

Community Notes

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

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2008



The Franklinton Police Department will hold its 17th annual observance of National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5, 2008. Franklinton is one of the 10,000+ communities that were involved in observing National Night Out in 2007. National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watches and is an effort to heighten crime prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The event began in Franklinton in 1992 with residents being encouraged to turn on their porch lights and come outside, while officers made visits to as many residents as possible. Participation was so overwhelming that "Block Parties" had to be organized so that officers could meet more citizens. In 2006, the Town boasted eight "Block Parties" which, to say the least, afforded officers, elected officials, and staff little time for meaningful interaction at each host site. With this in mind, in 2007, the Town organized one big event which was held at the Franklinton Park. This brought all of our citizens to together at one location and allowed all of our police, fire, rescue and town officials

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TOWN HALL OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULED

The Franklinton Board of Commissioners will be hosting "Open Houses" over the next several months. During these open houses Board members will be at Town Hall to give the public an opportunity to get to know their elected officials. It also provides an informal opportunity for citizens to communicate with the board regarding concerns and suggestions in order to help them provide you a more informed and effective Town government.

The next scheduled Open House is August 2nd from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

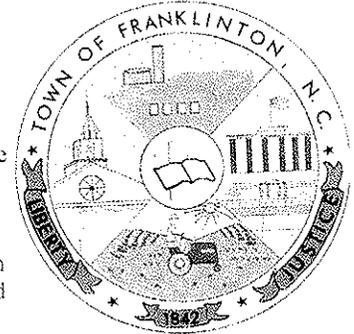
For a complete Open House schedule go to the Town's website at www.franklintonnc.us and click the community calendar link.

Citizen Participation is the Key to Our Success!

SEWER REHABILITATION

Last October, the Town of Franklinton received a grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund in the amount of \$1,033,000. In late June, the Town also received notice from the Rural Center (the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center) has granted the Town \$338,500 for a total of \$1,411,500. These funds will be used by the Town to rehabilitate several components of our sewer system around the Town.

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What's Your Board Doing?

Over the past few weeks, the Town Board of Commissioners have spent several evenings meeting over many topics pertinent to the Town. In addition to the regular monthly meetings, the Board has met to construct the Town's budget, to determine which streets need to be closed to parking on the street for safety concerns, street decommissioning, water and sewer concerns, and abandoned/junk/nuisance vehicle ordinances. As well, your Board has been vigilant in attending meetings of the County Commission, as well continuing to participate in organizational meetings that the Town is a part of, including CAMPO, the Kerr Tar Regional Council of Governments (or COG), the Franklin County Economic Development Commission, and the Franklin County Committee of 100.

Beginning in July, the Board will also receive a monthly update on the Action Item Report created by the Mayor from the items determined priorities at the Town Board Retreat in March. Look for this report to track items of importance to the Board and the Town.

Budget

The 2008-09 Fiscal Year Budget has been adopted by the Franklinton Board of Commissioners. Please visit www.franklintonnc.us or come to Town Hall to see a copy. The Board voted not to increase taxes, and to restructure utility fees to assist those who use less water in an effort to promote voluntary conservation. Questions about the budget may be directed to Town Manager Larry Carver or Mayor Elic Senter.

ARTS ALIVE

Are you interested in promoting the arts in Franklinton? Then come to the regular monthly meetings of the Franklinton Arts Alive Committee! The Arts Alive Committee meets on the third Thursday of the month at Town Hall. The committee is examining new activities and community events to promote the arts in town, and is working to determine how the town will celebrate the holidays this year. Come out and join us! Meetings begin at 7:00pm. The next meeting will be in September.

Frankenfest on Main

Frankenfest on Main (FOM) was initially conceived as an event that the Uptown Revitalization Committee (URC) would hold to bring folks into downtown Franklinton, so that businesses could stay open, and allow people an opportunity to 'rediscover' downtown. It morphed into a festival for all ages, which held something for (hopefully) everyone. At FOM 2007, we somehow managed to have a multitude of vendors and several county agencies who participated. As well, the Franklinton Woman's Club also hosted a car show in the downtown area, which was slightly affect by the weather, but was a great attraction. Over 600 people attended last year, and the event received rave reviews.

This year's event began in the planning stages in January. (A FULL six months prior to when we started planning last year's event!) The URC has gotten over 30 vendor commitments already, which is VERY exciting! A couple of businesses have advertised already, the URC will be kicking back into high gear with planning and organizing in late July. Interested in having a booth? Want to advertise? Check out www.frankenfestonmain.org. Mark the date – October 25, 2008. We look forward to seeing you!

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These rehabilitative improvements are part of the Town's effort to correct problems with our sewer system that have led to severe infiltration by storm water when we have heavy rains, which cause further problems at the wastewater treatment plant. These improvements would have been required of the Town, and would have caused a serious rate increase on the part of the Town had we not received these grants. Over the next year, you'll see these improvements around town begin.

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an opportunity to meet and get to know our citizens. Our community has been very supportive of National Night Out and this event would certainly not be possible if it were not for the gracious volunteers who organize and donate their time for this event as well as our local merchants who donate door prizes. For the past several years, proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets go to host the annual senior citizen picnic held on Halloween each year. If you are interested in volunteering or making a donation for this event please contact Town Hall at 919-494-2520.

\$1 RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE AT \$1
TOWN HALL & POLICE DEPT.

Newsletter Contributions Welcome

Any Civic Organization wishing to contribute material for our next newsletter please email Mayor Senter at csenter@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!

We Look Forward to Hearing Your Ideas!

News from the Franklin County Department of Aging

Call 911 even if you can't reach the phone!

Many senior citizens are at risk of accidents requiring help from emergency services. Any Franklinton resident can get help fast by dialing 911, however, about 100 homes in the county now have an additional device that enables the resident to call for help even when the telephone is out of reach. "I've fallen and I can't get up" is a common plea for help heard by emergency staff. The HASTEN System allows the resident to call for help through a special connecting device which is activated by pressing a button on a pendant worn around the neck.

This system has saved many from lying on the floor for a long period after a fall. The system works 24 hours a day, seven days a week, ready on stand-by to connect the caller with Franklin County 911. This protection is popular with seniors who live alone and may have no one to check on them frequently. Medical, fire, security, and safety emergencies will get an immediate response from the appropriate agency.

The HASTEN System includes a smoke alarm which will automatically notify 911 if smoke or excessive heat is detected in the home. An extra value is peace of mind that relatives receive from knowing that their loved one can get help fast in time of crises. The Franklinton Senior Center works with AC Corporation to obtain and install the systems. Staff of the Department of Aging can install the system within a few days notice of the need, and instruct the person on its use. Monthly rental of the system is \$30.00, with a one-time installation fee of \$ 50.00. Anyone who wishes to have a HASTEN System installed may simply request it by calling the Franklinton Senior Center, 494-5611.

HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE

By now, you may know that there is a planned high speed rail path that will utilize the current CSX railroad tracks. (These are the tracks that are parallel to US 1 and Main Street in Franklinton.) For the Town of Franklinton, this means that the crossings at Pearce Street and North Main, Joyner Street just off North Main, Mason Street just off North Main, College Street just off South Main, Hawkins Street just off South Main, and Cedar Creek Road just off South Main would all be closed. However, the crossing at NC 56 would be upgraded, and an additional lane added to the highway. Also, two new crossings would be added; one would be located just north of the current crossing at Pearce Street; the other would be located just south of the current crossing at Cedar Creek Road.

In April, a meeting of the steering committee was held in Youngsville, which many citizens attended, along with several members of your Board of Commissioners. The Board feels very strongly that these closures would have a high negative impact on the Town of Franklinton. Fortunately, the engineers at the DOT Rail Division are very serious about their commitment to being a partner in the communities which will be affected by this project. The High Speed Rail project of the NC DOT Rail Division is a very important project to the economic development of our state, allowing ease of transport with what will hopefully be a more efficient method than driving. However, while we do see this as a need, and we also recognize that this rail line may also be used in the future to bring commuter rail to Franklinton (this is likely about 15 to 20 years out, and would bring a depot back to Franklinton for the first time in several decades), we

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AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

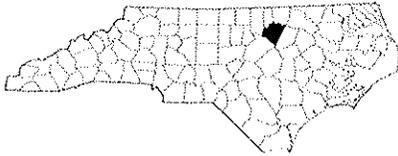
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Utility Bills Due URC Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Arts Alive Meeting	17	18
19	20 Planning Board 7:00 pm	21 Town Board 7:00pm	22	23	24	25 Frankenfest on Main
26	27	28 Tree Committee	29	30	31 Appliance Pick Up	

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

Town of Franklinton

7 WEST MASON STREET
Post Office Box 309
Franklinton, North Carolina 27525

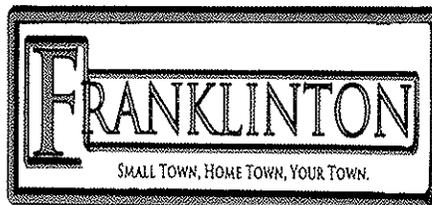
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TOWN DIRECTORY

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CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
www.franklintonnc.us



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also are insistent that this project not be a detriment to the Town.

When Mayor Elic Senter met with engineers and officials from the NC DOT Rail Division, he shared with the Board that the lead engineer on the project, Mr. David Foster, was very receptive to hearing the concerns of the Board and many of our citizens. Mr. Foster and his colleagues examined each of the crossings with Mayor Senter, and they also discussed alternatives to the closures of College and Mason Streets. Mr. Foster has remained in communication with Mayor Senter and the Board, ensuring them that the concerns of the citizens of Franklinton are important to the NC DOT Rail Division. The Board will keep you informed as events develop.

Don't forget! Recycle your ink cartridges and cellular phones at Town Hall!! Proceeds from these recyclables will be used to fund the Tree and Beautification Committees! Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Town Hall Open House
August 2, 2008
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

STAND UP FOR AMERICA CELEBRATION

What a wonderful event this was for the Town of Franklinton! The Franklinton American Legion – Post 52 did an OUTSTANDING job coordinating this event. The second year proves that there is definitely great interest in the event, and in having some way to celebrate the birth of our nation on our Independence Day! From great music and bands, to great food and snow cones, to an injurious dunking tank, it was a great day and a wonderful community event. Even the threat of rain couldn't stop the hard work of the American Legion from paying off, with the highlight of the day being a half an hour of fireworks ending just seconds before a thunderous rain shower began that ultimately blew tents across the football field.

It's only through the perseverance of the members of Post 52 that this event will continue. We as a community have to support the American Legion in their fundraising efforts throughout the year so that events like this can be held by this wonderful civic organization. Let's look forward to July 4, 2009 and another wonderful celebration from the American Legion!