

# Media Release



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### To the Editor:

## Through Increasingly Difficult Environment, First Federal Boasts Top Safety Rating

**July 2008: First Federal, Port Angeles, Washington** stands strong in the current environment while many financial institutions are faltering. You don't have to take their word for it, though; First Federal has earned a 5-Star Superior rating from **BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc.** of Coral Gables, FL, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm. The 5-Star rating is based on the overall financial picture of the bank and indicates that First Federal is one of the strongest banks in the nation. What's more, this represents the 59th consecutive quarter that First Federal has earned this highest honor giving it the added distinction of being an "Exceptional Performance Bank". Only institutions that have achieved this highest 5-Star rating for ten years or longer can claim this distinction.

"In a climate where it is increasingly difficult to shine, First Federal proves it can be done," remarks Karen L. Dorway, president of the research firm. "In fact, local residents should be proud that their community bank is one of the elite financial institutions in the nation. They can rest assured that their deposits are well-placed in this 5-Star bank."

Established in 1923, First Federal has been pleased to fulfill the financial needs of its neighbors and friends for 85 years. It currently operates through eight conveniently located offices in Forks, Port Angeles, Port Townsend and Sequim and can also be found on the internet at [www.ourfirstfed.com](http://www.ourfirstfed.com).

First Federal: "Lending a Hand Since 1923."

BAUERFINANCIAL, INC., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm, has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. banks and credit unions since 1983. No institution pays for its rating, nor can they elude it. Consumers may obtain star-ratings by visiting [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com).

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For more information on First Federal, or any other U.S. bank or credit union, contact Karen Dorway directly at 800.388.6686 or e-mail her at [kdorway@bauerfinancial.com](mailto:kdorway@bauerfinancial.com).

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