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San Mateo Credit Union Celebrates First Anniversary in North Fair Oaks

North Fair Oaks, CA – Last year, San Mateo Credit Union (SMCU) placed its bet on the tight-knit community of North Fair Oaks when it opened a branch on Middlefield Road. Now, after nearly a year of business and community involvement, that bet has paid off in the form of a healthy, growing branch location. And, to thank the community for its support, SMCU recently held a one-year anniversary celebration on September 19 and 20 at its North Fair Oaks location.

With more than 50 years in San Mateo County and five branches in surrounding communities, entering the North Fair Oaks was a logical step for SMCU in 2007. However, logic doesn't always equate to acceptance. In this case, it was the spirit of "people helping people" that helped SMCU gain the community's approval.

In the past year, SMCU has helped sponsor festivals, literacy drives and a community-wide cleanup day to contribute to the pride that the North Fair Oaks community is known for. The second year is poised to be much the same, starting with the in-branch celebration.

During the celebration, SMCU waived the \$25 minimum deposit normally required to become a credit union member and gave one-time discounts on auto loans to qualified members. In addition, new and existing members were eligible for gift certificate giveaways every hour and a grand-prize drawing for a 32" plasma-screen television. Daniel Pena walked away a winner, taking home the television. "At first, when we called Daniel to let him know he had won, he seemed to think we were joking with him," said North Fair Oaks Branch Manager, Jennifer Srabian. "Then, he soon realized this wasn't a joke and he had really won."

In all, over \$800 in prizes were given out during the two-day celebration. "It was a great to once again be able to give back to the North Fair Oaks community," said SMCU CEO and President Barry Jolette. "They've shown us a great deal of support in our first year, and we're delighted and proud to be part of this close-knit community."

Membership in San Mateo Credit Union is open to all San Mateo County residents, employees and students; employees of member companies and companies who belong to the Golden Gate Better Business Bureau or one of the county's 15 Chambers of Commerce; as well as family members, domestic partners and roommates of SMCU members.

About San Mateo Credit Union (SMCU)

Founded in 1952, SMCU is a member-owned financial institution that currently serves more than 67,000 members, managing more than \$600 million in assets. With six San Mateo County branch locations, SMCU provides a full range of financial services to its member-owners. More information on SMCU is available at www.smcu.org.

