

Franklin Selectman's Corner

I can't believe how short the days have become. My pumpkins are already starting to turn orange. The maple leaves will be turning color before we know it! Welcome back to all Franklin Elementary School students and Staff!

Pipe is being laid for the Water and Sewer project. The work has started at the Murphy Road end of the installation. An area next to the Gasman gas station has been cleared to make room for the sewer pump station. There will be many traffic diversions during this project. Please take caution traveling thru this area. I have had several work progress meetings with the contractor, and have expressed concern over traffic issues that have been brought to my attention.

The Gasman gas station has just completed an extensive renovation with the installation of a diesel pump island, for commercial truck customers. Commercial expansion on State roads requires little Town resources for support. This kind of growth helps to expand our Grand List and stabilize our tax base, reducing the tax load on our residents. The goal is to keep this development in our Commercial/Industrial zoned areas in the South part of Town, to maintain our rural nature in the rest of the Town!

Removal of the Underground Fuel Storage tank at Franklin Elementary School has been completed. The sidewalk and parking lot pavement have been repaired for the start of the school year. The new tank should be in place the second week of September. A temporary tank has been located to allow the use of hot water for the Summer staff and start of school. The new above ground tank will be located in back of the School to maintain the appearance of the Entrance.

Asplundh Tree service has been very busy on many of our Town roads. They are working for Eversource, continuing to enhance the reliability of the electrical distribution system. Several residents have approached me about the Town's cost for this service. This work is being performed under Eversource's direction at no cost to the Town. We have removed several trees this Summer, on Champion, Brush Hill, and Pleasure Hill roads. Many trees have been tagged on Under the

Mountain Road, with priorities to be set for removal. We will continue to assess the dead and dying trees in the Town's right of way for removal.

The Public Works Department has been busy sweeping the roads after our two rounds of chip sealing. Roadside and cemetery mowing continue, as does repair of guide rails and road signs. The Transfer Station will be open Saturday, September 7, from 8am to 12pm. As a reminder, the brush dumpster is available Monday thru Friday 8 am to 2pm. No brush larger than 3" diameter will be accepted.

The Board of selectman would like to wish all residents a safe and enjoyable Labor Day weekend!

If you have any questions or concerns about Town affairs, please feel free to call me at 860-642-6055, extension 16 or my cell phone 860-886-3114. Better yet, come in to visit! The Town Hall is open Monday thru Thursday 8:30 am until 3:00 pm, and Tuesday evenings from 6pm until 8 pm. I am always available to answer any questions or field any concerns.