

# Franklin County Adult Education

Spring 2009



**It** is another exhilarating year at MSAD9 Adult Education. New programs, new outreach and new students, along with an "Award winning" attitude, are helping to make this year a great one! Adult Ed Director Ray Therrien and his staff have been on the receiving end of a number of well deserved awards recognizing their commitment and innovation in the field of Adult Education. Among the awards received were the Central Maine Community College (**CMCC**) **Partnership Award**; Women, Work and Community's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award recognizing Franklin County Adult Education as a **Regional Champion** for their efforts on behalf of women and their families; and the **Noyce** County and State **Award for Nonprofit Excellence** which is shared with partners of the Franklin County Community College Network and presented by the Maine Community Foundation. On a more personal level, Ray was honored by the Maine Adult Education Association as the recipient of the **Gerald LeVasseur Award**, the highest honor given for outstanding work in Maine's Adult Education.

## ***Franklin County Community College Network (FCCCN)***

continues to work toward local and affordable access to college classes for every resident in Franklin County. They are currently working to offer classes in Computer Assisted Drawing (CAD) and other initiatives such as composite technology and hospitality training. Central Maine Community College (CMCC) representative, Bryan Wallace, is available every Monday at the Wilton CareerCenter from 12-4pm to help with Community College enrollment and to answer questions. Call 755-5364 to schedule an appointment.

**Enroll now for Summer and Fall 2009 classes.**

## **Franklin County Adult Education**

- ✓ 130 – the number of unemployed workers who accessed Adult Ed(AE) services within the past three months;
- ✓ 16 adults are currently enrolled in our College Transitions Program
- ✓ 35 laptops are now available to AE and Community College students ,
- ✓ 246 students have been supported by Adult Education to continue their education

**Traveling Technology Roadshow** - Thanks to Bangor Savings Bank, Franklin Savings Bank and the Northern Franklin County Opportunity Center for their help in turning a dream into a reality. The dream was to create a portable computer lab that could provide more access to more students. The high demand for computer literacy training, increased academic use and an increase in overall student enrollments made this project essential to the Franklin County Adult Education Program. Now, thanks to our three benefactors, Adult Ed has 35 laptops that are being utilized in many different ways. College Transitions students, unemployed workers, Community College students, as well community members and Adult Ed students, all benefit from the laptop lending program and improved access to technology training.

**Adult Ed** provides alternative education and a re-entry point for those who drop out.  
**Adult Ed** works closely with local High Schools to provide mutual support.  
**Adult Ed** helps unemployed workers navigate the path back to work.  
**Adult Ed - the place to improve academic and technology skills.**



**WorkReady Training** - The intent of this training is to provide Maine citizens with a certificate, recognized by the Maine State Department of Education and employers across the state, which validates that a WorkReady graduate has developed the 'soft' skills necessary to be successful at work. These skills can be difficult to measure, but are vital to success in the workplace. WorkReady offers training to potential workers that will teach them the skills needed to get and keep a job. The WorkReady Program covers such topics as overcoming personal barriers and how to be a better employee. In addition it helps trainees assess their current skill levels in communication and technology. Trainees also participate in mock interviews with local employers and prepare a portfolio and resume. A new class will be starting this Spring. Call Adult Ed at **778-3460** to sign up for the WorkReady orientation and find out how this certification can benefit you!

**Workplace Referral Program:**

**Are you an employer looking for assistance with training or staff development? Do you have someone you would like to hire but they need better skills?**

**Call Adult Ed at 778-3460 to find out how we can help!!**

**Adult Education**

Maine's Link to a prosperous Future

- Flexible programs
- Local access
- Connections to College, Workplace & Community

**Maine Adult Corrections Education Association (MACEA)** welcomes Ray Therrien to his new role as President! Ray is working with his committee members to strengthen the partnership between the Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Department of Education (DOE) to work on the issues and needs that must be addressed in order to provide education and transition services in correctional facilities. He is charged with establishing goals and expanding community outreach. Research shows that inmates who receive educational services while incarcerated and who receive sufficient transition planning prior to release, will have a lower rate of recidivism as well as improved success as a contributing citizen.

## Hospitality Training

Last fall, Adult Education worked in partnership with the Franklin County Community College Network (FCCCN) to present a series of trainings in customer service for the Hospitality Industry. The Network reached out to local businesses to determine what type of training would be most beneficial to our area. Customer service was at the top of the list and 75 people attended the trainings which were held in various locations throughout Franklin County. Additional, follow up trainings are being planned for the Fall.

## Adult Ed Staff

Sharron Cornell, Student Support, GED  
Maggie Scholl, ABE Instructor  
Michael Burd, Tech Integrator, Life skills  
David Spear, ABE Instructor  
Nancy Dionne, College Transitions  
Sue Fahn, Correctional Education  
Joanne Chapman, Rangeley Adult Ed  
Eileen Miazga, Workforce Education  
Liza Donald, Secretary  
Chrissy Poulson, ESOL, Program support  
Ray Therrien, Director, Adult Education  
Paul Brown, Community Education  
Dr. Michael Cormier, Superintendent

Need to learn a new skill?

### Coming Soon to Franklin County:

Alternative Energy - Solar and Wind power  
Winterization – increasing home efficiency  
Hospitality - increasing employability  
Composites Technology - cutting edge!



## College Transitions

The program has completed it's first year of college preparatory programming and we are happy to report that five of our Spring 2008 students are now 2<sup>nd</sup> semester college students. Since that first cohort in the spring of 08 we have enrolled students in

summer, fall and now spring of 2009 semesters. These students are preparing to enter college in the Fall of 09. Our current class is the largest, with an enrollment of sixteen students. We are optimistic about receiving a continuation grant which will enable us to serve Franklin County Adults who wish to prepare for college for another two years. - *Nancy Dionne, College Transitions*

**Record Unemployment and a declining economy** throughout our community has brought many area residents back to Adult Education. For those who have been employed at the same job for many years, and who now face unemployment, it can be a difficult and trying transition. Add to that, the fact that the number of good paying jobs is limited at this time and that technology is rapidly changing how we work and you get a great deal of frustration. MSAD9 Adult Education has been closely involved with many of the newly unemployed. Laid off WAUSAU workers were among the first to access the many services and programs offered at Adult Ed. Support, guidance, assessments and classes in academics as well as technology, are all offered through Franklin County Adult Education at no cost. For more information contact Liza Donald at 778-3460.

**"Adult Education can provide a seamless continuum of services for individuals to upgrade work skills, obtain a GED or pave the way into post secondary education."**  
- *Director Ray Therrien*



### ***Composites Training coming to Franklin County***

In the upcoming months a new program will be offered in Franklin County. Working with partners, which include the Franklin County Community College Network, the Wilton CareerCenter, Foster Technology Center and at the State level, the North Star Alliance, Franklin County Adult Ed will help to present a week-long composites training class. Composite technology is somewhat similar to fiberglassing and is used in boat building, ski making, skateboards and to make the blades for the windmills that are used as an alternative energy source. An informational orientation will be scheduled at the Wilton CareerCenter in April. Adults and businesses who qualify for the training program will then be selected to attend an introduction and overview of the composite process which will then be followed by a week long training. The project will be funded through the North Star Alliance. For more information on the Franklin County Composites trainings please call the Wilton CareerCenter at 645-5821.

**Web access** - For additional information please visit the following websites:

Franklin County Adult Education: **[fcae.msad9.k12.me.us](http://fcae.msad9.k12.me.us)**

Maine State Adult Education information: **[www.maineadulted.org](http://www.maineadulted.org)**

Franklin County Community College Network: **[www.franklinnetwork.org](http://www.franklinnetwork.org)**

Wilton CareerCenter: **[www.mainecareercenter.com](http://www.mainecareercenter.com)**

Central Maine Community College: **[www.cmcc.edu](http://www.cmcc.edu)**

**Please join us Wednesday, May 27, 2009**

**5:30pm - 8:30pm**

**North Dining Hall -UMF for our annual recognition night.**

Franklin County Adult Education  
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To: