



# News About Town

## A Message From Our Town Manager

Hello Citizens and Friends of Gray,

I want to thank all of you who participated in the once-in-a-generation visioning work recently done for the Gray Village. This work is vital to Gray's prosperous future, and I'm sure many insightful ideas will come forward because of your input. I also want to thank our consulting partners, the Greater Portland Council of Governments, and The Principle Group for helping organize the visioning week, and to Town staff for making it happen.



Now that you have offered your input for how Gray Village should grow and change in the coming years, what's next? The Principle Group will 1) take all your feedback, 2) compile a report about the visioning work done in July, and 3) present it to Town leadership to analyze and start next steps for planning and development goals. This report will be made public, and I look forward to sharing it with you.

Thank you,

*Nate Rudy*

Town Manager



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## Upcoming Events

**August 6**

5 p.m.: Public  
Supper — American  
Legion, 15 Lewiston  
Road

**August 9:**

5:30 p.m.: Town  
Council Meeting—  
Zoom and 24 Main  
Street, Gray

**Every Weds. And  
Friday:**

10:30 a.m.: Facebook  
Story Time — Gray  
Public Library  
Facebook Page

**August 13**

9 a.m.: 6th Annual  
Gray Wild Blueberry  
Festival

**August 24:**

7 p.m.: Zoning Board  
of Appeals—24 Main  
Street, Gray

# Residents Turn Out For Community Block Party as Gray Village Visioning Work Wraps Up

The week of July 25 saw major milestones in the Gray Village visioning work done by Town staff, consulting partners, and most importantly, the Gray community. With a host of feedback from residents and businessowners about various aspects of the Gray Village, the Town's consulting partners are readying a report for Town leadership to review and starting planning how the Village can become more walkable, traffic-calmed, and friendly for all ages and abilities. Expect to see that report soon.

Friday, July 29 saw residents turn out for not only a fun block party at the Henry Pennell Municipal Complex, but also another chance to offer their valuable input about the Gray Village's future. Below are just a few photos from that event. Thank you to all who showed up to offer their input on the visioning process!



Local food, live music, fun and games, and a chance to see what fellow residents were thinking about for the Gray Village attracted people to 24 Main Street on July 29.

# Town of Gray Holds Household Hazardous Waste Collection on August 27

Gray residents and property owners can bring their hazardous household materials to the Town of Gray Sand and Salt Shed on Seagull Drive in Gray on Saturday, August 27, 2022, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Proof of residency will be required.

Acceptable materials include, but are not limited to:

- Acids (Muriatic, Sulfuric)
- Ammonia
- Automobile cleaners
- Bleach
- Boat and automobile paints
- Carburetor cleaner
- Chrome polish
- ...And many more!

Please view the full list of acceptable and unacceptable materials on our [website](#).

Learn more about this collection event on our [website](#). If you have questions pertaining to this collection, or any other waste issue, contact Recycling Station Director Randy Cookson at 657-2343, or [rcookson@graymaine.org](mailto:rcookson@graymaine.org).

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## Zoning Board of Appeals In Need of Members

Do you want to build a new house, add a deck to your existing house, or make an addition to your residence? To accomplish projects like this, you may need a variance from the local Zoning Ordinance to make your project come true. That can't happen if the Gray Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) doesn't have enough members, which is in danger of happening soon.

The ZBA needs a minimum of three "yes" votes to approve any request for a variance. The current ZBA has three members with an anticipated two vacancies in September. That means ZBA hearings for variance requests would stop if it did not have a minimum of three members, and nothing would be passed unless the vote was unanimous.



The Zoning Board of Appeals at their July 27 meeting.

The ZBA needs you! There are no special qualifications, and the Town will educate and train you so you may make well-informed decisions. If you are interested in joining the Zoning Board of Appeals, please fill out an application [here](#). You can learn more about the ZBA [here](#).



Join us in  
**CELEBRATING  
COMMUNITY  
& CULTURE**  
at our 6th  
Annual



**Saturday, August 13, 2022**

**9 AM - 3 PM**

24 Main Street, Gray, ME

**Live Music ~ Food Trucks ~ Fire Trucks ~ Caricatures ~ Contests  
Art & Craft Market ~ Community Expo ~ 'Wild Blue' Mascot  
Model Trains ~ Lawn Games ~ Master Beekeeper**

Find us on  

Hosted by the TOWN OF GRAY  
Special thanks to our 2022

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



**UPDATED SCHEDULE**

9:00 Relative Obscurity (band)  
10:10 SLU'kes (ukulele group)  
10:15 Diaper Derby (free)\*  
10:30 Northern Pitch (acapella)  
10:30 Wagon Rides (free)  
10:45 Kids Fun Run (free)\*  
11:00 Pie Eating Contests (\$)\*)  
11:30 Onward (band)  
12:00 Corn Hole Tournament (\$)\*)  
12:00 Spelling Bee (free)\*  
12:30 The Shugars Band ukulele)  
1:00 Bake-off Judging (free)\*  
1:30 Pie Eating Contests (\$)\*)  
1:50 The Northern Grey Band

MAJOR SPONSORS:



SUPPORTING SPONSORS:



# New Walking Bridge Placed In Thayer Brook

Walkers looking to cross Thayer Brook now have a safer and more secure way of doing so.

A new bridge has been placed on the Royal River Conservation Trust's newly acquired [Thayer Brook Preserve](#) on the Outback Trail. This addition to the trail is thanks to the efforts of the Town of Gray Buildings and Grounds department, the Gray Community Endowment, and the Royal River Conservation Trust.

The Preserve abuts Libby Hill Forest trails and contains sections of Thayer Brook and a large 60-acre beaver flowage with exceptional bird & wildlife spotting opportunities.

Learn more about this preserve via a [presentation](#) given to the Gray Town Council on April 19, 2022.



The newly built bridge on the Outback Trail.

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## Town of Gray Issues Request for Proposal for Radio System

The Town of Gray seeks proposals from interested suppliers for a digital-capable land mobile radio system. The selected supplier shall engineer, furnish, configure, install, and commission the Town's digital land mobile radio system.

The proposed system shall comply with the DMR Tier II open standard as part of this initial system installation and shall also be capable of a software upgrade to support P25 Phase 1, should this option be chosen in the future.

Read the full RFP [here](#).

The selected vendor will work with Gray Fire Rescue Assistant Chief Pete Holmquist. Bids are due by August 12, 2022 at 12 p.m. Any questions about this RFP should be directed to [him](#).



# COMING HOME '33

A protective showcase in the heart of Gray Village



Gray Historical Society envisions an addition to the original firehouse at One Main Street to house this vintage truck, returning it to its first Gray home.



**WE NEED YOU  
TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

- ★ To showcase & preserve our vintage 1933 Fire Truck
- ★ To celebrate & honor our hometown heroes
- ★ To commemorate & preserve the history of Gray Fire Rescue

**LEARN MORE & DONATE TODAY AT**

**[grayhistorical.org/coming-home-33](http://grayhistorical.org/coming-home-33)**

# Gray is Looking for Committee Members

*Serve your town by volunteering for these committees!*

**Blueberry Festival Committee:** Celebrates and promotes local businesses, community and school organizations, and the Pennell Complex.

**Community Economic Development Committee:** Promotes community and cultural connections in Gray and supports established businesses.

**Community Television Advisory Committee:** Makes recommendations regarding broadcast options for Gray, and recommends improvements to public, educational, and governmental programming.

**Dry Mills School House Committee:** Preserves the rich history of the Dry Mills School House.

**Open Space Committee:** Makes recommendations to the Town Council to help secure access to land/corridors through acquisitions, easements, land swaps, and other forms of agreements.

**Planning Board:** Reviews and approves subdivision plans, site plans, conditional uses, and Shoreland Zoning applications in accordance with State Statutes and Town Ordinances.

**Resiliency Committee:** Promotes climate action planning and influences the path our community will take toward climate resilience, energy efficiency, waste management and renewable energy.

**Zoning Board of Appeals Committee:** Hears and decides administrative appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination by the Code Enforcement Officer.

**MSAD15 School Board:** Shapes the functioning of the Gray-New Gloucester school system.

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*"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."*

*- Sue Premo, Volunteer Coordinator, Green Bay, WI*

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**To apply to any of these committees, go to [graymaine.org/volunteer](https://graymaine.org/volunteer).**

## The Town of Gray is Hiring!

We hire great people from a variety of backgrounds to do the town's important work. If you are looking for a career opportunity, check out our [Employment page](#) to see if there's an opening that's right for you!

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

- Did you know you can sponsor content for Gray's Community Television station? This station is designed to entertain, disseminate information, ensure freedom of speech, and improve quality of life while connecting the citizens of Gray. Visit [graymaine.org/gctv](http://graymaine.org/gctv) for more information!
- Senior Property Tax Stabilization Program applications are now available at the Gray Town Office at 24 Main Street in Gray, or online [here](#). Please note that the application deadline is December 1, 2022. Applicants are required to submit a copy of their Maine Drivers License or Maine State ID with their application. If you have any questions about this program, please contact the [Town of Gray Assessor's Office](#).

**If you have an idea for a newsletter submission, please fill out this [form](#).**

Questions can be directed to:

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Gray Town Office

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