



Franklin Township - Voted One of Money Magazine's Best Places to Live - 2016

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Fall 2018

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Franklin in Fall

Franklin Day Festival is Better Than Ever!!!



On September 22, 2018, the Franklin Day Festival Committee will host the Township's 5th annual Franklin Day Festival (FDF) from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Colonial Park, Lot C in Somerset. At the beginning of the year, FDF was nominated for the 2017 Salute to Tourism Award by Somerset County Tourism. Over 20,000 Franklin Township residents and neighboring towns, businesses, and artists attended the festival throughout the day.

This year, the Franklin Day Festival Committee added new attractions for the whole family to enjoy. World-Class musicians such as Funktion11 and Groove City Band are scheduled to perform eclectic sounds of Jazz, R&B, Pop, and Gospel on the big stage. If you are looking to hear songs influenced by Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight, Jill Scott, Faith Evans, Kelly Clarkson, BeBe and CeCe Winans, then get on the Festival's new dancefloor! On the FDF cultural stage watch the instrumentalists, dancers, and singers perform to music from around the world.

The Franklin Day Festival will also feature popular programs designed for children, adults, and seniors. The ArtWalk will be curated by the Princeton Photography Club and will display artwork from Franklin Township Public School students.



The Committee has made an arrangement to add a snake and lizard exhibit to Franklin Parks & Recreation's Kid Zone. Popular children's attractions such as paddle boating, miniature golf, the bouncy house, Bubble Soccer, pickle ball demo & clinic, pony rides, the petting zoo, rock climbing wall provided by the Army National Guard are all free of charge. For the first time ever the Army National Guard will land their Black Hawk helicopter!

The attendees will have over 100 vendors to choose from. The Festival will also host the final day of the Franklin Township Community Farmers Market. There is an eclectic mix of over a dozen food vendors offering everything from barbeque to dessert as well as FDF's Classic Car Show!



Special thanks to all of our corporate sponsors including: Oticon, PSE&G, and CompoSecure for contributing to the success of the 2018 Franklin Day Festival.

For information about the Franklin Day Festival, please visit www.franklintwpnj.org/franklinday or call 732-873-2500 x 6428.



Farmers Market Brings New Jersey Freshness To the Franklin Township Community

Franklin Township Community Farmers Market is a wonderful place for local merchants. Bon Nut Butter and Sweets, Caldo Sauce, Elijah's Promise Bakery, Homemade Betty, Honeycakes European Sweets and Treats, Jams by Kim, Norz Hill Farm, Pignut Farms, Simply Sweets by Lauren, Snyder Farms, Wolgast Tree Farm & Apiary, and Wood& Wax bring home grown and farm-produced products from the New Jersey community to you! Open your palate and your senses to the sweet smell of honey, to the fresh smell of seasonal produce and homemade jam. The Market also offers a wide variety of sweets and New Jersey sourced specialty items. So hurry up and get something you can sink your teeth into! Catch us on September 8th through September 15th at the corner of DeMott Lane at the Municipal Complex Field.

If you need transportation, Franklin Township Community Farmer's Market provides a free shuttle service from 10 am to 2 pm, during the Market's hours of operation. The shuttle stops at the following locations: Franklin Township Food Bank, Parkside Senior Center, Parkside Family Community Building, Deforest B. Soaries JR Residences at Somerset, Franklin Township Social Services Building, and Farmers Market Municipal complex. The entire Market will be at the Franklin Day Festival on September 22nd!

For more information on Franklin Township Community Farmers Market please, contact Tara Kenyon at 732-873-2500 ext. 6279 or visit: www.franklintwpnj.org/farmersmarket. To find out the latest Market news, please subscribe to FarmMarket to 888777 or visit www.franklintwpnj.org/enotification to sign up for the Market e-mail list.

IT'S SO EASY BEING GREEN!

Subscribe to receive Farmers Market information and updates via text message by texting [FarmMarket](text:888777) to 888777 or sign up at www.franklintwpnj.org

PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08901
 PERMIT NO. 1265

POSTAL CUSTOMER ECRWSS

Franklin Times
 475 DeMott Lane
 Somerset, NJ 08873

MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE EMERGENCIES DIAL

9-1-1

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Non-Emergencies732-873-2300

Non-Emergencies

Auto-Attendant.....732-873-5533

Non-Emergency for Residents

in 609 area code.....732-821-1800

Non-Emergency Auto-Attendant

For Residents

in 609 area code.....732-821-1888

Tips Hotline (Pass along the

information).....732-873-PASS (7277)

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Main732-873-2500

Extensions

Animal Control.....6255

Assessor.....6320

Clerk (Elections, Dog Licenses,

Voter Registration).....6208

Construction Code

Enforcement .. 6220 or 732-873-7283

Collector

(Tax, Water)6335 or 732-873-7284

Community Resource6310

Court6262 or 732-873-7285

Economic Development.....6274

Engineering6230

Finance.....6244

Fire Prevention6303

Health Complaint 24/76370

Historic Preservation6274

Human Resources.....6202

Municipal Alliance.....6353

Open Space.....6279

Planning Board.....6215

Public Works.....732-249-7800

Purchasing.....6239

Recreation ...6340 or 732-873-1991

Redevelopment Agency.....6271

Rent Leveling Board6274

Senior Advisory6347

Special Projects.....6427

Township Manager6201

Vital Statistics (Marriage and

Death Certificates)6375

Zoning Officer6271

Zoning Bd. of Adj.6215

WEBSITE

www.franklintwpnj.org

TOWN HALL

732-873-2500

E-MAIL

Township Manager

bob.vornlocker@twp.franklin.nj.us

Township Tax Collector

carol.langone@twp.franklin.nj.us

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Board of Education

732-873-2400

www.franklinboe.org

Library

732-873-8700

www.franklintwp.org

Sewerage Authority

732-873-2121

Ftsa-nj.org

Health Department/Education

908-231-7155

NEW - SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

Twitter.com/twpooffranklin

Facebook.com/townshipoffranklin

www.facebook.com/FTPDSomersetNJ

Twitter@FTPDSomersetNJ



The Township hunting season for white tail deer begins **Saturday, September 8, 2018 and ends February 16, 2019.**

There is NO hunting allowed on Sundays. All trail users must become familiar with the hunting locations, dates and times since public access is restricted during these times.

Trail users must abide by the restrictions and must wear orange while using the trails.

Firearms and bows are allowed at these locations:

- Ten Mile Run Greenway (Griggstown Native Grassland Preserve and Bunker Hill Natural Area)
- Negri-Nepote Native Grassland Preserve

Bows only can be used at these locations:

- Butler Road Natural Area
- Willow Road Open Space
- Wilson Road Natural Area
- Elizabeth Ave Open Space
- DeMott Lane Open Space
- Weston Road Open Space

For more information, visit franklintwpnj.org/hunting.

give **LIFE**
give **HOPE**
give **BLOOD**

September 7, 2018
December 14, 2018
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
FRANKLIN TWP. MUNICIPAL BUILDING
475 DeMOTT LANE
SOMERSET, NJ

welcome NEW HIRES

Andrei Alexeev

Mark Borquist

Lisa Clark

Joseph Cutroneo

Juan Gonzalez

Rossana Gutierrez

Brian Van Liew II

Zoning Officer/Inspector II

Fire Prevention Officer

Permit Expediter

Permit Expediter

Public Works-Laborer

Collector of Revenue

Public Works-Laborer

thank you RETIREES

Carol Langone

Thomas Zilinek

Drewrey Lea

Kenneth Schwarz Snr.

Collector of Revenue

27 Years of Service

Twp. Engineer & Director of Public Works

14 Years of Service

Detective, Franklin Twp. Police Dept.

14 Years of Service

Detective Sergeant, Franklin Twp. Police Dept.

25 Years of Service



DISABILITY GUARDIANSHIP WORKSHOP

FREE

Wednesday, October 10th @ 6:30 pm

Community/Senior Center,

505 DeMott Lane, Somerset

Frank G. Bruno, Somerset County Surrogate and

Stanley R. Layton, Esq., Deputy Surrogate,

Somerset County Surrogate's Court

Perfect for those who are guardians or looking to apply for guardianship for a loved one with a disability.

Register: www.franklintwpnj.org/rec_or

Call Marianne Regan at 732-873-2500 ext. 6347

Mark Your Calendar

SEPTEMBER 7	Blood Drive in the Municipal Building
SEPTEMBER 13	September 11th Memorial
SEPTEMBER 13	Navigating the Permit Process Workshop
SEPTEMBER 16	Canal Road Walk & Roll
SEPTEMBER 22	Franklin Day Festival First Time Home Buyers Seminar
OCTOBER 10	Disability Guardianship Workshop
OCTOBER 13	Canal Fest
OCTOBER 27	Franklin Township Halloween Festival
OCTOBER 30	Mail-In Ballot Application Deadline (POSTMARKED)
NOVEMBER 5	Mail-In Ballot Application Deadline (IN-PERSON BY 3:00 pm)
NOVEMBER 1	Quarterly Tax Payment Due
NOVEMBER 6	General Election Day
NOVEMBER 24	Franklin Township Animal Shelter Open House
DECEMBER 7	Holiday Tree Lighting

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Name	Term Expires
Phillip Kramer, Mayor <i>mayor.kramer@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6327</i>	12/31/2019
Shanel Y. Robinson, Deputy Mayor, At-Large <i>councilwoman.robinson@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6329</i>	12/31/2019
Kimberly Francois, Councilwoman, At-Large <i>councilwoman.francois@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6395</i>	12/31/2019
Rajiv Prasad, Councilman, At-Large <i>councilman.prasad@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6319</i>	12/31/2019
Theodore Chase, Councilman, 1st Ward <i>councilman.chase@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6318</i>	12/31/2021
William Galtieri, Councilman, 2nd Ward <i>councilman.galtieri@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6316</i>	12/31/2021
Charles Onyejiaka, Councilman, 3rd Ward <i>councilman.onyejiaka@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6396</i>	12/31/2021
Carl R. A. Wright, Councilman, 4th Ward <i>councilman.wright@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6397</i>	12/31/2021
James Vassanella, Councilman, 5th Ward <i>councilman.vassanella@franklinnj.gov - 732-873-2500 ext. 6328</i>	12/31/2021

FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where do I find Township ordinances?
Township ordinances are located on the Township website under Municipal codes or you could visit the Clerk's Office to get a copy of an ordinance.

How do I become a Poll worker for the Primary and General Elections?
The Board of Elections assigns the Poll workers for Election Day. Please contact the Board of Elections at (908) 231-7084 if you wish to become a Poll worker.

Where do I get a recycling bin from?
You can pick up a recycling bin from the Department of Public Works located at 40 Churchill Avenue, Somerset.

I'm a private owner and want to rent my property. Do I need to register my property as a rental?
Yes, it's required that you register your property as a rental before a tenant occupies the unit. Applications are available in the Clerk's Office and the fee is \$10.00 per unit.

How do I obtain a certified copy of a vital record?
You can obtain a certified copy of a birth, civil union, death, domestic partnership or marriage certificate in the Clerk's Office if the event occurred in Franklin Township. If the event occurred in New Jersey you can obtain a certified copy of the vital record from New Jersey Department of Health Vital Statistics & Registry in Trenton.

Where can I file a complaint about high grass and weeds in the Township?
You can file a complaint with the Clerk's Office or contact the Somerset County Health Department at (908) 231-7155.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

Another BOOMING Success!

On behalf of the Franklin Township Fireworks Committee, we would like to thank everyone that came out to the Independence Day Celebration on Tuesday, July 3rd to participate in this amazing Township tradition.

A special thank you to the following contributors who made the 2018 Franklin Township Independence Day Celebration a success at no cost to Township residents:

Appraisal Consultants Corporation	Ken & Renee Kaufman
Arcari & Iovino Architects, P.C.	MICRO
Briar Manor Developers LLC	Pacon Manufacturing Corporation
Buist Incorporated	PKF O'Connor Davies
Carroll Engineering	Praise Presbyterian Church
CME Associates	Resta's Car Care & Rental
Del Casale Excavating	Shain Schaffer P.C.
Dennis Alan Auciello	SHI International Group
Fancy Heat Corporation	The New Jersey Pain Management Institute
Franklin Reporter & Advocate	The Palace at Somerset Park
Green Hill Manor Villa LLC	The Reynolds Group, Inc.
Hodulik & Morrison, PA	Trap Rock Industries LLC
House Foods American Corporation	Venus Jewelers
Iberia Foods Corporation	

Each year the cost of this event increases and we need your support to ensure that future displays can continue. Raising the funds to help offset the cost can be a challenge. However large or small, your contribution will ensure the Franklin's spectacular Independence Day fireworks celebration will continue for the next year's Fireworks Celebration, please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Franklin Township Fireworks Celebration
c/o Franklin Township Municipal Complex
475 DeMott Lane
Somerset, NJ 08873

Thank You!
Bill Grippo, Fireworks Chairman

2018 ELECTION INFORMATION

Important Election Dates

General Election Day: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Voter Registration Deadline – October 16, 2018

Mail-In Ballot Application Request Deadline – October 30, 2018

Mail-In Ballot Return Deadline – In-Person – November 5, 2018 at 3 p.m.

Mail-In Ballot Return Deadline – Mail – Postmarked – October 30, 2018

Voter Registration

You must be a citizen of the United States; you must be 18 years of age on or before the day of the election & you must be a resident of your present address for at least 30 days before the election. Voter Registration Forms can be printed from the Township's website: www.franklintwpnj.org and must be received by the Township Clerk's Office or the Somerset County Board of Elections 21 days prior to Election Day.

Voting by Mail-In Ballot

You may vote by Mail-In-Ballot for any election. You do not need a reason. You must apply for a mail-in ballot by completing a Mail-In Ballot Application. Forms can also be obtained from the Somerset County Clerk's Office and the Franklin Township's Clerk Office. You must mail this to the County Clerk's Office up to seven (7) days prior to the election. The County Clerk cannot accept faxes or electronic copies, as an original signature is required. You may apply in person at the County Clerk's office up to 3:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

*Districts 14, 15 & 16 have been moved to a new location: Masjid-E-Ali, 47 Cedar Grove Lane, Somerset. (Prior to 2017, Districts 14 & 15 voted at Quailbrook Senior Citizen Center and District 16 voted at Community/Senior Center.)

**District 20 has moved from the Community/Senior Center to Quailbrook Senior Citizen Center.

POLLING LOCATIONS	
District(s)	Location
1	Kingston Presbyterian Church 4565 Route 27, Kingston, NJ
2,3, & 4	Griggstown Firehouse 1037 Canal Road, Princeton
5 & 6	Wynnefield Clubhouse 31 DeSoto Drive, Franklin Park
7	Beacon Hill Clubhouse 1 Beaconhill Way, Franklin Park
8	Society Hill III Clubhouse 2 Bethany Court, Franklin Park
9	Society Hill II Clubhouse 111 Fisher Drive, Franklin Park
10	Society Hill I Clubhouse 137 Pear Tree Lane, Franklin Park
11, 12 & 13	Zarephath Children's Ministry Center 595 Weston Canal Rd, Somerset
14, 15 & 16	Masjid-E-Ali 47 Cedar Grove Lane, Somerset*
17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 28 & 29	Community/Senior Center 505 DeMott Lane, Somerset
20, 21 & 22	Quailbrook Senior Citizens Center 625 New Brunswick Road, Somerset**
23, 49, 50 & 51	Somerset Presbyterian Church 100 JFK Boulevard, Somerset
26 & 27	Millstone Valley Firehouse 2365 Amwell Road, East Millstone
30, 31, 32, 33 & 34	Consolata Missions 2301 Route 27, Somerset
35, 36, 37, 38 & 42	Somerset National Guard Armory 1060 Hamilton St, Somerset
39, 40, 41 & 43	Parkside Community Center 3 Parkside Street, Somerset
44, 45, 46, 47 & 48	East Franklin Firehouse 121 Pine Grove Avenue, Somerset

Hella Franklin!

Join us as we explore some of the wonderful places and faces that make up our community of Franklin Township. Franklin Township Warrior for Life Foundation reaches its 2nd year of providing scholarship opportunities to Franklin Township school students.

Warrior for Life Foundation Celebrates its Sophomore Year

The Warrior for Life Scholarship Foundation (WLSF) will host their 2nd Annual Scholarship Foundation Gala on November 23, 2018 at the Imperia located at 1714 Easton Ave. in Somerset from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. WLSF co-founders: Daryn Plummer, Adrian Plummer, Nicholas Solomon, and Rebekah Solomon raised \$10,000 in scholarship funds for Franklin Township school students last year. To be chosen as a scholarship recipient all applications must be submitted by October 5, 2018 at 11:59 am on the Warrior for Life website. The funds will be distributed to scholarship recipients who excel in the areas of academics, arts, athletics, community service, and philanthropy.

The scholarship recipients will receive one of the following scholarships: the Carl and Theresa Wade Award, the Malcolm Bernard Historically Black College or University Award, the Myra A. Mitchell Financial or Personal Tragedy Award, the Dennis Harris Legacy Award, as well as the Alexander Brian Tatum Encouraging Achievement Book Scholarship Award and the Sheryl Rosenbaum Encouraging Achievement Scholarship Award. These awards are in honor of administrators, teachers, coaches, and community members that made a meaningful impact on the Franklin Township community through fostering academic achievement, community service and personal sacrifice.

When asked why the Warrior for Life Scholarships were created Daryn Plummer said "It is our organization's goal to help build our community and communicate to our scholarship recipients, volunteers, and fellow community members that we are all charged with paying it forward and supporting the next generation of Warriors."

WLSF will also organize a graduation conference in collaboration with the Franklin Youth Initiative again next June. The conference is designed to promote college and career preparedness. It also offers student workshops and a college/career fair for students and their families to visit college and career placement vendors to discuss their future. The WLSF recipient will lead in discussion on topics such as: *What to Expect in Senior Year* and *What to Expect in the First Year of College* during the conference's student workshop.

The overall mission of WLSF events are to spread warrior love, support Franklin Township school students, raise scholarship funds, provide student resources, build the community, and spread the word. The foundation also looks for the donors and sponsors to contribute to the next generations for Franklin Township warriors through student programs, charitable giving, and scholarship funds. For more information on how to donate or to apply for a scholarship, please visit: www.warrior4life.org. Be sure to catch the Warrior for Life team at Week of the People and the Franklin Day Festival!





Franklin Township Animal Shelter
OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, November 24, 2018
12:00 to 6:00 pm

- Meet our wonderful, adoptable animals!
- Learn about the shelter and how we help Franklin's animals.
- Donations of cat and dog food graciously accepted.
- Light refreshments • Crafts for sale!
- Special visitor from the North Pole! It's the big guy's busy time so he can only be with us from 1 pm-3 pm!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



CENTRAL JERSEY HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER
FREE FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS SEMINAR
Saturday, September 22, 2018
10:30 AM - Sign-In
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM - Homeownership Seminar
A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY
485 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873

All household members whose names will appear on the affordable housing application and/or the mortgage application must attend the entire 4-hour seminar in order to receive a certificate of completion.

Due to the length of the presentation and limited space, we do not recommend bringing children to the seminar.

REGISTER TODAY: (908) 704-9649, Mailbox 3 
www.cjhrc.org 



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP CANAL ROAD
SEPTEMBER 16, 2018
10AM - 4 PM

TAKE YOUR FEET TO THE STREETS! ENJOY THE DAY WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS ALONG THE SCENIC D&R CANAL

CANAL ROAD CLOSED FROM EAST MILLSTONE TO BUTLER ROAD
LOCAL TRAFFIC PERMITTED - 10 MPH PLEASE



RCDCU - 11TH ANNUAL BIKE TO FIGHT PROSTATE CANCER
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018
8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
Lunch, Entertainment, Awards at NOON
RAIN OR SHINE!
Franklin Middle School
415 Francis Street, Somerset, NJ

RIDES FOR ALL LEVELS:
30 & 50-Mile Ride for the Experienced Rider - \$45.00
10-Mile Ride for the Casual Fun Biker - \$35.00
3-Mile Walk/Ride in Colonial Park - \$15.00

REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.active.com or www.rcdcubike.com



RABIES CLINICS
Franklin Twp. Animal Shelter
475 DeMott Lane, Somerset

CATS ONLY
September 8, 2018
8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Cats should be in carriers

DOGS ONLY
December 8, 2018
8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
All dogs should be on leashes



September to December 2018

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Township Council*

Municipal Bldg, Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.
September 10, 25 • October 9, 2
November 8, 27 • December 11

Planning Board*

Municipal Building, 7:30 p.m.
September 5, 26 • October 3, 17
November 7 • December 12, 19

Zoning Board of Adjustment*

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
September 6, 20 • October 4, 18
November 1 • December 6, 20

Advisory Board of Health

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:30 p.m.
September 5 • October 3
November 7 • December 5

Advisory Recreation Council

Community Senior Center, 7:00 p.m.
September 12 • October 10
November 14 • December 12

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 8:00 p.m.
September 20 • October 18
November 15 • December 20

Board of Health

Municipal Bldg, Council Chambers, 6:00 p.m.
No Meetings

Cable Television Advisory Committee

Meetings As Needed

Emergency Life Support

Public Safety Building, 7:00 p.m.
October 3

Environmental Commission

Municipal Building, 7:00 p.m.
September 17 • October 1, 15
November 5, 19 • December 3

Fire Prevention Board

Municipal Building, 7:30 p.m.
September 6 • October 11
November 8 • December 13

Hamilton Street Advisory Board

Municipal Bldg, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
September 10 • October – No meetin
November 5 • December – No meeting

Historic Preservation Advisory Commission

Municipal Building, 7:30 p.m.
September 4 • October 2
November 13 • December 4

Housing Authority

25 Parkside Street, 7:00 p.m.
September 12 • October 10
November 14 • December 12

Human Relations Commission

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room 7:00 p.m.
September 24 • October 22
November – No meeting • December 3

Library Board of Trustees

Municipal Library, 5:30 p.m.
September 26 • October 24
November 28 • December 19

Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Substance Abuse/

Youth Services Commission
Community Senior Center, 4:30 p.m.
September 26 • October 24
November 28 • December 19

Open Space Advisory Committee

Municipal Building, 7:00 p.m.
September 18 • October 16
November 20 • December 18

Redevelopment Agency

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:30 p.m.
September 17 • October 15
November 19 • December 17

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

Community Senior Center, 10:00 a.m.
September 28 • October 26
November & December – No meeting

Sewerage Authority

70 Commerce Drive, 6:30 p.m.
September 4 • October 2
November 7 • December 4

Shade Tree Commission

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
September 27 • October 25
November 16 • December – No meeting

Trails Advisory Committee

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
September 12 • October 10
November 14 • December 12

Take Care of Your Trees

Mulch volcanoes, topping, lollipopping, and neglect. These are tree “maintenance practices” you should NOT follow nor allow your landscaper to practice. They weaken and kill trees, create unsafe conditions around your home, and devalue your property.

Mulch volcanoes create an environment for excess moisture, insects or rodents to damage and rot your tree’s protective bark. They also encourage root circling that will choke a tree and prevent growth of strong lateral roots that enhance your tree’s ability to withstand high winds.

Topping and lollipopping are pruning practices that open pathways for rot, starve trees of leaves to manufacture food, or promote weak limbs that make a tree more vulnerable to storm damage.

Leaving suckers, water sprouts, and broken branches on your trees or dead trees on your property are at best, unattractive, and at worst, dangerous. Just as well-maintained trees can add value to your property, poorly maintained trees subtract from its value and can be a legal liability if the tree poses a hazard.

Autumn is a great time to assess the trees on your property and to hire an arborist to do maintenance/pruning to enhance the safety and beauty of your trees or to remove dead or dying trees that pose a hazard or devalue your home. Arborists often give discounts between Thanksgiving and Christmas, as this is typically a slow season for their industry. Visit the “Advice on Tree Care” section of the Shade Tree Commission’s webpages to learn why you should hire a qualified tree expert and how to hire them.

Autumn is also a great time to plan for your spring-time tree additions. An easy, inexpensive way to add trees to your yard is through the Shade Tree Commission’s Annual Tree Sale. We sell six to eight foot bare root stock at wholesale prices. The trees we offer are native or native cultivar trees that are adapted to local water, soil and climate conditions. They are, therefore, more disease resistant and less likely to require pesticides or fertilizers. Watch for our tree sale announcement in the winter edition of the Franklin Times, through the Township’s email blasts, or on the Shade Tree Commission website.

Learn more about proper tree care, pruning/maintenance techniques, how to hire an arborist or our annual tree sale at www.franklintwpnj.org/shadetree.



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PRESENTS



NAVIGATING THE PERMIT PROCESS
SEPTEMBER 13, 2018
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
FRANKLIN COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER
505 DEMOTT LANE, SOMERSET

Find that getting permission to build has become complicated and burdensome? We want to help you succeed in Franklin!

Join us for lunch and to learn more about:

- Programs instituted in Franklin that help you move your projects forward
- Permitting process in Franklin Township
- Approvals required to build
- Planning and Zoning
- Engineering
- Construction

Perfect for:
Developers
Realtors
Contractors
Architects
Planners...

Pre-register by emailing:
Vincent.Dominach@franklinnj.gov

ATTENTION FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP HOMEOWNERS



Have you done work in your home and you didn’t know (or weren’t quite sure) you needed a construction permit? Or do you feel a prior owner did work without permits and you don’t know what to do? If you answered yes to any of the above,

please stop by the Construction Department table at the Franklin Day Festival on Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 12pm - 5pm and talk to us about your concerns.

Here at the Construction Department, SAFETY is our primary goal! If it turns out that permits were required on a particular project done in your home, we will be offering amnesty on any penalties that may apply. In order to be eligible, you must register with us on Franklin Day, and you must apply for the appropriate permits by October 22, 2018.

Please remember that the amnesty program only applies to current Franklin Township homeowners for work done in your home and does not apply to any violations that have already been issued.

CONNECT WITH FRANKLIN!

Want the latest information on Franklin Township?
Log on to the following to be in the know!



<http://www.franklintwpnj.org>

News, Events, Surveys, Forms, Maps, Staff Directory, and much more



<http://www.facebook.com/FTPDSomersetNJ>

<http://www.facebook.com/TownshipofFranklin>
Community News and Event Posts -Police & Municipal



<http://www.twitter.com/FTPDSomersetNJ>

<http://www.twitter.com/twpoffranklin>
Community News and Event Posts -Police & Municipal



<http://www.youtube.com/TownshipofFranklin>

Recorded Township Council, Planning Board, & Board of Adjustment Meetings



Public Access Channel—Comcast-Channel 29/Verizon- Channel 33

Online Stream <http://www.franklintwpnj.org/stream>

Bulletin Board of Community News and Events

Live Broadcasted Meetings and re-broadcasted Public Meetings



<http://www.franklintwpnj.org/enotification>

Push notifications by Category of interest & by Department
News, Events, Job Postings, RFP



<http://www.franklintwpnj.org/sdlportal>

Citizen Service Request Portal **SDL | PORTAL**

Permit Inquiries, Water Service Request

<http://www.franklintwpnj.org/potholes>

Citizen Service Request Form

Potholes/Street Maintenance Requests such as tall grass, graffiti, etc.



<http://www.franklintwpnj.org/cns>

Citizen Alert
Notification Sign Up ▶

Customizable location based advisories/alerts via text, email, phone and TTY

<http://www.nixle.com/township-of-franklin> **nixle**

Advisories/alerts via text and email from Franklin Twp & surrounding towns

Road Closures, Community Advisories, Weather related emergencies, long term road closures, optional Community Advisories, etc

Department of Information Technology—Justin Heyman— Director (732) 873-2500 x6273
Justin.Heyman@franklinNJ.gov

1907 Middlebush Schoolhouse

Beginning about 1730, the village of Middlebush was served by a succession of schoolhouses. We do not know exactly why students were moved from schoolhouse to schoolhouse in these early years, but it seems likely they outgrew the space as the village population increased. Pictured is the 5th Schoolhouse, which was built in 1859. The school served both the residents of the village and the surrounding farms.

The school stood originally behind the Middlebush Reformed Church. The second floor was used for Sunday school classes and prayer meetings. In 1907, as the number of students increased, it became necessary to employ two teachers! The four upper grades were moved upstairs, making it Franklin's first two-room—and two-story—schoolhouse. The building was in use as a school until 1916.



BUILDING A CARAVAN GET ON BOARD

5K Breast Cancer
RUN/WALK 4LIFE
USATF Certified Race

Sister Sister
Supporting Minority & Underserved Breast Cancer Survivors

Saturday, October 6, 2018
Early Registration \$25 (until July 2nd)
Colonial Park, 156 Mettlers Road, Somerset, NJ 08873

SPONSORS
Otsuka Genentech
A Member of the Roche Group

Registration Fees:
Early Registration \$25 (until 7/2/18) • Registration \$35
Seniors (62+) \$25 • Teens/Children (8-17) \$25
Register on line www.s2scnj.org or call 732-246-8300 Fax 732-246-3535

7:45 am Registration & Check In (Run & Walk)
Run begins at 9:00 am (5K Run)
Walk begins at 9:20 am (1 Mile Walk)

Saturday, October 13

11 am - 5pm
Amwell Rd & Market St.
East Millstone

**Live Music, Art, Food,
Kids Activities, and more!**

franklinfoodbank.org

OUR SAFETY, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENT ARE AT RISK FROM THE PROPOSED COMPRESSOR STATION 206.

HERE ARE THE FACTS This project proposes a massive natural gas fired compressor station in Franklin Township bordering on the New Jersey Buddhist Vihara, an active blasting site at Trap Rock Quarry, and a Superfund site that is still in clean-up progress.

Natural gas turbines are old technology, and produce extreme high heat and high volume exhaust, toxic airborne carcinogenic chemicals, and massive amounts of greenhouse gasses including Methane, the most impacting of Green House Gas emissions.

GIVEN THAT there are several months between the deadline for filing this article and the actual publication of it, we, the Franklin Township Task Force, cannot predict what actions will have been taken in the meantime regarding the planned Compressor Station 206 in our neighborhood and the entire Northeast Supply Enhancement project (NESE). Critical decisions will have been made during this period regarding the granting of permits by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the preparation and/or issuance of the Final Environmental Impact Survey (FEIS) by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and we cannot predict what the outcomes will be.

WHAT WE DO KNOW is that FERC and the pipeline company Williams Transcontinental (Transco) are aggressively moving forward to have this project approved. We also know that our work and active involvement from residents has made a difference in delaying FERC. However, Transco compressed the installation period of 2 years down to 1 year to make sure they have the proposed compressor in service by December 2019. This is a critical time period.

SO, STAY TUNED to our website, www.scrap-nese.org, for updates on the opposition to this project, and for actions you can take to prevent this polluting and dangerous industrial complex from becoming our neighbor in Franklin Township. If you have any questions or would like to know how you can help, please email us at stopftcompressor@yahoo.com.



U.S. Citizenship Preparation Classes

Information Session: Monday, September 24, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Have you applied for U.S. citizenship? Will you apply in the next 12 months? Do you speak and understand English? You may be eligible for Literacy Volunteers of Somerset County's free U.S. Citizenship Preparation Class. This seven (7) week free class focuses on the civics, history and vocabulary needed to pass the citizenship test and interview.

Registration for the Information Session is required. Registration for the seven (7) week class will take place during the Information session.

Workshop Series: 21st Century Workforce

Workforce Development Specialist Jan Goodman from the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center will be leading three workshops designed to help attendees be more effective in both professional and personal settings.

Multi-Generational Workplace

Wednesday, September 26, 6:30-8:45 p.m.

There are currently five generations in the workforce, and employers faced with mass retirements of Baby Boomers are looking for ways to prepare for the changes that will result. This workshop examines the history of the generation gap and explores organization strategies that overcome gap issues.

Defeating Unconscious Bias

Wednesday, October 3, 6:30-8:45 p.m.

This workshop addresses the hidden biases that can affect hiring and team building, challenging one's ability to create an inclusive workplace. It offers five simple, actionable, and memorable strategies to enhance workplace productivity and innovation by addressing bias.

Ouch! Communicating Respectfully in a Diverse World

Monday, October 15, 6:30-8:45 p.m.

Attendees will experience the impact of stereotypical comments, jokes and emails. The workshop explores why people do not speak up against stereotypes and other biased behaviors and offers six techniques for speaking up without blame or guilt.

For a full list of programs for adults, teens and children, visit the Library Events & Meetings page at www.franklintwp.org.

The library is located at 485 DeMott Lane in Somerset and 3391 Route 27 South, Suite 101, Franklin Park.

Franklin Township Police Department's Operation Blue Angel

Operation Blue Angel is a program intended to provide Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) access to a residence in the event of an emergency where the resident is unable to open the door.



Eligible residents will be provided with a free lock box. A key to the residence will be stored in the secure lock box near the entrance to the residence. The access code to the lock box will only be available to Police personnel and used only during an emergency.

Franklin residents 55 years and older with medical conditions that could lead to incapacitation who live alone or are alone for extended periods of time on a regular basis. Applications are available on the Police Department page of our website: www.franklintwpnj.org/government/departments/police/project-r-e-s-p-e-c-t/r-e-s-p-e-c-t-operation-blue-angel. For more information, please contact Officer ReBecca Lea at 732-873-5533, ext. 3155.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RECYCLING INFORMATION

**Franklin Township
Convenience Center**
Corner of School Ave. & Berry St.
732-249-7800

CALENDAR

September 8.....8:00am – 2:45pm
September 17.....7:30am – 11:30am (Monday)
September 22.....8:00am – 2:45pm
October 6.....8:00am – 2:45pm
October 15.....7:30am – 11:30am (Monday)
October 20.....8:00am – 2:45pm

PURCHASE A PASS

Residents may only buy passes during the week at:
Public Works Building
40 Churchill Avenue
Monday thru Friday: 7am – 2:45pm
Township Clerk's Office
475 DeMott Lane
Monday thru Friday: 8:30am – 4:30pm
Open to Residents ONLY – ALL RESIDENTS MUST
present valid Driver's License to verify residency
to qualify and purchase a pass.

TRIP PASS FEES

Car - \$15.00 per trip / 6 trips for \$75.00
Description- has 1 or 2 seats with a trunk
Station Wagon/Small SUV/Small Crossover
\$20.00 per trip / 6 trips for \$100.00
Description-MUST have 2 rows of seating, upright
and in place at all times
SUV/Small Van/Small ¼ Ton Pick Up/Mini Van
\$35.00 per trip / 6 trips for \$175
Description-SUV/Small Van/Mini Van
MUST have 2 rows of seating, upright
and in place at all times
Full Size Van/Cargo Van
\$55 per trip / 6 trips for \$275
Description-no seating behind driver
Full Size Pick Up
\$75 per trip / 6 trips for \$375
Trailer - \$75 per trip –PLUS vehicle fee IF the vehicle has
debris
\$75 per trip / 6 trips for \$375
Description-no longer than 8 feet; no closed in trailers
NOT ALLOWED
NO Rack Body/Flat Bed/Dump Truck/Cube Van/ Closed
in trailers
NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ALLOWED

Additional Fees

\$15/appliance to drop off Freon Appliance
\$7/tire to drop off ALL tires
TRIP PASS REQUIRED for the following acceptable
items:
Household items to include furniture, old toys, rugs,
etc. Appliances (refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners,
dehumidifiers)

NO PASS REQUIRED

Newspaper
Cardboard
Metal Cans
Glass Bottles
Light Metal
Motor Oil
Appliances (washers, dryers, stoves, ovens, dishwash-
ers, hot water heaters)
Recyclable Electronics
Brush – Shrub trimmings, hedge clippings
Branches not larger than 4" in diameter or 4 feet in
length
Leaves in biodegradable bags (leaves cannot be dumped
out of bags)

NOT ACCEPTED / NOT ALLOWED

Renovation/Construction Material/ Debris – sheet rock,
tile, concrete, brick, asphalt, rocks, etc.**
Railroad ties or treated wood
Household garbage, food wastes, cooking oil
Hazardous Materials – pesticides, oil paint, chemicals,
driveway sealer, etc.**
Propane tanks**
**NOTE: Somerset County has 6 Household Hazardous
Waste Drop Off Dates for 2017.
Please refer to your 2017 Recycling Information Packet
for details or call 732-469-3363 or log on at :www.
co.somerset.nj.us

CURBSIDE PICKUP FOR

LARGE METAL APPLIANCES

Curbside pickup starting in April and ending in October
\$25 per refrigerator, freezer, air conditioner, humidifier
\$10 per dryer, washer, dishwasher, stove, hot water
heater

Somerset County Recycling
732-469-3363

<http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/recycle.html>

CURBSIDE PICKUP PROGRAM

Somerset County will continue the curbside
Recycling. Items need to be on the curb no
later than 7am on collection day.
If you need a new or additional recycling bucket, call
Franklin's Public Works at 732-249-7800.

Franklin Twp/South Bound Brook

Collection Dates

July 5, 19
August 2, 16, 30
September 13, 27

Franklin Park/Griggstown Collection Dates

July 6, 20
August 3, 17, 31
September 14, 28

Canal Walk/Somerset Run/Summerfields

Collection Dates

Fridays instead of Thursdays

Society Hill I and II/Beacon Hill Collection Dates

Mondays instead of Fridays

Recycling pickups on 28 roads in Franklin Twp.

are on Mondays instead of Fridays: Balboa Lane;
Cabot Way, Camoe Lane, Cartier Drive, Cobblers Circle,
Colu,bus Drive, Conservancy Court, Decaire Lane, Delar
Parkway, De Leon Circle, Desoto Drive, Diaz Court, Gar-
retson Drive, Hoagland Place, Hudson Court, Magellan
Way, Marco, Polo Court, Mine Brook Lane, Old Stage
Road, Pleasant Plains Road, Raleigh Way, Verrazano
Drive, Yardley Court and Yorkshire Road.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAYS

9am to 2pm
*September 22, 2018
Branchburg Township Public Works Garage
34 Kenbury Road
Branchburg, NJ 08876
*October 20 2018
South County Public Works Garage
410 Roycefield Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

SOMERSET RECYCLING CENTER

40 Polhemus Lane, Bridgewater
1st Saturday of each month, 8am to 2 pm
Electronic Waste is not accepted at the Center;
See details, locations and dates under Consumer
Electronics
July 14, 2018
August 4, 2018
September 8, 2018
October 6, 2018

RECYCLE CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

8am – 2pm - 1st Saturday Drop Off

South County Public Works
410 Roycefield Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844
July 14; August ; September 8; October 6

7:30am – 3pm Weekday Drop Off

North County Public Works
411 Chimney Rock Road, Building B, Bridgewater NJ
08807
South County Public Works
410 Roycefield Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

MEDICINE DROP OFF

Residents can dispose of unwanted, expired or unused
prescription
and over-the counter drugs in the drop-off box located
in the lobby
of the Franklin Township Public Safety Building, 495
DeMott Lane, Somerset NJ 08873

MEDICAL WASTE DISPOSAL

Sharp needles and other similar medical waste should
never be recycled.
Disposal containers and information is available. Call for
hours and specific locations.
St. Peter's 732-742-8600, ext. 8282
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital 908-685-
2200, ext. 3258
Princeton Medical Center 609-497-4266
Hunterdon Medical Center 908-237-6920
Center for Nutrition & Diabetes Management
Waste Management 1-877-WASTE-MD

Additional information about the Safe Syringe Disposal
Program may be obtained by contacting: **New Jersey
Hospital Association – 760 Alexander Road, Princeton,
NJ 08543 – 609-275-4000**

NOTE: Under NO circumstances should needles ever be
put in any type of container and placed out for recycling
collections. This is very hazardous to all personnel han-
dling recycling collections.
**Do not bring needles to Household Hazardous Waste
Collections**



INDEPENDENT SPORTS PROGRAMS: The following organizations run independently of Parks & Recreation and administer their own programs:

Franklin Township Baseball League	732-649-8068	www.FTBLBaseball.org	ftblsomerset@gmail.com
Franklin Twp./South Bound Brook Little League	732-469-7761		FTSBLL1958@gmail.com
Franklin Township Soccer		www.franklinsoccer.com	
Pop Warner Football/Cheerleading		www.FTPW.org	ftpwnj@gmail.com

The Importance of Attendance: Advice and Resources Shared with FTPS Students

Last May, two seminars for district secondary students were held in the Municipal Courthouse of Franklin Township. The purpose of these gatherings? To stress the importance of regular attendance at school and to provide information on the resources available to students and families in need of support.

This was a collaborative effort between the school district, Municipal Court Judges Hector Rodriguez and Maureen Vella and the Somerset County Family Crisis Intervention Unit (FCIU). These seminars grew from a conversation between the district Attendance Officers, the Judges and their staff.

“By the time a student is referred to us, he or she has already had ten unexcused absences. We investigate the circumstances of the absences and try to find out the reasons. But we often find that we need to bring the matter to Court for resolution, because the child is truant,” said Attendance Officer Kevin Kelley. “We wanted to give students in danger of becoming truant an opportunity to see how serious attendance at school is, and to show them that they have resources available.”

These resources were outlined by FHS Principal Chmiel and FMS Principal Solomon. District Student Assistance Counselors [SACs] Stacy Hale, Jason Marchitto and Valerie Northey gave details on how support is provided. They explained that counseling is available to assist students and their families in addressing issues that may impede their attendance at school. The SACs also stressed that extracurricular activities can be an important part of a student’s school experience, “being part of a club or sport can make school a more positive experience,” said Ms. Hale.

“Students can fall into truancy status for a variety of reasons,” explained FHS Attendance Officer Michelle Motta, “Sometimes it is as simple as not handing in the absent note, showing that the parent was aware of the student’s absence and that it was for a valid reason.” Ms. Motta clarified the reporting procedure for the Middle School families who attended the seminar. The Officers made appointments to work with some of those families to get their students back on track. For families that need additional support, information on family counseling services and other services provided by the FCIU were provided by Maria Mathews, Director of the FCIU. Pamphlets on those services were also shared. Ms. Mathews explained that if all interventions fail through the school and the FCIU, the FCIU will bring a civil action via petition to the Superior Court for intervention, which can lead to mandated services and/or short-term out-of-home placements for the child.

Perhaps the most dramatic part of these workshops occurred when the Judges themselves took the floor. Judge Vella first greeted the students in business clothing. While putting on her official robe, she explained the necessary decorum that must be followed in Court. She was also able to share some personnel experiences about the importance of staying in school even when it is difficult.

Finally, Judge Rodriguez held a mock hearing which moved both the student participant and those watching. “We thought it was important to hold this workshop here at the Courthouse to show these students the seriousness of truancy proceedings. Students and parents need to know that there are financial repercussions to truancy, but also know that there are ways to prevent excess absences,” explained Judge Rodriguez.

This balance of gravity and support helped to make these seminars significant for the forty students in attendance. Additional sessions are planned for the upcoming school year.

District Food Services NJ Director of the Year by the School Nutrition Association



FTPS Director of Food Services, Margaret DeBlasi

Schools help prepare students to succeed. One district staff member was recently recognized by her peers for helping to prepare students to learn and be successful in school.

Franklin Township Public Schools Director of Food Services, Ms. Margaret DeBlasi, RD, SNS, was recently named as the NJ Director of the Year by the School Nutrition Association, a national organization of school nutrition professionals committed to advancing the quality of school meal programs through education and advocacy.

Ms. DeBlasi is very proud of this accomplishment and credits her staff and the support of the district for her success. She has been with FTPS for four-and-a-half years and in the field of school nutrition for twenty-one years.

Her tenure in the district has included the growth of a comprehensive Breakfast in the Classroom Program, which was recognized by the Advocates for Children of NJ and kitchen renovation projects in four district schools. She is proud to have revamped the lunch menus to offer more fresh fruits and vegetables to district students.

But, according to Ms. DeBlasi, “the most important aspect of my job is ensuring that the students have access to a nutritious breakfast and lunch so they are well-nourished and prepared to succeed and stay focused during the school day.”

We join in the congratulations of her peers and thank Margaret for the great work that she does every day to help prepare our students for success.

Franklin Middle School Teacher Becomes the First Recipient of the SIFMA Financial Literacy All-Star Achievement Award



Deborah Gadek

Deborah Gadek is no stranger to award ceremonies hosted by this organization. So what made the most recent award ceremony so significant? Well, this time it was also Ms. Gadek who won.

“I was completely surprised by the honor of being recognized as the first recipient of the SIFMA Financial Literacy All Star Achievement Award,” said Ms. Gadek. She was recognized during an awards luncheon in June. Ms. Gadek has utilized SIFMA resources such as the stock Market Game and Capitol Hill Challenges as well as the InvestWrite Competition to help her students to explore the fundamentals of personal finance and investing. These competitions allow her students to build and manage an investment portfolio in a real-world, dynamic marketplace. In Investwrite, students write an essay in which they apply the knowledge of the stock market gained from participating in the Stock Market Challenge to a real life situation.

The use of these resources began as part of Ms. Gadek’s instructional math lab several years ago. It then became an elective class called Money Matters. This past year, Ms. Gadek trained other teachers so that the class can be offered at both Franklin Middle School campuses. Ms. Gadek’s students have had great success in the Stock Market Challenge and have one the NJ InvestWrite Challenge for several years. This past year one of her students, Emily Lopez, won the national title for that Challenge.

A former commercial litigation attorney and assistant at a brokerage firm, Ms. Gadek came to our district ten years ago. With her knowledge and passion for finance, we agree she is truly an All Star.

Members of the Judiciary, Public School District and County Agency come together to speak to students on the importance of school attendance.



Our Principals Share Their Thoughts on the New School Year



Claremont Elementary School (CES) Principal Nicole Sury Beverer: It is with great excitement that the CES Administrative team and I, along with our Cool Cat mascots, 'Clare' and 'Monte', open the doors of our new school. Our staff has come together as a team and worked throughout the spring and summer to build upon our knowledge of the positive behavior support framework collaboratively developing a universal system of supports for our school. Expectations for students have been identified and we plan to monitor their efforts and reward them for making positive choices each and every day. I am confident that our staff and students will feel supported and valued. All voices will be heard, students will continue to participate in decisions about their school and everyone will be encouraged and celebrated for taking risks as learners. I look forward to sharing news with you about the amazing happenings within our district's newest elementary school.

Elizabeth Avenue School (EAS) Principal John Haney: As Principal of EAS, I would like to start the new school year by thanking my staff and school community for their patience and support during the last few years of construction. It has been quite a journey, but well worth it. I am sure our students will be looking forward to dining in our new cafeteria and be inspired to learn in our new classrooms and media center. The new front entrance promises greater security and a welcoming greeting to our returning students and those coming to EAS for the first time. Much success to VP JoAnn Riley as she joins the FPS team and I would like to welcome Mr. Gregory Romero as he begins this school year as VP at EAS. We look forward to embracing the opportunities found in the new elementary schedule and strengthening our Positive Behavior in Schools Program. Welcome Back!

Hillcrest School (HILL) Principal Albert Fico: I am so proud to be able to serve the wonderful students here and the entire HILL community. Together, the administration and staff extend a warm welcome back to our HILL students who will be returning for the 2018-19 school year and would like to wish those students who were re-zoned the best of luck at their new schools. It is my deep belief that the hallmark of a great school is to continuously work to improve learning for each and every child. As the educational leader of HILL, I see this as my most important responsibility. We are enthusiastic about the opportunity of yet again partnering with our HILL parents and guardians to make the most of our students' individual talents. Our staff will continue to work as a team to design classroom explorations that are truly meaningful and thought-provoking. We are confident that together we will put plans into action that will take our students to new levels of achievement. Together, we as a school community will "Soar to Success".

Fine Grove Manor School (FGM) Principal Miguel Rivera: At FGM, we are proud and honored to continue our Model Bilingual and ESL program. We are one of a small number of districts throughout the state that have been recognized for this honor. It takes a concerted team effort to ensure that highly effective programs such as this are fostered and grown to achieve their full potential.

Additionally, we are encouraged by our peer-mentoring program with students from FHS working with our students in a collaborative manner to instill positive aspirations and appropriate school behavior. The implementation of this "Brotherhood Program" has increased our positive behaviors throughout the school. We hope to continue and expand it this coming school year. Also, we look forward to our continued partnership with the master gardeners from Rutgers who help guide our students through gardening lessons and beauty our plot in the shared community garden. Also, we seek to expand our community relationships as we continue to work closely with New Jersey Cares and Point Community Church located here in Franklin.

Franklin High School (FHS) Principal Frank Chmiel: I am so proud to serve as the Principal of FHS and to begin my first full school year in this position. This school year we will continue to embrace our Warrior Strength and Pride with a sense of Trust and Unity. We are a school of diverse races, cultures, languages and faiths represented by our staff and student body, and it is in that diversity that we find strength. Our ability to not only tolerate our differences, but to embrace them with a sense of pride, truly makes FHS special. Our administrative team and teaching staff have rigorous expectations of our students. We trust that they can live up to them. In turn, they can expect leadership and support from us and trust that we will work hard every day to guide them through their time at FHS and prepare them for their future. We will achieve this vision by listening to our administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents, and community; by relying on the varied experiences and talents of all and by being responsive to each other. Through these actions, we will continue to build a united team of Warriors who not only excel academically, athletically, and artistically but in life as well. I look forward to this school year and encourage the larger community to visit our school events and experience the Strength of the Warrior!

Franklin Middle School at Hamilton Street Campus (FMS) Principal Nicholas Solomon: We are so excited to continue our College and Career Readiness Initiatives started this past school year. Our goal was to create an environment that enabled students to think about what they want to study, what college they want to attend, and ultimately to start seriously considering what they want to do as a career. We celebrated every Monday as Career Day and every Wednesday as College Day. We encouraged students and staff to wear professional clothing on Mondays and a college t-shirt or sweatshirt on Wednesdays. Keeping with that theme, we were able to bring a vast majority of students to 7 different New Jersey Universities or Colleges, including Rutgers University, Kean University, and Montclair State University. All students had an opportunity to listen to a variety of guest speakers that provided insight to middle school students on how to start preparing for college. Furthermore, we held several parent workshops that focused on planning for college now as a middle school parent. It has been a great year with this initiative, we have gone above and beyond our goal of establishing awareness of College and Career Readiness for our students and it would not have been possible without our wonderful teachers that serve on the College and Career Readiness committee. They truly did an outstanding job! We look forward to sharing our College and Career Readiness initiative with the Sampson G. Smith Campus and truly believe if we can provide students with knowledge about the possibilities of their future, they will be more focused on their present.

Conroy Road School (CRS) Principal Dr. Donna Silva-Burnett In preparation for the 2018-2019 school year, we are excited about implementing the Sanford Harmony Social Emotional Learning experience for Grades Pre-K to Grade 5. This new program is designed to teach our elementary students about cooperation, empathy and methods of communicating with others. There will be ongoing training for teachers with specialized instructional materials, video modules and lessons to implement via the classroom. This will coincide with the family-school partnership to engage all parents and make them feel connected with support when the educational demands are placed upon their children.

MacAfee Road School (MAC) Principal William Grippo: We at MAC are excited to have many of our 4th graders return to a new 5th grade this September. I see many exciting projects and initiatives coming up. Our strong community outreach, now with grade five, will really strengthen our citizenship initiatives, the organic garden, the food bank drives, and support for various charities. Our successful Grow a Garden of Readers program will rise to greater heights with a group of stronger readers coming from our 4th grades. The enhanced schedule will be exciting with our morning meetings and student choice. We have our sights set on next June's science fair as well. This will be called, "Up, Up and Away... birds and flight"!!!

Franklin Park School (FPS) Principal Purvi Shah: The future is looking bright at FPS for the 2018-2019 school year! We are excited for new beginnings, and look forward to cultivating a community of learners among students and staff alike. We will continue to nurture a culture of possibilities to help students realize their potential to learn anything with grit and a growth mindset. The notion that you can train your brain through practice and perseverance is one that will take our students far. Teachers have embraced this idea by embedding it into lessons, day-to-day vocabulary and routines, and will continue to do so for the upcoming school year. Our teachers will immerse themselves in Cultivate, by Jimmy Casas, a book that challenges educators to reach those students who seem unreachable, manage disengaged students, find ways to ensure that learners feel cared for and empowered, and create an environment where all learners are challenged and inspired to be their best. We look ahead to this learning opportunity. Yes, FPS is beaming with excitement for the new school year!

Franklin Middle School at the Sampson G. Smith Campus (SGS) Principal Evelyn Rutledge: What an exciting time for all of us as we start the new school year at the Franklin Middle School - SGS Campus. We welcome back returning staff, new staff and students in grades 6th-8th and send well wishes to the staff who have moved to other buildings. Our beautiful facility has enjoyed renovations over the past several years. These have not only helped to beautify our campus but have strengthened the safety and security of our building. Thank you to our SGS families and staff for their patience through our construction phase. I look forward in this school year to partnering with Principal Solomon and his Hamilton Street Campus team to ensure that our one Middle School Program on two campuses, is cohesive and successful. There are great things planned for our students this year. We will continue with our one-to-one Chromebook initiative and implement a team approach on both campuses. The team approach will give our teachers greater opportunities to discuss and work with each other to address the individual needs of their students. This collaborative effort will support our students academically as well as socially and emotionally. Our middle school students will now have greater access to extracurricular activities spread across the two campuses, as well as an expanded athletic program. These will present even more opportunities to show our Warrior Pride!

Franklin Township Public Schools 3A

English as a Second Language and Bi-Lingual Services at FTFS

By Julie Ochoa, Supervisor of ESL/BIL Programs

The Franklin Township Public School District prides itself on its diversity. We have noted over 65 languages spoken by our approximately 7,200 students and were incredibly proud to learn that our English as a Second Language (ESL) and Bilingual Programs in grades K-4 and our English as a Second Language Program at the high school level were named Model Programs by the New Jersey Department of Education. This distinction will be in effect for years 2018-2020. Having the distinction of being a Model Program will allow us to share our best practices with other districts in the state.

Of those 65+ languages, Spanish is the one most commonly spoken, and is the language of the Bilingual program at Pine Grove Manor Elementary School. Three additional elementary schools have an ESL only program: Elizabeth Avenue School, Hillcrest School and Franklin Park School.

Our program's foundation is built upon a few key concepts which include: integration of language and content; deliberate scheduling based on students' English levels; a combination of pull-out and push-in services; collaboration and Professional development. We have found it effective to anchor the curriculum units in the Science and Social Studies theme and provide unit assessments that include a listening, speaking, reading and a writing section. Students are scheduled and grouped according to their English levels within each grade which allows for targeted language instruction and makes scheduling much more efficient.

At the high school, students are placed into ESL classes by proficiency level and not by grade level. Collaboration is also a benchmark of the high school program. Co-taught classes, which integrate language and content, are offered in History and Physics to students at levels 1 & 2. Students benefit from linguistic modifications that are developed by both teachers in order to make content accessible. Collaboration extends to all departments, including guidance.

In the bilingual program, language dominance and academic preparedness are also used to determine placement. At Pine Grove Manor there is a bilingual home room in K, 1 and 2, while grades 3 and 4, which have smaller numbers, have pull-out bilingual services in Language Arts and Math. To attain the goal of success in an English-speaking classroom, we provide the most amount of linguistic support to students with the least amount of English proficiency, which allows for deliberate and gradual transitioning into English. Pull-out ESL support is combined with ESL push-in services during literacy in both general education classrooms and bilingual classrooms. This push-in support has created some remarkable collaborations amongst all teachers who work with English Language Learners. To support these collaborations, Sheltered Instruction Training is offered to all teachers. Conversely, ESL and Bilingual teachers participate in all literacy trainings.

Teachers and Guidance Staff working together along with the administration of our schools to support our English Language Learners is something that makes us, as a district, very proud indeed.



Project CHILD FIND is a program from the NJ Department of Education to assist in the identification of unserved or underserved youth, from birth through age 21, with a delay or disability. Call 1-800-322-8174 for more information on Project CHILD FIND.

FTFS, through its Department of Pupil Personnel Services, educational services to students who have been identified as having educationally debilitating conditions. If you are a resident of Franklin Township and suspect that your child is having learning difficulties or if a health care provider has indicated that your child should be evaluated, please contact the **Department of Pupil Personnel Services 1755** Amwell Road, Somerset, New Jersey, 08873. (732) 873-2400 Ext. 203.

REDUCED MEAL APPLICATIONS



Your child may be eligible for Free or Reduced Breakfast or Lunch. See the Food Services page at www.franklinboe.org to fill out an application online or call 732-873-2400 x 335.

The 2017-2018 school year was an exciting year for the students in Franklin Township Public Schools and the Department of Pupil Personnel Services. The district created many new and innovative programs that allowed all students to be further included in the academic, social and recreational/athletic opportunities at school and in the community. In collaboration with Unified Schools and Special Olympics, opportunities at Franklin High School were expanded to include Unified Bowling, Cheerleading, and Track and Field. The students formed Warriors Unite!, an integrated club which provides supported social activities and fundraisers for all students to participate in together. Among other events, they hosted a 'sit with me' week in the Cafeteria, where students were encouraged to sit together alongside other students that they might not have met otherwise.

The district hosted its first Abilities Enrichment Day at SGS in June, which brought together students from throughout the district to participate in group activities, highlighted by a DJ, pizza, and an ice cream truck. Thank you to all the staff, sponsors and PTOs for making this an incredible day for our students.

Franklin learning initiatives expanded to include new course offerings at the secondary level to increase opportunities in the Sciences, Arts, Technology and Second Language acquisition. We welcomed a district Therapy Dog program, and learning interventions including Orton-Gillingham, Achieve 3000, and Effective School Solutions. These initiatives have allowed for the success and expansion of our Autism and Transitional programming.

We look forward to continuing and building upon these types of programs in this coming year to allow many more students the opportunity to grow, thrive and learn in Franklin Schools!

FTFS for a Common Purpose

By Dr. Brenda Sofield, Director, Pupil Personnel Services

G&T Program at Our Elementary Schools

By David J. Heras, Ed.M.

Our Franklin Township parents asked; we responded. The 2018-19 school year marks the completion of our Franklin Township One Less Move initiative. It also marks the completion of our five-year initiative to bring Gifted and Talented to our elementary schools!

Every elementary school offers our Gifted and Talented Science Enrichment pull-out course once per six-day cycle to selected students in grades 3, 4, and 5. These classes are taught by each school's science specialist. It features small-group project-based learning in which students study a science problem and develop an engineering solution to the problem. However, while it may have a science-based focus, it actually teaches a whole lot more.

- Students **learn advanced concepts** in engineering, technology, and applications of science.
- Students **apply math and literacy skills** to complex problems in other subject areas.
- Students **practice the college and career skills** of planning, problem solving, analyzing, assessing, and presenting.
- **Students will engage in "Type 3" activities**, involving advanced content, student direction, and real world problems, projects and presentations.

All students are automatically assessed for inclusion in Gifted and Talented, and notification happens during the summer. Combined with our regular curriculum and new elementary course offerings, the Gifted and Talented program is a key piece in making sure that every student in Franklin Township is able to grow, explore, and push themselves in their learning.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
1755 Amwell Road
Somerset, NJ 08873
(732) 873-2400

District Staff and Students Set to Go Back to School

By Dr. John A. Ravally, Ed. D.
Superintendent, Franklin Township Public Schools

“Back to School” is always a special time for educators but this September it is exceptionally significant and very exciting for all of us at Franklin Township Public Schools, as it marks the completion of the One Less Move Referendum. In December 2014, the voters of Franklin Township generously committed their resources to an ambitious multi-year improvement plan. A plan that included the following: building a brand new elementary school facility; reorganizing to a more educationally sound grade configuration affording fifth-grade students the opportunity to remain in an elementary setting; creating two middle school campuses with additional extracurricular opportunities for students in grades six through eight; and several other facility projects, some large and some small, helping to upgrade infrastructure in order to better meet the needs of our students.

In addition, the Referendum has brought about additional changes as well. These include an exciting new elementary schedule that, first and foremost, allows for continuity between our seven elementary schools and provides new opportunities for students such as choice time. The schedule, which provides lots of other new learning experiences for students, is highlighted in one of the articles in this newsletter.

Also in this issue we focus on the programs we provide for our specialized populations. Dr. Brenda Sohfeld, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, gives us an update on how our special education programs “unite” with our general education students. Elementary Language Arts Supervisor, David Heras, helps us take a look at the Gifted and Talented Program and our English as a Second Language/Bilingual Supervisor, Julie Ochoa, highlights information about her programs, programs which were once again designated as Model Programs by the NJ Department of Education.

We take some time to emphasize our work with the larger community as well as share a few accomplishments of our Franklin Township Public School staff members. Finally, we hear from our ten Principals about their thoughts for the new school year. As always, I invite you to become involved in our schools, visit our website; follow the district on Twitter or attend a Board of Education meeting to learn more about our initiatives and events.

On behalf of the Franklin Township Board of Education as well as the staff and students of our public schools, I would like to thank the community for your support throughout the Referendum process and wish everyone a safe and productive Back to School season.

The New Elementary Schedule Takes Shape

By Nicole Sury Bever, Principal Claremont Elementary School

I could not be more excited about the new elementary school schedule and thank Superintendent Ravally for entrusting Mrs. Roberta Mitchell and I with this project. The work could also have never been completed without the support of district supervisors and directors and members of both Roberta’s and my “On the Move” Transition Committees.

Just some of the major highlights involve a daily opportunity for “Morning Meeting” time for all students, Pre-K to 5; opportunities for choice time for our Kindergarten students; World Language offerings for students in grades 2 through 5; ‘Student College’ for our 4th and 5th grade students; as well as before-school club offerings.

“Morning Meeting” time not only supports the development and practice of academic skills but moreover helps students develop other skills important to learning, including risk-taking, choice-making, problem-solving, self-control, active participation, assertiveness and cooperation. This opportunity will lend students to enhancing their social and emotional learning competencies while also strengthening the concept of “community” within their classrooms.

“Student College” are interest-based learning offerings facilitated by teacher leaders that will allow our grade four and five students to deepen their knowledge and to further explore their passions in the areas of science and technology (STEM), fine and visual performing arts, language arts and leadership and personal development.

Our Elementary Students Head to College – Student College That Is

By David J. Heras, Ed.M.

Supervisor of Elementary Language Literacy, Academic Support, and Enrichment

The 2018-19 school year is going to see the opening of a new school, Claremont Elementary School, as the culmination of Franklin Township’s One Less Move initiative. However, the new school year also brings with it a new program for our fourth and fifth grade students: Student College.

Based on the work of UConn researchers, Joseph Renzulli and Sally Reis, Student College is an opportunity for students to choose some of their own classes and pursue their own interests in learning. We call the idea the Three “Es,” which means that Enjoyment leads to Engagement, which then leads to Enthusiasm for Learning. In other words, when we give students learning opportunities they enjoy, this leads to greater engagement in what they are learning. And the more they are engaged in this way, the more they begin to see themselves as the drivers in their own learning.

Student College begins with teacher-created, high-interest courses that fall into one of four “departments:” Language Arts, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), Fine, Visual, and Performing Arts, and Leadership/Personal Development. Students get to choose what course they want, and then meet together in these courses twice a cycle (i.e. two times for every six days). There they get to engage in in-depth, hands-on, enjoyable learning, eventually culminating in a project and presentation at the end of the year. Students will change Student College courses midway through the year so that everyone can participate in a variety of learning experiences.

Student College isn’t just fun — it’s fun for the sake of learning. It’s another way that we keep to our commitment to provide new learning opportunities for all of the students of Franklin Township.