

Connections

FALL
2009

A PUBLICATION FOR GUTHRIE CREDIT UNION MEMBERS



"a place **YOU** Belong"

SAYRE OFFICE

104 N. Elmer Ave.
Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 888-7135

Hospital extension to
GFCU: 4709

Fax: (570) 882-9564

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Thursday

9:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Friday

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

TROY OFFICE

163 Canton St.
Troy, PA 16947
(570) 297-2440

Fax: (570) 297-0589

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Thursday

9:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Friday

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

T.E.D.

882-8980 or 882-8985

Toll-Free: 1-877-493-6161

www.GuthrieFCU.org



We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and Equal Credit Opportunity Act

International Credit Union Day!

Thursday, October 15, 2009, is International Credit Union Day. The theme this year is "Your Money, Your Choice, Your Credit Union".

Stop in the Troy or Sayre offices for the festivities.

More than 175 million people 1746 worldwide belong to a credit union. We want to take this opportunity to thank all of our members. We value your membership and we look forward to serving all of your financial needs in the future!



GFCU In Top 3%!

For the third year in a row, Guthrie FCU is ranked in the top 3% of all credit unions nationwide in its peer group size (1,390) for "Return to Member Value". The ratings system looks to see the benefit credit unions give to their members in regards to Savers, Borrowers and overall Member usage.

I am very pleased to report, the board of directors and 6134 your GFCU staff strive for all members to experience the value of their Credit Union.

Stay Safe And Healthy This Fall And Winter!

Fall Safety Tips

- Clean out gutters of leaves and debris.
- Check roof shingles and prepare them for wind, ice and snow.
- Clean all fireplaces and make sure they are properly ventilated.
- Install and/or check your carbon monoxide detectors.
- Test your smoke detectors.
- Wear gloves while doing yard work to help avoid blisters and other injuries.
- Use your legs to lift heavy items.

Winter Safety Tips

- When sledding and/or skiing, wear a helmet and choose an area away from obstacles.
- Never sled or ice skate alone.
- Leave at least three feet of space around your space heater.
- Unplug your space heater when it's not being used.
- Never add fuel when the engine in running and hot.
- Never put your hands into the discharge chute of your snow blower to clear snow and ice.

BE SAFE!

Guthrie FCU

Board Of Directors

Heather R. Vail, *Chairman*
Gary Gee, *Vice Chairman*
Bernard L. Smith, *Treasurer*
James E. Collins, *Secretary*
John E. Detrick
Joann Gillott
Bill Hickey
Norman Briggs
John M. Simonds

Supervisory Committee

Michael Nagar, *Chairperson*
Gary Reeves
Paul Henry
Gary Gee
Amaryah Denlinger

Elmer Ave. Staff

Administration
Eric L. Chase, *CEO*, ext. 125

LENDING DEPT:

Pamela Dulin, *Loan Manager*, ext. 115
Karen Agnew,
Mtg/Collection Officer, ext. 114
Donna Dudash, *Loan Officer*, ext. 116
Elisa Cantrell, *Loan Officer*, ext. 126
Todd Bacon, *Loan Processor*, ext. 113

OPERATIONS DEPT:

Maria Ciccirelli,
VP Finance & Operations, ext. 127
Kathleen McCutcheon, *Member Service
Supervisor/Compliance Officer*, ext. 124
Alisha Polzella,
Share Draft/ACH Specialist, ext. 117
Kathryn Bonning,
Plastic Card Specialist, ext. 123
Liz Saxon, *MSR*, ext. 111
Justin Shaw,
Member Account Specialist, ext. 112
Danielle Randall, *MSR*, ext. 131
Jennifer Heath, *MSR*, ext. 132
Joy Norton, *MSR*, ext. 121
Shannon McCarty, *PT MSR*, ext. 134
John Pack, *PT MSR*
Jeannie Brown, *PT MSR*

Troy Staff

Nancy DelGrippo, *Loan Officer*, ext. 113
Bonnie Parsell, *MSR*, ext. 112
Sherry Estep, *MSR*, ext. 114

CEO REPORT



The Credit Card Act Of 2009

This past June 2009, The Credit Card Act of 2009 was passed into legislation requiring all financial institutions to give proper notice on late fees and interest rate hikes. Since this legislation was "pushed through quickly", there are some very costly unintended consequences to most credit unions. This bill was passed using language that these requirements would be applicable on all "open-end lending" products. The intention was to cover all types of credit card programs. This was a timely and noble thought. Yet in their haste, the open-end language includes the majority of credit unions with their lending products.

Credit Unions only make up 7% of the financial markets, so many times, since we are such a small part of the overall financial picture, credit unions are not consulted by regulators for potential issues stemming from new legislation. Thus our problem.

Within the Card Act of 2009, your credit union has to give all members with open-end loans (which are 95% of our borrowers) a 21-day notice before we can charge them a late fee. So starting in October, members with loans will see changes to their due dates. This will in NO way change the way they are currently paying their loans back. This will be an internal procedural change to comply with the Card Act.

Will there be questions? Of course, probably even some confusion. Why not, this law was meant for credit cards, not open-end installment loans. Yet as always, your credit union will be here to answer any and all questions. Pam Dulin, Loan Manager, and her staff are working diligently to make this a smooth transition. So please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have during this new compliance mandate.

Sincerely,
Eric L. Chase

One In Ten Pennsylvanians Has Unclaimed Property

It's simple and free for Pennsylvanians to discover whether they have unclaimed property. Individuals can enter their name into the free unclaimed property database at www.patreasury.org. A toll free hotline to the State Treasurer's office (1.800.222.2046) will assist people in searching for unclaimed property.

Bad News And Better News



The bad news is: effective December of this year, our DreamMiles debit card reward program is going away. The Better news is: Guthrie FCU is upgrading to a "better" reward program.

First off, any member with a debit card will be able to transfer their DreamMile points to the new program. Another huge benefit will be all GFCU VISA cards will now have reward points attached to their usage. Then to top it off, if you so choose, you will be able to "link" together the VISA and Debit card points. Lastly, the current three (3) year expiration date will be going away. This new program will be called "SCORECARD". Scorecard will have no expiration date on its points.

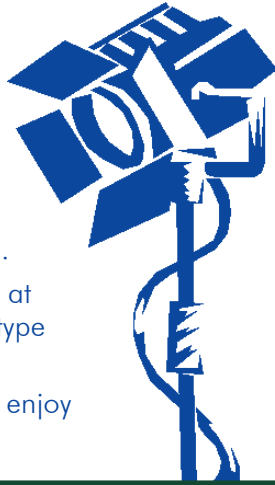
NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Elisa Cantrell And Joy Norton

Elisa is our new Loan Officer in our Sayre office. Elisa has almost 20 years of lending background.

Joy is our newest Member Service Representative at Sayre. Joy comes from a varied service oriented type background.

Please stop in and welcome our newest staff and enjoy their smiles and great service!



Holiday Closings

Columbus Day

Monday, October 12, 2009

Veterans' Day

Wednesday, November 11, 2009

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 26, 2009

Friday, November 27, 2009

Open 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24, 2009

Open 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Christmas

Friday, December 25, 2009

Guthrie FCU - "a place YOU Belong"



Notice For Electronic Bill Payment Users

This free service of Guthrie FCU has received some new features, such as gift and donation payments and person-to-person payments to name a few. If you need assistance with E-Bill, stop in and see Justin Shaw or call him at 570.888.7135 ext. 112.

Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act

Last fall, Governor Rendell signed into law the Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act. July 1, 2009 it went into 113089 effect. This law requires home improvement contractors who do \$5,000 or more in home improvements or repairs in a year to register with the Bureau of Consumer Protection. Every contractor should have a "contractor's registration number". You can verify it at www.attorneygeneral.gov or by calling 1.888.520.6680.



Happy Holidays!

The entire Staff and Board of Directors at Guthrie FCU would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy, safe, enjoyable, and stress-free holiday season.

All of us at Guthrie FCU would like to wish you and your family Happy Holidays! We hope you have a happy and healthy new year!

Win \$10!

We've hidden the account numbers of three Guthrie FCU members in the articles of this newsletter. If you find your account number, call us by November 2, 2009, and we'll deposit \$10 into your Share Savings Account. Good luck!

Share Guthrie FCU with your family members and co-workers so that they can enjoy the money-saving products and convenient services you already enjoy.

Get The Latest Credit Union Information Online at www.GuthrieFCU.org

New Identity Theft Program Coming Soon!



Since September 1, 2008, Guthrie Federal Credit Union has been pleased to offer free identity theft recovery services for our members, in order to introduce you to this valuable benefit. As a result we have been able to help many of our accountholders recover from this terrible crime quickly. Now, recent

regulation enacted by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act (FACTA) requires that we put in place additional measures to safeguard your account and our financial institution. **Therefore, effective November 1, 2009, we will be launching our next phase in identity theft services – a group program for identity theft research and recovery services. This program will include all checking accounts with an average balance of \$100 or more.**

Beginning November 1, 2009, these identity theft recovery services will be extended to all named accountholders and **3 generations of your family – including your spouse, children and parents.** As before, if you suspect identity theft or your personal information has been compromised in some way (such as a lost purse or wallet, a break-in, lost laptop, etc.) contact us as soon as possible. Likewise, if we detect any activity that suggests you might be a victim of identity theft we will notify you immediately. Through the new group program we can submit a request for a professional Identity Theft Recovery Advocate to work with you to research and identify any possible issues and to perform the legwork to restore your good name — no matter how long it takes. You will enjoy the same comprehensive recovery services as before, from one of the nation's premier providers. And now, your family can enjoy these benefits, too. *If you do not have a consumer checking account with Guthrie, or if your average account balance is below \$100, you will no longer have access to the identity theft recovery benefits. So act now to open a consumer checking account with Guthrie FCU.*

Additionally, beginning January 1, 2010, a security fee of \$1.00 per month will be charged to all checking accounts with an average balance of \$100 to offset these additional security measures to fight identity theft and fraud. A 60 day "opt-out" provision is available to all members.

HOW IT WORKS

If you or a qualifying family member has reason to believe you might be a victim of identity theft, call us. We will put you in touch with an Identity Recovery Advocate who will:

- Perform research to determine the extent of the problem
- Place fraud alerts and review your credit report with all 3 credit bureaus
- Write letters, make calls to dispute all fraudulent information
- Coordinate with government agencies, financial institutions, creditors, etc. to resolve incidents
- Work with law enforcement to help to arrest and prosecute the criminals
- Confirm complete recovery in writing
- Follow up for 12 months

You and your family members can rest assured that you will have the help you need – until completely recovered.

PLEASE OPEN AND READ...
NEW LETTER
Connections

104 N. Elmer Ave.
Sayre, PA 18840

