



Chamber of Commerce

www.franklincountymaine.org

615 Wilton Road, Farmington

207-778-4215

Greetings!

During this past month several Chamber board members and myself had the opportunity to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Barclaycard customer service center expansion in Wilton. This demonstrated a company's desire to not only employ Maine workers, but to invest in the community.

The expansion project resulted in a \$5-million renovation to the old Bass Shoe building. The renovations alone put added money into the local economy through employment of local contractors. Now they are hiring an additional 150 employees putting their total over 350. Senator Susan Collins in her

remarks challenged them to grow to 500 employees in the near future.

What I found particularly gratifying was the work of Jenn McEntee, managing director, who works to make Barclaycard a part of the local economy as well as the local community. She worked this past year with two elementary school teachers (Leslie Kaiser and Brenda Laverdier) from Academy Hill School on a program called "Kids Can."

This program works with 25 elementary students in grades 3, 4 and 5 to better connect them with school. Part of the program brings these students up to Foster CTE Center at the Mt. Blue Campus to spend two days in several of our career and technical education programs. Over this past year, students received

a tour of the Mt. Blue Campus on their first visit. Then they spent two days each in Culinary Arts (Sean Minear), Commercial Arts and Photography (Charlie Fontaine), Digital Media (Chris Davis) and Pre Engineering (Jake Bogar).

All of these instructors had the students create a project while hearing about careers related to the program. In addition, teachers emphasized the importance of the academic subjects the students are taking in school. High school students from Foster CTE Center assisted in the activities.

Greetings

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Barclaycard's customer service center in Wilton held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate its \$5-million renovation and expansion project. From left: Ben Tucker, regional representative for Senator Angus King, Jr.; Jenn McEntee, Barclaycard center's managing director; Susan Schmidt, managing director of Barclaycard retail partnerships; Maine Congressman Bruce Poliquin; Barclaycard US interim CEO Curt Hess; Maine Sen. Susan Collins; and Doug Villone, Barclaycard director of business strategy.



Members of the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce joined the celebration of Barclaycard's expansion and renovation project. From left: Glenn Kafiloff, chamber president; Maine Congressman Bruce Poliquin; Doug Villone, Barclaycard director of business strategy; Patty Ladd, manager WMCA Career Center Services; Jen McEntee, Barclaycard center's managing director; Curt Hess, Barclaycard US interim CEO; Penny Meservier, executive director of Franklin County Chamber of Commerce; and Susan Atwood, owner Wilson Lake Inn.

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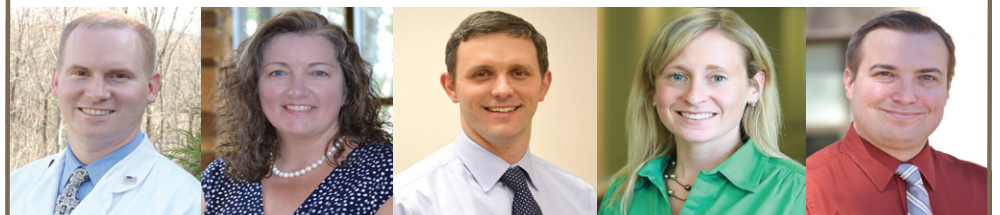


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Greetings

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Barclaycard helped to fund the program as well as provided some of their employees as mentors. This program not only builds the connection between education and careers, but it motivates these elementary students to do better in school. It also creates a sense of ownership by our high school students as part of our community.

The ribbon cutting ceremony in Wilton was topped off with a tour of the newly renovated Barclaycard facility. While walking through the building you can see large photos of the Barclay employees working with Academy Hill elementary students in programs at Foster CTE Center. Part of the economy and part of the community.

The University of Maine at Farmington is also working on making the connections between education, community and careers. Here is a summary of some of the ways that UMF has partnered with the community. This overview was sent to me by Peter A. Osborne, Career Counselor/Employment Specialist Center for Student Development:

The University of Maine at Farmington has a long history of engagement with the Franklin County community, and one example of that engagement in action today is the number of UMF students and graduates in jobs, internships, and projects throughout the region.

UMF students learn so much from their experiences interacting and working with organizations and individuals throughout this area and the state of Maine, and these partners gain new skillsets, perspectives, and an extra set of hands to contribute to their organization's mission and success. UMF students and graduates work in our schools, businesses, service organizations, and more during the school year, summers, and year-round.

Many people who come to UMF from other parts of Maine and the Northeast actually decide to make Franklin County their "home" after graduation and become a more permanent part of the fabric of our community. UMF

is continually striving to strengthen existing relationships within the community and foster new connections. UMF's Partnership for Civic Advancement is an initiative that supports student participation in community-based activities in western Maine and beyond.

Through internships, volunteerism, leadership education, service learning, and undergraduate research, the Partnership provides opportunities for students to develop new skills and knowledge in the "real world," while also supplying organizations with additional human capital to meet their goals and take on new projects.

If your organization could benefit from a student intern, volunteer or other student involvement or would like to learn more about the Partnership for Civic Advancement, please check out their website at pca.umf.maine.edu or call (207) 778-7593.

Career Services at UMF helps students and graduates to find and achieve meaningful employment, continuing education, and service opportunities during their time at UMF and beyond. This is achieved through a combination of one-on-one consulting with students and graduates, outreach activities, and career-building and recruitment events throughout the year.

This work is always enhanced by employer engagement through events such as our Student Employment Fair each fall and UMF Career Fair each spring, and employers are always welcome to post jobs to UMF's job board for free.

To learn more about recruiting for full-time and part-time employment opportunities at UMF, give UMF Career Services a call at 207-778-7035 or visit their website at careers.umf.maine.edu and click on the "For Employers" section.

Thank you,

Glenn Kapiloff,

President,

Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

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Thursday, August 20, 2015

5:00—7:00 pm

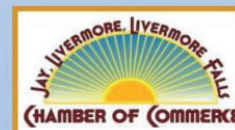
183 Lake Road Wilton, Maine

Business After Hours

Three Chamber event!

Join us at Wilson Lake Inn as we meet face to face to

Mix, Mingle & Make Connections



Whether you are a Chamber member or not, we invite you to join us at the next Business After Hours on August 20th from 5 to 7 p.m. at Wilson Lake Inn, 183 Lake Road Wilton. Enjoy a scenic boat tour on Wilson Lake and refreshments provided by Calzolaio Pasta Co. and Ray Ray's Café. FMI: 207-778-4215 or e-mail info@franklincountymaine.org.

Good news from our members

- Congratulations to **Good Times Unlimited**, one of 113 Winnebago dealers who have qualified to receive the Circle of Excellence honor based on assessment in four categories, including customer satisfaction, service and dealer participation. www.goodtimesrvsales.com or 207-778-3482.
- **Bangor Savings Bank** announced that **Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice (AHCH)** was among the winning contestants for their 2015 Community Matters More Campaign. AHCH was awarded a \$5,000 grant, and the opportunity to expand awareness on their services with a 30-second television advertisement on WCSH-6. Each year more than 10,000 individuals and their families across 122 communities turn to Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice when they need compassionate, quality care at home. AHCH offers nursing and therapy care after hospitalization, extra support with personal care and household tasks, and hospice care at the end of life. Bangor Savings Bank at www.bangor.com or 207-778-0757 AHCH at www.ahch.org or 207-777-7740.
- **Franklin Memorial Hospital** was named among the Nation's Most Wired Hospitals again. FMH has been recognized six times, and for the last five consecutive years. Most recently, access to a patient portal was given to all Franklin Health primary care patients with computer access. This patient portal is a secure website that gives patients convenient 24-hour access to personal health information from anywhere with an internet connection. www.fchn.org or 207-778-6031.
- **Expenet Technologies** added a second location in downtown Farmington at 145 Main St. www.expenet.com or 207-645-4449.

**Visit us online for an updated calendar
of events at franklincountymaine.org.**

2015 FCCOC Board Members

Glenn Kapiloff
President
Foster Technology Center

Greg Patterson
Vice President
Walmart

Pam Dixon
Treasurer
Franklin Savings Bank

Susan Atwood
Secretary
Wilson Lake Inn

Nancy Chase
Membership Chairman
FMH Auxiliary

Rhonda Irish
Member at Large
Wilton Town Manager

Mike Blanchet
Past President
Sun Journal

Directors
Shannon Smith
Wilton Blueberry Festival

Janice Atwood
Walmart

Asia Burrill
CSM Real Estate

Jodi Cordes
Franklin Community
Health Network

Heidi Elliott
Bangor Savings Bank

Charles Ellis
Key Bank

Tammy Hutchinson
Comfort Inn & Suites

Patty Ladd
Wilton Career Center

Peter Osborne
UMF

Chrissy St. Laurent
Franklin Savings Bank

Kenneth True
Wiles Remembrance Center

MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT :

Imelda's Fabric and Design

Imelda's Fabric and Design store offers three floors of top-quality fabrics including polar fleece, wool and quilting fabrics. The store has more than 20 different outdoor tapestry prints, and hundreds of upholstery and curtain fabrics. Along with fabric there is a variety of thread, zippers, patterns and top-quality yarns including Plymouth and Sidar brands.

Janet Kennedy offers knowledge of all things sewing. If you have a question about a sewing project or your machine she can help you with expert advice. However, if you do not like to sew you can peruse all of the items for sale made by Janet including clothing, scarfs, fleece vests, mittens and throw pillows.

Imelda's will do alterations. Janet can make an item uniquely for you. From cushions to clothing, she will discuss patterns and materials and create the project for you. Once you are done shopping, take a moment to look in the building beside the fabric shop. Here you will find an assortment of quality, used furniture from couches, lift chairs, and dining chairs to rockers.

So take a moment to stop in at Imelda's Fabric and Designs which is located beside the Sandy River on the corner of Routes 2 and 134 in New Sharon to see all that she has to offer.

Imelda's summer hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information visit www.imeldasfabric.com or call 207-778-0665.



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:

- **Barclaycard** – providing employment opportunities, economic growth, and support to non-profit organizations
- **Fen Fowler** – 40 years of service with Western Maine Community Action (WMCA)
- **Gloria McGraw** – Realtor of the Year
- **Western Maine Community Action (WMCA)** – 50 years of service to the community

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 207-778-4215.

Welcome our newest Chamber members!

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 and patronize their business.

Flagstaff Area Business Association
1216 Carrabassett Road
Carrabassett Valley, Maine 04947
info@mainehighpeaks.com
207-235-6008

The Flagstaff Area Business Association serves the Maine's High Peaks Region and works with businesses from Kingfield, Carrabassett Valley, Stratton, Eustis, Rangeley and Farmington and all those in between the Canadian border to showcase the "Mountains of Possibilities" for outdoor adventures in Maine's High Peaks Regions.

Kyes Insurance
171 Main Street
Farmington, ME 04938
izamboni@kyesinsurance.com
207-778-9862

Kyes Insurance is a locally owned independent insurance agency with locations in the towns of Farmington, Skowhegan, Rumford and Livermore Falls. We have been bringing homeowners, automobile, business, life and health insurance to our communities since 1925. We represent many different insurance companies and will offer their products tailored to the specific needs of our customers.

Sandy River Center
119 Livermore Falls Rd.
Farmington, Maine 04938
alecia.swihart@genesishcc.com
207-778-6591

Sandy River Center provides skilled nursing, medical and rehabilitative care for patients requiring post-hospital, short stay rehabilitation and for longer term residents. Our Clinical Care Teams are focused on implementing your personalized care program to facilitate your recovery and improve your well-being.

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.

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June's Business After Hours hosted by Complete Dentistry

June's Business After Hours event was hosted by Complete Dentistry at 7 Thompson St., Wilton. A casual evening of networking and conversation was enjoyed by all who attended. Drinks and delicious appetizers for the event were provided by Calzolaio Pasta Co. and gelato by Gelato Fiasco.

Attendees had the opportunity to meet the friendly people at Complete Dentistry who aim to make your visit to the dentist as easy and stress free as possible. They offer a wide range of services to meet patients' dental needs from checkups and cleanings to implants, root canals and porcelain veneers.

The Chamber would like to thank Complete Dentistry for hosting a great Business After Hours and for their support of the Chamber. If you want to learn more about Complete Dentistry's services call 207-645-4994.



Complete Dentistry staff



At the Business After Hours in June at Complete Dentistry: Peter Osborne, Sally Dyer, and Penny Meservier.

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