AUGUSTA – First Lady Ann LePage presided over the 28<sup>th</sup> annual presentation of the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism. The six category winners have had an impact in communities from Orono to South Portland.

The Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteer are presented each year as a celebration of citizen volunteer action. This award program focuses attention on businesses, organizations, schools, and individuals whose service is considered a model for others to emulate. The winners are selected because their efforts and leadership have made a significant difference in the quality of life for Maine residents.

Gardiner Federal Credit Union received the Small Business Volunteerism Award for commitment to supporting its local community not only with monetary and food contributions, but also the skills of its employees. Through the "Kirby Kangaroo" program, kindergarten and first graders learn why it is important to save money and practice money skills. GFCU and Laura Richards School have partnered to establish savings accounts for students.

The Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism were established in 1986. The presentation ceremony is held at the Capitol each year during National Volunteer Week in April. The award program is managed for the Governor's Office by the Maine Commission for Community Service.

(Caption for attached picture: Vicki Larrabee, President of Gardiner Federal Credit Union is presented with the Small Business Volunteerism Award from First Lady Ann LePage).

