



## Franklin Online

The all-new Village of Franklin website is now live and packed with helpful information and articles – it's better than ever!

Peruse the Village calendar, check election results, read past issues of the Villager – the new website is your source for all things Franklin. Bookmark the site and check back often!

[www.franklin.mi.us](http://www.franklin.mi.us)

# Join us at the Round Up *Bake Sale*

The 2009 Franklin Round-Up Bake Sale set a sales record and we need to beat it again this year! Please bake your favorite brownies, muffins, cookies, cakes or pies for the **2010 Labor Day Franklin Roundup Bake Sale!**

Bring your baked goods to the Franklin Roundup Bake Sale booth at 8:30- 9:00 am Labor Day, Monday, September 6th.

Questions or need to drop off something early? Would you like to work at the booth? Please call or e-mail Bake Sale coordinators:

**Lisa Weisman: 248-851-2039, lisaweisman15@gmail.com**  
**Illana Greenberg: 248-737-9222, illanagreenberg@aol.com**

Thank you, See you at the fair!  
Lisa and Illana



**Franklin Community Association**  
P.O. Box 250046  
Franklin, MI 48025

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**AUGUST 2010**

# Franklin Villager

Sponsored by the Franklin Community Association

**VOL. 42, NO. 2**

## Franklin Community Association

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Kathy Erlich, Vice President  
Shana Suris, Co-Secretary  
Roseann Donaldson, Co-Secretary  
Stewart Weiner, Treasurer

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Norma Pope  
Anna Marie Roediger  
Lori Seltzer  
Jesse Polan  
John Pulker  
Al Beke  
Ed & Linda Saenz

## Franklin Villager

The Franklin Villager is sponsored by the **Franklin Community Association** and sent to all residents of the Village. Send your information to: *Franklin Villager Editor*  
Michelle Delacourt  
607 W. Oakridge St.  
Ferndale, MI 48220  
Cell: 248.515.1448  
Fax: 248.855.6917  
Email: sheldel@comcast.net

### FCA Editor, Michael Seltzer

Email: mike@skmmarketing.com  
Fax: 248.855.0227  
27160 Scenic Drive  
Franklin, MI 48025



Franklinites of all ages came out on Saturday, June 12 to support the Kreger Community Center project. Runners, strutters and walkers participated in the 5K event, followed by an old-fashioned pancake breakfast cooked by Boy Scout Troop 1699 in the fire hall. The event raised \$3000. Photo by Les Gorback

# Changing of the Guard

## FCA Bids Seltzer Adieu, Welcomes Polan

**From former FCA President Michael Seltzer:**

Dear Villagers – It is with great pride that I announce my appointment to serve as your representative as a member of the Franklin Village Council effective immediately. I join fellow council members Steve Rosenthal, Brian Gettel, Mark Jahnke, Bill Lamott, Jim Kochensparger and President Fred Gallasch with the goal to serve you, the voters of Franklin Village and your needs.

As you know I moved to Franklin Village in 1995 when Lori and I bought the historic “Franklin House” on Scenic Drive,

circa 1840. We are proud of our home and have had it on the annual Home Tour three times and sharing with our community as be a part of our lives since we moved. Lori and I joined the FCA immediately and I was appointed your President in 2001. Previously, Presidents of the FCA served one year terms and I have had the great pleasure and privilege of serving in that same capacity ever since, which is another historical first for our Village.

During my tenure, we saved the long-standing and threatened tradition of the annual Labor Day Round Up which was

*Continued on pg. 2*

## A note from your FCA President

I was honored when Past President Michael Seltzer asked me to take over as Franklin Community Association President when he in turn was asked to join the Franklin Village Council. In addition to added responsibilities (I am the one who decides if the movie is a go when rain is threatening) he also gave me a box of files and old copies of Villagers. At the back of the box was a folded pamphlet celebrating the FCA's 25th year—1962! The FCA's tagline was "Dedicated to Better Suburban Living," and the objective of the association holds as true today as it did 48 years ago. "The object of this Association shall be to promote a more neighborly relationship among the residents of Franklin Community: to promote the general welfare: to help in providing better health, education, recreation and safety: to engage in merited benevolent and charitable enterprises: to take broad interest in local government free from political partisanship." Then, as now, villagers were planning for the Round Up, although the President' Ball seems to have fallen by the wayside.

It is interesting to note that 48 years ago "The construction of the Community Center is the major goal of the Association." This "charming colonial building" was to be built on the Village Green, just about where we sit to watch our concerts. Just as interesting is that in 2010 we are still "constructing" our Community Center—the Kreger House and buildings belong to all of us, and in the near future (certainly we hope in less than 48 years!) will be our center for gatherings and village events.

I look forward to greater villager participation in our community association—from emails with ideas and suggestions to participation in the Round Up, our follow-up barbecue, and our mid-winter FCA meeting. Please join us, and join in.

**Jane Polan**  
J5Polan@aol.com, 248-626-2231



From pg. 1

endangered, added additional activities on our FCA-owned grounds like Music and Movies and soon some new events that will be announced shortly for summer 2010. We added Welcome to Franklin signage throughout our community, managed the improvements of our grounds, playground, tennis courts, barn, gazebo and worked with the retail community to help increase their presence via Holly Day/WinterFest and other events. We recruited scores of new volunteers and I am thankful to a large group that has helped me maintain our FCA as vibrant, focused and dedicated. I could not have done that over this past decade without your great support and caring.

We have grown our annual Spring Winetasting to a premier event, helped with the preservation of the Kreger Farm house and are proud of our preservation activities while recognizing the need for change in a difficult and challenging economic environment. There are many challenges ahead in our finances, administration, retail community and other things that we volunteers do under the radar to keep our community in step with the times. We hope to unveil a new and user-friendly website and I will continue to manage the Villager—your source of information and what's going on in Franklin—something I've also managed for the past 10 years!

I have reached out to the community to integrate your ideas and wishlist of things we can do to maintain the fabric of uniqueness that we all cherish in Franklin. I have served on the cell tower committee, attended countless meetings of Village Council, dealt with our issues both known and unknown, been the "go to" person for numbers of things inside the community and worked hard to maintain the traditions and very special sense of community that we all love about our Village. I've shivered during our annual WinterFest tree lighting and menorah light ceremony, worked with our great retail community to help them grow and made countless numbers of friends in and out of Franklin. I look back at my experience at your President with great pride and fondness, but now is a time for change for me and I relish the responsibility associated with joining council. I come prepared to dig in and deal with the less "fun" aspects that my social leadership provided during my FCA reign but leave the FCA in great hands with a great group of volunteers and have appointed the well-deserved Jane Polan to follow in my footsteps. Jane is a tireless booster and had single-handedly handled the Art Fair since the FCA took it over 4 years ago when that was necessitated.

I will continue to keep my hands and heart in our FCA—and I greatly appreciate your continued support as I move into my new position.

Please come to our meetings on the second Tuesday of each month or watch them on Comcast channel 15 to see what we have to deal with in managing your community and contact me anytime with your concerns and issues.

I look forward to continual service to our community and welcome your thoughts.

Yours very truly,

**Michael Seltzer**  
FCA President 2001-2010 and now Trustee



# Kreger Farm Update

## Second Annual Kreger Barn Raising Event

Runners, strutters and walkers participated in the 5K event on Sat., June 12th to support the Kreger community center project. It was followed by an old-fashioned pancake breakfast cooked by Boy Scout troop 1699 in the fire hall.

Thank you to everyone who participated! We raised \$3000! We are all ready planning for the 3rd annual event!

We are pleased with the progress of the buildings and grounds. More than \$225,000 has been contributed to date and we're only \$50,000 away from completing the public restrooms and making the house functional.

With your continued support, we are confident these two buildings will be completed shortly and we can move on to the next phase of restoring and expanding the barn.

**Please send your contribution to the FHS Kreger Fund,  
P.O. Box 250007, Franklin, Michigan 48025.**



Photos by Les Gorbach



## Swing Your Partner and Buy Some Art!

Get ready to chow down and kick up your heels at the **Kreger Barn Dance** on the village green **Saturday, September 25th at 6 pm.** You won't want to miss this event! Watch for further details.

On Sunday, September 26th from 1-4 pm, join Franklin artists Max Altekruise and David McCall Johnston. Much of their art reflects Franklin surroundings. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet them and purchase their artwork.

Proceeds from the barn dance and art show benefit the Kreger Community Center.

**Correction** In our April issue, Kreger Farm Project Donors **Evelyn and Harold Goodman** were misidentified. The Villager apologizes for the error.

# Get ready for the *Round-Up!*

## Round-Up Needs Volunteers

If you haven't already volunteered, we need your help at the 66th annual Labor Day Round Up.

*Volunteer opportunities:*

**Sat., Sept. 4: set up, 10 am to noon**

**Mon., Labor Day, Sept. 6:**

**Shifts include: 8-10 am, 10-noon, noon-2 pm, 2-4 pm, and 4-6 pm (clean up)**

Areas: raffle tent, ticket sales, pony rides, midway games, kids' craft tent, food tent.

*You may request an area or we will fill you in where needed.*

*Please request a specific time. Please include your full name.*

Please contact **Jane Polan at 248 626-2231** or **J5Polan@aol.com** to volunteer.

## Support the FCA Raffle

PLEASE support the FCA and purchase your Round Up raffle tickets. Over 100 great prizes. If you didn't receive tickets in the mail, **contact Jane Polan at J5Polan@aol.com.**

## Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Franklin Library will be hosting a used book sale at the Round Up. Donations are appreciated. **Contact the library for more info at 248-851-2254.**

## Fall Plant Exchange

Watch your emails for the first annual Franklin Plant Exchange. In late Sept. we will meet at the gazebo with pots of plants in hand. Divide and bring hostas, lilies, ferns, coral bells — anything from our gardens to share and trade!

## Franklin Garden Club News

As summer days become shorter and the harvest crop is ripening on the vine and in the fields, it is once again time to plan ahead for the **Franklin Labor Day Round-Up**. The Franklin Garden Club members will once again have a booth where they will sell potted perennials and household plants. Your donations are needed. Also needed are entries for our vegetable, fruit and flower competition. Flowers should be arranged in quart mason jars or quart mayonnaise jars. This could be your year to take home the blue ribbon! These donations may be dropped off on Phyllis Dimitroff's front porch at any time or at the booth on Labor Day.

Also required are volunteers to work in the booth, decorate the float and angels to walk in the parade. If you have any questions, **please call Phyllis at 248-626-2826.**



## Calling All Golden Retrievers to the Franklin Labor Day Parade!

For the 15th year, Golden Retriever Rescue of Michigan (GRRoM) will be participating in the Labor Day Parade. Please join us—all Golden Retrievers are welcome! We want this to be our biggest turnout ever! We have a great time every year as we parade our pooches and gather on the church lawn afterward to socialize. Line-up is at 11:30 am on Evelyn Court (west of Franklin Rd., one block south of 14 Mile Rd.). Please bring water and clean-up bags.

**For more information, contact Paulette Lerman at 248.539.8842. For GRRoM info, call our hotline at 248.988.0154 or visit [www.grrom.com](http://www.grrom.com) or [www.grrom.petfinder.com](http://www.grrom.petfinder.com).**

## *Shhhh...* It's a Silent Auction, But Tell Everyone!

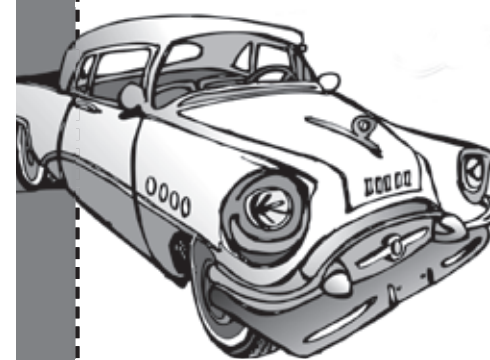
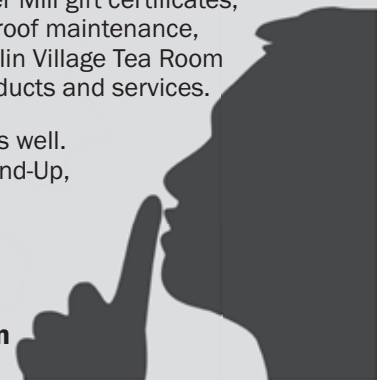
As you may recall we began a Silent Auction at the Round-Up four years ago that received a lot of support and enabled us to add a "nice chunk of change" (almost \$8000) to the Franklin Community Association's programs. For those of you who contributed and/or purchased auction items, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY—AND HOW ABOUT DOING IT AGAIN!!!!!! And for those of you who were not able to participate, here's another chance to support the Franklin activities that many of us have come to enjoy so very much!

We have received donations for the Silent Auction including Somerset gift certificates, Franklin Cider Mill gift certificates, Market Basket gift certificates, JCC Memberships, one hour airplane rides, Single Ply International roof maintenance, doctor and dentist services, Franklin Grill gift certificates, Streetside Seafood gift certificates, Franklin Village Tea Room gift certificates, a yoga party by Caryn Gallagher, Stage Deli gift certificates and many other fun products and services.

If you have any other items or services you would like to donate to the raffle, that would be terrific as well. Tickets for the Raffle are of course available from our volunteers, 6 for \$5, before or during the Round-Up, with hundreds of terrific prizes to be won!!!!

I look forward to receiving your comments, questions, suggestions, contributions, and of course bids on these donated items. See you at the Round-Up!

**For more information, contact Jesse N. Polan: 248.932.0081 or email [j5polan@aol.com](mailto:j5polan@aol.com)**



## CLASSIC CAR ENTRY FORM

Do you have a classic car that you would like to enter in the FCA's Annual Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 6? To enter, please complete this form and mail to: **Bob Smith, Classic Car Chairman, 26069 Shelley Lynn Ct., Franklin, MI 48025** Questions? Call Bob at 248.626.5474 for more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Car Make/Model/Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments \_\_\_\_\_

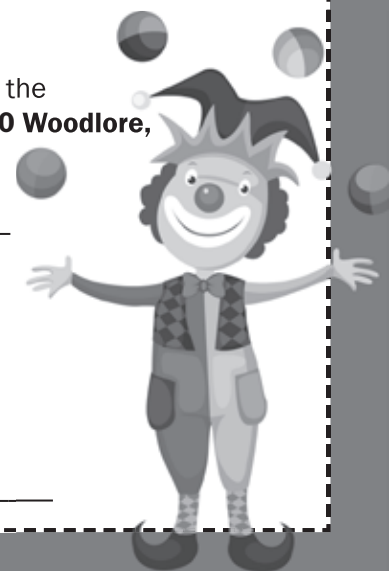
## PARADE ENTRY FORM

The FCA needs your help to make this the best Labor Day Parade ever! Don't stand on the sidelines! Join in! Please send this completed form to: **Warren Robinson, Chair, 26460 Woodlore, Franklin, MI 48025.** Questions? Call Warren at 248.851.7019 for more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

My Parade entry will be (please select):

\_\_\_\_\_ Horse-drawn carriage or wagon \_\_\_\_\_ Float (hand pulled)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Float (golf cart pulled) \_\_\_\_\_ Dog \_\_\_\_\_ Horse & rider  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Costumed walker(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Decorated bicycle  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_



# The Round Up

Better than ever!

Join us  
on Labor Day

Come see our **LEGO City**, march in the **Parade** with **Detroit Tigers' PAWS**, make a family float, ride a pony, decorate your bike - and your pet - for the parade, watch the **Magician's** show, adopt a pet from one of our rescue groups, watch a juggler, bid on great **Auction** items (Somerset gift certificates, a JAX unlimited Club Plan for a year, sports tickets, and more) win a goldfish, see a Bonsai exhibit, have a hot dog, enjoy a salad, eat some ice cream, check out the **Art in the Village** show all this and more at **THE ROUND UP.**

## Be a part of The Round Up

Bake Sale - Lisa Weisman 851-2039

Classic Cars - Bob Smith 626-5474

Garden Club/Contest - Phyllis Dimitroff 626-2826

Parade - Dede & Warren Robinson 851-7019

Volunteers - Jane Polan 626-2231 - Amie Saltzman 626-1153



# Library Corner

The Franklin Public Library  
can now be found on

facebook

## MACY'S SHOP FOR A CAUSE

Macy's national charity shopping day this year is October 16. Come into the library and buy a \$5 coupon ticket. Customers purchasing tickets benefit by receiving incredible storewide shopping savings all day. Macy's also hosts special events, prizes and other in-store excitement on the same day. The Franklin Public Library keeps the \$5 for every ticket sold. Come by and support the library and enjoy great savings at Macy's.

## THANK YOU FRIENDS!!

Summer Reading 2010 was a huge success due solely to the **Friends of the Franklin Public Library**. They pay for everything, including prizes—and we have great ones—, Science Alive, both wrap-up parties, food and t-shirts worn during the parade. We could not do Summer Reading without their support. This year we had 80 kids in the children's program, 34 signed up for the teen program and 36 participated in the adult program—the most participants ever!

## Children's Programming

### Play Group

Tuesday mornings 10:30 am  
September 7 - October 12

Oakland Schools and Great Parents, Great Start-Oakland will once again be offering a playgroup at the library in September on Tuesday mornings at 10:30. These playgroups are designed for parents and/or a caregiver and children ages 0-5.

### Thomas the Train

Saturday, September 25, 2:00 pm

We are going to kick off fall with all things Thomas. We will start by seeing a DVD about Thomas and his friends. Next we'll make a train, play a game and end up with a snack. This program is geared to our youngest library users.

### Spooky Doo

Sunday, October 24, 5:30 pm

Come dressed in your costume for a good old fashioned Halloween party. We'll read some spooky stories, bob for doughnuts, make a craft to take home, play games and snack on cider and doughnuts. As a finale all the kids will head to the gazebo for trick or treating. No registration required.

### Harry Potter Party

Saturday, November 13, 2:00 pm

We will be celebrating the opening of the latest Harry Potter movie, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. We will make wizard-related crafts, play Quidditch and Harry Potter bingo and snack on popcorn and pumpkin juice. Wear costumes if you wish.

### Santa and Friends

Saturday, December 4, 2-4 pm

Come to the library and visit with Santa.

Santa will be here to listen to your wish lists and hand out gifts. There will be snacks and a craft to keep you occupied while you wait. Please bring your camera if you want a photo of your child with Santa.

## Adult Programming

### Author Visit and Book Signing

Wednesday, August 18, 7:00 pm

Franklin resident and author Jessie Stern will be here to discuss her new book *Never Miss a Beat—An Evocation of the Heart*. Jessie's book is a memoir of her life and the activities throughout the world that have impacted us all. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and Jessie will be signing the books after the discussion.

### Book Group

Thursday, September 23, 7:30 pm

The ever popular Adele Robbins will be here discussing the book *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. "Twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon...are orphaned by their mother's death and their father's disappearance. Bound together by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine, the twins come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution..." All are welcome to this discussion.

### Knitting Group

A knitting group will be starting in October, one Thursday a month at 7 pm. More details with dates will follow.

### The Kitchen Assistant

Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 pm

Darla Jaros, author of the book *The Kitchen Assistant*, will be here to teach us all time- and money-saving tips in the kitchen. She will give us a grocery list of items to always keep handy and 150 kitchen tips and techniques that will allow anyone to make a healthy "something out of nothing" meal in their own kitchen.

### Friends Book Sale

Monday, September 6, 10 am - 4 pm

Join us for the Friends annual book sale. We have been getting great donations. This year the Tong twins will be on hand to serenade us with their music from 10-11 am while passing the hat. From 1-3 pm local author Jessie Stern will be at the sale selling and signing her new book *Never Miss a Beat—An Evocation of the Heart*. Donations from both events will benefit the Franklin Public Library.

### Friends Fashion Show

Saturday, October 30, Noon - 2pm  
Tickets \$25

Join us again this year as the Friends of the Library host a fall fashion show and luncheon. Fashions this year will be from the Franklin upscale designer resale shop Déjà Vu. All local models will be used so come enjoy an afternoon out and see your friends and neighbors strut their stuff on the runway. All proceeds will benefit the Franklin Public Library.

For questions or to  
preregister for any programs,  
please call the library at  
248.851.2254.



# Main Street Franklin Update

*A Message from Vivian Carmody, Main Street Franklin Administrator*

My name is Vivian Carmody and while I am newer to the greater Detroit area, and Franklin in particular, I'm not new to the Main Street ideology. I have been involved in Main Street programs for the past 15 years. In addition to Main Street experience, I have a strong background in event management, retail management, tourism, marketing, and brand development.

Franklin is such a wonderfully unique and historic community, and as a Main Street program participant, we have the backing of the National Historic Trust, as well as the support and oversight of the National Main Street Center. As an Oakland County community we also have the support and guidance of Main Street Oakland County's (MSOC) superb staff. This vast support system offers resources through grants, educational programming, and consulting expertise that otherwise would not be available to historic business districts across the U.S. Support such as this is key to communities as they work to revitalize their precious downtowns and cement their historic legacies for generations to come.

The historic village center is the "heart" of Franklin. Without that charming historic core, Franklin becomes like every other well-to-do suburban community. What sets Franklin apart as unique is its history and its charming, one-of-a-kind village center. This incredibly valuable asset needs to be nurtured and protected and skillfully guided into the future as economic and social pressures begin to force changes, intended or unintended.

Why does Main Street work? Because it is community driven, comprehensive, and incremental—one step at a time, one day at a time, year by year. To yield real tangible results, MSF must reflect a strong public/private partnership. We need buy-in from the Village, the merchants and business owners, and the community at large. Main Street programs work because they are a grassroots, volunteer-driven process and without that vital public/private partnership, it is not likely to succeed.

Already in the past few weeks great things have begun to happen. MSF now has a new website: [www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com](http://www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com), a Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/pages/Main-Street-Franklin-Michigan](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Main-Street-Franklin-Michigan) and a Twitter account: [www.twitter.com/MSFranklinMI](http://www.twitter.com/MSFranklinMI).

Our new website will act not only as an introduction to MSF and our merchants, but also act as a resource for our small business owners. They will be able to find articles and media presentations that will offer advice on subjects ranging from customer service and Internet prowess, to marketing and business development. In the very near future we will begin an online weekly business profile that will highlight a Franklin business on the site (alphabetically), as well as support that website profile with daily Facebook and Twitter updates. The new also has many links to national, regional, and local resources, including the FCA's newsletter.

We have also just finished up MSF's first event, the Concours d'Elegance (see photos on page 9), highlighted by over 40 classic cars and the hundreds of visitors who came to see them. Our volunteers put in countless hours to bring this event to fruition in what seemed an impossibly short amount of time. We are already planning how to make next year's show even better.

Over the next several weeks I'll be meeting one-on-one with all the business owners as well as the various community group representatives and village council members to get individual feedback about Franklin—kind of a small SWOT assessment.

Some September dates to remember:

**Sept. 8:** MSOC will bring in a consultant in the area of organizational finances to help MSF develop a solid financial plan and budget.

**Sept. 13 - 14:** the Michigan Downtown Conference in Bay City takes place. All community members are invited to attend. Cost is \$175 for both days. Check out the details at [www.michigandowntownconference.org](http://www.michigandowntownconference.org).

In October, we are planning a Discovery/Visioning process that will involve representatives of all MSF constituents and stakeholders. This process will help us come to a consensus on who our historic village center is and what definitively sets it apart from all the other historic downtowns in its competitive market, as well as what direction it needs to take for the future. Updates to come.

Later this year or early first quarter of next, our goal is to bring in a national retail consultant who can work with our merchants as a group, as well as individually, to help them finesse their business processes, customer service, and marketing.

We have lots of ideas and a long-term agenda. We are intent on working with community organizations such as the FCA, to enhance the experience for our downtown merchants and visitors while supporting the great events that the FCA produces.

One last thing - we are looking for an in-kind donation of office space in the downtown where we can establish a permanent MSF office. Hopefully by press time, we will have found a home, but if not and you know of a small office please contact us. In addition, we are still in the process of establishing a dedicated MSF phone number, until then you can reach me almost any hour of the day on my cell phone: **260-438-8372**. I'd love to hear from you!



## Main Street Franklin's Concours d'Elegance a Great Success!

Main Street Franklin's first event—the Franklin Concours d'Elegance—took place on August 7. Over 40 classic cars participated and hundreds of visitors attended the event.



*Photos by Les Gorback*

## Main Street Franklin Needs You

Along the way we will need the community's support, both financially and as volunteers, to get it all accomplished. We are always looking for people to either serve on one of the four main committees or to work on a specific event, promotion or sub-committee. You can check out our volunteer information page at [www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com/volunteer](http://www.mainstreetfranklinmi.com/volunteer) or contact Vivian Carmody at **260-438-8372**.

# Neighbor Notes

## Franklin Community Preschool

Franklin Community Preschool is celebrating 60 years in the community! We are located inside Franklin Community Church and are currently accepting students for the 2-year-old classes, the 3-year-old classes and the mom's morning out program. You can get more information via the website at [www.fccpreschool.com](http://www.fccpreschool.com) or by calling 248-626-6606.

## Why White Gold is White

White gold is a little bit like white chocolate. At first, it sounds downright ironic. Gold is gold—and by definition it's that golden yellow color we all know. White gold looks more like platinum. However, yellow and white gold are not different metals, at least not in the beginning. It all makes sense when you consider the alloys, or other metals, added to gold to give it strength. Pure gold is 24-karat. Eighteen karat gold is 18 parts gold and six parts alloy. Fourteen karat gold is 14 parts gold and ten parts alloy. Copper and silver are added to 24kt. gold to create yellow gold. Nickel, zinc and platinum or palladium are added to create white gold. The use of alloys makes gold a particularly beautiful and versatile—precious metal.

**For more information about white gold, stop by Yanke Designs, 32611 Franklin or call 248-855-5525.**

# Franklin Police & Mobile Watch

Summertime. Best time of the year, especially in Franklin. Culinary skills abound 'round the family BBQ's on the patio or deck. Outdoor parties—poolside. Long walks in shorts and tees (stylish of course). i-Pods reverberating personal choices that present a sense of the mood. Some of my personal favorites (maybe yours as well?): "Hot Fun in the Summertime" (Sly and the Family Stone); "Summer in the City" (Lovin' Spoonful); "Summertime Blues" (Eddie Cochran, covered by many); "In the Summertime [when the weather is fine]" (Mungo Jerry); "Grazin' in the Grass" (Hugh Masakela); "Summertime" (DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince). Perhaps I'm dating myself, but that's what you get when an older guy writes these articles.

Summertime, despite the warmth and vibrance it provides, also brings out the bad people. Compounding this is the trying economic times that many face. Some turn to practical means to deal, some unfortunately, turn to crime... at our expense.

Since our last missive, there has been increasing incidents of criminal activity in and around our village that you should take note.

Here are some of the reports from the Franklin Police:

- A rash of vehicle break-ins from vehicles in driveways and parking lots targeting GPS units, particularly Chrysler 300 models, have occurred. The rear passenger window is smashed and the GPS is torn from the dashboard.
- Larcenies from yard sheds, yard equipment and other high-value tools and items stolen.
- Larcenies from unlocked autos parked in driveways where wallets, radios, laptop computers and other valuables have been stolen.
- Mail stolen from mailboxes. Checks, personal information, credit card info stolen (when the red flag is up, they know something is in there—better to drop your mail at the Post Office).

Again, a recurring summertime crime, it's been reported that two home invasions have occurred where a stocky red-haired woman in her late 50's or early 60's is discovered lurking around the home while the homeowner is out back tending to the landscaping, or where no one is home. You're in the back, she goes into the unlocked front or side, or is around the rear of the home trying to pry the patio door. She has been around or even in the house claiming, when discovered, to be looking for an unknown person. She quickly leaves the premises when approached, fleeing to a white van (may be a Chrysler mini-van possibly with an old English (Detroit Tigers) style "D" on the back) where a similarly-aged male accomplice awaits. Not only Franklin has been victimized by this duo, but Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Township and Beverly Hills as well.

Please, be a good neighbor and be vigilant. Should you see something happening at your neighbor's house at a time when they are generally at work or they are out of town, or the stocky redheaded woman is walking around your home or your neighbor's whom you don't recognize, call the police (626-5444 or 9-1-1). The Franklin police officers want to check it out. They express this at each of our Mobile Watch meetings. Call them! It's OK. Let them check it out. If it turns out to be nothing, nothing is good! Better to be safe than sorry (apologies for the cliché, but this is a fact. Police Chief Browne and his crew agree). If you can get a license plate number without putting yourself in harms way, all the better. *Continued on page 11*

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At the latest Mobile Watch meeting a few key items were presented to the team. Our annual membership roster was reviewed by the Membership Chairperson (you may have received a call). All Mobile Watch members were reminded of their commitment to patrol their zone at least once a month. This usually takes no more than an hour, a relatively easy commitment to fulfill. We need you, please fulfill your commitment! We live in a safe community, but it only happens with your continued and active involvement.

Long time Mobile Watch member, Lee Fruman, who recently moved from Franklin was nominated to receive the honor of "Honorary Member" in recognition to his 20+ years of service to the community in the Mobile Watch. Thank you, Lee!

The Franklin Police hosted a special "Crime Prevention Night Out" event at the Franklin Police Station (I hope you attended!). Crime prevention tips and hand-outs, food and refreshments along with various police equipment, a Mobile Watch desk, and apparatus from the Franklin Fire Department were on display. Special thanks to Jim Hiller and Hiller Markets for providing the food and refreshments, to all who attended and our Police Department for making this educational event possible.

One of the finest traditions of summer is upon us... Franklin Round-Up! Come on down to the Village Park and partake in all of the delightful activities and displays sponsored and orchestrated by the wonderful volunteers of the Franklin Community Association. See the parade, try your luck at some of the games, admire and even purchase a piece from the award winning Art Fair, partake in the amusements and great family fun. There just might be another annual softball game betwixt the Fire Department and the Little League Coaches, competing for the coveted "Golden Bat." I'll see you there! — **Article by Rick Koslowski**

## Franklin Mobile Watch Needs You!

### Your participation makes a difference in your neighborhood and community

It's no accident that Franklin Village is fortunate to have a low crime rate. The outstanding service provided by our Police Department is the primary reason for it. Your active Mobile Watch plays a key support role. This continues only with your active participation. We need you! From the reports in this article, you should seriously consider joining us to help maintain the quality of life we all enjoy here, in Franklin.

You can join the Franklin Village Mobile Watch and participate in the Zone Patrol program. We encourage you to do so. Your participation will help ensure that your neighborhood receives maximum coverage by the Mobile Watch. If you are not sure which Zone you reside in, call Madeline Haddad at 855-3390 and she can get you informed.

The Franklin Village Mobile Watch is a vital volunteer effort sponsored by the Franklin Police and generously funded by the Franklin Community Association (the group that provides the park, the Labor Day Round-up and a number of other great community services). Your involvement can make a difference and promises to be a fun and sociable experience for you with your neighbors at our monthly meetings. Zone Patrols require less than an hour of your time each month (one hour a month??? Are you kidding?? No, Connor, we are not kidding. That's all it takes!). Please contact Madeline Haddad at 855-3390 or the Franklin Police at 626-9672 for more information. The Mobile Watch meets the last Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Broughton House. Join the team and "Get into the Zone!" Your participation will make a difference in your neighborhood and in your community!

### Attention all Mobile Watch Members...

Although we would like you to attend our monthly meetings regularly, we understand that circumstances may prevent your attendance from time to time. If you cannot attend a meeting to sign up for patrol, please contact Cathy Pikulas (626-9048) and let Cathy know when you will patrol. Please remember to honor and fulfill your commitment to patrol at least one time per month.

### Interested in joining?

Please contact Madeline Haddad or the Franklin Police, or fill out this form and mail to:

**Madeline Haddad – Mobile Watch  
c/o Franklin Police Department,  
32325 Franklin Rd., Franklin, MI 48025**

### I'm in for Mobile Watch!!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



### Get Informed!

Hundreds of Franklin residents receive "Going On in Franklin" emails... concert and movie dates, FCA events, merchant updates...and more! If you would like to be added to the list, email Jane Polan at [J5Polan@aol.com](mailto:J5Polan@aol.com) today!

List your next event in the Franklin Villager!