

City Officials

John R. Nelson, Mayor

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Jon Peccarelli, Ald. District 1

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Michelle Eichmann, Ald. District 2

414-510-6442 / meichmann@franklinwi.gov

Yousef Hasan, Ald. District 3

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Courtney Day, Ald. District 4

414-294-9881 / cday@franklinwi.gov

Nabil Salous, Ald. District 5

414-427-7605 / nsalous@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

The Adopted 2026 Budget and 2025 Property Tax Bills

Property tax bills will be mailed by the statutory deadline of the third Monday in December (available online sooner). These bills reflect property taxes from all applicable jurisdictions, including the City of Franklin, local school districts, MATC, MMSD, and Milwaukee County. The City is responsible for collecting taxes on behalf of 7 taxing authorities. The accompanying pie chart shows that Franklin directly accounts for about one-quarter of the total tax bill. **Please note:** The figures presented here are based on assessed values.

City of Franklin's Tax Impact

The City's portion of the tax bill funds local municipal services in 2026. This year, the average **preliminary** increase for residential City taxes is approximately 2.9%.

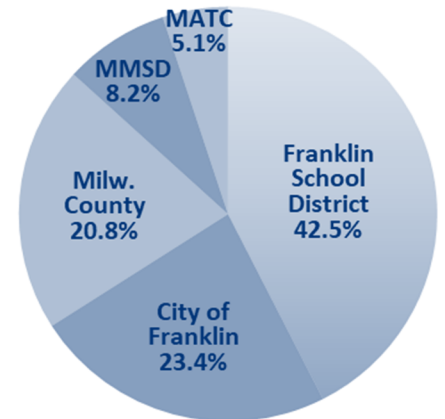
- **Growth in Tax Levy:** \$445,000 (a 2.9% increase from the prior year).
- **New Development Contribution:** Approximately 2.27% of the levy increase is attributed to new development in 2025.
- **Property Value Changes:** Overall, **preliminary** assessed property values increased by 1.14%, with residential properties rising about 0.6%. 2025 property values remained relatively stagnant due to 2025 being a maintenance year.

Individual tax bills depend on a property's assessed value multiplied by the tax rate. The approved budget prioritizes maintaining City services, protecting assets, and using resources responsibly.



*Continued—See **Budget and Property Tax Bills** on Page 3*

Approximate Breakdown of Tax Dollars by Each Taxing Jurisdiction



*The above pie chart is **preliminary**; a final chart will be included in your tax envelope.*

The 2026 TRASH & RECYCLING Information is enclosed inside this newsletter. Please **SAVE** this notice as a reference.

This notice provides answers for most questions regarding trash, recycling, special pickups, brush and leaf collection dates, landfill information, etc. Service will remain the same for 2026, with weekly automated garbage and recycling pickup and four brush and leaf collection dates. **See notice inside for complete details.**

HOLIDAY HOURS

City Hall will be CLOSED
December 24th & 25th for
Christmas and December
31st & January 1st for
New Years.

*Franklin Elected Officials
and City staff wish you
all a happy and healthy
holiday season!*

2026 Election Information

Election Dates:

Spring Primary (if needed): **February 17, 2026**

Spring Election: **April 7, 2026**

Partisan Primary: **August 11, 2026**

General Election: **November 3, 2026**



Municipal Elected Offices:

At the April 7, 2026 Spring Election, the following municipal offices will be on the ballot:

- **3-year term for Mayor**
Annual Salary: \$16,800 plus \$8,400 for mileage and technology-related expenses.
- **3-year term for 3rd, 4th, & 6th District Alderperson**
Annual Salary: \$7,200 plus \$4,200 for mileage and technology-related expenses.

Nomination papers are available for circulation and must be filed (along with other required documents) in the office of the City Clerk no later than 5 pm on January 6, 2026. If interested in obtaining the documents required for these offices, or need additional information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 414-425-7500.

Annual Pet Licensing

Residents who own a dog, cat, or tiny horse that is at least 5 months old on January 1st or 5 months old during the license year must obtain an annual pet license. **License applications are due by April 1st, or within 30 days from the adoption of your new pet.** A copy of the rabies vaccination certificate issued by your veterinarian is required as proof of vaccination. **The cost of a pet license is as follows:**



Altered Pet: \$12 / Unaltered Pet: \$24

Late Fee Altered Pet: \$6 / Late Fee Unaltered Pet: \$12

Payment Options: In person at the Treasurer's Office, placing in the drop box outside of City Hall, or mailing to 9229 W. Loomis Road. **Include your pet license application (visit franklinwi.gov, click on "I Want To..." and "License a Pet"), vaccination records, and check made payable to the City of Franklin.**

[The Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) has overall responsibility for issuing pet licenses in Milwaukee County. As such, pet licenses may also be applied for online at madacc.org.]

2026 Park Reservations



Vernon Barg Park Pavilion

2026 park permit applications for Franklin groups/residents will be accepted at City Hall, 9229 W. Loomis Road, starting **January 2, 2026**. Applications must be submitted in person, and permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Numbers will be distributed starting at 8 am on January 2. Once you receive a number, you must remain in the City Hall lobby until your number is called. Applications will be received and handled in the order of numbers distributed. Telephone and mail-in applications are not accepted. Non-Franklin groups may apply after April 1st.

- **Lions Pavilion**, 8050 S. Legend Drive: open-air pavilion, electric, picnic tables, water, grills.
- **Vernon Barg Pavilion**, 8717 W. Drexel Avenue: open-air pavilion, indoor serving area, electric, picnic tables, water, grills.
- **Ken Windl Pavilion**, unavailable until needed repairs are completed, 11615 W. Rawson Avenue: indoor air-conditioned/heated gathering space (50 people max), tables/chairs, kitchenette, picnic tables, electric, water.
- **Franklin Woods Pavilion**, 3723 W. Puetz Road: open-air pavilion, electric, picnic tables, water. A gas grill may be brought; however, no charcoal grills are allowed. **Note: Kayla's Playground is not reservable—the playground and patio area must be shared with the general public.**
- **Pleasant View Pavilion**, 4620 W. Evergreen Street: open-air pavilion, indoor serving area, electric, picnic tables, water. Maximum of 50 people.
- **Market Square**, 11230 W. Franklin Street: gazebo, picnic tables, electric (no restrooms or water available).
- **Playground equipment, tennis courts, and volleyball courts, where available at all of the above-listed parks, must be shared with the general public.**

Pavilion rental hours are 11 am to 8 pm. Lions pavilion, Vernon Barg pavilion, Franklin Woods pavilion, and Market Square are available April 15–October 31. Ken Windl (once available after repairs are completed) and Pleasant View Park pavilions are available year-round.

Call the Clerk's Office at 414-425-7500 with questions or to check park availability.



Reminder: Signs Prohibited in Public Right-of-Way

Signs in the public right-of-way are prohibited. Private signs, such as "For Sale" or "Rummage", political signs, event signs, and other non-regulatory signs must be placed on private property.

Why? Signs can distract drivers, obstruct views at intersections, and create obstacles for maintenance and utility crews.

What constitutes the right-of-way? The public right-of-way is generally the area beside the road which includes fixtures such as sidewalks, curbs, utility poles, and regulatory/traffic signs. This area can differ in width throughout the City; please refer to the GIS map on the City's website (www.Franklinwi.gov), or contact the Public Works Department at 414-425-2592 with questions.

What happens to signs placed in the right-of-way? These signs will be removed and disposed of by City staff.

Budget and Property Tax Bills (Continued from Page 1)



Tax Rate Adjustments

The total value of property in Franklin has not changed significantly; however, the levy limit has been increased due to an increase in net new construction from the previous year, which results in a **preliminary** increase in the City's municipal tax rate:

- **2024:** Approximately \$3.83 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
- **2025: Preliminary** \$3.92 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Taxing decisions by other jurisdictions and variations in property assessments will influence individual tax bills. Factoring in the State School Levy Credit, the **preliminary** rates are:

- **Franklin School District:** Combined tax rate increases from \$16.23 to \$16.73.
- **Oak Creek/Franklin School District:** Combined tax rate increases from \$14.63 to \$15.71.
- **Whitnall School District:** Combined tax rate increases from \$14.65 to \$16.18.

Recap of school referendums passed that may impact property taxes:

**Franklin School District
Middle School Referendum**
Total Cost: \$43,300,000
Started 2016 / Ends 2036

**Oak Creek-Franklin School District
2018 Referendum**
Total Cost: \$60,935,000
Started 2018 / Ends 2039

**Whitnall School District
2024 Referendum**
Total Cost: \$79,100,000
Started 2024 / Ends 2045

High School Referendum
Total Cost: \$145,000,000
Started 2024 / Ends 2045

2024 Referendum
Total Cost: \$34,300,000
Started 2024 / Ends 2030

Property Tax Bill FAQs (For additional questions, please call 414-425-4770)

How are my taxes calculated? Tax rates are determined by dividing the approved levies of all taxing jurisdictions by the total assessed valuation, as certified by the Board of Review. Franklin has three school districts, so tax rates vary depending on the district. Ensure that properties being compared fall under the same taxing authorities.

Where can I find the 2025 tax rates? Tax rates are included with your tax bill, with a breakdown by school district and taxing entity. Also, you may find the tax rates on the City website.

What are the credits on my tax bill?

- **Lottery/Gaming Credit:** For qualifying primary residences. If you received the credit in 2024 or filed the 2025 form, the credit will appear automatically. Eligible homeowners without the credit can apply and deduct it until 1/31/2026.
- **First Dollar Credit:** Provided for taxable property with improvements based on the school district's equalized value. This is an automatic process with no application needed.

What if I do not receive my tax bill? Recently purchased properties (August–November) may still be listed under the seller's name. Tax information can be obtained from the City's website (www.franklinwi.gov), the seller, or the Treasury Office at 414-425-4770. If you do not receive a tax bill by December 22, please call the above number and the Treasury Office will provide a copy to you via email.

My escrow check exceeds my tax bill—what happens? The Finance Department processes overpayments within 10 to 14 business days. Refunds under \$8 are only issued upon request and are subject to an \$8 fee.

Property Tax Bill Payments

Due Date: Payments are due by January 31, 2026. **Wisconsin law prohibits waiving late fees. No late fee will be waived by the City.**

Payment Methods:

- **Online:** Pay via the "Property Taxes" link at www.franklinwi.gov. Payment fees: 2.55% for credit, \$3.95 for Visa debit, or \$1.50 for echeck.
- **Mail:** Please include the payment coupon. Payments are posted the day they are received. Confirmation is available online.
- **Drop Box:** A 24/7 drop box is located outside City Hall. Please include your payment coupon for faster processing.
- **In Person:** Payments can be made at City Hall (9229 W. Loomis Road). Avoid peak hours near December 31.
- **Bank Auto-Pay:** If using a bank's auto-pay service, ensure checks are postmarked or delivered on time to avoid penalties. **Wisconsin law prohibits waiving late fees. No late fee will be waived by the City.**

Extended Hours: For tax payment purposes, payment hours will be extended to 8 am to 5 pm on the following dates:

- December 8-12 / December 15-19 / December 22 & 23 / December 26 / December 29 & 30.
- **The Treasury Office will be closed on December 24, 25, 31, and January 1.**

Please WELCOME the Following Businesses to the City of Franklin!

Comfort Keepers, 11217 W. Forest Home Ave., #1
(senior care training and hiring site)

Cream City Frozen Treats, 5072 W. Ashland Way
(food processing, candy packing, ice cream distribution)

EMO Trans, Inc., 9875 S. Franklin Drive, #301
(global logistics office)

Forte Theatre, 5016 W. Ashland Way
(theatre set build, rehearsal, and classroom space)

Onyx Nails, 6524 S. Lovers Lane Road
(full service nail salon)



**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR
FRANKLIN BUSINESSES!**

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FROM FRANKLIN FIRE



Turn off holiday lights when you sleep and leave home. Remember to water your real trees.

Never leave children unattended by water and ice.



Keep children and pets 3 feet away from hot stoves and appliances. Never leave fire, heat, or stove unattended.

Adopt A Hydrant: Shovel 3 feet around and a 3-foot path to the roadway for firefighter access.



Check on your loved ones more frequently. Ensure smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working.

Choose age-appropriate toys with no small parts, sharp edges, or long cords. Always check labels for age and safety warnings.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Franklin Fire Department

Snow & Ice Control



Winter street maintenance concerns may be directed to the Department of Public Works (DPW) at 414-425-2592, M–F, 7 am to 3 pm, or whenever weather conditions warrant street maintenance. If immediate attention is needed, please call the Police Department at 414-425-2522.

- **The City prohibits the throwing, blowing, placing, or piling of snow or ice on any public street, place, or property.** This also pertains to placing plowed snow in roadside ditches and public road right-of-way of yours or neighboring properties. Violators may be ticketed.
- **Place garbage and recycling containers 2 feet back from the street during a snowfall to prevent them from being covered or tipped by snowplows. Garbage cans should never be placed in the street.**
- **The owner of a building or lot fronting or adjoining any street is responsible for clearing the sidewalk abutting that building or lot of snow and ice within 24 hours.** When ice has formed, an abrasive material or salt needs to be applied within 24 hours. If neglected, the DPW will clear the sidewalk and charge the responsible party.
- **Mailbox Replacement Policy:** The City will repair any mailbox determined to have been struck by a City snowplow or replace it with a standard mailbox; however, **mailboxes damaged by snow coming off City snowplows will NOT be repaired. Mailboxes and posts are expected to be in good condition and strong enough to withstand the force of snow coming off the snowplows.**
- **Winter Parking Regulations:** From December 1 to April 1 there is no parking allowed on City streets between 2 am and 7 am, Mondays through Saturdays, and between 3 am and 7 am on Sundays, except physicians on emergency calls. Permission to park contrary to these provisions may be granted by the Police Department. **If a snow emergency is declared, then no parking is allowed on any City street between 11 pm and 6 am.**
- **Sump Pump Discharge:** City code prohibits the discharge of water from sump pumps on any public street or highway from November 15 to April 15. During this time, sump pump water should be discharged onto lawns at a point not more than 10 feet from a building.

**** NOTICE ****

Franklin Newsletter Going Digital

This is our final printed newsletter. Rising printing and mailing costs have made the mailed edition unsustainable. Starting in 2026, newsletters will be available only online at www.franklinwi.gov. If you prefer a printed copy, you are welcome to pick one up at City Hall—Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Thank you for staying connected!

Milwaukee County Home Repair



The Milwaukee County Housing Division offers no-interest loans to income-qualified homeowners in the suburban communities of Milwaukee County, *excluding* the Village of River Hills and the Cities of Milwaukee and West Allis, through its Home Repair Program. Loans or grants are available through the program.

Owner-occupied homes are eligible if the homeowner meets income guidelines and property requirements (see income chart at right). These funds can be used to make emergency repairs, correct code violations, or improve the living quality of your home. Items commonly repaired include hot water heaters, furnaces, sewer laterals, roofs, siding, trim, windows, porches, foundations, plumbing, and electrical. Projects funded by Home Repair loans will be secured by a lien on the home.

Household Size	2025 Gross Annual Income (2026 limits will be set mid-year of 2026)
1	\$62,000
2	\$70,850
3	\$79,700
4	\$88,550
5	\$95,650
6	\$102,750
7	\$109,850
8	\$116,900

Program staff help you through the application process, work with you to create a scope of work, and screen contractors to make sure they are right for your project. Once a contractor is selected, program staff put together an agreement with the contractor and oversee the project while in progress. Upon completion, the County pays the contractor directly. The homeowner repays the County according to the terms of the loan.

The City of Franklin has been awarded grant funds specific to residents of Franklin. For residents who qualify, a portion of the project cost could be covered by the City's grant funds. Grant amounts may be up to half of the project cost, generally targeted for up to \$5,000, and do not have to be paid back.

For questions or to apply, contact Milwaukee County Home Repair at 414-278-4917, by email at HomeRepair@milwaukeecountywi.gov, or visit <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/Housing>.



Your Health Matters

Franklin Health Dept., 414-425-9101
Monday—Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Did you know you can receive your immunizations at the Franklin Health Department?

Call about eligibility today! 414-425-9101



Radon Testing

About 1 out of 10 homes in Wisconsin has high radon levels. You can't see or smell radon, so testing is the only way to know if you are being exposed to high levels. If high levels are detected, there are effective mitigation strategies to reduce exposure.

Winter is a great time to test for radon in your homes. Radon test kits are available for purchase at the Franklin Health Department. For more information on testing and safety measures, stop by the Health Department in City Hall at 9229 W. Loomis Road, Monday—Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm; call us at 414-425-9101; or visit www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/radon.

Stepping On Workshop

Presented by the Franklin Health Department

Call 414-425-9101 to be placed on a waiting list for the spring 2026 workshop!

- 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 and fills up quickly; call 414-425-9101 to be placed on the waiting list for the spring 2026 workshop. Those on the waiting list will be notified when the workshop is scheduled. Attendance at all 7 sessions is encouraged for the greatest benefit.

The Library Story

9151 W. Loomis Road, Franklin, WI 53132 ♦ 414-425-8214
www.franklinpubliclibrary.org / Jennifer Loeffel, Director

Hours:

Monday–Thursday: 9 am to 8 pm
Friday: 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm
Sunday: 1 pm to 4 pm

Adult Programs (18+)

Register online at www.franklinpubliclibrary.org or call 414-425-8214.

Sounds of Peace Sound Bath Programs (Registration required)
Jan. 6, 10 am; Feb. 3, 6 pm; Mar. 27, 2 pm. Experience a sound bath meditation to unwind and relax through the use of music and tones.

Jigsaw Puzzle Competition (16+. Registration required)

Jan. 10, 1-3 pm. Teams of up to 4 will compete to complete a 500-piece puzzle the fastest!



Recipe Club Cook Offs! (Registration required) Friendly cook/bake off to share tips/tricks for the best . . . Jan. 12: Chili, Mar. 16: Pie, May 11: Brunch Casseroles—all at 6 pm. Bring your entry and its recipe to the program; please list any allergens present in the recipe.

DIY Crafternoons (Registration required/begins 2 weeks prior)

2nd Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. \$2 supply fee is due one week prior.
Jan. 14: Painting Valentine Cards / Feb. 11: Abstract Paintings / Mar. 11: Jeweled Collages (in need of old earrings, beads, buttons, brooches)

Silent Book Club Join FPL at On Cloud Wine, 10064 W. Loomis Road, on the third Thursday, every other month, beginning Jan. 15 for a silent book club! Enjoy reading any book—no pressure, no discussion, just time for you and your favorite book.

Monthly Tech Programs (No registration)

Jan. 27, 1 pm—Spotting Scams
Feb. 24, 1 pm—Upgrading to New Tech
Mar. 24, 1 pm—Understanding Social Media



Ramadan Celebration (All Ages—Registration recommended) Feb. 1, 1:30 pm. Join FPL and the Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition for a Ramadan celebration—enjoy crafts, activities, and more!

Valentine Beaded Bracelets (Registration begins Jan. 21) Feb. 4, 12:30 pm. Make a "love"-ly Valentine's Day bracelet. \$2 supply fee.

Paint-by-Number & Sip (Registration begins Feb. 20) Mar. 7, 2 pm. Enjoy coffee, tea, cookies while working on paint-by-number paintings.

Ceol Cairde Concert (No registration) Mar. 9, 6:30 pm.

Enjoy classic Irish tunes to get you in the St. Patrick's Day spirit!

Children/Family Programs

Register online at www.franklinpubliclibrary.org or call 414-425-8214.

Family Programs (All ages, drop-in)



-Frozen Holiday: Dec. 13, 1-3 pm. Let it go this holiday with crafts, activities, and a meet-and-greet with the frost queen and her friends!

-Tinker Time Explosion!: Jan. 19, 2-7 pm. Enjoy fun STEAM activities in the CreateSpace on your day off from school!

-Sensory-Friendly Storytime: Wed. 6 pm, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 18, 25. 30-minute program offers an inclusive storytime for kids of all abilities, especially those with sensory processing challenges.

Programs for Ages 5 & Under w/Adult (Drop-in, no registration)

-Music & Motion: 9:30 am, Dec. 16 & Feb. 10. 30-minute program full of dancing and singing for fun and exercise.

-Rhyming to Read: 9:30 am, Dec. 17 & Feb. 9. 30-minute program introducing nursery rhymes through a variety of activities.

MakerSquare (Gr. 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. Dec. 19: 3D Hologram Projector.

Waddlers & Walkers (23 mo. and under w/adult, drop-in) Mon. 9:30 or 10:30 am (same program both times) Jan. 19 & 26, Feb. 2 & 23. 20-minute program that introduces babies to rhymes, songs, fingerplays, and short stories, followed by playtime.

Tales for Twos (Age 2 w/adult, drop-in) Tues. or Wed. 9:30 am (same program both days) Jan. & Feb., see website for dates. 30-minutes of short stories, songs, learning activities, and playtime.

Preschool Pretend & Play (Ages 3-5 w/adult, drop-in) Tues. or Wed. 10:30 am (same program both days) Jan. & Feb., see website for dates. Books, songs, and other activities, followed by playtime.

Games With a Cop (Gr. K4-12, drop-in) Jan. 26, 12:30-2:30 pm. School's out and we're calling all school-aged kids to come join our Franklin Police Officers for an afternoon of board games and fun! Roger that? 10-4 over and out!



** Teens & Parents Program: It's Real—Suicide Prevention for Teens **

Gr. 9-12, Jan. 14, 6:30 pm; Gr. 6-8, Feb. 16, 6:30 pm. Kids and parents are encouraged to come and learn how to notice signs of someone needing help; tips and strategies for having a caring conversation with someone they might be worried about; methods of self-care for mind, body, soul, and surroundings; and how reaching out to trusted adults can help teens manage their mental health. No registration needed.

Teen Programs (Grades 6-12) Program registration required—register at www.franklinpubliclibrary.org or 414-425-8214.

Cookies & Canvas Painting Party: Jan. 26, 2 pm. Come paint on your day off of school—canvas, paint, brushes, and treats provided!

Swiftie Friendship Bracelets: Feb. 4, 4:30 pm. Get ready for the Super Bowl (Taylor's version) by making your own beaded Swiftie friendship bracelets!



Cookie Decorating: Feb. 12, 4:30 pm. Get ready for Valentine's Day with a yummy treat and make one for your Valentine too!

Candy Flavored Lip Gloss: Feb. 20, 2 pm. Choose your favorite flavors to make your own tasty lip gloss. All supplies provided.

Acrylic Squeegee Painting: Mar. 21, 1:30 pm. Use a plastic squeegee to create your own colorful abstract art on canvas.

Nerf Wars Lock-In: Feb. 21, 5-7 pm. Join Milwaukee Area Nerf Outings for an indoor Nerf War! Loaner nerf blasters/eye protection available or bring your own stock performance blaster (100 ft/s or lower) and eye protection. Ammo and pizza provided!



Teen Poetry Contest: Are you a poet or writer in grades 6-12 and want the chance to read your poem at FPL's Teen Poetry Slam Night—along with other great prizes? Enter FPL's Teen Poetry Contest! Original works only. Entries accepted March 15–April 15 online or at FPL, with FPL's Teen Poetry Slam Night to follow on April 29th! Visit www.franklinpubliclibrary.org or call 414-425-8214 for complete details and official rules and entry form.





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! **Call Basil or Karen Ryan at 414-423-5481 with questions. To sign up for a trip, visit <https://franklinseniortravelers.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!**

March 6, 2026: The Addams Family — Fireside Theatre, Fort Atkinson

**** RSVP Deadline: February 3 / Resident Fee: \$84 ****

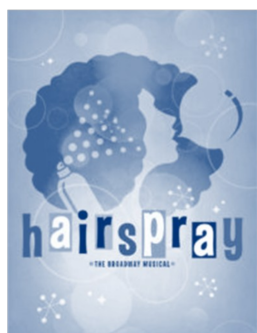


They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky, they're all together ooky, **THE ADDAMS FAMILY!** In 1938 cartoonist Charles Addams created a cartoon about a ghoulish American family with an affinity for all things macabre. THE ADDAMS FAMILY has also appeared in a hit TV series and a couple of wildly popular movies. The ADDAMS FAMILY is a tuneful, hilarious, warm-hearted show about everybody's favorite off-beat family. Filled with music, exciting dancing, and a charming love story, it's a fun-filled romp that will have you laughing all the way home.

Lunch choices: **Chicken Alfredo**, lightly breaded and sautéed chicken breast served on a bed of penne pasta and homemade creamy Alfredo sauce; **Shrimp Tempura**, four jumbo gulf shrimp butterflied, battered, and fried crisp outside and tender inside, served with brandied apricot and cocktail sauces; **Steak Diane**, tender roast beef tenderloin medallions in sauce flavored with shallots, mushrooms, garlic, Dijon mustard, heavy cream, Worcestershire sauce, and cognac. All entrees served with soup, breads, garlic and herb whipped potatoes, roasted asparagus with baby carrots, pecan turtle ball sundae for dessert, coffee, tea, and milk.

May 1, 2026: Hairspray Broadway Musical — Fireside Theatre, Fort Atkinson

**** RSVP Deadline: March 31 / Resident Fee: \$84 ****



It's 1962 in Baltimore, and young Tracy Turnblad, a lovable girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, has only one passion—to dance. When she wins a spot on a popular TV dance show she is transformed from outsider to teen celebrity. Winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, **HAIRSPRAY** is a classic fairy tale told with humor and heart amid the exciting rhythms of 1960's rock and roll and featuring some of the most high-energy dancing you'll ever see on stage.

Lunch choices: **Pretzel Crusted Chicken**, chicken breast rolled in seasoned breadcrumbs and pretzel pieces, served on top of a creamy Havarti and cheddar beer cheese sauce; **Baked Almond Crusted Cod**, Northern Atlantic cod filet coated with Dijon mustard and crusted with toasted almonds, breadcrumbs, and fresh herbs; **Barbecued Baby Back Ribs**, half rack of lean pork baby back ribs glazed in barbecue sauce and roasted until tender. All entrees served with salad, breads, scalloped potatoes, green bean medley, Key Lime pie for dessert, coffee, tea, and milk.

Franklin Seniors Walking Club: The Franklin Seniors Walking Club meets every Thursday from 9 am to 11 am at the Milwaukee County Sports Complex, 6000 W. Ryan Road. Dues are \$9 which includes a T-shirt. You can walk no matter the weather, 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://franklinseniortravelers.com>.

Franklin Seniors Monthly Lunch: The Franklin Seniors, Inc. monthly membership luncheon takes place the first Wednesday of each month at 11 am 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 am, meals served at 11 am, and doors close promptly at 12 Noon. **Diners are encouraged to contribute \$3 per meal. Call 414-427-7696 between 9:30 and 11:30 am to reserve lunch (24-hour notice needed). Gift certificates are available for purchase, 4 meals for \$10, a 50-cent savings per meal! View monthly menus at www.franklinwi.gov/Services/Senior-Dining.htm.**



RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
FRANKLIN, WI 53132



The Library Story (Continued)



FPL Foundation's Annual Fundraising Drive is Here!

Any amount is greatly appreciated and directly supports the library. You can even become a sustaining member with a monthly donation amount.

The Foundation Board is a group of volunteers dedicated to the mission of the library and provides financial support for many of FPL's projects, complementing but not supplanting the financial support of the City. To learn more or to donate, visit www.franklinpubliclibrary.org > Support FPL > Foundation.

Holiday Fundraiser

The Franklin Public Library Foundation is holding a **Holiday Bake Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, December 13th, from 9 am to 3 pm.** Choose from a variety of delectable baked goods and bags of Stone Creek coffee for your holiday entertaining. *Donations of baked goodies are appreciated and can be dropped off at the library starting December 11th. Funds raised will go towards programming and improvements in the Children's Area.*

2026 Winter Calendar Raffle

The FPL Foundation is holding its **annual winter cash calendar raffle sale!** For \$10, you will get 26 chances to win amounts from \$20 to \$100! They make great stocking stuffers too! **Available at the Library Check-Out Desk. Proceeds will go towards programming and improvements in the library Children's Area.**

Business Appreciation Celebration



EDC Chair Steve Bobowski speaks at the 2025 BAC.

At its annual **Business Appreciation Celebration (BAC)** on November 12th, the Franklin Economic Development Commission (EDC), Common Council, and City staff joined Franklin business and elected leaders to recognize the business community and some of their notable achievements. A sold-out venue of guests at the Polish Center of Wisconsin gathered to network, celebrate the winners of the Excellence in Business awards, and hear speeches by exceptional speakers.

The following recipients of the Excellence in Business awards were honored for their accomplishments:

Yaskawa America, Inc.
Excellence in Large Business Award

James Bild Insurance
Excellence in Small Business Award

Croatian Park, Croatian Federation, and Croatian Soccer Club
Excellence in Business Innovation Award

Dr. Annalee Bennin, Superintendent, Franklin Public Schools
Excellence in Business Leadership Award

Others receiving awards included Polonia Soccer Club, Inc., Crossroads Pizza and Subs II, Senior Flexonics, and Trevor Poppe, Executive Director of Briscoe Family YMCA Wellness Center. A special thank you to CH Coakley for sponsoring the Excellence in Business awards.

The Economic Development Commission has done a wonderful job not only growing and expanding businesses in Franklin, but recognizing the excellent work being done. Here's to another year of business growth in our great City!

2026 Trash & Recycling Information

Please Save This Notice

2026

Garbage & Recycling Questions: Please contact Johns Disposal: Ph. 262-473-4700 or 1-888-473-4701
Franklin DPW: 414-425-2592

Drop-Off Locations (Trash & Recycling):

Waste Management Metro Landfill:

12200 W South County Line Rd, Ph. 414-529-6180

Hours: Monday & Friday, 8am - 4pm

Saturday, 7am - 3pm

(Excluding Holidays)

Items Accepted: lawn & garden waste, brush, leaves, furniture, carpeting, household trash, construction debris, recyclables, tires (limit 5 per year)

- **Proof of residency is required for residential drop off.**
- **Trash & Recycling:** Maximum 2 cubic yards per week.
- **Yard Waste:** Unlimited.

Milwaukee County Hazardous Waste:

6060 S 13th St, Ph. 414-225-2066

Hours: Tuesday, 11am - 6pm

Saturday, 8am - 2pm

(Excluding Holidays)

Items Accepted: oil-based & latex paint, rechargeable & button batteries, automotive oils & fluids, gasoline/fuels, cleaning solvents, aerosol cans, mercury thermometers

- **Proof of Milwaukee County residency required.**
- **See full list of items at: www.MMSD.com, under "Home Hazmat Collection".**

Appliance Recycling/Disposal:

Refrigerant Depot, LLC: 5311 S 9th St, Milwaukee, WI 53221, Ph. 414-627-1152

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am - 4pm (no appointment needed)

Items Accepted for FREE Drop Off:

Appliances - washers, dryers, dishwashers, microwaves, stoves, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, water heaters, water coolers, dehumidifiers, exercise equipment, commercial A/C units, snow blowers, lawn mowers, furnaces, boilers, grills (**no propane tanks**), and more.

- **No water softeners accepted** - these can be taken to the Waste Management Metro Landfill.
- **All gas and oils must be removed prior to drop off.**

Electronic Recycling/Disposal:

****Televisions & computer monitors recycled for a fee.**

Please contact locations for list of items accepted and recycling fees.

Legacy Recycling: 9825 Durand Ave, Sturtevant, WI, 53177, Ph. 262-930-4228

Best Buy: 4610 S 76th St, Greenfield, WI 53220, Ph. 414-281-3434

Milwaukee PC: 4160 S 108th St, Greenfield, WI 53228, Ph. 414-427-6965

Special Pickups (for a fee):

Johns Disposal Service: Please call 1-888-473-4701 or 262-473-4700 to inquire about pricing and arrange a special pickup. This service is pre-pay by credit card only.

Refrigerant Recovery: Please call 414-643-7740 (appliances ONLY - call for pricing).

See Reverse Side for Important Dates & Johns Disposal Information



2026 Holiday Delays for Trash/Recycling Pickup:

Jan 1st May 25th Sept 7th Nov 26th Dec 25th

When a holiday falls on a weekday, trash and recycling pickup will be delayed by one day for the remainder of that week.

2026 Brush & Bagged Leaf Pickup Dates:

May 4th

July 27th

September 21st

November 16th

-Items must be curbside at 7am on the listed Mondays, pickups will continue until Johns Disposal has collected throughout the entire City.

- **Leaves:** MUST be in paper compostable yard waste bags or 32-gallon or smaller containers.
- **Brush:** ONE pile no larger than 4'x4'x5' (per household), branches less than 6" in diameter, in a pile less than 50 lbs. Brush must be piled or bundled (**bundled piles preferred**).

Christmas Tree Pickup Dates:

January 12, 2026 and January 4, 2027

- The Franklin DPW will begin picking up at 7am on the listed dates. Please place trees at the end of driveway no more than 24 hours in advance. Trees should be free of decorations, lights, and tree stands, and should not be covered in snow or placed in a bag.
- **Wreaths can be disposed of with the regular trash.**

Sharps Disposal (Needles, Syringes, Lancets):

Residents may dispose of sharps or purchase biohazard containers through the Franklin Health Department, Ph. 414-425-9101, between the hours of 8 am and 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday.

Automated Trash & Recycling Pickup:

The trash cart (brown) and recycling cart (green) are picked up weekly on your scheduled collection day. **Cart Placement:** Please place carts on opposite sides of the bottom of your driveway by 7am on collection day. The arrows on the lid should point toward the street.

Carts should NOT be placed in the roadway.

Items to be placed in green recycling cart:

aluminum cans, clean aluminum foil,
tin/steel/aerosol cans, empty/dried paint cans,
glass bottles & jars, #1-#7 plastic, milk/soup/juice
cartons, newspaper, magazines & books, paper,
brown corrugated cardboard, boxes, paper bags,
shredded paper in clear plastic bag (no other
recycling should be placed in plastic bags)

Items NOT to be placed in recycle cart:

styrofoam, yard waste, trash, hazardous waste,
electronics, clothing, construction material,
propane tanks, helium tanks, fire extinguishers

Items to be placed in brown trash cart:

food & household waste, light bulbs, plastic bags,
styrofoam, plastic wrap, broken toys, ceramics,
regular batteries (non-rechargeable, non-button
batteries), other loose trash

Trash is to be placed in bags that are tied to keep the carts clean.

Items NOT to be placed in trash cart:

yard waste, recyclables, household hazardous
waste, electronics, cardboard boxes, construction
materials, medical waste/sharps, propane tanks,
helium tanks, fire extinguishers



FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPENING DOORS

DECEMBER 2025

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU ARE EXCITED FOR
AT THE NEW COMMUNITY EDUCATION &
RECREATION CENTER (CERC)?



"I am excited to explore and enjoy the CERC building and experience the fun and educational activities hosted in this brand new space and watch my younger sisters play on the new rec soccer fields with joy!"

Gemma, 6th Grade



"I am excited as an instructor that I now have the opportunity to offer some enjoyable daytime classes for adults, seniors, teens and little learners too! Please check out all the new classes & programs coming soon!"

Mary, Instructor

December
FREE PREVIEW CLASSES
@ CERC: DEC 8th-19th
Try out the new spaces!

Yoga - Pickleball - Zumba - WERQ
ChairFlex - Pilates - Pound

SCHEDULE & DETAILS:



tinyurl.com/cercDEC25

Celebrations

DR. ANNALEE BENNIN, FPS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Franklin Public Schools (FPS) is honored to be a school system that believes in continuous improvement. This is evidenced through our Board adopted **Coherence Plan and the strategic priorities** that ensure we continue to improve FPS so we are a *Better Place to Learn, Better Place to Work and Part of a Better Community*. We share a few recent celebrations below:



- ▶ The last few months we have publicly celebrated our **2024-2025 Coherence Plan metrics** and we were honored to share the results with our Key Communicators Group. This is a group of 75+ community members, business owners, clergy, parents, students and school leaders, led by the Board and District Administrator, that come together three times a year to learn more about our work as a district and provide input that influences the Coherence Plan. If you are interested in being informed and involved as a community member, please reach out to join this wonderful collaborative group.

See the latest metrics of the Coherence Plan at:

tinyurl.com/fpscoherence

- ▶ The **Community Education and Recreation Department** recently celebrated the ribbon cutting for the Community and Education Recreation Center (CERC)! This center is solely dedicated to the existing and expanding programming offered to our entire community. This month (December) our entire community is invited to join us at the CERC for free classes, tours and camaraderie! We look forward to welcoming you as you explore the space and the programming options coming in January.
- ▶ The **Franklin Forward long-range planning** takes on its newest celebration as we recently broke ground at Franklin High School. Over the next month you will see the earthwork wrap up and construction begin on the north side of the property as we work through the phases of this project. In the last *Opening Doors*, you saw the wonderful playgrounds added at two of our elementary schools that came from our community supported referendum. Thank you for supporting the growth of our schools and community!



FHS RANKED AS A "BEST HIGH SCHOOL!"

According to **U.S. News** & WORLD REPORT

#17 Top 4%

#936 out of 17,901 (Top 6%)

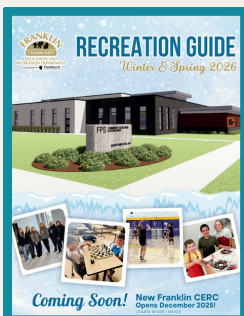
Ranked #13 Among Milwaukee Metro Area High Schools



Winter/Spring Programming

Our Winter/Spring Community Ed & Recreation Guide is out! Registration opened December 3rd!

Visit our website to get started and to see our Winter/Spring Recreation Guide!



franklin.arux.app



**For ticketed shows, scan the QR code (left) or visit tinyurl.com/scpatix*

- ▶ **FHS Band Winter Concert**
Thursday, December 11, 2025 @ 7pm
- ▶ **Christmas With the Choristers***
December 12-13, 2025 @ 7:30pm
- ▶ **FPMS Orchestra Winter Concert**
Monday, December 15, 2025 @ 7pm
- ▶ **FHS Orchestra Winter Concert**
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 @ 7pm
- ▶ **The Zaniac Alex Zerbe***
January 16, 2026 @ 7pm
- ▶ **FPMS Drama: It's A Madhouse!**
January 17, 2026 @ 7pm
- ▶ **Shrek Jr.***
January 30-February 1, 2026
- ▶ **FHS Saber Theater: Chicago***
March 19-22, 2026
- ▶ **Forte Theatre: Mama Mia!***
April 11-12 & 17-19, 2026
- ▶ **Mutts Gone Nuts!***
May 15, 2026

Community Education & Recreation Center Now Open!

MATT GOMEZ, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ED & REC

We are thrilled to announce that the brand-new **Community Education and Recreation Center (CERC)** is officially open! Built for our entire community, the CERC is a vibrant space where learning, wellness, and fun come together for people of all ages.

Inside the facility, you'll find **three multi-use studios** and a **spacious community room**—designed to host everything from fitness classes and enrichment programs to youth sports, senior activities, and special events. These flexible spaces will allow us to expand our offerings like never before. The CERC is also the new home of the Community Education and Recreation Department, making it a true hub for programs and community connection.



*Our Community Education & Recreation staff is excited to **CONSTRUCT** new ideas at the CERC!*

Outside, the amenities are just as exciting. The grounds feature **six multipurpose grass fields** perfect for soccer and other youth sport leagues, as well as a **fully inclusive playground** designed for children of all abilities to play together. A **scenic walking trail** loops behind the middle school and includes **outdoor fitness equipment** for added wellness opportunities in nature.

The opening of the CERC means more community programming than ever before, with something for every age group—from toddlers to seniors. Whether you're looking to get active, learn something new, or connect with others, the CERC is your new go-to destination.

Please visit **franklin.arux.app** to find information on daily hours, the programming schedule, and to view our full Recreation Guide for all current program offerings.

School Board Update

MIKE SPRAGG, FPS SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

This year, **Dr. Annalee Bennin** and her leadership team selected a theme to guide our focus for the year. *"Under Construction: Building Futures"* — couldn't be more fitting.

As I traveled around Franklin this fall, I noticed the visible changes taking place across our district. Most of our elementary schools have seen updates, work has begun at the high school, and we recently celebrated the ribbon-cutting of the Franklin Community Education & Recreation Center (CERC). The School Board extends our gratitude to the community for its continued support of Franklin Public Schools as we move Franklin Forward.

While it's exciting to see the progress from the outside, it's even more meaningful to think about the impact these changes will have inside. The Recreation Department will expand programming in the CERC — *especially for adults* — while the high school addition will enhance opportunities in Career & Technical Education (CTE) and physical education.

Just like any good construction project, building futures takes vision, teamwork, and patience. Our district isn't just updating buildings — we're creating spaces where students can learn, grow, and discover what's possible. Together, we're truly *Building Futures*.



Members of the FPS School Board & Dr. Annalee Bennin at the Fall Homecoming Parade.