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### Visit Farmington today! www.farmington-maine.org



## Background and History of Farmington

In the late 1700s, Stephen Titcomb and other early settlers chose the Farmington area to establish a community because of the geographic location, forests and wildlife, and the rich soil of the interval land along the Sandy River. Farmington was incorporated in 1794 and includes Farmington Falls, West Farmington, and the Fairbanks area.

Many of Farmington's early settlers were well educated and cultured so insuring their children received an education was essential. These values haven't changed over the years. This is evident in the quality of education within the pre-K through 12 public school system, in the recent construction of the new elementary school and high school, and in the ongoing expansion and improvements for higher education opportunities offered at the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF).

The town has a population of 7,760 according to the 2010 census. Approximately 331,000 people live within a 40 mile radius and an average of 20,000 vehicles travel along the Wilton Road daily.

Farmington is the Shiretown and the commercial, education and healthcare center for Franklin County. Franklin Memorial Hospital plays a prominent role in meeting the healthcare needs of the area, providing quality services over a broad spectrum of medical practices.

Farmington is a vibrant community that has balanced the demands for beneficial growth with its historical ambiance. Here, the quality of life is inviting for families and provides an ideal location to establish a business.

## **OUR BUSINESSES**

#### The Homestead Kitchen, Bar & Bakery

*"Every vibrant downtown has places where people gather. The Homestead is the go-to place in downtown Farmington,* 



where friends, family, and co-workers gather for delicious food, live music, and celebration. Come join us."

—Laurie Danforth, The Homestead Kitchen, Bar & Bakery

#### E.L. Vining & Son, Inc.

"We feel our close connections with the community and our dedicated employees who live in the area are the main reason that our company has been fortunate to grow and

be successful for over 50 years. Farmington is a great place for businesses, to work, to raise a family and to call home."

—Kevin and Judy Vining, E.L. Vining & Son, Inc.

#### **Robin's Flower Pot**



"Farmington was our first choice to build a home and raise a family. It was a natural choice to build a business with family and friends in our hometown."

> —Robin and Jim Jordan, Robin's Flower Pot

#### A Wild Fern Winery

"We at A Wild Fern Winery appreciate the support we have received as Franklin County's first and only winery. You are



invited to come in and taste our wide selection of wines. We are proud to have the opportunity to represent, through our wines, the spirit of Farmington."

—John and Patty Cormier, A Wild Fern Winery

#### The Sandy River Farm Market

"Our mission is to provide our customers with the healthiest and most nutritious food, sourced from local family farms. This

helps to assure a self-sufficient and sustainable local agriculture."

—York and Johnson Families, The Sandy River Farm Market



#### Franklin Printing

"Franklin Printing is one of New England's premiere commercial printers. Our state-of-the-art facility offers a wide range of printing, finishing, and mailing services to customers across the country."



—David Nemi, Franklin Printing

These are just a few of our many businesses that include a wide variety of retailers, contractors, professional services, food, and entertainment.

# **TOURISM & RECREATION**

Located at the crossroads of Routes 2, 4, 27, and 43, the picturesque Town of Farmington is Maine's foremost four-season destination and jewel of the western mountains. Farmington offers numerous recreational opportunities and programs, along with many parks. There are over 10 miles of trails within walking distance of the downtown, and the eight "Walk Around Farmington" kiosk signs provide a self-guided history tour. Farmington's diverse community attracts artisans and writers, outdoor adventurers, professionals, wildlife watchers, foliage lovers and history buffs alike. This small-town lifestyle also offers a variety of unique shops and eateries, as well as community events and a long list of cultural amenities: **book readings, concerts, art shows, plays, and a seven-screen movie theater.** 



Titcomb Mountain

A gem of the Farmington area is Titcomb Mountain Recreational Area. With over 135 acres, the area offers winter lift-serviced Alpine skiing and snowboarding, Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, and a cozy lodge with a snack bar to enjoy food and beverages. In the summertime there is walking, hiking and bike riding, with lodge rentals for family reunions, weddings, class reunions, and gatherings of all types. Titcomb Mountain is owned and operated by the members of the Farmington Ski Club. The club relies on many generous volunteers to operate each year, and the volunteers get a chance to work and play with a variety of people of all ages.



#### www.titcombmountain.com

## **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

#### W.G. Mallett School

Grades Pre-K – 3 116 Middle Street (207) 778-3529 http://mallet.mtbluersd.org

#### **Cascade Brook School**

Grades 4 – 6 162 Learning Lane (207) 778-4821 http://cascadebrook.mtbluersd.org

#### Mt. Blue Middle School

Grades 7 – 8 269 Middle Street (207) 778-3511 http://www.mtbluersd.org

#### Mt. Blue High School

Grades 9 – 12 129 Seamon Road (207) 778-3561 http://mbhs.mtbluersd.org

#### **Foster Technology Center**

129 Seamon Road (207) 778-3562 http://foster.mainecte.org







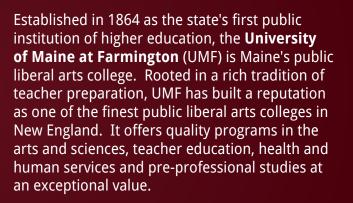


*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."* 

—Nelson Mandela

"The dedication of our faculty and staff, the creative energy and devotion of our students, and the positive impact and value of our strong relations with community partners has me paraphrasing this tag line to describe UMF as "the way college should be."

> —UMF President Kathryn A. Foster



UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

For 150 years, the University of Maine at Farmington has earned a national reputation for excellence. Rated one of "America's Best Colleges" for 16 consecutive years by USNews & World Report (1998-2013), the University was also named one of USNews 2013 best college value "Great Schools, Great Prices."

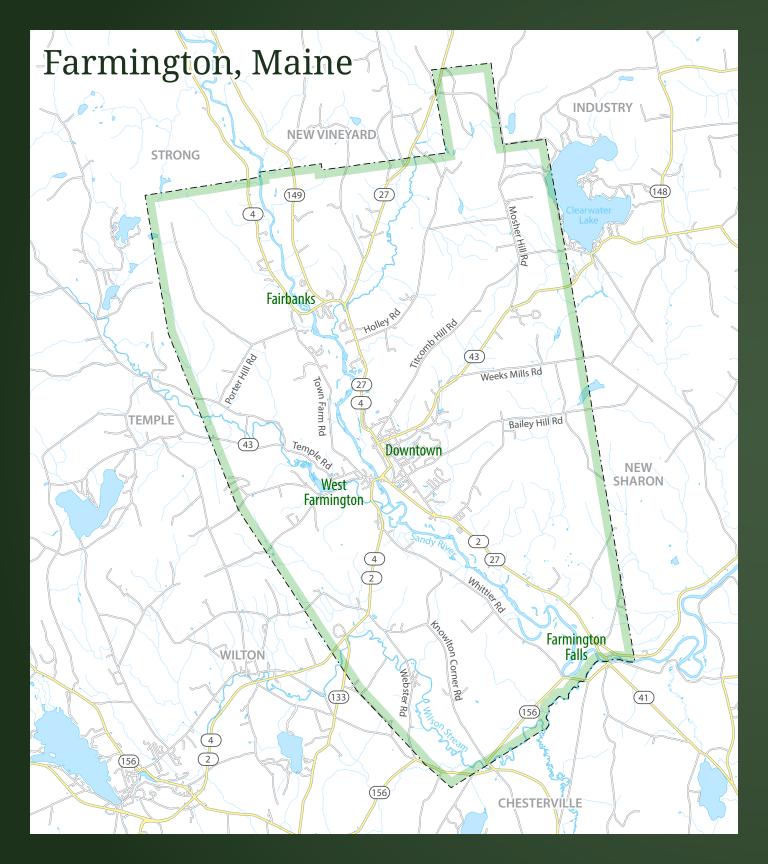
The University of Maine at Farmington and the Farmington area have a long tradition of close "town/gown" relations. Located in downtown Farmington, the friendly 2,000-student campus adds a distinctive college town atmosphere to the community. Each fall as college students arrive for the start of a new school year, the town buzzes with renewed

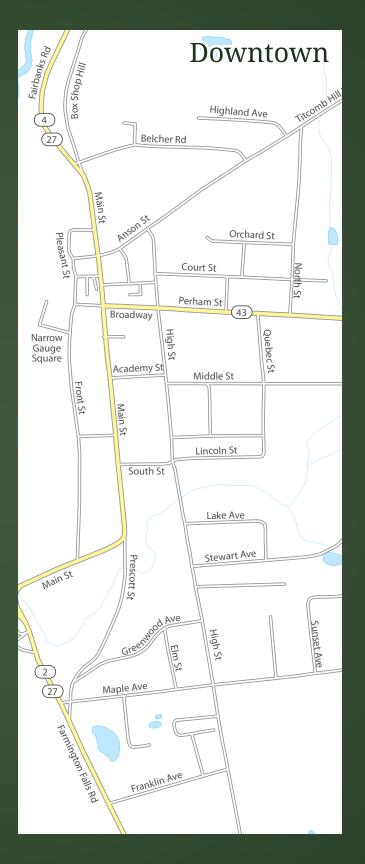
energy and vitality. UMF is an integral member of the Farmington area community, and many of the University's facilities and offerings are open to the public.

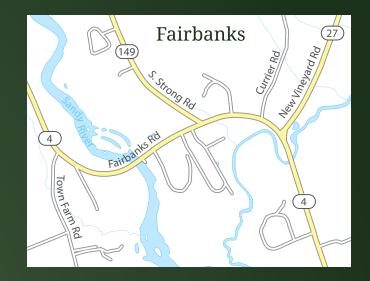
### Franklin County Community College Network

The Franklin County Community College Network is comprised of people who believe that businesses thrive when they can hire qualified trained people, and when people can live and work in their communities, they become stronger. We work with businesses to learn what they need, arrange events and connect with the community through college classes offered in Franklin County, provide customized sector-specific training in conjunction with businesses, and have scholarships for training.

—Betty Gensel











## ANNUAL EVENTS

## Maine Fiddlehead Festival – Local Food Day

This festival kicks off spring by celebrating Farmington's agricultural heritage and today's renewed interest in supporting farmers and the benefits of local foods, both wild and cultivated. The Festival is a collaborative effort with events taking place on the UMF campus and different venues in the downtown, promoting community involvement. An antique tractor parade, "Fiddlehead Market", music and children's activities, along with talks and demonstrations are just some of the activities scheduled.



## **Farmington Fair**



In 1840, the Franklin County Agricultural Society was granted a charter to create a fair which has since been the county's premier autumn event. The third week in September marks the beginning of the week-long fair which continues to draw farmers together with competitions in agriculture and livestock, and to educate and stimulate support of locally grown products. There are many events, exhibitions, and demonstrations scheduled throughout the grounds along with pari-mutual horse racing, the demolition derby, numerous amusements on the midway, and an abundance of "fair" food!

## **Chester Greenwood Day**

The birthday of one of Farmington's most famous citizens and entrepreneur who invented and manufactured the earmuff is celebrated on the first Saturday in December. The day begins with a parade down Main Street finishing with the flag raising ceremony at the Franklin County Courthouse. Many downtown stores offer all-day specials. There are also several craft fairs and events such as a gingerbread house contest, Farmington Historical Society open house, and the Polar Bear Club's annual dip in Clearwater Lake, to name a few.

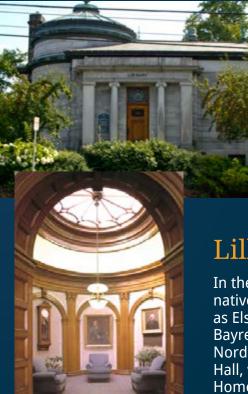


# **ARTS & CULTURE**

### **Emery Community Arts Center**

Constructed on the UMF campus in 2011, this innovative facility provides an ideal environment to cultivate various forms of art, music, performance, and dance. With the latest in lighting, sound, and computer technology, it supports today's multi-media interdisciplinary art forms. The campus and greater Farmington community benefit from the flexible performance spaces for multipurpose venues and creative expression.





## **Farmington Public Library**

There have been only 20 years in the Town's history when residents have been without library services. Originally dedicated as the Cutler Memorial Library in 1903, and constructed of granite from North Jay, Maine, it is one of the few examples of Beaux Arts architecture in the state. In the year 2000, after several years of fund raising and generous donations, extensive renovations were completed including the addition of a new entrance and atrium.

## Lillian Nordica

In the late 1800s the opera diva, and Farmington native, rose to international acclaim for her role as Elsa in Lohengrin in Richard Wagner's Bayreuth Festival. In honor of the singer, the Nordica Auditorium, located in UMF's Merrill Hall, was named after her. The Nordica Homestead Museum, where she was born and lived the first six years of her life, provides the perfect backdrop to display her elaborate stage gowns and jewelry along with countless other memorabilia from her amazing life and career.



## AGRICULTURE

Agriculture has played a vital role in building Farmington's character. Farming has been a family tradition for many generations, and today there are approximately thirteen working farms. The rich fertile soil on the interval land and the surrounding hills produces food staples such as dairy, meats, fruits and vegetables, along with hay and timber. Many of these farmers have adapted to new growing methods to accommodate consumers who would rather purchase locally grown foods and other products.

### Farmers' Markets

Farmington has three local farmers' markets that provide access to a wide variety of fresh locally grown and produced fruits, vegetables, seedlings, baked goods, eggs, meats, artisanal cheeses, maple and honey products, prepared foods, and more.

**Sandy River Farmer's Market** – Started over 22 years ago, it meets every Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from May through October in the parking lot of the Narrow Gauge Cinema.

**Farmington Farmer's Market** – This market meets on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. from May through October in the Maine District Courthouse parking lot on Main Street.

**The Farmington Grange Winter Market** – Located at the historic Farmington Grange on Bridge Street in West Farmington, this market meets on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. during the months of November through April.

Contact: Mitra Luick, Market Master Email: mitraluick@gmail.com Website: freshmainefood.blogspot.com



Bailey Hill Farm 639 Bailey Hill Road (207) 778-4595

Gaylawn Farm 262 Whittier Road (207) 778-4934

Hardy Farm 360 Weeks Mills Road (207) 778-6446 hardyfarm.weebly.com

Knowlton Corner Farm 341 Knowlton Corner Road (207) 778-6520 knowltoncornerfarm.com

Maple Hill Farm 390 Titcomb Hill Road (207) 778-4506

Marble Family Farms 853 Holley Road (207) 779-4858 marblefamilyfarms.com

Morrison Hill Orchard 272 Morrison Hill Road (207) 778-4945 facebook.com/MorrisonHillAppleOrchard

> Sandy River Farms and Market 560 Farmington Falls Road (207) 778-3835 sandyriverfarms.com

## THINGS TO DO IN THE REGION



Sugarloaf Mountain 5092 Access Road, Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947 (207) 237-2222 | sugarloaf.com

This four season resort offers world class skiing and golfing along with many special events.



Maine Huts and Trails 496C Main Street, Kingfield, ME 04947 (207) 265-2400 | mainehuts.org

Enjoy four backcountry lodges and more than 50 miles of trails for a hut-to-hut adventure.



Saddleback Maine 976 Saddleback Mtn Road, Rangeley, ME (866) 918-2225 | saddlebackmaine.com

Located in the Rangeley Lake area, Saddleback is a four-season family ski resort.



Appalachian Trail P.O. Box 264, South Egremont, MA 01258 (413) 528-8002 | appalachiantrail.org

Maine's 281 miles are generally considered the most challneging of all fourteen states.



Skye Theatre 2 Highland Drive, South Carthage, ME (207) 562-4445 | necelticarts.com

This center offers performances from world class musicians.



**Stanley Museum** 40 School Street, Kingfield, ME 04947 (207) 265-2729 | stanleymuseum.org

The museum showcases the steam cars and other inventions and accomplishments by the Stanley family.