

Franklin Celebrates Pride

By J.D. O'GARA

The Franklin LGBTQ Alliance, in partnership with the Metrowest Visitors Bureau, held the first-ever Pride event to take place in the town of Franklin on Sunday, June 26th, 2022. An estimated 250-450 people turned out for the event, organized by the Franklin LGBTQ Alliance and supported by the Franklin Interfaith Council (<https://franklininterfaith.org>), OUT Metrowest (<https://outmetrowest.org>), BAGLY (www.bagly.org), PFLAG Attleboro (www.pflagattleboro.org), and the First Universalist Society of Franklin (<https://fus.org>), most of whom joined in to attend the event.

"A group of us, at least 20 people, were involved in making it happen," says Sarah Mabardy, Event Co-Chair and Treasurer of the Franklin LGBTQ Alliance. "In November of last year, I had done a Stand in Love (event) on Route 140 in Franklin, and then after



The town of Franklin celebrated its LGBTQIA+ community members with the first ever Pride event on June 26, 2022. The family-focused event included community art, vendors, organizations and fun. Photo by Jake Jacobson.

a school committee disruption in Franklin a broader (event) standing at Stop & Shop Plaza. It was really to show love in a world that was kind of divided."

In that spirit, says Mabardy, Kaye Kelly, of Franklin,



reached out about planning a Pride event.

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Mass DEP Working to Improve 1.2-Mile Segment of SNETT

By DAVID DUNBAR

The Southern New England Trunkline Trail – known locally as SNETT – originates in Franklin and runs for 22 miles through Bellingham, Blackstone, Millville, Uxbridge, Douglas, and terminates just across the border in Connecticut.

It's a favorite for walking, running, hiking, biking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, dog walking, strolling with strollers, younger kids riding their scooters or tricycles, nature watching and nature photography.

And now, the news. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is at work on improving a 1.2-mile segment of SNETT between Center Street and South Main Street in Bellingham.

Trees have been removed, boulders pushed aside, and brush cleared away to provide a wide and unobstructed walkway.



Lots of heavy equipment on the trail to clear the way for a smooth, unobstructed path for walking, running, etc.

"The project is expected to be completed in 2023 and will cost approximately \$1.12 million, which is funded through DCR's

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PRIDE

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“We planned an event that would celebrate with pride – not a protest, not a statement, not an agenda – just celebrating, supporting, embracing and building community around our LGBTQIA+ family members and (neighbors). It was a family-focused event.”

The day featured community art, including fabric weaving, a printed mandala visitors could help decorate, flag-making and the creation of kindness rocks.

“Overall, the best part of the event was seeing so many smiles and happy community members, because, honestly, everyone we spoke to was so happy to be there and happy the event was taking place,” says Mabardy, noting that many who attended said they did not regularly participate in town-wide events. “Additionally, all of the vendors and food trucks had a great time with enthusiastic patrons. Even though it was small, it was just really impactful for the people there,” says Mabardy, noting that due to time constraints, organizers did not engage in a lot of outreach, choosing instead to keep it small and manageable and to gauge how the event went.

“We look forward to a larger scale event next year on Sunday June 25th,” says Mabardy, “and



FUSF Congregation members actually took up a collection to support Franklin Pride.



OUT Metrowest, which supports LGBTQIA+ youth, joined in the day.

we would love to have volunteers, sponsors, vendors and suggestions!”

The Franklin LGBTQ Alliance not-for-profit organization was created to support, celebrate



Franklin Police estimated that 250-450 people turned out for the Pride event.

Photos by Jake Jacobson, of the Circle of Friends Coffeehouse (www.circlefolk.org)



Franklin houses of worship, through the Franklin Interfaith Council, supported the Franklin Pride event.

and build community around our friends and neighbors who identify as LGBTQIA+. If you would like more information about next year’s event or the Franklin

LGBTQ Alliance, find the group on Facebook, or visit www.givebutter.com/celebratewithpride . You can also email franklinlgbtqalliance@gmail.com.

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Our state is facing some serious problems including high cost of living exacerbated by inflation, an ailing MBTA system, rising crime rates, businesses leaving the state, and declining schools. We need a governor who will put aside politics and put people first. That person is fiscally conservative outsider Chris Doughty.

He is not a professional politician. Chris has spent a lifetime creating jobs, not worrying about the next election. He is the only job creator in the race. For more than three decades he has worked to build businesses that provide good jobs, while juggling being a hands-on dad for his six children and serving in the community.

Doughty has overseen the expansion of Capstan Industries from its initial startup of a few dozen employees to become, at its peak, a large multinational manufacturer. As a business owner and job creator, he dealt with all kinds of challenges — from low-cost international imports to government regulation. He has worked hard to make his company a place people were proud to work.



Doughty graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.S. in economics and received an MBA from Harvard Business School. He is well qualified to be our Governor.

But, what will Doughty do for you? As he likes to say, “You will have more dough with Doughty.”

Doughty was the first candidate to call for the suspension of the gas tax to help ease the pain at the pump. His plan is to suspend the gas tax until the price of gas drops below \$3.70 per gallon.

“The state has the funds, so there is no reason that the State House cannot help the hard working taxpayers by immediately suspending the gas tax. As the next Governor, we will be proactive in responding to crises,” said Doughty.

Doughty wants to end the Commonwealth’s reputation of being “Taxachusetts” and reduce



taxes more than Bill Weld did as Governor. This will make our state more competitive for attracting new businesses so that we can grow jobs and wages.

Like you, Doughty opposes licenses for illegal immigrants. But, he knows that the true problem is that Massachusetts is a magnet state. As our next Governor, he will strengthen verification of applications for public assistance so only the truly needy and legal residents receive benefits.

As an experienced job creator, Doughty has a small business bill of rights plan to support those who create the majority of new jobs in our state.



“As a business owner, I have worked hard to always comply with new regulations, but it has not been easy. Creating jobs and meeting a payroll is not for the faint of heart. State government should be advocates and partners with our local businesses so the Commonwealth can create more jobs and raise wages. We do that by encouraging entrepreneurship and small businesses that are the backbone of our economy,” said Doughty.

As a father and grandfather, Chris Doughty knows that education is the heart of our Commonwealth and that we need to provide the best educational opportunities for the next generation. Our state is a national leader in education at

all levels but it is often uneven in its availability. Doughty will work to ensure parents can access the very best education for their children. The equation is simple: high expectations, a strong curriculum, excellent teachers, and empowered parents.

We can count on Chris Doughty to make Massachusetts affordable again. To see more details on his small business bill of rights and other issues visit ChrisforMA.com. Chris would be honored to have your vote in the GOP Primary on September 6th.

This article is Paid for by Committee to Elect Chris Doughty

Special Library Events this August

Special Events for Kids & Families

Mr. Vinny Bubble Show! Monday, August 1st @ 4 p.m.

Read with Riley! Wednesday, August 3rd @ 4 p.m. Storytime with therapy dog Riley

Whalemobile! Thursday, August 4th 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., for kids ages 5+
REGISTRATION REQUIRED!
Register on our website.

Elijah T. Grasshopper! Saturday, August 6th @ 10:30 a.m.
Join Elijah T. Grasshopper, Emma “Go-Go Green” Bean, their puppet pals for a hopping good time! Ideal for kids Ages 2-8!

Kid’s Paint Party! Wednesday, August 10th @ 1 p.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
For kids ages 5-11! All materials will be provided.

Baby Sensory! Saturday, August 13th @9:30 a.m., 45 minutes, babies under 2

Will Parker Concert! Saturday, August 13th @10:30 a.m.

Rainforest Reptiles! Wednesday, August 17th @ 1 p.m.

Bollywood Dance Party! Wednesday August 17 @ 6:30 p.m.

Weekend Wiggles! Saturday, August 20th @ 10:30 a.m., Ideal for children ages 2-5!

Read with Riley! Wednesday, August 24th @ 4 p.m.

Grown-Up & Me Paint Party! Thursday, August 25th @ 1 p.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
For kids ages 5-11 + a grown-up! Together, each pairing will create one fish-tastic masterpiece!

Mobile Mini Golf! Friday, August 26th @ 1 p.m.
Children under 10 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Summer Reading Wrap Up Party! Saturday, August 27th @2 p.m.

Teen Take & Makes - Resin Bookmarks!
Starting Monday, August 1st. SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED!

Teen Paint Night! Wednesday, August 3rd @ 5 p.m.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED 12+
D&D 1-Shot Wonders! August 13th @ 2 p.m.
Prospective DMs practice your skills!

Teen Potluck Party! Friday, August 19th @ 1 p.m.

Mobile Mini Golf! Friday, August 26th @ 1 p.m.
Bring your friends and family! Children under the age of 10 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Bollywood Dancing! Saturday, August 27th @ 9:30 a.m.
Kids and grownups join us!

Events for Adults

Take and Make Craft for Adults: Lighthouse Windchimes
Kits available starting August 1st at the Circulation Desk. Supplies limited. One kit per adult.

Documentary Film Night, Tuesdays, August 2, 9, & 16, 6:30 p.m. (films also on kanopy.com)
Tuesday, August 2, *American Insurrection* (2021)
Tuesday, August 9, *Savior for Sale* (2021)

Tuesday, August 16, *Love Between the Covers: A Look at the Billion Dollar Romance Fiction Industry* (2015)

Paint Pouring for Adults, Saturday, August 13, 1 p.m.
To register, please visit the Calendar of Events on the Library’s website <https://www.franklinma.gov/franklin-public-library>.

Franklin Public Library Book Club, Tuesday, August 23, 7 p.m.:
Anxious People, by Fredrik Backman.

- Patios
- Walkways
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14 Franklin Veterans Receive Quilts of Valor

On Saturday, July 9, 14 Quilts of Valor were awarded to veterans living at The Enclave of Franklin Assisted Living Facility on King Street. Thirteen recipients are male veterans and one female.

Quilts were presented by Theresa Perreault, the Massachusetts State Coordinator for the Quilts of Valor Foundation. She was accompanied by quilters Elaine Falke and Martha Burbridge. Each quilt is uniquely crafted by quilters who donate their time and materials. A label with the veteran's name and service information is sewn onto every quilt, so future generations will know what the veteran did for their country.

Perreault explained that the mission of Quilts of Valor is to "cover service members and veterans touched by war with



Members of Franklin's American Legion Post, the Edward L. Grant Post 75, attended the Quilts of Valor ceremony at The Enclave on July 9th. Legion members shown with Roy include, from right, John Hefele, Richard Hynes, Bruce Watkins and Robert Markunis. Photos used courtesy of the Franklin Veterans Services Office.

comforting and healing Quilts of Valor." The organization has given 315,804 quilts to veterans since it was established in 2003,

starting with just a few handmade quilts. Chaplain Robert Markunis of the Franklin American Le-



Veteran Annie Quinlan was among 14 veterans at The Enclave who received quilts.



Veteran Robert Cantoreggi, Sr. sports his handmade quilt.

from the Franklin Veterans' Services Office thanked the veterans, as well as their families, for their service and sacrifices.

Mel Lynch, Activities Assistant at The Enclave, thanked the Quilt of Valor Foundation for the beautiful quilts awarded to the veterans residing at their facility.

gion Post 75 helped to organize the event and was assisted at the ceremony by American Legion members John Hefele, Richard Hynes and Bruce Watkins.

MA Representative Jeffrey Roy congratulated those receiving quilts and Debra Martin

Franklin Art Association Gallery Opens

Local artists celebrated the opening of the new Franklin Art Association (FAA) Gallery on June 23rd, 2022. The new gallery is located in the back of Escape into Fiction bookstore at 12 Main Street. About 18 members

of the 52-member nonprofit group are currently showing their work.

The Franklin Art Association holds monthly meetings from September through June at the Franklin Senior Center, 10 Dan-

iel McCahill St. and on Zoom, always featuring an educational component with a demonstrating artist. For more information, visit www.franklinart.org or find "Franklin Art Association" on Facebook.

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Photos are used courtesy of Lisa Piana.

SNETT

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capital budget,” according to a department spokesperson. “The surface of this new segment will be stabilized aggregate, which is the same material as the existing trail segments.”

Watching over SNETT is The Franklin & Bellingham Rail Trail Committee (FBRTC). It is a volunteer advocacy group dedicated to the development, maintenance, and financial support of SNETT as a multi-use, universally accessible recreational path.

The Committee’s partners include Mass DCR, Crossing Cycle and Tinetrics, Inc., both in Franklin, and Ground Trunk Trailblazers and Metacomet Land Trust.

“One of the longest trails in southern Massachusetts,” reports a FBRTC brochure, “is built on the site of the former New England & New York Railroad. When complete, this trail will connect communities in western and central Massachusetts and a network of interstate trails. Future plans include a link to downtown Franklin.”

Terri Graham lives in Mendon and walks the trail. “Each time I walked I did feel a sense of community. Lots of friendly people walking, some walking with their dogs, and always waving hello and/or giving a smile.”

Paola Echeverry is a Bellingham resident and regular user of SNETT. “The well-taken-care-of-path, the trees covering it on both sides, the sound of the little creek and the wind going through the trees’ leaves,



Boulders, trees, brush and debris removed from the trail to make it clear, accessible and safe.

reminds you what is really important in life. It is about relaxing the mind and finding again my inner balance and peace of mind.”

“The trail is one of the best things the Town of Bellingham has done,” says Tsune Roberts who leads a weekly walking group on Fridays on the SNETT. “The trees, the change in the color of the leaves during our four seasons with the mix of animals, birds, and the people (not just us!) What a place!”

The FBRTC hosts events throughout the year including a photo contest and a 5K Run/Walk. And there is a pop-up “StoryWalk,” which features laminated pages of a children’s book placed along the trail leading readers of all ages farther along and into the story.

For more information about SNETT, visit www.franklinbellinghamrailtrail.org and you can see more on the Committee’s Facebook page.

Franklin Recreation’s Concerts on the Common Continue

By J.D. O’GARA

This month, concerts will continue on Franklin Town Common, organized by the Franklin Recreation Department (<https://www.franklinma.gov/recreation-department>). Following is the lineup:

August 5

3:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m., David Penza
6 – 8 p.m., FSPA & Electric Youth

August 12

3-5 p.m., Pub Kings
5:30 p.m.-7 p.m., It’s a “J” Thing
8-10 p.m., Movie: *Moana*

August 19

3-5 p.m., Box Groove
5:30-7:30 p.m., Jesse Liam Band
7:50-10 p.m., Movie: *Spider-Man*

Don’t worry about dinner, because this year, as part of the fun, the Recreation Department has added Food Trucks on the Common, featuring Papalia’s Wood Fired Pizza on August 5th, Pangea Cuisine on August 12th and Gotta Q Smokehouse BBQ on August 19th. The concerts also take place the same day as the Franklin Farmers’ Market (www.franklinfarmersmarket.com). Additionally, on August 5th, Franklin Public Library will host Farmers’ Market Fun from 3:30-4:30, and on August 12th, Franklin Agricultural Commission will sponsor zucchini races from 3-5 p.m.



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FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED

Franklin Teens Use Summer Break to the Fullest

BY AVERY CHALK

As college applications loom, the freedom of summer provides the perfect opportunity for high school students to fill their time with productive activities. With no exams to study for or homework to catch up on, teenagers find themselves with nothing but time to find their place within the community - and are taking it in stride. Here are some ventures that Franklin teenagers have participated in to make the most of their school vacations:

1. Internships

Summer internships, whether paid or unpaid, are a great way for teenagers to dip their toes into specific fields of potential interest. Not only do they cultivate valuable skills in time management and responsibility, but they build the experience necessary for teenagers to ultimately succeed in professional environments. Internships provide a taste of the “real world” to high school stu-

dents before they embark on higher level education and/or the workforce.

Georgia Harvey is quite well versed in the value that internships offer, having interned at Boston Pain Care in Waltham, Massachusetts over the summer. As a rising senior at Franklin High School with an avid interest in medicine, Harvey claims that her shadowing position has been invaluable in learning about, “the inner works of the medical field and exposure to different occupations.” Unmistakably, internships are useful for increasing skill sets and learning about various areas of work. They are also a good addition to any resume or application. Knowing this, admissions officers and employers certainly value the time that teenagers devote to their summer positions. However, according to Harvey, the experience gained

outweighs simply the title of having been involved. “While the value an internship adds to the resume is nice, I don’t think it outweighs the professional experience that you obtain from participation in an internship,” she explains.

2. Volunteer work

Volunteering has become increasingly important in a post-COVID world. There are a multitude of ways that teenagers have given back to the Franklin community, whether as a continuation of an organization, or on their own time. Sara Bryan, a recent graduate of Franklin High School and volunteer for the Franklin Public Library, is just one example of a student who has continued her volunteer work over the summer. As a library aid, her duties include shelving books and assisting in youth activities.

Like Harvey, Bryan admits that there is inevitable value in demonstrating volunteer work to schools, saying it “shows devotion to your community which helps give you a leg up on applications.” However, Bryan says that she volunteers primarily because she enjoys giving back. “Volunteering brings the community together while simultaneously uplifting it,” Bryan explains. “There is a difference between living in Franklin and being a part of Franklin.”

3. Summer jobs

A staple aspect of the teenage experience, part-time jobs are accessible ways for high schoolers to make money and learn how to manage it. From behind a cashier counter to perched on a lifeguard stand, countless high school students are contributing their time to ensure the smooth operation of these places of work. Particularly in Franklin, where familiar faces and small businesses dot the local community, summer jobs benefit not only the teenage employees themselves but employers seeking temporary staffing. A prime example of this is Louie Barbato, who co-heads a company in Franklin that provides hardscape and landscape

services. By choosing to hire teenage help, Barbato says that he offers high-schoolers “the opportunity to pursue a career path that is different from the traditional college route.” As a locally based business, Barbato also values the neighborhood culture of summer workers. “[Working in Franklin] gives the kids an opportunity to work for local customers and gives them an overall sense of helping the community they live in,” Barbato finishes.

Whether it be in hopes of gaining experience, improving college applications, or simply helping those in need, Franklin teenagers have demonstrated that there is tremendous value in extending past the conventional relaxations of summer. As the school year approaches, high school students will continue to involve themselves in various activities and thus, continue to make their mark on Franklin.



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Your Money, Your Independence

Overdue Change Coming To Massachusetts Estate Tax Laws

On July 15, the Massachusetts House unanimously passed a \$4.2 billion economic development bill that will have significant impacts on residents' wallets.

Lawmakers put a lot in the bill, including a \$500 million tax relief package which raises the child tax credit to \$310 per child (and eliminating cap), raises the rental deduction cap to \$4,000, and ups the estate tax threshold from \$1 million to \$2 million.

Catch that last part?

Let's review why it's important.

Estate tax is owed on net value of the estate of a deceased person before distribution to non-spousal heirs. Think real estate, investments, IRAs, small business, life insurance proceeds, personal property etc. minus liabilities.

For 2022, the federal estate tax exemption is \$12.06 million, meaning amounts MORE than \$12.06 million are subject to the federal estate tax unless otherwise excluded (i.e. gifting). For most, there's little concern of



Glenn Brown

having a life's work of earning, planning and saving being taxed upon death by the federal government.

Not the case with Massachusetts.

To begin, only 12 states in U.S. have estate taxes, with Oregon and Massachusetts currently at the lowest (worst) thresholds

of \$1 million. Consider neighbor Connecticut is \$5.1M. Where Massachusetts currently takes a dubious lead is once an estate is valued over \$1M, the entire amount is subject to a graduated tax rate starting 0.8% up to 16%. For example, at \$1,000,001 an estate is writing Massachusetts a ~\$36,500 check, at \$2M ~\$99,600, at \$3M ~\$182,000 and so on.

How quickly can one's net value (assets minus liabilities) estate exceed \$1 million? Consider the median single-family home sale price in Massachusetts hit \$590,000 in May, and it was higher in Middlesex County at \$800,000.

What now?

Given changes were proposed by Governor Baker with bipartisan support in January and now part of a larger bill, it's expected to pass before legislation session ends July 31. More details to come, but we know the new Massachusetts estate threshold will start at \$2,000,001, with first \$2M no longer taxed.

Things to consider:

Know your net worth. While grandma living in a Massachusetts house with no mortgage and a few CDs finally gets a pass, what if she also has investments held for years or a lakehouse?

And what of your net worth? Add up 401ks, life insurance and AD&D proceeds, small business equity, savings, real estate minus liabilities. Are you over \$2 million or will be in time?

Connect with an estate planning attorney. New laws and life events are opportune times to connect as well as provide an updated net worth and review process. Also remember, revocable living trusts bypass probate but not estate tax laws.

Plan to be agile in retirement. Connection to seasons, family and friends can be strong

in Massachusetts. However, proper planning can create alternatives for residency in 38 states and no longer deal with state estate tax (or 5% income tax either).

As a fiduciary, it's a responsibility to educate on the possibilities for those interested.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of PlanDynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial Planner™ helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.

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You will be expected to meet with clients to determine needs and budget, prepare designs, drawings and estimates. Keep the price database up to date, request contractor and supplier rates. Prepare or specifications and contracts, schedules and obtain construction permits. Inspect job sites to monitor progress and fill out job sites as need arises.

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Franklin Fourth Fun!

The Franklin 4th of July celebration in 2022 was a hit, despite the cancellation of fireworks due to stormy weather. With local groups manning concession booths, carnival rides and treats and all-day-long entertainment, families and friends enjoyed all the event offered. Here are a few scenes from the day.

For more information on the Franklin 4th of July Coalition, visit www.franklin4th.com.



Franklin Democrats stood by for pizza lovers, with a few candidates making the rounds. www.franklindemocrats.org



The Franklin 4th Coalition is privately funded, so each ice cream and soda purchased helps!



Franklin Rod & Gun members worked hard to keep up with the demand for fried dough. www.franklinrodandgun.org



Franklin Republicans opted to serve watermelon, nachos and yummy root beer floats. www.franklinmarepublicans.com



Temple Etz Chaim provided lemonade and pretzels. <https://temple-etzchaim.org/>



Gotta have sausage and peppers at a carnival! Franklin Rotary came through! <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/>

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Musical entertainment was booked for each of the five days of the festival, including the second annual Franklin Blues Festival.



JOIN THE FUN AND ENTER FRANKLIN'S FIRE HYDRANT PAINTING EVENT!

The Town of Franklin Department of Public Works is hosting a fire hydrant painting event! Registration is open until Aug. 12, 2022. Proposed designs must be submitted for approval along with a completed application. Applicants will be notified by Aug. 19, 2022.



Franklin's Commitment to Being a Green Community!

The Town of Franklin is excited to announce that the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Division has approved an award of \$150,902 for the following projects proposed in the Town of Franklin's Green Communities Competitive Grant application.

- \$15,000: Town — Electric vehicles (2)
- \$49,514: Horace Mann School — Smart LED lighting

- \$24,895: Horace Mann School — Transformer
- \$12,194: Remington Jefferson School — Transformer
- \$49,299: Keller Sullivan School — Transformer

All of these projects are currently underway and the Town hopes to have all projects completed by December of 2022.

For more information on our Green Communities status and previous grant awards, please

view our green communities page at <https://www.franklinma.gov/administrator/pages/green-community>.

St. John's Multi-Family Yard Sale August 6th Will Support Outreach

By J.D. O'GARA

"We'll have a great variety of things, household goods, clothing and books," says Rev. Kathleen McAdams, of St. John's Episcopal Church, which will be holding a Multi-Family Yard Sale on Saturday, August 6th, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 237 Pleasant Street, Franklin. "We've had yard sales before, but we didn't do it quite in this format." Participants in the sale will donate 50% of their profits to the church, but need to take home anything that doesn't sell. If they choose to simply donate their items, 100% of the profits goes to the church. McAdams adds, "If people want a good bargain, they should come on down!"

Fund from the yard sale help support St. John's outreach endeavors. McAdams notes that these have included, among others, in the past year

- Support of Gilly's House (www.gillyshouse.com), a sober house for men in recovery in Wrentham
- Donations in support of Ukrainian refugees
- Support for the SAFE Coalition (www.safecoalition-ma.org), and
- Donations and support for Franklin Pride event

Right now, says McAdams, St. John's congregation is comprised of about 60 Franklin households, pretty much remaining stable through COVID. Services are held both in-person and through Zoom and Facebook.

If you would like more information about St. John's Episcopal Church, call (508) 528-2387, email Admin@St-JohnsFranklinMA.org, find them on Facebook and

Twitter or visit www.stjohns-franklinma.org.

- Supporting the Franklin Food Pantry, www.franklin-foodpantry.org
- Worship and outreach with Common Cathedral

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Franklin Rotary Pasta Supper Returns!

Rotary is so happy to have been able to bring this service project back this year, on June 22nd, with Master Chef Dan Gentile taking the lead.

It takes many hands and hours of preparation, starting several days in advance of the event. We began the process of making homemade tomato sauce and hand rolling meatballs by 10 a.m. and once every pot and pan is cleaned, we finished just about 6:30-7 p.m. that night.

Many thanks to the Franklin Housing Authority, who allows us the use of their function hall, where we served approximately 60 of Franklin's Senior Citizens and Franklin Housing residents, a home cooked meal. It's a lot of work, but we are paid back with hugs and smiles and lots of heart-felt thank-you's.

"I'm grateful to the Rotary Club Members and volunteers who helped us to pull off this event. Next, we will be looking forward to doing this again at our Rotary Valentines Day Brunch in February." said Chef Dan.

"I'm sure my Dad was smiling down on us from heaven that entire day, watching us continue what he started 30 years ago."

For more information on the Franklin Rotary Club, visit <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/3689>.



Photos used courtesy of Franklin Rotary Club



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Town Investments Contribute to High Quality of Life, Says Hellen

By J.D. O'GARA

Last month, the Franklin Community Preservation Committee approved the town CPA plan for the upcoming year. The plan contains a number of improvement projects that will be funded from a surcharge Franklin households pay that is matched with some state funds

“The big one is the Nason Street Tot Lot, a recreation project,” said Jamie Hellen, Franklin Town Administrator, in an interview last month. “If you drove down, you’d see the park is still in decent shape, but it probably hasn’t had an upgrade in 20 years,” says Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator. “We’re replacing some of the equipment, doing some resurfacing and adding a platform for ADA accessibility for playground materials.” He adds that \$300,000 for the project is currently an accurate assessment, “but these days, with costs rising, by the time the contract is settled, we might be a little over, a little under.”

Other projects to be funded include historical and open space sites, as well as affordable housing. “I think the important part of

the CPA plan is that we’re spreading the money around to all the available uses,” says Hellen. “It’s critical to do that every year. We bought Maple Hill open space last year, 70 acres in the center of town. We also are doing two huge projects for historical preservation, the cupola of the historical museum and the (restoration of) the Red Brick Schoolhouse, which has always fallen off the radar. Now, we’ll be able to restore the exterior, the brick, replace rotted wood and we’re bringing in a certified lead specialist to take paint off the doors and windows. We’ll make the exterior shine to its original glory.

“We’re contributing to the Franklin Ridge Project, our affordable housing, with dedicated fiscal year 2022 and 2023 funds (10% each year) for about \$320, 000 for the two years,” adds Hellen. “I think on the affordable housing topic, that’s the biggest priority in town. It’s permitted, it’s shovel-ready and we’ve been fighting like crazy for state and federal funding. Housing is such a complicated issue right now.”

Hellen continues, “Support for recreation is huge (in Franklin). We

are looking at doing an overhaul of the master plan of King Street Memorial Park, add a pickleball court to the ones in there, infrastructure, ball fields, bathroom, concession stand. We hope to have some architect designs, but it won’t be funded this year. We hope to have a public hearing in the later summer or early fall. We’re working with an engineering company to lay out a design. We need a rendering, plans to show people.”

Hellen points out that if town residents have a project they want to see CPA funds go to, they can fill out an application online or go to the Community Preservation web page on the town website.

As for the state of the town of Franklin, Hellen cannot contain his pride.

“The Town Council did approve the FY23 budget, which continues a lot of the investments in public infrastructure and stormwater and maintains our support for police and fire. The school district saw over \$2 million increase last year, and while it’s not every dollar they need to get where they want to be, the reality is the town has made some investments in public

education over the last seven years, and we’ll continue that.

“From our standpoint, we’re coming out of a pandemic, a pretty fractured time, and as we come out of this recovery, the town staff have been awarded a AAA bond rating, something we were told for years we would never be able to achieve and so that’s the ultimate team accomplishment, our Fire Department got an ISO1 designation, and only 450 fire departments out of 45,000 have that, and it’s an award that that also goes to our DPW, because our water system is 40% of the rating. Our police department (is up for accreditation),

our school district is graduating kids at some of the highest levels they’ve ever seen, with all our programs winning awards.

Hellen continued, “You see these achievements, and the reality is that the quality of life in the Town of Franklin is exceptional. I feel very passionate about it. People in the town are very appreciative of the unity we have here, people are very appreciative of the quality of life we have here. We have to step back and enjoy the view. I hope everyone in town appreciates and doesn’t take for granted what’s happening in the town, given the rest of the world.”

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Living Healthy

A Look at EVO Visian ICL

An Evolution In Visual Freedom

By ROGER M. KALDAWY, M.D.
MILFORD FRANKLIN EYE CENTER

Myopia (or nearsightedness) is the most common ocular disorder worldwide and its prevalence is increasing rapidly. An estimated 30% of the world's population, or 2.6 billion people, have myopia and this number is projected to rise to 50% of the global population by the year 2050. For many people, contact lenses and eyeglasses can be inhibiting, especially for those who seek visual freedom. While available in Europe, Asia, and the rest of the world, the EVO Visian ICL lens is now FDA approved in the United States and can offer a new solution for those who seek sharp, clear vision and want to break free from the limitations and inconveniences

of contact lenses or eyeglasses. Over 1,000,000 EVO ICL lenses have been implanted around the world. If you are seeking a vision solution that will put an end to the hassle and ongoing cost of glasses and contact lenses, the EVO ICL may be right for you.

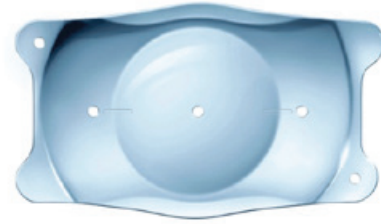
What is the EVO ICL?

EVO ICL is a microscopic lens made of collagen that is implanted by a surgeon so you can reduce your dependence on glasses and contacts. The ICL (implantable collamer lens) is made of collagen so you can't feel it or see it in the mirror, and it's in sync with your body chemistry so your immune system doesn't even know it's there. EVO ICL's are for those who want to see better without glasses and con-

tacts, even if they've been told they can't have LASIK. Not a LASIK candidate? Not a problem for EVO.

EVO ICL Visian

The EVO procedure is different from other vision correction options, like LASIK. The EVO lens is additive; meaning, it is added to the eye and doesn't remove corneal tissue. The EVO procedure involves implanting (or adding) a biocompatible, flexible lens made from Collamer® into the eye between the iris (colored part of the eye) and the natural lens to correct vision. The EVO lens works in harmony with the natural eye while delivering sharp, clear vision, excellent night vision, UV protection, and does not cause dry eye syndrome. The EVO Visian ICL lens can permanently correct vision without removing corneal tissue and,



if desired, is removable by your surgeon- so reversible- for added peace of mind. Compare this to LASIK which is not reversible. It gives the patient flexibility for the future while helping to eliminate dependency on glasses and contact lenses now.

In the US FDA study the average vision result was better than 20/20. Some would call that "supervision". An astounding 99.4% of patients in a recent study said they would do it all over again, no regrets. It's the night vision quality and contrast sensitivity that really sets the EVO ICL family of lenses apart. Most patients typically say this is the best vision they've ever had, so there's no compromise in vision clarity just to be able to see without glasses and contacts. On average, the unaided vision with EVO ICL is demonstrably better than what was produced with glasses and contacts in the past. LASIK may have more name recognition, but EVO is a great solution for patients who have thin corneas, dry eyes, and/or high levels of nearsightedness or who simply do not want to risk the side effects of LASIK, like dry eyes, night vision problems and risky weakening and thinning of the cornea.

EVO Visian ICL Benefits Can Include:

- Sharp, clear vision
- Works in harmony with natural eye
- Removable no reversible if there is a need to reverse
- No removal of any cornea tissue so corneal weakening like LASIK
- Excellent night vision
- UV protection
- Does not cause dry eye syndrome
- Great for thin corneas

- Option for patients with moderate to severe nearsightedness
- Quick procedure; little downtime
- Proven, time-tested procedure for more than a decade

Who is a good candidate?

The EVO Visian ICL Lens (EVO) ideal candidates are between the age of 21 to 45 and have moderate to high nearsightedness. It can safely and effectively correct nearsightedness between -3.0 D to -15.0 D, the reduction in nearsightedness up to -20.0 D and treatment of astigmatism from 1.0 D to 4.0 D. If you have nearsightedness within these ranges, EVO Visian ICL surgery may improve your distance vision without eyeglasses or contact lenses.

How it works

The EVO Visian ICL lens is made from Collamer, a collagen co-polymer that is proprietary to STAAR Surgical. Collamer is biocompatible, stable, and flexible, thus making it an ideal lens material for the eye. The EVO Visian ICL lens is slightly smaller than a typical contact lens and is implanted in the eye between the iris (colored part of the eye) and the natural lens to correct vision. The EVO Visian ICL procedure is a 12-minute outpatient procedure per eye with quick recovery and little downtime typically. The EVO Visian ICL procedure does not require the removal of any corneal tissue thus it is even suitable for patients with thin corneas. Following the procedure, many patients notice an immediate improvement in vision.

Global history

While the EVO Visian ICL lens is new in the US market, it has been approved and marketed throughout Europe, Asia, and the rest of the world. Over 1,000,000 EVO ICL lenses have been implanted around the world.



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EYES

continued on page 13

Living Healthy

Fall Residential Rain Barrel Program Now Open!

Reduce your water bill by utilizing a rain barrel to collect rainwater. When it rains, you SAVE!

The Fall Residential Rain Barrel Program is currently open to Franklin residents - residents can order directly from The Great American Rain Barrel Company. The deadline to order is September 5 and pick up will be at the DPW (257 Fisher Street) on September 14 from 4-6 p.m.

What is a Rain Barrel?

Rain barrels (generally made out of a 55-gallon food-grade barrel) collect the water that runs off of the rooftops of buildings typically by way of a gutter

or downspout. The water collected is ideal for watering garden or lawns, as well as other household chores such as washing cars or windows.

Why Use a Rain Barrel?

Rain barrels are a great tool to conserve water and reduce stormwater runoff. During the summer months, outdoor tasks such as watering lawns and gardens typically make up about 40% of household water use. With seasonal droughts, restrictions and bans on lawn watering, and the increasing cost of water, it makes sense to use rainwater instead of municipal water for outdoor uses as it results in significant cost sav-

ings for residents. Unless it is collected, rainwater runs off impervious surfaces, such as roofs and pavement, gathering pollutants which often end up in local streams, rivers, pond, lakes and marine waters. Keeping and using rain water on your property helps reduce pollution, erosion and improves local watershed health.

For additional information on the benefits of rain barrels, check out the MassDEP website at <https://www.mass.gov/guides/rain-barrels-and-other-water-conservation-tools>.

For several years the Franklin DPW has partnered with The Great American Rain Barrel Company to offer resi-

dents rain barrels at a discounted price. The DPW typically offers discounted barrels each spring and fall; check the community programs page to see if a program is currently open in Franklin! The purchase of a rain barrel also qualifies you for a \$50 water conservation rebate (minimum capacity of 50 gallons).

Questions regarding the rain barrel program can be emailed to Kate Sjöberg at ksjoberg@franklinma.gov.

Order your rain barrel at <https://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/>.



EYES

continued from page 12

About us

Milford-Franklin Eye Center realizes you have choices when it comes to eye care. We are different. We focus on excellent and advanced eye care and treat our patients as if each and every one is family. We have surgical results that rival those of major centers in Boston- we can prove it. Dr. Kaldawy is an experienced surgeon who has performed over 20,000 intraocular surgeries. We are happy to offer you this implant if you are a good candidate and if your glasses prescription starts at -3.00 Diopters. We believe this implant is a great alternative to LASIK even at lower refractive errors. A real evolution in visual freedom. Choosing EVO ICL may be one of the best decisions you will make in your life. Call for an appointment.

For more details, see our ad on page 12.

August Happenings at the Franklin Senior Center

The Franklin Senior Center is located at 10 Daniel McCahill Street, Franklin and open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Reach them at (508) 520-4945.

Come join Danielle for another art class!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4TH, at 1 p.m., \$4/person, All levels welcome!, Call to Register
HEARING CLINIC, August 17th @ 10 a.m., 20 min appts., Hearing assessment, ear and hearing aid cleaning, etc. **CALL TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.**

THE GARDEN YEARS CLUB-Interested in a gardening group? Come join Christina 8/8 and 8/22 at 10:30 a.m. Bring your green thumbs!

RAINBOW CAFÉ - August 30th @ 10 a.m. Are you a member or ally of the LGBTQ+ community? Come join us and like-minded people for coffee, conversation, and friendship! Call to Register!

BRIDGE - Every Friday at 1 p.m. Interested in Learning to Play Bridge? We have an instructor every Friday at 1 p.m.

NEW Deluna YOGA Class, 4 weeks: Monday August 1,8,15, 22, 10:30 a.m. Virginia is a certi-

fied Vinyasa Yoga Flow instructor. Join for an hour of floor yoga.

Please bring you own mat! \$3/class

MOVIES AND MOCKTAIL NIGHT, Wednesday, August 17th, 6:30 p.m. Call to Register! Movie: *Grease*

LUAU PARTY, August 12th, with live entertainment, \$6 pp. Call to register.

August Presentations

- Estate Planning Basics – Wednesday, August 3rd at 1 p.m. Join us for Estate Planning Basic with local estate planning attorney, Jennifer D. Taddeo, of Estatewise Advisory, to talk about estate planning basics. While she can't offer any legal advice in our session, she can demystify wills, trusts, health care proxies, and power of attorney. Feel free to send any questions in advance to dhopkins@franklinma.gov so that Jenn can be sure to address it in her talk.
- Talk with Financial Advisor Chris Peterson from Edward Jones – Monday, August 8th at 2 p.m.

Ted Talks with Danielle: The Supreme Court, Tuesday, August 9th at 2 p.m. –

- Discussion on Historical Medicine, Wednesday, August 10th at 11 a.m.
- Let's Talk Fuel Assistance with Christina, Tuesday, August 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

Velvet Revolution: Popular Protest and the Fall of the Iron Curtain with Paolo D.

Wednesday, August 24th at 2 p.m.

Anatomy of the Brain, Thursday, August 18th at 1 p.m.

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Franklin Food Pantry Awarded Community Investment Grant from The Greater Boston Food Bank

Franklin-based Non-Profit to Use Community Investment Funds to Advance Local Hunger-Relief Efforts

The Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB), the largest hunger-relief organization in New England, awarded \$13,831 to Franklin Food Pantry of Franklin to support its ability to combat hunger in the area, bolstering GBFB's network of food agencies and advancing hunger-relief efforts across Eastern Massachusetts in response to an increased need for food in the state.

The annual grant program, originally founded in 2013, pivoted this year to strategically identify and invest in communities facing a heightened need for food. This investment aims to strengthen Franklin Food Pan-

try's ability to provide nutritious food to the Franklin community.

The grant will be used to fund technology upgrades and supplies for The Franklin Food Pantry's community garden, which grows fresh vegetables for The Pantry to distribute to its neighbors.

A GBFB partner, The Franklin Food Pantry provides choice-based shopping to over 1,100 people in The Franklin community. The Pantry offers a unique hybrid model offering its neighbors appointment-based indoor shopping or a curbside distribution. Neighbors can shop weekly. Other programs include weekend backpacks for Franklin school students, home-delivery, mobile pantries, three holiday distributions and a robust com-

munity garden.

"We are so grateful to The Greater Boston Food Bank for awarding us the Community Investment grant. Franklin Food Pantry is focused on providing our neighbors with the highest quality of fruits and vegetables is committed to programming that improves our neighbor's quality of life," said Tina Powderly, Executive Director of the Franklin Food Pantry. "Ninety percent of our donations go directly to supporting our neighbors. The GBFB grant enables us to invest in much needed technology to enhance our client service operations and improve our organizational efficiency, enabling our staff and volunteers to spend more time directly assisting our neighbors and fulfilling our mis-



Community garden harvest at a Franklin Food Pantry distribution

sion. We are also grateful for the support to our Community Garden. Our neighbors enjoy receiving freshly grown organic produce each week. The GBFB support is critical as the Community Garden grows into a core Pantry program supporting the overall health of our neighbors."

This grant follows the release of GBFB's second annual report on food insecurity, equity and access in Massachusetts. The study, "Opportunities to Improve Food Equity & Access in Massachusetts," reveals rising rates of food insecurity in the state and sustained disparities in food access for communities of color; with Latinx, Black and LGBTQ+-identifying adults experiencing the highest rates of food insecurity.

"It is solely through collaboration with our network of partner agencies that we are able to address food insecurity across Eastern Massachusetts on such a large scale," said Catherine D'Amato, president and CEO at GBFB. "In response to the sustained inequities in food access, we aim to invest in those communities facing a heightened need for food and drive equitable progress towards hunger relief through strategic grantmaking to our network of partner agencies. As food costs continue to rise nationwide, we look forward to seeing how these funds bolster The Franklin Food Pantry's ability to provide nutritious meals to our neighbors in Franklin.

About the Franklin Food Pantry

The Franklin Food Pantry offers supplemental food assistance and household necessities to almost 1,100 individuals per year. The Franklin Food Pantry is not funded by the Town of

Franklin. As a private, nonprofit organization, we depend on donations from individuals, corporations, foundations, and other strategic partners. We are grateful for our many partnerships, including that with the Greater Boston Food Bank, that allow us to achieve greater buying power and lower our costs. Donations and grants fund our food purchases, keep our lights on, and put gas in our food truck. Other programs include home delivery, Weekend Backpack Program for Franklin school children in need, mobile pantry, emergency food bags and holiday meal packages. The Pantry is located at 43 W. Central St. in Franklin on Route 140 across from the Franklin Fire Station. Visit www.franklinfoodpantry.org for more information.

About The Greater Boston Food Bank:

The Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) is the largest hunger-relief organization in New England and among the largest food banks in the country. In response to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, GBFB distributed the equivalent of nearly 97 million meals in fiscal year 2021 through its network of 600 dedicated food distribution partners and programs in the 190 cities and towns across Eastern Massachusetts. A member of Feeding America, the nation's food bank network, GBFB's mission is to end hunger here and it is committed to providing at least three healthy meals a day to everyone in need. For more information, find them at GBFB.org, follow them on Facebook, Twitter (@gr8bosfoodbank) and Instagram, or call (617) 427-5200.



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Franklin Historical Museum Explores a Childhood during War



• Firestorm: A Childhood Amidst the Ruins of War

Wolfgang Bauer, a former Franklin Town Manager and currently a representative to the Charles River Pollution Control District, was born in Hamburg, Germany in the midst of the 1943 Allied firebombing that destroyed much of the city and killed tens of thousands. Bauer will review some of the main features of the bombing raids and discuss his life as a small child growing up in the wreckage of a once-prosperous city; a situation now being repeated in Ukraine in the 21st century.

Join us Sunday August 14th at 1:15 p.m. for this personal look at a childhood memory of war, a timely presentation. Doors open at 1 p.m.

- The Franklin Historical Museum is located downtown at the town's original town hall and former Senior Center, 80 West Central Street. Stop in and visit our gift shop, run by the Friends



of the Franklin Historical Museum. Find unique Franklin items for yourself, a friend or anyone who loves Franklin. Road sign 'Entering Franklin' mugs, Franklin pillows, beautiful note cards and this year's edition of our highly popular annual Christmas tree ornament. The 2022 ornament is a sweet tribute to Franklin's place in establishing the Ladybug as the Massachusetts state insect.

- What Franklin treasure have you found in your attic or basement? Always consider the museum before pitching it in the trash can. One man's trash could be a Franklin treasure! Local research available on our website franklinmuseum1778.com. Follow us on Facebook. Come in and visit us soon.

Save the Date!

St. Mary's Parish

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Fundraiser

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Friends of the Poor Walk

The Walk will begin at 9 a.m. on the Town Common, registration at 8 a.m. Participants can Collect donations and Walk with us or donate online at <https://www.fopwalk.org/eventlisting/eventdetail/?eventid=2750>

All money raised stays in Franklin, to assist anyone in need of help. Put your feeling of compassion into action and join us for this walk!



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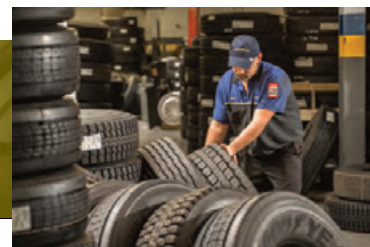
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Hockomock Area YMCA to Hold 7th Annual Community Backpack Drive

Businesses, Individuals Invited to Support Operation Backpack through Aug. 14th

Operation Backpack is now underway at the Hockomock Area YMCA and seeks the support of local businesses and individuals. Committed to building healthy, confident, connected and secure children and strengthening the community, the YMCA has a hefty goal of 3,000 fully stocked backpacks delivered before the school year begins this fall.



“Convening donors and volunteers to support area families in need reflects our Y’s commitment to serve and strengthen our communities together,” says Jim Downs, CEO of the Hockomock Area YMCA. “Having access to backpacks and supplies is an in-

tegral part of a student’s success. As many families continue to face financial hardships due to the pandemic and the cost of living, we are working to make sure that kids have the supplies they need to start the upcoming school year off right.”



New supplies and backpacks are requested now through August 14th. The Backpack Drive is a collaborative effort made possible by the YMCA staff, program participants, partners and neighbors to provide kids the confidence that comes when boys and girls are able to go to school prepared.



Donation bins are located at all Hockomock Area YMCA facilities: Invensys Foxboro Branch, 67 Mechanic Street, Foxborough; Bernon Family Branch, 45 Forge Hill Road, Franklin; Mansfield Arts & Education Center, 40 Balcom Street, Mansfield; and North Attleboro Branch, 300 Elmwood Street, North Attleboro.

“Fulfilling our mission is only possible because of the dedication of staff, volunteers, donors and partners who support our cause of enhancing lives and enriching communities,” says Eric Kevorkian, Chair of the Hockomock Y’s Board of Directors. “Your support with this Backpack Drive will help children and neighbors in need in our 15 town service area.”

Community members who would like to sponsor the Backpack Drive are asked to contact Katie Moore at (508) 643-5265 or katiem@hockymca.org. Sponsorship levels range from \$500– which will provide 10 backpacks

to students in need—through Presenting Sponsor at \$25,000, which is a giving level ensuring that 500 children will receive needed supplies. Be sure to inquire about all sponsorship levels by contacting the Y today.

In addition to monetary donations, the Y is requesting the following supplies: backpacks for all ages including pre-k, elementary, middle school and high school, pencils and colored pencils, highlighters, washable markers, rulers, crayons, glue sticks, spiral notebooks and scissors. A donation of \$50 will cover the cost of a single fully stocked backpack. All the details to support this initiative are available at: hockymca.org/backpack-drive

If a member of your family or someone you know is in need of a backpack, a request form can be found online at hockymca.org/backpack-drive.

For more information on the Hockomock Area YMCA, visit hockymca.org.

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Community Ties and a Commitment to Customer Service: Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe you're planning to move and need to clear out the basement and attic before your open house. Maybe you've spent way too much time at home lately and are feeling the need to declutter.

But figuring out who to call can be a pain. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2003. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with ten trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it. He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted

Business spotlight

stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any hidden costs or surprise fees with Affordable Junk Removal.

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.

They also have a thriving commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston as well as Resellables, a thrift store in Bellingham. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

For more information, contact Jay Schadler at (774) 287-1133 or visit Affordable Junk Removal online at www.takeawayjunk.com.





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FPAC Announces 2022-23 Season

The Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC) is excited to announce its 2022-23 season of musicals and plays in their home venue THE BLACK BOX. The exciting lineup will include *The Sound of Music*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *The Wolves*, *Something Rotten!*, and *Violet*. Additionally, FPAC Holiday Productions will present holiday favorites *The Nutcracker* and *'Tis the Season!* at the Franklin High School Auditorium. Casts and creative teams will be announced soon.

FPAC will open its season with *The Sound of Music* October 14-23 at THE BLACK BOX. The final collaboration between Rodgers & Hammerstein was destined to become the world's most beloved musical. Featuring a trove of cherished songs, including "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "My Favorite Things," "Do Re Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen," and the title number, *The Sound of Music* won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars. The inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria Augusta

Trapp, follows an ebullient postulate who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire von Trapp family must make a moral decision.

The season continues with the stage adaptation of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* running November 11-13 at THE BLACK BOX. 15-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain: He is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched, and he distrusts strangers. Now, it is 7 minutes after midnight, and Christopher stands beside his neighbor's dead dog, Wellington, who has been speared with a garden fork. Finding himself under suspicion, Christopher is determined to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, and he carefully records each fact of the crime. But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him

on a thrilling journey that upturns his world.

FPAC Holiday Productions will mount their annual production of *The Nutcracker* December 3 and 4 featuring live orchestra, special guest artists, and more than 100 area dancers. The holiday magic will continue on December 17 and 18 with *'Tis the Season!* an upbeat, jazzy extravaganza featuring members of the Kenny Hadley Big Band, with contemporary arrangements of holiday classics in musical styles ranging from R&B, gospel, and Motown, to rock, pop, and Broadway. FPAC Holiday Productions are presented at the Franklin High School Auditorium.

After the holidays, FPAC will present Sarah DeLappe's wildly popular play *The Wolves* January 6-8 at THE BLACK BOX. A girls indoor soccer team warms up. From the safety of their suburban stretch circle, the team navigates big questions and wages tiny battles with all the vim and vigor of a pack of adolescent warriors. A portrait of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

for nine American girls who just want to score some goals.

The 2022-23 season will continue with the hilarious musical comedy *Something Rotten!* running March 11-19 at THE BLACK BOX. Set in the 1590s, brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play, but are stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rock star known as "The Bard." When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing, and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. But amidst the scandalous excitement of opening night, the Bottom Brothers realize that reaching the top means being true to thine own self, and all that jazz.

FPAC's season will conclude June 9-11 with the musical *Violet*. As a girl, Violet was struck by a wayward axe blade when her father was chopping wood, leaving her with a visible scar across her face. With enough money finally saved, she's traveling across the Deep South in 1964 towards



a miracle – the healing touch of a TV evangelist who will make her beautiful. Although she may not succeed in having the scar on her face healed, Violet is able to repair those scars that are lying deeper than her skin. On the way, she meets a young soldier whose love for her reaches far past her physical "imperfections."

FPAC is an Actors' Equity Small Professional Theater company based at THE BLACK BOX in downtown Franklin. Each season, FPAC produces musicals, plays, ballets, and more featuring Broadway stars, professional actors, local artists, and students of the arts. Tickets for the 2022-23 season will be on sale soon. Follow Franklin Performing Arts Company and THE BLACK BOX on Facebook and Instagram for updates on programming.

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Franklin Elks Dinner Dance and Raffle - Saturday, August 6, 2022

The Franklin Elks are sponsoring a Dinner Dance and Raffle on Saturday, August 6th with all proceeds going to the FRANKLIN WAR MONUMENTS RESTORATION PROJECT.

Summer gets busy, so mark your calendars for a night of FUN for a GREAT cause!

- What:** Elks Lodge Dinner-Dance and Basket Raffle
- Where:** Franklin Elks Lodge, #2136, 1077 Pond St., Franklin
- When:** Saturday, August 6, 2022, 6 p.m., Tickets \$20 pp available at the Veterans' Services Office of the Franklin Senior Center, (508) 520-4973

Mark your calendars! Tell your friends! All are welcome! The Elks will generously donate all proceeds to the Franklin War Monuments Restoration Project!

Many thanks to Mark Ellis and the Franklin Elks for supporting veterans-related activities and events throughout the year!

Circle of Friends Aiming for a September 24th Return

Although the plan is tentative, mark your calendars for September 24th, when Circle of Friends hopes to return with a free concert with Pamela Means, sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Pamela Means was a featured performer at the Franklin Cultural Festival last year, and her program will be on the history of the protest song. Some details have not yet been finalized, due to some attendance limits on the church,

but look for more information in next month's issue of *Franklin Local Town Pages*.

The Circle of Friends Coffee-house is a non-profit organization affiliated with Franklin's First Universalist Society. Concerts are presented in a smoke free and alcohol-free environment at the Society's handicapped accessible Meetinghouse, 262 Chestnut St. in Franklin. Please call (508) 528-2541 or visit <http://www.circle-folk.org/> for more information.



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Lifelong Community Learning Welcomes Fall

Adult participants can choose from a very interesting variety of options this fall at Lifelong Community Learning, the community education branch of Franklin Public Schools that provides educational experiences for Franklin residents, and those from surrounding towns, from elementary school through retirement.

Fall offerings including Arts & Crafts, Lifestyle & Culture, Exercise & Wellness, Team Sports, Workshops & Special Events, and Online Learning. Some of the exercise and sports choices are Badminton, LaBlast Dance Fitness, Tai Chi, Yoga, Volleyball, and Ladies Light Hiking. New this year: Women's Basketball and Basketball for Men Over 50 along with much more.

If you are looking for language options, once again we have Beginner Spanish for adults

and Conversational Italian. New this fall, we have American Sign Language (ASL) and English as a Second Language (ESL) both for adults.

For children, Lifelong Community Learning's ever popular Kids' Corner program is once again offering Kids' Cooking classes. In these 1-hour classes, students will gain kitchen skills like searing, sautéing, folding, and more. They will create 1-2 dishes per week depending on complexity and timing. You will want to check this out, there is so much more to see and do at Kids' Corner. It's where fun and learning meet after school.

Visit www.FranklinLifelong-Learning.com for full course details and to register. You may also call Lifelong Community Learning at (508) 613-1480.

News from the Veterans' Services Office

Veterans Memorial Walkway

The next engraved brick installation will be in November to coincide with Veterans' Day. Brick order forms are available in the Town Hall and Senior Center lobbies and on the Veterans' Services page on the Town website. Veterans need not be from Franklin to be honored with a brick. All members of the U.S. military are eligible.

Purple Hearts - Please let the Veterans' Services Office know if you or a family member (residing in Franklin) is a Purple Heart recipient so we can add you to

our database. The Purple Heart is presented to service members who have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action while serving in the U.S. Military. National Purple Heart Day is celebrated on August 7 every year.

Tune It Out - the guitar program for veterans, is taking a break for the summer, but classes will resume Tuesday, September 13th. Classes are free of charge to veterans and no experience is required. The program runs Tuesday nights at 5:30 p.m. Call the Veterans' Services Office for details.

VA COVID-19 Boosters

For more information about COVID-19 booster appointments and clinics in the Boston VA healthcare system, visit <https://www.va.gov/boston-healthcare/>

Contact the Veterans' Services Office at (508) 613-1315 or access their department page at (<https://www.franklinma.gov/veterans-services/>) to learn more.

Become an EMT Through the School of Continuing Studies at Dean College

Through the School of Continuing Studies, Dean College offers an Entry-Level EMT Training Course in partnership with EMTS Inc.

The course involves approximately 120 hours of classroom participation where attendance is mandatory. The course meets the current National EMS Guidelines and has Massachusetts Office of Emergency Medical Services approval.

The Entry-Level EMT Training Course will run from September 19, 2022 through January 25, 2023. Classes will be held on the Dean College campus on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., with lab sessions held on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Virtual info sessions will be held on August 24, 2022 and September 6, 2022 from 6:00-7 p.m.

To learn more and apply for the program, visit www.dean.edu/emt.

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Franklin Public Schools 22-23 School Calendar Now Available

The School Calendar for the 22-23 school year (https://www.franklinps.net/sites/g/files/vyhlf4431/f/uploads/calendar_2022-2023-final_0.pdf) is now available. The first day for students will be Monday, August 30, 2022. Be sure to register your Pre K-12 student(s) via Aspen, our online registration portal.

The first day of school for students in Grades 1-8 will be Tuesday, August 30th and Kindergarten will have open houses on that day. Kindergarten will have their first day of school on August 31st with an early release at noon.

For rates and info on advertising, please call Jen at 508-570-6544 or email: jenschofield@localtownpages.com



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Franklin Public Library Featured Resource

Museum Passes

Your Franklin Public Library card gives you the opportunity to receive either free or reduced cost admission to many of the areas' most popular museums and attractions! Some of the most popular destinations are the Boston Children's Museum,

New England Aquarium, the Museum of Science, and the Mass State Parks Pass. Reservations may be made up to thirty days in advance on the Museum Pass page, of the library's website. Be sure to check back regularly as we are continually adding more passes for you to enjoy!

Calendar

August 2

Documentary Film Night, 6:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library American Insurrection (2021)

August 5

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m. (www.franklinfarmersmarketma.com), Franklin Town Common, Farmer's Market Fun with the Franklin Public Library, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Concert on the Common with the Franklin Recreation Dept. with FOOD TRUCK: Pappalia's Wood Fired Pizza: 3:30-5:30 p.m. David Penza, 6-8 p.m. FSPA and Electric Youth

August 6

Franklin Elks Dinner Dance and Raffle, 6 p.m., Franklin Elks Lodge, #2136, 1077 Pond St., Franklin, all proceeds going to the FRANKLIN WAR MONUMENTS RESTORATION PROJECT. Tickets \$20 pp.

Elijah T. Grasshopper! Saturday, 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library, for children 2-8

Texas Bluesman Willie Laws, 8 p.m., Niagara Coffee Haus, 8 Exchange St., Millis, sponsored by Middlesex Bank, Friends of

Niagara, Millis Cultural Council, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/willie-laws-the-last-prophet-of-the-funky-texas-blues-tickets-367748434467?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

August 7

Purple Heart Day

August 9

Documentary Film Night, 6:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library, *Savior for Sale* (2021)

August 10

Milford Area Chamber of Commerce Centennial celebration, Wednesday, 5-8 pm, Grand View, Mendon, includes barbecue, live music with Ricky Robidoux, silent auction, of fun games, and the 2022 Annual Business Awards. Theme Roaring 20s. Tickets and details at <https://www.milfordchamber.org/100-anniversary>

August 12

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m. (www.franklinfarmersmarketma.com), Franklin Town Common, 3-5 p.m. Zucchini Races sponsored by Franklin Ag Comm.

Concert on the Common with the Franklin Recreation Dept. with FOOD TRUCK: Pangea Cuisine: 3-5 p.m. Pub Kings, 5:30-7 p.m. It's a "J" Thing, 8 p.m. Movie: *Moana*

August 13

Will Parker Concert, for children and families, 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library

Paint Pouring for Adults, 1 p.m., Franklin Public Library, to register, visit the Calendar of Events at <https://www.franklinma.gov/franklin-public-library>. For information, contact Assistant Library Director Kim Shipala at kshipala@minlib.net or (508) 520-4941.

August 14

Firestorm: A Childhood Amidst the Ruins of War, Franklin Historical Museum Second Sunday Speaker series, with guest speaker Wolfgang Bauer, a former Franklin Town Manager and currently a representative to the Charles River Pollution Control District, was born in Hamburg, Germany amid the 1943 Allied firebombing. Doors open at 1 p.m., lecture at 1:15. Free.

August 16

Documentary Film Night, 6:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library, *Love Between the Covers: A Look at the Billion Dollar Romance Fiction Industry* (2015)

August 17

Bollywood Dance Party, for kids and grownups, 6:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library

August 19

Franklin Library Book Sale, 1-5 p.m.

August 20

Franklin Library Book Sale,, 9 a.m. to Noon, bag sale 1-4 p.m.

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m. (www.franklinfarmersmarketma.com), Franklin Town Common, Farmer's Market Fun with the Franklin Public Library, 3:30-4 p.m.

Concert on the Common with the Franklin Recreation Dept. with FOOD TRUCK: Gotta Q Smokehouse BBQ: 3-5 p.m. Box Groove, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Jesse Liam Band, 7:50 p.m. Movie: *Spider-Man*

August 23

Franklin Public Library Book Club, Tuesday, 7 p.m., *Anxious People*, by Fredrik Backman.

August 26

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m. (www.franklinfarmersmarketma.com), Franklin Town Common, 2-6 p.m. Halley Elwell, Sponsored by Franklin Cultural Council and Mass Cultural Council

August 27

Bollywood Dancing, 9:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library

August 29

Exultet Auditions (Premier Women's Chorus), 7:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, 725 Washington Street, Holliston. Visit <https://www.exsultet.us/home/exsultet-audition-faq/> for audition details.

September 2

Latin Balladeer, Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 8 p.m., Niagara Coffee Haus, 8 Exchange St., Millis, Sponsored by Middlesex Bank, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gian-carlo-buscalia-tickets-385178829247>

Franklin School for the Performing Arts Welcomes New Families

The Franklin School for the Performing Arts (FSPA) will hold Open Houses for prospective students and families at 38 Main Street on Tuesday, August 2nd from 3-7 pm and Saturday, September 10th 10 am-2 pm. The community is invited to tour the facilities, observe classes, speak with faculty and staff, and learn more about FSPA programs in music, dance, and drama, whether for recreational enjoyment or serious study.

Additionally, interested families are always welcome to call 508-528-8668, visit FSPAonline.com, or stop by 38 Main Street to ask questions and learn more about the school.

Proudly serving more than 500 students annually from 45 communities in Massachusetts' Metro West region, the Franklin School for the Performing Arts (FSPA) is committed to quality education in the arts with exceptional curriculum, outstanding professional faculty and unwavering dedication to each and every student enrolled. Founded in 1985 by Director Raye Lynn Mercer, FSPA is a unique place



where students of all ages and levels of ability participate in an array of music, dance, and drama programs with professional instruction and extraordinary performing opportunities. With broad-based and varied curricula, FSPA guides students in the development of technique, creativity, and artistic expression to last a lifetime. FSPA's faculty boasts outstanding professional artists, performers, and teachers. Their impressive credentials are indicative of the excellent instruction available in all programs. FSPA instructors strive to meet the individual needs of each student, working to develop each student's abilities to his or

her own potential.

Performance is an integral part of an FSPA education and the school offers unrivaled performing opportunities for students throughout the year. On the calendar annually are student recitals, concerts by faculty and guest artists, master classes, student showcases, holiday shows, the school's signature Spring Concert, and summer camps and intensives. In addition, for students whose level of interest is more focused, there are special performing ensemble opportunities available by audition. THE BLACK BOX, home of the Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC), a 200-seat flexible theater located behind FSPA, provides a professional venue for FSPA student productions, while FPAC offers opportunities by audition for student performers.

For more information about FSPA and its programs, visit www.FSPAonline.com, call (508) 528-8668, or stop by 38 Main St. in Franklin. You can follow FSPA on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Dean College to Hold 25th Annual President's Cup Golf Tournament on September 19, 2022

The 25th Annual Dean College President's Cup Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, September 19, 2022 at the Franklin Country Club, 672 East Central Street, Franklin, MA.

Throughout the past 25 years, the Dean College President's Cup Golf Tournament has had a profound and positive effect on the education of Dean Col-

lege students. Support from our players and sponsors has helped us raise more than \$1,900,000 for Dean College scholarships. By sponsoring or playing in this event, you could help deserving students attend Dean College.

To learn more about the tournament, sponsorship opportunities and to register, visit www.dean.edu/golftournament.

Charles River Chorale to Hold Open Rehearsals This Fall

Come and join the Charles River Chorale this fall season! We meet every Tuesday evening at the Church of Christ Church, 142 Exchange Street in Millis, Mass. Find out more firsthand at the group's open rehearsals, 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, September 20th and 27th, October 4th and 11th.

You can find the Charles River Chorale online at www.charlesriverchorale.com and on Facebook.

Exsultet! Auditions

Do you love to sing? Then we would love to meet you! Exsultet! has openings for singers for the 2022-2023 season. Our next round of auditions will take place on Monday, August 29 at 7:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 725 Washington Street, in Holliston.



- Exsultet! rehearsals for the 2022-2023 Season will be on Mondays from 7-9 p.m. in preparation for our fall concerts: December 3 and 4, 2022.
- To audition, download the audition piece from our website, and prepare to rehearse and sing it with the group. At the end of rehearsal, you will be asked to sing your part in a trio or quartet. Come prepared to sing, laugh, and have fun!
- Please contact Carrie Klimeczko at carrie7975@gmail.com for more information and to schedule a more specific audition time.

- Visit our audition FAQ to learn more about the audition process.

Exsultet! is a fun-loving, women's choral group made up of about sixteen musicians. We love making music and challenging ourselves to present concerts which enlighten and entertain. Exsultet! sings a repertoire of choral literature spanning musical periods and cultures and incorporates readings and poetry into our performances.

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Sports

FHS Nine Learned Valuable Life Lessons in Tourney

By KEN HAMWEY,
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Losing in a state tourney final game is never easy and to lose in a baseball playoff final by a 2-1 score can be emotional and painful.

The late Vince Lombardi, who coached the Green Bay Packers to triumphs in the first two Super Bowls, not only put a high priority on winning, but he went so far to say: "Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing." At the professional level, that's a very acceptable quote.

Zach Brown, Franklin High's baseball coach for the last eight years, regards winning as important, but he puts his team's 2-1 loss to Taunton in the state final last month in perspective — a real life perspective.

"It's not always about winning trophies that collect dust," Brown emphasized. "It's about building relationships, enjoying the camaraderie of the locker room and embracing the journey that, win or lose, ends with emotions."

Lombardi was a pro football coach; Brown is a high school coach. The pressure to win infiltrates both levels, but Brown, who guided the Panthers to a state championship in 2018, is dealing with student-athletes who compete as unpaid amateurs at the purest level. He knows where his emphasis needs to go.

"We use baseball to build habits for success," he said. "It's about learning life lessons like overcoming adversity, developing mental toughness, building team chemistry and learning to be a leader. It's not about being judged by wins and losses. That's hollow. What's valuable is to teach baseball correctly and help players learn life lessons."

The loss to Taunton obviously was painful for the players, for fans and for parents and relatives of the players. But, it's not like the 2022 Franklin varsity failed. Far from it.

Consider these achievements — a 23-4 record (the most wins in Brown's eight-year tenure); a third straight Kelly-Rex Division championship; and a 20-game



Franklin coach Zach Brown once again guided the Panthers to another deep run in the playoffs.

winning streak that began after the squad went 3-3.

The Panthers' baseball program has plenty of tradition, and Brown firmly believes his squad added to the school's success. "This team had high-character guys and quality leaders who achieved a lot and set high standards in practice and games," he emphasized. "Their off-the-field standards also added big-time to Franklin's tradition."

The starting lineup consisted of centerfielder Ryan Gerety, second baseman Jack Marino, left fielder Chris Goode, first baseman Evan Raider, shortstop Henry DiGiorgio, D-H Jase Lyons, right fielder Eisig Chin, third baseman Ben Jarosz, and catcher Joe Tirrell.

"Our lineup was relentless," Brown said. "Of the nine players, seven hit over .300, the team's batting average was .345 and they scored 199 runs. It was a strong lineup that competed in a variety of ways."

Franklin's pitching had a one-two-three punch. Lefty Jacob Jette and right-hander Alfred Mucciarone started with James Kuczniec serving as an occasional starter. More often, he worked as the Panthers' closer. Jette was 8-2 and had an E.R.A. of 0.97; Mucciarone was 6-1 with an E.R.A. of 2.04; and Kuczniec went 5-1, had 2 saves and posted an E.R.A. of 0.68.



The 2022 Franklin High baseball team that finished second in the Division 1 State Tournament.

"All three were tremendous competitors," Brown said. "They overwhelmed the strike zone, attacked hitters and kept our defense active. They gave us a chance to win every game."

Seniors who started were Marino (tri-captain), Goode (tri-captain), Raider, Tirrell, Jette (tri-captain), and Kuczniec.

Brown knows how valuable they were, but he also was acutely aware of the value of six other seniors who contributed when called on. They included pitcher Aidan Langmeyer, catcher Brendan McCormack, pitcher Ethan Voellmicke, first baseman Evan Rossi, outfielder Jacob Crisileo, and third baseman Michael Luccini. "These seniors worked hard every day, they were unselfish, they provided energy and helped to build team chemistry," Brown said.

The Panthers' tourney run included two shutouts and three close games. Franklin opened with a 14-0 rout of Lexington; a 3-2 triumph over Chelmsford; a 5-0 shutout of Bridgewater-Raynham; and a 4-3 victory over Shrewsbury in the state semifinal. The 2-1 loss to Taunton snapped a 20-game win streak. Ryan MacDougall's solo home run to right field in the sixth inning was the difference on June 18 at LeLacheur Park in Lowell.

"Some games were close, some weren't," Brown noted. "The tourney isn't about style

points, it's about advancing. We faced very good teams, and they gave us their best effort. Before losing to Taunton, we were playing top-notch baseball. Our lineup was deep, we had good pitching and we played solid defense. I'm proud of the way we competed and pulled for one another."

The 43-year-old Brown is 8-for-8 in qualifying for the playoffs. And, he sees no reason why that streak might stop.

"Our future should be bright," he said. "Our sub-varsity program is strong, and

although we lose 12 seniors, we've got 13 players returning who gained valuable experience. We'll be competitive again as long as they do what's needed — like participating in the strength and conditioning program and playing summer baseball."

When the 2-1 final result was official and Franklin's hopes for another crown dashed, Brown heard encouraging words from his parents. His father, Don, will be in his second stint at UMass-Amherst this fall as the college's head football coach. "My mother and father said they were proud of Franklin High's achievements, and they provided me with uplifting words because I felt I had let the community down," Brown said.

Tri-captain Jack Marino, however, summed up the season in a very classy way. Brown recalled Marino's words: "Jack said I love our players and our coaching staff. I couldn't have had a better experience."

Brown concluded, saying: "All the players were emotional. Their concern for their teammates was genuine and their emotions said a lot about the program. That's a great measure of success.

Indeed it is.

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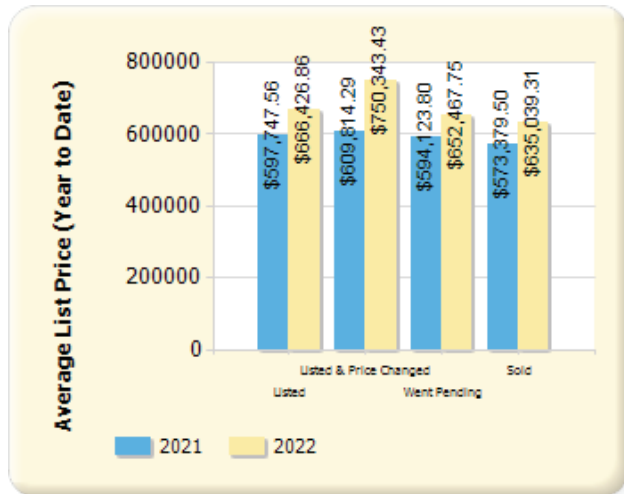
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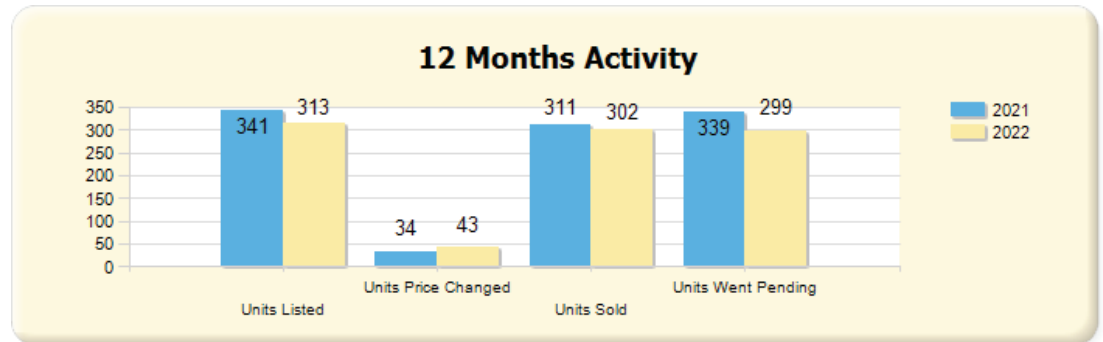
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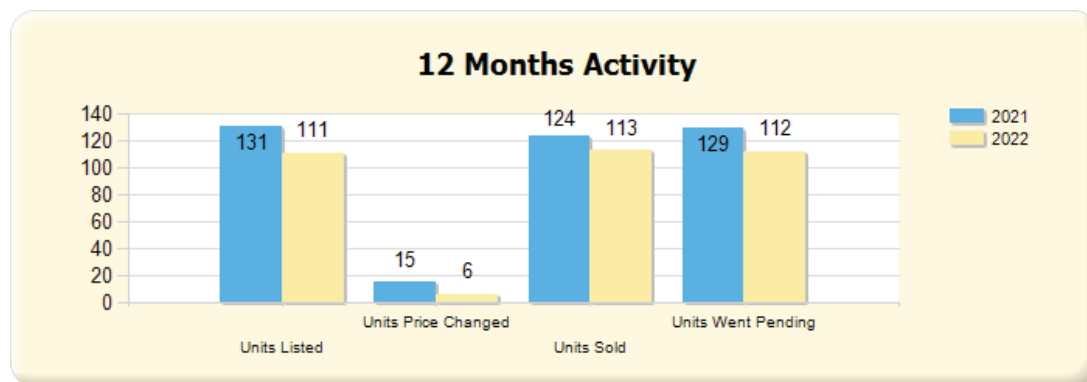
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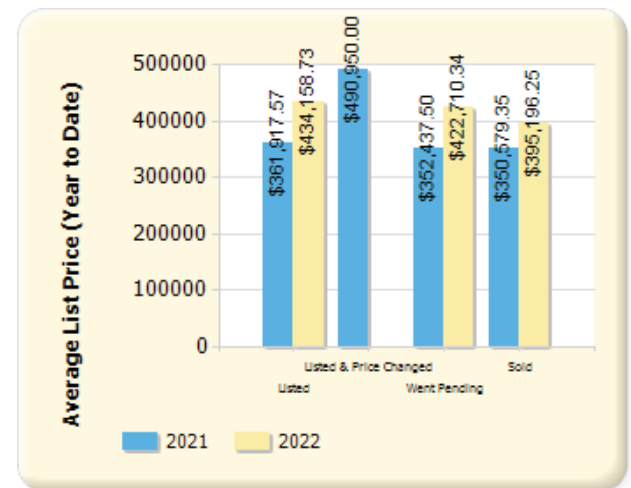
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Real Estate Corner



Shanahan Receives Lions Melvin Jones Fellowship Award

Kristine J. Shanahan, President of Franklin MA Lions, received the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Making the presentation was Ivette Mesmar, 1stVDG of District 33K, Charles Oteri, Franklin Lions lifetime member and Doreen Martel, PDG, Holliston Lions member. The Melvin Jones Fellowship was created in 1973 to

honor individuals who demonstrate the commitment to carry forward the legacy of the Lions founder, Melvin Jones, by donating \$1,000 to Lions Clubs International Foundation.

For more information about the Franklin MA Lions Club, email franklinmalions@gmail.com or write P.O. Box 3, Franklin, MA 02038.

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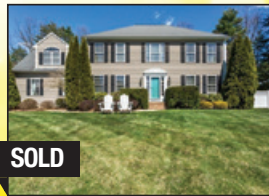
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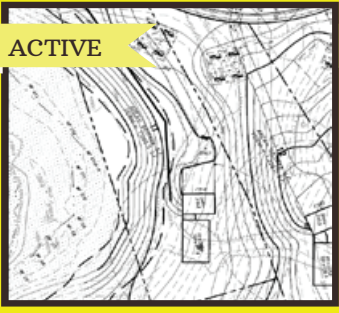
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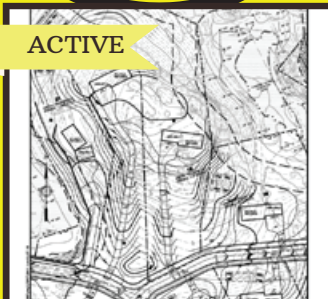


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