

Franklin Community Association

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Franklin Villager

LATE FALL 2011

Sponsored by the Franklin Community Association

VOL. 43, NO. 3

Franklin Community Association

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Franklin Villager

The Franklin Villager is sponsored by the Franklin Community Association and sent to all residents of the Village. Send your information to: *Franklin Villager Editor*
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The 2nd Annual Franklins Frenzy 2011 was a monstrous success this year! Franklinites of all ages dressed in costume and took to terrorizing the streets in parade form. Residents enjoyed trick-or-treating, a haunted room at Gorback Fine Photography, apple bobbing, face painting, Looney Bin coffin races and a bonfire. More photos on page 3.

Franklin Will Miss Bill Williams

Long-time Franklin resident William J. Williams passed away on September 12, 2011. A much-respected member of the community, Bill Williams was an active volunteer and the "sign guy" for the Mobile Watch for 30 years, as well as dedicated member of the Franklin Community Association. Williams and his wife of 32 years, Shally, were very active in the community, assisting in the organization of many Village activities and events throughout their 30 plus years as residents. Bill was heralded as a "creative problem-solver," very attentive to details and a good neighbor.

Bill, a retired engineer, and Shally were avid travelers; and Bill enjoyed tennis, golf and playing Euchre.

Bill is survived by his wife, three daughters, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



In Memoriam
William "Bill" Williams
April 2, 1918 – Sept. 12, 2011

Sip, Shop & Stroll in Historic Franklin December 15, 2011 • 5 to 8 PM

Holiday treats and gifts galore will be available on **Thursday, December 15th from 5 to 8 p.m. in Franklin Village during Main Street Franklin's Second Annual Holiday Sip, Shop and Stroll** event. The annual holiday stroll will give visitors and residents alike the chance to do a little holiday shopping while exploring over a dozen charming shops in the historic Village Center.

In addition to holiday gifts and specials, Sip, Shop and Stroll will feature delightfully delicious munchies and tasty spirits served up in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Century-old storefronts will be wrapped in holiday finery and Franklin's main street will be lit with luminaries, offering a holiday experience like no other.

**For more information visit:
www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com**

- Luminary lined-streets
- Historic storefronts wrapped in holiday finery
- 14 one-of-a-kind shops
- Holiday gifts galore
- Beverages that will warm your spirit
- Tasty treats to tempt your taste buds



Franklin Officials React to Millage Defeat

At a recent Council meeting, Franklin trustees took action to address a projected \$151,544 budget deficit. Most notable to residents will be closing of the Village Office and Police Department front desk on Friday of each week, effective November 4th. The closing will save an estimated \$26,600 and will be in effect indefinitely. Other cuts to the current year's budget include: not contributing toward a retiree health care fund, the elimination of a part-time clerical position, elimination of the Village Administrator's car allowance and phone allowance, and the elimination of longevity for the Franklin-Bingham Farms Police Chief. Also reduced was the Village's contribution to its Main Street Franklin program — a volunteer-driven downtown economic revitalization program.

The cuts are estimated to save \$74,190, which leaves a projected deficit of \$77,354 coming out of the Village's fund balance, or rainy day account. The reductions were necessary when the vote to increase the millage rate was defeated. The millage rate increase was to offset the decrease in tax revenue due to lowered property values.

Village trustees continue to be concerned about the financial stability of the Village going forward. In the face of a slow economic recovery, low property values impact the revenue that can be raised to pay for basic services. "Relying on fund balance is not a long term solution," said Trustee Morrow, "so the council will need to consider another tax increase request or additional cuts to service."

Village property owners did see their taxes go up for the debt millage to pay off the construction of the sewer system. From 2005 to 2010, the Village was able to rely on excess funds in the Sewer fund to pay the annual debt payment. That excess funding has been used up, requiring a tax of 2 mills on the July 1, 2011 tax bill.

Round Up 2011 *Wrap Up*

A belated THANK YOU to all for a wonderful Round Up 2011!

Our appreciation to everyone who came and enjoyed the Round Up, and our gratitude to all those who put it on. Whether you sold tickets or bought tickets, made sno-cones or enjoyed them, grilled and wrapped hot dogs or ate them, handed out goldfish or won one, rode ponies or walked ponies, helped crafters or made a project, tossed balls or picked up tossed balls, walked in the parade or watched the parade, counted prizes or won prizes, painted faces or had your face painted, sold raffle tickets or bought tickets, donated or bid on silent auction items, baked one of our delicious Bake Sale items or bought one... THANK YOU. You get it — we have almost as many volunteers as we have attendees, and all are appreciated. THANK YOU.

Special appreciation to our hardworking chairs: Lisa Weisman and Illana Greenberg (Bake Sale), Bob Smith (Classic Car Show), Linda and Ed Saenz (Day of Chairs), Kathy Erlich (Facilities: port-a-johns, golf carts, tents, dumpster), John Pulker and Al Beke (weekend coordinators), Dom Schiano, Bill Couger, Stuart Greidanus and Sandy Silverman (Food Chairs and Food Volunteers), Tressa Burns (Kid's Crafts), Norma Pope (Midway Games and Prizes), DeDe and Warren Robinson (Parade), Anna Marie Roediger (Petting Farm, Ponies, and PAWS), Brenda Moskovitz Sklar, Carol Lowen, Jodi Goodman, and Roz Blanck (Raffle), Jesse Polan (Silent Auction, Goldfish), Stewart Weiner (Treasurer), Amie Saltzman (Volunteers)...

THANK YOU.

We are looking for new Bake Sale chairs — interested? Contact Jane at 248-626-2231, or email: J5Polan@aol.com.

See page 4 for Garden Club Round Up wrap up.

**Mark your calendars for Monday,
September 3, 2012 — Round Up #68!
Let's make it better than ever!**

Recent Events in Franklin Village



Labor Day Round Up 2011 was a huge success this year, and parade-goers were surprised by an unannounced visit from President and Mrs. Barack Obama*, sponsored by the Franklin Bobsled Team.

*not really



Princesses, ghosts, goblins, chefs, robots, reapers and shiny tights galore! Franklin residents of all ages turned out in fine form for this year's Franklinsien Frenzy.



Holiday Greetings

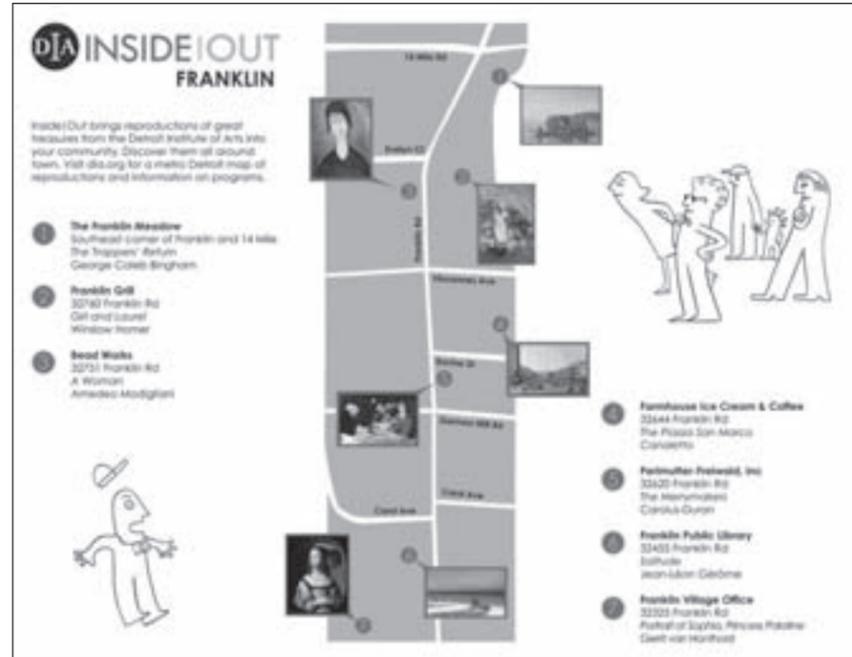
to all residents from the **Franklin Community Association.**
Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Fine Art Finds Franklin

This Autumn, Franklinites didn't have to venture very far to experience great works of art — they were right in their own backyard!

From the DIA website: Inside|Out, now in its second year, brings 80 reproductions of masterpieces from the DIA's collection to the streets and parks of greater metro Detroit, pleasantly surprising and delighting residents of the participating communities. Where possible, the works will be clustered within walking or biking distance of each other in a grand, open-air gallery (see Franklin map at right).

The DIA is working with the communities to plan educational opportunities and other fun activities, such as bicycle and walking tours. In addition, residents of participating cities will receive free museum admission on a designated Family Sunday. More info at www.dia.org.



Apple Stays in Franklin



The Michigan Apple Gala & Auction to benefit Detroit's Eastern Market took place on October 14, 2011. Festivities included a strolling supper featuring local restaurants and a live auction featuring twenty apples, rendered by local artists. The FCA Art Division bid and won the Franklin apple (shown here), and it will remain in Franklin. Featured here are Villagers Michael Seltzer, Pat Burke, Jane Polan and apple artist Jackie Drake.

Garden Club Wrap Up

Round Up 2011 was a success! The float was beautiful, the booth was resplendent with plants and gardeners (thanks to Susan Chambers and Pat Ciagne), and winners abounded at the Garden Club activities at the Round Up.

Garden Club Winners:

Mason Jar Creative Arrangement:

- 1st place: Pam Hackert and Cindy Schiano
- 2nd Place: Pat Ciagne, Phyllis Dimitroff, and Cindy Schiano
- 3rd Place: Cindy Schiano

Vegetables:

- 1st Place: Mark and Nick Downing for fuzzy squash, as well as baby carrots and vegetable medley
- 1st place: Susan Chambers for squash
- 1st Place: Pat Ciagne and Phyllis Dimitroff for tomatoes

The Garden Club's appreciation to all participants and donors and thanks to esteemed judge Linda Hoes.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Dimitroff



Library Corner

Friend us on

eBooks

Coming to Franklin in November

Residents of Franklin with a library card will soon be able to access downloadable eBooks and digital audio books through a variety of mobile devices with our new subscription to OverDrive. Please watch our website: www.franklin.lib.mi.us for more information.

Mobile App

Your smart phone just got smarter! You are now able to access the library's online catalog, place holds, check your account, and link to our home page using our new mobile app. The Library Anywhere app is free and will work on any phone with web browsing capabilities. Just go to: <https://www.libanywhere.com/m/376>

Adult Programs

Holiday Shopping with Santa

Saturday, December 3, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Come to the library to start your holiday shopping and bring your children or grandchildren at the same time to visit with Santa. Santa will be here between 12 and 2 p.m. to listen to your wish lists and hand out gifts. Please bring your camera if you want a photo of your child with Santa.

Vendors from: Mary Kay, Tastefully Simple, 31 (handbags and gifts), Accessories and Fashions by Stephanie, Discovery Toys and others will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help you with your holiday shopping. 20% of purchases will be given to the Friends of the Library to further their efforts at the library.

Introduction To eBooks

Thursday, January 19, 6:30 p.m.

Franklin residents now have access to free eBooks through the library. Join us at the library to learn more about this new service and how to use it with your eReader. Kathryn Bergeron from the Baldwin Public Library will demonstrate how to borrow eBook titles from Download Destination and will also have available a variety of different eReaders for you to explore.

Book Discussion

Thursday, January 26, 7:30 p.m.

This month's book is *State of Wonder*, by Ann Patchett. "(This) provocative novel of morality and miracles, science and sacrifice set in the Amazon forest – a gripping adventure story and profound look at the difficult choices we make in the name of discovery and love." Once again Adele Robbins will facilitate our discussion. All are welcome.

Children's Programs

American Girl 25th Anniversary Party

Saturday, January 14, 2:00 p.m.

The American Girl doll in all her many variations has been around for 25 years. Come celebrate with us as we read one of the shorts stories, do a historical craft, view a selection of the historical dolls and have a snack from the past. All girls and their dolls are invited.

Play Group

January 17 – February 21

Tuesday mornings, 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

Oakland Schools and Great Parents, Great Start-Oakland will once again offer a play group at the library in January on Tuesday mornings. These play groups are designed for parents and /or a caregiver and children ages 0-3. The play group is designed to increase one-on-one parent-to-child interaction and to promote literacy and learning activities, including; hands-on activities, stories, songs, music and dancing. There is also a teaching component for parents to better understand how children learn, their physical abilities, relationships/sense of self, communication and understanding of the world. Preregistration is required for this program.

For more information or to preregister for any programs, please call the library at 248.851.2254

For up to date information about library programs check our website at www.franklin.lib.mi.us

Main Street Franklin UPDATE

Village Center “Jones” Building Gets Spruce Up

Facelifts aren't just for people!

If you've driven through the Village Center lately you may have noticed a pleasant surprise in the way of the newly painted “strip mall.”

Built in 1936 and sometimes called the “Jones Building,” this 75-year old building was originally an automobile repair shop and gas station. It served as the local post office until around 1960, after which it was converted to a retail and service center. Now called the Village Plaza, it is home to five businesses: Escapades, Village Boutique, Tailoring & More, Franklin Cleaners, and Fritz & Friends.

Another change took place earlier this year when the building changed ownership and was purchased by Jung Hee Kim (Maria), owner of the Franklin Cleaners. Shortly after the purchase was finalized, Main Street Franklin (MSF) met with Maria to talk with her about the free design services available through MSF and Main Street Oakland County (MSOC). Eager to upgrade her building's tired-looking exterior, Maria was grateful for the help. She and her tenants met with Ron Campbell, MSOC's preservation architect, and representatives from MSF to review their needs and wants. The end result, which came after months of hard work, is the beautiful façade enhancement that you see today.

But Main Street Franklin's help didn't stop there. In an effort to support the beautification and preservation of the historic buildings in the Village Center, MSF worked hard all year to raise the funds to create a matching façade grant program. The façade grant program is intended to help offset the cost of façade improvements including signage, paint, and awnings. Maria will be the first recipient of the Grant Program!

MSF is pleased to be a part of the wonderful things that are creating value in the historic Village Center and to our residents at large, from the Farmers Market, DIA Inside|Out program and Franklinstein, to the beautification of our historic buildings. Look for more exciting things to come!



“Village Plaza” or Jones Building, before



“Village Plaza” or Jones Building, after



www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com

Franklin Welcomes New Additions to Main Street

La Spezia Flavor Market

The flavor market offers 712 spices, blends, oils, vinegars, extracts, soups, and appetizer and dessert dips imported from across the globe. Products come from Italy, Morocco, the Atlantic Ocean, the Himalayas, Turkey, Hungary and several other locations, including some American ones.

La Spezia Flavor Market is located at 32802 Franklin Road. Hours are: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sundays. Call 248.464.7550 or visit www.laspeziaflavormarket.com for more information.

Savvy Chic

Villagers looking for a little touch of France will soon find it at Savvy Chic. Karen Brown says the shop is “a little of everything,” featuring housewares, furniture, clothing, jewelry, greeting cards and art. Some of it is new, some vintage, but most of it is French — if not in provenance, in spirit.

Savvy Chic is located at the back of the Van Every Building, 32800 Franklin Road. (Editor's note: at press time, Savvy Chic was not yet open).

Neighbor Notes

Franklin Directory Update

The Franklin Directory is nearing completion. We are missing phone numbers for many new Villagers, and updated numbers for those who have disconnected their land lines. If this applies to you, please email one phone number to be listed in the 2012 directory along with your name to: Jane Polan, J5Polan@aol.com

Mailing List Management

The mailing service that sends out our Franklin publications recently notified us that we have a great many non-Franklin addresses that we are mailing to, as well as duplicate mailings in Franklin. Please help us cut down our mailing costs. Let us know if you no longer request Franklin mailings, or are receiving unnecessary duplicates. Send response along with your name and address to: Jane Polan, J5Polan@aol.com.

Sign Up for Police Alerts



Visit the all-new Franklin website to sign up for a Franklin Police Department email alert program, which notifies subscribers of serious crimes, crime prevention tips and other important messages from the Police Department. www.franklin.mi.us/Services/E-newsletter.asp

Subdivision Succeeds in Preventing Telegraph Rezoning

Yet another attempt has been thwarted to rezone residential property along Telegraph Road — this time by the dedicated efforts of the residents of the Riverwood Subdivision, located just north of 13 Mile Road and west of Telegraph.

On June 15, 2011, the lawsuit brought by Sharon Katz against the Riverwood Subdivision property owners challenging the association's deed restrictions which permitted only residential development within its borders was dismissed. The Oakland County Circuit Court ruled that the association's deed restrictions were valid.

As a result of the dismissal, another lawsuit brought by Ms.

Benefits of Mulch

Trees provide many benefits in an urban setting, including:

- Providing oxygen
- Reducing soil erosion
- Providing shelter from wind and sun exposure
- Providing habitat for birds, animals, and beneficial insects
- Increasing property values

Trees in an urban environment can become stressed, due to:

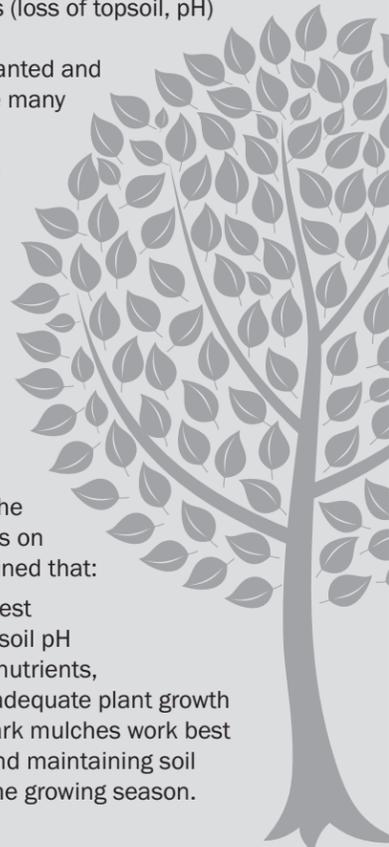
- Poor drainage conditions on site (flooding or drought)
- Chemical exposure (de-icing salt or pollution)
- Adverse soil conditions (loss of topsoil, pH)

Adding mulch to newly planted and existing trees can provide many benefits, such as:

- Providing soil moisture
- Promotes plant growth
- Inhibits weed growth

With so many different mulches on the market today, it is hard to know what mulches work best for what area. Michigan State University (MSU) recently participated in a pilot study to determine the effects of various mulches on tree growth. MSU determined that:

- Organic mulches are best
- Mulches do not affect soil pH
- Mulches don't 'tie-up' nutrients, which are needed for adequate plant growth
- Hardwood and Pine Bark mulches work best at promoting growth and maintaining soil moisture throughout the growing season.



Guide to Franklin Information, Organizations & Village Council

411 Information please! Even as President of the Franklin Community Association I find I am often unclear as to the organizations and procedures within our Village. I figure if I don't know what's going on, many of you may be in the dark as well, so I am dedicating part of this Villager to Franklin information, our organizations, and our Village Council.

Please feel free to call or email contact people for more in depth information, and know that every one of these groups would be DELIGHTED to have you join them. — FCA President, Jane Polan

Franklin Community Association

The FCA is a non-profit organization composed of volunteers who devote their time and energy to enhancing the quality of life for Franklin residents. The FCA owns and maintains our ball fields, tennis courts, gazebo, and park area, presents the summer Movies on the Green, the Labor Day Round Up, the Taste of Spring, creates the Villager and the directory, and more. A \$40 yearly dues is requested. **Contact:** Jane Polan, 248-626-2231, J5Polan@aol.com.

Franklin Historical Society

Dedicated to the historical preservation of the Village, the Society's purpose is to enhance understanding of our history and character. Volunteers maintain the Historical Museum, offer tours and field trips, and work towards creating our Franklin Community Center (Kreger house and barn) through donation and yearly dues. **Contact:** Ann and Bill Lamott, 248-538-0273, wlamott@comcast.net.

Franklin Foundation

This public charity organization promotes and enhances the natural and historic environment and supports a sense of community in Franklin through education and financial support. **Contact:** Betty-Lee Hepworth, 248-851-4564, www.Franklinfoundation-village.org.

Franklin Mobile Watch

Under the direction of the police department, dedicated residents volunteer their time (one day each month) in a "neighbors watching the neighborhood program."
Contact: Madeline Haddad, 248-855-3390.

Franklin Cemetery Association

Founded in 1827, the Cemetery is registered as an historic property. It is the site of a patriotic Memorial Day Service honoring over 250 Veterans (24 from the Civil War). The cemetery is owned by its lot owners, and gravesites are available. **Contact:** Judy Meade, 248 626-8537.

Franklin Baseball League

Founded in 1955, the league has over 900 players on more than 70 teams playing over 400 regular-season games. T-Ball, baseball and softball are open to boys and girls from 5 to 14. League play runs from April through June. Emphasis is on developing skills, learning about sportsmanship and the value of team play. **Contact:** www.franklinbaseball.org.

Franklin Village Council for the Visual and Performing Arts

This non-profit promotes the growth and awareness of the visual and performing arts. Through solicited donations they bring us the summer Music on the Green concerts. **Contact:** Amy Parker, 248-212-5904, amyparkeresq@hotmail.com.

Women's National Farm and Garden Club, Franklin Branch

This social and educational club maintains two community gardens in Franklin and funds two scholarships to Michigan State University in the horticultural field, as well as supporting numerous organizations. Funds are raised by hosting the Franklin Garden Walk in June. **Contact:** Cindy Chelovich, 248 642-4438, cachelovich@gmail.com, www.franklingardenclub.org.

Franklin Whittling Club

This group gathers year round at the gazebo the first Monday evening of the month – from 7 to 8 p.m. for pleasant conversation and chip making. **Contact:** Jesse Polan, 248-514-1663, J5Polan@aol.com.

Friends of the Franklin Library

This volunteer organization raises funds to support programs and purchase materials at the library: adult and children reading programs, the summer reading programs, guest speakers and programs, and our DVD collection. Yearly membership dues are requested through the Friends newsletter. **Contact:** Franklin Public Library, 248 851-2254.

Main Street Franklin

MSF's mission is to preserve the historic nature of Franklin's Village Center while creating a vibrant core of businesses. It is part of the National Trust Main Street Organization. Community volunteers, led by director Vivian Carmody, have organized and executed retail focused events that include: Franklinstein, Sip, Shop and Stroll, Frost Fest, DIA Inside-Out, and the Franklin Farmer's Market. MSF will be soliciting Villagers' financial support. **Contact:** www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com.

Scouting in Franklin

Franklin's Boy Scout Troop 1669, with over 80 members, is one of the largest in the Detroit metro area. The troop meets weekly, participating in community service activities, high adventure experiences, and monthly camp-outs. **Contact:** Ed Power, 248-538-9227.

Neighborhood Associations

Dorchester Hills, Cressbrook Condominium Association, Stone Oaks, Helman Woods, Historic Downtown/ Downtown Homeowner's Association, Rosemond Estate, Franklin Forest Homeowner's Association, Franklin Hickory Acres, Franklin Villas.

Village Administration

The day-to-day operations of the Village are managed by a full-time Village Administrator appointed by the Village Council (handling Village contracts, budget, and Villager "customer service inquiries.") The Village Clerk is a full-time elected position and is responsible for the running Village elections, serving as secretary to the Council and other duties of the Office. The Village also employs a full-time Administrative Assistant; responsibilities include answering the phone, attending the front counter and administering the Building Department. **Contact:** www.franklin.mi.us, 248-626-9666.

Village Council

Our Council, consisting of seven elected (volunteer members (five trustees, a President Pro-tem, and President), meets monthly. The Council sets the policy for Village operations, including such things as budget, police service, rubbish disposal, maintenance of Village facilities and roads, including snow removal. Members serve four-year terms and are elected in a non-partisan election.

Village Council President: Jim Kochensparger
248 865-2841, kimkocj@comcast.net
President Pro-tem: Lew Eads
Trustees: Brian Gettel, Tom Morrow, Steve Rosenthal, Mike Seltzer, Sheryl Sparks

Also elected are our Village Clerk and Village Assessor. The Council appoints our Village Administrator, Village Treasurer, Chief of Police, Building Official, and members of the Cable Board, Historic District Commission, Planning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Get Informed!

Hundreds of Franklin residents receive our "Going On in Franklin" emails...concert and movie dates, FCA events, merchant updates...and more! If you would like to be added to the list, please email Jane Polan at: **J5Polan@aol.com** today!



The Franklin Community Association has been asked by the officers of the Franklin Police to print this letter, and know they would appreciate your support.



Dear Village Residents,

The Franklin Police Officers Association is reaching out to you, our residents for some help and support. In January 2011, the Franklin Police Officers Association (FPOA) founded the Franklin Police Officers Association Honor Fund. The Franklin Police Officers Association Honor Fund was established as a way for Officers to show support and encouragement to colleagues during significant events in their lives or other causes which benefit the Franklin Police Officers Association, other police department personnel and various civic initiatives.

The FPOA Honor Fund benefits Officers during specific life events such as death or severe illness of the Officer, their spouse or immediate family member, the retirement of an Officer and for the birth or adoption of a child. The Honor Fund also allows our Association to send money to families of Michigan Officers who have fallen in the line of duty, as well as promote various civic initiatives for both Franklin and Bingham Farms Villages.



In order to sustain the fund, the FPOA has organized various events and initiatives along with annual contributions from our Officers, which help supplement the fund. Last year the FPOA in conjunction with the Sterling Heights Police Honor Guard successfully organized a fundraising event with the help from several local residents and businesses from both communities. The donations raised from this event helped launch the FPOA Honor Fund.

Unfortunately, our Association is unable to host a formal fundraising event this year, which is why we are reaching out to the community for some assistance. The Franklin Police Officers Association is formally requesting monetary donations to help us continue to support and sustain our honor fund. All proceeds will go directly into the fund, which is overseen by the FPOA Honor Fund Board. If you are unable to contribute at this time we completely understand and ask for your continued moral support.

For clarification, this fundraising effort is for the benefit of the Franklin Police Offices Association and other charitable initiatives supported by the Association. **If you would like to make a donation, you can make your check payable to: Franklin Police Officers Association. You can mail your donation to: PO BOX 250051, Franklin MI, 48025. Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to contact us for your needs.**

Franklin Police & Mobile Watch



FALL 2011

“The world is a carousel of color!” Remember that old lead-in tune on the Sunday evening television program of so many years ago? Well, those of my era and prior know exactly what I am referring to. All of us however, are blessed to witness the kaleidoscope that Mother Nature provides Franklin Village each autumn. Breathtaking! Glorious! Cider Mill! Halloween! Crisp fall mornings and evenings! “Indian” summer (is this a Michigan phenomena?)!

Unfortunately, the bad guys are also out there. Your Police Department is as well with a support role provided by the Village Mobile Watch.

Some recent incidents:

1. A landscape company was working on Hickory Lane near 13 Mile Road. A dark green Olds drove up and the suspects stole a couple of backpack blowers off the landscape trailer.
2. On Rosemont Lane about 4:00 am, a suspect walked into the rear of a home through an unlocked door and began taking laptops, purses and other items. The homeowner heard sounds and saw a male exiting the rear door and called police via 9-1-1. When the officers arrived they saw a car in a nearby driveway with backup lights on and went to investigate. The suspect left the vehicle and walked across 13 Mile Road at Willowgreen, entered another home through an unlocked door and took the keys to a Tahoe and drove away. The homeowner contacted OnStar and the vehicle was located and recovered. The suspect is in his middle 60s and has a history of breaking into homes at night.
3. Break-in on a home where the front door was damaged; jewelry from the bedroom was taken. The home has an alarm, but it was not set. The Oakland County Sheriff Department sent evidence technicians. Even if there is no match on fingerprints, they will still go into the system.
4. On N. Greenbrier, a laptop computer was taken and rooms ransacked. The front door was damaged. Police processed the scene.
5. On Adair Court, entry through a lower level window, TVs, Gameboys taken. Police investigating.

Winter, spring, summer or fall, the bad guys are out there. We need you to get involved with the Franklin Village Mobile Watch to help support the Police by looking out for suspicious situations that the police can be summoned to. Drive your vehicle, ride your bicycle, walk or any form of mobility qualifies as “Mobile.” Get involved and help keep your neighborhood safe.

A **BIG THANK YOU** shout out to Barry Peltz, owner of the Franklin Cider Mill, for supplying refreshments to the Mobile Watch during their meetings through the fall months. The Mobile Watch urges all villagers to go down to the cider mill and enjoy all of the tasty wares and ambiance of this long standing Franklin landmark.

The Mobile Watch welcomed a number of new members to its ranks as reported by Madeline Haddad, new membership chair. You’ll see Jim Keller, Myron Korobkin, Mira Stakhiv, Liz Foley and Cassius Drake patrolling the neighborhoods in their shiny Mobile Watch chariots! They want you to join as well. Won’t you?

The Mobile Watch was deeply saddened by news of the recent passing of one of our longtime Mobile Watch members, Bill Williams, who resided with wife, Shally Williams on Woodlore. Bill was the longtime “sign guy” for the Mobile Watch, taking care of the sign inventory, maintenance, installation and repair of the many Mobile Watch signs placed throughout the village. After many years of service, Bill passed the “sign guy” responsibilities to neighbor, Richard Ortlund. Bill and Shally were also involved in helping and/or organizing many village activities and events including the Round-up, the old “Holly-Days,” the newer Winter Festival, the seasonal home tours, the Downtown Franklin group and countless other events throughout the years. Many who knew Bill would agree that he was a very creative problem solver, he had a solution to almost every problem he was presented with that was practical and that worked. This, in my book, was one of his many hallmarks. Bill was a close neighbor of mine and his warm character, wit and selflessness will surely be missed by all of us. — Rick Kozlowski

Franklin Mobile Watch Needs You! Your participation makes a difference in your neighborhood and community!

It’s no accident that Franklin Village is fortunate to have a low crime rate. The outstanding service provided by our Police Department is the primary reason for it. Your active Mobile Watch plays a key support role. This continues only with your active participation. We need you!

You can join the Franklin Village Mobile Watch and participate in the Zone Patrol program. We encourage you to do so. Your participation will help ensure that your neighborhood receives maximum coverage by the Mobile Watch. If you are not sure which Zone you reside in, call Madeline Haddad at 855-3390 and she can inform you.

The Franklin Village Mobile Watch is a vital volunteer effort sponsored by the Franklin Police and generously funded by the Franklin Community Association (the group that provides the park, the Labor Day Round-Up and a number of other great community services). Your involvement can make a difference and promises to be a fun and sociable experience for you with your neighbors at our monthly meetings. Zone Patrols require less than an hour of your time each month (one hour a month??? Are you kidding?? No Fred, we are not kidding!). Please contact Madeline Haddad at 855-3390 or the Franklin Police at 626-9672 for more information. The Mobile Watch meets the last Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Broughton House. Join the team and “Get into the Zone!” Your participation will make a difference in your neighborhood and in your community!

Attention all Mobile Watch Members...

Attention all Mobile Watch Members... Although we would like you to attend our monthly meetings regularly, we understand that circumstances may prevent your participation from time to time. If you cannot attend a meeting, please contact Cathy Pikulas and let her know when you will patrol. Please remember to honor and fulfill your commitment to patrol at least one time per month.

Home Security Tips From the Franklin Police

There have been 10 residential break-ins and two attempted residential break-ins so far this year in the Village of Franklin. Seven of the break-ins and the two attempted break-ins occurred during the daytime. Between October 26th and November 1st we had one break-in and two attempts. All three occurred on weekdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Although the majority of residential break-ins do occur during the daytime, three of the break-ins this year have occurred at night.

There are some things a homeowner can do to lessen the chances of becoming the victim of a residential break-in.

- Install an alarm system and make sure that you use it whenever you leave your house.
- Use visible signage advertising that your house is alarmed.
- Use quality dead bolt locks on your doors and have metal or reinforced door frames.
- Use quality locks on your windows and sliding glass doors. Also consider using a secondary blocking device such as a wooden dowel or anti-lift device.
- Install a safe that can be secured to the floor and use it to lock up your jewelry, important documents, and other valuables.
- Have good exterior lighting, motion sensors and lighting on the walkways to your doors.
- Use timers on interior lights and have a radio tuned to a talk radio station when you’re away from home.
- Get to know your neighbors and agree to watch each other’s house.
- Keep your garage door closed. Thieves look for open garages. It allows for easy access to a house or in stealing yard tools that are kept in the garage.
- Keep your car locked even when it’s parked in the driveway. Thieves look for garage door openers and other valuables in parked cars.

If you would like additional information on how you can make your house more secure please stop by the police station and pick up some of our handouts on home security. The Police Department also has a “House Check Form” that you can fill out when you are going to be away on vacation.

Also please consider signing up for Police Email Alerts. This can be done by going to the Franklin Village website and clicking on the link to the Police Email Alert Sign Up. By signing up you will be able to receive crime alerts from the police department.

Interested in joining?

Please contact Madeline Haddad (855-3390) or the Franklin Police (626-9672), or fill out this form and mail to:

**Madeline Haddad – Mobile Watch c/o
Franklin Police Department, 32325
Franklin Rd., Franklin, MI 48025**

YES! I want to join the Franklin Village Mobile Watch!!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Evening Phone: _____