



CITY OF FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Citizen of the Year 2015

I have often mentioned how difficult it is to choose a "Citizen of the Year". Many deserving people work tirelessly to improve our community in so many ways. Throughout the year, I receive a number of superb suggestions about who should be honored tonight. That makes it all the more difficult... because I have had so many choices to consider before choosing her.

In my own lifetime, I did not really get involved in community until I was about 30 years old, and as the years have gone on and my own children became adults, I found myself more and more involved - to the point that some duties and some groups are not really getting the attention and the hours that they deserve from me. But all that has come after 20 years of community involvement. But no matter. Our Citizen of the Year has the energy and determination to fill any gap I leave.

One of my favorites, Emily Dickinson, reminded us all that: "We never know how high we are - till we are called to rise; And then, if we are true to plan, our statures touch the skies—" Our Citizen of the Year is "true to plan". And she is all for Franklin, and I hope she appreciates that I would call her a "Catcher in the Rye".

So with some help from those close to her, we've compiled a "partial" list of what she does for Franklin:

- She is on the planning team and creates all the scenes and scripts for "Odell Park After Dark"
- She organizes the Community Day parade and serves on the planning committee for that day-long event in downtown Franklin.
- She facilitates the book club for 7th & 8th grade students – and assists with funding requests to help sustain the program
- She is deeply involved in Franklin Footlight Theater, as an actress and board member.
- She was honored as the Franklin Business & Professional Women's Club "Young Careerist" and then won the same award at the state level. She went on to Vermont to compete for the northeast US title and came in 2nd place.
- She is deeply involved in her church, assisting with the Annual Angel Fair, participating in the RCIA program, and the parish council, and along with myself, Mayor & Councilor Tony Giunta, Library Trustee Chairman Mike Gula, and Father Ray Gagnon, Jen teaches confirmation classes to high school students at St. Gabriel Parish.

Would you all please join me in thanking our Citizen of the Year, Jennifer Creasey--- for making Franklin NH a better place to live every day.

Franklin - The Three Rivers City