



News About Town

A Message From Our Town Manager

Hello Citizens and Friends of Gray,

I hope you enjoyed a thoughtful Indigenous Peoples Day and a spooky, safe, and fun Halloween this year. November is an eventful month for us all—the election is just a few days away, and I hope all of you who are eligible to vote can make it to the polls or submit an absentee ballot. This newsletter will offer some key items to note as you prepare to cast your ballot, and I want to thank all Town staff and volunteers who help coordinate safe and secure elections in Gray.



Nate Rudy, Town Manager

Among other things in this newsletter, you'll find that the 2022 Annual Report is published and available online. This document is especially significant for me, as FY22 was my first full year as Gray's Town Manager. I'm quite proud of the accomplishments achieved by Town staff, the various Committees and Boards, and Gray's volunteers—I hope you are, too! The Annual Report, after all, is a historical record that serves as a testament to the Town's progress, trials, successes, and overall work. I encourage you to read it with pride and joy for Gray's community spirit.

Thanks, and Happy Thanksgiving,
Nate Rudy



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Prepare for Election Day!

Election Day is just around the corner! Are you prepared for November 8? Here are some things you can do to make sure you are informed as you go to the polls.

1. Know where the polling place is. All residents of Gray can vote at the **Newbegin Gym in the Henry Pennell Municipal Complex at 20 Main Street in Gray**. The polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
2. Familiarize yourself with who your current elected officials are. You can use the [Maine Voter Information Lookup Service](#) to do this. If you have a question about your voting eligibility, please contact the Town Clerk's Office.
3. Check out the [sample ballots](#) so you know what to expect in the polling booth. This year, you'll be voting for governor and State House and Senate representatives, among other positions.
4. Watch the [State House/Senate Candidate Forum](#) hosted by the Town of Gray so you can get to know the candidates you'll be voting to represent you in Augusta.
5. You can also watch an [Election Integrity Forum](#) that was held at the Gray Public Library recently and featured Maine Secretary of State Shauna Bellows. *Note: This forum was unaffiliated with the Town of Gray.*

If you can't make it to the polls on Election Day, you can vote at any time before November 8 by coming to the Gray Town Office at 24 Main Street during business hours and filling out a ballot. Please note the Clerk's Office in the Town Office will be closed on Election Day.

Election results will be calculated soon after the polls close on November 8, and will be available online at graymaine.org/elections.

Upcoming Events

Every Weds. And Friday

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

November 5

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

Nov. 4, 6, 11, 18, 20

2 p.m.: [Movie Time](#) —
Gray Public Library

November 5

1 p.m.: Maine Author Dr.
Chuck Radis — Gray
Public Library

November 8

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.: Election
Day — Newbegin Gym,
20 Main Street

November 10

7 p.m.: Planning Board —
Zoom and 24 Main
Street

November 23

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



Gray-New Gloucester High School Presents *Oliver!* On November 17,18, and 19

The Patriot Players of Gray-New Gloucester High School will be presenting Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* at the high school on November 17 and 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., with a matinee on November 19 at 2:00 p.m. The price of admission is \$5 for students and seniors and \$7 for adults. Tickets are available at the door. There are 38 students hard at work getting the production ready for showing. The following is the Music Theater International's synopsis of the musical.

"The streets of Victorian England come to life as Oliver, a malnourished orphan in a workhouse, becomes the neglected apprentice of an undertaker. Oliver escapes to London and finds acceptance amongst a group of petty thieves and pickpockets led by the elderly Fagin. When Oliver is captured for a theft he did not commit, the benevolent victim, Mr. Brownlow, takes him in. Fearing the safety of his hideout, Fagin employs the sinister Bill Sikes and the sympathetic Nancy to kidnap him back, threatening Oliver's chances of discovering the true love of a family."

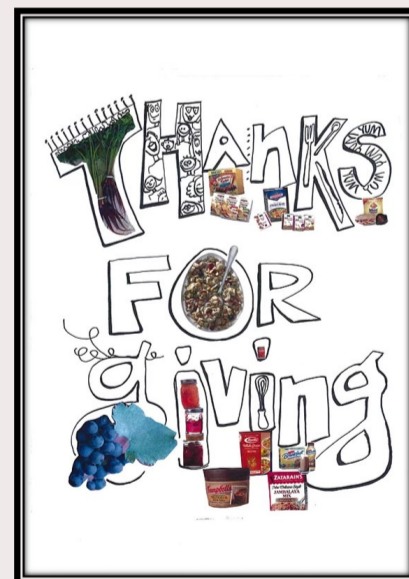
"Thanks For Giving" Food Drive Helps Gray Community Food Pantry

The Gray Assessing Department is joining others across Maine in holding an Election Day "Thanks for Giving" Food Drive. Donations received will support the Gray Community Food Pantry.

Please bring non-perishable food items and/or monetary donations to the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, or during absentee voting.

For more information, please visit the food drive's [website](#) or contact the Gray Assessor's Office at 207-657-3339 ext. 112.

The "Thanks for Giving" food drive was started by the late Gina Merry, Assessor for the Town of Lyman, and towns across Maine have continued the drive in her honor with great success.



This Food Drive helps those in need.

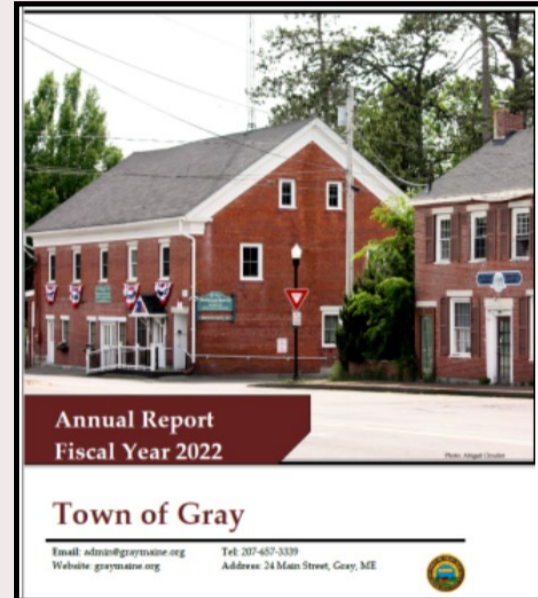


Town of Gray FY22 Annual Report Now Available

The Town of Gray's Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report is now [available to view!](#)

This report contains updates from each Town department and committee/board to help residents understand what happened in Town Government from July 2021 to June 2022. This report also contains messages from State and local government leadership, delinquent taxes, and statistics about various types of registrations.

If you have a question about this report, please contact the [Town of Gray](#). You can view previous Annual Reports [here](#).



The Annual Report is one of the premiere historical documents for the Town of Gray.

Welcome Samantha Enters, the Gray Public Library's New Youth Librarian!

Hi! My name is Samantha Enters and I am the new Head of Youth Services at the Gray Public Library.

My father and grandmother were librarians, so much of my childhood was spent in libraries. From a young age, I knew that libraries were my future. My most recent position was as a high school librarian for four and a half years. Before that, I worked as a reference librarian at a public library and before that I worked as an elementary school librarian. I have a Bachelors in English from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a Masters of Library and Information Science from Kent State University.

In my personal time I enjoy spending time with family, embroidering, working on my novel, and reading.



Samantha Enters is Gray's new Head of Youth Services!



Community Groups Offer Fall Clean-Up Aimed at Helping Gray Residents in Need

The Gray Lifelong Living Committee and Gray-New Gloucester High School Community Service Club are offering another yard clean-up event on Saturday, November 5 for older (65+) or disabled Gray neighbors who need a little help.

The volunteer teams will serve as many as they can. If you would like to be on the first come, first served list, contact Val Rasza at 838-5282, or email syoung0252@gmail.com.



The clean-up event aims to help as many residents in need as possible.

Town of Gray Hosts Business Community Forums

On November 10th at 8 a.m. and 16th at 7 p.m., the Town of Gray is hosting a Gray Village Business Community Forum. This is a chance for the community to engage with the [Community Economic Development Committee](#) and talk about the future of the Gray Village and its businesses.

The forums will take place at the Gray Public Library at 5 Hancock Street, and remote participation will be available. Learn more about these forums [here](#).



Join fellow business community members to talk about the Village's potential!

If you are unable to attend, but would like to submit comments to the committee, please email or call Community Planner Kristen Muszynski at 657-3339 ext .114 or kmuszynski@graymaine.org.



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.

“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



Mary volunteers on the Recreation Committee, leads a walking group she started, and

To apply to any of these committees, go to 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...

- Please know non-essential Town services will be closed on November 11 (Veterans Day) and Thanksgiving (November 24 and 25).
- Now that we are getting into winter, in the event of storm closures please check the Town of Gray website and Facebook page for changes in our business hours schedule.

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

Questions can be directed to:

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