

# THELINK

# Franklin thriving and resilient

because of community strength

By Jess Giles, Executive Director of Discover Downtown Franklin

Being a part of a community ignites so much personal happiness, don't you think? It could be any size community – your family; your church or sports team. But there

is something extra special about being within a community that encompasses an entire town. There are tiered levels of collaboration in Franklin, Indiana – a place where people care. Citizens communicate with other citizens, who shop and eat at brickand-mortar shops and restaurants, who work

alongside city and nonprofit entities.

Community leaders of years past

That is how authenticity is preserved.

recognized the intricacies that make up

Franklin, and they set about maintaining the

historic architecture as well as inviting the merchant sector to create an atmosphere of

their own. Local business owners, residing

Through darkness and Franklin light, the elaborate web of connection stays attached. The COVID-19 pandemic is a storm that has raged for over a year, and defines an era where all could have been lost: where the foundation could have

> crumbled. But Franklin banded together, the nonprofits, the City of Franklin, and individual community members, hoping to offer reprieve from the storm to resilient businesswomen and men. It displayed the very camaraderie that makes this town a treasured place.

That is where we stand today. A community; a cheerful ecosystem that adjusts to the times while maintaining a true identity. *In short - Franklin is home.* 





registration forms at franklincoc.org

#### LOCATION



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believe & belong: franklincoc.org

history pages from a century prior, working symbiotically with the "party-throwers," if you will. **Discover Downtown** Franklin, the Franklin Chamber

of Commerce, the City of Franklin and others host events to draw in patrons to dine and explore.

in the same storefronts that decorate

And vice versa – the restaurants and shops bring in customers who are then immersed in the glittering festival lights.





### **MOVING FORWARD WITH**

# resiliency and resourcefulness



DIRECTOR'S NOTES
Rosie Chambers,
executive director

This is the time of year when warm temperatures and spring flowers gives us a sense of optimism. I feel the heaviness

of the past year waning as our businesses open up and residents get back to a sense of normalcy. The Franklin Chamber is getting back to normal too. We are moving forward; continuing to support our businesses in the greater Franklin area as we have done for the past 111 years.

We are optimistically planning a full schedule and plan to get back on track with face-to-face monthly meetings, 43rd Annual Golf Outing on June 3, Color Bash 5K on August 28, BizBash

Business Expo on September 23, Manufacturing Career Fair in the fall and Small Business Saturday Open House in support of local businesses on November 27. We are hopeful that any tweaks we need to make to our events to ensure the safety of our attendees will be minimal. And we are excited to see so many friends of the Franklin Chamber as we move toward in person committee and board meetings.

As I reflect back on where we were a year ago, we know that whatever comes our way, the businesses and residents of Franklin will pull together and our resourcefulness and resiliency will shine through. Our business community never ceases to amaze me by implementing new strategies to keep moving forward. The Franklin Chamber has certainly taken lessons



Chamber ambassadors received a surprise visit during their ambassador meeting from Johnson County Senior Services with the reminder that "Some Bunny loves us!"

and gathered inspiration through connecting with all of you. Remember in the days to come, whatever the future holds, the Franklin Chamber is here for you, your employees and your business and my door is always open.



Norma Jean's Pastries celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting. Visit them at 49 N Main Street in Franklin.

### Look for event details and updates on the events calendar at www.franklincoc.org

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Social distancing will be observed at all events.** Events
may be impacted by emerging health and
safety guidelines related to COVID-19. Visit
franklincoc.org for latest event updates.

#### MAY

#### **CHAMBER LUNCHEON\***

Date: May 13, 2021

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Garment Factory Events,

101 E. Wayne St., Franklin

**Program:** Global Johnson County

#### IUNE

#### 43rd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

**Date:** June 3, 2021

Time: 11:00 a.m. registration and box lunch, 12:00 p.m. shotgun start Location: Hillview Country Club,

1800 E. King Street, Franklin

#### **CHAMBER LUNCHEON\***

**Date:** June 10, 2021

Time: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Garment Factory Events,

101 E. Wayne St., Franklin

Program: INDOT Commissioner, Joe

**McGuinness** 



#### **HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

#### **CHAMBER OFFICE IS CLOSED:**

- Memorial Day May 31
- Independence Day July 5



# MEMBER BENEFITS DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know BizBash is returning in 2021? Save the date for September 23 for a one-of-a-kind business expo and community showcase. Contact the Chamber to see how your business can get in on this innovative event.

#### **CHAMBER BASICS**

**Date:** June 17, 2021

Time: 12:00-1:00 p.m., RSVP required

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom **Program:** Maximizing your Chamber Membership

#### **IULY**

# MEMBER APPRECIATION COOKOUT

**Date:** July 8, 2021

Time: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Beeson Hall, 396 Branigin

Blvd, Franklin

\* For all monthly luncheons please RSVP by the Tuesday prior to the event. Lunch is \$20.

# Thank you **MEIJER** for your diamond level sponsorship!



Meijer is a family-owned company serving the needs of families at each store throughout Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Wisconsin.

With the help from Team Members and customers, Meijer is able to make the community a better place to live, work and play.

As Meijer grows, they follow a simple philosophy established by the founding grandfather and father 80 years ago: "take care of your customers, team members and community... and all of them will take care of you, just like a family."

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# **Welcome** New Members

#### **JANUARY**

#### **ESI Electric Inc.**

David Fikes 1691 Amy Lane Franklin, IN 46131 esielectricinc.com *Electricians* 

#### **Johnson County CASA**

#### Tammi Hickman

18 W Jefferson Street Franklin, IN 46131 casajohnsonco.org Service Organizations, Social Service Agencies

#### **FEBRUARY**

#### **Sharp Graphics**

Raquel Dishman 49 W Monroe Street Franklin, IN 46131 sharp.graphics Promotional Products/ Apparel Printing, Retail Stores, Signage

#### **MARCH**

#### **Food for Thought LLC**

Danny and Julie Moore 824 Pin Oak Lane Franklin, IN 46131 food-for-thought-Ilc.square.site Bakery

## Norma Jean's Pastries LLC

Whitney Myers 49 N Main Street Franklin, IN 46131 Bakery



Find MEMBER PROFILES at www.franklincoc.org











Community Service Award – Franklin Rotary Club



Business Hall of Fame Award – **IP Parker Flowers** 

Ambassador Team of the Year - Kristen Loy, Firestorm Restoration; Erin Ricke, Express Employment Professionals; Kimberly Smith, Johnson County Senior Services; and Jerry Tharp, KORN Country 100.3 FM

#### CHAMBER **BOARD AND STAFF**

President leff Dutton

Vice President

Kristen Loy Treasurer

Krista Linke

Member At Large Deb Turrel

Past President

Shellee Pietras

Dr. David Clendening Bryan Epperson Mark Gavorski Kim Henderson Andy Kinsey Andy Moorman Lezlie Richards Amy Richardson Chris Rynerson Betsy Schmidt Sally Wells

**Executive Director** 

Rosie Chambers

**Assistant Director** Anya McConnell

Special Projects Coordinator Traci Smith



Special thanks to our dedicated partners who support the Chamber and our mission.











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