MEDIA CONTACT: Suzie Boland RFB Communications Group 813-259-0345 sboland@rfbcommunications.com

GTE Financial Hosts Inaugural Scholarship Scramble Golf Tournament raises more than \$42,000

TAMPA, Fla. – (May 30, 2013) – GTE Financial's first scholarship golf tournament fundraiser raised more than \$42,000 for area students to help them achieve their academic goals. About 120 golfers grouped into 30 teams took to the greens at The Westchase Golf Club on April 20 for the GTE Foundation's first "Scholarship Scramble" golf tournament fundraiser.

"This tournament and the remarkable support of the participants, volunteers, our corporate partners and local businesses allow us to make a significant investment in the future of local students who have demonstrated excellence both in the classroom and in the community," said tournament organizer Steven Robinson, GTE's vice president of assurance and consulting services. "It's clear to us that there's a great deal of interest in the tournament and we look forward to making it an annual event."

Each year GTE Financial, a not-for-profit credit union with 21 locations throughout West Central Florida, awards scholarships to member-students through its philanthropic arm, the GTE Financial Charitable Foundation. In 2012, the foundation awarded 12 scholarships of \$2,500 each. The recent golf tournament will enable GTE to award 24 scholarships to high school senior or undergraduate student GTE members who have a minimum 3.0 GPA and have been actively involved in community and charity efforts this year.

The total raised from the golf tournament was \$42, 729. 66. Tournament sponsors included Advantica, United Healthcare, Excalibur Financial Group, Inc., Twenty Twenty Analytics, Bridgeline Digital, CU Direct Corporation, PSCU, Shutts & Bowen, CDW, Integra Business Systems, Inc.,

Investment Centers of America, Inc., Lau Lane, Leverage in partnership with CUNA Mutual Group, and Velocity Solutions Inc.

GTE is accepting scholarship applications until June 19, 2013. For additional information visit the GTE Foundation Scholarship Program online.

About GTE Financial:

GTE Financial is a not-for-profit financial cooperative with more than \$1.6 billion in assets and 21 Community Financial Centers located throughout West Central Florida. Chartered in 1935, GTE Financial is locally owned and operated in the Tampa Bay area, serving nearly 200,000 individuals and businesses. More information on GTE Financial can be found at www.gtefinancial.org.