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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Navy Federal Supports Early Readers

*Tell Me A Story* program in Columbus, Ga. focuses on literacy.

**VIENNA, Va. (February 17, 2011)** – [Navy Federal Credit Union](#) is teaming up with the Military Child Education Coalition to motivate children in the Fort Benning, Ga. community to read. The educational program will be held on Sunday, February 27 at 3:00 p.m. at the Columbus Museum, 1251 Wynnton Road in Columbus.

*Tell Me A Story: Making Connections and Finding Support through Literature* will feature guest reader LaFaye Dellinger, mayor, Smiths Station, Ala. She will read *Giraffe's Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae. Gerald the giraffe has four left feet but wants to dance like all the other animals at the Jungle Dance. The book shows insecure young readers that everyone can be wonderful, even those that march to the beat of a different cricket.

“Research shows reading aloud to children helps build their vocabulary and encourages language development,” said Sam Stapleman, Navy Federal branch manager who serves members in the Fort Benning area. “We’ve found a valuable literacy resource in the Military Child Education Coalition with a strong outreach program in the Army community.”

Geared to children ages 4-12, *Tell Me A Story* will include hands-on activities, snacks, and a fun learning experience. Each family will receive a copy of *Giraffe's Can't Dance*. Admission is free. Call Amy Kowatch at (706) 405-9857 to confirm your reservation or e-mail her before February 25 at [ptop.benning@militarychild.org](mailto:ptop.benning@militarychild.org).

### **About Navy Federal Credit Union**

Navy Federal Credit Union is the world’s largest credit union with more than \$44 billion in assets, more than 3.6 million members, 212 branch offices, and more than 7,800 employees worldwide. The credit union serves all Department of Defense military and civilian personnel and their families. For additional information, visit the branch at 5550 Whittlesey Boulevard, Suite 830, or online at [navyfederal.org](http://navyfederal.org).

### **About Military Child Education Coalition**

The Military Child Education Coalition is a 501(c) (3) worldwide organization that identifies the challenges that face the highly mobile military-connected child, increases awareness of these challenges, initiates and implements programs to meet these challenges. For more information, visit [militarychild.org](http://militarychild.org).

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