

NorState FCU's first dance and auction raises over \$7900 for Ending Hunger

ST. JOHN VALLEY – NorState Federal Credit Union employees along with co-sponsor Madawaska Knights of Columbus welcomed several hundred people to the Madawaska K of C Hall on Friday, November 20th for a dance and silent auction.

Generous donations of beautiful items from various merchants ranging from Ashland to Allagash to Presque Isle offered a huge variety of auction items, that event goers could browse and bid on.

Stephen Gagne, auction chairperson said, *“An event such as this depends largely on the generosity of donations from local merchants.*

Their participation to the cause is what makes it all come together.

I'm thankful to the wonderful volunteer spirit of the NorState team, as well as the Knights of Columbus in their generosity to support this event.

I'd be remised if I didn't acknowledge the band, Boomer-Ang for their talented music that evening.

They kept people on the dance floor all night long, and kept everyone informed on the bidding for the Silent Auction that was downstairs.”

Event goers had an entertaining evening of great music, friendly gathering and competitive auction.”

Jackie Lebel, dance chairperson comments, *“NorState employees along with the Knights pulled it all together with their generous donations of time.*

From the planning stages to ticket sales, to auction item collections and hall setup, and volunteering throughout the entire evening at the door or in other numerous posts is what makes for a successful fundraiser.”

Marketing Director for NorState, Denise Cote added, *“Advanced ticket sales by our employees throughout the six branches, and the rally by the branch managers to include their staff in the fundraising efforts is priceless.*

Their efforts were assisted by the volunteer merchants who also sold tickets at their establishments.

It was so nice to see people take a break from the dance floor and venture downstairs to the auction, to see if they had been outbid and make their move before the tables were closed.

Some items got competitive bidders, just hovering, to make sure they were not being outbid.

There was something for everyone!

We also got non-perishable food donations at the door.

This event was definitely a huge kick-off signature event for the Hope for the Holidays Food Drive that is currently going on throughout the St. John Valley.”

A total of \$7,912 was raised. All proceeds remain local and benefit ending hunger in our communities.

SEE PHOTOS BELOW



PLACE YOUR BIDS: With over 125 auction items to bid on, silent auction goers who attended the Ending Hunger Dance and Auction sponsored by NorState FCU and the Madawaska K of C, were amazed at the variety. Items ranged from \$4 to over \$500 in price, so there was something for everyone's budget and palette. -Cote photo



MAKE MINE A DOUBLE CHEESE:

While locals were enjoying a dance and silent auction to raise funds for Ending Hunger, sponsored by NorState FCU and the Madawaska Knights of Columbus, Chefs Cliff Cyr (aka, the bread man) and Rep. Ken Theriault were busy grilling up hot dogs and burgers downstairs, to feed the crowd.

-Cote photo



BOOMER-ANG keeps the crowd hopping – Band members of Boomer-Ang (aka: Lions Club Band) are left to right: Lead guitar Alain Bois, lead vocalist Dr. Dan Chasse, Drummer Reno “BIZ” Gagnon and NorState FCU CEO David Rossignol. Thank you guys for your generous donation toward the Ending Hunger fundraiser!!!



Tim, Bruce & Paul were our KC bartenders for the night and keep the dancers well hydrated!



Shirley, Karen C & Sharon were just a few of the many NFCU volunteering at the fundraiser!