

## THE CEREGHINO GROUP

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# NEWS RELEASE

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### **BANNER CORPORATION SCHEDULES FIRST QUARTER CONFERENCE CALL AND WEBCAST**

Walla Walla, WA – April 3, 2006 – Banner Corporation (Nasdaq: BANR), the parent of Banner Bank, today announced that it will report earnings for the first quarter of 2006 before the market opens on Tuesday, April 25, 2006. As the company is holding its Annual Shareholder Meeting on April 25, management will host an analyst call the next day to discuss the results.

On Wednesday, April 26, investment professionals are invited to dial 303-262-2139 at 8:00 am PDT (11:00 am EDT). All current and prospective shareholders are welcome to listen to the live call or replay through a webcast posted on the bank's website, [www.bannerbank.com](http://www.bannerbank.com), or at [www.fulldisclosure.com](http://www.fulldisclosure.com). Institutional investors may access the call via the subscriber-only site, [www.streetevents.com](http://www.streetevents.com). An archived recording of the call can be accessed by dialing 303-590-3000, access code 11057624#, until Wednesday, May 3, 2006 or via the Internet at [www.fulldisclosure.com](http://www.fulldisclosure.com).

Banner Corporation is the parent of Banner Bank, a commercial bank that operates a total of 58 branch offices and eleven loan offices in 24 counties in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Banner serves the Pacific Northwest region with a full range of deposit services and business, commercial real estate, construction, residential, agricultural and consumer loans. Visit Banner Bank on the Web at [www.bannerbank.com](http://www.bannerbank.com).

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Note: Transmitted via Business Wire on April 3, 2006 at 3:30 a.m. PDT.