

## City Officials

### John R. Nelson, Mayor

414-427-7529 / jnelson@franklinwi.gov

### Jon Peccarelli, Ald. District 1

414-427-7601 / jpeccarelli@franklinwi.gov

### Michelle Eichmann, Ald. District 2

414-510-6442 / meichmann@franklinwi.gov

### Yousef Hasan, Ald. District 3

414-427-7603 / yhasan@franklinwi.gov

### Courtney Day, Ald. District 4

414-294-9881 / cday@franklinwi.gov

### Mike Barber, Ald. District 5

414-427-7605 / mbarber@franklinwi.gov

### Jason Craig, Ald. District 6

414-678-9823 / jcraig@franklinwi.gov

## City Departments

Administration.....	414-858-1100
Assessor.....	414-425-1416
City Clerk .....	414-425-7500
City Hall.....	414-425-7500
Engineering .....	414-425-7510
Fire.....	414-425-1420
Health.....	414-425-9101
Human Resources....	414-427-7505
Inspection Services..	414-425-0084
Library .....	414-425-8214
Municipal Court .....	414-425-4768
Parks.....	414-425-7500
Planning.....	414-425-4024
Police .....	414-425-2522
Public Works .....	414-425-2592
Recreation.....	414-423-4646
Sewer & Water .....	414-421-2613
Treasury.....	414-425-4770

**EMERGENCIES-CALL 911**

[www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov)

## From the Mayor's Office



Dear Franklin Residents,

As the days grow longer and spring blossoms around us, I want to take a moment to celebrate our city's progress and share updates on initiatives shaping Franklin's bright future.

### Community Updates

Franklin continues to thrive, welcoming new businesses, fostering strong neighborhoods, and enhancing our shared quality of life. This spring, look forward to various community events that bring us together to celebrate and connect—stay tuned to our city's website for details!

### Development Highlights

I often hear questions about ongoing projects in Franklin. Here's the latest:

- **76th and Rawson:** Discussions with developers remain in the conceptual phase.
- **Franklin Business Park Expansion:** Construction is underway to attract new industries and create jobs.
- **Residential Growth:** New permits show Franklin's growing appeal as a family-friendly community.
- **Draft Unified Development Ordinance (UDO):** We're nearing the final stages of revisions and anticipate adopting this streamlined, efficient process soon. Learn more on our Planning Department's website.

For updates on these and other initiatives, visit [www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov).

### Sustainability Efforts

This spring, we're enhancing our green spaces and advancing sustainability goals. Look for tree-planting initiatives and ways you can contribute to preserving our natural resources.

Thank you for making Franklin a remarkable place to live, work, and raise a family. Your ideas, concerns, and feedback are invaluable as we continue to grow and adapt to our community's needs. Here's to a vibrant and inspiring spring season!



Warm regards,

Mayor John R. Nelson



## Franklin Notification System

**FREE automatic notice of tornado warnings and more directly to your phone or email!**



**Register today at [www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov) or call 414-858-1100 for assistance!**

*(Please note that you only need to register once for this notification system.)*

## Property Tax Bill Payments

**\*\*REMINDER:** If you have selected the installment method for property tax payments, the final two installments are due March 31 and May 31, 2025.

**ONLINE TAX PAYMENTS:** Instructions for online tax payments were included with your tax bill and also available on the City's website—[www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov). **Note that online payments take more than one business day to process. Waiting until the last day will cause the online payment to be made AFTER the due date.**



# April 1, 2025 Spring Election



**Municipal Offices to be on the ballot: 3-year term for 1st, 2nd, & 5th District Alderperson.**  
**Polling locations remain the same, with voting hours from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on election day.**

**Aldermanic District 1**  
Wards 1, 2, 3  
Franklin City Hall  
9229 W. Loomis Road

**Aldermanic District 2**  
Wards 4, 5, 6, 7  
Franklin Law Enforcement Center  
9455 W. Loomis Road

**Aldermanic District 3**  
Wards 8, 9, 10, 11  
Polish Center of Wisconsin  
6941 S. 68th Street

**Aldermanic District 4**  
Wards 12, 13, 14, 15  
Milwaukee County Sports Complex  
6000 W. Ryan Road

**Aldermanic District 5**  
Wards 16, 17, 18, 19  
Milwaukee County Sports Complex  
6000 W. Ryan Road

**Aldermanic District 6**  
Wards 20, 21, 22  
St. Martin of Tours Church  
7963 S. 116th Street

In-person absentee voting begins two weeks before the election through the Friday before the election and will take place at City Hall, 9229 W. Loomis Road.

### Spring Election In-Person Absentee Voting Days and Hours:

Tuesday, March 18, 2025, through Thursday, March 27, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Friday, March 28, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Detailed information on election procedures can be obtained at the Franklin City Clerk's office, 9229 W. Loomis Road, on the City's website at [www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov), by calling 414-425-7500, or on the Wisconsin Elections Commission website at <https://elections.wi.gov>. You can verify your current voter registration status, find your polling location, check for what is on your ballot, or apply for an absentee ballot at <https://myvote.wi.gov>.



## Independence Celebration 2025

**Thursday, July 3–5 p.m. to 11 p.m.**

**Friday, July 4–10 a.m. to 11 p.m.**

**Saturday, July 5–12 Noon to 11 p.m.**

**Sunday, July 6–12 Noon to 4 p.m., Carnival Only**

**Lions Legend Park (Loomis Road & Drexel Avenue)**



Mark your calendars for three days of family fun with the **Franklin Independence Celebration** from **Thursday, July 3, through Saturday, July 5**, in Lions Legend Park! Great food, beverages, carnival rides, kids' activities, and incredible entertainment will be provided for all ages! Tour the historical area, get a bite to eat, and enjoy the musical talents of **Bella Cain, Kings of Radio, 5 Card Studs, Smart Mouth, and Pat McCurdy**. Like golf or Pickleball? New this year—try your swing in the **Dryvebox Milwaukee mobile golf simulator** or sign up for the **Pickleball Tournament** planned for **Saturday, July 5** (details to follow in the next newsletter). **Friday, July 4**, will kick off with the **Children's parade at 10:30 a.m. followed by the Main parade at 11 a.m.**, and end with the **spectacular fireworks display at 9:30 p.m.**

**Parade Entry:** Please consider walking in this year's Independence Parade on Friday, July 4! All local area scout troops, churches, youth groups, booster clubs, and civic organization groups are encouraged to participate. **For parade information or to request a registration form (required for main parade only), contact Ann Adamski at [FranklinParade@gmail.com](mailto:FranklinParade@gmail.com) or 414-690-7340. The deadline for entry is June 15. **CALLING ALL VETERANS** to join in riding on a trolley in the parade as a "do-over welcome-home parade" honoring all veterans, especially Vietnam vets, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the ending of the Vietnam War. If interested in participating, please contact Ann Adamski at [FranklinParade@gmail.com](mailto:FranklinParade@gmail.com) or 414-690-7340.**

**Local Vendors:** The Independence Celebration allows local vendors/artists to display and sell their creations. **To learn more, contact Ann Adamski at [FranklinParade@gmail.com](mailto:FranklinParade@gmail.com) or 414-690-7340.**

**Volunteers:** Serve beverages in the main tent or sell tickets in an air-conditioned booth. Volunteers must be 21 years or older to work in the beer tent. **If interested in volunteering at the Independence Celebration, please fill out the enclosed sign-up form and mail it to the address on the form, scan and email it to [Volunteers4Franklin@gmail.com](mailto:Volunteers4Franklin@gmail.com), or contact Angela Christie at 414-235-8180.** The Volunteer Sign-Up Form is also available online at [www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov).

**Donations:** Any business or individual donations of any dollar amount are welcomed. **To become a part of this community event, please contact John Bergner at [jbergner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbergner@sbcglobal.net) or 414-881-5863.**

**Forms & Details:** For all forms, details, and contact information—see the "Independence Celebration" web page under "Annual City Events" under the "About Franklin" tab at [www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov). For general questions, please contact John Bergner, Chairman of the Civic Celebrations Commission, at [jbergner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbergner@sbcglobal.net) or 414-881-5863.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Light & Unite Red Week

 LIGHT & UNITE RED. **March 17–23, 2025**

**HELP SHINE A LIGHT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION**

Light and Unite Red is an awareness week that promotes community substance misuse prevention and education.

Visit [volitionfranklin.org](http://volitionfranklin.org) or [facebook.com/VolitionFranklin](https://www.facebook.com/VolitionFranklin) for updates on events and programs during LUR Week!



## Entertainers With Wisconsin Ties

Hosted by the Franklin Historical Society & Presented by Greg Jenks

**Saturday, April 12–1 p.m.**

Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road

Although Wisconsin is not widely known as an entertainment hub, many renowned musicians, artists, actors, athletes, and entertainers have ties to the Badger state. Join local historian Greg Jenks as he profiles these entertainers and their accomplishments!



## Franklin Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt

*For children 10 and under*

**Saturday, April 19–10 a.m.**  
**Lions Legend Park**

(Behind City Hall, Loomis Road & S. Legend Dr.)

**\*Candy & Surprises \*Egg Hunt**

**\*Visit by the Easter Bunny**

**\*After the hunt, tour the Franklin historical buildings in the park!**



## 2025 Concerts in the Park

Franklin Park Concerts, Inc. will present five FREE Summer concerts at Lions Legend Park Band Shell on the following Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

**June 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24** 

*The Franklin historical buildings will be open for tours after each concert. The complete concert schedule will be included in the June 2025 City Newsletter!*

## Arbor Day & Citywide Cleanup

**Saturday, May 3, 2025**  
**10 a.m. to 12 Noon**

Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road

### Annual Arbor Day Celebration

The Franklin Environmental Commission will be distributing trees on Saturday, May 3, in honor of Arbor Day. FREE tree saplings will be given away on a first-come, first-serve basis to City residents at the Franklin Public Library parking lot from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon, or while the limited supply lasts. Trees courtesy of the City of Franklin and the Franklin Environmental Commission.



### Annual Citywide Cleanup

Franklin students, families, friends, scouts, homeowner associations—help clean up Franklin of winter trash! The City of Franklin, in conjunction with Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, Inc., will be hosting the “Great American Cleanup Day”.



Trash bags will be available at the Franklin Public Library, 9151 W. Loomis Road, on Saturday, May 3, from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon. Participants are asked to pre-register by calling 414-425-2592. You may also register at the Library the day of the event. (Participants will receive a token of appreciation. Volunteers are asked to bring their own gloves. Filled bags will be picked up May 5, courtesy of the Franklin Public Works Department.)

FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2025

Monday, August 4th, 2025  
530PM to 830PM

Franklin Public Library  
9151 W Loomis Road



# Sponsors Needed!

Our annual NNO celebration is a sponsor funded community event. Donations go towards entertainment and giveaways at the event. Sponsors are recognized on the PD's social media, T-shirts, and sign boards.

To become a sponsor or to reserve a table for your group, contact  
PO Gary Wallace: [gwallace@franklinwi.gov](mailto:gwallace@franklinwi.gov) / 414-858-2622

# Please WELCOME the Following Businesses to the City of Franklin!

**Cameron Ashley Building Products**  
**4659 W. Basswood Drive, C**  
*(building product wholesale)*

**Carma Labs**  
**9410 S. 76th Street**  
*(pharmaceutical company)*

**Jilly's Car Wash**  
**5484 W. Rawson Avenue**  
*(car wash)*

**Kidcadia**  
**6544 S. Lovers Lane Road**  
*(indoor play facility)*



**M & J Krueger Trucking LLC**  
**6705 W. Ryan Road**  
*(transportation company)*

**M. Schultz Business Services LLC**  
**7761 W. Ryan Road, #203**  
*(business services; tax prep/payroll services)*

**Ricky's Double Barrel Inn**  
**11318 W. St. Martins Road**  
*(restaurant)*

**Vape Vibe**  
**7616 W. Rawson Avenue**  
*(vape shop)*

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR  
 FRANKLIN BUSINESSES!**



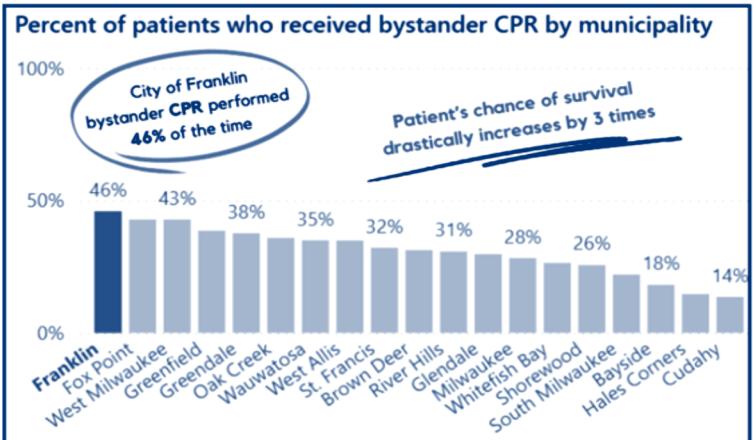
## DID YOU KNOW?



***Franklin exceeds in providing bystander CPR before EMS arrival!***

Did you know that the City of Franklin leads all of Milwaukee County in providing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) before Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrive? This occurs when a bystander performs chest compressions on an unresponsive patient who is not breathing.

The National average for someone to receive bystander CPR before EMS arrival is 40%, while Franklin far exceeds that at 46%. This drastically changes someone's survival rate by 3 times. For every minute that goes by, the patient loses a 10% chance of survivability. Your Franklin Fire Department's average response time is just under 5 minutes. When no bystander CPR is done before their arrival, that patient lost 50% of survivability!



Contact the Franklin Fire Department today to schedule a CPR class with their amazing instructors and join the 2,600+ Franklin community members who have received CPR training over the past four years! Seventy percent of cardiac arrests happen in the home; be prepared to help save the life of someone you know or love.



Scan the QR code or visit <https://www.franklinwi.gov/Departments/Fire/Public-Education.htm> to sign up for a class today!



Check out the Franklin Fire Department's other phenomenal community risk reduction events such as station tours, Scouting America/Girl Scout Tours, Firefighter is Your Friend Safety Talk, Local Business Safety Talks, and more by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://www.franklinwi.gov/Departments/Fire/TourSafety-Talk-Request-Form.htm>!

## 2025 Property Assessment Update

The Assessor's Office will undergo a "maintenance year" in 2025 after conducting a citywide revaluation in 2024. The best way to describe this is that your assessed value will not change from 2024 to 2025 if your property characteristics remain the same. Characteristic changes may include permitted work (a new shed or home remodel), corrections to the property record based on an in-person walkthrough, and property destruction (a building tear-down).

Notices of changed assessment will be mailed in late spring to properties with a change in value. If your property value does not change, you will NOT receive a notice of changed assessment. To confirm your 2025 value, the Open Book assessment roll will be available online in late spring.

For additional information or to check the characteristics of a property, please visit [www.franklinwi.gov/assessor.htm](http://www.franklinwi.gov/assessor.htm); click the blue Property Records button to view a Property Record Card. If you notice anything inaccurate, please contact the Assessor's Office at [assessor@franklinwi.gov](mailto:assessor@franklinwi.gov) or 414-425-1416 as soon as possible to verify and make timely corrections as necessary. As a reminder, the scope of the Assessor's Office is property valuation, not taxes. If your property's assessed value does not change during a maintenance year, any change in your December taxes would be due to factors external to the Assessor's Office.

## Pleasant View Park Prescribed Burn

The City of Franklin is planning a prescribed burn at Pleasant View Park sometime between March 1 and April 30, 2025, conducted in coordination with the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter of Pheasants Forever Prescribed Burn Team. Prescribed burns are recommended to control undesirable woody plants and herbaceous weeds while stimulating desirable prairie plants and improving wildlife habitat. During a site visit and through past land use history, it was determined that a healthy prairie ecosystem exists and can be enhanced through the use of prescribed burns. Prairie grasses and flowers develop deep roots and buds beneath the soil, enabling them to withstand the heat of a fire while shallow-rooted invasive brush succumbs.



### What about safety?

Before the burn is conducted, experienced and trained personnel assess the area to determine the wind direction, speed, relative humidity, grass moisture, and safety requirements. Qualified personnel control fire behavior through the use of comprehensive planning and specialized fire equipment. A burn plan will be prepared and filed with the Fire Department. The Fire Department will be notified before ignition and after all smoke has been extinguished. During the burn, the park will be closed off to the public.

### What about smoke?

Smoke emanating from the burn area is not cause for alarm. Smoke control is an important aspect of any prescribed burn plan. Prior to burning, experienced personnel will carefully review the burn area and the proximity of houses, roads, and other smoke-sensitive areas. This information will be incorporated into the burn plan, and the prescribed burn will occur when favorable conditions minimize the amount of smoke reaching these areas.

**Further questions or concerns?** Contact Tom Riha, City Forester, at [triha@franklinwi.gov](mailto:triha@franklinwi.gov), 414-425-2592 (office), or 414-550-8154 (cell).

## Stepping On Workshop

Presented by the Franklin Health Department

**Tuesdays, April 1–May 13, 2025**

**1 p.m. to 3 p.m. / Cost: \$10**

Franklin Public Library, Fadow Room  
9151 W. Loomis Road

**To register, call 414-425-9101**

- A 7-week workshop for residents 60 and older that can help seniors avoid dangerous and costly falls so that they can keep doing the things they love.
- Guest experts include a physical therapist, pharmacist, vision expert, and a Franklin safety officer.
- Seniors will learn how to identify and remove or avoid fall hazards in the home and outside, and how vision, medication, and footwear affect your risk of falling.
- Simple strength and balance exercises will be taught that will increase self-confidence and enhance your sense of independence.

**Class size is limited; call 414-425-9101 to register. Attendance at all 7 sessions is encouraged for the greatest benefit.**

## Spring Brush & Leaf Pickup: Monday, May 5, 2025



The spring brush and leaf pickup will begin Monday, May 5, where the City's waste hauler will move through the City starting at 7 a.m. on this Monday and work through the week until they are finished. **All brush piles and leaves must be placed at the curb next to your driveway by 7 a.m. on Monday, May 5.** Any brush and leaves that are not out when the hauler passes by will not be picked up later. Your regular garbage will be picked up on your normal garbage pickup day. Please call 414-425-2592 with any questions.

### Pickup will include:

- Brush (tree limbs, bush cuttings, and similar) cut to no longer than 5 feet in length and no larger than 6 inches in diameter, must be piled or tied/bundled (preferred), and placed at the curb next to your driveway. Each household is limited to one pile no larger than 4'x4'x5' and be 50 pounds or less. Larger piles, multiple piles, and brush thrown in the ditch will not be picked up.
- Leaves must be in paper compostable yard waste bags or 32-gallon or smaller trash containers weighing 50 pounds or less that can be emptied into the collection truck (no limit on number of bags or containers). Plastic bags of any kind are NOT allowed and will not be picked up. Place bagged leaves away from your regular trash so they won't be missed. **Leaves are not to be raked into the street.**

No grass clippings, flowers, stumps, fruit, roots, or other garden debris will be accepted. These items, as well as brush and leaves, may be disposed of at the Waste Management Metro Landfill, 12200 W. South County Line Road (414-529-6180, Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

## Hours:

Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sunday: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
(Call for curbside pickup times.)

## Adult Programs (18+)

Register online at [www.franklinpubliclibrary.org](http://www.franklinpubliclibrary.org) or call 414-425-8214.

### Great Decisions Discussion Series (No registration)

**Wednesdays thru March 12, 6:30 p.m.** America's largest discussion program on world affairs. See website for topics and speakers.

**Saturday Craft N' Sip (No registration) March 1, 10:30-Noon.** Drop in and get in the mood for spring! Make spring-inspired crafts while sipping on a warm coffee or tea.



**Ceol Cairde Concert (No registration) March 3, 6:30 p.m.** Ceol Cairde is back to perform their traditional Irish and Celtic music.

**Talk Saves Lives (Registration required) March 10, 6 p.m.** Learn facts/myths about suicide prevention, how suicide impacts various demographics, and tips for those concerned about a loved one's mental health (e.g. conversation starters).

### DIY Crafternoons (Registration begins two weeks prior to program)

**2nd Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.** \$2 supply fee is due one week prior.  
**March 12: Floral Watercolor & Sharpie Painting / April 9: Painted Rock Paperweights / May 14: Bubble Wrap Printed Flowers**

### Identifying Senior Scams (No registration)


**March 13, 1:30 p.m.** Informative program on identifying scams that specifically target seniors, how you can avoid scam calls, and more.

### Book Discussion Groups (No registration)

**Brown Baggers:** 3rd Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. (Mar. 18, Apr. 15, May 20)  
**Night Readers:** 4th Mondays unless\*, 6 p.m. (Mar. 24, Apr. 28, May 19\*)  
Pick up copies of the books to be discussed at the Check-Out desk.

### Meet Author Jennifer Chiaverini (Registration required)

**April 2, 6:30 p.m.** Meet Jennifer Chiaverini, New York Times bestselling author of the *Elm Creek Quilts* Series. Her newest book, *The World's Fair Quilt*, will be available for purchase and signing!

 **Fundraiser Supporting FPL** Visit On Cloud Wine, 10064 W. Loomis Road, **April 3, 5-8 p.m.**, where a percentage of sales will be donated back to the Library!

### Springtime Brunch (Registration required; begins 9 a.m. 3/19/25)

**April 4, 11:30 a.m.** Join Keri and Sarah for a sampling of some of their favorite recipes for their favorite meal—brunch! \$5 supply fee must be paid by March 28 to secure your spot.

### Dementia Screening (Registration required)

**April 8, 11-3 p.m.** Register for a free dementia screening with the Milw. Co. ADRC. Appointments are 30-minutes—call 414-425-8214.



## Children/Family Programs

Attend programs appropriate for your child's age. For more details or to register for programs, visit [www.franklinpubliclibrary.org](http://www.franklinpubliclibrary.org).

### Sensory-Friendly Storytime (5 & Under w/Adult-Drop-In)

**Mondays—9:30 a.m. March 3, 17, 24, 31, April 14, 21, 28.** A 30-minute storytime for children of all abilities, especially those with sensory processing challenges.

**Sensory Sprout Kits (5 & Under—Pick-up, one/child while supplies last)**  
**March 13: Chia Slime Dino Egg / May 8: Butterfly Stamp Art**

### Spring Sweets Chopped (Gr. K5-5—Registration opens 3/10/25)

**March 24, 1:30 p.m.** Compete in a "chopped" challenge by using mystery ingredients to make a tasty snack!

**Slime Time (Gr. K5-5—Registration opens 3/11/25) March 25, 4 & 6 p.m.** Ooey, gooey slime—dress for a mess and create slime!

**Grannies Bingo (All Ages—Drop-In) March 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m.** Dress up like Bluey and Bingo in your best Grannies blankets and play bingo!

**The Wild Robot Interactive Movie (All Ages—Drop-In) March 28, 1:30 p.m.** Follow the prompts for an interactive movie experience of *The Wild Robot* (PG). Movie kits available while supplies last.



**Transform-A-Box (All Ages—Drop-In) April 5, 1-3 p.m.** Use your imagination to transform a box into something else! Boxes and craft supplies provided while supplies last.

**Eid Celebration! (All Ages—Registration required) April 6, 2-3:30 p.m.** Learn about this very important holiday and enjoy a variety of free activities, including stories about Eid, make a Ramadan lantern, color a beautiful Arabic-style bookmark, and more!

### MakerSquare (Grades K5-5—Pickup on date listed)

Pickup craft or activity at the Children's Desk to make at home. One per child/while supplies last. **April 10: Moving Sand Picture.**

**Sparkle & Screen (Gr. K5-5—Drop-In/while supplies last) April 14, 6 p.m.** Make diamond art while watching the movie, *Elemental*!

### Water N' Kids (5 & Under w/Adult-Drop-In) May 14, 10 a.m.

Join the US Coast Guard Auxiliary for a short and fun introduction to water safety. Adults will learn to properly fit a life jacket for their child and kiddos will learn the basics of water safety.



Visit [franklinpubliclibrary.org](http://franklinpubliclibrary.org) or [facebook.com/FranklinPublicLibraryWI](https://www.facebook.com/FranklinPublicLibraryWI) for all programming details!

## Teen Programs (Grades 6-12) *Registration required for in-person programs—register at [franklinpubliclibrary.org](http://franklinpubliclibrary.org) or 414-425-8214.*

**Teen Art Contest:** Calling all artists in grades 6-12 to enter FPL's Teen Art Contest for a chance to have your artwork hung in the FPL Teen Zone—along with other great prizes! Original pieces of art only. **Entries accepted March 1-31.** Visit the website for official rules and entry form. FPL's Teen Art Gallery Night to follow on April 16th!

**ACT Test Workshop: March 5, 6-7:30 p.m.** For students, parents, educators—topics covered: Best practices for ACT Test prep and college/career readiness. Why the ACT is a readiness test, not a college test. Where the test comes from and why that's important. How educators can best use the ACT assessments to help students.

**Anime & Boba Tea: March 25, 2-4 p.m.** Watch anime, enjoy special treats from the local Asian Market, AND we'll be making our own Boba Tea!

**Rustic Burlap Picture Frame Take-Out Kit:** Create a rustic, boho burlap picture frame! One kit/teen. **Kits available April 7.**

**FPL Teen Art Gallery Night: April 16, 6-7:30 p.m.** Come see all of the teen artworks that were accepted for the March FPL Teen Art Contest. Enjoy refreshments while admiring the local artists' talent and cast your vote for the Gallery Night Favorite award! This free event is open to all ages. Teens who have entered artwork are encouraged to attend. Visit [www.franklinpubliclibrary.org](http://www.franklinpubliclibrary.org) or call 414-425-8214 for more information.

**Teen Service Saturday: April 26, 10-Noon.** Want or need to earn community service hours? Volunteer at the Library! Bring your Service Hours form for the librarian to sign. There will be pizza! (No registration is required.)





**Franklin Senior Travel Program:** Join the Franklin Senior Travelers for a day of fun, entertainment, and the opportunity to make new friends. Franklin seniors choose and pay for their destination and the City of Franklin pays for the bus transportation. You can't go wrong!

For questions, call Basil or Karen Ryan at 414-423-5481. To sign up for a trip, visit <https://franklinsiortravelers.com> and download/print the flyer for the trip you want to take. Fill out the form and mail it with a check to the address listed on the flyer by the payment due date. If you do not have a computer, call us, and we will mail you a flyer. If you are not a Franklin Senior Traveler, we welcome you. There is no joining fee—the only requirements are that you live in Franklin, be 55 years young, and enjoy having fun!

*Our 2025 schedule starts at the Fireside Theatre. The Fireside used to have Wednesday and Thursday matinees, but has now changed to Thursday and Friday matinees. Looking forward to seeing everyone very soon!*

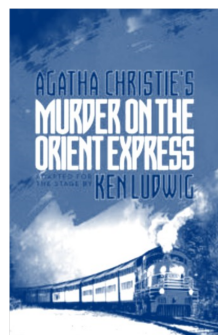


### Friday, April 11, 2025: West Side Story Fireside Theatre, Fort Atkinson

**\*\* RSVP Deadline: March 17 / Resident Fee: \$83 \*\***

Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet is transported to modern-day New York City as two young lovers find themselves caught between warring street gangs. Their struggle to survive in a world of hate, violence, and prejudice is one of the most innovative, heart-wrenching, and relevant musical dramas of our time. Broadway legends Arthur Laurents, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, and Jerome Robbins created a show that is ageless and as fresh as tomorrow's headlines. Join us for this landmark musical and epic tale of eternal love.

Lunch includes your choice of: **sliced pork tenderloin and gravy served with herbed stuffing and cinnamon applesauce, coconut chicken breast glazed with brandied apricot sauce, or seared halibut filet served with a tamari aioli sauce.** All entrees served with lemon chicken orzo soup, freshly baked breads, coconut and ginger jasmine rice, Asian stir-fried vegetables, cherry crisp topped with homemade vanilla frozen custard, coffee, tea, and milk.



### Thursday, May 29, 2025: Murder on the Orient Express Fireside Theatre, Fort Atkinson

**\*\* RSVP Deadline: May 1 / Resident Fee: \$83 \*\***

Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the Orient Express in its tracks. The luxurious train is surprisingly full, but by the morning it is one passenger fewer as an American tycoon lies dead in his compartment. Isolated and with a killer in their midst, the passengers rely on detective Hercule Poirot to identify the murderer—in case he or she decides to strike again. This theatrical thriller is filled with intellectual and comedic twists and turns, masterfully adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig.

Lunch includes your choice of: **chicken and ribs, grilled Mahi-Mahi served with a sweet mango sauce, or Mediterranean beef short rib served with a pan sauce.** All entrees served with a signature salad, freshly baked breads, roasted garlic redskin potatoes, creamed corn, French silk pie, coffee, tea, and milk.

**Franklin Seniors Walking Club:** The Franklin Seniors Walking Club meets every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Milwaukee County Sports Complex, 6000 W. Ryan Road. Dues are \$9 which includes a T-shirt. You can walk rain, snow, or shine, and, best of all, you are exercising, meeting new friends, and getting out of the house! **Contact David and Judy Beine at 414-421-3490 for more details or visit <https://franklinsiortravelers.com>.**



**Franklin Seniors Monthly Lunch:** The Franklin Seniors, Inc. monthly membership luncheon takes place the first Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. at Root River Center in Franklin. There is a nominal cost. **Reservations are required—please contact Lynn Borkenhagen at 414-207-1952 or Beverly Garves at 414-339-2267 to reserve your spot.**

**Franklin Senior Dining:** Nutritious, balanced, hot lunches are served Monday–Friday to those 60 years and older in the Community Room of Franklin City Hall, 9229 W. Loomis Road, through Milwaukee County Department on Aging and Milwaukee Christian Center. Doors open at 10:30 a.m., meals served at 11 a.m., and doors close promptly at 12 Noon. **Diners are encouraged to contribute \$3 per meal. Call 414-427-7696 between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to reserve lunch (24-hour notice needed). View monthly menus at [www.franklinwi.gov/Services/Senior-Dining.htm](http://www.franklinwi.gov/Services/Senior-Dining.htm). Gift certificates are available for purchase—4 for \$10, a 50-cent savings per meal!**



RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER  
FRANKLIN, WI 53132

## Your Property Tax Breakdown: Understanding the Numbers

To help our residents understand where their tax dollars go, here's an overview of the 2024-2025 property tax landscape, recent school referendums, and the City's tax portion calculation.

### School Referendums

Three school referendums that passed in November 2024 significantly impact your tax bill.

Here's the breakdown:

- **Franklin School Referendum (2024):** This referendum ends in 2044. The total amount is \$145 million with a tax rate of \$1.109 per \$1,000.
- **Oak Creek-Franklin School Referendum (2024):** This referendum ends in 2030. The total is \$34.3 million and the tax rate is \$0.820 per \$1,000.
- **Whitnall School Referendum (2024):** This referendum ends in 2044. The total is \$79.1 million and the tax rate is \$2.234 per \$1,000.

### How the City's Tax Portion is Calculated

The City's property tax rate in 2024 is \$3.832739 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This rate is determined by dividing the City tax levy by the City's total assessed value and multiplying by 1,000.

### Your Tax Dollars Cover the City's:

- **Personnel Costs:** Accounts for approximately 78-80% of total costs. Utility personnel are not covered by levy dollars, reducing this percentage.
- **Operations:** Supports essential services, including public safety, administration, and street maintenance.
- **Street Improvements:** Funds a small portion of the street improvement program.
- **Debt Payments:** Covers annual debt service obligations.
- **Library Services:** Supports the majority of the Library's operating budget.

### Legal Framework

State law (Sec. 66.0602, Wis. Statutes) limits municipalities' ability to increase property taxes. Increases are capped at the net new construction percentage unless a referendum is approved. Exceptions include servicing debt, funding transfers, or voter-approved increases. These rules ensure responsible taxation while allowing flexibility for community needs.

### What's Next?

The school districts will share updates as they finalize borrowing. For more details regarding the City's portion, contact our Finance Department at 414-427-7514.

The image to the right illustrates how every tax dollar is allocated to these five taxing jurisdictions:

- **School Districts:** 44.3%
- **City of Franklin:** 23.6%
- **Milwaukee County:** 19.4%
- **MMSD:** 7.7%
- **MATC:** 5%





SEE ANNUAL CITY EVENTS AT [FRANKLINWI.GOV](http://FRANKLINWI.GOV) FOR ADDITIONAL FORMS.

# INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

Call Angela Christie at 414-235-8180,  
email [Volunteers4Franklin@gmail.com](mailto:Volunteers4Franklin@gmail.com) or mail to:  
FCCC Volunteer, c/o Franklin City Hall,  
9229 W. Loomis Road, Franklin, WI 53132



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Each volunteer must fill out a separate form unless you are a married couple.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Have you worked at this festival before?      Yes      No

Select T-shirt size (unisex cut, 100% cotton):    S,    M,    L,    XL,    2X

## PLEASE INDICATE YOUR DESIRED SHIFT(S) BELOW, WED 7/2 - SUN 7/6.

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

6 - 8 pm, Set up (tables and chairs)

***TICKET BOOTH***

***MAIN TENT***

**SEATED & AIR CONDITIONED**

**MUST BE 21 OR OLDER**

Thursday, July 3, 2025

**KINGS OF RADIO**

5 - 8 pm

8 - 10:30 pm

5 - 8 pm

8 - 11 pm

Friday, July 4, 2025

**5 CARD STUDS**

**SMART MOUTH**

2 - 5 pm

5 - 8 pm

8 - 10:30 pm

2 - 5 pm

5 - 8 pm

8 - 11 pm

Saturday, July 5, 2025

**PAT MCCURDY**

**BELLA CAIN**

2:30 - 5 pm

5 - 8 pm

8 - 10:30 pm

2:30 - 5 pm

5 - 8 pm

8 - 11 pm

Sunday, July 6, 2025

8 - 10 am, Tear down (tables and chairs)



# FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## OPENING DOORS

MARCH 2025

### WHAT FHS EXPERIENCE HAS HELPED YOU TO BEST PREPARE FOR POST-GRADUATE PLANS?



*"Working on a job-site every morning with real contractors and getting hands-on experience through the Construction 2 program has helped me to prepare for life outside of high school."*

Hailey Savastam, Senior



*"Taking the "Project Lead the Way" classes all four years of high school has made it really clear cut for me to pursue the medical field after graduation."*

Onyu Lee, Senior



*"The genuine relationships with our strong teachers and staff have furthered my learning, especially with understanding the power of communication. To all my mentors on my journey so far - thank you for helping shape who I am today!"*

Jesse Kelly, Senior



*"Opportunities like being in orchestra for all four years, taking AP music theory & intro to piano and my orchestra teacher internship helped me develop my passion for music and my decision to study to become a music teacher."*

Anabel Hernandez Tovar, Senior



*"My apprenticeship for Certified Nursing Assistant class and lifeguarding has given me a better understanding of the medical field and what I want to become after graduating high school."*

Pierson Patrenets, Senior

### Pride in Franklin Public Schools

ANNALEE BENNIN, FPS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR



Happy New Year! I am honored to share the pride points you will read about in this issue of *Opening Doors*:

- ▶ Hear from some of our **senior students** in the left sidebar about what Franklin High School experience has helped them to best prepare for their post-graduate plans.
- ▶ Below are some district-wide pride points from the November release of the State Report Card.
- ▶ Award winning FHS students had a special visit from **Congressman Bryan Steil** in December. Find out why on the back!
- ▶ There are a plethora of upcoming **Saber Center for the Performing Arts** offerings **this spring**. Learn more on the back and consider celebrating the arts with us!

Finally, we would like to extend an **invitation to our community members** to provide feedback to us on **what instills pride in you about Franklin Public Schools**. We are collecting this feedback (video, audio or text) using the online form at [tinyurl.com/fpscfeedback](https://tinyurl.com/fpscfeedback), or you can scan the QR code to access the form on your mobile device. The form explains how we will use this information. We would love to hear from you as we continue to build pride throughout our community.

COMMUNITY PRIDE FORM



SCAN ME

Thank you for your continued support of Franklin Public Schools. Together we are shaping a brighter future for our students and our community.





# SABER CENTER EVENTS



For ticket details, scan the QR code (left) or visit [tinyurl.com/scpatix](https://tinyurl.com/scpatix)

The Saber Center for the Performing Arts offers programs and events throughout the year.

► **The Improvised Broadway Musical**  
 Saturday, March 1 | 7 PM



► **FHS Musical: The Addams Family - A New Musical Comedy**  
 March 13-16, 2025

► **Forte Theatre: The Secret Garden**  
 April 5&6, 11-13, 2025

**Looking for updates on the new Community Education Recreation Center (CERC)?**



**SCAN ME! >>>**



**or go to [tinyurl.com/fpsCERC](https://tinyurl.com/fpsCERC)**

## FHS Students Place At Top of Leaderboard in First Congressional District App Challenge

**CHAD KAFKA**, FPS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST

Some Franklin High School students had a surprise visit in late November from First Congressional District Representative **Bryan Steil**. Congressman Steil hosts the “Congressional App Challenge” every year for the First District of Wisconsin middle school and high school students and he visited FHS to recognize the 1st and 2nd place finishers in the contest.



FHS Junior **Rishi Suryavanshi** won first place for this year’s contest for his app called “Botanical.” Botanical is an AI powered app that helps users to properly take care of their plants.

Second place in the contest also went to FHS students. **Kanwar Ghuman, Rohan Peddamallu, Anant Raj,** and **Ameen Almousa** created an app called “Tutor Me” to help guidance counselors place students that need tutoring with mentor students based on need, subject area or other preferences.

During the visit, the students all spoke very fondly about math/computer science teacher **David Hust** who helped them with their projects and runs the Computer Science Club. The Congressional App Challenge serves as an innovative way for students to be creative, gain new skills, learn to code, and become involved in STEM. Winning students are invited to the #HouseofCode Capitol Hill Reception in Washington DC this spring. In addition, all of the winning teams get to showcase their winning app on a national platform as the apps are featured on display in the US Capitol building, on the House of Representatives’ website, and on the Congressional App Challenge website. Congratulations to our FHS students for placing in this contest!

## Enroll Now in 4K!

Half-day 4K programming available at all (5) elementary schools!  
 4-years-old on or before September 1st.

Visit [tinyurl.com/franklin4k](https://tinyurl.com/franklin4k) to get started



## 2025-26 District Calendar

Access important dates for the 2025-26 school year. The District Calendar is now live! visit [www.franklin.k12.wi.us](https://www.franklin.k12.wi.us)

or use this accessible link: [tinyurl.com/FPSca125-26](https://tinyurl.com/FPSca125-26)

