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).
- **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](http://www.harrisonmaine.org).

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**Maine Fun Facts:** Maine State Bird: The Chickadee - Maine State Tree: The White Pine

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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.

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**From the Desk of the Town Manager ~ Tim Pellerin**

**Brain Teaser of the Week:**
My life is often a volume of grief, your help is needed to turn a new leaf.
Stiff is my spine and my body is pale, but I'm always ready to tell a tale.
What am I?
Last week: What has no hands but might knock on your door, and if it does you better open up? Answer: Opportunity.

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**Dear Citizens:**
Another beautiful day today, much less humid. 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: Check out the Notes from the Selectmen Meeting at the end of the update for more detail about what has been happening this week and ongoing items.

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?
“Do not let making a living prevent you from making a life.”
**Last week:** Ralph Waldo Emerson said – “Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood.”

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**FROM THE CLERK’S OFFICE**

The first half of the taxes are due September 14th. Remember you can go online to our website [www.harrisonmaine.org](http://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.

While the broadband committee is working on a grant to explore options to provide coverage to the town for underserved areas, committee members are helping us map the areas that may have enough concentration to be able to have Charter (formerly Spectrum) run lines to provide more coverage. I am thankful for the committee’s help because this is a time-consuming project, gathering the information needed so we can present our case.

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**Fire & Rescue Responses ~**

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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.

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**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

Summer Rec ended this week with a lot of “air” hugs and smiles. The kids had a great summer with some great weather!

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.

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**September 20, 2020 Cat and Dog First Aid/CPR Course**

Hosted by **The Maine POM Project** and **Carl Hoskins**

Do you know what to do if your pet has a medical emergency?
If you are a pet owner, pet walker, pet sitter, pet groomer, dog daycare employee, animal shelter employee/volunteer, ACOs, FF/EMT, Police Officer, CART member, or just want to be prepared in case of a pet emergency, this course is for you.

SAFETY WILL BE A PRIORITY AT THIS EVENT. WE WILL BE IN A VERY LARGE INDOOR AREA AND WILL MAINTAIN A MINIMUM 6 FOOT SOCIAL DISTANCE.

Course topics include: Understanding basic pet ownership responsibilities, administering medicine, managing breathing and cardiac emergencies, managing first aid emergencies, treating wounds, electrical shock, caring for eye, paw, ear injuries, and preparing for disasters...etc.

Cost - **$80**, half to register, balance due day of course. Includes tuition, book, and certificate of completion. Cash or check accepted. Please, make checks payable to Maine POM Project.

Instructor – Bobby Silcott of the Maine POM Project (Pet Oxygen Mask)

How to pre-register: Call Carl at 207-595-5237

Register early, space is limited.

Class runs from 10 am - 3 pm with a short recess for lunch. Please bring your own lunch.

All proceeds benefit the Maine POM Project.

MAINE ACOs WILL RECEIVE 5 CEHs FOR ATTENDING.

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**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.

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**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
Warrants 4 – 7 were approved with signatures

July 16, 2020 minutes were approved

Paving bid for Deertrees, Dillon and Old Whitney Roads was approved for A & W Paving to do the work.

Liquor license for Fluvial Brewing was approved.

Parking violations have been raised from $10 to $25. Please pay attention to signage, especially at the Long Lake boat launch.

The Traffic & Parking Ordinance was amended to remove the outdated practices for notifications and to add if you receive a parking ticket you have 30 days to pay or court action may be pursued.

The Mass Gathering Ordinance had been updated a couple of years ago and we inadvertently left out that it pertains to the entire town and not just town property. This oversight has been corrected and it will go to the ballot in November for townspeople approval.

The Board approved accepting a grant on behalf of the broadband advisory committee if they are successful in securing a grant to do a study of broadband coverage in Harrison. There is potential for further grants to assist in pursuing installation of infrastructure.

In the Manager’s Report – public works is finishing work on Carsley Road and doing final touches to Deertrees Road so it will be ready for paving.

The fire dept. had several calls this week.

Code enforcement has done 30 permits this month and are really busy. IF you need to speak with them or see them please call them for an appointment. 583-0923.

Transfer station shipped 51, 020 lbs. of recyclables with an average contamination rate of 2%. (Great job to the people of Harrison for keeping the recycling clean!). We have received our new recycle can. One of our cans had rotted out and needed to be disposed of.

Recreation has completed their 10-week program. 120 kids and counselors had a great summer.

Parks – The grass keeps growing!

ACO – Handled an assortment of dog and cat issues, including strays and bites.

Harbormaster – busy in July. Thanks to all for filling out the mooring applications. It saved a raft that broke loose because it was labeled.

The Board agreed to spend $18,000 to add office space in the garage for park and recreation. Those updates will happen over the next couple of months.

The Harrison Village Cemetery is looking into turning over the cemetery for the town to maintain. More information will be available as we have it. If this does move forward it will require a vote of the townspeople to accept it.
Possible municipal ballot questions for November will be pertaining to the Building Permit Ordinance, The Floodplain Ordinance and the Mass Gathering Ordinance. As these are finalized more information will be forthcoming.

The Emergency Operations Manual has been updated by our EMA director. Many thanks for his hard work.

The new deputy was commended for his focus on handling the speeding throughout town.

The Board went into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. There was no action taken from that session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.