



## The Village Newsletter

Our team is pleased to reintroduce a monthly communication to Village of Franklinville residents. The purpose of these newsletters is to keep residents informed and strengthen our sense of community. These letters will touch on a variety of relevant topics to raise awareness and provide a look into what work is being done. Please understand that this will NOT be a complete list of things going on in the village.

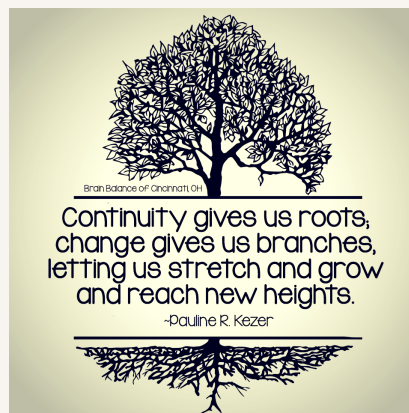
Going forward, our newsletter will be published on the last Monday of each month. In addition to being emailed to subscribers, letters will be posted to our Facebook, website, and physical copies will be available upon request. If you know someone who will need a physical copy, please have them contact the village office at 716-676-3010.

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### Mayor Ashley S. Schumaker

I am honored to have stepped into the mayor role on Monday 4/1 after winning the 3/19 village election. I have lived in Franklinville and been an active community member for years serving as a trustee from March 2017 thru March 2024. Click [here](#) to learn more about me. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your mayor.

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As residents, our village is changing at what seems to be lightning speed. This can be overwhelming and disrupt that everyday routine that many of us thrive on. According to **Chris Pennington**, "We are hardwired to resist change. Part of the brain—the amygdala—interprets change as a threat and releases the hormones for fear, fight, or flight. Your body is actually protecting you from change." I promise I'm not sharing this to throw the entire village into "flight or fight" mode my first month in office. I'm also not sharing this to imply that anyone is wrong for not welcoming change with open arms.

I am sharing this because I believe it is important for you to hear that I, along with our entire Village of Franklinville team, understand that our village and its surroundings are changing very fast. We have a great group of elected officials, appointed officials, and staff. Our ability to make decisions that affect our entire community is not a privilege we take lightly. Our team will continue to make sound, educated decisions, and listen to our residents to move our village forward.

To put our village in the best position possible, we will be taking a phased (yet timely) approach to strengthen our foundation and improve resident's quality of life. Examples include but are not limited to creating online forms and checklists that residents can access for common permit needs, getting laws updated to our website in an easy-to-read format, recruiting volunteers to fill committee vacancies, looking out for grant opportunities, and the initiatives discussed below.

If you have questions or concerns, please come to a meeting or reach out to us. I recommend subscribing to this monthly newsletter, following "Village of Franklinville" on Facebook, and utilizing our [website](#) for information. If you want to get involved in a bigger way, [volunteer](#).

## [VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

### **Water System Improvement Project**

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Water main replacement construction projects began in late March. These projects will be completed by private contractors, with oversight by the Village and the project engineer. These projects will consist of installing new water mains, hydrants, valves, and service stubs on along various streets throughout the Village (see map below).

The contractor started work March 25th on Chestnut St near Cherry St and will continue at the Chestnut St-Crestview Dr intersection toward the Crestview Dr dead end. Once completed they will move back down toward Howard St. We will continue to provide updates as to where the work will be taking place and to any water service interruptions as we are able. All communications will be posted to the [Village of Franklinville Projects Page](#).

This project has been in the works for several years, beginning with an engineering study and report of the system in 2017, income survey in 2018 which qualified us for low interest financing, grant and funding applications in 2019 and 2020, and finally design and bidding of the project. The work will help to ensure our system is resilient and robust in the future and will help to prepare us for continued growth.

Benefits of the project include the following:

- Replacing failure-prone and leaking water mains that have far exceeded their useful life.
- Upsizing various water mains to provide improved hydraulics and fire protection.
- Replacing lead components that remain from the original water system.
- Improving distribution system operation and flexibility.
- Reducing operations costs by reducing water loss and decreasing the frequency of emergency repairs.

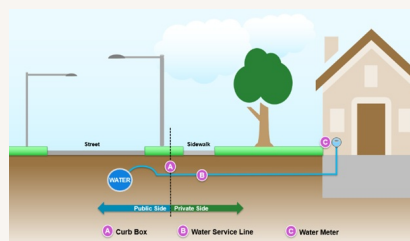
Traffic control, in the form of cones and signage, and/or temporary stop lights, will be installed near the work site and will be relocated as the construction progresses. Please

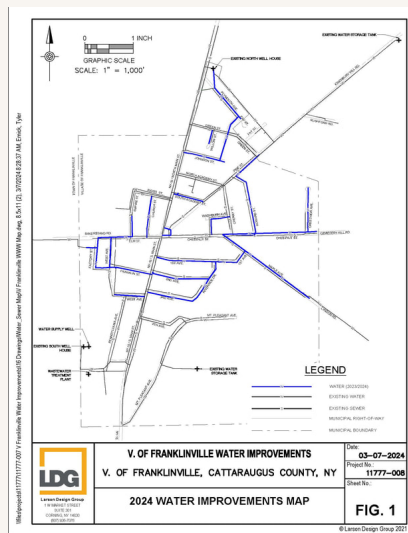
use caution and be patient as they work.

### Important Information:

- Due to Health Department regulations, the new water mains must be located a minimum of 10' horizontally from the existing sanitary sewer mains, which means in most cases the new water mains will be located in the subway, or tree lawn area between the sidewalk and street. The contractor and engineer will work hard to preserve any existing trees, but in several locations the trees within the village right-of-way will need to be removed to facilitate the pipe installation. Our team will be working through identifying the trees that will be removed and notify residents as needed. The village Tree Commission along with the DPW will work to replace trees wherever possible, and as soon as possible.
- Driveway aprons between the sidewalk and road (within village right of way) will likely be disturbed as part of this improvement. If the water main location requires the contractor to dig through an existing driveway, it will be restored. If the affected driveway is asphalt or concrete, the driveway will be cut near, but not beyond the right-of-way boundary, and will be restored using the same material. The contractor will take care to only disturb what is necessary.
- Many streets are in rough shape. Our public works department has already been out patching holes and will continue to do so as resources allow. This will be the primary fix until construction is complete. Due to the cost of paving a street, there will be a phased approach to pavement projects that will be based on the current cost to complete the project and funds available. Your understanding is appreciated.
- The village will be replacing all water distribution infrastructure within the public right of way, including the section of water service from the water main to the private property boundary (referred to above as the 'service stub'). The portion of the water service that extends from the front property line to the structure is private property and is not owned or maintained by the Village.
- Please be advised that many privately owned water services have exceeded their useful life and need replacement. This replacement of privately-owned infrastructure will not be included in the Village projects at this time and will be the responsibility of each property owner. Most dated water services in need of replacement are constructed of galvanized steel or lead piping, typically approximately 1/2" to 3/4" in diameter. Modern water service materials include copper and plastic (HDEP, high density polyethylene) service tubing. If you have copper or plastic water tubing extending through your basement wall, it is likely that your water service has been installed or replaced within the last 40 years and may be in suitable condition. If you have galvanized steel piping or, less commonly, lead piping extending through your basement wall, you likely have a water service that has extended its useful life and is need of being replaced.

Again, please be patient as we work to improve our water system infrastructure. This will surely cause some temporary traffic delays, inconveniences, water service interruptions, rough roads and mud and dust. The contractor will clean up and restore it to existing condition as soon as they are able. The contractor will be overseen by an inspector to ensure work is completed to village specifications.





## The Past, Present, & Future: Park Square



### Past:

Initially constructed in 1876, Park Square has been characterized by the National Register of Historic Places as a "historically and architecturally significant example of an unusually intact example of a village center containing a landscaped park surrounded by a distinctive collection of civic and commercial buildings at each of its four principal sides."

### Present:

In February, the Board of Trustees enacted the Historic Preservation Law and created the Historic Preservation Committee. These actions will lead to the village becoming a NYS Certified Local Government which allows us numerous grant and funding opportunities.

The Village board of Trustees is accepting applications for individuals interested in serving on this committee. The Historic Preservation Committee is responsible for protecting architecturally, historically, and culturally significant buildings and sites. [Click here](#) to download the application or get a copy from the Village Clerk. Completed applications can be emailed to [villageclerk@franklinvillenyny.org](mailto:villageclerk@franklinvillenyny.org) or dropped off at the

village offices at 19 Pennsylvania Ave.

The committee will serve in an advisory capacity only in recommending landmark and historic district designations, preparing and maintaining inventory of all property within its jurisdiction, and recommends to the Village Board of Trustees specific places, districts, sites, buildings, etc. to be designated as historic properties. The committee will also serve as a resource to help inform the community on historic preservation issues and help preserve and enhance the historical characteristics of a property.

**Future:**

The Village of Franklinville Board of Trustees will be conducting public comment/input meetings regarding the Park Square Revitalization Project.

The intent of this project is to make improvements to Park Square which will encourage community gathering and events in a manner consistent with the historic value of Park Square. To accomplish this, the board of trustees wants community input as to the type of improvements for Park Square, its future use and other ideas or input.

These sessions will take place at the regular board meetings at 19 Pennsylvania Ave on Monday 4/22 at 6PM and Monday 5/13 at 6PM.

Written comments will also be accepted by mail to Franklinville Village Clerk, 19 Pennsylvania Avenue, Franklinville, NY 14737 or by email at [villageclerk@franklinvilleny.org](mailto:villageclerk@franklinvilleny.org).



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**Local Law Prohibiting Unreasonable Noise**

With the warmer weather upon us, we would like to refresh everyone on our village noise ordinance. This law was passed in August of 2023 and is intended to establish standards for the regulation of noise and to provide adequate notice to the residents within the Village with regard to their activity and the activities of others.

To put it simply, quiet hours are between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday thru Thursday and 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Click [here](#) for a brief interpretation of the law and the full law PDF.

This law exists to ensure that residents are not exposed to excessive noise levels that may interrupt their serenity and quality of life. We ask that everyone understand this law and

do their part to follow it while also remaining reasonable.

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**\*\*\*NYS Burn Ban\*\*\***

Annual brush burning ban is in effect from March 16 through May 14

[Click here for details and a list on what is allowed.](#)

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**Property Maintenance Information:**

- Village curbside brush pickup will begin Thursday 4/25. Each year the Village DPW picks up brush for residential properties on the last Thursday of each month. DPW employees will pick up brush, branches and bushes only. They must be placed parallel at the curbside, but not in the road. Only brush, branches and bushes will be picked up at this time. Leaves, yard clippings and garden waste will not be collected. The program begins in April and goes through October.
- Please make sure you cut tall weeds and grass.

**Local Law 95.02:**

**Weeds, long grasses, poisonous or harmful growths required to be cut.**

(A) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, either as owner, occupant, lessee, agent, tenant or otherwise of any real property within the village to permit weeds, long grass or other harmful, poisonous or detrimental growths to be raised on their property.

(B) By May 15 of each year, weeds, long grass or other harmful growths shall be cut and shall not be allowed to grow to a height greater than six inches.

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- Monday 4/8 6PM - regular board meeting at 19 Pennsylvania Ave (annual reorganization meeting at 5:45PM)
- Tuesday 4/9 7PM- regular town board meeting. public hearing regarding industrial park proposal
- Monday 4/22 6PM- regular board meeting at 19 Pennsylvania Ave\*Public Hearing for Annual Budget and for Park Square input
- Thursday 4/25- 1st curbside Village Brush Pickup of the year
- Thursday 4/25 7PM- WNY Maple Festival King & Queen Contest (High School Auditorium)
- Friday 4/26 10AM- Arbor Day Celebration at Franklinville Elementary School
- Saturday 4/27 & Sunday 4/28- **60th Annual WNY Maple Festival**
- Tuesday 4/30- Bulk item pickup, no recyclables, 2 bulk items per unit.

### VILLAGE OF FRANKLINVILLE

19 Pennsylvania Ave Franklinville, NY 14737

716-676-3010

[www.villageoffranklinvilleny.org](http://www.villageoffranklinvilleny.org)

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