



Franklin Township - Voted One of Money Magazine's Best Places to Live - 2019
 Voted New Jersey Monthly Magazine's Top 100 Towns - 2019

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Fall 2022

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Franklin Days Series Finale Ushers in the Fall Season!

Franklin Township presents the 2022 Franklin Days Series finale on Saturday, September 24th from 1:00 pm -5:00 pm at the Franklin Township Municipal Complex, 475 DeMott Lane in Somerset. In the event of inclement weather, the rain date is scheduled for Saturday, October 1st. Attendees will enjoy a festive day of entertainment, food vendors, and resource information from local organizations and businesses. The event will also include fun games, children's activities and more!

This is an opportunity for our community to come together and enjoy what our Township has to offer. This event is the culmination of our series of four events held throughout the summer that served as an alternative and rebranding of the annual Franklin Day Festival.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or a blanket to relax, have fun, and enjoy music at our gazebo by local township talent and featured band, New Jersey's own 100% disco, dance and party band, *The Discoteks* and the return of *Swing Sabroso* with latin sounds of today combined with the nostalgia of yesterday.

Admission is absolutely FREE! Attendees are asked to follow all current COVID guidelines to promote the safety of all event participants. No pets please - service animals are welcome.

For more information, email franklinday@franklinnj.gov, call 732-873-2500 ext. 6428 or the Parks & Recreation Department at 732-873-1991, Option 4. To sign up for event alerts, please text FranklinDay to 888777.



Franklin Food Bank Offers Help in Two New Ways

The Franklin Food Bank is proud to announce the re-launch of our Client Choice program at our facility located at 224 Churchill Ave. Originally established in 2019, this market-style distribution model was suspended at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This March, our staff and dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to reset our main method of food distribution and re-opened our doors to allow township residents in need the opportunity to "shop" for the food and supplies that best fit their lifestyle.

Individuals and families apply to the program and receive a card with points, based on household size. Clients shop the market with their points, by appointment, up to two times per month. The market is set up just like a mini-grocery store, with a section for produce, dairy, frozen foods and non-perishables. Giving clients control to select the items they need most and enjoy allows the Franklin Food Bank to stay true to its mission since 1975: to serve those in need in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

Given the current economic landscape, more and more neighbors are finding it difficult to make ends meet. For those who are having a hard time making their food budget last, short-term supplementary help is available, no questions asked. The Franklin Food Bank is hosting Community Distribution Days on the first Wednesday of each month at the Franklin Township Community Relations Bureau at 935 Hamilton Street.

For more information about the Franklin Food Bank, to donate or to learn more about how you can receive help, please visit FranklinFoodBank.org or call 732-246-0009.

The mission of the Franklin Food Bank is to serve the food needs of our local community in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

The Franklin Township Police Department
 Community Relations Bureau
 Franklin Food Bank
 and CFBNJ
 Present:

COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION DAY

A curbside program for families facing a food crisis.

First Wednesday of the Month

Beginning at 11am - Until Supplies Last
 at Franklin Township
 Community Relations Bureau
 935 Hamilton Street, Somerset, NJ 08873

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
 PLEASE WEAR A MASK
 in partnership with...

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

Main 732-873-2500

Extensions

Animal Control.....6255

Assessor.....6320

Clerk (Elections, Dog Licenses, Voter Registration)..... 6208

Construction Code

Enforcement.. 6220 or 732-873-7283

Collector

(Tax, Water)6330 or 732-873-7284

Community Resource6310

Court6262 or 732-873-7285

Economic Development.....6274

Engineering6230

Fire Prevention6303

Health Complaint 24/76370

Historic Preservation 6274

Human Resources..... 6202

Municipal Alliance..... 6353

Open Space..... 6279

Planning Board..... 6215

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

Purchasing..... 6239

Recreation...6266 or 732-873-1991

Redevelopment Agency..... 6271

Rent Leveling Board 6274

Senior Advisory 6347

Special Projects..... 6427

Township Manager 6201

Vital Statistics (Marriage and

Death Certificates) 6375

Youth Center..... 732-873-7292

Zoning Officer..... 6271

Zoning Bd. of Adj. 6215

WEBSITE

www.franklintwpnj.org

TOWN HALL

732-873-2500

E-MAIL

Township Manager

Bob.Vornlocker@franklinnj.gov

Franklin Times

Franklin.Times@franklinnj.gov

Collector of Revenue

Rossana.Gutierrez@franklinnj.gov

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Board of Education

732-873-2400

www.franklinboe.org

Library

732-873-8700

www.franklintwpnj.org

Sewerage Authority

732-873-2121

Ftsa-nj.org

Health Department/Education

908-231-7155

SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

Facebook.com/townshipoffranklin

Facebook.com/FTPDSomersetNJ

Twitter.com/twpoffranklin

Twitter.com/FTPDSomersetNJ

Mark Your Calendar



SEPT. 9	Blood Drive in the Municipal Building
SEPT. 13	9/11 Commemoration Ceremony
SEPT. 22	Public Safety Townhall
SEPT. 24	Franklin Day Series Finale
OCT. 7	Blood Drive in the Municipal Building
OCT. 8	Second Chance for Animals Tricky Tray (Registration Deadline: Sept. 15-See page 3 for details)
OCT. 18	Voter Registration Deadline
OCT. 29	Halloween on Hamilton
OCT. 29	Franklin Youth Center Halloween Party
NOV. 4	Blood Drive in the Municipal Building
NOV. 8	General Election Day/Mail-In Ballot Return Deadline (See page 2 for details)
NOV. 11	Veterans Day Program
DEC. 2	Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

2022 ELECTION INFORMATION

Important Election Dates

Primary Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022

Voter Registration Deadline – Oct. 18, 2022

Mailing of Sample Ballots – Oct. 26, 2022

Mail-In Ballot Application Request Deadline – Nov. 1, 2022

Early Voting Period – Oct. 29, 2022 to Nov. 6, 2022

Mail-In Ballot Return Deadline – In-Person – Nov. 8, 2022 at 8 p.m.

Mail-In Ballot Return Deadline – Drop Box – Nov. 8, 2022 at 8 p.m.

Mail-In Ballot Return Deadline – Mail – Postmarked – Nov. 8, 2022

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*. Application Forms can also be obtained from the Somerset County Clerk's Office and the Franklin Township's Clerk Office. Mail-In Ballots are to be mailed to the County Clerk's Office postmarked by Nov. 8, 2022 or placed in Drop Box at the Municipal Building by 8:00 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2022. 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.

Early Voting

Early Voting takes place from Sunday, Oct. 29, 2022 through Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022 at the Community/Senior Center located at 505 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ. Polls are open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Anyone in Somerset County may vote at this polling location during this time period.

Drop Box

There is a Drop Box for Mail-In Ballots for all Somerset County municipalities located in front of the Municipal Building. The box will open approximately a month before Election Day and will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2022.

welcome NEW HIRES

Steven Magda	Police Officer
Angel Ruiz	Police Officer
Kevin Schipani	Mechanic
Madison Wheeler	PT Animal Handler
Sherman Harris Jr.	Police Officer
Samuel Coutoufos	Police Officer
Julio Parra	Police Officer
Bernard Epps	Field Inspector
Kailyn Montgomery	PT Clerical
George Worsley	PT Program Assistant
Dwayne Walters-Jefferson	Laborer
Teresa Cassutt	Permit Expediter
Nicholas Gianotto	Laborer
Gavin Plant	Laborer
Madison Hegedus	PT Animal Handler

thank you RETIREES

Brian Regan Police Captain 22 Years of Service

District(s)	Location
1	Kingston Presbyterian Church 4565 Route 27, Kingston
2, 3, & 4	Griggstown Firehouse 1037 Canal Road, Princeton
5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 30, 31, 32, 33 & 34	Board of Education Admin. Bldg. (formerly Consolata Missions) 2301 Route 27, Somerset
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 Rd., Somerset
23, 49, 50 & 51	Somerset Presbyterian Church 100 JFK Blvd., Somerset
26 & 27	Millstone Valley Firehouse 2365 Amwell Road, East Millstone
35, 36, 37, 38 & 42	Somerset National Guard Armory 1060 Hamilton Street, 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

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Name	Term Expires
Phillip Kramer, Mayor mayor.kramer@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2023 732-675-7912
Kimberly Francois, Councilwoman, At-Large councilwoman.francois@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2023 732-829-8258
Crystal Pruitt, Councilwoman, At-Large, Deputy Mayor councilwoman.pruitt@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2023 848-202-3062
Ram Anbarasan, Councilman, At-Large councilman.ram@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2023 908-581-3188
Ed Potosnak, Councilmember, 1st Ward councilmember.potosnak@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2025 732-991-7574
Shepa Uddin, Councilwoman, 2nd Ward councilwoman.uddin@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2025 732-857-6339
Charles Onyejiaka, Councilman, 3rd Ward councilman.onyejiaka@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2025 908-507-7832
Carl R. A. Wright, Councilman, 4th Ward councilman.wright@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2025 908-612-6393
James Vassanella, Councilman, 5th Ward councilman.vassanella@franklinnj.gov	12/31/2025 732-873-2500 ext. 6328

give LIFE
give HOPE
give BLOOD

**SEPTEMBER 9TH
OCTOBER 7TH
NOVEMBER 4TH**

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**FRANKLIN TWP. MUNICIPAL BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
475 DeMOTT LANE
SOMERSET, NJ**

New Jersey Blood Services 800.933.BLOOD · nybc.org #njbloodservices



We are excited to announce the return of the Shade Tree Commission's Annual Tree Sale in the Spring of 2023. We will once again be offering a selection of bare-root trees at wholesale prices. Spring is a great time to add shade trees to your yard or to replace trees that may have been lost to recent storms, drought, or killed by the Emerald Ash Borer. We anticipate posting information about available species and an order form on our website in late October or early November. Watch your email for a Township e-blast to announce the start of the sale or check our website for updates. <https://www.franklintwpnj.org/shadetree>

Advisory Do Not Plant Tree List.



Are you adding trees to your property this fall or in the spring? Do you want to know which trees are best suited to our climate and area? Do you also want to stay away from trees that are vulnerable to disease, invasive, or overplanted? The Shade Tree Commission has produced an advisory Do Not Plant Tree List to raise awareness of trees that should not be planted around our Township. Many of the trees on the list are considered invasive species due to their aggressive growing habits that crowd out native species and negatively impact local biodiversity. The list also includes several shade trees that have been added because they attract insect pests, diseases or have poor growth habits that make them difficult or costly to manage. We are constantly working with regional arborists and urban forestry experts to update the list, so please check our website for the latest list before you purchase or plant any new trees (<https://www.franklintwpnj.org/shadetree>). As of June 23, 2022, our do not plant list includes:

DO NOT PLANT LIST

Invasive Trees*

- Amur corktree (*Phellodendron amurense*)
- Birchleaf pear (*Pyrus betulifolia*)
- Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
- Bradford pear (*Pyrus calleryana*)
- Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*)
- Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)
- Kousa dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)
- Empress tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*)
- False acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
- Golden raintree (*Koelreuteria biopinnata*, *K. elegans*, and *K. paniculata*)
- Gray poplar (*Populus x canescens*)
- Japanese angelica tree (*Aralia elata*)
- Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*)
- Japanese zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*)
- Kobus magnolia (*Magnolia kobus*)
- Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*)
- Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*)
- Princess tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*)
- Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*)
- Sweet cherry (*Prunus avium*)
- Sycamore maple (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)
- Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)
- English elm (*Ulmus procera*)
- Weeping Higan cherry (*Prunus subhirtella var. pendula*)
- White poplar (*Populus alba*)

Other Tree Concerns

- Black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) – susceptible to Emerald Ash Borer
- Black oak (*Quercus velutina*) – susceptible to Oak wilt
- Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) – susceptible to Emerald Ash Borer
- Northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) – susceptible to Oak wilt
- Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) – susceptible to Oak wilt
- Scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*) – susceptible to Oak wilt
- Silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) – susceptible to storm damage
- Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) – susceptible to storm damage
- White ash (*Fraxinus americana*) – susceptible to Emerald Ash Borer

IF YOU LOVE THEM... LICENSE THEM.



Franklin Township requires all dogs at least 7 months of age to be licensed every year and to have a current rabies vaccine.

<p>Dog licenses are due by January 31st of each year</p>	<p>\$16 per pet if spayed/neutered \$19 per pet if not spayed/neutered</p> <p>For more information contact the Clerk's Office at (732) 873- 2500 ext. 6208 or www.FranklinTwpNJ.org</p>
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TOP REASONS TO LICENSE YOUR ANIMAL:

- It greatly improves the chances of your dog being returned when missing.
- Provides proof that your dog is vaccinated against rabies.
- License fees support animal control, animal sheltering and rabies control.
- Dog licensing is mandatory in all New Jersey municipalities.

Sept. 2022 to Dec. 2022

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Township Council

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 13, 28 • Oct. 11, 25
Nov. 10, 22 • Dec. 13

Planning Board

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 7, 21 • Oct. 12, 19 • Nov. 2 • Dec. 7, 21

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 1, 15 • Oct. 6, 20 • Nov. 3 • Dec. 1, 15

Advisory Board of Health

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 7 • Oct. 5 • Nov. 2 • Dec. 7

Advisory Recreation Council

Community Senior Center, 6:00 p.m.
Sept. 14 • Oct. 12 • Nov. 9 • Dec. 14

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 8:00 p.m.
Sept. 1 • Oct. 6 • Nov. 3 • Dec. 1

Community Foundation

Council Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 21 • Dec. 21

Cultural Arts Council

Community/Senior Center, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 14 Oct. 12 Nov. 9 Dec. 14

Emergency Life Support

Public Safety Building, 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 5

Environmental Commission

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 19 • Oct. 3, 17 • Nov. 7, 21 • Dec. 5, 19

Fire Prevention Board

Municipal Building, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 1 • Oct. 13 • Nov. 3 • Dec. 8

Hamilton Street Advisory Board

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 3 • Dec. 5

Historic Preservation Advisory Commission

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 6 • Oct. 4 • Nov. 1 • Dec. 6

Housing Authority

25 Parkside Street, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 14 • Oct. 12 • Nov. 9 • Dec. 14

Human Relations Commission

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 28 • Oct. 26 • Nov. (No Mtg.) • Dec. 7

Library Board of Trustees

Municipal Library, 5:45 p.m.
Sept. 28 • Oct. (No Mtg.) • Nov. 26 • Dec. 28

Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Substance Abuse/Youth Services Commission

Youth Center, 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28 • Oct. 26 • Nov. 23 • Dec. 28

Open Space Advisory Committee

Municipal Building, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 20 • Oct. 18 • Nov. 15 • Dec. 20

Redevelopment Agency

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 26 • Oct. 24 • Nov. 28 • Dec. 19

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

Community Senior Center, 10:00 a.m.
Sept. 23 • Oct. 28 • Nov. 18 • Dec. 16

Sewerage Authority

70 Commerce Drive, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 6 • Oct. 4 • Nov. 2 • Dec. 6

Shade Tree Commission

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 22 • Oct. 27 • Nov. 17 • Dec. (No Mtg.)

Trails Advisory Committee

Municipal Bldg, Large Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 14 • Oct. 12 • Nov. 9 • Dec. 14

As of printing, 2022 Meetings are to be held in-person at the locations listed. This is subject to change if directed by the State of NJ.

Please check Township website for current information

Second Chance For Animals

TRICKY TRAY

SUPPORTING THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ANIMAL SHELTER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2022

Ukrainian Cultural Center
135 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ

\$25 ADVANCE ADMISSION TICKETS

No Admission Tickets Sold At Door

Includes 1 Sheet Level 1, 1 ticket each Levels 2 & 3
Additional Tickets & Bundled Packs Available At The Event
PRE-ASSIGNED SEATING

Doors Open at 5:00 PM

Ticket Pulling Begins at 6:30 PM

Complimentary Coffee/Tea/Snacks

No one under 18 years of age admitted
No mayo-based foods or alcohol permitted
We will adhere to COVID guidelines in effect at the time of the event.

PRIZE LIST

- Gift Cards
- Electronics
- Household Items
- \$500 Gift Card
- Gift Baskets
- ...and much more!



Second Chance For Animals Tricky Tray-Advance Ticket Purchase

Yes, I'd like to purchase _____ tickets at \$25 each (payment must be received by 9/15/22)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
E-Mail: _____
Phone: _____

Please Make Checks Payable to: SCFA
Mail completed form & check w/stamped, addressed LEGAL sized envelope by 9/15/22 to:
Second Chance For Animals, Inc.
P.O. Box 5172
Somerset, NJ 08875-5172

Second Chance For Animals SCFA is a registered 501C3 corporation RL #2624 & 2625

Sponsored by: Second Chance For Animals

P.O. Box 5172 • Somerset, NJ 08875-5172 • 732-748-7232 • ttinfo@secondchanceforanimals.org • www.secondchanceforanimals.org

CENTRAL JERSEY HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER (CJHRC)

THINKING ABOUT PURCHASING A HOME? CJHRC CAN HELP!!

CJHRC is a HUD certified housing counseling agency providing FREE programs and services to individuals and households to achieve their housing goals. www.cjhrc.org

Virtual Homebuyer Webinar

September 19 & September 21, 2022 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

With high rents and rising housing prices, homeownership is still possible for many due to the State of New Jersey Very Low/Low/Moderate Income Program. Learn about the requirements of this program, how to prepare yourself to purchase a home, as well as downpayment and closing cost grants that are available. This webinar also covers Fair Housing, Money Management, Credit, Getting a Mortgage Loan, Homeowners Insurance, the Importance of retaining a Real Estate Attorney, Home Inspection & 10 Important Questions to Ask and more. To register, visit our website (cjhrc.org) and click on the virtual counseling tab.

If you cannot attend the September program, we will be offering this program again on November 15 & November 17, 2022 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm ---contact our office. CJHRC also offers FREE individual counseling or a combination of counseling and web-based program. Call 908-446-0036 and speak with any CJHRC counselor with any questions or if you need help registering.

Virtual Downpayment Webinar

December 8, 2022 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm

Want to purchase a home but can't save enough for the downpayment and closing costs? This webinar will review various assistance grants and eligibility requirements. The webinar will also cover Fair Housing, Calculating Your Housing Affordability, When to Apply for Grants, Homebuyer Education Requirements and more! A question and answer period will follow the hour-long webinar. To register, go to our website (cjhrc.org) and click on the virtual counseling tab.

Recorded Senior Workshop with Fraud Expert – Learn about scams targeting older adults and how to prevent being a victim. To register, visit our website (cjhrc.org) and click on the virtual counseling tab.

Recorded Post Purchase Virtual Webinar - Contact a CJHRC Counselor to obtain the link.

NOTE: up to 40 Somerset County homeowners can obtain a FREE Carbon Monoxide Plug-In Detector after viewing the Post Purchase webinar and completing paperwork)

Make sure you like us on Facebook (Central Jersey Housing Resource Center) or follow us on Instagram (cjhrc_housing) to get important housing announcements, resources and information. CJHRC posts weekly on our social media accounts.



CJHRC's staff provide FREE counseling services for financial literacy, pre- and post-purchase, rental, mortgage default/foreclosure, Fair Housing issues/questions and homeless counseling. Contact a CJHRC Counselor at 908-446-0036 or visit our website at www.cjhrc.org to view resources.

FREE TRIP TO THE PAST

The Meadows Foundation, steward of 4 historic homes in Franklin Township, announces that the Hageman House, Barns and Carriage House, including an extensive collection of antique farming tools, have been chosen to be included in Somerset County's annual Weekend Journey Through the Past. This weekend-long event showcases up to 30 historic sites in the county. Free tours of the property at 209 South Middlebush Road in Somerset will be led by knowledgeable Meadows Foundation members, bringing you back to the Franklin of the Civil War Era.

The House, Barns and Carriage House will be open on Saturday, October 8th from 10 AM - 5 PM and Sunday, October 9th from noon to 4 PM. Come and see how people lived and worked in the 19th Century here in our town. And be sure to visit our website at www.themeadowsfoundation.org for future events, including the traditional Sinterklaas (Dutch Santa Claus) festivities on December 4th, from 1- 4 PM or email us at tmf.org.1289@gmail.com



Franklin Township's Deer Management Program

Franklin Township is opening several Township-owned open space parcels for hunting of white-tailed deer beginning on September 10, 2022 and ending on February 11, 2023. Maps of the designated hunting locations, rules and regulations of the program, and information on permits can be found at:

<https://www.franklintwpnj.org/hunting>

Permits are required to hunt on Township-owned open space properties!

There is **NO** hunting allowed on Sundays.

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

2022/2023 Hunting Season Schedule

September 10, 2022 – October 29, 2022	Fall Bow (all properties)
October 30, 2022 – December 31, 2022 (excluding November 24 th and December 25 th)	Fall/Winter Bow (all properties)
December 5, 2022 – February 11, 2023 (includes Six-Day Firearm Season)	Firearm (see permitted locations below) Winter Bow (all properties)

For more information, to apply for a permit, or to view hunting areas maps, visit

<https://www.franklintwpnj.org/hunting>

Firearm and bow hunting are allowed at these locations:

- Ten Mile Run Greenway (John Clyde Memorial Native Grasslands Preserve and Bunker Hill Natural Area)
- Negri-Nepote Native Grasslands Preserve

JOHN CLYDE MEMORIAL NATIVE GRASSLANDS PRESERVE AND NEGRI-NEPOTE NATIVE GRASSLANDS PRESERVE WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING FIREARM SEASON

MONDAYS – SATURDAYS (DECEMBER 5, 2022 – FEBRUARY 11, 2023).

These properties will be open to the public on Sundays.

The following locations permit bow hunting only:

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

Franklin Township Initiates Adopt-A-Drain!

In cooperation with Township Council and the Franklin Township Department of Public Works, Franklin Township's Environmental Commission has recently launched the Adopt-A-Drain program. The Adopt-A-Drain program is a national program (out of Hamline University in Minnesota) where town members are invited to act as caretakers for their local storm drains.

Now you can be part of our community efforts to protect Franklin residents, properties and streets by volunteering to Adopt-A-Drain! It's easy - just log in to <https://nj.adopt-a-drain.org/> to learn more.

How to Adopt a Storm Drain:

Franklin has 7,473 stormwater drains. All you have to do is volunteer 15 minutes, twice a month (or other regular interval that you choose as deemed necessary), for cleaner waterways and a healthier community. Storm drains flow directly to our streams, wetlands, and the Millstone and Raritan Rivers; acting as a conduit for trash and organic pollutants. Adopt-A-Drain asks residents to adopt a storm drain in their neighborhood and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce water pollution.

ADOPT
A STORM
DRAIN



Sign up on line to Adopt-A-Drain in your neighborhood!

- Keep your drain clear:** sweep and/or rake leaves, trash, and other debris off the drain surface year-round.
- Adopt A Drain provides safety tips,** will send you a lawn sign to put in your yard and lets you see what contribution you are making to our life here in Franklin, where blocked storm drains and contaminated storm waters are becoming more and more of a threat.
- Track your impact:** keep an estimated total of the debris you collect and enter it into your online account so we can gauge the cumulative results of our work.
- Lead by example:** let friends and neighbors know about your commitment and, if they ask, tell them about small things they can do at home to prevent water pollution.

Please join us in this effort!
Sign up here: <https://nj.adopt-a-drain.org/>



**Franklin Township
Environmental Commission**

Franklin Township Librarians are on the go!

Jellyfish caps and pirate hats were popping up at the township parks as librarians visited the summer camps run by the Franklin Recreation Department. Each weekly visit included stories and songs themed to the 2022 Summer Reading Program entitled "Oceans of Possibilities".



Shark, whale and squid puppets traveled with the librarians to 3 camps and several outdoor events throughout the summer, such as Franklin Days' July 4th Fireworks festivities and National Night Out on August 2. Outreach librarians also "dove into some great books" with the families that attended the Great Big Book Fair held on the high school field on July 16.

In addition to sharing stories at the camps, children had the opportunity to get up and dance with the librarians. Play-based literacy activities allow children to have fun while learning vocabulary and narrative skills. By interacting with the librarians' stories, children maintained skills acquired over the school year to help avoid the "summer slide". Our Franklin students were better prepared for the reopening of school by attending a library program.

The outreach librarians "reeled in" the children by sharing stories and interesting trivia facts (Did you know? Sharks are truly silent predators because they have no organs for producing sound!). In turn, the children share their knowledge about sea life, protecting our ocean and our water system. Our librarians continue to offer 30 minute outreach storytimes with the goal of developing lifelong readers and learners and will be visiting local public and private schools throughout the school year.

In addition to our outreach, children's programs are held throughout the year at the DeMott Lane Branch, Franklin Park Branch and the Lewis Street Branch located in the new Youth Center. For more information about our children's events, visit the library's website at www.franklintwp.org or call us at (732) 873-8700.

Franklin First Aid Squad Celebrating 75th Anniversary!

In 1947, a few people in the East Millstone area agreed that they needed an ambulance squad to transport the sick and injured to the hospital. On June 10, 1947, the East Millstone First Aid Squad was incorporated. Their mission was to provide FREE transport to those in need. Their first ambulance was a Cadillac ambulance purchased for \$2,000.00. That was a time when they had a swoop and scoop attitude to get the injured to the hospital fast. Very little medical training was needed. In 1969, the first EMT-A program was started and in 1975 the American Medical Association acknowledged emergency medicine as a specialty and developed more advanced training courses. Now, between the EMTs (BLS) and the Paramedics (ALS), the emergency room is brought to the patient wherever they are. We still provide 100% FREE service to the members of Franklin Township.



While the training has changed over the years, the need for more volunteers to help answer 911 calls in our community has not changed.

Our members, all of whom deeply feel the call to help others, come from diverse careers, backgrounds and cultures, and range in age from 16 to retirees.

We have served our friends and neighbors throughout pandemics, protests, hurricanes, community events and regular daily life when they find themselves in the greatest need.

You can become a member too. We provide free CPR and EMT training to members. All you need to provide is some time and a desire to help others.

**Become a hero...Contact us at:
info@emfas52.org or 732-873-8882.**

**Check out our website for further information:
www.emfas52.org**

SAVE THE DATE
**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
POLICE**

ENTRY LEVEL POLICE EXAM

NOV. 1ST
6:00 PM
TEST LOCATION:
FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

APPLICATION INFORMATION
WILL BE POSTED ON THE
TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AFTER SEPT. 1ST

More information email
FranklinPDRRecruit@franklinnj.gov
www.franklintwpnj.org

Community Solar Projects in Franklin to Reduce Residents' PSE&G Bills



Beginning in summer of 2022, residents of Franklin Township have a brand-new way to support the use of solar power and reduce their electricity costs by **21%**. As part of New Jersey's Community Solar Program, residents can now opt-in to local community solar projects developed by Eversolar and receive savings on their monthly PSE&G bills. Eversolar does not replace PSE&G as your utility, it simply generates and applies the solar credits that reduce your electric bill every month.

Community Solar is vastly different from the rooftop solar you have probably seen on a neighbor's house. Those rooftop panels require an investment from the homeowner in the form of time, money, a term commitment, or all the above.

Community Solar, on the other hand, requires none of these. Eversolar's projects send power to the local grid, allowing subscribers to access the benefits of solar without having to install panels on their own roof. That means both homeowners and renters are eligible for the program, whether they live in a house or in an apartment.

Eversolar is dedicated to expanding access to solar energy through its development of community solar projects across the country. As a community solar developer, it prioritizes maximizing the impact of its projects in the communities where they are built, including here in Franklin Township where it has three projects coming into service in 2023. Its projects in Somerset will serve almost 2,000 local customers, providing them with guaranteed discounts to their electricity bill each month. Furthermore, Eversolar is committed to ensuring more than half of each project's capacity provides these subscription benefits to low- and moderate-income customers.

To apply, interested PSE&G customers can go to the Eversolar website at www.NJEversolar.com with their PSE&G account number (which can be found on a copy of their bill) and sign-up to receive the **21% monthly discount**. Applying is fast, simple, and completely free.

"Franklin Township has long been at the forefront of building a more sustainable community. As a Sustainable Jersey Silver-Certified Township, we're proud to support bringing solar *and* savings to all of Franklin Township," said Mayor Phillip Kramer.

Community solar is a key component of New Jersey's goal to achieve 100% clean energy by 2050, and the program was designed to provide greater access to the benefits of solar energy. Franklin Township has taken an active role in supporting local development of these projects, starting with the Town Council approvals and letters of support it provided in 2020. Through its partnership with Eversolar, Franklin Township is working to ensure local residents have the opportunity to advance renewable energy while lowering their electricity costs.


Be on the lookout for Eversolar at events around Franklin. The Eversolar team hosted booths at the Franklin Township Independence Day Fireworks and National Night Out to answer questions. Eversolar is eager to help Franklinites save money and to continue bringing local renewable power to communities across the United States. Head to www.NJEversolar.com to apply and secure your discount today!



Support renewable energy!

Plus, save 21% on your electricity costs.

Eversolar allows PSE&G customers to access the benefits of renewable energy through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program. With Eversolar, you'll save money on your electricity bill, at no additional cost.

 <p>Guaranteed 21% savings on your electricity costs!</p>	 <p>No solar panels required! Homeowners and renters are eligible to apply.</p>
 <p>Satisfaction Guaranteed! It's easy to apply. There are no hidden costs and you can cancel at any time with no fees.</p>	 <p>Keep your PSE&G service! There is no disruption or change to your PSE&G service - you just pay less!</p>



Care@NJEversolar.com | (551) 278-9727 | NJEversolar.com

Franklin Township Police Department Prepared to L.E.A.D.

The Franklin Township Police Department has always worked cooperatively with the Franklin Township Board of Education, to offer students the latest and most effective educational resources to live a safe, healthy, and peaceful life. This upcoming school year, Franklin Township Police Department will be implementing the Law Enforcement Against Drugs & Violence Program (L.E.A.D.) at our two middle schools. According to L.E.A.D., "The vision of the L.E.A.D. program is to create safer, healthier communities free of drugs, bullying, and violence throughout our country and ultimately the world," (L.E.A.D. 2021). Several officers from the police department were recently certified to teach L.E.A.D., which is a nationally recognized program.

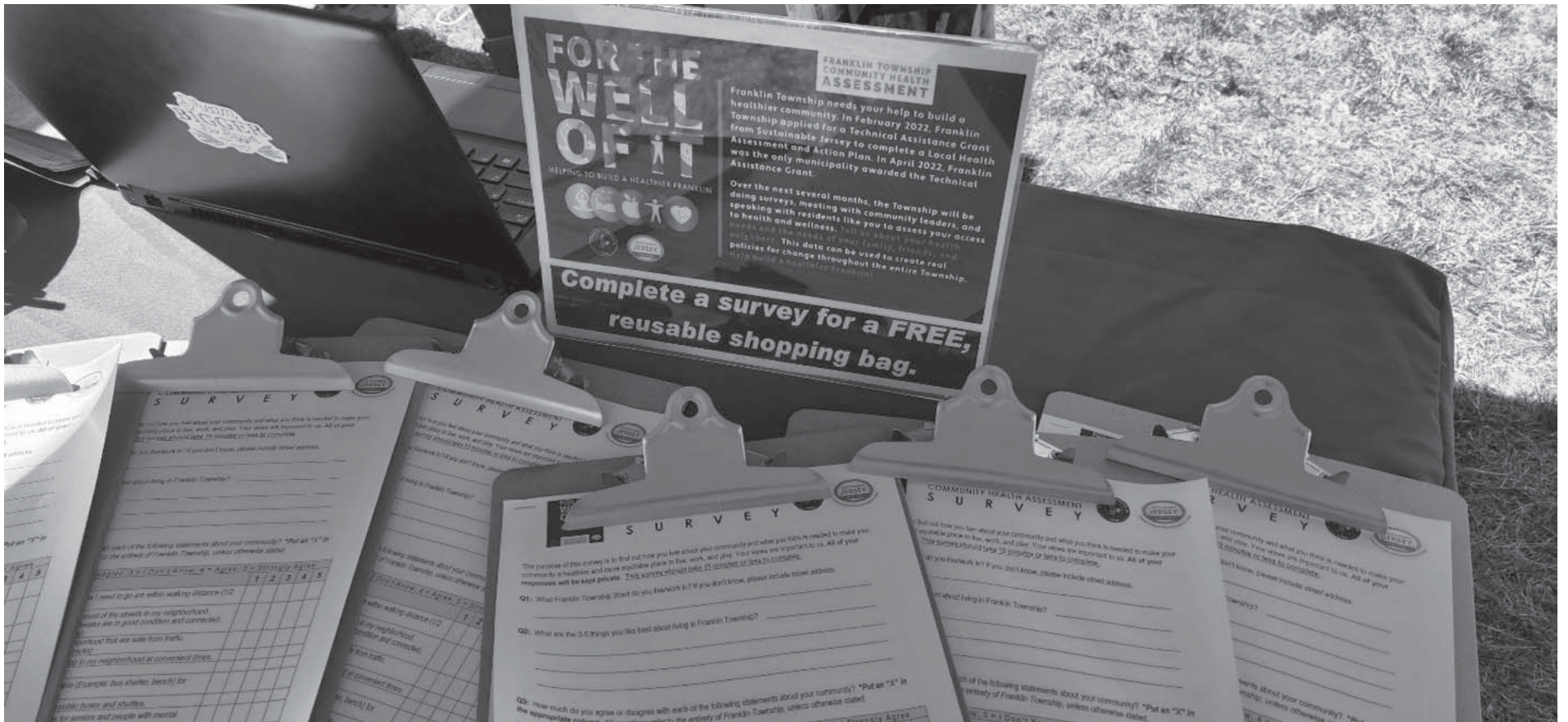
The switch to L.E.A.D. came after careful research and reassessing the current needs of our township's youth. According to Public Safety Director, Quovella Maeweather, "When it comes to our youth, it is vital for our department to be at the forefront of the latest and best curriculum available in this area. The knowledge that our officers pass on to these students and the impact that it has on them can be life changing". L.E.A.D.'s "Too Good for Drugs and Violence" curricula focuses on the social and emotional learning of our youth, while promoting positive attitudes, positive relationships and resistance to substance abuse and negative peer pressure. Combined with creative and fun instruction by enthusiastic police officers, this program will connect with and benefit our township students for years to come.

To learn more about L.E.A.D. and the Franklin Township Police Department, please visit our website at www.franklintwpnj.org/police.



Hello Franklin!

Franklin Seeks Your Voice for Better Community Health



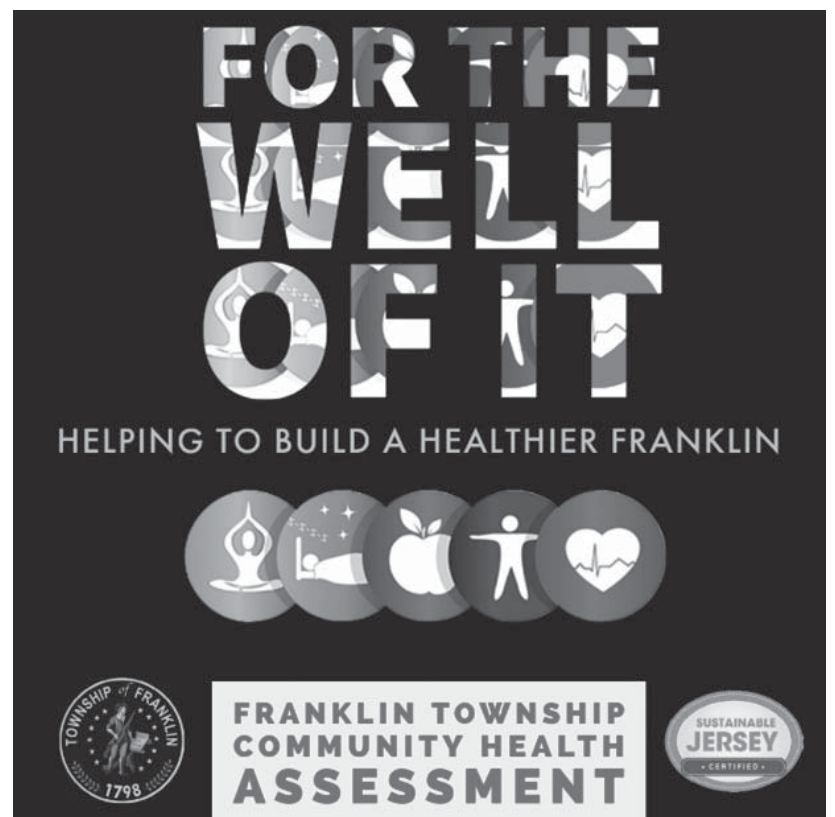
Franklin Township needs your help to build a healthier community. The Township is seeking resident input for a community survey outlining the access to available health resources. In February 2022, Franklin Township applied for a Technical Assistance Grant from Sustainable Jersey to complete a Local Health Assessment and Action Plan. In April 2022, Franklin was the only municipality awarded the Technical Assistance Grant.

Municipal governments typically have no authority over health care services or individual health choices; however, the policies and planning strategies of government have a critical impact on public health. This Assessment will provide a blueprint of Franklin's community health which will not only help identify health disparities, but guide strategic planning and quality of life improvements, leading to health equity.

"Surveys like this are crucial to a community's overall wellness. Not only does this survey give us the picture of health for those that live in this community each day, it is the first step in creating positive change throughout Franklin regardless of neighborhood, race, economic status, or any number factors that may hinder access to health resources," said Project Leaders Saffie Kallon and Tara Kenyon.

Over the next several months, the Township will be doing surveys, meeting with community leaders, and speaking with residents like you to assess your access to health and wellness resources within the community. Please take our Community Health Survey, and tell us about your health access and the access of your family, friends, and neighbors. Surveys are anonymous and take about 15 minutes to complete. This data can be used to create real policies for change throughout the entire Township. A healthier Franklin starts with you!

Visit https://franklintwp.seamlessdocs.com/f/Local_Health_Assessment or scan the QR code below with your mobile device to access the survey:



For more information about the Franklin Township Community Health Assessment, please e-mail HealthyFranklin@franklinnj.gov.



2022 FALL PROGRAMS

Franklin Township Parks & Recreation Community/Senior Center
 505 DeMott Lane
 Somerset, NJ 08873

Office Hours:
 Monday-Friday,
 8:30am-4:30pm
 732-873-1991, Option 4

Website:
www.franklintwpnj.org/rec
Facebook:
 @FranklinTownshipParksRecreation



SCAN WITH YOUR DEVICE TO REGISTER ONLINE!

Editor, Mayra L. Jimenez



Community/Senior Center



Franklin Youth Center

A Message from the Director, Beau Byrtus

Volume 2, Issue 3

Dear Franklinites, Summer programs have wound down and we had a great time in Franklin Recreation! With that said, I encourage you to check out the Fall program offerings prepared by the recreation staff. Our 55+ community has been active with pickleball, Pilates, Functional Fitness, and hikes on our many Township trails. Franklin Township youth have had a multitude of opportunities this summer, including swim lessons, youth summer camps, Youth Center activities and many others. Preparing for the fall we are

excited to offer a wide variety of programs and activities. The Youth Center at 429 Lewis Street is up and running with a ton of things to do for township youth in grades 6th through 12th. Come check out all the cool features like our recording and editing studio, fitness center and maker space. In addition to all these wonderful program offerings we continue to develop and upgrade our parks facilities. This fall will bring the final installation of the Middlebush Skatepark. The all-concrete park is set to be completed in early fall of 2022.

Fall will be an exciting time for recreation. I encourage you to look at the program brochure and sign up for an activity.

Yours in recreation,
 Beau Byrtus, Director



Director of Parks & Recreation, William "Beau" Byrtus

YOUTH Programs

While it is our hope that we will be able to offer the programs listed below, it is important to note that we may cancel or revise any or all programs due to COVID restrictions.

Tackle Rugby Program

Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 1 – October 27

6:00- 7:30pm

\$80

Grades 5 – 12

Middlebush Park—Patriot Turf Field

In addition to the registration fee, all players must also register with USA Rugby. Rugby 7s tournaments will be on Sundays at different NJ locations.

Free Rugby Clinics

Thursday, September 1 and Tuesday, September 6

6:00-7:30pm

FREE

Grades 5 – 12

Middlebush Park—Patriot Turf Field

Separate registration for each date is required. Introduction to Tackle Rugby where participants will learn rules and basic skills.

Tennis @ Inman Park

Saturdays, September 10 – October 15

Rally Racquets (Ages 5 & 6)

10:00am-11:00am

\$69

Super Servers (Ages 7-9)

11:00am-12:00pm

\$69

Amazing Aces (Ages 10-12)

12:00pm-1:00pm

\$69

Teen Titans (Ages 13-17)

8:30am-10:00am

\$99

Get on the courts and get into the game! With our tennis program you'll get exercise, meet new people and discover your "love" of tennis. You'll quickly pick up the basics (rules, stroke and serving techniques, and court strategies) then move on to racquet and rally skills. Once you pick up a racquet you may never want to put it down! Participants must provide their own racquet. Sneakers required.

Discovery & Inventions – LEGO™ Motorized Model Builds

Thursdays, October 6 – November 10

6:15 – 7:15pm

\$99

Ages 5-8, Grades K-2

Community / Senior Center

What's the difference between an invention and a discovery? Learn how inventions solve problems and how inventors get their ideas patented. Construct different familiar objects (hand mixer, windshield wipers, conveyor belt, etc.) each week while thinking about improvements you could make to them. Each model is motorized for maximum movement and fascination!

Remote Control Mania presented by Bricks 4 Kidz

Tuesdays, October 4 – November 8

6:15 – 7:30pm

\$120

Ages 8-10, Grades 3-5

Community / Senior Center

Participants will use fascinating and challenging LEGO™ components to create dynamic vehicles, inventions and machines. While building, students will learn the basic working principles of the ingenious devices that are part of our everyday lives.

Chess Wizards

Thursdays, October 13 – December 8 (NO class on November 24)

6:00-7:00pm

\$162

Grades: 1 – 5, Ages: 5-10

Community / Senior Center

Chess Wizards is a premier chess education company providing fun, informative and challenging chess lessons. Students will be divided into groups according to their chess experience. At the end of the session, students will participate in a mini-chess tournament.

Super STEM Saturdays!

Saturdays, October 1-29

1:00- 1:45pm (ages 5 & 6):

2:00-3:00pm (ages 7 – 9)

Community / Senior Center

\$60

Children will engage in activities that spark learning and discovery. They will explore a problem and then design and create an engineering solution. Participants will recognize mistakes as normal and positive as they learn from them and move on to something greater.

Just Desserts

Wednesdays, September 28 – October 19

6:00-7:00pm

Ages 6-11

Community / Senior Center

\$55

Learn the basics of baking and decorating in this class specializing in chocolate covered treats. Participants will have an opportunity to use a variety of ingredients, equipment and techniques. Treats may include: Rice Krispies® treats; cake pops; chocolate covered pretzels, strawberries and Oreos®.

PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee that any of our ingredients or equipment are free from food allergens.

For Youth and Adult program questions contact:
 Gloria Fidecaro, Recreation Program Coordinator
Gloria.Fidecaro@franklinnj.gov 732-873-2500 x6350

Register: <https://franklintwp.recdesk.com>





YOUTH CENTER Programs

Open to youth in grades 6-12 ♦ Membership is required

Visit our registration website @ franklintwp.recdesk.com for start dates and membership information. All programs take place at the Franklin Youth Center, 429 Lewis Street, Somerset, NJ 08873, Main Telephone: 732-873-7292.

Zumba with the Youth

Wednesday 7:00-8:00pm FREE-Members only

August 10, 17, 24 & 31

Room 220

Take the "work" out of your workout, by mixing low & high intensity moves for an interval style, calorie burning dance party.

Foundations of Exercise P90X

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 4:00-5:00pm FREE-Members only

July 12th—October 10th

Fitness Center

This 13 week program is offered three days per week and is structured around Push & Pull, Shoulder & Arms and Legs & Back exercises modified for weight loss or building muscle.

Divas & Gents

Monday, Wednesday 4:00-6:00pm FREE-Members only

July 11th—September 21st

Room 220

Divas & Gents is a community-based drill team and Drum Corp. that offers Stepping, Drumming, and Dancing.

Journeys

Tuesday-Thursday, Year Round 3:00-6:00pm FREE-Members only

Room 116

Provides daily supervision, creative projects with The Art House, community service positive recreation, character development, certified teachers for tutoring, independent living skills, college preparedness and other academic support, employment readiness skills. Offered by Middle Earth, a non-profit organization that serves youth in Somerset. Their vision is that all youth they serve have a safe place where they feel valued and respected allowing them to reach their full potential.

"Sharkpreneur" Youth Entrepreneurs

Wednesday and Thursday 4:00-6:00pm FREE-Members only

September 12th—November 4th

Room 218

Learn all about business and how to become your own boss. Presented by Grades-4-Life.

For Youth Center questions contact:

Mawiyah Holliman
Youth Center Program Coordinator
Mawiyah.Holliman@franklinnj.gov
732-873-2500 x7022

Joel Painson
Youth Center Program Coordinator
Joel.Painson@franklinnj.gov
732-873-2500 x7023



ADULT Programs

Tennis @ Inman Park

Saturdays, September 10 – October 15

8:30am-10:00am

Adult Tennis (Ages 18+)

\$99 residents

This 90 minute developmental program is designed to provide fundamental instruction and low level competitive tennis for adults. Participants must provide their own racquet. Sneakers are required.

Zumba

Tuesdays & Thursdays, September 13 – November 22 (No class October 4 & 27, November 1, 3, & 8)

7:30-8:30pm

Ages 16+

\$60 residents

Community/Senior Center

Take the "work" out of your workout, by mixing low & high intensity moves for an interval style, calorie burning dance party. The fusion of Latin and international music will make you forget you're working out while becoming a healthier you. Invite your friends & family to be part of the Zumba Fitness Party - you'll love the results!

Adult Volleyball

Tuesdays, October 4, 2022 – April 18, 2023

7:00-8:30pm

Ages 18+

\$60 residents

Sampson G. Smith School, 1649 Amwell Road, Somerset

Pick-up games for adults 18 and older.

Adult Pickleball

Thursdays, October 6, 2022—April 20, 2023

7:00—8:30pm

Ages 18+

\$40 residents

Sampson G. Smith School, 1649 Amwell Road, Somerset

PLEASE NOTE: This is not an instructional session. Participants should know the rules and basic court strategies in order to participate in pick-up games.

Ceramics

Wednesdays, September 14 – December 7 (No class October 5th)

Hamilton St. Campus of FMS

6:00-8:00pm

Ages 16+

\$150 residents

This class will introduce students to building with clay. Emphasis will be placed on the design elements; line, shape, texture and color. Focus will be on hand building techniques-pinch, coil & slabs.



Register: <https://franklintwp.recdesk.com>



FOREVER 55 ACTIVE ADULT Programs

Open to residents ages 55+ ♦ Online registration required

Visit our registration website @ franklintwp.recdesk.com for start dates and more information. All indoor programs take place at the Community/Senior Center, 505 DeMott Lane, Somerset.

INDOOR PROGRAMS:			
Knitting & Crocheting Club	Mondays	12:00PM	FREE
Functional Fitness	Mondays	2:15-3:15PM	Fee Required
Functional Fitness	Thursdays	11:00AM-12:00PM	Fee Required
Pilates	Mondays	3:20-4:20PM	Fee Required
Pilates	Thursdays	12:15-1:15PM	Fee Required
Theater Club	Tuesdays	2:30PM-4:30PM	FREE
Line Dancing	Wednesdays	9:00AM	Fee Required
Healthy Bones	Thursdays	10:00-11:00AM	FREE
Gentle Mat Yoga	Fridays	9:00-10:00AM	Fee Required
Chair Yoga	Fridays	10:15-11:15AM	Fee Required

OUTDOOR PROGRAMS (DATES TO BE DETERMINED):			
Walking Club	Fridays	9:30-10:45AM	FREE
Hiking Club	Tuesdays	1:30-2:30PM	FREE
Pickleball (Beginner)	Thursdays	1:30-2:45PM	Fee Required
Pickleball (Intermediate)	Thursdays	3:00-4:15PM	Fee Required

Franklin Hi Steppers Dance Group: This tap dance troupe entertain locally and practice at the Community/Senior Center, Monday mornings at 9:30AM. No experience necessary. Tap shoes are required. Open to residents ages 55+.

Swingin' Singin' Seniors: This chorus group entertains locally and practice at the Community/Senior Center on Fridays at 1:30PM. All levels welcome. Open to residents ages 55+ and caregivers.

Senior Citizen Clubs:

These clubs meet at the Community/Senior Center, 505 DeMott Lane, Somerset. Members enjoy weekly meetings, parties, trips, bingo, and events. There is a small yearly registration fee to become a member of each club. See a club membership rep for details. Join one or all three clubs! Open to residents ages 55+.

Parkside Senior Citizens Club	Mondays	10:30AM
Franklin Township Senior Citizens Club	Tuesdays	10:00AM
Franklin Park Senior Citizens Club	Wednesdays	12:00PM

Monthly Educational Workshops and events start in the Fall. Check the monthly calendar for dates and topics.

Parks & Recreation is always looking to add more enrichment programs geared towards active adults. Specifically looking to add art, language, creative writing, and Zumba Gold instructors to add to our current offerings. If you would like to apply for a Part Time Seasonal instructor position, please contact 732-873-1991 Option 4 for more information.

For Forever 55 Active Adult program questions contact: Marianne Regan, Senior Citizen Program Coordinator Marianne.Regan@franklinnj.gov 732-873-2500 x6347



SPECIAL EVENT Programs

Franklin Township Parks & Recreation strives to present thoughtful and engaging events for all ages to help build and foster a sense of pride in our wonderfully diverse community. Please "Save the Date" for our Fall events below.

Follow us on Facebook @ FranklinTownshipParksRecreation for more details! You will also find more information on our township social media pages: Instagram @twpoffranklin_nj; Twitter @twpoffranklin; and YouTube @TownshipofFranklin.

Franklin Township
9/11 PATRIOT DAY
Commemoration
TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 13th
6:00-7:00pm

We will never forget FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
475 DE MOTT LANE, SOMERSET

2022
FRANKLIN DAYS
Series
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
Featuring **Saturday**
September 24th
1:00-5:00pm **FREE**

For more info: 732-873-2500 x6428
Sign up for event alerts: TEXT FranklinDay to 888777

COMMUNITY FOOD MUSIC FAMILY FUN

HALLOWEEN IN HAMILTON
TRUNK OR TREAT! MUSIC! GAMES! COSTUME CONTEST! & MORE!

FREE

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 29th
12:00-3:00pm

RAIN DATE:
OCTOBER 30th

John's Plaza
Hamilton Street,
Somerset, NJ 08873

VETERANS DAY
HONORING OUR MILITARY

FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 11th
10:30-11:30AM

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
475 DE MOTT LANE, SOMERSET

FOR INFO: BOB LACORTE 732-991-1710
BOBLACORTE52@GMAIL.COM

Holiday Tree Lighting
Friday, December 2
6:00-8:00pm
Municipal Complex

For Info Call 732-873-1991

Join **FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP**
Cultural Arts
COUNCIL

The Franklin Township Cultural Arts Council is seeking volunteers to help fulfill our mission of "bringing the community together through the arts." The Arts Council is organizing future events in visual, literary, and performing arts. Our public meetings are at 6:30PM on the second Wednesday of the month in the Community/Senior Center, 505 DeMott Lane, Somerset.

For info on how to join, please email the Council at:
ftac@franklinnj.gov

For Special Event program questions contact: Mayra L. Jimenez, Recreation Program Coordinator Mayra.Jimenez@franklinnj.gov 732-873-2500 x6340

Register: <https://franklintwp.recdesk.com>

Parks & Recreation Department

Beau Byrtus, Director of Parks & Recreation
 Windy White, Deputy Director, Parks & Recreation
 Marianne Regan, Senior Citizen Program Coordinator
 Gloria Fidecaro, Recreation Program Coordinator
 Mayra L. Jimenez, Recreation Program Coordinator
 Janet Timari, Administrative Aide
 Tony Morgan, Program Assistant
 Patricia Daniel, Recreation Staff
 Jordyn Williams, Recreation Staff

Sharene C. Davenport, Youth Center Manager
 Tony Taveras, Youth Center Manager
 Mawiyah Holliman, Youth Center Program Coordinator
 Joel Painsion, Youth Center Program Coordinator
 Stephanie Williams, Youth Center Office Coordinator
 Joe Jankowski, Youth Center Program Assistant
 George Worsley, Youth Center Program Assistant
 Larissa Ford, Clerical Assistant
 Malikah Murray, Clerical Assistant
 Kailyn Montgomery, Clerical Assistant
 Terence Brown, Safety Liaison
 Lorraine Thompson, Safety Liaison
 Bernard Fletcher, Safety Liaison



RECREATION POLICIES & PROCEDURES

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In case of inclement weather, announcements regarding cancellations will be available by calling (732) 873-1991 & press Option 1. If schools close due to inclement weather, all programs held at schools are automatically cancelled.

INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING: We welcome individuals with or without disabilities to participate in all recreation programs and activities. In accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please contact us to discuss any modifications needed for you or your child's successful participation in programs.

MAKE-UPS: Make-ups are only offered for programs cancelled by the Recreation Dept. due to weather or other circumstances. In some instances, credits will be issued in lieu of makeup classes. Make-ups are not given for absences.

FEES: ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED UPON REGISTRATION. Program fees are not prorated for late registrations.

RESIDENCY: All fees listed are for Township residents. The Recreation Dept. reserves the right to limit registrations to Township residents for any programs. Non-residents may enroll in a program 7 days prior to program start date and at double the listed fee.

REFUNDS/CREDITS: No refunds/credits will be given after a program begins. Refunds will only be approved if: 1. Recreation Dept. cancels an activity, 2. A written request is received at least 7 days prior to the start of the program, 3. A medical issue arises which will require submitting a doctor's note for consideration.

FEE REDUCTIONS: Income guidelines are established for fee reductions for certain Recreation programs. Call the Recreation Office for information.

EMAIL: Email is used for program confirmations and communications. Please note that Franklin Recreation does not share e-mail addresses.

TOWNSHIP SPORTS CLUBS & LEAGUES

The following organizations run *independently* of the Recreation Department and administer their own programs:

- FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SOCCER CLUB/TOP SOCCER (SPECIAL NEEDS)**
www.franklinsoccer.com
- FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BASEBALL LEAGUE** 732-649-8068
www.ftblbaseball.com / ftblsomeset@gmail.com
- FT/SO. BOUND BROOK LITTLE LEAGUE** 732-469-7761
www.leaguelineup.com / ftsbblittleleague.com
- POP WARNER FOOTBALL/CHEERLEADING**
www.ftpw.org / ftpwnj@gmail.com
- ADULT SLO-PITCH SOFTBALL** 609-395-9167

SUNDAY FRIDAY

September 16th, 2022
3:00PM-7:00PM

Ages 12-18 Welcome
Basketball | Games | Music
Zumba | & More

Franklin Youth Center
429 Lewis Street, Somerset, NJ

For More Info:
732-873-7292

Register at FranklinTwp.RecDesk.com or scan the QR Code

HALLOWEEN PARTY & Costume Contest

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29 5:00PM to 8:00PM

Franklin Youth Center 429 Lewis Street, Somerset

Open to Franklin Youth Center Members only

Includes **SNACKS, MUSIC, TREATS & MORE!**

Info: 732-873-7292

JOIN THE BATTLE, BEAT THE BUG!

STOMP IT OUT!

STOP THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

The Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive pest which preys on plants. The damage they cause significantly stresses plants leading to decreased plant health and potential plant death.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RECYCLING INFORMATION

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP CONVENIENCE CENTER

(corner of School Ave. & Berry St.)
732-249-7800 ext. 6290
Franklin Township Website:
<https://www.franklintwpnj.org>

CALENDAR

Saturday Schedule

8:00am – 2:45pm

September 10, 2022

October 8, 2022

November 12, 2022

December 10, 2022

Monday Schedule (Tuesday in case of holiday)

7:30am – 11:30am

September 6, 2022

September 19, 2022

October 3, 2022

October 17, 2022

November 7, 2022

November 28, 2022

December 5, 2022

TO PURCHASE A PASS:

You must be resident of Franklin Township
Driver's license required for proof of residency

PLACES TO PURCHASE A PASS:

Public Works Building

40 Churchill Ave.

Monday thru Friday: 7:00am – 2:45pm

Township Clerk's Office

475 DeMott Lane

Monday thru Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm

TRIP PASS FEES

Car: \$15.00 per trip/ 6 trips for \$75.00

Description – has 1 or 2 seats with a trunk

Station Wagon/SUV/Crossover/Mini Van

\$35.00 per trip/6 trips for \$175.00

Description – A vehicle with a factory-installed rear bench seat or captain chairs, upright and in place, directly behind the driver's seat and has a cargo area.

Passenger Van/Cargo Van

\$65.00 per trip/ 6 trips for \$325.00

Passenger Van description: a vehicle designed, modified, or otherwise capable of being configured to carry not less than 8 passengers and no more than 15 passengers, including the driver.

Cargo Van description: A vehicle that has space for two passengers and the remaining area is used to haul cargo

Trailer - \$75.00 per trip – PLUS vehicle fee IF the vehicle has debris

\$75.00 per trip/6 trips for \$375.00

Description – No longer than 8 feet; no closed in trailers

NOT ALLOWED

Rack Body/Flat Bed/Dump Truck/Cube Van/
Closed in Trailers

NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ALLOWED

TRIP PASS REQUIRED

FOR THE FOLLOWING ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

Household items to include furniture, old toys, rugs, etc., appliances (refrigerators; freezers; air conditioners dehumidifiers require an additional fee

\$15.00 per freon appliance (drop off only)

\$7.00 per tire (All tires)

NO PASS REQUIRED

Newspaper; Cardboard; Metal cans; Glass Bottles; Light Metal; Motor Oil; Appliances (washers; dryers; stoves; ovens; dishwashers; hot water heaters) Recyclable electronics; Brush – Shrub trimmings, hedge clippings

Branches – no larger than 4" in diameter and/or 4 feet in length

Leaves – must be in biodegradable bags (**leaves cannot be dumped out of bags**)

NOT ACCEPTED / NOT ALLOWED

Renovation / construction Material / Debris – sheetrock; tile; concrete; brick; asphalt; rocks, etc. **

Railroad ties or treated wood

Household garbage; food waste; cooking oil

Hazardous materials – pesticides; oil paint; chemicals

Propane Tanks**

**Note: Somerset County holds five Household Hazardous Waste Days each year (See schedule under Somerset County)

LARGE METAL APPLIANCE PICKUP

Freon appliances - **\$25.00 each for pickup**

Washers; dryers; hot water heaters; stoves; ovens - **\$10.00 each for pickup**

September 19, 2022

October 17, 2022 (last day for the year)

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 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 at 495 DeMott Lane.

SOMERSET COUNTY RECYCLING

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

Franklin Township

September 8, 22

October 6, 20

November 3, 17

December 1, 15, 29

Franklin Park – Griggstown

September 9, 23

October 7, 21

November 4, 18

December 2, 16, 30

Society Hill I & II, Whitehall Manor, Beacon Hill & surrounding areas

September 12, 26

October 10, 24

November 7, 21

December 5, 19

Canal Walk, Somerset Run & Summerfields

September 2, 16, 30

October 14, 28

November 11, 25

December 9, 23

Household Hazardous Waste Days

9:00am to 2:00pm

September 17, 2022

Branchburg Township Public Works Garage

34 Kenbury Road

Branchburg, NJ 08876

October 15, 2022

South County Public Works Garage

410 Roycefield Road

Hillsborough, NJ 08844

POLYSTYRENE Packing Peanuts

Polystyrene packing peanuts can be taken to your local **MAIL BOXES ETC., POSTNET OR UPS** stores, where they will be reused in future packing shipments.

Somerset County Recycling Center

First Saturday of the month drop-off:

8:00am – 2:00pm

September 10, 2022

October 1, 2022

November 5, 2022

December 3, 2022

Social distancing is required: Residents must wear facial coverings. Occupants should remain in their vehicles, but staff will be available at every station to help residents remove items.)

(Electronic Waste is not accepted at the Center)

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

1st Saturday drop-offs: 8:00am – 2:00pm located at 410 Roycefield Rd., Hillsborough, NJ 08844.

MEDICAL WASTE DISPOSAL

Sharp needles and other similar medical waste should never be recycled.

Needles and syringes can be dropped off at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset located at 110 Rehill Ave. in Somerville, NJ Monday thru Friday, from 9:00am to 5pm.

Call 908-685-2200 for more additional information on the Safe Syringe Disposal Program.

OPERATION SECURE SHRED

Schedule 2022

9:00am - 1:00pm

September 10, 2022

Somerset County Public Works Garage

South County Facility

410 Roycefield Road

Hillsborough, NJ 08844

October 1, 2022

Somerset County Public Works Garage

North County Facility

411 Chimney Rock Road

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

October 22, 2022

Somerset County Public Works Garage

North County Facility

411 Chimney Rock Road

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

November 12, 2022

Somerset County Public Works Garage

North County Facility

411 Chimney Rock Road

Bridgewater, NJ 08807



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

2301 Route 27
Somerset, NJ 08873
(732) 873-2400

A Message from Dr. John A. Ravally, Superintendent of Franklin Township Public Schools

As we prepare to begin the new school year, I find myself feeling both grateful and optimistic. I am grateful for the dedication and flexibility of our staff, students and their families. To say that the last few years have been challenging for everyone is an understatement, but our district community has risen to those challenges by constantly adjusting to everchanging health and safety protocols while working together to push learning forward. All members of our Franklin Township Public Schools are to be commended for their ongoing efforts.

We now face the 2022-2023 school year with a sense of optimism and a desire to move forward. The Board of Education has established priorities in the form of district goals for this coming year. Those goals will guide our work and help to shape the new strategic plan which the school community will work to formulate this coming school year. We welcome the perspectives of new staff to help with this work and in this issue we provide more details on these new Warriors. We also continue to develop partnerships with the Township and other agencies. Please see the article below on the new Zufall Health Clinic which will be housed on the campus of Hillcrest Elementary School. Also in this issue we take a brief look at a new leadership camp held at the Board Administrative Campus this summer as well as look at some of our other summer programs. Finally, since this issue coincides with our return to school we have provided some contact information and thoughts about the coming year from our school and central office leadership.

We encourage all to check out our school district. Follow FTPS Warrior News on Twitter at WNews_FTSPublicSchools and on Instagram at wnews_ftps. Tune in to district television – Comcast Channel 27 and FiOS Channel 34. Take a look at our refreshed website to view our video news magazine Focus on Franklin and this year look for our district mobile app.

We are ready for the new school year and will continue to make the safety of our staff and students a number one priority. We look forward to seeing our teaching staff return on Thursday, September 1st and welcoming our students back on Wednesday, September 7, 2022. As always, thank you for your continued support and GO WARRIORS!

Zufall Health Offers Services and a Medical Home to FTPS Students

Zufall Health has partnered with the Franklin Township Board of Education to supply the students of the district with medical services on the campus of Hillcrest School. This summer, those services were provided via a mobile van in anticipation of a more permanent home at that campus. Student families were able to make appointments and the sense of welcome for those new patients was enhanced by give aways and gift cards. Over the next few months the portable classrooms at Hillcrest School, previously utilized by the district before the One Less Move Referendum, will be refurbished to provide a school based health center for FTPS students.

“We are very excited to partner with Zufall Health to provide an opportunity for our students to receive quality health care at a convenient location for their families,” said FTPS Superintendent Dr. John Ravally. The health center was made possible by a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration with the purpose of providing health care access to students with the greatest need.

“We will provide a variety of services for FTPS students including physicals, well visits, and immunizations,” explained Ms. Krishna Patel, RDH MPH, Zufall Health Director of Community-Based Clinical Services, “but for those families without a primary physician, we can become a child’s medical home.” Providing health care opportunities for our students is important for not just their physical well-being but academically as well,” said Dr. Brenda Sofield, FTPS Director of Pupil Personnel Services, “illness or lack of proper vaccinations can cause absences which disrupt student learning.”

“We look forward to providing services to the students of Franklin Township Public Schools and encourage those who do not have students in the district or other family members to call our office to discuss the services we might be able to provide at another location,” said Ms. Frances Palm, MPA, Chief Operating Officer of Zufall Health. “Those families with insurance are welcome to utilize our services, and those without coverage will be charged on a sliding fee scale,” said Ms. Palm.

What does the future of this opportunity look like? What hours and services will they provide? Dr. Ravally explains, “This endeavor is a work in progress and more information will be forthcoming, but we are grateful to the Board of Education’s approval of the grant application, the Zufall Health organization and the leadership of Franklin Township for their support as well.” Updated information on the Hillcrest School location will be provided to district families as it becomes available.

For general information about Zufall Health and their services please call 908-526-9040.

Se habla español, llame al 908-526-9040.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nancy LaCorte, President
Ardaman Singh, Vice President
Nishita Desai
William Grippo
Dr. Dennis Hopkins
Walter Jackson
Laurie Merris
Sami Shaban
Dr. Michael J. Smith

Board of Education Meetings are generally held once a month at 7:30 pm in the Community Center of the Board of Education Administrative Campus, 2301 Route 27, Somerset, NJ 08873.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for September 22, 2022, October 20, 2022 and November 17, 2022.

Questions or comments about the Board of Education may be addressed to the current Board President at nlacorte@franklinboe.org



Zufall Health Mobile Health Center

Summer Programs Provide Continuity, Fun and a Chance to Explore One's Leadership Style

Franklin Township Public School facilities were home to a variety of summer programs during the months of July and August. From traditional programs such as the Extended School Year (ESY) for students with special needs and English Language Learners to academic recovery programs funded by Federal Grants, FTPS hosted over 15 programs at four locations in July and August. "The purpose of ESY services is to assist students in maintaining skills at risk of regression or for students with severe disabilities to attain the critical skills or self-sufficiency goals essential to the student's continued progress," explained Ms. Holly Gamble, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services for Grades 6-12. Ms. Gamble continued,

"Since its inception ESY has been really important, but since the pandemic it has been even more necessary. Students were out of school learning remotely, which was particularly difficult for Special Needs students. ESY is a time to make up for academic learning loss and build back vital social/emotional goals." An important addition to the Extended School Year is a week of Summer Olympics where students in the program participate alongside general education students in activities such as bowling, track & field, Zumba and e-games.

"Summer programs continue to provide students the academic support needed to succeed while fostering a love for learning through a small group, hand-on approach. Our end goal is to allow students the opportunity to continue to grow while having fun in the summer," says Ms. Ana Washington, Director of Research, Planning, Accountability and Assessment. Some of the programs featured a math, language arts and elective while others were more project based. In the Book Club/Mural Project a small group of students read and discussed a book and then designed and created a mural for their school based on the book's themes. In the Leadership Academy students in the seventh and eighth grade completed a service project while exploring their leadership styles.

Another opportunity for emerging leaders was offered by the Recreation Department of Franklin Township this past summer. Twelve students in grades six to eight met daily at Future Leader of Franklin Camp which was held at the Board of Education Administrative Campus. (BAC). "The focus of the camp is to provide youth with a balance of fun summer activities while integrating leadership and teambuilding elements to build their confidence and professional competencies," said Windy White, Deputy Director Franklin Township Parks & Recreation. Students discussed leadership styles with guest speakers such as Tony Taveras from the Franklin Youth Center, who stressed the importance of having a shared goal and listening to those you hope to lead. "In a conversation with members of your team, don't think ahead to the next thing you are going to say, but listen to their feedback," said Mr. Taveras. He then asked for the students' feedback on activities that the Youth Center could provide. "Campers continue to express their great appreciation for our staff," said Ms. White, "We are fortunate to have a dedicated and diverse team who make the leadership camp experience interesting and fun every day."

Another fun event this summer, the Beach and Book Bash, was hosted by the Franklin Township Educators Association (FTEA). At this event, families were encouraged to bring chairs and blankets to the campus at FHS, enjoy light refreshments and pick up a book or two to add to their summer reading. The Beach and Book Bash was one of many events supported by the FTEA through their PRIDE and FAST grants. FTEA President Dan Mayer greatly appreciates the efforts of his membership and says, "These community gatherings provide excellent opportunities to bring families into our school buildings, provide memorable experiences, and continue the exceptional relationships we have with our students and their families during, and after, the school day."

We hope that the summer programs at Franklin Township Public Schools provided happy memories for all of our students.



Tony Taveras speaks to students at the Future Leaders of Franklin Camp.



Students attend the STEAM Museum during a summer program.

Information for Parents/Guardians of Children Who Are Experiencing Delays



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.

Franklin Township Public Schools provides, 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** 2301 Route 27, Somerset, New Jersey 08873. 732-873-2400 Ext. 203.

FTPS Counseling Team Supports Students Through All Grade Levels



Mr. Ammon Barksdale



Ms. Quiyon Peters

Franklin Township Public Schools will begin the new school year with two supervisors dedicated to the counseling needs of students in grades K-12. Mr. Ammon Barksdale is currently the supervisor for our Franklin High School students. Mr. Barksdale has been with the district for 23 years and has served in a variety of roles including teacher, school counselor, vice principal and interim principal. He transitioned back to the school counseling area last school year when he was appointed supervisor at FHS. He enjoys working with his team of counselors who he describes as enthusiastic about their craft with an energy that makes them relatable to the student body. The high school counseling department primarily assists students in planning for their future. They provide information on college and career choices; supply support in the social, emotional development of their students; assist in refining student communication skills and celebrate the accomplishments of their students with the school community. Mr. Barksdale believes in "meeting students where they are." He and his team will focus their energy this year on "Fostering an environment where students feel validated and safe to express themselves and grow."

Providing counseling support to younger students as they grow now has a broader meaning to the new Supervisor of School Counseling for grades K-8, Ms. Quiyon N. Peters. Ms. Peters had served the students of the district, at the middle school level, for eight years as a school counselor, College and Career Readiness and Family Engagement Coordinator as well as a Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Specialist. This school year she will use her passion and skills to support the younger students of the district. Ms. Peters says, "I believe that it is important for the middle and elementary school levels to have a dedicated supervisor for school counseling to ensure that the academic, social, emotional and personal needs of students are met during the students' formative years of education and as we prepare students to compete in a global society." Some of the services Ms. Peters and her team of counselors will provide are academic advisement; individual and small group counseling; and consultations with teaching staff to build effective classroom connections. In the coming school year, Ms. Peters and her team will serve as advocates for all students and partner with community agencies to further support her students and their families.

Central Office Leadership – Areas of Responsibility

For your information, below is a brief summary of the areas of responsibility assigned to central office administration and how to reach out to them if you have a question or concern.




The Office of the Superintendent, Dr. John A. Ravally. The Superintendent serves as Chief Executive, Instructional Leader and Administrative Officer of the district. He is the only employee who reports directly to the Board of Education. All other employees of the district ultimately report to him. He is charged with implementing policies established by the Board of Education and by discharging the duties imposed on his office by law. These duties include: directing the formation of district goals, plans, policies and budgets; recommending their approval by the Board and directing their implementation; recommending all staff appointments and other personnel actions for approval by the Board; directing district operations and programs; supervising and evaluating building administrators and central office staff and overseeing the administration and supervision of school-level operations, staff and programs. Dr. Ravally may be reached at (732) 873-2400 x 312 or jravally@franklinboe.org

<p>Dr. Daniel C. Loughran, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, is an instructional leader who, with district content area supervisors, is responsible for Curriculum and Program development. This includes research, selection and BOE approval of instructional materials. The C&I department analyzes and addresses student data to ensure student progress for all students. Dr. Loughran shares this information with the BOE and community. His department also manages grant applications to ensure compliance and implements professional development for teaching staff. Contact Dr. Loughran at (732) 873-2400 x 297 or dloughran@franklinboe.org</p>	<p>Mr. Jonathan Toth, Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary, is the Business Administrator who, with his staff, is responsible for the following areas: preparation, presentation and management of the school district budget; employee payroll and travel reimbursement; bidding opportunities and purchasing; accounts payable; buildings and grounds; food services; technology and transportation. As Board Secretary, Mr. Toth is also responsible for the schedule and advertisement of BOE meetings; the creation and keeping of Board meeting minutes and addressing requests for BOE/district records. Contact Mr. Toth at (732) 873-2400 x 308 or jtoth@franklinboe.org</p>
<p>Dr. Brenda Sofield, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, is responsible for various areas which pertain to student health and special services. She supervises the nursing staff and acts as a liaison with the district medical inspector. She also serves as the liaison and coordinator of homeless services. She, along with her staff, respond to the needs of students with disabilities from evaluation to placement in an appropriate program to delivery of related services and therapies. Dr. Sofield also coordinates the pre-school program. She can be reached at (732) 873-2400 x 203 or bsofield@franklinboe.org</p>	<p>Mr. Orvyl Wilson, Director of School Management and Student Advocacy, and his team, provide support to District students and their families by creating the Student Code of Conduct; implementing the Positive Behavior in Schools framework; managing reports of HIB and hazing; analyzing and reporting student safety data; providing crisis support through the Student Assistance Coordinators; ensuring a secure learning environment and coordinating safety programs. Contact Mr. Wilson at (732) 873-2400 x 408 or owilson@franklinboe.org</p>
<p>Mr. Brian Bonanno, Sr. Manager of Human Resources/Assistant Business Administrator and Assistant Board Secretary, Treasurer, and the human resources team, are responsible for recruiting and onboarding staff; preparing the personnel report for Board approval; coordinating substitute coverage; staff evaluations; employee benefits and working with the various staff associations on implementing contractual agreements. In his role as Asst. B.A./Board Secretary, Treasurer Mr. Bonanno works closely with the buildings & grounds department and is the District's Treasurer of School Monies. Contact Mr. Bonanno at (732) 873-2400 x 329 or bbonanno@franklinboe.org</p>	<p>Ms. Mary L. Clark, Sr. Manager of Policies, Regulations and Communications, and her team ensure that district policies and regulations are current and responsive to the needs of the district community. They coordinate district wide communications through the district website; automated messaging; social media; video news magazines and the district mobile app. They facilitate community engagement via contact with the press; support of the district's school connected organizations; distribution of Senior Gold Cards and coordination of facilities use by the community. Ms. Clark can be reached at (732) 873-2400 x 206 or mclark@franklinboe.org</p>


FTPS School Leaders Express Their Thoughts About Their Schools and the Coming School Year

We asked our school leaders what makes their school so special; what they were most proud of in the last school year and about their goals for this school year. Here are some of their thoughts.




Franklin High School - Dr. Nicholas Solomon, Principal
500 Elizabeth Avenue, Somerset NJ 08873 732-302-4200

Our staff is extraordinary in meeting the diverse needs of our students, and our students are unique because they are so resilient to push through all of the barriers they face each and every day. Therefore, my greatest hope or goal for the upcoming year is to change the narrative to focus on the positives of Franklin High School. So often, we allow one low moment to supersede the 100 great things that occur in a day. I want our community to have a closer look at why Franklin High School is so unique.




FMS @ Sampson G. Smith Campus - Evelyn Rutledge, Principal
1649 Amwell Road, Somerset, NJ 08873 732-873-2800

What makes SGS Campus special are the community of students that strive to learn and make an effort daily to meet teachers' expectations. The teachers are awesome as they maintain an environment of teaching and learning and continue to have students reach their individual potential by setting academic goals for all their students. The teachers at SGS campus also care about students and support not only their learning but also students' social emotional well-being!




Conerly Road School - David Heras, Principal
35 Conerly Road, Somerset, NJ 08873 732-249-9362

On returning to school this year... rather than a return to normal, we are looking forward to new opportunities. Whatever your views on the pandemic, we want CRS to be a place in which every student gets new opportunities to grow, explore, and present. We want to rekindle the sense of wonder in our students, as we prepare them to push the limits of their own learning.



Franklin Park School - Rebekah Solomon, Principal
30 Eden Street, Franklin Park, NJ 08823 732-297-5666

Franklin Park School is the home of unique and diverse scholars. We are each unique and beautiful, but together we are a masterpiece. My greatest hope is to inspire students to love learning and become active lifelong learners.




MacAfee Road School - Karen Adams, Principal
53 MacAfee Road, Somerset, NJ 08873 732-249-9097

My greatest hope and goal is that we successfully build on the accomplishments and connections with our students that we achieved last year. We have awesome students, staff, and families and look forward to going full throttle with our academic objectives and student and family engagement goals.




FMS @ Hamilton Street Campus - Torrie Rumph-Hurd, Principal
415 Francis Street, Somerset, NJ 08873 732-249-6410

My school community made me proud this past year by their perseverance. These past two years have been difficult. We extended Grace to one another. We were Compassionate to one another. All of this resulted into a year of excellence. As for next year I'm looking forward to some sense of normalcy and I hope that the work we did this past year on social emotional learning will put us in a good place to serve this year.




Claremont Elementary School - Dr. Nicole Bever, Principal
175 Claremont Road, Franklin Park, NJ 08823 732-210-3500

Despite the lingering challenges presented as a bi-product of the COVID-19 pandemic, our staff remained anchored in our commitment to being #CLAREMONT STRONG. My greatest hope for our Claremont students is always to feel safe, to know that they are loved, to love school, to believe in themselves, and to take chances in life. As Winne the Pooh says, "You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."




Elizabeth Avenue School - Greg Romero, Principal
363 Elizabeth Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873 732-356-0113

On why EAS is so special... The minute you walk through the doors of EAS you feel at home. You are greeted with smiles, warmth and kindness. It is clear the staff of EAS focus on creating a family atmosphere and celebrating inclusivity and diversity. At EAS, TIGERS know they are cared for and will receive an impactful education.



Hillcrest School - Albert Fico, Principal
500 Franklin Boulevard, Somerset, NJ 08873. 732-246-0170

Our school is special because we have a very positive school climate and collegial, cohesive staff. In addition, our students are well behaved and follow our school wide PBIS expectations. We are proud of our resilience and perseverance and look forward to seeing the bright smiling faces of our students in the new school year.



Pine Grove Manor School - Miguel Rivera, Principal
130 Highland Avenue, Somerset, NJ 08873 732-246-2424

What makes Pine Grove special, is that we house the Bilingual program for the district at the Elementary level. We are proud to be recognized by the state as a Model Bilingual/ESL program because of the work our teachers do. Our collective hope for this school year is to continue to build on our success from last year.

Starting the New Year with Some New Faces – New Roles



Dr. Kanika Chopra

As we start the new school year, we welcome some new leaders to our district and see some familiar faces in new roles. Let's start with our Supervisors of Language Arts Literacy and Academic Intervention Support (LAL/AIS). Taking over the reins for Dr. Carolyn Armstrong, our recently retired Supervisor of LAL/AIS for grades 6-12, is **Dr. Kanika Chopra**. Dr. Chopra comes to FTPS from Hawthorne Public Schools. It was the equity work in our district which drew her to FTPS. Her doctorate research had focused on using literacy and group discussion to strengthen empathy for different cultures among adolescents. "I knew that this district would be a place where I would have the opportunity to not only contribute but also grow," Dr. Chopra states. She looks forward to working with her team to design curricula that "are reflective of our students' identities, interests, and academic needs."

Dr. Chopra's colleague **Ms. Suzanne Ackley**, Supervisor of LAL/AIS for grades kindergarten through fifth grade agrees, in describing the goal of the coming year she says, "We will provide engaging culturally relevant texts for our learners and they will have rich discussions in their reading and writing classes." Ms. Ackley has been with the district for over four years and was formerly the Supervisor of Intervention Services. She continues to support the intervention teachers for grades K-5 but recognizes the importance of her work in Language Arts Literacy. She says, "The best aspect of Language Arts Literacy is that it is one content area that impacts all other content areas." The ability to read well helps a student conduct a science experiment, analyze a real-world problem or debate an issue of current events. To put it succinctly, "Readers are leaders," says Ms. Ackley.



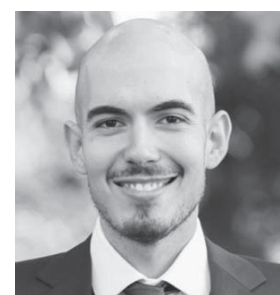
Ms. Suzanne Ackley



Dr. Amy Arsiwala

Dr. Amy Arsiwala will serve as the Supervisor of Instructional Technology this coming year upon the retirement of former supervisor Mr. Edward Ward. Dr. Arsiwala had been a technology coach for the district and will now supervise that group of dedicated personnel who support teachers, students and student families in navigating the various online platforms that the district uses. Her team provides professional development to teachers and on demand help for students and families as well. FTPS is a one-to-one district meaning that every student has access to their own Chromebook. For the younger grades that access is in the classroom while the older students take their Chromebook home. Dr. Arsiwala is looking forward to continuing to support teachers and students, expanding the computer science classes at the secondary level and "building connections with the many corporations in our community to help support students in related technology and STEAM fields." [Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math].

Mr. Cesar Rainho is the Supervisor of Fine, Visual, Performing and Practical Arts. He began his tenure at FTPS in January, 2022 following the retirement of Ms. Roberta Mitchell. Mr. Rainho supervises teachers of various disciplines from dance to television production; marching band to ceramics. It is this variety that appeals to Mr. Rainho, "What I like the most about the FVPPA department is that there is a place for every student, learner, and person to thrive and shine in the Arts. Our unique program offers students the opportunity to excel in ways not possible in other disciplines. Students can express themselves, explore their creativity, and grow socially and emotionally." Mr. Rainho looks forward to celebrating the talents of our student and building upon the phenomenal tradition of Arts in Franklin.



Mr. Cesar Rainho



Mr. Armando J. Quiroz

Our new Supervisor of World Languages, **Mr. Armando J. Quiroz** chose to pursue a career in that area in order to explore a wide variety of interests. "I enjoyed studying music, art, literature, history and so much more," says Mr. Quiroz, who earned his Master's Degree in Spanish Education at Universidad de Alcalá de Henares in Spain. In that program he was able to expand his knowledge and skills in many areas. He says, "In fact, this is the highlight of teaching—helping students to discover the endless possibilities that proficiency in a second language can offer." Looking forward, Mr. Quiroz sees a world language program that connects students across the globe.

Finally, we welcome **Ms. Jennifer Stein** to our district. Ms. Stein is now the Vice Principal of Elizabeth Avenue School, a position previously held by the new Principal there, Mr. Gregory Romero. Ms. Stein comes to the district with experience as a teacher, reading supervisor and building administrator. She looks forward to joining the Elizabeth Avenue community and feels that, "the best part of being a building administrator is having the opportunity to be part of a community that cultivates the successes of all of its members." She compares that feeling of community to being part of a family and has felt welcomed by the staff and student families of Elizabeth Avenue School.



Ms. Jennifer Stein

Principal Romero agrees, "Elizabeth Avenue School is excited in having Ms. Stein join our team. I look forward to working with her."

We all look forward to what these members of the Franklin Township Public School team can bring to the new school year.

2022-2023 School Calendar:

September 26 & 27 Fall Recess, Schools Closed

October 5..... Fall Recess, Schools Closed

November 10 & 11..... NJEA Convention, Schools Closed

November 23..... Minimum Session

November 24 & 25..... Thanksgiving Recess, Schools Closed

November 28, 29 & 30..... Minimum Session, Parent Teacher Conferences

Please make note of these upcoming dates. Additional calendar information for the remainder of the school year can be found on the District website at: www.franklinboe.org.

Please support **Project Graduation's Used Clothing Drive** to be held on **Saturday, October 15th ~ 8AM till 1PM** ~ Middle School at Sampson G. Smith Campus, 1649 Amwell Road, Somerset. Gently used clothing, shoes, handbags, stuffed animals, blankets and curtains are greatly appreciated.

Franklin Township Public School Senior Gold Card

Franklin Township residents who are 60 years of age or older are eligible to receive a gold card which allows for free admission to many district Athletic and Fine, Visual and Performing Arts events.

Gold Cards are available for pickup Monday-Friday from 9am-3pm in Building #2 of the Board of Education Administrative Campus, located at 2301 Route 27, Somerset, NJ 08873. Proof of residency and age will be required.

Call Vanessa Miranda at 732-873-2400 Ext. 400 for more details.