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Bangor Savings Bank donates mobility aids to nonprofits

BANGOR, Maine – Bangor Savings Bank has teamed up with a Maine startup to share the company's flagship product with nonprofit organizations that assist people with mobility issues.

Bangor Savings recently donated AFARI Stylized Mobility Aids made by Brunswick-based Mobility Technologies to Maine Adaptive Sports and Recreation in Newry, Veterans Adaptive Sports and Training in New Gloucester, and the Travis Mills Foundation in Hallowell. The AFARI mobility aid is a three-wheeled device designed to aid upright mobility and enable those with balance, stability or weight bearing issues to participate in fun and comfortable outdoor exercise on diverse terrain.

Bangor Savings Bank President and CEO Bob Montgomery-Rice met Mobility Technologies CEO and co-founder Ryan Beaumont when they were a judge and competitor respectively during Season 2 of Greenlight Maine - a business pitch competition and statewide collaboration of entrepreneurs and corporate leaders.

“I was impressed with Ryan’s Greenlight Maine presentation and knew that Bangor Savings could help Mobility Technologies with the test marketing phase for its first product,” said Montgomery-Rice. “We hope that people who need help getting around will find a new sense of freedom and adventure with the donated AFARI Stylized Mobility Aids.”

AFARI users walk upright with their forearms on comfortable arm rests and hands gripping vertical handlebars, one with a brake. The design of the AFARI supports a user’s natural stride, posture and gait, and the mountain bike tires take little effort to move forward on grass, gravel or a path.

"The support from Bangor Savings has helped Mobility Technologies spread the word about the AFARI, and has also helped to get it into the hands of people who need it," said Mobility Technologies CEO Ryan Beaumont. "Participants in outdoor programs at Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation, The Travis Mills Foundation, and Veterans Adaptive Sports and Training have all benefited from the AFARI."

“We want everyone who comes to Veterans Adaptive Sports and Training to feel that they can be included, and participate equally no matter what issue or injury they may have,” said VAST Director Kristina Sabasteanski. “The AFARI aids will also be beneficial for our Veterans with back and lower extremity issues. They can use their upper body for support as needed with the AFARI.”

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About Bangor Savings Bank

Bangor Savings Bank, with more than \$3.6 billion in assets, offers retail banking to Maine consumers as well as comprehensive commercial, corporate, payroll administration, merchant services, and small business banking services to Maine businesses. The Bank, founded in 1852, is in its 166th year of service to the people of Maine, with 54 branches and on the Web at www.bangor.com. The Bangor Savings

Bank Foundation was created in 1997. Together the Bank and its Foundation invest \$1.7 million per year into the community in the form of nonprofit sponsorships, grants and partnership initiatives.