



Katahdin Trust and United Way Partner for Summer Slide Reading Program for the sixth year

Houlton, Maine (June 9, 2021) - United Way of Aroostook and Katahdin Trust Company are excited to once again partner for the Summer Slide Reading Program. The program encourages early readers to continue reading throughout the summer to help keep them engaged in learning and sharpen their reading skills over summer vacation. This will be the sixth year that Katahdin Trust has supported this program.

"We are proud to partner with United Way of Aroostook on the Summer Slide Program," said Krista Putnam, Executive Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer. "After the transformation of education that has happened the past year, we think this program is more important than ever before to keep kids engaged in learning over the summer."

This year, 635 bags containing books, activities, and other fun items have been distributed to first-grade students at 20 Aroostook County area schools by the United Way. This program will allow children to continue that reading momentum and help prevent the typical "summer slide" that can occur once children end the school year.

"Reading over summer vacation may not be a priority for children, but we want to encourage parents to make it one. Summer reading is critical to a child's ability to not only retain information learned the previous year, but also to grow in knowledge and critical thinking skills for the coming year," said Sarah Ennis, United Way of Aroostook Executive Director. "We are thankful for this yearly partnership with Katahdin Trust to help prevent the summer slide that can happen. It puts books into the hands of every first grader to make sure all children have books available to read at their reading level."

United Way of Aroostook is dedicated to improving the education and future of Aroostook County's youngest citizens through the Summer Slide Program as well as several other United Way programs like the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and Stuff the Bus.

About Katahdin Trust

Katahdin Trust, founded in 1918, is a community bank based in Houlton, Maine with more than \$937 million in assets that offers financial services to individuals and businesses from sixteen full-service branches in northern Maine and the greater Bangor and Portland regions with a suite of digital banking solutions. The Bank has nearly 180 employees and, in 2020, was named one of the Best Places to Work in Maine for the third year in a row. Katahdin Bankshares Corp., parent company of Katahdin Trust Company, common stock is quoted on the OTC Markets (OTCQX) under the symbol KTHN. Learn more about the Bank at www.katahdintrust.com and follow Katahdin Trust on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

About United Way of Aroostook

United Way of Aroostook is a 501(c)(3) organization established in the county in 1957. United Way works in every Aroostook County community to offer solutions to today's problems and actively seeks donations to be distributed to health and human service agencies and their programs so that they may provide the services needed in the community.

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