

SIGNALS

NEW DIRECTIONS IN FINANCIAL SERVICES



FIRST BANK

The one who's here.



Southeast communities benefit from recent First Bank funding

Several organizations throughout Southeast Alaska received funding this past summer from First Bank's Community Development programs. In addition to standard donations, First Bank offers Community Development Grants up to \$5,000 and Community Service Awards up to \$3,000. Some of the organizations that received recent funding this summer include:

SITKA

- **Friends of the Kettleton Memorial Library** — grant that will help fund the library expansion project.
- **University of Alaska Sitka campus** — grant for scholarships to help pay for tuition or textbooks for students close to obtaining their degrees.
- **Ventures** — grant for operating funds toward its licensed before- and after-school program for children.

WRANGELL

- **Irene Ingle Public Library** — grant for its summer reading program.
- **Johnson O'Malley Program** — grant to help meet its objectives for its free after-school program.

PETERSBURG

- **Petersburg Medical Center** — grant to enable the medical center to partner with Petersburg City Schools to offer a certified nursing program in the high school.
- **Petersburg Public Library** — grant for its summer reading program.

JUNEAU

- **Extra Tuff Soccer Team** — Community Service Award for the team's efforts to assist with the "Only Fools Run at Midnight" event, a major fundraiser for Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL).

PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND

- **Prince of Wales Health Network** — grant to help fund several collaborative activities, including the Immunization Initiative, Green Dot Initiative, Suicide Prevention Task Force, Behavioral Health Coalition, elder and youth activities, veterans outreach and the annual Island-Wide Health Fair.
- **HOPE (Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies)** — grant for operating expenses to further provide safety, support and advocacy services to those impacted by domestic violence and/or sexual assault in all 12 communities on Prince of Wales Island.

SAXMAN

- **City of Saxman** — grant to help fund operating expenses.

KETCHIKAN

- **Tongass School of Arts and Sciences** — grant to purchase new library books.
- **Ketchikan High School Football Team** — Community Service Award for the team's work to collect 72 backpacks and school supplies for elementary school children.

For more information on First Bank's funding opportunities, contact the First Bank Community Development Office by calling (907) 228-4256 or emailing Community@FirstBankAK.com, or visit www.FirstBankAK.com/about-us/community-support.



Member FDIC

Put the value of your home back to work for you

During the economic recession, you may have wondered when your property would start to gain value again. In many markets, that time has come, and homeowners find themselves having more freedom to make important financial decisions.

A **First Advantage Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC)** can help leverage your investment to fund other priorities, such as paying for home improvement projects, a college education, medical expenses, a once-in-a-lifetime vacation or almost anything else for which you need funding.

With our First Advantage HELOC, you can access funds up to a predetermined amount. That means you can get the cash you need, when you need it. Also, you may choose to make interest-only payments during the five-year draw period. After that period, the outstanding balance will convert to a 15-year loan, so you can pay the balance over a longer term.

Consider these other benefits of a First Advantage HELOC:

- A low interest rate applies to only the money you use — and not a penny more.

- Pay it off and use it again.
- Access your HELOC and make payments online.
- The interest may be tax-deductible. (Check with your tax advisor whether you may deduct interest paid.)
- Our HELOCs are underwritten and processed locally.
- Our team of financial experts are committed to helping you achieve your individual goals.

There is no application fee to apply for a First Advantage HELOC. So contact any First Bank branch to learn more about these services or visit www.FirstBankAK.com.

After five years, your First Advantage HELOC converts to a 15-year loan, allowing you to pay off the balance over the long term.

Learn more about us at
www.FirstBankAK.com

Teach your child the responsibility of handling money wisely

Children figure out at an early age that money can buy toys, candy and other wonderful things. However, it usually takes a lot longer to learn how to spend money wisely.

As a parent, you can help your child understand the benefits and responsibilities of having a personal budget. Here are some tips that can help:

- 1. Develop the concept of money as “earnings.”** Give your child money when he or she earns it, whether as payment for completing chores or a reward for getting good grades in school.
- 2. Explain that the child’s resources are limited.** When your child wants to make a purchase, make sure that he or she knows that money spent will not be available later.
- 3. Raise a comparison shopper.** The lowest price is not always the best deal, and a high price does not always indicate the best quality.

- 4. Encourage savings.** Your child should understand that having a nest egg of savings is important — and that you don’t need to spend money to have fun.

Student Anytime Checking Account

Setting up a Student Anytime Checking Account at First Bank is another way to teach fiscal responsibility. Designed for 14- to 18-year-olds, this account can be opened with only a \$1 deposit and a valid email address.* To learn more, contact your local First Bank branch location or visit www.FirstBankAK.com.

In addition, talk to your First Bank branch manager about scheduling a “Teach Children to Save” class in your school or community!

*Account must be opened with a parent or legal guardian and with branch manager’s approval. The parent or guardian is the tax signor for the account.

