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Chamber of Commerce

www.franklincountymaine.org

615 Wilton Road, Farmington

207-778-4215

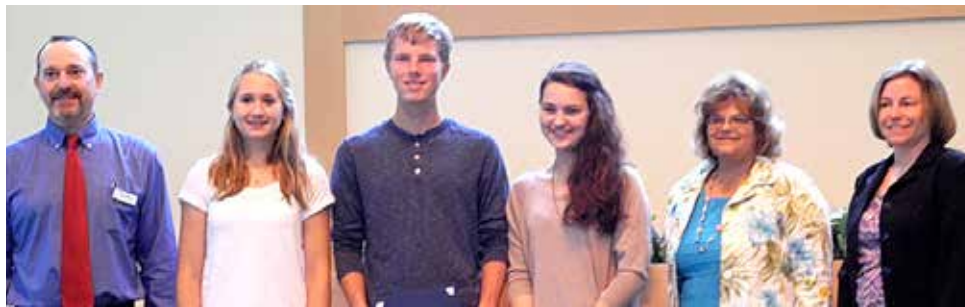
Greetings!

As we move to the month of June, we come to the conclusion of another year of school at our area high schools and at the University of Maine at Farmington. This time is marked by multiple graduations for our youth. Whether it's high school or college these youth face many challenges as they embark on a future career. Despite positive movement in our economic indicators – finding jobs can still be a challenge.

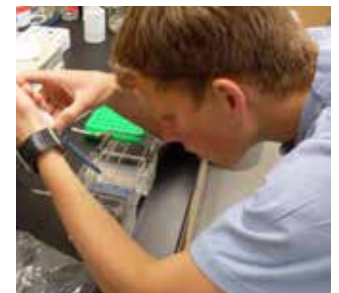
The need for some type of post secondary training has never been greater. Two or four year college, certification training or some other type of advanced training and education is vital to connect students with potential careers. That is why the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce provides our yearly scholarships to aspiring high school graduates.

This year the Chamber was able to award four scholarships. All three of the Mt Blue graduates are not only high achieving academic students, but are also starting to focus on careers through Foster Career and Technical Education Center. Dan Lesko advanced his science knowledge through a program in Biotechnology, building an electrophoresis chamber from scratch by cutting a piece of plexi-glass on the laser cutter. MacKenzie Dwyer completed the Certified Nurses Assistant program and successfully passed her State CNA certification exam. While Victoria Newbill was a student in the Business Education program, taking the Money and Banking class. This allowed her to complete a bank teller training at the Franklin Savings Bank branch located right on the Mt Blue Campus. The fourth scholarship was awarded to Sarah Neal, a homeschooled student who will be attending Central Maine Community College.

One of my goals for the Chamber this year has been to work to create stronger connections between education, businesses



On June 16, the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce David Robie scholarship recipients were presented with certificates. From left, Glenn Kapiloff, Chamber president; Sarah Neal; Daniel Lesko; MacKenzie Dwyer; Rhonda Irish, scholarship chairperson; Penny Meservier, executive director. Not pictured: Victoria Newbill.



Mt. Blue student Dan Lesko works on an electrophoresis chamber that he built in Biotechnology at Foster CTE Center.

and careers. We have been giving monthly tours of the Mt Blue Campus to help connect business and education. As a result of these tours, many opportunities have opened up for students. These tours will begin again next September on the first Thursday of each month at 9:30. This also allows community members to see that local taxes for educational spending are put to good use. These funds help ensure that students have the needed resources to graduate and become productive members of our society – and our future consumers and tax payers.

Another initiative to build greater connection is the 'building bridges' program developed by Mt Blue Business Education teacher Priscilla Connor and Jobs for Maine Grads teacher Cal Dorman. They are working to create a resource guide for teachers to use that lists potential business contacts. They are looking for business representatives that are willing to be a guest speaker, offer a tour of their facilities, take on a student for a job shadow or an internship. These business contacts would be listed in an easy to use guide that teachers could

reference by topic when they are teaching certain subjects. If any businesses would like to become involved with the school, please call 778-3562.

These are some of the ways that the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce is working to support the connections between education and our businesses. If you have any ideas or suggestions of other ways we can connect students, education, business and our economy – please let us know.

The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate all our area graduates and wish them the best for their future. We hope they remember that wherever their future plans take them, they always have a home to come back to in Franklin County!

Thanks,

Glenn Kapiloff

President, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

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Calendar of Events

June 27

Kingfield Pops

The 13th Annual Kingfield POPS will present the Bangor Symphony Orchestra conducted by Lucas Richman and Maine's own Rustic Overtones will perform both as a group and with the Orchestra. Other musical acts will also be performing and the event ends with a spectacular firework grand finale. Picnics welcome, blankets or lawn chairs encouraged. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. at the Kennedy Farm, Route 142 in Kingfield. The Kingfield Art Walk, a road race, Kingfield POPS Festival of the Arts, an introductory guided mountain bike ride and other family-friendly activities round out the celebration of music and art. Tickets and information at www.kingfieldpops.com

July 4

Independence Day Celebrations

For up to date celebration information, check www.franklincountymaine.org

July 4

The Wilton Farm & Home Museum is open every Saturday in the months of July and August from 1-4 p.m. Explore and enjoy the large collection of memorabilia.

Housed in the former GH Bass Boarding House, you will discover unusual items used in daily domestic life, tools used in crafts and trades such as farming, shoe making and blacksmithing. Take time to study and appreciate the fine artwork of Joe Knowles. Learn the story of Sylvia Hardy, Maine's Giantess. Remember the past with the large collection of Wilton Academy and Camp Kineowatha collection. Visit www.thewiltonfarmand-homemuseum.org or call 207-645-2091.

July 11

Stan and the Maranacook String Band will perform at Mosher's Seafood from 4-8 p.m., 595 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington. Visit www.mosherseafoodandmeat.com or call 207-779-0544.

July 16

Business After Hours at Key Bank

Business After Hours at Key Bank with appetizers and sweets by Calzolaio Pasta Company & Ray Ray's Café, from 5-7 p.m. at 300 Main St. in Wilton. Join us for an evening of networking with area businesses whether a Chamber member or not. Bring a friend or two and your business cards to make some new connections. Learn about the great things happening in Wilton!

July 16

Join the fun in Kingfield July 16-19 for Kingfield Days. This

weekend-long event features Kingfield Days' Honored Couple; Annual Kingfield Days' Parade; G-Force Laser Tag; Inner Tube Float Race; Croquet Tournament (age 21 and over); Ducks Over the Bridge; Kids' Activities; Kids' Parades; Mud Football games all weekend; Skillet Throwing Contest; Chili Cook-off; musical entertainment all weekend. All events are free to the public.

July 24

Maine Forestry Museum

Maine Forestry Museum's 35th annual Festival & Parade. This Rangeley festival includes a Lumber Jack and Jill competition as well as a Miss and Mr. Wood Chip Contest and Logger's Hall of Fame. Saturday's parade is on Main Street. Visit www.rangeleymaine.com.

July 25

Josh Turner Concert

Josh Turner concert from 4-9 p.m. Multi-platinum Nashville recording artist Josh Turner will perform live and in-concert at the Rangeley Health and Wellness Pavilion in Rangeley. For tickets go to www.ticketweb.com, rangeleyhealthandwellness.com or call 207-864-4397.

July 25

Farmington Summer Fest

Farmington Summer Fest from 10a.m.-9:30 p.m. This year's annual festival includes a farmers' market, food court, artists and crafts

people, and musical performances throughout the day and into the evening. For more information, visit www.downtownfarmington.com/.

July 26

Maine Open Farm Day

Partake in an annual family adventure in which Maine farms offer the public an opportunity to learn about the business of agriculture. Many farms will have demonstrations, displays, farm-raised products for sale, barn and field tours, milking, hay rides, petting zoos, nature trails, beautiful scenery, samples for tasting and refreshments. For more information, call 207-287-7620.

August 7

33rd Annual Wilton Blueberry Festival

More than 60 unique events throughout the weekend including one of Maine's largest parades. Visit Wilton and the many vendors, performers, crafters and more with a spectacular fireworks display concluding it. For more information, visit www.wiltonbbf.com/.

Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Mission

The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization of business and civic leaders. It exists to promote its members and their services, and to provide a voice for the interest of area businesses. Through partnerships with others, the Chamber seeks to promote economic growth, job creation and retention, tourism, civic pride and cultural awareness.

Citizen Recognition Awards

The Citizen Recognition Awards presented by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce are given to local citizens as acknowledgement of their accomplishments and contributions to our community's future. The Chamber promotes civic engagement, community involvement, and economic development.

This month's recipients are:

- Steve Shible -- 35 years as director at the Parks & Recreation Department
- Peter Simmel -- 15 years with UMF as Professor of Theater
- Brenda Laverdiere -- Franklin County Teacher of the Year

If you know of a person deserving recognition, please submit the nominee's name and a description of their accomplishment to info@franklincountymaine.org or call the Chamber office 778-4215.

United State Air Force Heritage of America Brass Band



A portion of the USAF Heritage Brass Band performing at Mt. Blue Campus on June 10, sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.

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Franklin Savings Bank

Susan Atwood
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Wilson Lake Inn

Nancy Chase
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Rhonda Irish
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Janice Atwood
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Charles Ellis
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Tammy Hutchinson
Comfort Inn & Suites

Patty Ladd
Wilton Career Center

Peter Osborne
UMF

Chrissy St. Laurent
Franklin Savings Bank

Kenneth True
Wiles Remembrance Center



The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce welcomes the newest members of the Chamber. Please join us in welcoming them by taking a moment to say hello, visit their website, introduce yourself at a networking event and patronize their business.

Maine PTAC
403 Hallowell Road
Pownal, Maine 04069
www.maineptac.org
653-8625

Maine PTAC is a non-profit organization assisting Maine businesses with all aspects of registration, education, and proposal preparation related to government contracting.

Member News:

Congratulations to **Wilson Lake Inn** for their induction into Trip Advisor Hall of Fame. They have been awarded a Certificate of Excellence for the fifth year running, and are one of the first of an elite group to be inducted into Trip Advisor's inaugural Certificate of Excellence Hall of Fame. www.wilsonlakeinn.com or 645-3721

Ray Ray's Café & Sweet Treats now has extended hours until 8pm on Friday & Saturday's serving their homemade dinner menu. www.facebook.com/rayrayscafeandsweettreats or 645-9000

United Way of the Tri-Valley Area is pleased to announce the availability of Venture Grant funding. UWTVA Venture Grants are designed to provide the additional resources needed to support projects that are new, innovative, collaborative, sustainable, and will fulfill the needs and improve the lives of people living in Franklin County, Starks, Livermore, and Livermore Falls. www.uwtva.org or 778-5048

Two new services now offered by **Expenet** are web development and screen repair. They have also added two new employees -- Jami Holmes is heading their web services and will be designing and maintaining web sites. Kyle Storer is their new technician that will be working with customers in the shop. www.expenet.com or 578-0229

Heartfelt Cookies added two new cookies to their extensive list of available treats. The snickerdoodle are buttery cookies rolled in sugar and cinnamon and Chicoco Bites are not only delicious but nutritious. www.facebook.com/heartfeltcookies or 778-6133.



MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Expenet

Expenet is a one stop computer shop located on Main St. in Wilton and now in downtown Farmington. Jeff Chaisson and Josh Michaud started the business in 2011 and it has continued to grow ever since. Expenet has recently expanded their services to include website design and screen repairs on mobile devices. If you own a smartphone odds are you will drop it and need a screen replaced. Expenet can take care of screen repairs on most mobile devices including iPhones, iPads and Samsung.

Expenet is able to tune up and repair your computer or laptop. However if you are ready for a new computer they can custom build a personal computer to meet your needs.

For their commercial customers, Expenet can install and service your network. They also provide regular maintenance to clean up your computers to keep them running efficiently.

Expenet supports the local community by accepting free of charge any unused electronic items and properly recycle the ewaste. Proceeds from recycled phones and laptops are donated to the United Way of the TriValley Area. Western Maine Play Museum also benefits from Expenet's generosity as 1 percent of the sales from computer hardware is donated to Western Maine Play Museum. They are also



a supporter of Wilton Blueberry Festival.

So whether for your home or business, visit Expenet at their Wilton or Farmington location or call 207-6454449 to see how they can meet your computer needs.

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MAY'S BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Franklin Printing

Franklin Printing hosted the May Business After Hours for the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. The evening started off with networking while enjoying some hors d'oeuvres.

Attendees were given a tour of the facilities and some insight as to the printing projects completed by Franklin Printing. Variable printing allows for the customization of postcards which are unique for each recipient. The postcards for this Business After Hours event showcased the individualization available as Franklin Printing designed and printed each one a little different including the individual person's name on the card.

Along the tour a variety of machines were viewed with some used for printing, folding, cutting and sorting. A large offset printer can print approximately 12,000 sheets per hour. While the tour was in progress, this year's Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Welcome Guide was being printed using this machine.



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Franklin Printing can handle large jobs and ship orders around the world. They are also able to meet the needs of businesses right here in Franklin County printing a variety of items from postcards, brochures, business cards, flyers and banners. If you want to learn more about Franklin Printing's products and services call (207) 778-4801.