



**2025-2026**

# Academic Planner



**Firstmark**  
Credit Union®

# Education Grants

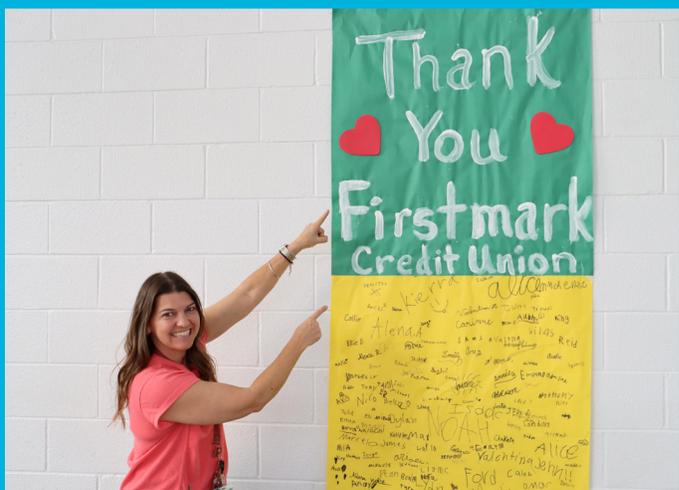
Applications Open | August 18 – October 14

Have an innovative idea to bring to life for your students? We want to help!

Apply for your chance to receive **\$1,000!**

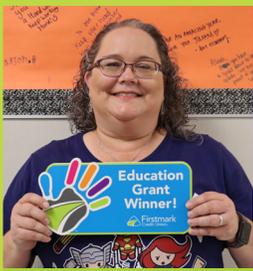


Firstmark **FOUNDATION**



The Firstmark Foundation is proud to help educators in San Antonio and the surrounding communities we serve through the Education Grant Program. Since 2008, Firstmark Credit Union, alongside the Foundation and Power of the Dollar® members, have awarded \$125,000 in grant funds to hundreds of local educators, which have been used to create sustainability within their classrooms and school districts.

# 2024-2025 Education Grant Winners!



**Alisha Stults**  
Memorial ES



**Amanda Combs**  
Kallison ES



**Andrea Colwell**  
Scobee ES



**Angela López García**  
Alamo Heights HS



**Angelena Watkins**  
Judson MS STEM



**Anna Sexton**  
McNair MS



**Bettina Bonsu**  
George Gervin Acad.



**Bonnie L. Garza**  
LaCoste ES



**Brandy González-Kee**  
Clark HS



**Darla White**  
Zachry MS



**Dr. James Hernandez**  
Terrell Wells MS



**Eliza Vela**  
Longfellow MS



**Karen Wilcox**  
Northwood ES



**Leticia McNabb**  
Villarreal ES



**Melinda Valdez**  
Beard ES



**Natalie Stuart**  
Mead ES



**Samantha Santos**  
Colonial Hills ES



**Sarah Lankford**  
Vale MS



**Shirley G. Tucker**  
La Vernia IS



**Valerie Valencia**  
Ingenuity ES

Read more about  
their projects here





# Firstmark FOUNDATION™

*Rooted in Education, Powered by Members*



The Firstmark Foundation continues to make exceptional strides in building a positive presence throughout San Antonio and the surrounding area by providing education grants, student scholarships, high impact grants, and essential funding for important initiatives that help create sustainability within the education system. As an extension of the credit union founded by teachers on the philosophy of people helping people, the Foundation remains mission-focused and committed more than ever to giving back to our schools.

Alongside Power of the Dollar® members, the Foundation awarded \$100,000 to Alamo Colleges in March 2025, which will be used to support students' financial education. In addition, the Foundation gave 20 educators \$1,000 each in grant funds in December 2024, helping to provide resources for their students. They also pledged \$20,000 in student scholarships, handed out 1,000 turkeys at their fourth annual Turkeys for Teachers, and donated nearly \$2,000 to schools during their classroom supply drive last year.



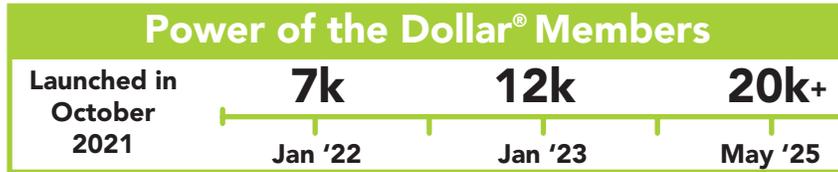
"The Firstmark Foundation's ability to give back to our education community would not be possible without the credit union's Power of the Dollar® members, who generously contribute to help our schools thrive. The momentum we have is unwavering, and seeing everyone come together to make a difference has been both inspiring and fortuitous."

**Marisa Pérez-Díaz**

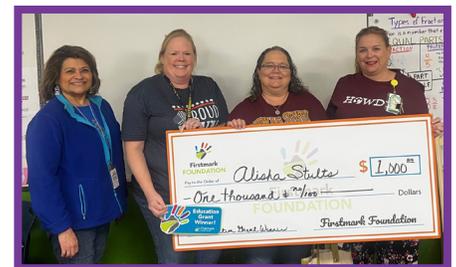
Executive Director, Firstmark Foundation

The ONE Checking Account Powering Education

Power of the Dollar® Checking includes premium money-saving benefits and a \$1 impact fee that goes directly to the Firstmark Foundation.



**Eliza Vela, SAISD**  
Education Grant Winner



**Alisha Stults, NBISD**  
Education Grant Winner

Firstmark Foundation

Making an Impact Together

Dedicated to making a tangible, positive impact through the collective giving of our members, together, we will create pathways that lead to better lives and stronger communities.



**SAMSAT**  
High Impact Grant



**Amanda Combs, NISD**  
Education Grant Winner



**Rogers Middle School**  
Classroom Supply Drive

Rooted in Education, Powered by Members

The Firstmark Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) public charity focused on giving back to the education community. Firstmark Credit Union, the Foundation, and Power of the Dollar® members have collectively given:

**\$145,000**  
Education Grants  
Since '08

**\$420,000**  
High Impact Grants  
Since '21

**\$345,000**  
Scholarships  
Since '94



Serving These Texas Counties

Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Blanco, Caldwell, Comal, Crockett, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, LaSalle, Llano, Mason, McMullen, Medina, Maverick, Sutton, Terrell, Val Verde, Wilson, Zavala

In partnership with **HUB Investment Partners**, financial wellness experts specializing in TRS and serving over 600 Texas School Districts.



WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



You're building  
futures.  
Keep going!

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14 National Financial Awareness Day

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# Educator Solutions

## Your Loan Library

### Classroom Supply Loan

Cover the cost of classroom expenses during the school year.

✓ APR is 0.00%<sup>1</sup>

### Sallie Mae® Student Loan

New flexible, private student loan products designed to fit your needs.

✓ Competitive Rates



**Educators get a**  
**.25%<sup>2</sup>**  
**discount on**  
**Auto Loans!**

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## Plan Early for Retirement!

Saving today will put you on the right track to retire on-time. Firstmark partners with HUB to help with just that.

### HUB's Retirement Calculator

$$\text{Years of Service} \times \text{State Multiplier (2.3\%)} \times \text{Average 3-5 Highest Years of Income} = \text{Maximum Benefit}$$



Visit [tcgservices.com/firstmark](https://tcgservices.com/firstmark)  
or call (210) 741-7824.

1. APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Accurate as of 06/17/2025. Membership with Firstmark Credit Union required. Must be an active and certified K-12 teacher in a public or a private school to qualify. Rates and terms are subject to change without prior notice. Loan amount is \$500. Maximum term is ten (10) months. Payment example: On a 10-month loan for \$500 at 0.00% APR, you would make ten (10) payments of \$50. All loans are subject to credit approval.

2. APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Accurate as of 06/17/2025. 0.25% discount available for education members. Used auto cannot exceed 120,000 miles. Subject to change. Conditions apply. See [firstmarkcu.org](https://firstmarkcu.org) for more details.

# Power of the Dollar<sup>®</sup>

Your Power of the Dollar<sup>®</sup> membership helps the Firstmark Foundation to fund initiatives that enrich the schools in our community!

✓ **Loan Discounts**

✓ **ATM Refunds**

**MAX**

**Plus**

**Power of the Dollar<sup>®</sup>**

✓ **Money Returns**

✓ **Community Impact**



**Firstmark**  
**FOUNDATION<sup>™</sup>**

The Firstmark Foundation teams up with Power of the Dollar<sup>®</sup> members to give back to our local schools and education communities. You're not just receiving financial benefits – you're helping fellow educators and their students across San Antonio and surrounding areas.



# September '25

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## AUGUST 2025

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## OCTOBER 2025

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### SUNDAY



Remember to celebrate your wins—no matter how small.

### MONDAY

1 Labor Day  
Credit Union Closed

### TUESDAY

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8 International Literacy Day

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15 National Hispanic Heritage Month Begins

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WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	5	6
10	11	12	13
17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27



## Education Grant Season

Now is your shot at \$1,000!

To apply: [firstmarkcu.org/foundation/education-grants](http://firstmarkcu.org/foundation/education-grants)

*Applications due October 14. Pro tip: you can't win if you don't apply!*



WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1 National Principals Month

2 National Custodian Appreciation Day

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15 National Hispanic Heritage Month Ends

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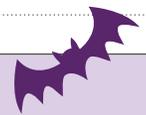
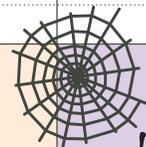
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31 Halloween



Let's remember-  
Batty  
is a valid teaching  
style this month.



November '25

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY



# Turkeys For Teachers

## November 8



2 Daylight Saving Time Ends	3	4
9	10	11 Veterans Day Credit Union Closed
16	17	18
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**OCTOBER 2025**

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**DECEMBER 2025**

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27	28	29	30	31		



WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

# Skip-a-Payment



Holiday shopping is upon us !!!

Gift yourself some extra cash by giving us a call at (210) 442-0199.

To apply online: [firstmarkcu.org/member-benefits](https://firstmarkcu.org/member-benefits)

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8 Turkeys For Teachers



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Educational Support Professionals Appreciation Day

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27 Thanksgiving Day  
Credit Union Closed

28 Thanksgiving Holiday (Extended)  
Credit Union Closed

29 Small Business Saturday

December '25

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>Don't forget. You're someone's favorite teacher.</p>	1	2
<p>7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</p>	8	9
<p>14 Hanukkah Begins</p>	15	16
21	<p>22 Hanukkah Ends</p>	23
28	29	30

**NOVEMBER 2025**

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**JANUARY 2026**

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WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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5 Firstmark Celebrates 93 Years

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24 Christmas Eve  
Credit Union Closed

25 Christmas Day  
Credit Union Closed

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31 New Year's Eve  
Credit Union  
Closes at 1:00 p.m.



**Holiday Shopping with a Firstmark Credit Card!**

Unwrap your new card at [firstmarkcu.org/credit-cards](http://firstmarkcu.org/credit-cards) or give us a call at (210) 442-0100.

# Congratulations

## Educator of the Month

In partnership with KSAT 12



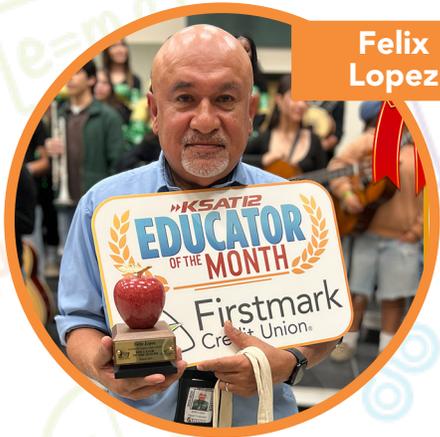
Sam Arrieta



Jennifer Peña



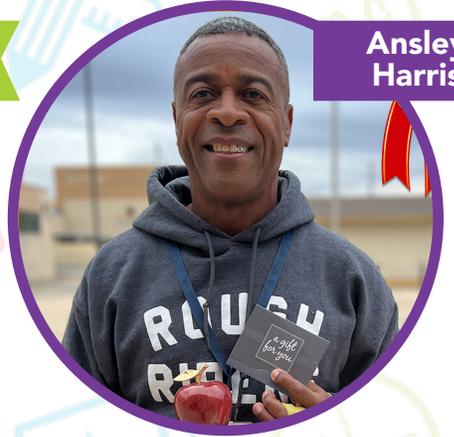
Wesley Bauerschlag



Felix Lopez



Siobhan Hughes



Ansley Harris



Brittany Mapel



Elyssa Fields



Susanna Hernandez

To all the winners!

## Teacher of the Game

In partnership with Spurs Sports & Entertainment



Gabriela Rodriguez



Angela Detlaff



Katya Solis



Jennifer Grimes



Miguel Hernandez

## Educator of the Quarter

In partnership with Wilson County News



Paul Kirby



Rachel Goddard



Cynthia Sutton



Kathy Silva

January '26

- Open Checking Account at Firstmark
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DECEMBER 2025

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FEBRUARY 2026

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY



# New Year, New Checking Account

Start your New Year's Resolution off right with a new checking account at Firstmark.

Visit [firstmarkcu.org/checking](http://firstmarkcu.org/checking) today!

4	5	6
11	12	13
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Credit Union Closed	20
25	26	27



**WEDNESDAY**



Make this your year.  
I believe in you!

**THURSDAY**

1 New Year's Day  
Credit Union Closed

**FRIDAY**

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**SATURDAY**

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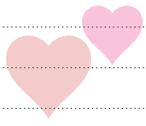
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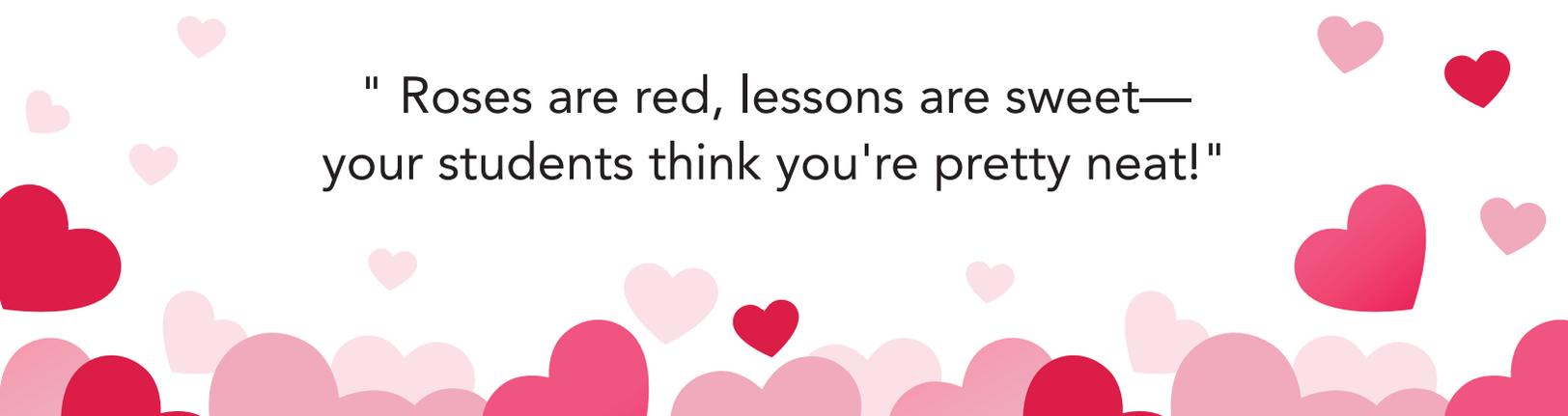
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WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5	6 National Wear Red Day	7
11	12 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Begins	13	14 Valentine's Day 
18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28

"Roses are red, lessons are sweet—  
your students think you're pretty neat!"



# March '26

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
1 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Ends	2	3
8	9	10
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
22	23	24
29	30	31 César Chávez Day

## FEBRUARY 2026

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## APRIL 2026

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WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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19 Ramadan Ends

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**You're in luck— It's just a buck!**  
**Power of the Dollar<sup>®</sup>**

Enjoy exclusive benefits for just \$1/month. Call (210) 442-0100 or stop by your nearest Firstmark location today!



April '26

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**MARCH 2026**

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**MAY 2026**

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY



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19	20	21
26	Fiesta San Antonio Ends	27
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**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

1 Passover Begins

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3 Good Friday

4 National School Librarian Day

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9 Passover Ends

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16 Fiesta San Antonio Begins

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22 Earth Day

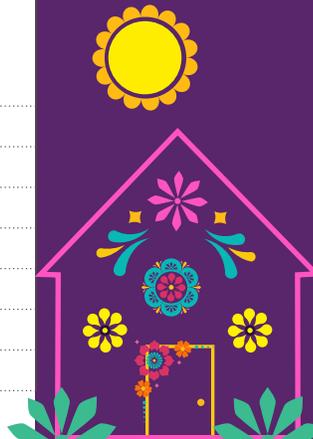
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24 Battle of Flowers

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# Home Equity Loan

Who knew your home could consolidate your debt?! Give us a call at (210) 442-0199 to find out how.



May '26

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**APRIL 2026**

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**JUNE 2026**

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**SUNDAY**
**MONDAY**
**TUESDAY**



**They see you rollin' into an Auto Loan from Firstmark!**

Visit [firstmarkcu.org/auto](http://firstmarkcu.org/auto) to learn more or give us a call at (210) 442-0199 to start cruising today.

3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo
10 Mother's Day	11	12
17	18	19
24	25 Memorial Day Credit Union Closed	26
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WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



May this new month bring you renewed energy and inspiration!

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6 School Nurse Day

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16 Armed Forces Day

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June '26

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**MAY 2026**

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**JULY 2026**

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**SUNDAY**



Mid-year check-in:  
Say it with me...  
I got this!

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

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14 Flag Day

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21 Father's Day

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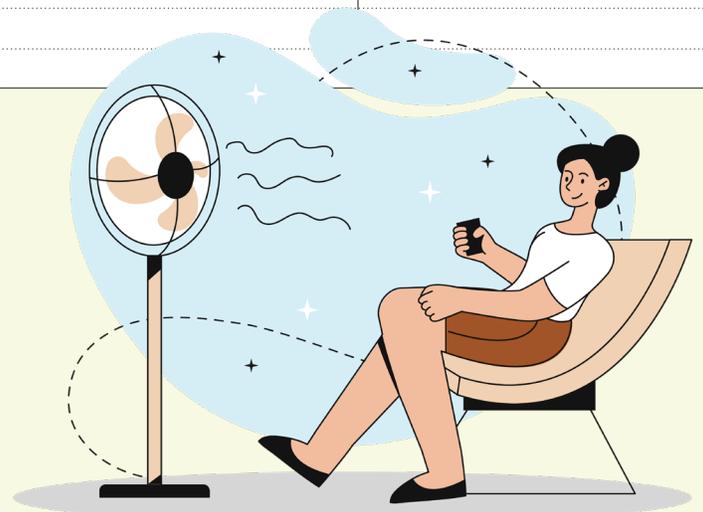
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WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	5	6 National Higher Education Day
10	11	12	13
17	18	19 Juneteenth Credit Union Closed	20
24	25	26	27

**Firstmark Mortgage Loans**  
It's getting hot out—find a house with some AC!

We're pretty cool to work with, too! Give us a call at (210) 308-7821 today and let's make your homebuying process a breeze.





**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

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4 Independence Day  
Credit Union Closed

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Keep calm and pretend it's on the lesson plan.

# Thank you to our partners!



We also want to thank our members.  
Without our members, none of this would be possible!



# Power of the Dollar®

Power of the Dollar® members join the Firstmark Foundation in funding significant needs across our school districts, such as:



**Firstmark**  
**FOUNDATION™**

- ✓ Teacher/Student Resources
- ✓ Educator Initiatives
- ✓ New School Facilities
- ✓ Improved Learning Spaces
- ✓ School Sponsorships



See more exclusive benefits with  
Power of the Dollar® Checking



Educators get  
an additional  
discount on  
Auto Loans!



**Firstmark**  
Credit Union®

**Thank You  
for another  
amazing year!**



**Firstmark**  
Credit Union®