

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP QUARTERLY GAZETTE

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Easter Egg Hunt - March 23

Spring Fishing Derby - May 4

Hunterdon Polo Match

June 8 - www.hunterdonpolo.org

Upcoming Meetings:

(except where noted)

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Every 2nd & 4th Thursday

LAND USE

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of
each month

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

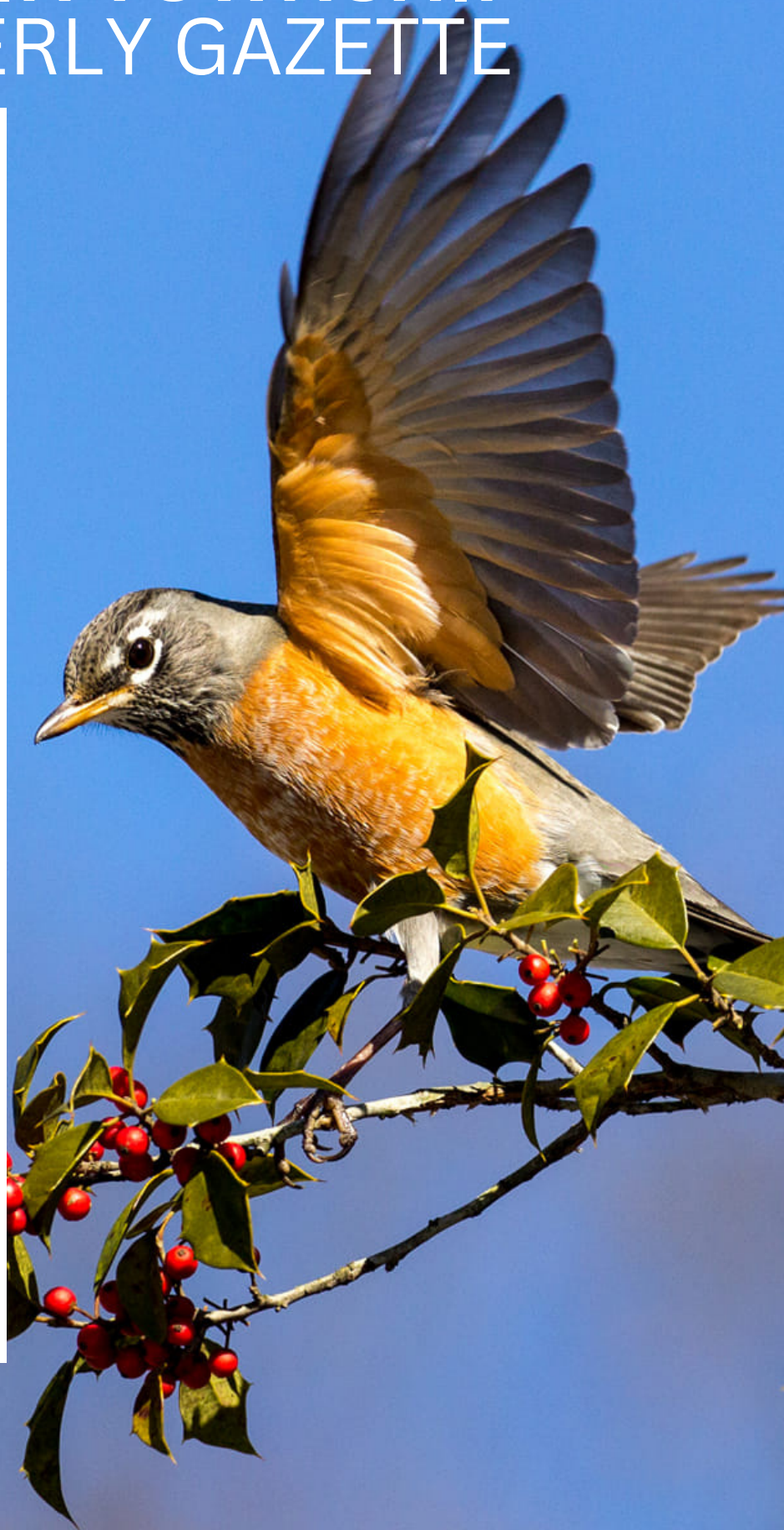
Last Monday of each month

**Household cleanup and
bulky waste pickup days**

April 6th

8:00am -12:00noon

85 Locust Grove Road



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

VISIT YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR FOR ESSAY
APPLICATION OR EMAIL
DSEIPLE@FRANKLIN-TWP.ORG FOR MORE INFO

MARCH 7, 2024 DEADLINE

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY IS RECRUITING!

POSITION TITLES:

FIREFIGHTER/EMT - FULLTIME AND PER DIEM

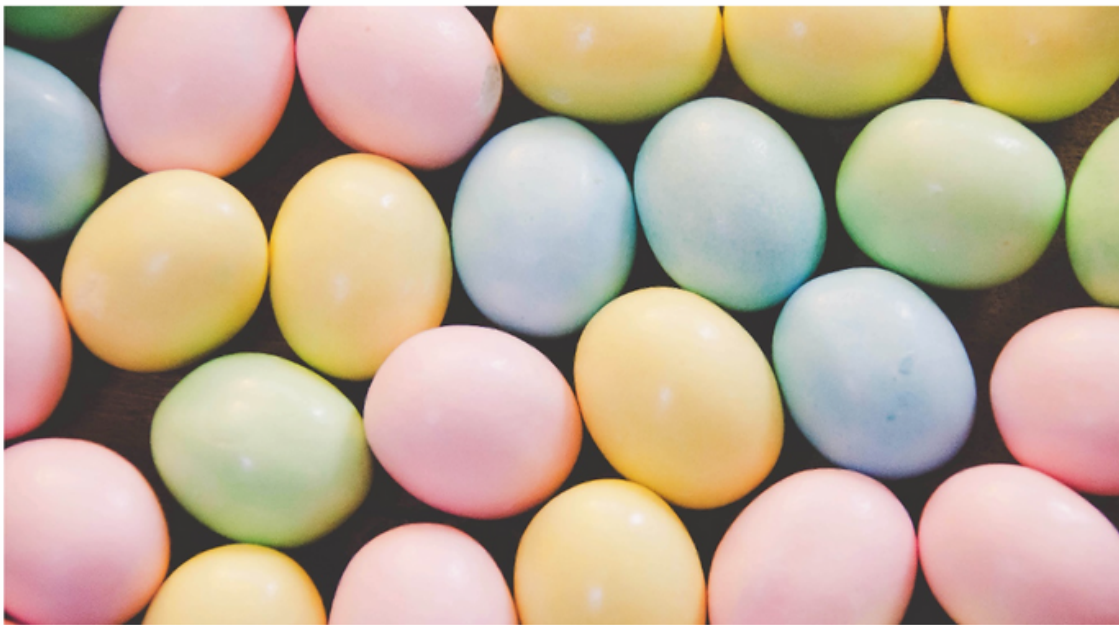
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN - PER DIEM

VISIT [HTTPS://QUAKERTOWNFIRE.COM/APPLICATIONS-TO-QFC](https://quakertownfire.com/applications-to-qfc)



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Franklin Township Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Saturday, March 23rd
at Noon

211 Sidney Road, Pittstown, NJ 08867

Please join the Franklin Township Police Department, Quakertown Fire Department and Franklin Township Recreation and the Clinton Elks for our annual Egg Hunt. The event is rain or shine or snow. This is a free Event for Franklin Township residents.

Be on the hunt for the Golden Egg



NOTEABLE

Did you know there are different Tax Discounts/Credits you may have access to?

We have information is on both our township's Tax Collector and Tax Assessor webpage.

<https://franklin-twp.org/departments/tax-collector/>

Scroll down to the bottom of the page to the two tile links just above the Contact information.

“Property Tax Deduction Programs”

“Military and Veteran Tax Credits and Exemptions”

<https://franklin-twp.org/departments/tax-assessor/>

Left hand Menu

“Property Tax Deduction Programs”

“Military and Veteran Tax Credits and Exemptions”

<https://franklin-twp.org/property-tax-deduction-programs/>

<https://franklin-twp.org/military-and-veteran-tax-credits-and-exemptions/>

NOTEABLE

Environmental Commission Awarded a Sustainability Grant

In May, Franklin Township's Environmental Commission was awarded a \$2,000 Sustainable Jersey grant for Green Team support, funded by the PSEG Foundation. Fifty-seven grants were distributed to recipients across 17 New Jersey counties. The grant awards will fund a range of projects including food waste recycling; green infrastructure and sustainable landscaping; green fairs; composting; green business recognition; environmental resource inventories; outdoor classrooms; pollinator gardens; and more.

"These sustainability projects will strengthen New Jersey by helping local communities become more livable, environmentally friendly and prosperous. Congratulations grant recipients; thank you for taking steps to improve health, integrate sustainability into student learning, boost recycling efforts and cut greenhouse gas emissions," said Randall Solomon, executive director for Sustainable Jersey. "Your projects will have a ripple effect that will benefit us all."

The PSEG Foundation has contributed \$3.1 million dollars in funding to the Sustainable Jersey grants program for municipalities and schools over the past 12 years.

"PSEG cares about people and the planet, which is why we're so proud to be a prime supporter of Sustainable Jersey," said Calvin Ledford, president of the PSEG Foundation and director of PSEG Corporate Social Responsibility. "Sustainable Jersey starts with our precious youngsters and creates roles for everyone, in ways that show the kind of ingenuity, environmental stewardship and community that PSEG has valued for 120 years."

Proposals were evaluated by an independent Blue-Ribbon Selection Committee. The Sustainable Jersey grants are intended to help municipalities and schools make progress toward a sustainable future in general, and specifically toward Sustainable Jersey certification.

Franklin Township currently holds bronze-level certification.

CAPOOLONG CREEK TRAIL PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Capoolong Creek Trail is loved by Franklin and Hunterdon County residents alike and is a jewel many wish to preserve.

The site of this trail is the former Pittstown 3.9 mile Lehigh Valley Railroad branch which the state purchased in 1973 and made it into a nature trail which is now managed by NJ Fish and Wildlife. (<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=33371>).

NJ Fish & Wildlife spend most of their time focused on needs related to hunting and fishing and therefore, resources and funding are directed there. In addition, they are understaffed to the point that the Capoolong Creek Trail is deteriorating. Washout,, erosion, overgrown trails, fallen trees, and flooded muddy paths have made many areas dangerous or impassable.

Over the years, and more recently beginning again in 2022 Franklin residents contacted Fish & Wildlife asking them to address specific issues and to partner with them to repair and restore the trail. The Township Committee supported residents' efforts and this included Mayor Koury and Franklin Township counsel meeting with Northern Superintendent Tony McBride In October 2023 to continue the dialogue. We are now in 2024 with renewed enthusiasm focusing on the Capoolong Creek Trail once more.

With the Franklin Township Committee's approval in January 2024, the Capoolong Creek Trail Project Advisory Committee was formed and we simultaneously launched the Capoolong Creek Trail Restore and Support Campaign on Facebook. In just one month, our group has grown to 287 members strong!

Please join us through this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/698844288904435> or send an email to eebee14@aol.com and let us know how you wish to be part of this grass roots effort.

Do you wish to join the advisory committee? Share or execute your knowledge and experience? We will need people with construction, trail maintenance, fundraising and community outreach experience. Or, simply join our list of community volunteers so we can be ready to successfully save the trail!

CAPOOLONG CREEK TRAIL PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mission, Goals, and Objectives of the Capoolong Creek Trail Project Advisory Committee to the Franklin Township Committee

Mission:

The Capoolong Creek Trail Project Committee wishes to explore available options to assist the residents of Franklin Township in their efforts to restore and maintain the trail, which has fallen into disrepair. We wish to protect this natural resource for its environmental and recreational value for residents and the State of New Jersey while maintaining Franklin Township's rural character.

Goals:

- (1) Develop and submit to both the Township Committee and, with their approval, also to NJ Fish & Wildlife options and a plan of action for restoring and maintaining the Capoolong Creek Trail.
- (2) Retain the rustic and natural quality of the path while ensuring its safety for all who wish to use it.

Initial Objectives Include:

- (1) Review and create maps of the Trail corridor
- (2) Identify, prioritize, and record areas in need of repair
- (3) Explore and identify financial, human, and material resources
- (4) Develop an efficient and organized plan for trail repair
- (5) Report back to The Township Committee with our findings

Project Advisory Committee Members: Elizabeth Basile, Frank Tota, Larry Potter, Bruce DeRites, Ingrid Taff and Taylor Fischer

Liaison between Township Committee, NJ Fish & Wildlife and Capoolong Creek Trail Advisory Committee: Deputy Mayor Sebastian Donaruma

FLOODING & ROADWAYS

PLEASE NOTE

When flooding strikes, navigating roads can become treacherous, posing significant risks to both drivers and vehicles. One of the most crucial safety measures during flood events is to avoid roads altogether, if possible. Floodwaters can obscure hazards like debris, sinkholes, or even submerged vehicles, making it exceedingly dangerous to traverse flooded roads. Furthermore, the force of moving water can easily sweep away cars, leading to potentially fatal consequences. Therefore, it's paramount for individuals to heed warnings and refrain from driving through flooded areas to ensure their safety and the safety of others.

Instead of taking the risk of driving through flooded roads, individuals should opt for alternative routes or stay put until the waters recede. Emergency services and local authorities typically provide updates and alternative routes to guide people away from flooded areas. Additionally, utilizing online mapping services or traffic apps can help identify safer routes during flood events. Planning ahead and staying informed about road closures and flood warnings can significantly reduce the chances of encountering dangerous situations while driving.

Moreover, preparation is key to minimizing the impact of flooding on transportation. Being aware of flood-prone areas in advance allows individuals to plan their routes accordingly, avoiding these areas when heavy rainfall is forecasted. Investing in flood insurance for vehicles can also provide financial protection in the event of flood-related damage. By prioritizing safety, staying informed, and planning ahead, individuals can effectively navigate through flood events while minimizing risks to themselves and others on the road.



SPOTLIGHT ON SCHOOL

ROARY'S COLOR RUN WAS A BLAST!

The fundraiser also celebrated the inclusion of all our students while raising money for outdoor equipment and support other PTA programs. Students (and staff) had a great time running through obstacle courses while staff had colored chalk to playfully throw at students who chose to participate.



POSITIONS OPEN!

- Track coach
- drama club advisor
- substitute teacher
- full time positions

BOE Meetings

Monday, March 18, 2024

Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

**Public Budget Hearing & Adoption

Mark Kramer, Business
Administrator/Board Secretary
mkramer@ftschoool.org

School Phone Number:
908-735-7929

