

COUNTING PENNIES FOR A CAUSE

AROOSTOOK COUNTY – A year of waiting on spare change was well worth the wait for one county organization. NorState Federal Credit Union donates 100% of the fees collected from the use of their coin counters in Madawaska, Presque Isle and Fort Kent locations to a local county organization that benefits the communities, people and members they serve.

In December of 2016, Executive Marketing Director, Denise Duperre, contacted the Aroostook County Special Olympics executive director, Steve Richards, and told Richards that NorState's 2017 income fee from the coin counters would benefit the organizations coffers.

Duperre adds, "With the help of all members and non-members who came in to use the coin counter machine at NorState FCU, and an access fee of 2% of coins sorted for members and 5% for non-members, the credit union and users of the coin sorter machines were able to raise \$7,827.28 in spare change for Special Olympics in Aroostook."

It is the mission of Special Olympics to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience

joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

"The caring and giving spirit of our communities and for those willing to give up a few pennies on the dollar, for the credit union's coin counter service, is a great way to express thanks and gratitude for all of the services that Special Olympics affords the people of northern Maine.

Susan G. Whitehead, President and CEO of NorState Federal Credit Union with offices in Madawaska, Van Buren, Fort Kent, Ashland, Eagle Lake and Presque Isle, joined in the ceremony presenting representatives of the Aroostook Chapter Special Olympics with a check.

"It is wonderful that we are able to donate 100% of our coin counter service fees to recognize a local charity in this very special way.

NorState truly believes in the credit union cooperative philosophy of People Helping People," said Whitehead.

"Special Olympics is making a difference in the lives of many county individuals, and we are so fortunate to be able to make dreams come true."

Duperre adds, "NorState and its members are known for their strong belief in volunteering and giving back in multiple ways, from paying it forward to random acts of kindness to working diligently on the Maine Ending Hunger Campaign as well.

NorState cares.

We care about family, community, neighbors, businesses and most of all people.

We are in the service industry really, and service to others is always top of mind."

To find out more about NorState initiatives in your community, follow their Facebook page, and become a member of a growing organization that puts people first.

A not-for-profit financial institution owned by its members, NorState FCU!



Special Olympics Aroostook Donation – Accepting a monetary donation of \$7,827.28 from NorState Federal Credit Union's CEO Susan G. Whitehead and Presque Isle Branch Manager Tammy Cyr Wortman is Special Olympics Executive Director Stephen Richards, Brian Hamel, Carl Michaud and Michele Blackstone.



Moving forward with positive reinforcement – John DeVeau, Executive Director for the United Veterans of Maine and Director of Public Relations for Cary Medical Center in Caribou converse with NorState Federal Credit Union’s CEO Susan G. Whitehead about NorState’s committed contribution of coin sorter fees throughout 2018 for the UVM Farm of Hope Project during a recent press conference in Presque Isle announcing their organization being chosen as the designated charity.

-Duperre photos