Hope & Kindness are not cancelled...be strong and stay healthy.

- Maine Bureau of Agriculture warns of unsolicited packages of seeds from China *Do not plant them and report it to Division of Animal and Plant Health* (see more of press release at end of newsletter).
- Assessors meeting August 6th set the Property tax Mil Rate at $11.90 per $1,000 evaluation (see Town Manager section). Tax bills will be arriving next week.
- Winter Sand Bids - The town is looking for bids for winter sand. The specs and all information is on the website under News & Announcements.
- THE CODE OFFICE Anyone needing assistance from the code or assessing office is required to call and set up an appointment. The number is 583-0923. If you don't have an appointment you will need to wait in line to reach the clerk's counter in order to get assistance and a code officer may not be available.

In consideration of the safety of the vulnerable populations within our community, we encourage people to use on-line services for renewal of registrations (car, trailer, boat, ATV), pay taxes, get fishing licenses, etc. links can be found through our town website www.harrisonmaine.org.

Maine Fun Facts: John D Rockefeller Jr. funded the majority of Acadia National Park's carriage roads and trail systems between 1915-1933.

If you have town related business, or information on events you would like included in the update, please email the information to newsletters@harrisonmaine.org.

From the Desk of the Town Manager ~ Tim Pellerin

Brain Teaser of the Week: What has no hands but might knock on your door, and if it does you better open up? Last week: What can be stolen, mistaken, or altered, yet never leaves you your entire life? Answer: Your identity.

Dear Citizens:
Another beautiful day today! Hope you will be able to get out and enjoy the weather and outdoors this weekend.

Here are a few things that happened this week: Our new Deputy is making the rounds and patrolling our streets. We cleaned up trees and addressing various runoff/wash out issues, continue ditching and repairing roads.

At the Assessors Meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2020, the mill rate (which is the number used to set property taxes) was set at $11.90 per $1,000 valuation for the 2020-21 tax year.

This is an increase from $11.20 per $1,000 to $11.90 per $1,000 dollars of evaluation. See the following Chart for increases. The increase was due to the 4.79% school budget increase to the Town of Harrison from the MSAD17 School District. The first half is due September 14th.
We had a meeting with the Broadband Advisory Committee they are getting organized and will be very helpful in gathering information about broadband options for the Town. Next meeting will be August 19 at 1:30 pm.

Last but not least, I was informed by LEA (Lakes Environmental Association) that they found a serious health and sanitation issue. “In recent weeks, they received multiple reports from shorefront landowners finding human feces in the water of Long Lake and boaters and other recreationalists defecating on private property along the shore. Our staff (LEA) have also seen this issue firsthand. Because boating and lake recreation is a relatively safe activity right now, more people appear to be out on the water and the problem seems to be getting worse.” Please let’s be respectful of others and keep our lakes and shores clean and use the proper facilities and hygiene. Thank you and have a great weekend in Harrison.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Quote of the Week:**

Who said this quote?

“Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood.”

**Last week:** Aristotle said – “It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light.”

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<th>Property Value</th>
<th>FY2020 Tax</th>
<th>New FY2021 Tax</th>
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FROM THE CLERK’S OFFICE
As summer chugs along, I would like to remind everyone if you haven’t taken the Census now would be a great time. Visit www.2020census.gov.

Why is it important? 2020 Census will determine congressional representation, inform hundreds of billions in federal funding every year, and provide data that will impact communities for the next decade.

What is the local impact? The census impacts school funding for various programs, plans for highways, support for firefighters and families in need are just a few reasons to take a few minutes to fill it out.

I told you last week the electronic site for absentee ballots would be available this week if anyone wanted to request a ballot for November. However, I later learned the State is making some upgrades to the site so it won’t be available for a couple of weeks. If you use the site to request a ballot, please just keep checking in.

I know you are all as excited as I am about this time of year and maybe some of you are like me and you sit by that mailbox excitedly waiting for that tax bill to be delivered. Well the wait is almost over because tax bills will start arriving next week!

The first half of the taxes are due September 14th. Remember you can go online to our website www.harrisonmaine.org and click on the link for online payments. Taxes are paid through AndroGov which is part of Androscoggin Bank. You need the account number with no leading zeros or the RE. We also have a drop box in front of the building if you don’t want to come into the office or it is afterhours.

Winter Sand Bids
The town is looking for bids for winter sand. I know it is only early August but winter preparation takes time. The specs and all information is on the website under News & Announcements.

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Fire & Rescue Responses ~

- Emergency - 911 – Non-Emergency Sheriff Dept. – 893-2810

HARRISON FIRE/RESCUE CALL RESPONSES

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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>7-30-20</td>
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<td>7-31-20</td>
<td>EMS call</td>
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<td>7-31-20</td>
<td>Fire alarm</td>
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<td>8-3-20</td>
<td>EMS call</td>
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<td>8-4-20</td>
<td>Electrical hazard. Seven locations in town with downed trees and wires. Several roads closed.</td>
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<td>8-5-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-5-20</td>
<td>EMS call</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-5-20</td>
<td>EMS call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-5-20</td>
<td>EMS call</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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From Public Works

Winter Sand Bids
The town is looking for bids for winter sand. The specs and all information are on the website under News & Announcements.
From the Transfer Station ~
The Transfer Station is open with regular hours but please observe social distancing and do not enter the buildings. This is for the safety and protection of our employees and the public.

Harrison Rec Dept~ For more information contact Kayla at 583-2241 or klaird@harrisonmaine.org
It’s a beautiful day here at Harrison Rec! We have only 1 more week remaining in our Summer Rec Program! We have been having an absolute blast! I continue to be beyond proud of all the staff members and campers for following the guidelines in place which has kept and safe and healthy throughout these last 7 weeks! I would like to send a big shout out to the Harrison Food Bank for their continued support and providing our hungry and growing campers with lots of snacks each week! Thank You Harrison Food Bank!

Oxford Hills Athletic Boosters announced that they will be taking registrations for Fall sports for kids in grade 3-6. With that being said, Harrison Rec will be continuing our Little Kicks Program and will also offer a 1-2 grade skills and drills season along with some scrimmages.

A note from OHAB: Here are a few things parents/guardians need to know before registering their athlete.
1. OHAB is working on strict COVID-19 Guidelines for the Fall 2020 season. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in athletes dismissal from the program.
2. In case of cancellation, there will be NO refunds. Instead, credits will be issued to online accounts to use at a later date.
3. There will be no kindergarten-2nd grade signups for the Fall 2020 sports season.
4. Waivers will need to be signed before athletes are permitted to participate in any Fall programs.

As school gets closer, our hopes it to provide email information to our registered families with details regarding their child’s sports.

You can register online for OHAB at http://www.oxfordhillsathleticboosters.com/

Soccer registrations for Little Kicks and 1-2 grades can register at https://campscui.active.com/orgs/HarrisonMaineRecreation?orglink=camps-registration

Harrison Village Library ~
The Harrison Village Library is now open by appointment. 15 minute blocks will be available to one person or one household—up to 5 members—at a time. Curb service will still be available for anyone who wishes it, or for anyone unable to wear a mask. We will offer these services during our regular hours: Monday 1-7, Wednesday 1-7, Thursday 11-5, Saturday 10-2; call or email to arrange your time.

Imagine Your Story, our Summer Reading Program for kids!
This program is available for all children from birth to age 18, and ends August 15. Registrations accepted in person, over the phone, or by email.

Saturday, August 29, 2:00 p.m.: Read ME Book Discussion
Join us on Zoom for a discussion of the two Read ME selections for this year, chosen by Maine author Lily King: *The Vigilance of Stars* by Patricia O’Donnell, and *Roughhouse Friday* by Jaed Coffin. Copies of the books are available for loan; please contact the library for more information or to register for the discussion.

To call the library: (207) 583-2970. To email: kkramer@harrison.lib.me.us
Recurring Events ~
HARRISON FOOD BANK – Tuesdays – 12:00pm to 6:00pm
Located at the Harrison Food Bank, Ronald G. St. John Community Center located at 176 Waterford Road in Harrison, mailing address: PO Box 112, Harrison, ME 04040 Telephone 207-647-3384

Upcoming Events ~
Harrison Lions Club Pancake Breakfast August 23rd at Long Lake Park 7:30 – 11:00 am. See Attached Flyer.

Harrison Historical Society ~ The Harrison Historical Society museum and farmhouse located on Haskell Hill Road will be open only by appointment. Please call Gerry Smith 583-2213.

PRESS RELEASE
Maine Bureau of Agriculture warns of unsolicited packages of seeds from China
07/28/2020 12:37 PM EDT

*Do not plant them and report it to Division of Animal and Plant Health*

AUGUSTA - In Maine and across the US, people are reporting receiving unsolicited packages containing seeds from China in the mail. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) Bureau of Agriculture is advising anyone who gets these packages to not open or plant the seeds. Recipients are asked to contact either DACF's Division of Animal and Plant Health, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., at (207) 287-3200 or by emailing horticulture@maine.gov or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Plant Health Inspection Service - Plant Protection and Quarantine office in Hermon, ME, at (207) 848-0008. Recipients should hold onto the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from DACF or USDA gets in touch with further instructions. Please do not plant seeds from unknown origins.

The seeds are usually sent in white packages displaying Chinese lettering and the words "China Post." Most recipients say they did not order anything, and that the packaging was labeled as jewelry. Some recipients have reported ordering seeds on Amazon and receiving these seeds.

The United States Department of Agriculture's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service's Plant Protection and Quarantine Smuggling, Interdiction and Trade Compliance Unit is currently investigating this situation across the nation.

# # #
HARRISON LIONS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Pancake Breakfast
August 23rd

Long Lake Park 7:30 – 11:00 am

All you can Eat
Blueberry, Chocolate Chip, Plain,
Sausage, Juice, Coffee

ADULTS $8.00   CHILDREN under 10 $5.00

Proceeds and donations used for local causes