

Community Notes

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

SCAM ALERT

Recent high winds that caused damage to Franklinton Baptist Church and vehicles at Franklinton Day Care also brought scam artists to Town. Workmen come knocking with the offer to inspect your roofing and make minor repairs for a nominal fee. In most cases they do little or no work for this fee and recommend other costly and unnecessary repair work. Other common scams include those offering paving and flooring at greatly reduced costs because they have "leftovers from another job and are only in town for one day."

In general, most legitimate companies will not come to you unsolicited offering work and most do not charge for estimates. You can deter these individuals by asking to see a copy of their business license from the Town and to see their Driver's License or ID Card.

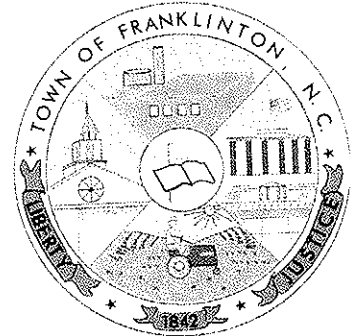


URC MOVIES ON MAIN

Beginning April 25th, the Franklinton Uptown Revitalization Committee will be hosting an outdoor movie series. Weather permitting, shows will be held on the 2nd & 4th Saturday evening through the end of September at the Municipal Parking Lot on South Main Street. All movies will be "family friendly" and will begin at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Admission is free and popcorn, drinks, candy and glow necklaces will be available for purchase. So grab your blankets and lounge chairs (no seating will be provided) and head UPTOWN to join the URC for an enjoyable evening of entertainment.

Movie listings will be announced on Channel 10 and the Town's website at www.franklintonnc.us as soon as possible prior to their showing.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dept of Aging News	2
Energy Saving Tips	2
Calendar of Events	3
Police Department	4
Town Directory	4

Mayor's Message....

I hope this finds you all doing well and having a great mid-winter! I cannot believe it is 2009! A full year has gone by since I became mayor, and what an eventful year it has been! I will be delivering a 'State of the Town' address at our February meeting to give you a more full update of where projects are, and the current outlook for Franklinton. I did want to take just a moment though and share some thoughts of the past year.

Though the world economy has taken a hit, fortunately, we're pretty sound here in Franklinton. We're about to start the budgeting process, but thankfully, we're not having to go back and cut to make up for a deficit. That speaks volumes of our budget

managers and department heads, and their hard work being fiscally responsible with the dollars that *you* entrust with them, and the Board.

As you may be aware, we recently opened our Town Hall Annex, which we will 'officially' open on February 17. (Thanks to the 6 inches of snow we got, not only did the ribbon cutting get pushed back, but Raymond Bragg and his crew *FINALLY* got to use those snow plows!) We're all very excited about the Annex as it will bring much needed office and work space to the municipal office building (which is what we refer to as Town Hall) and a much larger meeting space so that more of you can be involved in the business of our Town. So please,

come out and join us!

We still have lots of irons in the fire, but looking at what has been accomplished in 2009 does make me proud of the work that's been done. The base fees for water and sewer usage have been lowered to promote conservation, and the Town is in the process of obtaining grant funds to promote a water reuse project in conjunction with the Olde Liberty Golf Course. The URC again hosted the fall festival, Frankenfest on Main, as well as unveiled the Downtown Redesign plan. The Board began hosting quarterly open house events to allow citizens an opportunity to visit and speak with their Commissioners. (The

Mayor continued on page 2

Progress Energy Offers Tips to Lower Energy Usage and Costs

Progress Energy encourages customers to take control of their monthly electricity bills. Here are some tips that can help:

Heating tips

- Keep your thermostat at the lowest comfortable setting. Progress Energy recommends 68-70 degrees. Every degree above 70 degrees increases your energy costs by 3 to 5 percent.
- If you have a heat pump, adjust your thermostat in small increments to avoid the operation of the supplemental heat strip in your system. Energy consumption is much higher when the heat strip is in use. A steady setting on your heat pump thermostat produces constant comfort and minimizes the use of the less efficient resistance heat strip.
- Set your thermostat back 10 degrees at night or when you're out for long periods during the day (8-10 hours). Doing so can save as much as 10 to 20 percent in heating costs. Programmable thermostats can automate this process, saving time and money. Put an extra blanket on beds and wear sweaters inside to help keep you and your family comfortable.
- Install your thermostat on an inside wall and away from windows and doors, to keep it from overcompensating and running continuously.
- Keep the fan on your central heating unit set to the "auto" position. Leaving the fan on all the time can add \$25 a month to your electricity bill.
- Clean or replace filters every month. Dirty filters can increase operating costs by 20 percent by making the system work harder to provide warm air.
- Use ceiling fans in winter to distribute heat around a room. Reverse the fan direction from summer cooling.
- Close your fireplace damper when not in use. Consider glass doors to help prevent heat loss when your heating system is on.
- Make sure registers and returns are not blocked by furniture or draperies.
- Use insulated or heavy curtains on windows facing the north side of the house. Keep curtains and shades closed at night and on cloudy days.
- Caulk, seal and weather strip all openings from your home to the outside. Eliminating air leaks in your home can save you up to 10 percent in energy costs.

Additional energy-efficiency tips and information on how customers can save money on their energy bills this winter can be found at www.savethewatts.com and by using the Lower My Bill Toolkit at www.progress-energy.com.

News from the Franklinton Senior Center

The Franklinton Senior Center continues to offer free blood pressure checks each Wednesday from 8:30 am until 11:30 am. A special free eye screening will be available from Prevent Blindness NC on Tuesday, February, 24th from 8:30 am until 12:30 am, please call 494-5611 to sign up.

Senior health information counseling continues at the center. This is the time to review your Med-advantage plan. You can change or drop your Med-advantage plan until the end of March. Medicare can be very confusing these days and a Med-advantage plan may or may not be to your advantage. For additional help to find out if a Med-advantage plan could work for you, please call 494-5611.

Two new tread mills arrived at the center in November to replace two that were complete worn out. A new computer system will be in place soon to log your walking. New activities coming in March will include two new table games, Boggle & Yahtzee in addition to Dominoes. We will be adding a once a week art activity to let your creative side show. Don't forget, we've got Wii bowling, computer classes and Yoga Classes. Please call 494-5611 or just stop by and visit us, 602 E. Mason beside Hall-Wynn Funeral Services.

The State Division of North Carolina will be back at the end of May to certify the center. This is part of a recurring three year certification process. The state will review our performance in six general areas. They will be verifying over 26 services, 30 activities, 25 partnerships, outreach, training, publicity, marketing, volunteer opportunities, advocacy efforts, planning & input, information & referral resources just to name a few items. We hope to be certified as a "Center of Excellence" again this time. Your participation in our activities will be a key to our continued success.

Mayor continued from page 1

Winter Open House will be held in conjunction with the Annex Ribbon Cutting on February 17, so please do join us! We've seen several new businesses come into town, and our Arts Alive Committee were able to make several events happen over the holidays, and are looking forward to an active 2009.

These are just a few things that happened in the course of 2008 - so here's to an even better 2009! Please, don't ever hesitate to contact your Board members or myself to share your thoughts or concerns - that's what we're here for!







Newsletter Contributions Welcome

Any civic organization wishing to contribute material for our next newsletter please email Mayor Senter at esenter@franklintonnc.us or Wendy Gilliam at wgilliam@franklintonnc.us with your submission. Anyone with ideas or items they would like to see in upcoming editions please share feel free to submit those as well!

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 	4	5	6	7
8	9 Utility Bills Due	10 	11	12 URC Meeting	13	14
15	16 Planning Board 7:00 pm 	17 Town Board 7:00pm 	18	19 Arts Alive Meeting	20	21
22	23	24 Tree Committee 	25	26	27	28

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 	4	5	6	7
8	9 Utility Bills Due	10 	11	12 URC Meeting	13	14
15	16 Planning Board 7:00 pm 	17 Town Board 7:00pm 	18	19 Arts Alive Meeting	20	21 Arbor Day
22	23	24 Tree Committee 	25	26	27 Appliance Pick Up	28
29	30	31 				

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 	8	9 Utility Bills Due URC Meeting	10 Town Hall Closed	11
12	13	14 	15 	16 Arts Alive Meeting	17	18
19	20 Planning Board 7:00 pm	21 Town Board 7:00pm 	22	23	24 Appliance Pick Up	25
26	27	28 Tree Committee 	29	30		

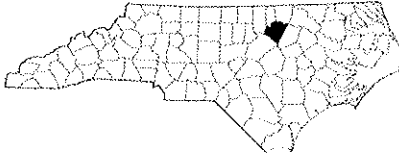


NOTE: \$10 LATE FEE ADDED TO UTILITY BILLS AFTER 5:00 PM ON THE DUE DATE.

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CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
www.franklintonnc.us

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



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Franklinton Police Department is excited about 2009! Our staff is currently involved in numerous projects to improve the Police Department in the coming months.

Traffic complaints are a priority for patrol officers. With increased traffic volume, they will continue to target speeding violations throughout Town. The Police Department has purchased a hand-held RADAR unit and working with members of the Board and Public Works, secured the use of a traffic trailer from the NC Highway Patrol to help with speed enforcement. The Police Department will also continue to target impaired drivers and drivers with no license by continuing to participate in the Governor's Highway Safety Program's "Booze It and Lose It" and "No Need to Speed" campaigns.

In an effort to combat gang and other illegal activity officers are reaching out to residents and being proactive in addressing neighborhood problems. Last summer, officers began an initiative of targeting high-profile areas by concentrating patrols and initiating a zero tolerance policy for violators. Through these efforts and persistent observation we have seen a decrease citizen complaints. With the support of the community, we will continue to identify and address areas of concern.

We will continue to utilize all of our available resources, such as on-board computers and access to State and Federal data bases, to help make Franklinton a safe community in which we live and work.

We look forward to continuing to work with the community, and as always, are available 24 hours a day to assist you.

ARBOR DAY

March 21, 2009
10:00 a.m.
Town Hall

Town Hall Annex Dedication

February 17, 2009
6:00 p.m.