



News About Town

Gray, Maine – December 2020

Town of Gray Gets a Solar-Array

Municipal Offices Prepare for the Switch to Solar



The Town of Gray is wrapping up the installation of a large solar array at the Transfer Station that will provide power for the Town's Municipal Offices. The Town signed an agreement with ReVision Energy to build the

solar array. The array is funded by a third party, which means there is no cost to tax payers. After six years, the Town will have the option to purchase the solar array. It is estimated that after 12 years, the project will pay for itself. This switch should save the town approximately \$7,000-\$8,000 a year.





Halloween 2020!

Gray Parks & Facilities offered a COVID Halloween; despite all of the restrictions, that was safe as well as fun (and scary) for all involved.

Moving the event from an inside location (old Gray News building was the Haunted Laboratory) in the past to an outside location in Pennell park was no easy task.

The Pennell Haunted Forest Walk was located along the path around the athletic fields into the park and through the very haunted woods. There were 5 haunting scenes along the way (some with live characters, some not) and each small group was led by a tour guide.

Two types of tours were available: a "Casper the Ghost" tour (no scaring or live characters) and a "Poltergeist" tour with no holds barred.

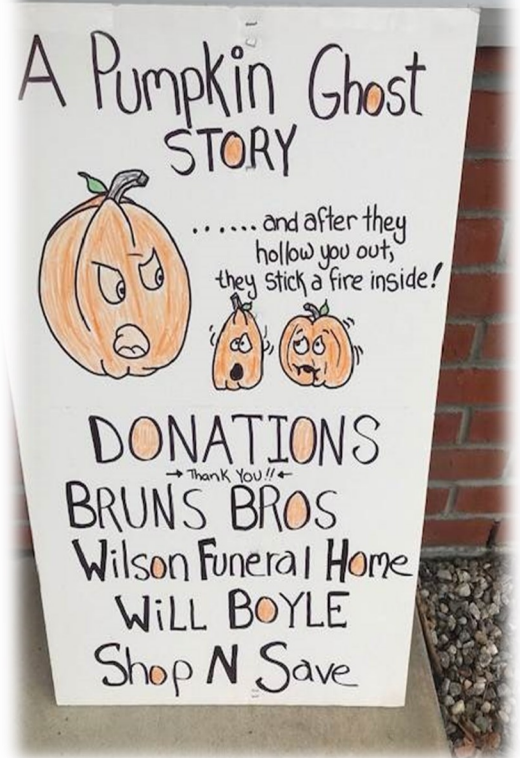
All participants were requested to pre-register for the event to keep within safety number limitations. Participants and volunteers were all required to wear a PPE mask and stay more than 6 feet away.

There was an estimate of 30-40 participants in each of the 5 allotted time slots. Each child received a grab and go treat bag loaded with candy and a container of slime.

This event could not have taken place without the financial support (in the form of donations) from **BRUNS BROS**, **WILSON FUNERAL HOME**, **WILL BOYLE** and **SHOP N SAVE**.

The **GNG H.S. Community Service Club** members did a spectacular job with helping decorate and setting up scenes, being tour guides, scaring the wits out of participants, supervising the treat bags and clean-up!

I do have to mention that I am looking forward to a "normal" Halloween event next year. Keep your fingers crossed and be safe out there. ~ Dean M. Bennett, Gray Parks and Facilities Director



Community Playground

The Town of Gray received a Community Development Block Grant just over a year ago for a new Community Playground located behind the basketball court at Newbegin Gym.

Working closely with Town Planner, Kathy Tombarelli, Gray Parks and Recreation identified the best possible space located on the Town campus. The playground will be ADA accessible and suitable for children ages 4-12. Included in the grant will be shaded areas to sit or have a picnic, recycling bins, water fountain, raised perennial flower planters, security cameras and possibly a few lights.

Gray Parks and Rec is hoping that this community playground will help bring the community together, a place to socialize in safety, walk and explore Pennell Park, watch a softball game and relax while you hear the Pennell clock ring.

Recently, another Gray business stepped up and donated a 15 foot Red Oak (as well as two small bunches of white birch) to help with providing shade during the hot summer months.

A large thank you to Jeff Horton and Steve Amergian with Hort Resource, for their donation toward this project!

Hopefully by Fall 2021, the community will be enjoying the new addition to the Newbegin Recreational Complex. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.



There was even a Bald Eagle present for this planting, which was considered to be a blessing on the project!



2020-2021 Mural Design Contest



Each section is /----- ~ 80" -----/ wide

Help us create new works of public art for the Town of Gray !

- Your design or conceptual sketch must be original (submissions using copyrighted photos, images, or slogans will be disqualified).
- Suggested themes include: lakes/loons, Maine Wildlife Park animals, pollinators, Pennell Clock, Libby Hill Forest Trails, recycling, seasonal image of Gray e.g. ice fishing.
- You may submit more than one entry; we look forward to receiving as many entries as possible!!
- All submissions become property of the Town of Gray's Community Economic Development Committee (CEDC).
- **Entries will be accepted until January 1, 2021.**
- Winning design(s) will receive **\$100 cash prize**, awarded by the end of February 2021.
- The Town of Gray's CEDC will award up to 4 winning entries to be painted on boards, placed on sections of the wooden fence at Town Hall (shown above) and/or other locations in town, TBA.
- Winning design(s) to be painted late spring 2021 by the winning artist(s) with technical assistance by CEDC and/or other interested community members. CEDC will provide exterior paint, supplies and choice of colors.
- Send electronic image* of your design to **cedc@graymaine.org** and include your: first and last name, parent/guardian contact information (if applicable), town, and include (if applicable) your grade level: elementary, middle school, high school, college. *Contest is open to all ages!!*

* 1) If your artwork is hand drawn or painted, please keep the original artwork and send us an electronic photo.

2) If your artwork is one of the winning designs, you will need to mail/drop off your original artwork before the prize can be awarded.

Thank you for being part of this CEDC - community art project.



Christmas Assistance

This year, GNGCC will be handling our holiday assistance paper-free in an effort to reduce contact. Below please find a link to our Google form to apply for assistance for our Christmas program. Please be prepared to provide proof of residency, as this program only serves our GNG community. We will not have drop off boxes or locations available for a printed form, so please do not turn them in to the schools. ***The due date for this application is December 9th.***

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScdTHI3ZK0-cxSBjzNwbP-XH-8g7M-ouVn62ZdA-W-lu_lkoA/viewform

If you have any questions, please
email gngcaring@gmail.com
or call Christina at 233-0828.





**Dog Licenses
Are Available
Now!**

Due Dec 31st

**Register online @ graymaine.org or in-person
at the Town Hall/ Clerks Office.**

GRAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Curbside Pickup Only, Starting December 8th, FMI Call: 657-4110

Tip of the Month

Spending Time Together is the Best Gift



**Wishing you a safe and
healthy holiday season!**

- Have fun with outside activities
- Include youth in holiday preparations
- Play games together
- Volunteer at a local organization

Casco Bay CAN

CREATE AWARENESS NOW

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A grant funded project sponsored by
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