

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union's Oscoda Branch Donates \$2,409.00 to Iosco Relay for Life



*In photo: The Oscoda Branch of AAACU had many fundraisers for Iosco Relay for Life, including a quilt raffle. Paula Kauffman, Operations Manager (left) and lucky winner Darlene Roberts (right).*

**Alpena, Michigan, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011**—Through the hard work of its employees and the generosity of its membership, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union was able to raise \$2,409.00 for the Iosco Relay for Life.

Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union employees select four community or charity organizations that they would like to fundraise for during each quarter of the

year. During the 2nd quarter of 2011 (April 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>) the staff of Oscoda branch of AAACU chose to focus their efforts on The Iosco Relay for Life.

Relay for Life is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society. At Relay, teams of people take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Because cancer never sleeps, Relays are overnight events up to 24 hours in length. Every Relay starts with a Survivors Lap—when cancer survivors are invited to circle the track together to celebrate the victories we have achieved over cancer. Caregivers are also recognized at Relay. After dark, people who have been touched by cancer remember loved ones lost to the disease during the Luminaria Ceremony, where participants walk a lap in silence, with candles in bags filled with sand lining the track—each bag bearing the name of a person touched by cancer. Last, there is a Fight Back Ceremony, where participants make a personal commitment to save lives by taking up the fight against cancer—such as making a pledge to get a cancer screening test, quit smoking, or to talk to elected officials about cancer.

The Oscoda branch of Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union, located at 103 S. State Street, organized many different fundraisers for Iosco Relay for Life. Candy bars and York mints were sold at teller windows, and staff could donate \$2.00 on Fridays to dress down in jeans and sneakers. They also held a book sale, sold popcorn, raffled a quilt, and requested donations at the branch and on-line. Staff also organized a booth at Glen's Markets to collect donations. On June 11<sup>th</sup>, staff members volunteered at Relay and took turns walking around the track. The staff was able to raise \$1,909.00 plus a \$500.00 donation from AAACU for a total donation of \$2,409.00.

*Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union serves members primarily in Alpena, Alcona, Montmorency, and Iosco counties with 8 locations—a main office located in Alpena, with branch offices in Ossineke, Lincoln, Atlanta, a Tiger Branch in Alcona Community Schools, Oscoda and Tawas offices, and an additional branch in Alpena. As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union provides service to 26,487 members and has total assets equal to \$248,345,542.*

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