

VILLAGE OF
FRANKLIN
BICENTENNIAL
EST. 1824

AUGUST 2024

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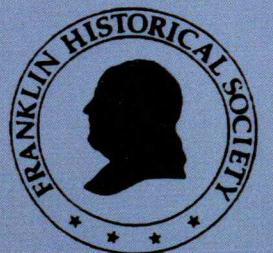
HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT

RECENT EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AROUND THE TOWN

White & Hayes



HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT

Franklin Schools

In 1827, the Michigan Territorial Council made townships responsible for the education of their residents. Townships with at least 50 families were to employ a schoolmaster.

The log cabin schoolhouse: First school in Southfield Township

In the summer of 1828, thirty children from the small farming and milling village passed through the double doors of a log cabin schoolhouse. It was erected in the same location as the police station. The land was donated by Elijah Bullock, the second landowner in the village.

Sophie Gotie, the first teacher, spent six weeks during the summer with the children. The following summer, Eliza Fuller taught in the log school.

By 1830, children were spending winter months in school. Morgan Wisner and Ira Wisner were brothers of Moses who would become Michigan's governor. John Robinson, their brother-in-law also taught here. Men were employed in the winter to teach because it was thought that they could better control the boisterous, unruly male students.

The red schoolhouse at the bottom of the hill: circa 1845

The school was built on land originally owned by Dillucene Stoughton, the first landowner in the village. As enrollment increased, there was a need to build a larger school. Today, the building is a residence.

The Brick School: circa 1869

Albert Rust, a merchant, donated land for the brick school. It would serve the community until the winter of 1922 when it burned down.

The Franklin school: a landmark for over 100 years!

While this structure was being built, children had classes upstairs in the Brick store. Franklin consolidated with Birmingham schools in the late 1970's.

RECENT EVENTS

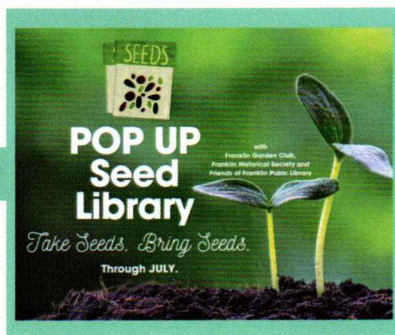


Cemetery Memorial Day

The Franklin Cemetery Association, Scout Troop 1699 and the Franklin Historical Society collaborated to present a special program to honor our veterans

Walk in the Footsteps of Henry Cox was the topic of Mitch Albom, our guest speaker. Cox was an assistant surgeon and veteran of the Civil War who lived in Franklin. Every Memorial Day, he placed flowers at the graves of ten fallen soldiers in our cemetery.

The event also included the flag raising, patriotic band music, reciting Flanders Fields and the Gettysburg Address, community singing and taps.



Seed Exchange

This event was organized by the Franklin Garden Club, Historical Society and Friends of the Library.

Seeds were essentials packed by the early settlers who left New York and New England to settle in the Michigan Territory.

A seed exchange was available at the library. Bring a seed packet and take one!

RECENT EVENTS



Strawberry Social

The Franklin Community church and Historical Society joined together to create a village gathering. It was a festive affair with strawberry shaped balloons, strawberry riddles, face painting, and of course, strawberry shortcake!!!

Ming the Magnificent performed his magic for kids of all ages. There was also a squishmallow raffle. It was SWEET afternoon!



200th Birthday Party

A special thank you to the Friends of the Library for creating a birthday party atmosphere on the green and providing the hot dogs and hamburgers.

Villagers brought a potluck dish and the Franklin Historical Society ordered a birthday cake for everyone to enjoy.

Great Job Franklin Community Association in organizing the sack races, 3 legged races, hula hoops, croquet, cornhole and other old- fashioned fun. The BENGGO game was a big hit!

A huge thank you to Leslie Frick for painting the American Gothic cutout.



FRANKLIN BICENTENNIAL CALENDAR



- August 21 Block Party (brought to you by Mainstreet Franklin)
- September 1 Franklin School Reunion at Huda school (sponsored by Franklin Community Association}
- September 2 Round Up on the village green (Franklin Community Association with support from other civic groups)
- September 28 Pancake Breakfast/ Build A Scarecrow at the fire station and Kreger property (Sponsored by the Franklin Fire Department, Scout Troop 1699 and Franklin Historical Society)
- October 4 Oktoberfest at the library
- October 14 Questers Tea/Style Show at the church (sponsored by the Questers Group and Franklin Historical Society)
- October 26 Franklinstein (Mainstreet Franklin)
- November 15 Community Sing Along with Dave Osher at the church (sponsored by the Franklin Historical Society and Franklin Community Church)
- December 5 Sip, Shop and Stroll (Mainstreet Franklin with support of other civic groups)

Franklin businesses and Civic groups have worked together to create fun events to celebrate our 200th birthday. Please participate and volunteer where needed to make these Bicentennial gatherings an experience to remember!

Check individual civic group websites and flyers for more information.

WHERE HAS BEN BEEN?



At the Bicentennial kick off square dance/dinner in April, guess who was spotted at the event?



During the Cemetery Association Memorial Day program, that familiar face was present to honor our military veterans.

In June, during the Strawberry Social, you know who was enjoying a strawberry shortcake?



At the 200th birthday party/potluck, what's his name was seen mingling with villagers on the green.

That Ben has been to all of our Bicentennial events!!!

Now, it's your turn to share with other villagers where Ben has been!

Go to franklin-history.org

Simply download this drawing of Ben

Color it, cut it out and take a picture of Ben wherever you go

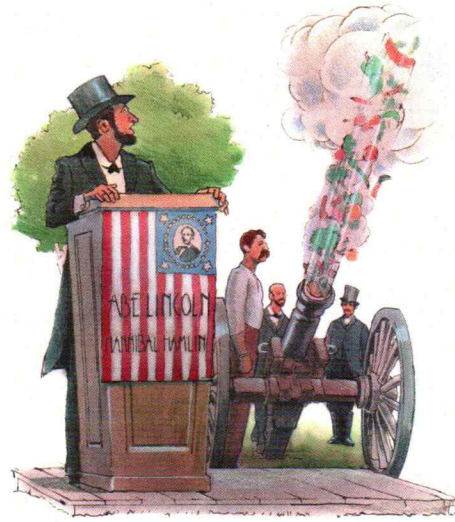
Load your picture on the Franklin Historical Society website



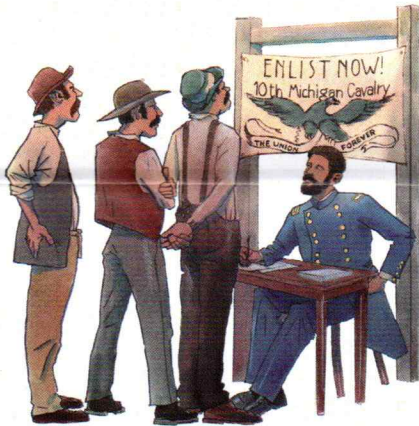
MURALS



Susan Congleton and her children
32750 Franklin Road



Cannon
32682 Franklin Road



Civil War Enlistment
32440 Franklin Road



Skunked!
32222 Franklin Road



Play Ball!
Next to the baseball field on Carol

FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 250007 Franklin, Michigan 48025
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EST. 1824

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32710 Franklin Road

HOUSES “SLADED” FOR QR CODES

Requirement to designate an historic structure depends on the age of the building, its architectural style, people who lived there or events that occurred there.

Coming soon. . . QR codes that will reveal stories from within. The code will take you to the Franklin Historical website franklin-history.org where you will hear Mitch Albom's narration.