

A NEW LEADER TAKES THE REINS

CEO/President is Experienced Leader

2

NWFCU ELECTION
INFORMATION

3

TAX SEASON IS
HERE...ARE YOU READY?

On January 1, Gerrienne Burks officially became NWFCU CEO/President, a natural move for this financial industry veteran and accomplished strategist.



Gerrienne Burks launched her 36-year career as a teller at NWFCU and was quickly identified as a leader and a problem solver. Advancing through numerous management roles, she has

served as Human Resources Manager, Deputy for Member Branches, Vice President Member Services and Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer. During her 5-year tenure as EVP/COO, she made significant, positive impacts on the financial stability, growth, profitability and member satisfaction of NWFCU.

In addition to her extensive hands-on experience, Ms. Burks has completed several training, educational and executive development programs. She graduated from the Credit Union Executive Society's CEO Institute, where she earned the designation Certified Chief Executive (CCE) upon completion of this 3-year program. She also serves on the boards of Northwest Financial LLC, Northwest Financial Group, LLC, and the Northwest Foundation.

Ms. Burks says she's ready for the challenges ahead and is passionate about

upholding the Credit Union's reputation for quality personal service and maintaining sound financial stability. "My years at Northwest Federal have been very rewarding both personally and professionally. I have a high regard for Juri Valdov, my predecessor, and I thank him for the guidance he has given me and his vision for NWFCU. As we move into 2008, NWFCU will strive to remain the first choice for financial services for our member-owners. We have a very talented staff, a dedicated and committed Board of Directors, and most importantly a very loyal membership to ensure our Credit Union's continued success."

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ABCs OF CREDIT CARDS

Jan. 9 (6:30pm-8:00pm)
Enterprise Bldg., Herndon
Register at www.nwfcu.org
or call 703-709-8900, ext. 6487

BLOOD DRIVE

Jan. 18 (9:00am-3:00pm)
Enterprise II Bldg., Herndon
Schedule your appointment
at www.nwfcu.org/donate
or call 703-709-8900, ext. 6606

FINDING & FINANCING A HOME IN TODAY'S MARKET

Jan. 26 (9:00am-11:00am)
Enterprise Bldg., Herndon
Register at www.nwfcu.org
or call 703-709-8921, option 7.

HOME SELLING

Feb. 23 (9:00am-11:00am)
Enterprise Bldg., Herndon
Register at www.nwfcu.org
or call 703-709-8921, option 7

Free* CARFAX Reports with Used Car Loan/Lease

If you're getting a used car, be sure to order a CARFAX report from us first. Find out if the car you're interested in has an accident history, flood damage or other serious issue that could be a potential problem down the road. Visit www.nwfcu.org and click on 'Auto Services' to request a free* vehicle history report (\$24.99 retail value).


*Your NWFCU account will be charged \$8.99 to run the CARFAX report. If you finance the vehicle through NWFCU, \$8.99 will be refunded following loan disbursement.

2008 Election Nominees

The Nominating Committee has produced a slate of candidates to fill the three vacancies on the Board of Directors.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AWR
AVIEL Systems, Inc.
Rachel Carson Middle
School PTA
Zenetex, LLC



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
Mon., Jan. 21

PRESIDENTS' DAY
Mon., Feb. 18



Additional candidates can be added to the ballot by petition process. Candidates must be credit union members in good standing. Petition documents must be signed by at least 500 members, each of whom must include their full name and account number. Petitions must be accompanied by the nominee's biographical data and qualifications, a signed testimonial from the nominee that he or she agrees to the nomination, and a brief statement confirming that he or she will serve if elected.

Materials should be sent to Northwest Federal Credit Union, attention Donna Bruce, P.O. Box 1229, Herndon, VA 20172-1229, to arrive no later than February 25, 2008. If the petitions are valid and the paperwork complete, the nominee will be added to the 2008 ballot.

For more information about the petition or nomination process, contact Donna Bruce at 703-709-8900 or 1-800-336-3384 (toll-free), extension 6413.

Nominees for the Board of Directors:

Tom Conroy, Dawn Eilenberger, Karl Jensen, Jeannette Moore and John Nelson.

Ballots will be distributed by mail and may also be obtained at the

branches. Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting which will be held at 10:00 am on April 12, 2008 at the Westin Tysons Corner Hotel (formerly the Doubletree Hotel).

2008 Election Calendar

Monday, Feb. 25, 2008: Last date NWFCU can accept a petition.

Monday, Apr. 7, 2008: Midnight deadline for final ballots received by Tellers of Election.

Saturday, Apr. 12, 2008: Election results announced at the Annual Meeting, Westin Tysons Corner Hotel.

— Cynthia Strand
Nominating Committee Chair

NEST EGGS START HERE

Give your children or grandchildren a financial head start with a custodial account. As custodian of the account, you choose when to give the child control of the funds (age 18 or 21), how much to put into the account, how the money is invested and how earnings are reinvested. Visit www.nwfcu.org for more details or stop by any branch.

Better Features to Meet Your Needs

CHECKING ACCOUNTS ARE CHANGING ON FEBRUARY 1

In response to member feedback, we've revamped our checking accounts to better meet your specific needs and lifestyle. Beginning February 1, we'll have four all-new, improved checking accounts featuring exciting new benefits and options. See this month's insert to compare the benefits of each account.

Your existing checking account will automatically be converted to the one that will give you maximum benefits. Your account number will stay the same, and you won't have to do a thing other than enjoy your new benefits, including an **unlimited number of completely free ATM transactions at more than 25,000 CO-OP Network and Alliance One ATMs.**

If you'd like to begin enjoying your new benefits today, or if you'd like to choose a different checking account type, contact our Call Center at 703-709-8901 (1-866-709-8901 toll-free) or stop by any branch.

Let Us Help You Get Ready for Tax Season

The New Year is here; a time to think about fresh starts, resolutions and yes...taxes!



Before you panic, we're here to help alleviate your tax season frustrations. Below are some simple tips that will help you avoid common mistakes, and maximize your return.

Avoid the Most Common Errors:

- **File electronically.** Many common errors are avoided or corrected by the computer software.
- **Check only one filing status.** And check the appropriate exemption boxes. Enter the correct Social Security numbers for each of those exemptions.
- **Double check the numbers.** Watch for math errors, inaccurate Social Security numbers, and incorrect routing and account numbers for direct deposit.

Commonly Missed Deductions*

- **Education credits and deductions.** Students may qualify for credits and deductions for college tuition. Teachers may be able to deduct up to \$250 in expenses for classroom books, computer equipment and supplies.
- **Student loan interest.** An independent child may qualify to deduct up to \$2,500 in student loan interest, even if it's paid by mom and dad.
- **Military reservists travel expenses.** Members of the National Guard or military reserve may earn a deduction for travel expenses.

If you need help planning for or preparing your taxes, you can trust Northwest Financial LLC's experienced tax advisors. Through DeLeon & Stang, certified public accountants, NWFCU members receive discounted rates on tax preparation, free electronic filing, and a free mid-year tax review. In addition, they can help you develop tax planning strategies as part of your overall financial plan.

If you're the type to tackle taxes on your own, Northwest Financial LLC also offers TurboTax® OnlineSM. This online tax preparation program provides easy step-by-step guidance and tax savings tools. Plus, you can use e-file and direct deposit to get your refund in as little as 9 days!

For assistance with your tax planning and preparation needs, contact Northwest Financial LLC at (703) 810-1072, ext. 110, or via email at contact@nwflc.com.

*For specific details and qualifications regarding these and other deductions, visit [IRS.gov](http://www.irs.gov). TurboTax® and TurboTax Online, among others, are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Intuit Inc. in the United States and other countries. Resources: <http://www.kiplinger.com> and www.irs.gov.

NEW! Credit Card for Students

INTRODUCING FIRSTCARD

Our new FirstCard Visa Platinum is specially designed for members age 15-22. A reasonable credit limit, fixed 9.99% APR*, and no annual fee makes it a great opportunity for younger members to experience their own purchasing power while learning how to use credit responsibly. Members age 15-17 will need a co-signer to apply for a \$250 credit limit; members age 18-22 can apply on their own for a FirstCard with a \$1,000 credit limit. All applicants will also need to pass an online "Credit Matters" course that instructs on how to use credit wisely and how to avoid financial pitfalls. For more details and to apply, visit www.nwfcu.org or call 703-709-8901 or 1-866-709-8901 toll-free.

*Annual Percentage Rate.

UPCOMING SEMINAR

TAX PLANNING Strategies to Help You Keep More of What You Make

Thurs., Jan. 17
5:00pm-7:00pm

Enterprise Building,
Herndon, VA

Presented by Northwest Financial LLC, this seminar will review the key considerations for successful tax planning, including: available tax credits and breaks; tax advantages of private and employer retirement plans; dividends and capital gains. To register visit www.nwflc.com; contact@nwflc.com; or call 703-810-1072, ext. 109.

NEW! 25,000 FREE ATMS NATIONWIDE

We now offer an unlimited number of completely free ATM transactions at more than 25,000 Alliance One and CO-OP Network ATMs nationwide — that means no surcharge fees and no NWFCU fees! To find a free ATM near you, visit www.nwfcu.org and use our ATM locator wizard.

SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE

The NWFCU Foundation is selling note cards featuring artwork from Children's Hospitals' patients. All proceeds from note card sales will benefit Children's Miracle Network. Stop by an NWFCU branch to purchase yours (\$10 for set of 8 note cards & envelopes).