



# Jan 1, 2014, Putter Day

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/5/2014



Put·ter - *verb*, puttering, to putter

1. occupy oneself in a desultory but pleasant manner, doing a number of simple tasks while not concentrating on anything in particular.

"Early morning is the best time to putter in the garden."



**Putter Day** - it marks the beginning of my year. I occupy my New Year's Day with my putterings. I putter just to be productive. While everyone else is recovering from the previous evening's festivities, I'm up early, puttering. Each New Year is not just about waiting and hoping that good things will happen. It's another opportunity to *make* good things happen. If good fortune comes to the prepared, then my January 1 Day of Puttering is about preparing for some good things to come my way in the new year.

Saturdays are great for puttering. So, my New Year's Day feels just like Saturday.

I tidied up some computer files. Cleaned the kitchen, the yard. I went to Franklin TV, checked on our construction progress and moved some big stuff out. I'm puttering right now as I type this. Just getting a jump on the year. I know the kind of year I would like to enjoy in 2014, so I'm acting on it - day one, because it's Putter Day. It's that simple.

Our Franklin TV President, Ken Norman is like that. It's something we have in common - each of us a bit surprised that the other showed up at work on January 1<sup>st</sup>, while also understanding why. Above, Ken (middle) shows my friends our digs. Right, Ken and Tom helping move some old stuff out. It's out with the old; in with the new.



May you have a most productive, prosperous, and Happy New Year - puttering the day away.

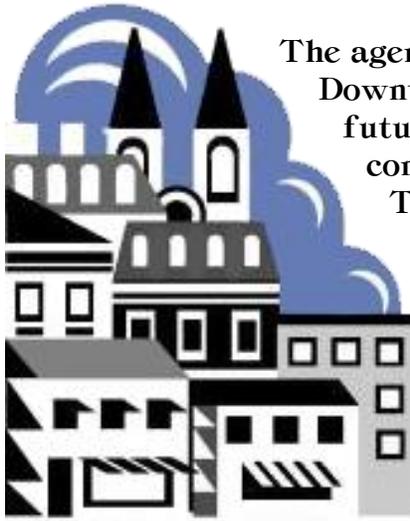
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Our Community Access  
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# Gateway to Downtown

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/12/2014



The agenda for this past Thursday's meeting of The Franklin Downtown Partnership had a singular focus: What should the future be for the 155 Emmons St. site? A recent study was conducted regarding the viability of renovating The Old Town Hall Building. Bringing the existing property into code compliance for use by multiple tenants poses a significant financial challenge.

Repair the building? (At what cost?)

Replace the building? (With what establishment?)

Remove the building? (For green space or parking?)

This is the framework for the key issue. The meeting was well attended with many offering good suggestions for uses that would enhance the downtown area and local businesses.

Retail space? Professional offices? Park? There were opinions on what the property should *not* be as well. Different uses can generate very different traffic patterns. The entire parcel of land is less than an acre, so parking is limited. This site is also

the gateway to downtown Franklin - a landmark parcel that you can't miss as you approach on Route 140 from Exit 17 on 495. The site's support for the vibrant future of downtown Franklin can be significant. Few towns are afforded the opportunity to plan and create an attractive gateway site.



What are your thoughts?

The Downtown Partnership's discussion generated a list of possibilities. That discussion is set to continue in a working meeting scheduled for 7 PM on January 21<sup>st</sup> in the third floor training room of the Municipal Building. Franklin TV will be recording the meeting for later rebroadcast during January and February.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Walls Are Happening!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 1/19/2014

Our crew spent the better part of last week pulling floor tiles. Keith and Adam went at it with their air hammers until we were totally floored - or in our case, de-floored.

A nasty, noisy, dusty job. (Ugh!)



Then the walls arrived - or at least the studs for them. A truck showed up with a hefty load of 2"x4". That's when your inner kid kicks in, "Hey, I know - Let's build a fort!!"



Whenever we see new walls being studded out there is a certain unique optimism that rises from the smell of wood dust as newly cut timbers



rise from floor to ceiling. Something big and important is taking shape. We are fascinated by open walls. It's not a fort, but it's the next best thing. It's our new TV studio. (Yes!)

And - I admit, however reluctantly, that Keith and Adam's fort-building skills are better than mine. Perhaps they can save me some lumber?

And, thanks for watching!

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# New England Candlepins

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/2/2014

On January 18<sup>th</sup> we held our third successful bowling tournament at Ficco's Bowladrome in Franklin.

We began producing our series as Hockomock Candlepins, but have since expanded our program to include all of New England. We are both pleased and impressed by the enthusiastic support we have seen from the large number of bowlers who compete from as far as western Massachusetts and New Hampshire.



Hence, the appropriate name change: New England Candlepins.

We are now preparing to circulate our bowling series to public access studios throughout New England.

Why should we have all the fun? Here, our hosts Ed Dunn and Jay Horrigan enjoy a light moment with guest bowler Dan Gauthier (center).

Tournament series 3 starts next week on Franklin TV. Watch for it.

We're also already making plans for tournament 4, scheduled to take place at Ficco's on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Do feel free to stop by Ficco's any time and watch as our bowlers roll throughout the day from 10AM to 5 PM. We hope to see you there.



And, thanks for watching!

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# We Are being Framed!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/9/2014

Yes, it's true.  
I tell you, we're being completely framed.

We did nothing wrong - I swear. Honest!

We didn't plan for this to happen - oh, wait. We did.

We sat down with our architects and engineers.  
We plotted and planned everything, down to the last detail. But, we didn't actually do it.

It's true, we ripped up the whole place, like drunk roadies partying with the band in a cheap motel.

When we were done there wasn't much left.

The evidentiary photos of our alleged misdeeds are in 3D. You can review the evidence in true 3D by staring past the page into the distance. When you do this properly, the two left/right photos will fuse into one 3D image.

As far as all these new walls go, it wasn't us. It was two other guys - Keith and Adam. Yeah, it had to be them. Somehow, they snuck in and just started putting up all these walls - walls all over the place. They had tools. They had the means, the motive and the opportunity.

Next thing you know, those guys will show up with plasterboard. That'll just be their attempt at a cover-up.

As for reconstructing the crime scene, that's our story, and we're stickin' to it. We got nothin' else to say without our lawyers present.

And, thanks for watching!



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# When Planning Pays Off!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/16/2014

We began planning our move to Hutchinson St. in October of 2012. When we arrived a year ago our first task was to install our temporary playback system. We did that with a long term plan in mind. We set up our racks and installed our connections to Verizon and Comcast in an isolated corner.

Note our floor plan in green tape on the floor.



February, 2013

We framed the equipment area with plastic to keep the construction dust away from our playback systems.

Shortly after that we ripped up the place to make way for the new. More recently, Keith and Adam from F&P Molla have been busily framing and building since the beginning of the year. The guys are doing a great job. The lines of tape are now real rooms.



Next, we remove the temporary plastic frame and roll our racks - all still connected and working - to their new temporary position so Keith and Adam can finish framing the surrounding walls.

Another successful step, completed in only a few minutes. Thanks to some long-term planning, our program operation and our construction are both continuing apace without disruption.

This is where I pause for a moment, to be pleased rather than surprised when it all actually works.

And, thanks for watching!



February, 2014

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# They Came With Shovels!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 2/23/2014



Are we still making progress? Rebuilding is pretty serious when the bathrooms go away. Last week we ripped one out to make way for the concrete cutters. They sliced up a big section of floor to lay in some new drain pipes.

Then the shovels came out. They dug a grave sized hole several feet. We didn't find any bodies, mastodon bones or other surprise disruptions to

progress. No Indian burial site. No Jimmy Hoffa. Just dirt. Oddly comforting, that. Then, in a dark about face, we paused a moment to consider how many we might fit in there before we close it up.

In retrospect, we should have tossed in a time capsule (the usual coffee can containing news of the day, greetings to an optimistic future, token artifacts), but we just added a few pipes. Seems like a waste of a perfectly good hole if you don't toss in something laced with a touch of mystery - or scandal. Opportunity digs but once. They put all the dirt back, and the new concrete is hard now.



Oh, well. Maybe next time...

And, thanks for watching!

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# For This Too Shall Pass!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/2/2014



The Old Farmer's Almanac was right (sigh!)

In fact, they were the only ones who were. They called for a winter of deep snows and deeper temps. So, begrudging congrats to them on behalf of all those fancy weather computer models what got it all wrong.

The Almanac also claims that winter will continue across an unrelenting March, and spring will arrive late - (heavy sigh!)

I prefer to limit my cold experience to frosty summertime beverages. Otherwise, point me toward the nearest warm sunny rock.

Then it finally happened. The day that we were secretly dreading came to pass.

Our last bathroom went away - and the outhouse arrived. Now, we're roughing it. We are crossing the Rubicon!

For the next while we will be living the life and strife of our pioneer settlers.

However, we are moving ahead crisply and headed for the home stretch. In the next month, HVAC, electric services and indoor plumbing (Yes!) will be installed.

For now, as I sit in the icy blue cold of our Komfort Kastle, philosophizing, I await the coming of spring's welcome warmth. For this too shall pass.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Emmons St., Watch & Learn!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/9/2014

Franklin Downtown Partnership held an early January event on the future of the old Emmons St. Town Hall. That garnered a number of viable ideas. A broader community meeting was slated for January 21, but snows got in the way (again). This past Tuesday evening that meeting finally took place. Again, a number of possible ideas were stated and debated. A retail space? Professional offices?



Park? More parking? There were opinions on what the site should *not* be as well.

This park rendering was just one of several possible concepts illustrated by architectural interns at Lou Allevato's firm.

Jeff Nutting provided an opening overview of the property and project:

A study estimated that we need \$2MM to restore the building to code for mixed occupancy. We also need parking for the near term while downtown is being redone. Land value depends on use and income. Could be \$400-\$500K.

A park could be \$1MM. Ground parking could be \$200K.

**Franklin Downtown Partnership – Goals:**

Enhance Downtown Center for businesses. Create a Gateway property that welcomes people. Encourage foot traffic, not increase car traffic. Maintain Safety for students and visitors.

**Citizen’s Economic Development Committee**

Supports an existing developer plan to include a new home for Recreation Dept.

**Dean College**

Advocates a park to enhance the surrounding businesses and property values.

**Franklin Arts Academy**

Community use to bring people downtown. We need an Art Museum, Gallery and Performance Space. Could be a part of the Franklin Cultural District initiative to garner support from MA Cultural Council.

**An alphabetical ordering of advocacy comments during the 90 minute meeting –**

**Tally of Keywords:**

Art Gallery	8
Artisan Mkt	1
Cafes	2
Cultural Area	4
Farmer’s Mkt	4
Free Clinic	1
Food Vendors	1
Gateway	6
Green Space	6
Horace Mann	5
Park	5
Parking	8
Performance	6
Retail	4
Sr. Housing	2
Shops/Office	1



We covered it all, and suggest that you watch and learn about what this important gateway site might hold for Franklin’s future. Check our program listings at Franklin.TV for this week and beyond. We will rebroadcast this important town meeting several times each week on All-Access TV during the month of March.

And, thanks for watching!



# Home is Now Happening

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/16/2014

When we began our “Great March” to find an appropriate building for our studios we had to pack our crystal ball wherever we went. We had to peer into the future.

Squinting. Gazing into the distant mist. Whatever works. We had to see ‘Studio’.

In 1519 Hernán Cortés landed in Mexico. He said, “Burn the boats”. No going home for the Spanish conquistadors. This real estate was their new home.

Once we bought our real estate – we were doing the same thing. We burned our wallet. We were committed.

With some trepidation, destruction and construction, we marched forward. The grand plan is becoming our new reality. As walls go up we see what was once only a plan taking on real shapes and spaces. Subtle things happen. The easy, straight line walk through an open space from here to there is now constrained by walls. Our simplest navigation is given a new direction.

Cortés, navigating to a New World, knew that he was home. So do we. So do we.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Volunteers Are on a Roll

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/23/2014

This is what the people who volunteer to help out with our programs look like. They're folks who have an interest in what we do. They help. They make TV happen. They have fun as well.



Cal and Sophie both did a great job covering our most recent candlepins

tournament. Even our pro bowlers helped out. Dave Chestercove (right) sat in with host Jay Horrigan to provide his expert insight and commentary. (Dave also won our tournament!) All of our interns and volunteers are winners. They learn new skills while they help us out.

You can too. 508-541-4118

We are thankful to all of them for their help.

And, we thank you - for watching!

# Darkest Before the Dawn

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 3/30/2014

That's the aphorism folks roll out when it seems like the hard part just won't let go.

Well, what say we have a look. Winter's had its way with us. The long awaited vernal equinox has passed, and amidst the bleakness we're ready for some spring.

Spring is an optimistic time. Verdant warmth is on its way. Knowing the better days that lie ahead may not lift today's cloud cover, but it does lift our spirits.



Trailer, still cozy. (Check!) Snow, slowly melting. (Check!) Dumpster, slowly filling. (Check!) Outhouse, 20 degrees w/ 40mph gusts. (umm - Check!!)

We're hangin' in there because the next handful of months should be crazy with all the details coming together to complete the first part of our long trek to dawn. It seems odd to gaze upon a bleak landscape such as this and be excited about coming here every day. But, excited we are. We're not looking at the temporary bleakness. We're looking forward - to the sunrise.

And, we thank you for watching!

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# Suddenly, Spring Sprang

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/6/2014

I was anticipating a quiet week, all in all. Silly me! Spring jumped out from behind the bushes and brought on all of the work that construction crews do outside.



Suddenly, we're in high gear. On Tuesday they dug up most of the back, cleaning up all the nasty detritus that had gathered or grown in over the years. We had a lot of it.

By end of day things were looking more respectable. Nature has more room now.



Wednesday morning, and – more digging. A lot more digging. No time was wasted trenching in the footings for our studio extension. It was mecha/steampunk ballet at its best. That shovel was flying all the way to Thursday.

We also began skinning the entire building exterior. With new siding it will look a lot better than the ugly gray cinderblock.

We have also been gathering video of our progress along the way. A special is in the works.

Friday came with wooden forms and the pouring of our studio footings.

Ooh! Wet cement!



I left my mark. Solid evidence of my heavy hand in this project – from the bottom up.

(Rim shot!)

And, we thank you for watching!

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# Managing in the Moment.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/13/2014

The questions keep coming.

“Where should we place the On-Air signs?”

‘Is it okay to relocate the generator to the rear of the building?’

“Which areas of the ceiling have tiles, and which areas are open?”

“What about soundproofing on this wall?”

‘Should these lighting tracks be one or two circuit – are they dimmable?’

All week long we have been in high gear. We are recording our progress as we go. In the not too distant future, this organized chaos will be done – and a memory. It will be a very good one.

The work has been proceeding smoothly. Electrical wiring. Generator. Foundation. Exterior siding. Interior trim. Workmen are tackling the building on several fronts.



instant decisions about all the small touches that can make a big difference in the end. No one is left guessing. Questions get answered. Most importantly, everyone working on this project has good ideas to contribute. Real-time communication and close collaboration is getting it done. In a word - Smooth.

And, we thank you for watching!

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This is where our decision to move here sooner than later is paying off. No matter how carefully things are thought out – no matter how much detail is reflected in the architect’s plans – what happens on site during construction is much more dynamic.

Every day we and the crew can make



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# Samples, Swatches & Such

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/20/2014



When it comes to choice, we suffer from an embarrassment of riches. Too many options. The quiet agony that accompanies choice – as we choose, we eliminate; we rule out. The vast possibilities inevitably become that singular direction, and we move on; hoping that our chosen direction turns out to be the best among all options.

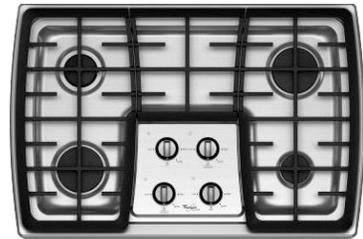


In moving forward, choose we must.

Why is choice often so difficult? This process of elimination puts our personal happiness at risk. How often have we stood paralyzed in the frozen food aisle? Let's see... "Vanilla, chocolate – choc- no, umm, vanil- no, wait..."

Choices that affect our personal happiness often have no safety in numbers. They are emotional choices that have to come from the gut.

Color schemes, appliances, finish and trim materials. All this choice also means that we are entering the late stages of completion. The amorphous vision is becoming "concretized". And yes, we even had to select concrete.



Our good news: We do have two clear guiding principles for making most of our choices.

- First: Are the colors, textures and details "TV friendly"?
- Not all things look attractive in front of a camera.
- Second: (and more important) Is it comfortable and inviting?

That makes many of our choices easier. Yes, when it comes to choice, our cup runneth over. We just haven't gotten around to choosing the cups yet. Let's see... Blue? Gree- no-



And, we thank you for watching!

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# Things Are Looking Up.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 4/27/2014



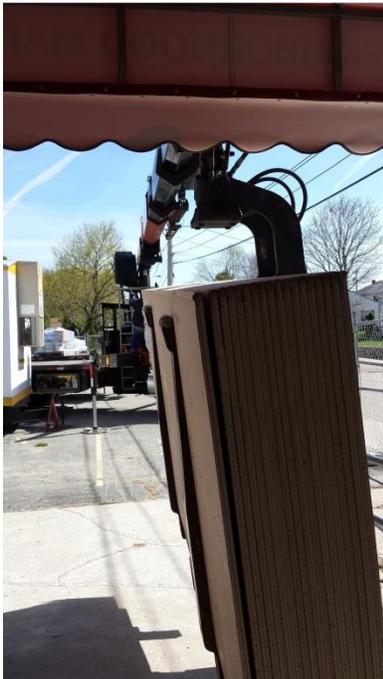
Yesterday was a gloriously clear spring day when the sky above is crisp and blue, and jet contrails are on high.

The days are changing more rapidly, and the trees just woke up. This is spring.

You can't help but look up.

The walls arrived - on two huge flatbed trucks.

As we looked up, they were craning pallets of sheetrock directly over our trailer and straight into our front door. Impressive.



The studio walls are filled with sound proof material, and the interior walls will now take on a permanence that few people can really sense from the architect's floor plans. The walls will transform the plans from a construction project into a real place - a real home.

The home stretch.

Yes, things are looking up.



And, we thank you for watching!

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# If The Walls Could Talk

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/4/2014



The truckload of wallboard that arrived last week is now flying up. Walls are becoming real and (quite literally) rock solid.

We must now accept the fact that we can no longer just slip through the walls whenever we want to go directly from A to B.

We have to obey the walls. They demand respect. They have rules.

No climbing walls when we get a little crazy.  
No banging heads on walls when frustrated.  
No running into walls whenever we get stuck.

So - this week we are getting accustomed to having walls and the spaces they define. Next week we will begin to prettify them up with paint, color and trim. Transformation begets more transformation every week - as studs become walls that give shape to the spaces that define us and what we do. From the very outset, we paid particular attention to these spaces that will (hopefully) invite and inspire.

Now, for the first time, we can finally begin to see that which we have imagined for so long.

What's the phrase - If these walls could talk? I think they're saying, "Welcome home".

And, we thank you for watching!



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# Meet The Perpetrators

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/11/2014

Meet the perps. These are the guys who must carry the burden of blame for the design and construction of our amazing studio facility.

Dennis Colwell (L) is our architect.

Paul Molla is our builder.

These are two pretty smart dudes.



The similarities to making a house or a film are striking. A builder is like a film producer who organizes and deploys all the subcontractors and materials to make it all come together. An architect is like a film director who visualizes the project's design from the start. Movies have their scripts. Buildings have their plans.

These are the guys who oversee the project, "from the paper up". Like me, they've been working all the details of our building plans for a long time.

When architects and builders look at a plan, they see the end game far more clearly than most of us. There is a sensibility at work, and the lines on the page aren't merely lines, but solid things - real walls and rooms.



They read building plans like Spielberg reads scripts or Mozart reads sheet music.

As they inspected our nearly completed studio, there were no big, "Ooh's & Aah's!" - just that confident satisfaction of seeing what they've already seen and known all along. It's all coming together beautifully - as planned - and yes, it's all their fault.

And, we thank you for watching!

# So Near, And Yet So far!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/18/2014



We have been fighting the good fight against all the dust and haze of construction. Our program distribution system is hangin' in there, but we are losing. The dust is everywhere. (sigh!)

When we finally do move in, there'll be a lot of equipment cleaning and reinstalling ahead.

So - when do we fi-nal-ly move in? Good question. A hard date eludes us, but it will be summer. We can see the glorious end looming in the distance - through all the (cough) dust.

More and more of the finish work is happening. Door and window trim. Plans and dates are being set for flooring and painting.

I remind myself it is a patient time.



Yes - a patient time,  
and worth the wait.

And, we thank you for watching!

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# Honoring Our Veterans

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 5/25/2014

Another Memorial Day breakfast hosted by the Elks lodge - Bob Fahey (right) and John Milot take a moment to review the program before parading in the colors. It's just another among many details that Bob wrangles to bring this special program together so thoughtfully every year. Bob always thanks all who help, and for that - Thanks, Bob.



So, what do I recall on Memorial Day?

Among my very earliest memories - when I was four years old I found a little box in a drawer. It had what I thought was a pretty ornament in it. A little purple heart. (-Jewelry?)

My mom told me it was my dad's.  
He piloted an LST at Normandy.

I could never know the story of the marks along his chest - or the big gashes in my uncle John's back - or the limp in my uncle George's gait. That's how they wanted it.

They never asked for special recognition.

They just wanted us to never forget why.

So, as we remember all those who fought;  
all who braved harm's way; all who died.  
Let us also remember why.

And, we thank you for watching!



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# In Memoriam, Stella Jeon

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/1/2014

As host extraordinaire of our Senior Circle TV Program, Stella Jeon interviewed just about anyone and everyone; 117 episodes over the years. She captured many memories; many lives well lived; many now gone.

Our president Ken Norman, The Senior Center's Karen Alves, Ralph Masi, our TV crew and I gathered at Stella's House. A few weeks earlier we learned that Stella had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and we were there to do something long overdue yet entirely necessary. We were there to interview Stella herself. Privately, each of us also knew we were there to say good-bye.

Not an easy good-bye.

With cameras running, Ken turned to Stella with his first (and only) question. Without hesitation over the next hour a life poured forth. All of it. Stella relived her life and times, her personal journey, offered her very spirit - beginning to end. Clearly, Stella wanted to be heard, remembered, appreciated. She deserved no less.

This was the gift of listening - just listening with genuine interest and caring. This was the gift that Stella so often brought in abundance to her many interviews.

She wrapped up every show with a quote by Abe Lincoln.

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

Ever positive, never down, she lived. Stella also knew that the life in your years flows from the happiness in your life, and happiness is a choice - a willful act.

Loss finds us all. Old friends and loves long gone; vision gone, Stella chose happy.

Time to go. She hugged us; told each of us that she loved us.  
A parting gift.  
She made sure I got a nice slice of spanikopita to take home.

Not an easy good-bye. Not one to be missed for anything.

Thank you, Stella.

And, we thank you for watching!



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# Stella, A Life in Pictures

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/15/2014

We've had many calls during the last two weeks regarding the interview we did with Stella Jeon. I'm pleased to report that we will begin showing this very special program starting June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Check next week's schedule for times. Our thanks to her daughter Diana for her tremendous help in making this possible. I believe that these pictures of Stella's life deserve more than a few fleeting moments on TV.



Jimmie's Inc., Franklin's popular Clark Square package store which also sold tobacco and confections and owned by the Kehayas family since 1925, changed hands this week and will be renamed Franklin Liquors. Here James Kehayas and his daughter Stella Jeon stand in front of the store which has held many family memories. (Daily News photo by Eileen Vigilante)

And, we thank you for watching!

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STELLA JEON WAY  
Our Community Access  
FranklinTV

# FHS Commencement 2014

This time, it's personal.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/8/2014



Take one last look. –

That is what FHS Principal Peter Light has been doing. He has taken quiet pause, lingering here to reflect on the class of 2014 and the many that have come and gone before. Classes that he loves dearly. For a moment they are all here, gathered in this hallowed place with him. Thus, this year's commencement is particularly poignant – a joy, laced with a tinge of sorrow, all at once.

The new facility is as filled with bright promise as this place is with memories. After years of preparations – and a moment to linger, the time has come to move on.

And so, for Principal Light, this year is a personal commencement – a time to go forward and cultivate anew the same greatness of spirit that is FHS.

In so doing, the new FHS, like the old, will, in the fullness of time, become hallowed.

Our new school will be a welcoming home for a great legacy – embracing the best of the old; the tried and true; the enduring core values that define FHS.

The walls and halls may be new, fresh. The welcome remains ever familiar.

All these valued things and more will be brought to our new school in abundance by the man who lingers wistfully in the halls.

No one knows this better than he.  
No one is better prepared.

Congratulations and well done, Peter. We thank you.

And, we thank you for watching!

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# Real Soon Now!

From Patience - to Payoff!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/22/2014



In the last month we've been tackling many cosmetic details in our building. The fireplace in our Community Room is now completed.

We've also been wallboarding, plastering and painting up a storm. The fuzzy stuff you see on the ceilings is soundproofing to reduce outside noise as well as make the rooms quieter overall.

This week we began the excavation to complete the foundation of our extension. As we wrap up phase one of our renovation we are beginning our expansion.

Final electrical work - switches and lights, the backup power system, kitchen appliances and counters, floors, ceilings, etc. More remains to be done.



But, Real Soon Now! Really!



Our patience and persistence has a big payoff in store for us. We will get it right. The result will prove to be well beyond our original expectations.

And, we thank you for watching!

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# Forthajooley!

Yaaay! Forthajooley time!



by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 6/29/2014

Few things here in Franklin wake up that little kid in us like Independence Day - The Fourth of July - or as our littlest ones know it - forthajooley! It's one big day that takes us a week to celebrate - from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup>. We'll be out and about with our cameras, covering all the big events and capturing the best moments of life in Franklin. Come and celebrate with us.

From the Franklin July 4<sup>th</sup> Coalition: <http://july4thfranklinma.com/>  
Herewith, a rundown of the festivities. Enjoy, and have a happy and safe Fourth.

**Wednesday, July 2nd:** • 6pm-10pm Food Booths and Amusements Open  
• 7pm-10pm Matt Zajac's Band

**Thursday, July 3rd:** • 6pm-10pm Food Booths and Amusements Open  
• 7pm-10pm Loose Salute  
(Mike Nesmith & the Monkees & others )  
• 10pm LASER LIGHT SHOW

**Friday, July 4th:** • 12pm-10pm Food Booths and Amusements Open  
• 1pm-4pm Tyler Zajac's Band  
• 4pm-10pm Impersonators  
- 4pm-6pm Frank Sinatra (Mike Kelly's Favorite)  
- 8pm-10pm Michael Jackson

**Saturday, July 5th:** • 12pm-10pm Food Booths and Amusements Open  
**Children's Day** • 12 noon Children's Parade  
• 1pm-2pm Vics & Sticks (Family Entertainment)  
• 2pm-3pm Jamie Barrett  
• 3pm-4:30pm Flippo the Clown  
(Juggling & Balloon Artistry)  
• 4pm-7pm Franklin Idol Contest  
• 7pm-10pm Groove Doctors Band (local musicians)

**Sunday, July 6th:** • 1pm-7pm Food Booths and Amusements Open  
• 2pm-3:30pm PARADE  
• 3:30pm Tyler Zajac Solo

**We thank the coalition and its generous event sponsors for making it all possible:**

• Garelick Farms • Ranieri Supply Co. • Middlesex Bank • Franklin Newcomers Club  
• Rockland Bank • Ficco's Bowladrome • Dean Bank • Grove St. Towing & Tire

**And, we thank you for watching!**

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# It's All About Access

Access - Foundation of Freedom - Access

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/6/2014

As we celebrate our cherished independence on this Fourth of July (forthajooley), let's enjoy a moment to consider all that our independence can mean. Public Access TV is at the core of our first amendment right to freedom of speech and assembly. Franklin TV and other access studios insure that all citizens enjoy local access to freely speak to all other citizens via the mass medium of television. Access means many things to many people.

Citizen Frank Falvey exercises that right of access with every program he creates. Both he and I enjoy a shared passion for a free and open exchange of thought. Steve Sherlock provides access to local information for citizens via the internet. Both contribute to community by their acts. This free movement of information and ideas is a core freedom we assume as a right of every citizen in equal measure. Freedom of assembly - the free movement of citizens themselves is a core freedom that we also assume flows to every citizen in equal measure, but it doesn't. That's why we have the ADA. The Americans with Disabilities Act insures freedom of mobility - access and independence for all.

Our new studio facility is fully ADA compliant. At first blush, there's the added cost and complexity. However, in truth we all benefit. We push the automatic door opener when we have a heavy burden to drag in. We use the rampways for our rolling luggage at the airport. Daily life becomes just a bit easier for all of us.



For those among us who have mobility limitations, this is what freedom looks like. Our ramped foundation supports the core foundations of our most basic freedoms of access, mobility and assembly - independence. As we all age (gracefully?) we can thank the ADA for helping to insure our independence.

And, we thank you for watching!

Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Citizen Frank & Company

Still Seeking Wisdom - in Every Interview

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/13/2014



Citizen Frank has been busy. Frank Falvey has been talking up a storm with lots of folks – Bob, Walter, Jack, Lisa, et al, along with several local and state political candidates.

Check our program schedule each week as Frank Presents:

All of these programs and more are coming your way through this summer and fall as Frank kicks his interview schedule into high gear.

We thank Frank for seeking candidates and their stories – and seeking wisdom.



And, we thank you for watching!

Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

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# Rising to the Occasion, Part 1

A studio grows in Franklin – Our large studio is going up.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/20/2014

Phase two of our grand plan is now underway. We have begun framing our large studio, a garage-like structure that extends from the rear of our main building. It feels a little like an old New England barn raising.



The walls rise to 16 feet. In our 32' x 32' studio the height is necessary to have ample room to mount studio lighting above the larger sets that this room can accommodate. I took this photo from the roof of our trailer.

Franklin TV will have a unique community TV studio with drive-in access for big stuff. Big studio for big TV projects with big stuff. Our studio can rise to the occasion.

And, we thank you for watching!

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Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Rising to the Occasion, Part 2

A studio grows in Franklin - The Art of Building

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 7/27/2014



Witness the art of building. There is this something about line and form in our structures that all at once makes sense both functionally and visually.

In so doing, we find art.  
Is it a lofty cathedral?

Cathedral - no. Lofty - yes. Barn lofts work for me. Expanse, open, inviting, they make us look to the sky. Even when empty, they are filled with imagination. That's why we do love our spaces.

When you look up, you just might see it as high art.

And, we thank you for watching!

Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

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# Rising to the Occasion, Part 3

A studio grows in Franklin - Form Follows Function

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/03/2014



It's so big! That has been a consistent first observation from everyone. It's so big. As an Access TV Studio, it is generously proportioned. More significantly, it will be very functional. Its form has been carefully planned to enable all manner of local TV programming. Once just a plan, now it's a place, realized, solid, spacious.



Last week's open, airy view of sky has become a roof. Our form is complete. The framing for our studio is done. Now we add the finishing interior touches to our main building during the next few weeks while we skin the entire exterior.

Electricity is starting to flow. Water as well. After a long and quiet winter's hibernation, our main building is finally waking up. It's coming to life.

Windows and doors are being mounted. Floors are being cleared and the clutter of all the construction is giving way to the final push of finish work.

When people ask why the big addition, I just say, "TV Studio". I watch the idea click into an immediate understanding. Good form does indeed follow function.

And, we thank you for watching!



Our Community Access

FranklinTV

# Beyond Our Annual Report

Our Genesis

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/10/2014

Although we are not actually part of Franklin government, that's where we came from (sort of). Before, "Franklin Community Cable Access, Inc. d/b/a Franklin TV", (a mouthful) there was a group of citizen volunteers, the Cable Board. They oversaw operations for the Town of Franklin's Public Access TV Studio. That's right. The Town owned the Access TV Studio for a handful of years. Before that, the Access Studio was part of Comcast. However, I'm telling the story backwards.

For many years prior to 2007 Comcast operated a small Public Access Studio for the Town of Franklin. It was located on Main St. behind Acapulco Restaurant, at the old Comcast offices before they moved to Milford. Like many access studios, it was a humble operation, videotaping interview programs and the like. Comcast was obliged to maintain this studio under its contract.

When Verizon came along, it made no sense to have two access studios. Therefore, Verizon agreed to help pay upkeep for the Comcast Studio. However, Comcast also preferred Verizon's arrangement: Provide funds for upkeep, but have someone else tend to studio operations. So, Comcast transferred ownership and obligations of managing the studio to the Town of Franklin - for a dollar.

When Franklin took on responsibility for the Main St. Access Studio the volunteer Cable Board expanded its role from overseeing Comcast's cable service to include managing the studio. They tended to its care and funding until 2012. They also formed Franklin Community Cable Access, working with town officials to draft our FCCA charter and current agreement with Franklin. These documents are on our website. Franklin TV is no longer part of town government (or Comcast), but we are Franklin through-and-through. We remain grateful to the Cable Board members and town officials for the planning that enabled our growth and success.

Per our agreement, we submit a summary of our operations as part of Franklin's Annual Report. We've included it at the end of this program schedule as well. We're pleased to be included in Franklin's Annual Town Report. Inclusion. It's part of what makes Franklin - Franklin.

(Everyone likes to be included.)

And, we thank you for watching!

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Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

**FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CABLE ACCESS, INC  
dba FRANKLIN TV (WWW.FRANKLIN.TV)**

**Overview**

Franklin.TV is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. We operate the local access TV studios for the Town of Franklin. We maintain 3 channels of TV service:

**Franklin All Access TV**

Our Public Access Channel (Comcast 8, Verizon 26).

**Franklin Pride TV**

Our Educational Channel (Comcast 96, Verizon 28).

**Franklin Town Hall TV**

Our Government Channel (Comcast 11, Verizon 29).



In 2012 Franklin TV began providing its services via an agreement with the Town of Franklin. Franklin as the Licensing Franchise Authority (the LFA) maintains separate agreements with both Comcast and Verizon as cable service providers. Franklin TV programs the local TV channels but does not provide cable service. These agreements are available on our website.

Funding for Franklin TV operations comes from cable TV subscribers via these agreements. As a private nonprofit corporation Franklin TV does not rely on government funding, but may receive grants and donations from other businesses and individuals.

Per our charter, we provide an annual report of our activities as a non-governmental body that maintains a close working relationship with municipal agencies, other nonprofit organizations and civic groups.

Franklin TV is committed to serving our community. In April of 2013 we entered into a ten year PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement with the town, becoming the first nonprofit organization to provide compensation for our use of town services.

**Our Charter Operations**

As a P/E/G studio we are chartered to provide video equipment and training to local residents who wish to create their own TV programs for cablecast on the public access channel. We also run the educational and government channels for the Town of Franklin.

During our 2013 operating year we have produced:

- 168 Public Access Programs
- 85 School/Sports Programs
- 50 School/Civic Events Programs
- 120 Government Meetings



**Community Bulletin Board Service**

In addition to our programming, we maintain a free community announcements Bulletin Board service for all three P/E/G channels.

This service has enjoyed significant growth. In 2012, our first year (9 months) of service, we launched our Bulletin Board with approximately 30 - 40 messages. During the past year we prepared and cablecast an estimated 250 noncommercial bulletins for Franklin, its volunteer groups and service organizations.



### Our New Studios and Offices

All of 2013 was dedicated to acquiring our building, its architectural design, planning, and obtaining the permits and approvals necessary for construction.



Through 2013 we have conducted all business and production operations from our construction trailer located on the Hutchinson St. site.



In January 2014 we began construction of our studio facilities at 23 Hutchinson St. When our facilities are completed this fall we will have offices, a community room, two TV studios (a smaller interview studio and a larger drive-in access studio), two audio recording and production rooms and four digital video editing systems. All of these facilities connect via Ethernet into a media production network. Once completed, our facility will have about 5,000 square feet. We hired local contractor F&P Molla Construction, in keeping with our commitment to the community to spend as much of our budget locally as possible.

### A Broadcasting Opportunity

After several years of hearings and planning, in the fall of 2013 the FCC opened a filing opportunity for nonprofit organizations to apply for a local FM radio station license. They received 3,000 applications for LPFM licenses nationwide. Franklin TV was 1 of 79 applicants in Massachusetts. Of these, 19 permits were granted by the Commission.

In February, Franklin TV was awarded a construction permit for a 100 Watt, noncommercial FM station. WFPR, (Franklin Public Radio) will broadcast on 102.9 FM. WFPR will be an extension of Franklin TV's Access services to the local community as well as surrounding towns. We will promote civic programs, nonprofit organizations and volunteer agencies that assist and support Franklin residents in many ways, great and small.

**Franklin TV Our Public Service**

- Organizations we support
  - Creating a public good.

10 of 21

FPR will also provide opportunities for local citizens to have a voice by producing their own programs or participating as volunteers to make our radio station successful as a local community resource. We will be working with the Town of Franklin to finalize a suitable site for our antenna. No date has been set for commencing broadcast operations.

### New High School Video Facility

In May Franklin TV provided a grant of \$164,000.00 for the purchase of video production equipment for Franklin High School's new TV studio. This grant is approximately 50% of the total equipment purchase. The equipment will be used for training FHS students in the art and craft of video production.

Once completed, the high school facility will feature a high-definition video studio with a control room capable of live program origination via the cable system, two classrooms, and a music recording and production facility.

In accordance with Franklin TV's bylaws and per our agreement with the Town of Franklin as the License Franchise Authority, this equipment is also to be used for generating school-related video programs to be shown on Franklin's Educational TV channel, Franklin Pride, seen on Comcast 96 or Verizon 28.

### **In Memoriam**

Sadly, also in May, Franklin TV and the community lost Stella Jeon. Stella was a pioneer in providing programming for Franklin's local community cable, recording 117 Senior Circle Shows over a 10 year span. This great and gracious lady will be missed.



### **Scholarships**

In June, as part of our commitment to students in our community, Franklin TV awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors:

Emily Scannell of Tri-County High

Tatyana Youssef of Franklin High

Our congratulations and very best wishes go out to them in their academic endeavors.

### **Program Service**

This summer we expanded our roster of free-lance video producers, videographers and editors as our programming is on the rise. We are pleased to note that we are seeing a steady increase in requests from various town agencies and civic organizations to provide TV coverage for local events. We cover Franklin events that are cultural or institutional in nature and of general interest. We also cover school and government related meetings.

We are always interested in training volunteers who would like to learn the craft of video production. Trained volunteers and interns work alongside our roster of free-lance and staff professionals to shoot and edit the institutional programs that we cover.

### **Citizen Access**

Our charter as a Public Access TV Service provides Franklin residents with lending access to our video cameras, lights, audio equipment and access to our studios for the purpose of producing their own programs. These programs are then cablecast locally via Comcast and Verizon.

Residents who produce their own access programs are the owners of these programs. As such, these producers hold their own copyright and may copy and distribute these programs freely, provided that the programs are cablecast on the Franklin system.

Per our Public Access charter, we do not provide equipment for covering private or personal events or for purposes other than generating Access Programs to be shown over the Franklin cable system. Beyond training and equipment, we do not provide video production crews, labor or craft support of any kind for creating Public Access TV programs.

Before we provide equipment for creating programs, we require that all Access Program Producers be properly trained by us and demonstrate familiarity in proper equipment use and care. Producers must sign an equipment liability agreement which states that they will pay for repair or replacement should the borrowed equipment become damaged.

Information about our weekly programming can be found on our web site: [www.franklin.tv](http://www.franklin.tv).

While visiting our website, also read our informative F.A.Q. on P/E/G TV studios, their operation, history and charter. We also recommend browsing our past newsletter archives to learn more about Franklin TV, our growth and development, and the civic events that we cover throughout the year.

Finally, in closing, "Thanks for watching!"

Respectfully submitted,

Franklin TV's Board of Directors

Ken Norman, President

Jay Horrigan, Vice President

Wesley Rea, Treasurer

John Milot, Clerk

Anne Bergen, Nick Remissong, Rose Turco

Peter Fasciano, Executive Director

# Water, Water Everywhere

But – it's in all the wrong places...

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/17/2014



When the late day Summer downpours arrive we have a sudden rush of water flowing everywhere. It cascades off the roof in splattering sheets. Torrents waterfall all around us, flowing from the rooftops of our building and our trailer, forming ponds and puddles – also all around us.



Navigation on foot gets tricky.

The irony? We have no water.



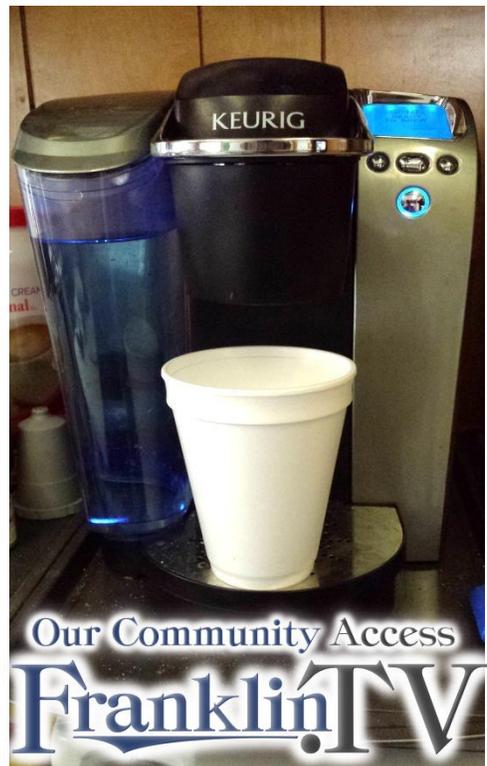
The luxury of running water is one of those ever-present conveniences that we all take for granted. Back in early February our water went away. Our bathrooms went away, replaced by an outhouse. The sinks – gone. We pondered the notion of melting the winter snows for our very survival.



Then we figured out, “Hey, we could just go buy some.” (Duh!) In the weeks and months that followed we guzzled our gallons and got on with it. We do think of ourselves as, “The glass (or jug?) is half full” people.



After seven months, a miracle. The plumber finally finished. We – have – water! We're happy! Our Keurig is happy. And yes, our cup now runneth over.



And, we thank you for watching!

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Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Let There Be Light!

Stepping out from the darkness

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/24/2014



“Let there be light!” (pause)

I threw the switch. I smiled. It was that moment of being pleased instead of surprised when it all works per plan.

I knew immediately that my calculations were exactly on the mark. I earned my smile. My first glimmer of insight came in early spring. No one returned my calls about a lighting plan. LED lighting design is very new. Even the consultants were still in the dark (so to speak).



Having no help from the purported lighting experts, I was on my own. I spent a handful of lost weekends developing our lighting plan, researching a vast array of the latest LED luminaires and bulb designs.

On Day One, when God said, “Let there be light!”, God didn’t mess around. I didn’t either. After days of research, I tossed in my best illumination engineering, some photometric standards and a few Excel spreadsheets for taste. We lit our 5000 square feet to perfection. Every room in the place is camera friendly. Light throughout is a uniform 3000K at 50 to 60 Fc base light with a 1 f/stop lift at strategic points with accent track lights. All are dimmer adjustable, and the whole place runs on only 12% of the power for incandescent bulbs. We’re pretty green.

It’s all good.

However, that leaves me to wondering - Now that filament and CFL bulbs are passé, what kind of *bright idea* bulb to draw in the future?

And, we thank you for watching!

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# A New School Year!

And a New School and FHS-TV Studio.

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 8/31/2014



School starts this week. The high school is ready to go, including our just completed FHS-TV studio. Half of the \$400K cost is funded through a grant from Franklin TV.

Here, Justin Dorsey (HB Communications) is seated at the main video control panel. He is reviewing its many features with FHS media teachers Matt Wall (L), Heather Moreau and Nick Bailey. Our Franklin TV staffer Sophie Olsson (R) records it all with our video camera.



The large display in front of them is where the action is. It gives the director and crew a view of all the camera angles and special effects for controlling live TV programs. Students can originate live programs over Franklin TV through the FHS-TV studio.

Everything you hear in a live TV program – the studio microphones, music, etc., is adjusted at the audio console. Picture and sound are recorded digitally on external computer hard drives. Oddly, in this modern digital world



where all the machines and processes are virtual, many people still casually say we are videotaping or filming events. Old habits die hard.

We need new words for a new world: Digitizing? Ingesting? Capturing? What would you call it?

And, we thank you for watching!



Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

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# Our Annual Members Meeting

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/07/2014

We have an important event coming up, and you're invited. Our annual open member meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. This meeting is open to all Franklin TV members. If you would like to become a Franklin TV member, it's absolutely free. Just send an email to: [info@franklin.tv](mailto:info@franklin.tv) with your contact information and a request to join.

You can also call us for more info. 508-541-4118.

This meeting is an opportunity to tour and learn about Franklin TV's new studio. This facility will enable us to provide world class support for Franklin residents and organizations who wish to create TV programs. It's also an opportunity to meet our current board and staff. Our progress to date, plus all the groundwork for our plans going forward are all thanks to our board members who contribute so much of their time and energy to help make Franklin TV everything that a public access TV studio can be and more.

## Meet Our Current FCCA Board



L to R: W. Ken Norman, John Milot, Nick Remissong, Anne K. Bergen, Jay Horrigan, Rose Turco, and Wesley Rea.

At last year's meeting we bid farewell to retiring Board Member Bob Linney who served us long and well. Thanks, Bob.

Please join us at this important Franklin TV event on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. We'll have tours of our new facility, some good eats, and you can meet our board and staff. Meeting begins at 7:00pm; refreshments at 6:00. Come meet, greet, and learn.

And, thanks for watching!



# From Park to...?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/14/2014



When we first acquired the Hutchinson St. property for our studio one of the things we liked was the land itself. The grounds had once been a park. Not a public park, but more a labor of love that someone had cared about in the past. One of the earlier owners added some personal touches.

At one time there were small flower plots here and there, their beds framed artfully by orderly paver stones.

There was a wishing well, a park bench, an entrance arch and other evidence of a place that someone wanted folks to visit, relax, enjoy. I say 'evidence' because most of these touches had fallen to ruin. In more recent years the grounds had become overgrown, unkempt. We were looking forward to restoring the park-like setting.

We still are, but we face challenges. As a Franklin commercial property we have an obligation to create a rain garden that returns rain to the soil. It takes up a big part of what was the park. It doesn't look like much at the moment, but we plan to make our grounds inviting in some way. More to come...



And, thanks for watching!

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Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Previsualization!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/21/2014

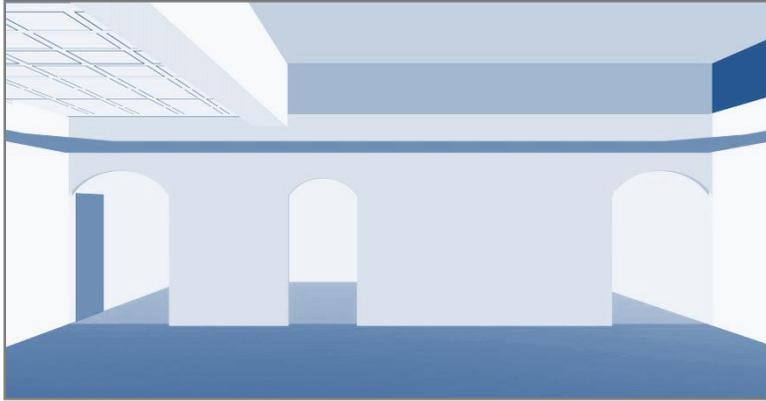


Previsualization. It is the art of using a computer to see the future. We use many programs like Photoshop to get a peek at what will be - someday. Previsualization is a key part of planning, whether it's a building or video project. Our new studio is very similar to our original concept art. "Previz" helps us to fine-tune our designs

and make improvements that are not readily obvious in an architect's floorplans.

Even the simplest concept sketches -napkin doodles - are helpful. Even during the early stages of our construction we kept updating our visual references to insure that we were doing the right things; making the best choices. The ongoing design goal is simply to take what is already good and make it all the greater.

Our decision to add a second ADA access ramp led to the extended studio corridor and pergola that we added to the side of the main building. We also sought to make the exterior more attractive and visually appropriate for our neighborhood.



The relationships of rooms, doors and traffic flow were also refined through Previz.

This simple image provided the insight for placement of a fireplace in our community room. We also moved a main wall by 4 inches to align the control room door with the archway at the left.

During the entire construction, and especially while framing the rooms, Previz art and photos provided reality checks and opportunities to make minor adjustments.

Even this week, with construction coming to an end, we continue to Previz some of the remaining details. Our kitchen is in the middle of the building. Thus, it has no windows. Most kitchens have a big bright window overlooking a back yard.

Thanks to Previz, now we do too. Our 'window' is a TV set. This mockup shows the final effect when it's fully installed.

Using Previz, we can squint out that window and into a future that's so bright we gotta wear shades.

And, thanks for watching!



**FranklinTV**

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# So, What's Your Angle?

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 9/28/2014



Dogs have this way of looking at you with heads twisted at an odd angle when they're not certain if there's a ball or treat involved. You got their attention. They just can't figure out why. I was getting a dog-angled look of curiosity from our architect.

Early in our building's design I said that I needed to plan out my camera angles and sight lines in the studios, the kitchen, and other TV friendly rooms. This was a new angle. (pun intended) Beyond the usual right angle of floors to walls and ceilings, I was planning how to lay out rooms for future camera placements and angles.

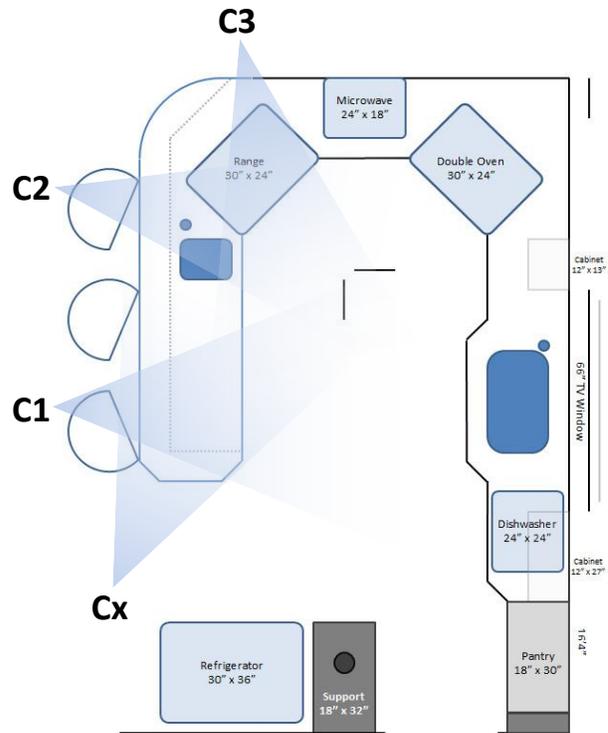
The top photo is our larger stage area (storing some construction materials). This is the camera angle at 18 feet - the upper catwalk deck. There's another balcony camera platform at 9 feet.

The floor plan at the right shows how our kitchen peninsula and appliances are arranged for food prep workflow - and yes, three (or more) camera angles.

Our new digs are very camera friendly. We also planned our facility to be very community friendly. Bringing cameras and community together - a key angle.

As for our architect's brief curiosity, I just told him I was just doing my best to work all the angles.

And, thanks for watching!



Our Community Access  
**FranklinTV**

# Turco & Pisano Market

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/05/2014

We've been at our new location for some time now, but we are still patiently ensconced in our trailer as we complete our building. More Franklinites come to that trailer in the course of making TV happen.





**Turco & Pisano**  
Neighborhood Market & More

Fresh Cut Meats • Deli Sandwiches • Party Platters  
Full Liquors • Fine Wines & Beers

*We carry a full line of Serino's Italian  
Delicacies & Pastene Imported Products*

**THE LOTTERY**

23 Hutchinson St., (off Union St.) Franklin, MA 02038  
(508) 528-1105  
Hrs: Mon-Sat 6 am-9 pm, Sun. 7 am-1 pm



Ice  
**KEGS**  
Cold

*Homemade Sausage  
& Porkettas*





“Franklin TV...”

“Umm - Hi.  
Can you tell me  
where you are?”



“Sure -  
Turn South onto Union St. from Route 140 at the cemetery.  
Hutchinson is a half mile down on the left. We're number 23.”  
(pause)

Then I say, “The Turco & Pisano Market?”

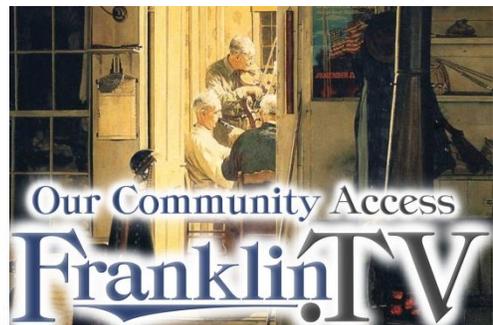
“OH! Right! THAT's your studio now? Wow...!”  
They remember. They recall something beyond the building.

The old market was a neighborhood landmark and social hot spot for decades. On Sunday mornings the men would gather in back in an Italianate version of Rockwell's *Barber Shop*. Like the old market, we hope that our studio will continue to be such a welcoming place for community to happen.

Rockwell moments still linger here and there,  
tucked into the folds of time all around Franklin.

Just look around. They're not very hard to find.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Our Annual Members Meeting

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/12/2014

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And, thanks for watching!



# Welcome to Our Franklin!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/19/2014



When I suggested a title - *My Franklin* - his response was, 'I think we ought to be more inclusive. Perhaps it's *Our Franklin*'.

Jeff Nutting was crisp, clear, and absolutely right.

There's nothing perfunctory about how our Town's Chief Optimist and Administrator thinks and works.

As we roll out a new series on the inner workings and local activities of Franklin, I know that describing *Our Franklin* as 'informative' will prove to be an understatement.



In Jeff's maiden program he sat with DPW head, Robert Cantoreggi. They walked us crisply through all the details of Franklin's upcoming vote on Question 5. Be informed. Check our weekly schedule for program times, and learn all about it.

Together, they served up a sterling example of what local TV can be in providing useful, timely information about all the important happenings and issues in your own back yard.

If you care about Franklin, then this series will definitely become Must Watch TV.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Video Edit Workhorses!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 10/26/2014

In any mention of TV production the first image that comes to mind for most folks is a video camera. Anyone can shoot a little movie on smartphone and a whim. When I arrived at Franklin in spring of 2012, sports and most other civic events were recorded using only one camera. This basic coverage of events is the norm for most public access channels. Shoot the event. Play the event. If any video editing was involved, it was often just adding program titles and closing credits.

In fall of 2012 we significantly expanded our school sports programming while also adding more scores and other game information. More quantity means more editing. Last fall we began covering many games and events with 2 or more cameras to improve our program quality. More quality means - more editing.

We've continued upping our own game - creating more animation and artwork for program opens, scores, stats and replays and, yep - more editing.

The art of post-production has become much more sophisticated in the digital age. Some advances are possible because we are now completely digital - no videotape. Every show and image you watch on Franklin TV comes from a computer file. We edit all of our programs on custom computer systems optimized for editing video. (Meet the family). Our four editing systems are always crunching away as fast as they can to move all of our programs from cameras to TV screens as fast as possible. They have proven themselves as untiring workhorses, and we keep them in top form.



The blessing and bane of computers is that all things become possible, but quality still takes labor and time. Some of our program improvements are realized simply through additional staffing and taking the necessary time to get it right.

Although the cable companies carry us only on their standard TV channels, we do produce and edit our local programs in HDTV. If you have a Blu-Ray HD DVD player, you can obtain program copies from us in high definition.

We'll keep finding new ways to raise the bar by refining - and redefining - local TV.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Studio – Lookin’ Good!

It’s also sounding pretty good. Almost done.  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/02/2014

One of our last tasks in constructing Franklin TV is the completion of our large studio addition. Until recently, the room looked much like any other expanse open garage/barn/warehouse. Even with the lighting grid and catwalks in place overhead, some folks would ask if we would be using the space for storage.



Suddenly, all that changed. This week we installed the foam soundproofing. It’s sprayed onto the ceiling and walls to a depth of about six inches, providing excellent thermal insulation and sound deadening. The room looks and sounds different now. It’s not a nondescript empty space anymore. It’s a TV studio. The echo of hollow emptiness is gone. As large as it is, the foam’s acoustic diffusion makes it more intimate, quieter.



The spray team is just finishing up the entire room and everything is coming together nicely. We have more to do. There’ll be some additional surface treatment and some testing and tuning of the room’s acoustics.

When we fly the curtains and lighting it will be ready.

We also have to install our video/audio control room wiring and systems. All of this technical work will be done over time while we are, at last, in our new home.

Real  
soon  
now!

The front section of the building; the offices, meeting rooms, kitchen and smaller studio, are complete and fully - wonderfully - functional. Home stretch.

And, thanks for watching!



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# A Moving Moment!

At long last, we are in our new home (sort of).  
by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/09/2014

On Thursday, 10/30/2014, The Conservation Commission moved and voted to accept our final as-built plans. On Monday, 11/02, The Planning Board also so moved and voted. With everyone so moved – well, so were we. Thus, we did too.

Just like that, we moved. Were we ready to move out of our construction trailer and into the new space we've been designing and building during these last 21 months? No need to ask us twice. The very next day we were toting, pulling and dragging it all out of the trailer and into our new digs. Then we watched the trailer roll away: A poignant pause for us to bid farewell to one home and say hello to another.

We are no longer ensconced. (See our newsletter of 03-15- 2013: Packing It In, Part4) Now we're entrenched, and we're not leaving here anytime soon. Surrounded by expanse, we are just becoming accustomed to a new experience – elbow room.

Our construction fence went away as well. With trailer and fencing now gone, we finally took in an unobstructed first look at our new home. We gazed upon it and saw that it was good. And, yes, we were very moved, indeed.

And, thanks for watching!



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# Our Annual Member Meeting

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/16/2014

On Thursday we held our third annual open member meeting. This was a good opportunity to begin shifting gears from all the construction and preparations of a new facility to a new focus - on how we will better serve Franklin. We began with a review of our finances to date: In spring of 2012 we began operations with some of the cable funds that the town had held in reserve. We purchased and renovated our building, installed new video equipment and paid our operating expenses.

Franklin TV		Summary - To 10/31	
• 2014 Income to Date:	\$325,751.80	(2 quarters)	
• 2013 Income:	\$2,373,975.75		
• 2012 Income:	\$800,000.00		
• Total Income:	<b>\$3,499,727.55</b>		
• Total CapEx Spend:	<b>\$1,576,170.49</b>		
• DCU Cash On Hand:	\$1,012,276.76		
• Dean Cash On Hand:	\$177,061.76	(\$1,189,338.52)	
• Total OpEx Spend:	<b>\$734,218.54</b>	32 mo/Operation	
• Monthly OpEx:	<b>\$22,944.33</b>		

5 of 6

In sum: We remain on track with our development plan that was submitted to the town when we formed and began operating as FCCA, Inc. in 2012.

## Our FCCA Board Continues On



L to R: W. Ken Norman, John Milot, Nick Remissong, Anne K. Bergen, Jay Horrigan, Rose Turco, and Wesley Rea.

There were no new board seats opening up this year, so our current board soldiers on. They have all been actively engaged in our progress, our programming and operation. As Executive Director, I have enjoyed their full support and thoughtful guidance in piloting our excellent progress to date. For all they do, I am most grateful.

Looking forward, we turned to the topic of Community Outreach. We invited Franklin's nonprofit groups to participate in our meeting. We discussed how we can work together, helping each other to better address the needs of the community. Some excellent ideas were put forward and plans are in the works. Stay tuned.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Home, Sweet Home, At Last!

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/23/2014

I'm standing in Home Depot for the second time today. I was here yesterday – and the day before. I'm having flashbacks to all the big and little necessities that we must do as we get our new house in order. We are nesting. Nesting is work. Welcome to the joys of new home ownership. The smug and nested among you are thinking, "Been there. Done that. Buffed the appliances and countertops with that T-shirt."

Well, I too have "done" new home ownership – three times. I'm a serial offender. Even with all that experience I am always taken aback by all the tiny tasklets that need tending. Buy this widget. Install that finial. Fix those hanging things (before they fall off – again). Guys know this as, "The HoneyDo list".

New business home? That's the Olympics of home ownership. However, we are thrilled to finally be moving in. This is the glorious day and puttering challenge that we signed on for so long ago. We now have a spiffy new place in which to putter. We get to use power tools too. It's not all bad. However, I'm reminded of just how much work goes into making a new place into a home. We have our building. We are just beginning to make it a home.

"Home maker". I have a renewed respect for all the invisible work that this entails. No easy task, this. My recent forays into Bed, bath & Beyond, Christmas Tree Shops, Williams Sonoma, Target, Walmart, and too many other retailers high and low has chastened and humbled me. I navigate an empty cart with wiggly wheel along too narrow aisles. I'm surrounded by faux abundance, yet I find nothing. I note vaguely earnest women foraging and fretting for a bargain – each in private pursuit to find something – useful or decorative – having personal worth greater than its price. They are simply trying to stretch a dollar to fit a dream.

They are making a home.

This Thanksgiving, take special note of the home you are in. No matter how humble or grand the setting, a home maker moved mountains and bargains to make your holiday a little more special. Appreciate the effort. Thank your home maker.

This year? We are most grateful and thankful for our new Franklin TV home. Let the home making begin.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Finding Our New Normal

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 11/30/2014



In February of 2013 we moved our offices and studio on Main St. into a trailer - for almost two years. It became our new normal and taught us what we really needed, not just to survive, but to succeed. We adapted to our temporary home, and in some ways we changed for the better. We became more portable, more limber.

Now we have space and a new normal to explore. We are in the midst of blending our experiences and our future.

We recorded Dr. Anne's first program in our new home. New set, new lighting, new techniques and equipment to master. We are testing an idea that small is the new big. Being more portable within our new space has its plusses. More next week...

And, thanks for watching!



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# Finding Our New Normal 2

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/07/2014



Our picture from last week (left) is just one example of a *new normal* that I mentioned - and that we are putting into everyday practice.

Television and video production is always evolving. The equipment is changing all the more rapidly in an all-digital age. It's lighter, easier to use; and occasionally, harder to use.

Harder? Yep. Because it does much more. Digital tools offer many more special effects and other TV magic that once cost many thousands and required many people to accomplish. However, visual sophistication has a steep learning curve that most folks aren't ready to embrace when all they want is means and ability to create a basic, informative sit-down-and-talk show.

Hence, our new normal should be portable, agile, simple, approachable. A fancy control room filled with many TV screens and such may look impressive, but it's also a bit intimidating. Our challenge is to provide the means, training and support to enable average folks to make better-than-average local TV.

Although we produce and craft most everything that runs on Franklin TV, we also have a mandate to teach and serve as a gateway opportunity for those interested in a media career, or in a learning adventure by just helping out.

(Yes, we love volunteers, and believe that volunteering should be an adventure.)

Ars gratia Artis. Art for art's sake. A noble thought. However, video gratia vidis is not. We don't create video for its own sake. We create it for yours. We create it to say something. We create it to teach something. We're doing our best to focus that teaching on where TV production is headed; not where it's been.

That forward-looking philosophy informs how we purchase, install and use video equipment to help folks in Franklin tell their story. That's our adventure.

Who's up for adventure?

And, thanks for watching!

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# In the Deep of December

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/14/2014

In the deep of December there comes

The chill, arriving all too soon  
from waning Sun and early Moon.

By winter's dark and dreary day  
Our sullen souls are cast in gray.

The Solstice past, the light returns.  
A steadfast ray of hope still burns.

So, in the deep of December, we pause

To contemplate with confidence  
That winter too shall end, and whence

The warmth of spring returns anew.  
'Til then, we slip the season through.

Thus, in the deep of December, we loft

Our spirits high, we merry up.  
Let favor brim our kindness cup.

Our temporary virtue made  
This season, as a promise played

Not once, but all throughout our time.  
So make your light, your soul sublime.

Renew and share thy joyous light  
To shine - on winter's silent night.

And, thanks for watching!



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謹賀新年

# Celebrating The Season

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/21/2014

This week



we've been rummaging through the archives to serve up Christmas programs - Franklin style. We've recorded a number of festivities all around town over the past few years. Check out our schedule for the next few weeks. Let these programs help you find the spirit of the season.

In the meantime, I'll just decorate this page here and there with Christmas-y stuff to push you along. Make light. Make merry. Make some time to kick back, watch and enjoy how folks around town celebrated the holidays.

We don't have very much in the way of festive décor - still settling in and all. Ken dressed up our fireplace a bit. (Nice job! It's cozy.)



Note to self:

Gotta hang some socks by the chimney with care.

In the meantime, we're playing our customary Christmas music as well. More traditional than usual radio fare. No dogs barking *Jingle Bells*. No *Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer*.

We're going for a quieter spirit of the season. It is often a more reflective time because for each and every one of us, the season is personal. Our wish is that the richest, most personal happiness finds you and remains throughout the year.



That - is reason enough for celebrating.

And, thanks for watching!

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# Puttering – and Planning

by Pete Fasciano, Executive Director 12/28/2014

I end this most productive year as I began: Extolling the virtues of Putter Day.

Thursday, Jan-yoo-air-eee – The – First. It's my fave work day. It's my Putter Day.

That's right. For me, Jan 1 is that day of days when I get to putter and ponder what I would like to see happen *and make happen* in the days to come for another year. Puttering promotes pondering – and planning. A goodly practice.

Labor Day celebrates work by, uhh – celebrating. It's the bookend opposite of Putter Day: my upside-down-backwards holiday that celebrates by puttering.

Labor Day is just a warm-up act. It gets us primed for *The Holiday Season*, which has become exactly that: A season. We ease in during Halloween and ramp up, developing emotional baggage and momentum through Thanksgiving, to make the sentimentality laden leap to that Happiest Hyperholiday of holidays – **Christmas!** (– Or, the politically correct, seasonally festive occasion of your choosing – but, I digress.)

Don't get me wrong. Big fan. No *bah-humbug*. If Santa didn't exist, I'd invent him.

Consider the psychology of the holidays. The days are shortening – darkening. (Umm– Technically, only in the more Northern latitudes – but again, I digress.)

We distract ourselves from the looming winter. Winter looms large. We focus on summer's passing, the harvest and the hallowed, and before Thanksgiving is done with us, we're in full Currier & Ives mode, jinglin' all the way through December. Then on the Eve of the New Year we party enough to make Jan 1 a day of R&R (regrets and recovery). Come Jan 2, we go full faceplant squarely into the middle of a long winter's night – and another one – and another – well, Bubba, you get the drift. And amid those drifts piled high? The cold truth: Spring's a long, long way off.

So, how to avoid winter blues and blahs? Puttering. Trust me. It's tough to pass on a day given to football and Buffalo wings, but by Jan 1 most of my jingle is spent. I'd rather jump headlong into a New Year, puttering & planning my way to spring.

It's harder for the year to hold you back if you make the first move.

So, who's up for Puttering?



And, thanks for watching!



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