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- Waived upgrade fee

Available to new and existing Sprint customers. Enjoy the perks, benefits and exclusive discounts that only credit union members like you can receive. 3 Ways to Get Your Discount: Call 877.SAVE.4CU (877.728.3428) and let them know you're • 10% off most regularly priced Sprint individual service plans a credit union member. Visit www.SprintSave4CU.com, or • 15% off most regularly priced Sprint business service plans your nearest Sprint store.



PO Box 25587 Albuquerque, NM 87125 - 0587



# **BRANCH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Memorial Day: Closed Monday, May 28th Independence Day: Closed Wednesday, July 4th

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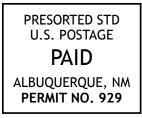
Vote Online at www.ffnm.org or see enclosed paper ballot in your statement. oting will run through April 1st to May 11th

# Annual Meeting

### At the Natural History Museum Wednesday, May 16th at 6pm - 9pm

Bring your family to tour the Natural History Museum, watch the 3D movie Sea Rex Journey to a Prehistoric World. Enjoy live entertaiment, and hear from the Board of Directors about the results of the 2012 BOD Election, and what has been happening within your Credit Union.

Tickets are \$1.00 and all proceeds go to the Children's Miracle Network. Seats are limited so go into any branch to purchase your ticket today!



# Financial

**First**Financial

CREDIT UNION

Labor Day: Closed Monday, September 3rd Columbus Day: Closed Monday, October 8th Veterans Day: Closed Monday, November 12th

IRST FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION NEWSLETTER • SPRING - SUMMER OF 20 Cover photograph by m

#### Albuquerque / Rio Rancho Banches

Downtown 601 Tijeras NW Juan Tabo 831 Juan Tabo Blvd. NE, Suite A South Valley 1625 Rio Bravo Blvd. SW, Suite 6 San Mateo 2700 San Mateo NE Rio Rancho 2201 Rio Rancho Blvd. SE Coors 2929 Coors Blvd. NW, Suite 104 Albuquerque/Rio Rancho office lobby hours: Monday – Thursday 8:50am to 5:30pm Friday 8:50am to 6:00pm Saturday (San Mateo, Coors & Rio Rancho and Juan Tabo only) 9:00am to 2:00pm Drive-up hours: (San Mateo & Rio Rancho only) Monday – Thursday 8:30am to 5:30pm Friday 8:30am to 6:00pm Saturday 9:00am to 2:00pm

#### **Gallup Branches**

Boardman Office 313 S. Boardman Monday – Thursday 8:50am to 5:00pm Friday 8:50am to 6:00pm Mesa View Office 1383 N. Highway 491 Monday - Thursday 8:30am to 5:00pm\* Friday 8:30am to 6:00pm\* Saturday 9am to 1:00pm \*Drive up opens at 8:00am Monday – Friday

Pine Hill Branch Pine Hill Market, Route 125 Monday & Thursday 8:50am to 5:00pm\* Friday 9:50am to 6:00pm\* \*Closed from 1:00pm to 2:00pm for lunch

Zuni Branch 1202 East Highway 53 Monday - Thursday 8:50am to 5:00pm\* Friday 9:50am to 6:00pm\* \*Closed from 1:00pm to 2:00pm for lunch

#### Portales Branch 700 W 2nd

Monday - Thursday 8:50am to 5:00pm\* Friday 8:30am to 6:00pm\* \*Drive-up opens at 8:30am Monday–Friday Farmington Branch 4919 East Main St., Suite 103 Monday - Thursday 8:50am to 5:00pm\* Friday 8:50am to 6:00pm\* Saturday 9am to 2:00pm \*Drive-up opens at 8:30am Monday – Friday

#### Phone numbers

Albuquerque Office 766-5600, TDD 768-7138 Gallup Office 722-6608 Portales Office 356-5530 Farmington Office 327-4478 Toll-free nationwide 1-800-342-8298 First Line 768-7126 First Line (Gallup Area) 722-7447 First Line (Portales) 359-1263 First Line (Farmington) 327-5300 First Line (Zuni) 782-2800 First Line Toll-Free 1-800-344-8115 CUE Downtown 768-7155, San Mateo 881-8515

#### **Board of Directors**

Chairperson - Cassie Kelley First Vice Chairperson - Pablo Rael Second Vice Chairperson - Vincent Esparza Secretary/Treasurer - John Sechrist

#### Directors

John Blumenthal, Ken Carson Sr., Loretta Montoya, Victor Padilla, Cathy Thomas

#### **Supervisory Committee**

Chairperson - Jennifer Walters Secretary - Gloria Herrera Supervisory Member - Olivia Jimenez



## Remember When.

• A new car cost under \$3000. • You had to be 21 to vote. Gas was 30c - or less - a gallon

- Times have changed, but loan rates are back to where they were 30 years ago! During our Remember When Promotion take advantage of these low rates.
- New Car Loans at 7.9%, Used Cars from 7.9% to 9.9% Travel Trailers, Boats and omes at 9.9%!

Extended terms, too. At Your Cred won now r 20th.



# 75 YEARS AND COUNTING!

# WE HAVE OUR LOYAL **MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES** TO THANK FOR IT!

Following the depression in 1937 ten employees from Mountain Bell organized their first meeting of the Credit Union on December 10th. They formed a federal credit union that was limited to Mountain Bell employees. Mrs. Stella Snyder was elected as the first President of a five member Board. There was a \$5.00 share requirement; loans were limited to \$100.00 secured, \$50.00 unsecured with interest at 1% per month.

In 1984, we merged with Albuquerque Publishing Company FCU, which brought in 550 members. In 1985, we merged with **Employment Security Department CU**, adding another 700 members. In 1986, we participated in a forced merged with Tijeras

FCU, adding 125 members. In 1986, the credit union changed its name to the more generic First Financial of New Mexico FCU, done to reflect the increasing diversity of the membership.

First Financial has been around for 75 years, and we have our loyal members and employees to thank for it! Loretta Trujillo has been an employee with First Financial for 35 years! She was hired in 1978 as a teller (when she was all of 22 years old), and held many different job titles throughout the years, including the title of the best three point shooter on the credit union's basketball team!

Today Loretta is the VP of Member Relations, and both members and employees have become family to her. Loretta loves working for First Financial, "The idea of people helping people made me love working for a credit union," she said.

At First Financial Credit Union we strive to make sure that our members come FIRST. Peggy Blackburn and her husband James, have been members of First Financial for many years. Her husband James worked for the phone company.

and opened his account in 1946! We look forward to serving our current and new members for many years to come. Thank you for being a member and helping us reach 75 years!





WEEKLY \$75 VISA GIFT CARD GIVEAWAYS! Every week First Financial Credit Union will be giving away a \$75 Visa Gift Card to a lucky member who is signed up for eStatements!



#### 75 SECONDS TO CATCH THE CASH!\*

A lucky member, who is signed up for eStatements will have 75 seconds in the money booth to catch the flying cash! Each month a member will be chosen from a different branch.

LAR BUDGET			<b>E</b>
DOLLAR	Fold the bill in half and then unfold it.	Fold in both sides to meet the middle. Tuck tabs under main triangle.	Tur toj
<b>PASSER ON A</b>	PHILE P.		
TIME	Flatten this triangle. It should look like a small kite.	Unfold the kite and use the creases to create your diamond.	Tu othe



# **AVOID BUYER'S REMORSE**

## TIPS ON MAKING YOUR NEW VEHICLE PURCHASE A GOOD DECISION A MESSAGE FROM FFCU'S PRESIDENT BEN HEYWARD

As many of you know the Great Recession has prompted many Americans to hold on to their vehicles longer than normal. Now that many of us are beginning to see some improvement in our overall financial future, car buying is beginning to increase. Sometimes however, being bitten by the "new car bug" can blind our judgment when it comes to what is the best vehicle to buy. So, I share some tips on how you might avoid mistakes commonly made when buying a new vehicle.

NEGLECTING TO PERFORM A THOROUGH TEST DRIVE: Don't be guilty of "Love at First Sight" by assuming that a vehicle drives as good as it looks. Take your time test driving it. Take it on the highway, as well as city streets. If you have children, take them along as well to ensure they are comfortable in it. Check for visibility, maneuverability, acceleration and overall driving ease.

SELECT THE OPTIONS AND FEATURES YOU REALLY WANT AND NEED: Do you need navigation? If you tend to use your phone while driving you may insist on the vehicle having automatic cell phone "hands free" connectivity. Does it have cup holders? If you haul children or pets on a regular basis you may want to think twice about the expense of leather seats. What about towing packages and models with extra cargo space? Is a diesel engine the right choice for you?

> UYING EXTENDED WARRANTIES: Dealers offer legitimate extended warranties, but do you really need them? Remember, new vehicles and many used ones come with warranties when you purchase them. However if you are purchasing a vehicle that doesn't have a warranty, First Financial has some affordable options. We offer lower cost, premium protection plans that will provide you protection against mechanical breakdowns beyond your existing manufacturer's warranty. We also offer Guaranteed Asset Protection (GAP) which covers the deficiency loss on your loan in the even of a total loss in an accident.loan in the even of a total loss in an accident.

KNOW WHAT FINANCING YOU QUALIFY FOR BEFORE YOU SHOP: Like many of us, you plan to keep this vehicle a long time, so don't make a long term mistake by paying a higher payment than you need. Get pre-gualified with First Financial Credit Union to know the amount, interest rate and terms you deserve. Remember, your credit union is a gualified lender – not the dealer.

**NEGOTIATE ONE THING AT A TIME:** Often enough, the dealer will present a "package deal" with your trade in, your new purchase with all the options you may not need, and the financing they can offer all at one time. My advice to you – break it down. Talk about the amount they are offering on your trade in separately from the purchase. Then negotiate the new purchase with the options you really want and need. Then talk about the financing you already

know about to maximize your overall decision.

Remember, First Financial Credit Union is always available to help you with your new vehicle purchase. Why don't you take us for a "test drive" and see how much money we can help you save on your next vehicle?

# **IS THIS YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN?** Build Your CUE Financial Group, Inc.® Plan with A SEC Registered Investment Advisor

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diamond ring!

**FFCU PRIZE** 

your ring.

**First**Financial

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CREDIT UNION