healthcare. Their efforts have undoubtedly made a lasting impact on our students' perception of medical care.



Budget process failed Maine again

For the third state budget in a row, majority Democrats have used a constitutional loophole to circumvent the traditional bipartisan state budget process. To do this, they passed a majority budget, then adjourned (ended) the legislative session on March 21, months before the June 18 statutory adjournment date. Thousands of bills had not even been printed or acted upon. Governor Mills immediately called us back into special session citing extraordinary circumstances. Mainers deserve and should expect their leaders to behave better than this.

This constitutional loophole requires passing a "majority budget" in March, instead of the typical time in June. Passing it in June requires a two-thirds majority. It ensures that both Republicans and Democrats have a say in the final budget passed, making it a bipartisan endeavor. The Maine Constitution is set up to bring about this outcome. No one party should be able to completely ignore or override the other.

Democrats only passed part of a budget so they can claim that it does not raise the new or expanded taxes proposed by Governor Mills on pensions, tobacco products, cannabis, gallons of paint, drug prescriptions, ambulance services, and online streaming services. There will be tax increases later when the new revenue projections are made in May. Their budget does not fully fund MaineCare in year-2, it is short by \$122 million.

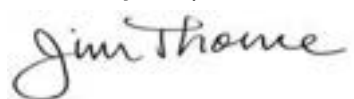
Remember that state government went from having projected surpluses to a shortfall in a few short years. One-party overspending has resulted a budget that increases approximately \$1.1 billion, going from \$10.5 billion to \$11.663 billion. Rather than reduce spending or find efficiencies, the budget freezes statutory cost of living payments to direct care workers and Maine hospitals that are already losing money. You may have noticed that several more hospitals and medical facilities have closed.

It is increasingly apparent that the majority has no interest in hearing any opinions that differ from their own narrow agenda which ensures higher spending and higher taxes for Maine citizens.

I believe that both parties' voices should be heard to create a bipartisan budget that represents the values of all Mainers, not just those living in southern Maine. The traditional budget process that used to be the norm guarantees that outcome. Abandoning that process disenfranchised half of Maine out.

I will continue to advocate for transparent and collaborative work that addresses the problems that everyday Mainers face. There are many other important issues before the legislature. I look forward to hearing from you during the next two years on state issues of interest to you, or matters concerning state agencies. Please contact me at Jim.Thorne@legislature.maine.gov if I can be of assistance. I appreciate the opportunity to represent you in Augusta.

Sincerely, Rep. Jim Thorne



Penobscot Snowmobile Club Update

Article Submitted by: Sonya Eldridge

The club certainly has been busy since our last article! Byron Ogden, our Trail Master invited Bangor's Paul Bunyan Snowmobile Club members Mike Runnells, Casey Taylor, and Aaron Carver to our March potluck meeting to discuss sharing one mile of trail maintenance on the Bangor/ Hermon town line. It will be great working with them this coming winter season! We are hosting a multi-club meeting in May, inviting clubs from Hampden, Bangor, Levant, and Carmel with the hopes of offering one another resources and help in any way possible in the coming years. We are planning on a multi-club ride next snowmobile season, spending the day riding from club to club enjoying our local trails. We may even throw in a poker run just to keep it interesting!

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry inspected our 42 miles of trails back in February to facilitate GPS mapping of these trails. This coming season we will have accurate, up-to-date maps to share.

On March 29th we served a community Haddock Fish Fry and Baked Ham dinner with mashed potato, french fries, roll, slaw, dessert and drink. On April 19th we served a Haddock Chowder, Shepherd's Pie dinner with salad, roll, dessert and drink. Both community dinners were well attended and cost a donation of \$10.00 per person. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying each other's company over a great meal!

We will be hosting the Kevin Call Memorial Truck Pull on Saturday, July 19th produced by the Maine State Truck and Tractor Pulling Association. This is a family friendly event with plenty of parking, lots of good food and tons of action all day. Gates open at 8am and pulling starts at 10am. Diesels, Farm Tractors, 4X4s and 2WDs are some of the classes of pulling you will see. This year we are offering overnight camping for the pullers and their support teams.

We would like to thank C. A. Newcomb & Sons Fence & Guardrail Company for the very generous donation of 27 panels of chain-link fencing to be installed at the pulling area. This will make the area safer for spectators and guarantee a great spot for watching the pulls. Bring your lawn chair or sit on our bleachers and enjoy the show!

We currently have 131 club members. If you are interested in joining please contact Byron at 207-852-8961.

The clubhouse is available to rent as a venue for any gathering of 40-50 guests. We have a kitchen, two bathrooms and plenty of parking. The rental fee is \$150. and includes club membership. Contact Chuck at 207-478-8280 for information.

The best place for up-to-date information is at our "Sled Hermon" Facebook page or by calling Andy at 207-852-8214. See you soon!





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Outdoor Concert

Harold J. Crosby Community Band
June 26, 2025

7:00 pm

Enjoy popular, classical, Broadway,
rock and patriotic music
Rain date July 10, 2025

♦ Free admission ♦
Please bring your own chair

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Mail: 333 Billings Rd, Hermon, ME 04401





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HERMON TOWN OFFICE**

SATURDAY, MAY 17

The poster has an orange background with a yellow border. It features a large black tag with the word 'SALE' in white, which is being held up by a pair of legs. The text is in various bold, sans-serif fonts. The date 'SATURDAY, MAY 17' is at the bottom in a large, bold, black font.