



207.778.4215
615 Wilton Road, Farmington
www.franklincountymaine.org

Letter from the President of the Chamber of Commerce

BFF on BBF

So, she did it again! Shannon Smith has pulled off another successful Wilton Blueberry Festival. She has definitely made 'Best Friends Forever' with some of those business owners in Wilton that see this event bring in hundreds of people to downtown Wilton, Maine for two days.

The 34th year of the Blueberry Festival provided two complete days of activities for everyone. The fact that the entertainment was free of charge was even more reason for visitors to make the journey to Wilton.

These types of events not only provide the community with exciting entertainment, but also bring them to stores, banks and restaurants in the area. Much like Chester Greenwood Day does for Farmington, the Blueberry Festival puts Wilton on the map – for at least two days.

I caught-up with Shannon recently to ask her about the work she does for the Blue-

berry Festival. She has been planning this event now for 26 years. I asked her what was the most rewarding part of putting in this work on this event for all these years. "I enjoy being able to give back to the community", she said. "I have also made some great friends over the years".

She said that it is a team effort and she can't thank everyone enough for all the teamwork that goes into it. Her fondest memories of the event are when people say thank you and that they enjoyed the festival. The favorite part is coming up with a theme each year.

Speaking of next year – Shannon is now starting to plan the 2017 Wilton Blueberry Festival as it takes a year for everything to come together. Her tireless work continues to make the Wilton Blueberry Festival a huge success each year. The theme for next years event? Get out your Mickey Mouse ears because I hear that it's going to be 'Disney'!



Member Spotlight: Troll Valley

Troll Valley is a family-run campground located just a few minutes from Walmart in Farmington (283 Red Schoolhouse Road).

Owner Galen Sayward began the campground in 1999 and introduced disc golf in 2010. The cost is \$5 per person to play and there are group discounts available. For those not familiar with the game, plastic discs are thrown into a

series of metal baskets placed throughout an outdoor course with the object being to complete the course using the fewest possible throws. Disc golf is a cheap and fun way to get exercise in the Farmington area, is a great way to get a walk in the woods and can also be played in any season.

There is a snack bar available on the site with candy, sodas,

water and other snacks as well. Troll Valley is open every day of the year and disc golf is open from dusk to dawn. Sayward is hoping to work with Mt. Blue High School to get a regular group from the high school to play disc golf as a club sport in the coming fall.

For more information call (207) 778-3656.

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Calendar of events

September 7

GRAND RE-OPENING RIBBON CUTTING AT UCU

STARTS: 11 a.m.

LOCATION: 154 High Street, Farmington

University Credit Union, a full-service financial institution with branches across the state, opened an expanded parking lot and new drive-up lane at the 154 High Street, Farmington branch. The new drive-up lane features UCU's first Interactive Teller Machine.

The Farmington drive-up ITM allows UCU members to perform a variety of transactions traditionally done in branch, without needing to go into one. During the regular business hours, a member can use the ITM and be connected with a UCU teller on video chat to complete their transaction. Transactions available to UCU members on the ITM include withdrawals, deposits, transfers, check cashing, balance inquiries and loan payments. The Smart ATM features of the machine are always available for members. This is one of a fleet of ITMs UCU will be launching across the state this year.

The branch has increased its parking space to allow up to 11 vehicles and new traffic flow which allows for better branch access. Adjacent to

the parking lot is green space where trees will be planted in the fall. The Farmington branch will hold a grand re-opening on Wednesday, September 7th at 11:00 AM and invite the public to join them for a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. FMI: www.ucu.maine.edu.

September 10

3RD ANNUAL TEAL RIBBON RUN/WALK 5K

TIME: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Please join us on Saturday, September 10th at the Holman House, 227 Main Street in Farmington, for our 3rd annual Teal Ribbon Run/Walk 5K! On the day of the event, registration will begin at 9:00 AM with the 5K starting at 10:00 AM. Registration is \$15 for participants who register by August 31st and will include a free T-shirt! (After August 31st the registration fee will be \$20). For participants 12 years old and younger, the event is FREE. Register at 5k.sapars.org

September 11

POLAND SPRING OPEN HOUSE

TIME: 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

LOCATION: Poland Springs

Plant, Kingfield

Plant tours, festival activities and more TBA

September 15

SEPTEMBER'S BUSINESS AFTER HOURS AT UNITED WAY

TIME: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

LOCATION: United Way, 232 Broadway, Farmington

United Way of the Tri-Valley Area invites you to "An Evening In Paris," a Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours.

Enjoy a taste of France with a selection of hors d'oeuvres and beverages including French wines from Ron's Market. Don't miss the door prizes and a special prize for the winner of our trivia contest.

September 18-24

FARMINGTON FAIR

TIME: All Day

LOCATION: FARMINGTON FAIRGROUNDS- 292 HIGH STREET, FARMINGTON

Franklin County Agricultural Society's 176th Annual Exhibition. A week filled with food vendors, horse racing, games, entertainment, rides, exhibitions, animals, art, a demolition derby and more!

Stop by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce's booth in the exhibition hall to see what our member businesses have to offer! FMI call 207-778-6083.

September 30

SETH WESCOTT & FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 14TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC

STARTS: 9 a.m.

LOCATION: Sugarloaf Golf Course

The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce teaming up again with Seth Wescott to host the 14th Annual Scholarship Golf Classic. Proceeds are used to help fund the Annual Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Program and the Level Field Fund for area students and athletes. Enjoy a round of golf, complimentary gift bags and lunch at The Rack! It's not too late to register a team! FMI: call 778-4215 or visit www.franklincountymaine.org

October 1

MIND BODY SPIRIT FESTIVAL

TIME: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCATION: Student Center, University of Maine at Farmington, 111 South Street, Farmington

The festivals are held throughout the year in various Maine locations, featuring holistic health practitioners, energy healers, psychics and mediums, herbs and organic products, metaphysical supplies, enlightening workshops and a whole lot more.

Join us for a business after hours

Evening
in
Paris

Sept 15
5-7pm

at United Way of the Tri-Valley Area
218 Fairbanks Rd. Farmington

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Entrepreneurs CONNECT

October 13, 2016 | 4pm-7pm
508 Fairbanks Road, Farmington

It is well known that regions are strengthened when entrepreneurs connect with one another. On October 13, Greater Franklin Development Council, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and CEI are co-sponsoring an event to do just that. Entrepreneurs Connect is an opportunity for local entrepreneurs to get inspired, think big, be bold and challenge themselves to grow their business and take it to the next level. This event will focus on the journeys of several area entrepreneurs, opportunities for growth, as well as how to

navigate the hiring process.

From bakers to builders, photographers to publishers, webmasters to woodworkers, any type of entrepreneur in between is welcome to attend the event.

Event Agenda

4 to 4:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Entrepreneur Journeys: 4 People | 4 Stories

5:30 to 6 p.m. Opportunities for Growth: Capital | Mentors | Technology

6 to 6:30 p.m. Food & Net-

working
6:30 - 7 p.m. Navigating the Hiring Process

WHEN: Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

WHERE: Fairbanks School Meeting House, 508 Fairbanks Road, Farmington

If you are interested in attending this event, please register October 1. Register online at www.eventbrite.com/e/entrepreneurs-connect-tickets-26882564474 or call 778-5887. There will be a \$25 fee, food will be served.

Using Instagram to promote your business

Instagram is a free visual tool that allows anyone to represent themselves, business, area, or brand through pictures. With over 300 million active monthly users and about 70 million photos shared daily, Instagram proves to be a valuable and widely accessible tool used to reach a large audience. More than 85 percent of top brands and businesses use Instagram and its popularity amongst American teens greatly exceeds Facebook and Twitter and is a close second to Facebook for people in the 20 to 30 age bracket.

Greater Franklin Development Council, Franklin County Tourism Network and Maine Woods Consortium held an Instagram and Hashtag Workshop at the Fairbanks School Meeting House in Farmington on June 23. A variety of business owners and people interested in expanding their social media knowledge and outreach attended and learned about what using Instagram can do to help further their brand, business or organization.

Megan Crowder of Nancy Marshall Commu-



Instagram

nications gave an informative presentation on setting up an Instagram account and using pictures as an effective means of promotion as well as valuable insight into using hashtags. Understanding how they work and how they can expand your audience and people who are exposed to your posts is an important part of social media and Instagram in particular. If you have any questions about Instagram or how to get started, give the Chamber a call at 778-4215 or email info@franklincountymaine.org and we'll be happy to walk you through the steps.

The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce is now on Instagram! Check us out at www.instagram.com/franklincountymaine and share your pictures with us by using #fcmaine

The 14th annual Seth Wescott & Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic

Friday, September 30 marks the 14th annual Seth Wescott & Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic at the Sugarloaf Golf Club. The golf classic will begin at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start. Proceeds of the Golf Classic are used to help fund the annual Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Program and the Level Field Fund for area students and athletes.



Each participant will receive a complimentary gift bag, green fees, and cart. There will be contests with prizes for a hole in one, longest drive, a putting challenge and more. After the tournament enjoy a fantastic gathering at The Rack with great food and prizes. While enjoying a complimentary lunch at the Rack golfers will have an opportunity to enter to win raffle prizes, a 50/50 drawing or bid on the auction items.

If you are not a golfer but would still like to support this event, please consider sponsoring a team of cancer survivors. Your business can be a major sponsor of the tournament with all the promotional benefits and allow the opportunity for worthy team of cancer survivors to enjoy a day on the course and lunch following the tournament. You can appoint your own team or we can find the players for you.

The Committee is hard at work to make this year's

tournament another huge success. So gather a team to enjoy a day of relaxation and golf along with the lovely amenities that make being on the green a great day of fun. The forms to register your team can be obtained at www.franklincountymaine.org or by contacting the chamber office at 778-4215, info@franklincountymaine.org.

A huge thank you to our current sponsors for the tournament which include: Coca-Cola, Darling's, Dead River Company, Darlings Auto, Franklin Savings Bank, Poland Spring Bottling, Rob Elliott Excavation & Trucking, and Skowhegan Savings Bank. There are several partnership opportunities still available. If your business is interested in contributing to this worthy cause, please contact Penny Meservier, Executive Director at the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce at (207) 778-4215 or director@franklincountymaine.org.

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.



2016 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

Shannon Smith
Membership Chairman
Emblem Club #460

Ken True
Member at Large
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Jodi Cordes
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Bangor Savings Bank

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Tammy Hutchinson
Comfort Inn & Suites

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Interactive teller machine brings in-branch experience to drive-up

University Credit Union, a full-service financial institution with branches across the state, opened an expanded parking lot and new drive-up lane at the 154 High Street, Farmington branch. The new drive-up lane features UCU's first Interactive Teller Machine.



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This is one of a fleet of ITMs UCU will be launching across the state this year.

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Established in 1967, University Credit Union is a full-service financial institution with branches located in Orono, Bangor, Farmington, Gorham, Portland and Presque Isle. For more information, visit www.ucu.maine.edu.



Celebrate with us!

Grand Re-Opening at UCU Farmington

WHEN: Wednesday, September 7th
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

WHERE: University Credit Union
154 High Street, Farmington



Join us for:

- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
- Refreshments and Lunch
- Live Radio Remote with WKTJ
- Giveaways
- Try our New Technology

What's new:

- Drive-up Lane
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- Technology - Interactive Teller Machine
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Business After Hours at the Stanley Museum

Attendees of July's Business After Hours at The Stanley Museum enjoyed refreshments from Tranten's Market and were given a tour of the museum and its extensive Stanley Steamer and photography collection and even spotted a few Pokemon around the building.

