

NEWS QUARTERLY

Spring 2018



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La'Tefah McMillian, Teller

Upcoming Holiday Closings

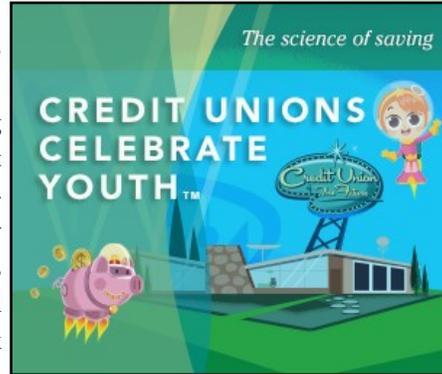
Memorial Day	May 28
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	Sept. 3
Columbus Day	Oct. 8
Veterans' Day	Nov. 12
Thanksgiving Day	Nov. 22
Christmas Day	Dec. 25

April is YOUTH MONTH!

Every child dreams about their future. Some of those dreams may require money to come true. How do you help your children achieve their dreams?

One way is to help them learn how to save their money.

In April, 1st MS FCU is celebrating Youth Month, which is a program that helps teach and encourage kids to develop good financial habits. Every member under the age of 18 who opens a new account from April 1st through April 30th will receive a coloring book and a pencil, PLUS they will be entered into our weekly drawing for a \$25



McDonald's gift certificate available at both our Meridian and Quitman locations.

The theme this year is "The Science of Saving," showcasing fun, sci-fi-inspired characters. Science has proven that if you start with small goals, sav-

ing your money can become a regular habit. This year's Youth Month inspires children to begin saving the money they earn so they can attain their dreams of a happy future. Bring your child in today to start saving for a lifetime!

Need a Debit Card Right NOW?

Did you know that 1st MS offers instant-issue debit cards on the day you open your account with us? It's easy, just walk in to our Meridian office, open an account and walk out with your ready to use debit card! Debit cards work just like a credit card, but funds are deducted from your checking

The Spring Market is in FULL BLOOM

Spring has sprung! Let 1st MS easily help open the door to your very own home! Spring is a great time to begin cleaning up and completing home projects or looking for a new location. We can easily help you fulfill your dreams by financing your new home or refinance your existing home to complete those home projects you've wanted to do. By financing with 1st MS you are guaranteed an easy online

account automatically, so there is no need to worry about monthly payments or finance charges. You can also use your 1st MS debit card to get cash quickly from one of our designated ATM's. All of your transactions show up on your monthly account statement for easy tracking. If your debit card has been lost or stolen, call us immediately at 601-693-6873 or 1-800-523-4175 for us to turn it off and issue another one **NOW!**

application for in-house or secondary market loans, local approval process, and great fixed or adjustable rate mortgages on construction, conventional, VA, FHA or USDA loans. Call 601-484-5630 or come in and ask to speak to Sherri, our Mortgage Specialist, to begin making your home dreams come true!

** Loans are secured by real estate and are available on primary member residences (single-family, owner-occupied, detached swellings, condos, or townhouses). Some restrictions may apply. Rates are subject to change without notice. Loans issued subject to credit review.

1st ADVANTAGE CHECKING ACCOUNT

Our 1st Advantage Checking Account is for members who are 55 and older. One of the great advantages to this account is that you receive dividends on balances of \$500 or more. Plus, you will receive one **FREE** box of checks per year, 2 **FREE** money orders and official checks per month and a **\$10** discount on a safe deposit box! Not to mention you still have access to our **FREE** mobile banking and **FREE** instant-issue debit card if yours is ever lost or stolen. This checking account is just one of the many ways we at 1st MS FCU can help you manage your life plus earn and save you money. Stop in today to speak to one of our Member Service Representatives to hear about our other endless products we have to offer.

Protect Your Vehicles with Products You Can Trust

When you finance your vehicle with 1st MS you can trust your investment is safe with us by purchasing an affordable GAP and/or a mechanical breakdown protection policy with us.

GAP

Guaranteed Asset Protection, or GAP, is a voluntary, non-insurance program offered as protection on a new or used vehicle that is financed by our members. It is a supplemental benefit that enhances, rather than replaces, their standard comprehensive, collision, or liability coverage. GAP waives the difference between their primary insurance carrier's settlement and the payoff of their loan. In other words, it protects the "gap" between their vehicle's value and the amount they still owe the credit union in the case it is damaged beyond repair or stolen and never recovered.

In the event of a total loss or theft, GAP waives the difference between the primary insurance carrier insurance settlement and the payoff of the loan, less delinquent payments (unless noted in the credit unions current GAP coverage), late charges, refundable service warranty contracts and other insurance

related charges. Included in the deficiency balance is the member's deductible up to \$1,000. GAP not only protects our members, it also protects the credit union from unpaid loans.

MBP

Mechanical Breakdown Protection



(MBP) by AssureGuard is another way to protect our members. An AssureGuard MBP protects them from inflation of rising repair labor rates, keeps them from spending money out of pocket for repairs and it also protects them from being without their vehicle should it break down. AssureGuard provides roadside assistance, trip interruption and rental benefits should their vehicle be in the shop for a covered repair. It also provides paintless dent repair and windshield repair as added benefits. They are designed just for credit union members; they cannot get protection like this anywhere but the credit union. This also means they save hundreds of dollars verses buying protection elsewhere. And in protecting our members, we protect the credit union as well in the event of repossession. It gives everyone peace of mind.

Money Management: A Family Affair

Oftentimes, there is one person in the family who handles the money – balancing the checkbook, paying the bills, providing allowances, etc. That job can be very stressful if that person does not have the support and understanding from every member of the family. Indeed, a healthy and open approach to money management is good for the entire family.

Set Goals Together: The most successful family budgets start with establishing goals. For example, if everyone agrees that the goal is to save for a vacation, developing that goal may make it easier to resist overspending on entertainment, shopping or dining out. Once the family agrees on a goal, post it in a place where the family can see it every day. The refrigerator or message boards are good places. The idea is to encourage and

inspire everyone to stay focused and on track. Be creative by posting pictures of that vacation destination, and include attractions that the whole family will enjoy.

Involve Kids at a Young Age:

Should you include children in the budgeting process? While your children may not need to know how much you earn, or how much your mortgage payment is, it is still important to teach them that money is necessary to provide for the needs and wants of the family.

A great way to teach young children about anything is through playing, and budgeting is no exception. There are all sorts of games available to help young children learn about money management and budgeting, from traditional board games to apps you can download on your phone for them to play. Reading books about money management written for young children is another fantastic idea. For many families, giving the children an

allowance provides a great opportunity to teach about goal setting, making choices, consumerism, and of course budgeting.

Consider including your school-age child in the discussion of one budget category at first. Select a category such as entertainment, and discuss choices that would help achieve or not achieve the family goal. Teaching your children wise money management skills will give them a strong foundation to build upon. Too often, children are not taught these skills and are left to learn the hard way as adults, sometimes after making costly mistakes. We encourage you to teach your children wise money management, goal setting and budgeting. It may prove to be the greatest return on investment you will ever receive!



Welcome Our New Hires and Promotions

We are pleased to announce the hiring and promotions of three employees at 1st MS FCU.



La'Tefah McMillian has recently joined our team as Teller at our Quitman Branch. She has over 4 years of cashier experience in the food industry.



Tiffany Grace has been promoted to our Member Service Department. Tiffany recently held the position of Teller since she joined us June 2017 with over 5 years of financial knowledge.



LaKesha Williams now serves as Recovery Specialist. LaKesha began her career with us in May of 2016 as a Teller, with over 4 years in collections and finance experience.

Hours

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and the first Wednesday of the month.

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM on all other Wednesdays.

Main Office

600 19th Avenue, Meridian, MS

TEL: 601-693-6873 FAX: 601-693-5188

mainoffice@1stms.com

Quitman Office

212 South Archusa Avenue, Quitman, MS

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