

City Officials

Steve Olson, Mayor

427-7529 / solson@franklinwi.gov

Mark Dandrea, Ald. District 1

427-3587 / mdandrea@franklinwi.gov

Daniel Mayer, Ald. District 2

427-2948 / dmayer@franklinwi.gov

Kristen Wilhelm, Ald. District 3

427-7603 / kwilhelm@franklinwi.gov

Janet M. Evans, Ald. District 4

427-7604 / jevans@franklinwi.gov

Doug Schmidt, Ald. District 5

529-1965 / dschmidt@franklinwi.gov

Susanne M. Mayer, Ald. District 6

207-2668 / smayer@franklinwi.gov

City Departments

Administration.....	858-1100
Assessor.....	425-1416
Building Inspection	425-0084
City Clerk.....	425-7500
City Hall.....	425-7500
Engineering	425-7510
Fire Department.....	425-1420
Health Department	425-9101
Human Resources.....	427-7505
Library.....	425-8214
Municipal Court.....	425-4768
Parks	425-7500
Planning Department.....	425-4024
Police Department.....	425-2522
Public Works.....	425-2592
Recreation	423-4646
Sewer & Water	421-2613
Treasury	425-4770

EMERGENCIES-CALL 911

www.franklinwi.gov



2014 Property Tax Bills

A Freeze in the Total Property Taxes for City Purposes

Property tax bills are scheduled to be sent out the second full week of December. These property tax bills will reflect a freeze in the amount of property taxes for City purposes, as approved by the Mayor and Common Council as part of the 2015 Budget process. Please see the related "Property Tax Bill Questions" and "Property Tax Bill Payments" articles later in this newsletter for information on tax bill payment options and extended Treasury Office hours.

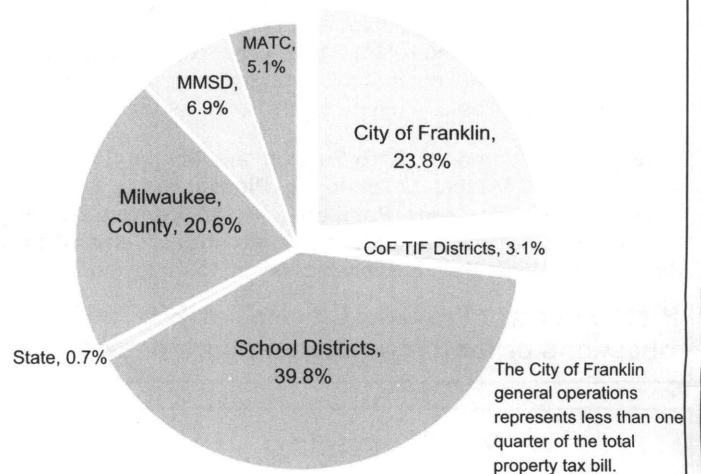
For 2015, the City of Franklin was able to reduce the effective property tax rate for general municipal services and was able to freeze the special charge for solid waste collection for another year. The City, however, is responsible under the law for sending out the property tax bill for seven different taxing authorities. While the City of Franklin, therefore, saw a slight decrease in its average effective tax rate, some other taxing jurisdictions increased their tax rates. As such, an individual's property tax bill may increase overall due to the tax rate increase by

these other taxing bodies. As can be seen from the graph, the City of Franklin is only directly responsible for approximately one-quarter of the property tax charges.

The final, combined tax rates per \$1,000 of assessed value were not available when this newsletter was going to print as the City is still awaiting notification from other taxing jurisdictions and from the State as to the amount of the State School Levy Credit, which the State uses to reduce the effective school districts' property tax levy. Once all numbers are received, final rates will be calculated and property tax bills can be printed and mailed. At that point, the various property tax rates will also be available on the City website at www.franklinwi.gov.

Please also see "Property Tax Bill Questions" and "Property Tax Bill Payments" articles on Page 3.

Approximate Breakdown of Tax Dollars by Each Taxing Jurisdiction

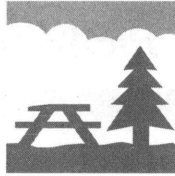


****2015 Garbage & Recycling Cards****

The 2015 Garbage and Recycling Cards are enclosed inside this Newsletter. PLEASE SAVE these cards as a reference!

Almost any question that you may have about trash, recycling, special pickups, hazardous waste, brush and leaf collection dates, landfill information, etc. is addressed on these cards. Service will remain the same with regular garbage collected each week, recyclables collected every other week, and three brush and leaf collection dates. For the Recycling Collection Schedule—if you are an "A" Week pickup now, you will remain as an "A" Week. The same goes for "B" Week residents.

2015 Park Reservations



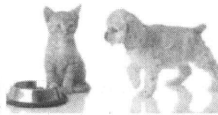
2015 Park Permit applications for Franklin groups or residents for reserving Lions Legend Park (Lions Pavilion or the Vernon E. Barg Pavilion), Market Square, or Ken Windl Park will be accepted at City Hall, 9229 W. Loomis Road, beginning Friday, January 2, 2015. Applications must be made in person and permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis. No telephone or mail-in applications are accepted. Non-Franklin groups may apply after April 1st.

Lions Pavilion, 8050 S. Legend Drive, has available an open air pavilion, electricity, picnic tables, water, and barbeque pit. Vernon E. Barg Pavilion, 8717 W. Drexel Avenue, has available an open air pavilion, indoor serving area, electricity, picnic tables, water, and grills. Ken Windl Pavilion, 11615 W. Rawson Avenue, has an indoor air-conditioned/heated gathering space (maximum of 50 people), tables and chairs, kitchenette area, picnic tables, electricity, and water. Market Square, 11230 W. Franklin Street, has available a gazebo, picnic tables, and electricity. There are no restrooms or water available at Market Square. Playground equipment, tennis courts, and volleyball courts, where available, must be shared with the general public.

Lions Pavilion, Vernon E. Barg Pavilion, and Market Square are available April 15 thru October 31. **Please Note: At Lions Legend Park, the Lions Pavilion and the Vernon E. Barg Pavilion will not be available for reservations June 30 thru July 6.** Ken Windl Park is available March 15 thru Nov. 30.

Please contact Franklin City Hall at 425-7500 with questions or for information on park permit fees.

Pet Licensing



Pet licenses are required to be obtained annually by anyone residing in the City of Franklin who owns a dog, cat, or tiny horse which is 5 months of age on January 1st, or 5 months of age within the license year. License applications are due by April 1st of each year, or within 30 days from the adoption of your new pet. A copy of the rabies vaccination certificate issued by your veterinarian is required as proof of vaccination. **The cost of a pet license is as follows:**

Altered Pet	\$12
Unaltered Pet	\$24
Late Fee for Altered Pet	\$6
Late Fee for Unaltered Pet	\$12

The City prefers that you pay for your pet license directly through the City of Franklin either in person at the Cashier's Office at City Hall, by mail, or by use of the drop box outside of City Hall at 9229 W. Loomis Road, Franklin, WI 53132. Please be sure to include your pet license application (available online at www.franklinwi.gov, click on "I Want To..." and then "License a Pet"), vaccination records, and a check made payable to the City of Franklin.

The Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) has overall responsibility for issuing pet licenses in Milwaukee County. As such, pet licenses may also be applied for online by visiting the MADACC website at www.madacc.com. Payments made via MADACC's website can be made by check or by MasterCard or Visa credit card.

Snow & Ice Control



Residents with any concerns regarding winter street maintenance may call the Public Works Department at 425-2592. Regular hours are Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., or whenever weather conditions warrant winter street maintenance. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message and someone will get back to you. If immediate attention is required, please call the Police Department at 425-2522, and they will relay the message.

Helpful Tips for Winter Snow Storms . . .



- * Please place garbage and recycling containers 2' back from the street during a snowfall. This will help prevent the rolling snow from snowplows from covering or tipping them over.
- * When removing the snow from the end of your driveway, pile it on the right side when facing the street. This will allow the snowplow driver to push the snow away from rather than back onto your driveway.



Help Keep Streets & Sidewalks Safe . . .

- * To maintain safety on City streets and sidewalks, the City of Franklin, through its Municipal Code, prohibits any person from throwing, blowing, placing, or piling any snow or ice on any public street, public place, or public property. This also pertains to depositing plowed snow in roadside ditches and public road right-of-way of yours or neighboring properties. Artificial snow accumulations can create a traffic or pedestrian hazard. Violators may be ticketed.
- * **The owner, occupant, or person in charge of any building or lot fronting or adjoining any street is responsible for cleaning the sidewalk abutting such building or lot of snow and ice.** After snow or ice has formed on any sidewalk, the sidewalk must be cleared within 24 hours. When ice has formed on any sidewalk that cannot be removed, the walk must be kept safe by applying an abrasive material or salt within 24 hours. If any sidewalk is neglected, the Department of Public Works shall have the snow and ice removed and will charge the responsible party.
- * **Sump Pump Discharge:** City Code prohibits the discharge of water from sump pumps upon any public street or highway from November 15 to April 15 of each year, as this leads to ice build-up on streets. During this period, property owners shall discharge water from their sumps onto their lawn at a point not more than 10 feet from their building.

2015 ELECTION DATES:



Spring Primary (if needed)
February 17, 2015

Spring Election
April 7, 2015

Visit the Elections page at
www.franklinwi.gov for up-to-date
Election information.

Property Tax Bill Questions

The following are frequently asked property tax bill questions that were not addressed in the cover story. If you have additional questions, please call the Treasury Office at 414-425-4770.

How are my taxes calculated?

The approved tax levies from all of the taxing jurisdictions (see pie chart Page 1) are divided by the assessed valuation, as certified by the Board of Review, to determine the tax rates. Franklin has multiple school districts; therefore, there are three different tax rates that may apply to a citizen's tax bill. If you compare your tax bill to another, make sure the tax bills have the same taxing bodies before you call to check on your bill.

What are the 2014 tax rates?

The combined tax rates per \$1,000 for the three groups were not available when the newsletter went to print. Please check the City website at www.franklinwi.gov for the various tax rates.

What are the credits on my tax bill?

A lottery credit is provided by the State for qualifying citizens for their personal residence only. All taxable property with improvements will receive a "First Dollar Credit" based on the equalized value of the school tax rate. Amounts vary by school district.

What are the additional charges on my tax bill?

Tax bills may contain other charges such as solid waste, annual payments of outstanding special assessments, delinquent sewer and water bills as of November 15, and other unpaid miscellaneous bills outstanding at that time.

What if I did not receive my tax bill?

Please note that tax bills are sent to the property owner of record. For properties that have been recently purchased in the August—November time period, the City may not have received the transfer information from Milwaukee County and those tax bills will be sent to the seller. You can print a bill from the City's website at www.franklinwi.gov (click on "Property Tax Web Portal" under the "Quick Links" area of the Home page), request the bill from the seller, or contact the Treasury Office to get the necessary property tax information.

Single-Family Building Plans 2005—2013

The Assessor's Office will be disposing of building plans submitted for **completed single-family** building permits from 2005 thru 2013. Single-Family residences/other projects (i.e., garages, finished basements, decks) with **partial completion** as of January 1, 2014 will not be available for release.

If you would like your plans, please contact the Assessor's Office at 425-1416 or email LTome@franklinwi.gov before your intended date of pickup. The address of the house is needed to locate the plans. Plans for buildings other than single-family dwellings are saved and are not available for pickup. There are no plans available before 2004.

Plans will not be mailed and plans not picked up by March 1, 2015 will be disposed of.

Property Tax Bill Payments

Your property tax bill includes preprinted payment coupons for each of the three installment payments and a pre-addressed return envelope. Send in, drop off, or bring in the payment coupon with your payment (you can keep your tax bill at home) and the payment will be receipted and returned to you. If another installment is due, a return envelope will also be enclosed with your receipt.

Payment Hours:

Daily payment hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For tax payment purposes, payment hours will be extended on the following dates:

Monday—Friday, December 15-19, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday & Tuesday, December 22-23, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, December 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, December 27, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Monday & Tuesday, December 29-30, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, December 31, 8 a.m. to Noon

**The Treasury Office will be CLOSED
December 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 2014 and
January 1, 2015 for property tax payments.**

Payment by Mail:

All mail payments of Property Tax bills go directly to the bank. The bank deposits daily all checks received and mails the payment coupons to the City's Treasury Office. Staff then credits the payment against your tax liability and mails a receipt to you. **Please include the payment coupon and do NOT include other payments to the City in this same mailing.**

Payment by Delivery to Drop Box:

The City has a drop box located right outside of the main entrance to City Hall that is available 24/7. The drop box is a good alternative to standing in line to pay your taxes. The drop box is emptied periodically during the day and processed as part of that day's receipts. A tax receipt will be mailed to your property address.

Payment by Phone or Online:

The City partners with a company that processes your tax payment through their credit card system and forwards the tax payment to the City. In addition to the tax amount, they charge you, the credit card holder, a fee equal to 4.75% for phone payments (888-604-7888) or 2.75% for online payments (www.GovPayNow.com). Use Payment Location Code 5898.

Payment in Person:

If you prefer to pay your property taxes in person, your payment should be made at City Hall, 9229 W. Loomis Road. Your payment coupon for that installment will be receipted and returned to you when the payment is processed. It is not necessary to bring your tax bill as long as you bring your payment coupon when making your payment.

Wisconsin Lottery & Gaming Credit:

Wisconsin Lottery and Gaming Credit is available for your personal residence only. If the credit was on your 2013 Real Estate Tax Bill, or you filed the 2014 Lottery Credit form, the credit will be on your 2014 Real Estate Tax Bill. If the credit is not on your tax bill and you are eligible in 2014, it can be deducted from your 2014 tax bill until January 31, 2015.



DIAL 9-1-1 FOR ALL EMERGENCIES!

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency—425-1420

Police Dept. Non-Emergency—425-2522



Holiday Safety Tips

Did you know that every year on average, fire departments across the United States respond to 230 home fires that started with Christmas trees? Of those fires, there were 6 deaths, 22 injuries, and over 18 million dollars in property damage. What can we do to reduce this number and protect our homes from becoming statistics? Here are some things to consider:

- When putting lights on trees check to see if there are any frayed or cracked wires.
- Replace any missing or damaged bulbs.
- Make sure all lights have the Underwriters laboratory stamp on them.

If you are going to have a live tree:

- Make sure the tree is green and not dried out.
- Water the tree daily.
- Place packages away from low hanging lights.
- Use a sturdy, wide stand with plenty of room for water.

If you are going to use candles:

- Place them on a fire resistant surface like a glass plate.
- Make sure the animals or kids cannot knock them over.

If you use extension cords:

- Prior to use check for frayed or exposed wire.
- Keep them out of the way.
- Never place them under rugs or carpet.
- Don't over load outlets.

The holiday season is a time to share with family and friends without tragedy and despair. Remember this holiday season to practice fire safety both indoors and outdoors.

The Franklin Fire Department wishes you a safe and happy holiday season!

Franklin Citizen Police Academy

Police Chief Rick Oliva has announced Class No. 17 of the Franklin Police Department Citizen Police Academy which begins Tuesday, March 3rd, for 12 consecutive weeks and concludes on Tuesday, May 19, 2015. Classes meet for 3 hours, Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., usually in the Franklin Police Department community classroom. Additionally, each graduate may participate in a ride-along with officers on the street.

The Franklin Police Department's mission is to establish and maintain a course of instruction for citizens to familiarize themselves with the operations of the Franklin Police Department and the profession of law enforcement. This 12-week academy presents an overview of all aspects of law enforcement such as patrol operations, traffic enforcement, investigations, SWAT, K-9 unit, dispatch/communications, fire and emergency medical services, and much more. Students will have an opportunity to present concerns and questions regarding public safety in the City and learn how citizens and the police can work together to fight crime in the community. Department employees present each session and interact with participants on a very approachable level.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Live or work in the Franklin community (preference is given to Franklin citizens).
- Submit a written application.
- Pass a background check (no felony convictions).
- Be 18 years of age (16 and 17 year olds may attend with parent or guardian).

There is no cost to attend the Academy; however, class size is limited. If interested in attending, please contact Sergeant Patrick Scalise at pscalise@franklinwi.gov or at 425-2522, Ext. 2652.

Sharps & Medicine Collection



The Franklin Health Department is a collection site for needles and syringes for residents, including unused epinephrine. Appropriate sharps containers are also available for purchase at the Health Department. Sharps can be brought to the Franklin Health Department at 9229 West Loomis Road Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Franklin Police Department is a collection site for unused prescription and over-the-counter medications for residents. Items accepted include: prescription medication and over-the-counter medication, ointments, sprays, inhalers, creams, and pet medications. Pour all pills from their bottles into the plastic bags that are provided and deposit the bags into the collection container that is available 24 hours a day located in the lobby of the Franklin Police Department at 9455 West Loomis Road.



Note that personal care products (shampoo, soap, lotions, etc.) and household hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, oils, gas, etc.) are not accepted at either site.

Contact the Police Department at 425-2522 or the Health Department at 425-9101 with questions.



The Library Story



Mon—Thurs 10-8:30, Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 1-4 ♦ 425-8214 ♦ Rachel Muchin Young, Director

Franklin's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony

Sunday, December 7th, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Franklin Public Library
9151 W. Loomis Road

Please bring along non-perishable food items to support the Franklin Food Pantries!

*4:30 pm—Holiday Storytime & Craft

*5:00 pm—Holiday Caroling

*5:30 pm—Tree Lighting & Visit by SANTA

*6:00 pm—Refreshments

Teen Programs

Join the Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

Looking for great teens to join the TAB! Come and join us for food, fun, and library chat. We plan library programs for teens, talk about books, and plan community service projects. Anyone in Grades 6—12 is welcome to join.

Holiday Craft-A-Day!

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays thru December 18th, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Pop into the Teen Zone Library to make a fun and simple craft to keep or give for the holidays. No registration required.

Adult Programs

(Financially supported by the Friends of the Franklin Library)

Monday Movie Matinees

Every 3rd Monday of the month, 1—3 p.m. (subject to change based on room availability). Call 425-8214 or visit www.franklinpubliclibrary.org for details and movie listing. No registration required. **Monday—Dec. 15, Jersey Boys.**

Laverne, Shirley & Rothman—December 7, 1:30 p.m.

Mark Rothman has been a writer, show runner, and producer for many of the television shows we've welcomed into our homes in the '70s and '80s. Now he's visiting the home of the fictional brewery made famous by *Laverne & Shirley*. Join us to hear about Mark's work, then and now. This program is free and open to the public. No registration required.

Great Decisions Discussion Series—NEW for 2015

Great Decisions, a project of the Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org), is America's largest world affairs discussion program, and the Franklin Public Library Foundation is bringing the series to the Library in February and March 2015! Topics are Sectarianism in the Middle East, India Changes Course, U.S. Policy Toward Africa, and Brazil's Metamorphosis. This series is free and open to the public. For details, visit the Franklin Public Library in person or online at www.FranklinPublicLibrary.org.

Book Discussion Groups

-Tuesday Afternoon Group—"The Brown Baggers"

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

Dec. 16 *Bad Monkey* by Carl Hiaasen

Jan. 20 *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini

-Monday Evening Group—"Night Readers"

Meets the 4th Monday of each month (Jan. thru Nov.) at 6 p.m. except where noted.

Dec. 15 *Samurai's Garden* by Gail Tsukiyama

Jan. 26 *Divergent* by Veronica Roth

These Book Discussion groups are free and open to the public; no registration needed. Peer-led discussions. Bring your lunch or dinner; beverages provided. Pick up copies of books at checkout desk or purchase at area bookstores. Library copies will be reserved in advance for your convenience. **Cancellations due to weather:** Group meetings will be cancelled if the Library closes or if the leader of the group notifies the Library that the group will not meet due to weather conditions.



Children/Family Programs

(Visit www.franklinpubliclibrary.org for 2015 program dates/times.)



Waddlers & Walkers—Drop-In

20-minute program introduces babies to rhymes, songs, fingerplays, short stories, and focuses on parent-child interaction, followed by playtime. Mondays 10:15 a.m. (Ages 0-12 months with adult) and 11:15 a.m. (Ages 12-23 months with adult)—Dec. 8.

Tales for Twos—Drop-In (Age 2 with adult)

30-minute program of short stories, songs, and early learning activities for you and your child. Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10:15 a.m.—Dec. 9 & 10.

Preschool Pretend & Play—Drop-In (Ages 3-5 with adult)

45-minute educational program incorporating books, songs, and other early literacy activities. Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:15 a.m.—Dec. 9 & 10.

Rhyming to Read—Drop-In (Ages 2-5 with adult)

30-minute program introduces two nursery rhymes through a variety of activities. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 10:15 a.m.

Music & Motion—Drop-In (Ages 2-5 with adult)

30-minute program full of dancing and singing for fun and exercise. Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 10:15 a.m.

Wacky Wednesdays—Drop-In (K-5th Grades)

Experiments—Crafts—LEGOs—Games! Wednesday, Dec. 17, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Holiday Crafts—Drop-In (Most suitable for Ages 3+ with adult)

Make crafts for the holidays! Saturday, Dec. 13, 1 to 3 p.m.



Your Health Matters

Franklin Health Department, 425-9101, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
(Clinics held 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.)



Do You Know Your Home's Radon Level? January is Radon Awareness Month!

January is Radon Awareness Month. Winter is an excellent time to test your home for radon. Radon is an odorless, colorless gas that naturally occurs in the earth. It seeps into your home through cracks in the foundation. Unsuspectingly we breathe it into our lungs. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Do you know your household radon level? Testing is fast, easy, and inexpensive. Don't be left out in the cold—**test your home TODAY!** Testing is the only reliable way to know your radon risk.



The Franklin Health Department sells radon screening kits for \$6.50. Visit our office in City Hall Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or call 425-9101 for more information.

The South Suburban Mayors' Fitness Challenge is Going Strong!

Residents of Franklin, Cudahy, Greenfield, Oak Creek, South Milwaukee, and St. Francis have been out in full force attending an array of FREE classes, activities, and programs aimed at improving fitness in our communities. It is not too late to join!

SOUTH SUBURBAN MAYORS'



FITNESS CHALLENGE

Visit www.Facebook.com/MayorsFitChallenge
for more information about the
Mayors' Challenge and a complete
list of upcoming events.

Upcoming Events in Franklin Include (events are open to all residents):

December 9th — "Trouble Turning Off Your Brain? How to Restore Balanced Function in a High Stress World"
Discover what kind of movement is essential to "charging your brain's batteries". Learn how to help kids and adults alike to decrease stress, improve focus, concentration, and sleep quality, as well as increase energy! 6:30—7:30 p.m. at the Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road.

December 12th: "Nerve Stress Evaluation"
Join us for a free evaluation to determine if chronic stress is affecting your nervous system and your health. This is a non-invasive, painless procedure that can help you create a plan to achieve greater life balance. Families Welcome. 4—7 p.m. at Rhythm of Life Chiropractic, 7131 S. 76th Street. Call Stacy for an appointment at 414-858-1212.

December 18th: "Foundations of Yoga"
Sole Serenity Yoga Instructor John Myszka will lead beginners through the foundations of yoga with an interactive session. Please bring your own yoga mat. 6:30—7:30 p.m. at the Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road.

January 8th: "Balancing Your Brain-Body Pathway For Optimal Health and Healing"
Learn an important factor of health that predisposes our body to injuries and why aging can occur at an accelerated pace. Explore strategies that you can start using right away to help you and your family to heal faster and keep doing what you love to do. 6:30—7:30 p.m. at the Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road.

January 10th: "Posture and Balance Assessment"
Have your spine and the rest of your body structure checked for alignment and balance. Just like the importance of regular checkups for your car, your teeth, and your eyes, checking the many functions of your spinal structure is necessary for both injury prevention and peak performance. Families Welcome. 9 a.m.—1 p.m. at Rhythm of Life Chiropractic, 7131 S. 76th Street. Call Stacy for an appointment at 414-858-1212.

January 21st: "Strategies for Selecting Healthy Foods"
Healthy eating is about developing a well-balanced, satisfying relationship with food that increases energy, stabilizes weight, boosts mood, and reduces your risk of illness. You will leave with a greater understanding of how nutrition can improve your health and prevent disease as well as new skills to shop, prepare, and eat healthy foods. 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road.

Franklin Senior Citizens Club

Open to Franklin Residents 55 Years of Age & Older



Becoming a Member

The Franklin Senior Citizens Club is open to all Franklin residents who are 55 years of age or older. Activities include luncheons, holiday parties, guest speakers, movies, card playing, and social camaraderie. Annual dues are \$15 per person. A **business meeting luncheon** is held the first Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. at Clifford's Supper Club, 10418 W. Forest Home Avenue, Hales Corners. A **social luncheon** is held the third Wednesday of each month at Noon at Brenwood Park Senior Apartments, 9501 W. Loomis Road, Franklin. **For more information or reservations, contact Fred Kneuppel at 421-2603.**

Franklin Seniors Walking Club

Meets 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Thursday at Milwaukee County Sports Complex, 6000 W. Ryan Road. Dues: \$5 (includes T-shirt). **Contact Russ Sepanski at 425-7984 for more details.**

Elder Link—24-hour resource center for older adults. Call 289-6874 for senior or family care and meal site information.



City of Franklin Senior Travel Program

Looking to meet new friends and enjoy traveling? Then the Franklin Senior Travel Program is for YOU!

January—May 2015 Trips

Jan. 28 "The Sensational 70's"—Fireside Theater
Lunch and show at the Fireside Dinner Theater, Fort Atkinson. **RSVP Deadline: December 12th.**
Cost: \$66 Resident / \$76 Non-Resident.

Feb. 11 "A Slice of Wisconsin Culture"—Palace of Reif Mills Dinner Theatre, Denmark, WI
First stop—tour Abler Art Glass in Kiel, a glass blowing studio. Next, its off to the Palace of Reif Mills Dinner Theatre for the show "A Slice of Wisconsin Culture" which combines comedy, drama, audience participation, and great music that takes a look at the State of Wisconsin. Buffet lunch menu of baked chicken, potatoes, sweet and sour green beans, and cherry crisp.
RSVP Deadline: January 5th.
Cost: \$55 Resident / \$65 Non-Resident.

Mar. 25 "Wizard of Oz"—Fireside Dinner Theater
Lunch and show at the Fireside Dinner Theater, Fort Atkinson. **RSVP Deadline: February 16th.**
Cost: \$66 Resident / \$76 Non-Resident.

April 22 Proudly Made in WI—Milwaukee & Racine
Tour the 2-floor museum on the grounds of the Caterpillar Global Mining Company's manufacturing complex in South Milwaukee and view the Bucyrus mining machines that are preserved in heritage exhibits. Enjoy a buffet lunch of sliced round of beef, pork loin, potatoes, corn, rice pilaf, and dessert at The Summit Restaurant in Racine. Next tour Case Manufacturing Operations in Racine, home to the Case Magnum Series tractors and cotton pickers. (Factory tour is a 2-1/2 hour walking tour).
RSVP Deadline: April 1st.
Cost: \$55 Resident / \$65 Non-Resident.

May 13 "All Shook Up"—Fireside Dinner Theater
Lunch and show at the Fireside Dinner Theater, Fort Atkinson.
RSVP Deadline: April 6th.
Cost: \$66 Resident / \$76 Non-Resident.

Reservations: Open to Franklin residents who are 55 years of age and older. Accepted on a first-come/first-served basis. No phone reservations; full payment guarantees your reservation.
Refunds: No refunds are given after the RSVP deadline unless ticket can be resold. **Non-Resident:** Non-residents may participate in tours if space is available after the deadline date of the trip. All trips have limited seating. Non-residents pay an additional \$10 cost. **Insurance:** The City of Franklin and the Franklin Senior Citizens Club do not provide medical insurance or hospitalization coverage for those participating in tours or activities. **Cancellations:** Tours may be cancelled due to weather or lack of registrations.



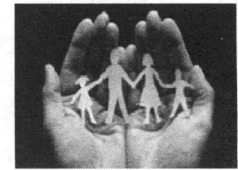
Trips depart from the Northeast corner of Pick 'N Save parking lot at 76th Street & Rawson Avenue (unless otherwise noted).

Contact Shirley Bird, Tour Director, at 425-4502 with questions.



Franklin Area Parents and Students United (FAPSU)
Keeping our youth healthy and safe!
www.fapsu.org

The vision of Franklin Area Parents and Students United (FAPSU) is a Franklin community that supports and empowers youth to make healthy choices—especially related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.



Free Parent Support Group
Second Tuesday of each month, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road
(Registration not required)

This group provides support and parenting education for parents who are in the midst of their child's substance use. Topics include: effective and ineffective strategies, best ways to communicate, setting limits, and engaging treatment providers. The group discussion will be facilitated by Performance Enhancement of Franklin.

Join FAPSU and be part of preventing substance abuse in our youth!
Second Thursday of each Month, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road

Please WELCOME the Following Businesses to the City of Franklin!

Dollar Tree, 7150 S. 76th Street
(Dollar Store)

Innovative Fiber, LLC, 5390 W. Ashland Way
(Corrugated Paper Converting)

Ewald Chrysler Jeep Dodge, LLC, 6321 S. 108th Street
(Sales/Lease/Rental of Autos, Trucks, Recreational Vehicles)

Kwik Trip, Inc., 5040 W. Rawson Avenue
(Gas Station, Convenience Store, and Car Wash)

Hair Care, 7212 S. 76th Street
(Hair Salon)

Routine Baseball, LLC, 9625 S. 54th Street
(Baseball Apparel E-Commerce Business)



SUPPORT FRANKLIN BUSINESSES!



Holiday Hours

City Hall will be closed Dec. 24 & 25 for Christmas and Dec. 31 & Jan. 1 for New Years.

(Exception: Treasury Office will be open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 27th and 8 a.m. to Noon on Dec. 31st)

Franklin Elected Officials & City Staff wish you a happy and healthy holiday season!

City of Franklin
9229 W. Loomis Road
Franklin, WI 53132

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FRANKLIN, WI 53132

Opening Doors

Connecting You to Franklin Public Schools



A Message from the Superintendent

I believe and feel proud that our schools are a vital piece of our Franklin community and I know that our community has high expectations for our District.

We are pleased to share with you the positive results of our State Report Cards (*see page 2*), as a reflection of the work our students and staff are doing on a regular basis to excel and improve academically.

Just as we are an important piece of the community, our community is critically important to us. We seek and appreciate your partnership as we strive to make our District even better.

Thank you to all the community members that have visited us at numerous events we've held in the new Saber Center at Franklin High School. This new performance venue will offer many opportunities for our community members to join us in the years to come. (*See a construction update on Page 2*).

In this newsletter, you'll also find several other ways to be involved with our District- by joining our staff, attending a concert, enrolling your child(ren) in kindergarten or being a part of the School Board.

We appreciate your support as we make Franklin Public Schools a positive place to learn, work and grow.

Dr. Steve Patz, Superintendent

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2015-16 school year will be held on:

**February 3rd and 4th, 2015
12:30- 6:30 PM**

8255 West Forest Hill Avenue

Children must be five years old by Sept. 1st, 2015 to enroll in kindergarten. To receive a registration packet and more information, go to www.franklin.k12.wi.us

All registration packets will be mailed out mid-January. If you have any additional questions, please call Mary Jo at (414) 525-7634.



School Board Election

Two offices for School Board Member will be on the ballot for the Tuesday, April 7th, 2015 election.

Those interested in running for office must file the necessary forms in the School District Office (8255 West Forest Hill Avenue) no later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 6th, 2015.

Forms can be found on the District's website www.franklin.k12.wi.us or www.gab.wi.gov. Please call the District Office for more information at (414) 529-8220.

Those interested are encouraged to talk with current members or administrators to get more information: Dr. Steve Patz, Superintendent, (414) 525-7604.

The term of this office is three years beginning on Monday, April 27th, 2015.

Holiday Concerts

Concerts held at their respective school building

- 12/5 Ben Franklin Choir
2:00 PM
- 12/5 Country Dale Concert
2:00 PM
- 12/8 Forest Park Choir
6:30 PM
- 12/9 Forest Park A Band
6:30 PM
- 12/10 Forest Park B Band
6:30 PM
- 12/11 Forest Park Orchestra
6:30 PM
- 12/12 Pleasant View Band
1:30 PM
- 12/12 Robinwood Choir/Orch.
1:30 PM
- 12/12 Southwood Glen All
2:30 PM
- 12/15 Ben Franklin Band/Orch.
2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- 12/15 Robinwood Band
7:00 PM
- 12/16 Country Dale Orchestra
7:00 PM
- 12/16 Pleasant View Orchestra
7:00 PM
- 12/17 FHS Band
7:30 PM
- 12/18 FHS Choir
7:30 PM
- 12/19 Pleasant View Choir
1:30 PM



State Report Cards 2013 -2014

All Schools Exceeding Expectations; FHS Significantly Exceeding Expectations

Each year, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction publicly shares a report card for every school and school district in the state of Wisconsin. Each school and district receives one of five accountability ratings from "Fails to Meet Expectations" to "Significantly Exceeds Expectations." The ratings are based on a numerical score from 0-100.

The report cards are part of the state's new accountability system. The scores represent calculations on data from four priority areas: student achievement in reading and math; student growth in reading and math; closing achievement gaps; and on-track and post-secondary readiness.

Five of Franklin's seven schools maintained their ratings of "Exceeds Expectations" when compared to 2012-2013. Country Dale Elementary School showed the biggest increase, raising its rating from "Meets Expectations" to "Exceeds Expectations."

Franklin High School increased its rating from "Exceeds Expectations" to "Significantly Exceeds Expectations," which is the highest rating. Across the state, only 5.4% of 2,113 schools achieved this rating.

On a district level, Franklin Public Schools maintained its rating of "Exceeds Expectations," which is the second highest rating.

In commenting on these results, Superintendent Dr. Steve Patz stated, "These results are positive and represent the strong efforts of our students, parents, teachers, and administrators. However, we need to continuously seek ways to improve learning and personal growth for all of our students."

To view the state report cards, visit <http://reportcards.dpi.wi.gov/> for more information.

FHS Construction Update



Students and staff in the newly renovated main entrance and central commons of Franklin High School

Renovations at Franklin High School have made great progress over the first few months of the school year.

The District has been proud to host several events in the new Saber Center, including a community health presentation, concerts and our fall play.

The main entrance, main office area and central commons are complete and being used by our students, staff and visitors. The increased traffic flow in those areas is much improved and is serving the building well.

The practice fields that were displaced due to the new parking areas have been relocated to the east of the building. They have been seeded and will be suitable for use in 2016, when the grass is fully rooted.

The old multi-purpose room and band area is under construction for new art and TV Tech classroom spaces, expected to be open by January 2015.

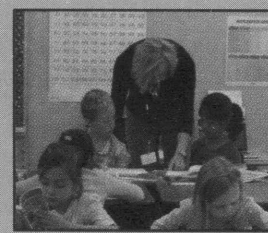
Following the relocation of the art classrooms, renovation will begin in the old art space to convert them to classrooms for our science and career/technical education programs.

All renovations are expected to be completed by the spring of 2015.

Employment Opportunities



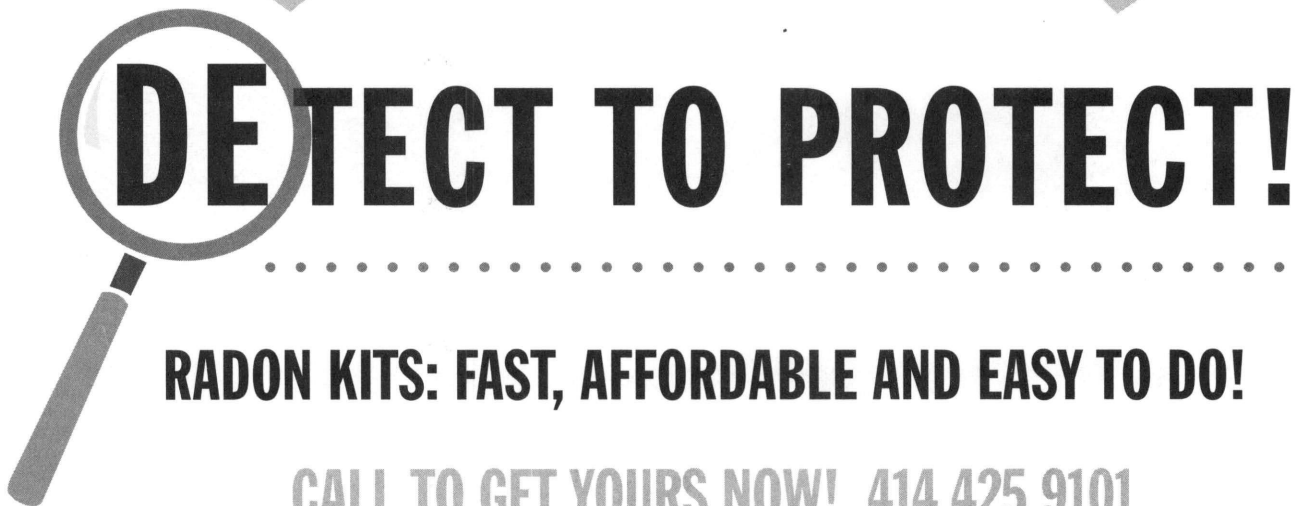
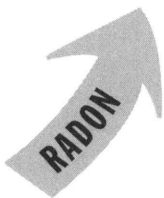
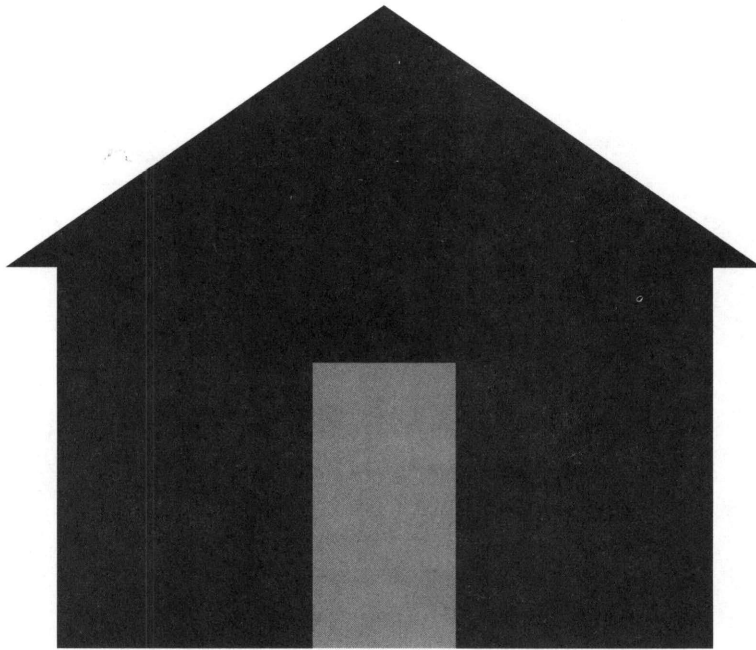
Franklin Public Schools is currently hiring support staff! Positions are available for bus drivers, custodians, educational assistants, food service staff and after-school program help.



Please visit our website at www.franklin.k12.wi.us and click on "Employment Opportunities" or call 414-529-8243 for more information on how to apply.

JANUARY IS RADON ACTION MONTH

RADON IS A COLORLESS, ODORLESS, CANCER CAUSING GAS.



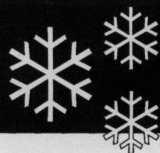
DETECT TO PROTECT!

RADON KITS: FAST, AFFORDABLE AND EASY TO DO!

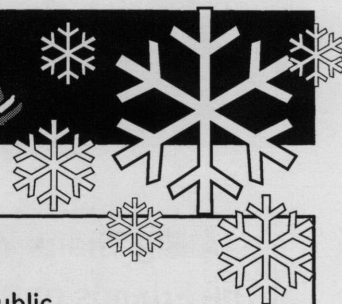
CALL TO GET YOURS NOW! 414.425.9101



City of Franklin Health Department



The Next Chapter



Will You Help the Friends of the Franklin Public Library Honor Veterans and Service Members in Our Community?

Attend one of the information sessions. Enjoy coffee or tea and hear all the details.

Saturday, January 10—2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, January 13—2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, January 18—2 p.m. to 3 p.m.



The Friends of the Franklin Public Library are planning a joint fundraiser with Quilts of Honor to present quilts to veterans and military members at a 2016 program. Fundraising events will include quilt raffles and sales of hand-crafted items, library and community craft programs, and a joint boutique at a 2015 area craft fair. These various activities will provide funds to Quilts of Honor to purchase high quality fabric and other needed supplies for the military members' quilts.

Who Should Come to the January Sessions:

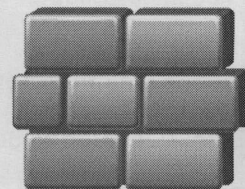
1. People who knit, crochet, sew and do other crafts such as making jewelry and small wood items.
2. Quilters wishing to create quilts for veterans.
3. Representatives from area organizations and businesses wishing to provide funds or assistance at events or a space for community members to meet and create small craft items.
4. Anyone wishing to help the Friends honor military members.

When the fundraising is well under way, nominations will be accepted for honored recipients. Please visit the library often to find out about related events for the joint fundraiser. Visit the library's website at www.franklinpubliclibrary.org to see listings of library and community craft sessions and other events. Each City of Franklin newsletter in 2015 will include updates for the 2016 Quilts of Honor event.

For further information, please contact Jadine Hilt at wise@quiltsforhonor.com or Judy Roberts, Friends president, at libraryfrnds@hotmail.com; (414) 426-0012.

Book-A-Brick

The Friends of the Franklin Public Library have reopened their campaign to sell engraved bricks to add to those already in place at the library's entrance. All funds raised will be used to enhance our library's collection and programs. The style of the bricks used can be seen outside the entry doors to the library. Each brick will be engraved with the inscription of your choice and protected with a durable epoxy. Some suggestions are family names, in memory of, or in honor of a family member or friend, or in recognition of a business or organization. Prices range from \$50 to \$1250. Order forms are available at the Library's information desk. Any questions, please contact either Judy Beine, a Library Friend, at (414) 421-3490, or Rachel Muchin Young, Library Director, at (414) 425-8214.



Franklin Public Library Upcoming Adult Computer Classes

These are the classes for February. Visit the library or the Franklin Public Library website for cost of each class.

Windows 8— Bring your own laptop. Six days: Jan. 19, 21, 26 & 28, Feb. 2 & 4.

iPad—Four days: Feb. 3, 5, 10 & 12.

Digital Camera—Six days: Feb. 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 & 25.

All classes are from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.



Innovative Health & Fitness Helps the Library



Thank you to Innovative Health & Fitness for a sizable contribution to the Friends of the Franklin Public Library. This year's 4th Annual Car Show in August was a great success with children's games, a Zumbathon, and of course, classic cars.

The funds will be used for library programs. Next year, the Friends plan to expand their presence at the car show with a book sale. Again, we admire Innovative Health & Fitness' dedication to the community and the Franklin Public Library.

A Big Thank You to All Supporters of The Friends of the Franklin Public Library for the Many Items Donated

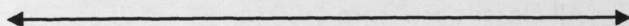
Area citizens have been very helpful to the Friends of the Public Library. All the book donations for the used book sale in early September 2014 enabled the Friends to provide many new books for the Franklin Public Library Book Clubs and later for all library patrons.

Books donated to Book Nook Sales and game donations have increased our ability to offer funds to library staff to offer more programs to the general public.

All the cotton fabric donations and other craft items such as ties and ribbons are continuously being used for Friends' programs offered to the public. Many craft items will be used in the next year and one half for the joint fundraising endeavor of the Friends of the Franklin Public Library and Quilts of Honor. Your continued donations will help veterans and military families.

The Friends are privileged to repurpose your good quality but unused items to provide education and enjoyment for other library patrons. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

*Are you a Friend of the
Franklin Public Library?
Visit the library
for more information!*



Craft Supplies Needed for Community Craft Sessions at the Library and Community Locations

It happens to all of us! We have great plans to start a new craft or continue a familiar one so we make purchases to work on a favorite hobby. Then . . . things get in the way and we have a collection of unused crafts supplies and no time for creativity.

The Friends of Franklin Public Library propose to rid you of all the guilt! The Friends are planning crafting sessions around the community and at the Franklin Public Library. These sessions will prepare materials for joint fundraising with Quilts of Honor to be able to offer quilts to military veterans in 2016.

At this time the Friends are seeking:

1. Nylon netting, any color.
2. Zippers, any size.
3. Buttons, all types especially older, classic styles.
4. Styrofoam eggs and spheres.
5. Beads and jewelry making supplies.
6. Yarn, worsted weight (Red Heart).
7. Miniature holiday picks & picks with small artificial leaves.



Please bring your donations to the Library check out desk. It is important to LABEL the donation "for the Friends of the Franklin Public Library". Donation forms for tax deductions are available.

Projects are being planned for these items. Stop at the Franklin Public Library periodically to see what's happening or go to the website: www.franklinpubliclibrary.org. If you would like a Friends' or community representative to present a crafting skill at your senior community or condominium or apartment complex, please call Judy Roberts at (414) 426-0012. A community room is helpful for a crafting activity.