

Community Notes

Elic A. Senter, Mayor
 Anita Fuller, Mayor Pro Tempore
 John Allers, Commissioner
 Al Barbour, Commissioner
 Joe Cutchins, Commissioner
 Art Wright, Commissioner

Happy New Year 2010

Mayor's Message...

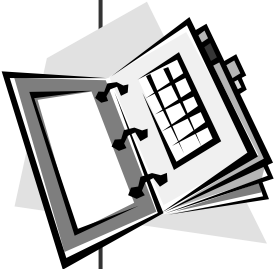
Happy New Year! (Well...a month in.) I'd like to begin 2010 by saying one BIG thank you to all of you who participated in our events in Fall 2009! We had a spectacular Frankenfest on Main at the end of October, with nearly 1,200 people participating! That's DOUBLE our first year's attendance, only two years later! The Franklinton Township Chamber of Commerce and Franklinton Fire Department did a fantastic job with the Christmas Parade in early December, and they deserve many congratulations for a wonderful community event. I'm also very proud of the work that the Arts Alive Committee did with the Community Holiday Concert, the Holiday Lights Tour, and the lighting of luminaries.

With a new year comes new plans, and new ideas. One new idea that we're working on here in Franklinton is a new program called FitFranklinton. The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund created the *FitCommunity* program about five years ago, and Franklinton is in the process of writing a grant for our own program locally, which we will hopefully be able to submit this fall. I'd like to thank Dr. Stephanie Brown, Dava Hunt, Patrick Woods, Serena Smith and Tammy Ray for their efforts in kickstarting these efforts.

Another hopeful goal of the year is to see many new projects going on in and around Franklinton. As we begin the process of budgeting for the 2010-11 budget year in a few months, and reviewing where we've been, Town Staff and the Board of Commissioners plan to work together to ensure that you, our citizens, are as well informed as possible. We plan to host a series of specials on Channel 10, spotlighting different parts of our budget, our Town ordinances, and our citizens. (If you have a citizen you believe should be spotlighted for his or her contributions to the community, or his or her historical ties to Franklinton, please don't hesitate to let us know!) I'd also like to extend an invitation to you to join us at the Franklinton Board of Commissioners regular monthly meetings. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Town Hall Annex. We welcome your participation and comments. It's your feedback that keeps us growing.

Two years have passed since you granted me the honor of serving you as your mayor. It has been a wonderful experience – but I can't believe that two years have gone by already! So much has happened! We've completed the process of our Phase I sewer rehab project; we've created our Town's website and worked to make it as interactive, informational and user-friendly as possible; we've created a program for ensuring our Police automotive fleet is sound and as efficient as possible; we've introduced new programs such as mercury bulb recycling and Adopt a Street (applications are still available!); we've seen the Uptown Revitalization Committee grow into a rich, diverse committee of dedicated individuals working to support our historic business district; we've seen our Chamber of Commerce roar back to life, with new members, new programs, and major plans; and recently, we've made history with the swearing in of Franklinton's first African-American police chief. It's been a fantastic two years. I can't wait to see what the next two hold!

Best wishes to you for an incredible 2010!



Elic

Gold Weather Heating Safety Tips

- * **Never use charcoal or gas grills inside due to threat of carbon monoxide poisoning.**
- * **Be extremely careful with candles. Keep away from combustible materials. Keep them out of the reach of children.**
- * **Make sure all smoke detectors are working properly and have fresh batteries.**
- * **Inspect fireplaces and woodstoves.**
- * **Use a sturdy screen or door in front of your fireplace.**
- * **Burn only wood, never burn paper or pine boughs.**
- * **Be aware of overuse of electrical outlets.**
- * **Have one or more working fire extinguishers in your home.**

GET INVOLVED! VOLUNTEER!

Contact Town Hall for Opportunities.

School Bus Safety

As many of us know it is against the law to pass a stopped school bus. Once the Stop arm is up, everyone must stop when driving on a two lane road. As all streets in the Town of Franklinton are two lanes, it is critical that we all obey this law. The safety of our children is at risk. Be conscious of school buses when you are driving, especially during the hours of 6am - 8am, and 2pm - 4pm, as these are the most common times for school buses to travel on local streets.



Economic Recovery Road Project Awarded to Rep. Allen's District

\$2.3 million project expected to be finished this year

RALEIGH, NC - Representative Lucy Allen is pleased to announce that Franklin County will receive a \$2.3 million transportation project to aid in the state's economic recovery. The money will be used for the milling, resurfacing and guardrail and shoulder reconstruction of 8.1 miles of N.C. 98 and 1.7 miles of U.S. 1-A in Franklin County. The \$2.3 million recovery project contract was awarded to Blythe Construction Inc. of Charlotte. Work can begin as early as March 15, 2010, and is scheduled to be finished by Nov. 1, 2010.

"This welcome news comes on the heels of a previous announcement made just last month that Stimulus funding has been authorized for the widening of a section of US-401 Highway, which is scheduled to begin in February. We need better roads and we need good jobs. These investments help with both," Representative Allen said. "It will be money well-spent."

These latest projects were among 34 transportation projects announced on Monday. The total cost value of the projects is more than \$107 million.

According to the Federal Highway Administration, every \$1 million spent on transportation creates 30 jobs, and according to the construction industry, every dollar invested in transportation generates \$6 in economic impact.

Representative Allen is in her fourth term representing Franklin, Halifax and Nash counties in the House of Representatives. She is Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee and Vice-chair of Local Government I and Water Resources and Infrastructure Committees, as well as Vice-chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation.



Round Up for Franklinton!

What is the Round Up program? Round Up Franklinton is a program of the Town of Franklinton to provide an opportunity for citizens to make contributions on a monthly basis to the Uptown Revitalization Committee, the Arts Alive Committee, or the Tree Committee. Contributions can be made in two ways. Citizens can contribute by ‘rounding up’ their monthly utility bill – in other words, if your bill is \$54.50, you can round up the additional \$0.50 to ‘round up’ your bill to \$55, and the additional \$0.50 would be donated to one of the three committees, of your choosing. You can also contribute by making a flat dollar figure contribution, such as a monthly contribution of \$5, which would be donated to one of the three committees, of your choosing.

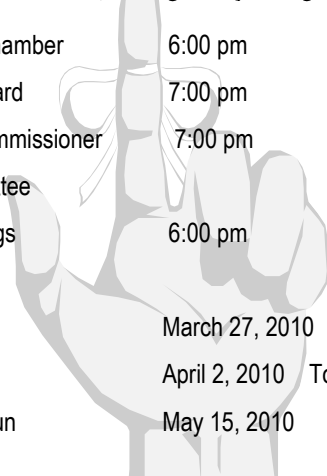


LOGO MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Items available to celebrate your community pride include t-shirts (\$10), travel mugs (\$5), lawn chairs (\$15) and umbrellas (\$10). Items are available at Town Hall, and events such as Frankenfest on Main. When you purchase a travel mug, refills on drinks at Movies on Main are available for \$0.50, instead of the regular drink cost of \$1. So get yours today – flash that red and white around and let everyone know you’re proud to be a Franklintonian!

Important Dates to Remember

Township Chamber	6:00 pm	1 st Monday
Planning Board	7:00 pm	3 rd Monday
Board of Commissioner	7:00 pm	3 rd Tuesday
Tree Committee		4 th Tuesday
URC Meetings	6:00 pm	1 st Thursday
Arts Alive		3 rd Thursday
Arbor Day	March 27, 2010	
Good Friday	April 2, 2010	Town Hall Closed
Fun in the Sun	May 15, 2010	Main Street



FRANKLINTON SENIOR CENTER *Center of Excellence*

The Franklinton Senior Center has new office hours for 2010. The office will open at 8 am and we will close for the day at 5 pm. For any of the services listed below please give us a call at 494-5611.

The Franklinton Senior center continues to offer services to help Medicare Beneficiaries. Through the North Carolina Department of Insurance, the Senior Health Insurance Information Program is a resource to help you with Medicare issues. We now have two volunteer counselors that you can meet with. Please give us a call to schedule an appointment.



Medicare beneficiaries may be eligible for the federal Extra Help low income subsidy program if he/she has limited income and resources. The Extra Help program can increase cost savings by paying for all or part of the month premiums, annual deductibles, and provide lower prescription co-payments under a Medicare prescription drug plan. To qualify for Extra Help, the annual income must be limited to \$15,600 for an individual (\$21,000 for a married couple living together). Additionally, the total resources must be limited to \$12,510 for an individual (\$25,010 for a married couple living together). The resources do not include a primary residence or a vehicle. If you or someone you know may be eligible please schedule an appointment to complete the application.

Free AARP tax service will be available every Wednesday afternoon, beginning February 3rd, until April 14th. Rich Heroux will be assisting those 60 and up who need help completing and filing their tax returns. Please give us a call to schedule your appointment.

Ann Goswick resumes her water color painting class. A new six week schedule begins Friday, January 15th at 10 am. This class is for beginners and has a one dollar participation fee. Computer classes resume for 2010 every Wednesday, 2 pm with Edith May. For beginner and intermediate skill levels this class also has a one dollar participation fee.



Article submitted by Patrick Woods, Director Franklinton Senior Center

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CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
www.franklintonnc.us

TOWN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS SHOWN ON CHANNEL 10 IMMEDIATELY AFTER MEETINGS AND EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY AT 9AM & 5PM



POLICE DEPARTMENT



I would like this opportunity to say that it is a great honor and privilege to have been selected to serve the Citizens of Franklinton as their Police Chief. I do not take this responsibility lightly and will strive to serve the citizens to the best of my ability.

The Police Department will not see dramatic changes under my leadership. I have been fortunate enough to have taken over a department that is already running smoothly and with the continued support of Lt. Johnny Mitchell and the entire department we will make this change of administration seamlessly while continuing to provide the highest level of protection and services to our citizens. I will maintain an open door policy, in which citizens are encouraged to share their concerns directly with me.

One of my first priorities will be to establish an anti-gang program targeting our youth. Our youth is the future and we, as a community, need to reach out to them in hopes of steering them in the right direction. The Franklinton Police Department, along with the help of our citizens, can make a difference to the youth in our community. Once a program is established, I will be calling on our citizens to donate their time because for it to be successful there must be a team effort among citizens and the Police Department.

Again, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to the citizens of Franklinton, the Franklinton Board of Commissioner, and the entire Town staff for placing their trust in me to lead our Police Department. Together we can make the Franklinton one of the safest communities in the State of North Carolina.

Chief John T. Green, Jr.