

## Planning and Economic Development

- **CDBG**— Administration of the Community Development Block Grant Program from the Federal government
- **Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program**
- **First time homebuyer Assistance**- Soft Second Loan
- **Start Partnership**— collaboration to strengthen community life and contribute to cultural, and economic vitality
- **Other**-Grant agreements or contracts with sponsors to provide specific services subject to budget and program performance requirements.
- **Referral**— general requests for social services available in Framingham.

## Transportation Services

- **Rides for Seniors and Disabled**
  - \* Tommy's Taxi— seniors
  - \* Busy Bee—elderly and disabled
  - \* The Ride— elderly and disabled
- **Lift Bus**

Framingham administers all *Lift* buses and funds two of the *Lift's* five bus routes, which offer a convenient and affordable way to move around MetroWest.

*LIFT* bus system links include:

- \* MBTA Commuter Rail
- \* Logan Express
- \* Natick Neighborhood Bus
- \* TLC ( Southborough and Marlborough)

*LIFT* buses have scheduled stops at numerous locations throughout MetroWest including:

- \* Natick Mall
- \* Shoppers World
- \* Gulbankian bus services
- \* Solomon Pond Mall
- \* Downtown Framingham
- \* Saxonville
- \* Nobscot
- \* Framingham State College
- \* Medical and social services



Rides are \$1.50 with special rates for seniors, disabled, children and those who cannot pay. Legally blind passengers ride for free.

## Board of Health-Director, Bob Cooper

The Board of Health provides many free medical services to Framingham residents :

- **Health Clinic** — Open 2 Hours daily -- Offering the following Services:
- **Immunizations:** Polio, MMR, Hepatitis A, B, Chicken Pox, TB Skin Tests
- **Flu Vaccines** for eligible residents-at town hall and various sites in the community
- **Lead Testing**
- **Blood Pressure Monitoring**
- **Cholesterol Screening**
- **Dermatology Clinic**
- **Vision and Hearing Screening**
- **Pneumonia and Influenza Clinics**
- **Cardiac Forum**
- **Camp Inspections**
- **Deaf Awareness**
- **Infant Immunizations**
- **Skin Cancer Awareness**

## Veterans Services-Director, Thomas Davitt

The Veterans' Services provides the following services to residents of Framingham:

- **Healthcare benefit services**-application process, assistance with Medicare Part D
- **Referral assistance**- for the veterans' clinic at 61 Lincoln Street in Framingham
- **Financial assistance**—emergency aid to veterans in danger of eviction or unemployment
- **Emergency food vouchers**
- **Veteran's special license plates** for those who have earned a Bronze Star or Purple Heart
- **Funeral assistance** -emergency burial benefits - up to \$2,000 to assist with obtaining other federal burial benefits, federal military grave marker, surviving spouse benefit

Veterans Services provides the annual changing of the flags at the six cemeteries in Framingham, participate in the Veterans' Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day and Pearl Harbor Day celebrations

**Library**- Framingham has an outstanding library and offers extraordinary services to residents and the community as a whole. These are too numerous for this brochure, but are detailed on the town website

## Town of Framingham Community Service Guide

This summary is provided by the Framingham PILOT/Impact Study committee. It is intended for informational purposes only.

The Town of Framingham administers and funds many community based programs. In addition, Framingham receives state, federal and private grants specified for use in providing services for Framingham residents.

This pamphlet illustrates some of the services administered by town employees from the following departments

- ◇ Board of Health
- ◇ Elder Services
- ◇ Planning and Economic Development
- ◇ Park and Recreation
- ◇ Veterans
- ◇ Police
- ◇ Fire
- ◇ School
- ◇ Library



## Elder Services - Director, Mary Parcher

Social services to residents 59 and older

### •Callahan Senior Center

•**Social Services/Outreach Department** - trained staff provide benefit counseling, healthcare and Medicare guidance, housing, food stamps and other benefits.

•**Weekly Wednesday Wellness Clinic** — staffed by a registered nurse, walk-ins welcome.

•**Senior Rides** - see Transportation Services

•**Annual Health Fair** — Bone Density, Glucose, Cholesterol, hearing, blood pressure, massage therapy

•**Minor Home Repair Program** - Framingham home owners 60 or older. 8 hours free labor installing safety railings, bathroom bars and other safety features - Free

• **Advisory and counseling service** - for elder citizens enrolling in educational, cultural and skills training courses in Metrowest.

•**AARP Tax Preparation Assistance** - Free

•**Property Tax Program** — work program to reduce property taxes for qualified Framingham senior homeowners.

•**Support Groups and Clinics** — Free of Charge

- Bereavement Support Group
- Diabetic Support Group
- Grandparent Support Group
- Low Vision Group
- Massage Therapy
- Parkinsons Support Group
- Podiatry Check
- Stroke Survivors Support Group
- Cardiovascular and Blood pressure Clinic
- Flu Shot Clinic
- Healthy Diet Presentation
- Alzheimer Caregivers Support

•**Shine** - Serving the Health Information Needs of Seniors— Assistance with Medicare prescription drug benefit program

•**Lectures and Programs** — Free

- Exercise Program for People with Arthritis - \$2.00
- Osteoporosis
- Shingles
- Elderly Driver Safety
- Debt Management

•**Senior Clubs and Activities**

- Callahan Botanical Group - free
- Computer Learning Center - free
- Seniors Dances - \$4.00 per person
- Monthly Book Club - free
- Red Hat Society - free
- Bridge Lessons - free
- Line Dancing
- Yoga
- Exercise
- Monthly trips: plays, museums, shows...

## Framingham School Department services

and programs provided to children and families

### • Family Support Programs

- \* **Parent Information Center**—center to assist parents in all aspects of school issues, including transportation and choice programs Also central location for collaborations of town resources
- \* **Community Partnerships for Children**— tuition assistance, professional and parenting programs, behavior and mental health support, community grants
- \* **Parent Child Home**— Early literacy support; collaborations with social service agencies and homeless services
- \* **Mckinney-Vento Homeless Children and families Grant** Coordinates collaboration between schools and community agencies serving homeless youth

•**Partners in Education**— builds partnerships with businesses and community organizations

•**Framingham Education Foundation**— for support and enrichment of the schools

•**Framingham High Foundation**— supports extracurricular activity

•**Creative Arts Council**— supplements visual arts and music programs

•**SPED Parent Council**— parent involvement stressed

•**Community Resources-**

- \* **Adult ESL**
- \* **Community Partners**—collaboration of schools, town departments, parents and community agencies to support residents
- \* **Family Central**— parents ,educators and providers working to build and enhance early childhood activities
- \* **Learning Center**—parenting resource lending library, educational videos, games, manipulatives, and information about agencies and services available to families in Framingham

• **Nutritional programs**

• **Academic development center (FHS)**

• **Resiliency for Life (FHS)**

• **Social workers on site in schools**

• **Substance abuse counselors on site**

• **Guidance counselors on site**

• **Referral services on site-** Payment made for outside services when applicable

## Framingham Fire Department -

programs that promote public safety

- **Fire prevention**— in schools and on site
- **Direct link alarm-** \$200/year

## Park and Recreation-Director, Bob Merusi

Available to Framingham residents:

- Parks
- 62 Athletic Fields
- Loring Skating Arena
- Keefe Tech Pool
- Recreation Facilities: 3 staffed beaches, 20 tennis courts, indoor recreation center
- Passive Recreation: Tercentennial Park, Farm Pond, Nobscot Reservation, Macomber, Wittenbrg Woods, Carol Getchell Trail, Callahan, Roosevelt Park

Park n' Rec runs 230 formal programs for:

- preschool
- youth
- youth at risk
- adult
- physically and mentally challenged
- senior populations

Programs and services offered include:

- **Playgroups**
- **Danforth Gym** — open recreation
- **Camp McCarthy** — Summer camp at the McCarthy School for special needs children
- **Boys & Girls Club, Metrowest**
- **Adult weekend trips**
- **Lessons:** ski, swim, music, dance, exercise
- **Summer Recreational Centers** — Full day camp program offered at reduced rate to Framingham residents.
- **Annual Sports Camps** — a variety of sports
- **Special Community Events** — Concerts, Blues Festival, Flag Day, Stanley Cup, Bonfires, fishing derbies and the Annual Christmas Drive that delivers gifts to the needy.
- **Friends of Framingham** - scholarship funds

Some programs are fee-based and subsidized —

## Framingham Police Department—

programs to promote public safety and foster crime prevention

- **Safe Return Program**—coordinated effort to locate and return lost Alzheimer patients
- **RAD**— 3 officers are trained and certified to teach Rape Aggression Defense for adults and kids
- **Senior Parking Sticker**— free parking for seniors at town owned parking metered space
- **Bike Registration**— enables return of recovered bikes by using police computer system
- **Auxiliary Police**— support and assist police
- **Jail Diversion Program**— co-run with local social service agencies to prevent arrest of people with mental illness