



**A QUITESSENTIAL SMALL NEW ENGLAND TOWN WITH OLD FASHIONED VALUES**

## *Community, Culture, & Quality of Life*



The Town of Franklin is a family oriented community with a great quality of life, newly renovated public schools, new historic museum and senior center, an outstanding public library, fourteen recreational fields and playgrounds, significant cultural resources, and many family orientated events and activities throughout the year.

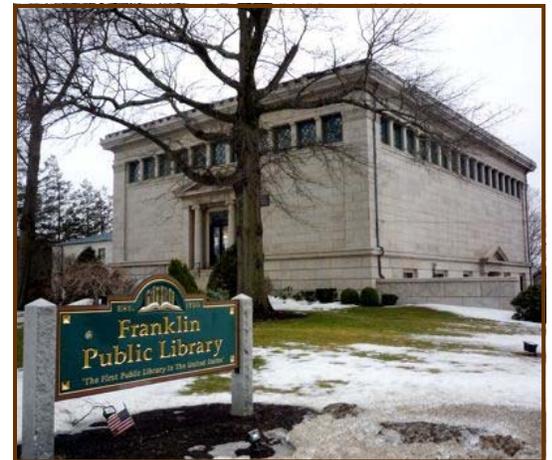
### *One of the "Best Town's for Families"*

The Town of Franklin was named one of Family Circle's 2007 "Ten Best Towns for Families" in the United States. This honor was bestowed on Franklin and nine other towns and small cities "that offer what parents and children want most - affordable homes, good jobs, top-rated schools, open spaces and a lot less stress".

## *Community Activities and Events*

Franklin is a vibrant community with abundant activities for all residents; some of the community's active civic, sports, religious, and youth organizations include: Franklin Lions Club, Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts of America, Franklin Odd Fellows, Knights of Columbus, Franklin Art Association, Franklin Garden Club, Circle of Friends Coffeehouse, Franklin Rod and Gun Club, Hockomock Area YMCA, Metacomet Land Trust, LiveARTS, Franklin Performing Arts Company, and many youth sports organizations.

Many family-friendly community events occur throughout the year, including the following annual events: the Feast of St. Rocco, the Trout Derby, Franklin's four day long 4th of July Celebration, the Bill Capen Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament, and the Downtown Franklin Partnership's Harvest Festival and Strawberry Festival.



Franklin Public Library, 118 Main Street, Franklin

## *America's First Public Library*

In 1778, when the town was incorporated, the designated name Exeter was changed to Franklin in honor of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who responded with a gift of 116 books for use by the Town's residents. On November 20th, 1790, those attending Franklin's town meeting voted to lend the books to all Franklin inhabitants free of charge. This vote established the Franklin collection as the first public library in the United States. The original Franklin collection is still housed in a book case in Franklin Public Library's Reading Gallery.



## *Significant Cultural and Historic Resources*



Franklin prides itself on the wide spectrum of architectural styles preserved in the community, including handsome Greek revival and Italianate buildings, as well as High Victorian Gothic, Second Empire and Queen Ann, among others. Many of these historic structures are home to the offices and dormitories of Dean College, and within the community's two National Historic Districts.