

# FRANKLIN FACTS

## GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8

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The last day to register to vote in the November General Election is Tuesday, October 18 2011 and the County Office is open till 9:pm.

In New Jersey, any voter can now vote by mail in any election. The last day for the Clerk to receive a "Mail-In " Ballot is November 1 by 3:00pm. You do not need a reason to vote by mail. If you don't feel like going to the polls, simply use the Vote by Mail form, or apply in person at the Clerk's office. The form is available on the county website at [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/) and also is avail-

able at the municipal building.

Exercise your right to vote. There is no excuse not to!

For the November 2011 election, offices on the ballot are State Senate, two members of the State Assembly, County Clerk, a member of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and one seat on the Franklin Township Committee. Sample ballots will be mailed to all voters one week before the election.

Contact County Clerk Mary Melfi's office at 788-1214 if you have questions.

## SNYDER FARM TOMATO TASTING

Rutgers University, the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension proudly announce the Annual Snyder Farm Open House and Great Tomato Tasting, to be held on Wednesday August 31, 2011 from 3:00pm - dusk, rain or shine.

Come out and taste both heirloom and hybrid tomatoes as well as sweet peppers, cucumbers, herbs, apples and peaches - all with the assistance and guidance of Rutgers NJAES

Master Gardener volunteers. Fun activities are planned throughout the open house, so bring your camera.

The registration fee is \$7.00 per person.

Children under the age of 10 are free.

Additional information can be found on their website: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/rsvp/tomato> or by calling 908-713-8980. Please bring non-perishable canned food items to support *Rutgers Against Hunger* program.

## FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL UPDATE

The 2010-11 FTS year finished June 30, leaving only 68 days before students are due to return Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>.

Both students and staff demonstrated incredible resilience during the construction and the educational results and extracurricular initiatives were impressive. This past year, with its pay-to-play status, the school offered limited sports opportunities, but what they lacked in athletic energy, the students made up in charitable endeavors.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the class of 2011 had its first formal experience at North Hunterdon High School where they were welcomed for one of our most moving graduation ceremonies.

Construction remains our priority over the summer and finishing touches are being applied. The district is poised to open for the students in the newly constructed rooms, while a Plan B for the older spaces is in the works should all requirements not be satisfied by Sept. 1. Notably, beginning in August, our PTA is overhauling our library and making plans to open it to the community in the future. This effort will include countless hours of volunteers' time. More than ever, we appreciate the kindness and support extended to us. Parents of students can look forward to receiving transportation and teacher information in late August.

### No Rabies Clinic

Franklin Township will **NOT** be holding a Free rabies clinic this Fall, but neighboring municipalities will hold them this Fall and in January 2012. The dates, times and locations for those will be posted on the county website, at [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us). Go to Health, then click the Environmental Health link.

You may also call the Municipal Building and Clerical Assistant Susan Dean will let you know where they will be held.

**SENIOR NEWS****MEETINGS**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at Fire-house** start at 2:00pm unless noted otherwise. Free membership to all Franklin seniors.

Remember to bring food items for the Quakertown Methodist Food Pantry.

**August 10-** 4:30 -6:30pm

Picnic

**September 7-** 2:00-4:30pm.

Senior Center

**October 12 -** 2:00-4:30pm.

Game Day

**NOVEMBER 9 NOON**

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and honoring all veterans. Come out and enjoy — remember to call 735.4747 to make your reservations no later than November 3.

**DECEMBER 14 - 2 -4:30PM**

The annual Christmas Party. Please remember to bring packages of cookies for the nursing home.

**FALLS PREVENTION WEEK**

**SEPTEMBER 19 - 23**

The Senior Health & Fitness Program will be dedicating the entire week to education, exercise and strategies to prevent falls. Presentations and activities during Falls Prevention Week at the center will include:

- ◆ Balance Assessment Session
- ◆ Introductory Matter of Balance Class
- ◆ Balance Screening presented by Kathleen Jaeger
- ◆ "How to Manage a Fall" presented by Andy Overman, Physical Therapist.

Dates and times for these classes are still being planned. Call Betty Kenny at 284-6128 for more details if interested.

**MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR**

Looking back on my first seven months as Mayor, I can say the experience has been very challenging, humbling, and rewarding.

Our Memorial Day ceremony always puts things into proper perspective about what "sacrifice" is and how sacred our freedom is in our country.

Our first annual Community Day was a great success thanks to countless volunteers and everyone who made the event special.

I was honored to be part of our school awards ceremony; I told our children who were moving onto high school that they should be prepared to have their values, bodies, and brains challenged as they grow into young adults, and they should cherish the friends they made in Franklin.

I would like to thank Ron Mathews for serving as our Chief Financial Office and wish

him the best. Ron retired on July 1 and served as our CFO for 33 years.

I wish to welcome Diane Laudenbach as our new CFO. Diane has been a certified municipal financial officer since 1994 and has CFO experience in many Hunterdon County municipalities. The Township Committee and look forward to working with Diane.

The most rewarding aspect of the job is that I have met so many residents who were more than willing to volunteer their expertise to a township issue regardless of its complexities; that says a lot about the folks who live here.

I'm pleased that members of the public have attended our Committee meetings and have been vocal about their opinions and beliefs.

Email me, or call me with your ideas and comments. I would love to hear from you. Have a safe summer.

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY**

In the first six months of 2011, the volunteers of the Quakertown Fire Company have answered 237 calls for service. Again, QFC is on pace for a record year for responses.

If you have a fire or medical emergency, Quakertown Fire will respond to your call. QFC is dispatched for every emergency in Franklin Twp whether on State Route 12 or at the Wal-Mart Plaza and everywhere in between!

QFC would like to thank all those community members who came out and attended the first "Community Day" held at the fire station. Your attendance and participation exceeded the expectations of our organization.

The Fall of 2011 will be a busy time again for QFC with two big events planned.

Join us for our 2nd Annual September 11th Chicken BBQ beginning at 11:00am and this year will be held at the Wal-Mart Plaza in the parking lot in front of the Dry Cleaners (Middle Level).

The 2nd Annual Oktoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 8th from 3:00pm to 10:00pm at the Quakertown Fire House.

QFC is thrilled to announce that in late Au-

gust one of our two ambulances will be returned to us after undergoing a complete refurbishment. Essentially this will be a new ambulance at around half the cost of a new ambulance. This will be the first "new" EMS unit based in Franklin Twp in 15 years!

When the temperature soars into 90's and above here are a few heat emergency tips:

- ◆ Never leave infants, children or pets unattended in your vehicle— even for a moment.
- ◆ Regardless of your activity level, drink more fluids, especially water. Your body needs water for many crucial functions and it prevents dehydration.
- ◆ Make sure clothing is lightweight and comfortable. Wear a hat and use sunscreen. Avoid the hottest part of the day and schedule activities during cooler hours in the morning or evenings.
- ◆ Don't over exert. Stay cool indoors by turning on the air.

Volunteers are welcome and needed whether to be a firefighter, EMT or an associate member that helps out a few times a year on or community events. For more information, call 735-5220 or stop-in!

RURAL AWARENESS**PLANS FARM TOUR FOR SEPT. 17**

A bus tour showcasing the diverse farming in Franklin Township is announced by Rural Awareness, Inc. for Saturday, September 17. The tour bus departs promptly at 9:30am from the Quakertown Firehouse, 67 Quakertown Road and ends there three hours later. Parking is free.

Pre-order tickets with a \$15 check to Rural Awareness, PO Box 314, Quakertown, NJ 08868. Capacity of the bus limits available tickets to 50. The tour promises both to entertain and to teach adults and children over age 12 (accompanied by an adult) about working farms.

A lunch of hearty sandwiches, beverage and dessert may be purchased from Quakertown Fire Company chefs. Local fruit and produce also will be for sale at the firehouse.

Franklin, established in 1845, has historically had an agricultural economic base. Even though there are smaller farms now than in the past, there are more of them and Franklin still takes pride in its green, farm-based character, with just over 2,300 acres in farmland preservation.

The tour will crisscross the township, highlighting the operations of several farms and stopping at four of them. Visits include Stone Corner Farm, a base of farming since it was established in the mid 1700s and currently the home of 25 alpacas and one herd llama. An 1879 barn there has been fully restored. The

preserved 160-acre Tri-Dale Farm is home base for Thomas Meyer, one of Franklin's youngest farmers, who works 1,400 acres in the area. Young and old alike will be amazed at his fleet of trucks and massive farming equipment. Deo Volente Farms, a premier equine breeding facility on 110 preserved acres, will show off its extraordinary horses and facilities.

The last stop is at the preserved 150-acre Peterson Farm, a crop and vegetable farm that features "pick your own" Christmas trees and strawberries and also grows corn and runs a small herd of Black Angus steers. A hayride will show off the farm and its picturesque 19<sup>th</sup> century house, barns and root cellar.

Other farms along the route specialize in vegetables, beef, sheep, flowers and shrubs, and one that produces everything from flowers to herbs and vegetables, pork and beef, and is completely solar powered. The Rutgers 390-acre Snyder Research Farm based in Franklin develops new varieties of disease-resistant grasses, vegetables and fruit trees to benefit farmers and homeowners. Farm houses along the route also will be of interest; Franklin has 282 houses built before 1900.

Along with a sample of alpaca wool, guests on the tour will get other mementoes of the day, a map and information on where to buy fresh home-grown products in Franklin.

**2012 CENSUS OF GOVERNMENTS**

The Census of Governments begins in October of 2011 with the mailing of the Government Units Survey. This survey collects descriptive information on the basic characteristics of local governments in preparation for the 2012 Census of Governments. Data from this survey will also be used to produce the official count of local government units in the United States and to update and verify the mailing addresses of government units.

In 2012, the Census Bureau will request data on the employment and finances of state and local governments. Under Title 13, Section 161, the Census of Governments has been

conducted for years ending in "2" and "7" since 1957.

Data from the Census of Governments are used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis as input to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the Federal Reserve Board as input to the Flow of Funds account. State and local governments use the data to develop programs and budgets, assess financial conditions, and perform comparative analysis.

If you have questions or would like further information you may call 1-800-242-2184.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE**

The county's next Hazardous Waste Day will be Saturday, November 12th, 2011, at the Hunterdon County Library Complex, Route 12, in Flemington. Hours are 9:00am to 1:00pm. For more information call 788-1110 or go to [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/).

**ELECTRONICS COLLECTION DAY OCTOBER**

The county's next and last Electronics Collection Day for 2011 will be on Saturday, October 8th from 9am to 1:00pm at the RT 12 County Complex.

**FRANKLIN 'S HOUSEHOLD CLEAN UP ON AUGUST 13**

Franklin's next scheduled household cleanup will be held Saturday, August 13 from 7:30am till noon at the garage, 85 Locust Grove Rd. Items should be from the home and not from construction or major alterations.

**VOLUNTEER COMPLETE CITIZEN LEADERSHIP**

Volunteers seeking to serve on a committee are always welcome. If you're interested in volunteering on a committee or commission, let the Township know by completing a Citizen Leadership Form. Stop by the Municipal Building to pick one up or you can email the Municipal Clerk at [ftclerk@franklin-twp.org](mailto:ftclerk@franklin-twp.org) and let her know your interested in serving.

**Meals on Wheels**

The Meals on Wheels program delivers a hot noon time meal every Monday -Friday. If you or someone you know would benefit from the security and support of a home cooked meal, please call 908 - 284-0735 for information.

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Editor: Susan Dean  
 Email your news or article to  
[ftadmin@franklin-twp.org](mailto:ftadmin@franklin-twp.org)

**MUNICIPAL BLDG. HOURS**  
 Mon-Fri: 9am - 4pm  
 Tue: 7- 9pm  
**Office: 908.735.5215**  
**Fax: 908.735.7598**  
 Email: [ftclerk@franklin-twp.org](mailto:ftclerk@franklin-twp.org)

**TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS**  
**Municipal Clerk:** x 16  
*Ursula Stryker, RMC*  
**Clerical Assistant:** x 10  
*Susan Dean*  
**Const/Bldg Official:** 735.5343  
*Mark Fornaciari., ICS*  
*Jean Bahlman, Cert. Tech. Asst.*  
**Planning Board Clerk:** x 18  
*Jean Beischer*  
**Police Office:** 735.6508  
**Police Dispatch:** 782.9594  
**Tax Assessor:** x 13  
*Mary Mastro, CTA, SCGREA*  
 Tues. 7-9pm  
**Tax Collector:** 735.6609  
*Linda Swackhamer, CTC*  
 Tue & Thur, 12 to 3pm  
**Zoning & Health Off:** x 14  
*John Barczak*  
 Tues. 7-9pm

*Household Cleanup is now held on the second Saturday during the months of March, April, May, August and November 7:30am—12:00 noon*



# Franklin Township

202 Sidney Road  
 Pittstown, NJ 08867-4145

## Township Committee

Scott Bauman, Mayor  
 Robert McGeary,  
 Deputy Mayor  
 Vigdis Austad  
 Susan Campbell  
 Steve Tarshis

# 1ST COMMUNITY DAY A SUCCESS

The planning committee for Franklin Township's Community Day thanks our sponsors, community groups, and volunteers for making the June 4 event at the Quakertown Fire Company such a huge success.

The free celebration, which drew crowds throughout the afternoon and evening, were sponsored by the following :

Quakertown Fire Company, Franklin Township School, FTS PTA, Franklin Township Committee, Franklin PBA, AAAR Carting, Fusco Rental World, ShopRite of Clinton and Superior Towing.

Quakertown Fire Company received a \$47,067 donation from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and honored its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a huge cake.

Twenty-two community organizations provided entertainment, helpful information and items for sale. There were free treats and sports tickets for children and adults.

The community organizations who supported the event were:

Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, Faith Chapel Wesleyan Church, Quaker-town Friends Meeting, Quakertown United Methodist Church, St. Catherine of Siena Church, 4-H Hunterdon Deadeye Shooting Sports, 4-H Kick Butt Kids, Boy Scout Pack 108, the County Animal Rescue Team, the Community Emergency Response Team, the

Fire Company Women's Auxiliary, Franklin Theatre Works, FTS Eighth Grade Community Service, Girl Scouts of Franklin, Jennie Haver Scholarship Fund, the Moms Club of Pittstown, Pittstown Trail Association, Pro Access Insurance Wholesaler, Quakertown Education Association, Riding with HEART, Rural Awareness and St. Hubert's Giralda.

Everyone enjoyed music throughout the day, with performances by the Las Kaos Band, Faith Chapel's Damascus Road Band, and our DJ Ken Mandoli, who also emceed the day's activities.

Special thanks go to the Township Police and the Fire Company for their cooking skills and to the Township Committee and our talented local bakers for the pie baking contest.

We greatly appreciated the day-long shuttle service and traffic control by our emergency service providers, as well as the County's approval to close a portion of Quakertown Road and the graciousness of Quakertown Road neighbors.

They generously filled two large bins with grocery items for the

United Methodist Church's food pantry, contributed cell phones to St. Catherine of Siena Knights of Columbus, donated money for Jump for Japan and the Heifer Foundation, and supported the PTA's Tricky Tray.



# PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

As a resident, business or other member of the New Jersey community, we can all help to protect our water and keep pollution out of storm drains, roadside swales and streams. Stormwater runoff is precipitation from rain or snow melt that flows over the ground. As it flows it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants and deposit them into a storm sewer system or directly into a wetland, lake or river.

Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water that we

use to swim in, fish and in providing drinking water.

By practicing healthy household habits, residents can keep common pollutants off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt these simple habits and help to keep our water safe. Please go to the township website at [www.franklin-twp.org](http://www.franklin-twp.org) to view some of the guidelines and help keep the waters safe from pollution. It all adds up to a cleaner water and saves the high cost of cleaning it up once it's dirty or polluted.