

Connections

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



IDSafeChoice Select Program Available Now!

Effective January 1, 2010, all Guthrie FCU members with a share draft account will automatically get identity theft coverage via the IDSafeChoice Select Program.

This program will benefit our members by having a professional source of ID recovery experts only a phone call away. This "Recovery Advocate" will take over the identity recovery process for our members, performing all of the legwork with creditors, government agencies and law enforcement. This advocate will research and assess the damage and manage the complete recovery process.

This coverage costs only \$1.00 per month. Members have 60 days to "opt-out" of this program at no cost. Additional coverage for credit report monitoring and family coverage is available at our website. Visit www.guthriefcu.org and click on the "protect your identity" link.



Alert: Our Latest "Green" Feature On All Member Statements

Starting with your December 2009 statement, all 1099 and 1098 information will appear on your statement. Please save your statement for your income tax purposes.

If you use our e-statement feature, please print off your December statement for your tax records. Call either office with questions.

Visa Transfer And Save Today!



Guthrie FCU offers a no annual fee, no frills Visa Credit Card. When you use it, you can earn ScoreCard points to redeem for merchandise, travel rewards and more.

To help you take control of your post-holiday credit card bills, we're offering a balance transfer promotional rate of just 3.99% APR* starting in January and lasting six whole months.

Stop in and see a loan officer today to transfer the high-rate credit card bills you have at other financial institutions to a Guthrie FCU Visa Credit Card.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate based on creditworthiness of individual applicant and subject to change without notice.

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 Officer, ext. 115*
Karen Agnew, *Mtg/Collection Officer, ext. 114*
Donna Dudash, *Loan Officer, ext. 116*

OPERATIONS DEPT:

Kathleen McCutcheon,
Operations Manager, ext. 124
Liz Saxon, *Head Teller, ext. 111*
Justin Shaw,
Member Account Specialist, ext. 112
Todd Bacon, *Loan Processor, ext. 113*
Danielle Randall, *MSR, ext. 131*
Jennifer Heath, *MSR, ext. 132*
Joy Norton, *MSR, ext. 121*
John Pack, *PT MSR*
Jeannie Brown, *PT MSR*

FINANCE DEPT:

Maria Ciccirelli, *Chief Financial Officer, ext. 127*
Kathryn Bonning, *Plastic Cards, ext. 123*
Alisha Polzella, *ACH/Share Draft, ext. 117*
Shannon McCarty, *Accounting Clerk, ext. 134*

Troy Staff

Nancy DelGrippe, *Mtg/Coll Officer, ext. 113*
Bonnie Parsell, *MSR II, ext. 112*
Sherry Estep, *MSR, ext. 114*

CEO REPORT



Well, some good news occurred over the 4th quarter of 2009. Our legislators realized the bad public policy of the 2009 Card Act and "corrected" it. To refresh your memories, the new law required all financial institutions to notify members 21 days before their due date, that if you are late with a payment, you'll pay a fee. This law was meant to work with credit card issues, but it was written for all types of loans. Thankfully, our regulators passed a new law, clarifying the Card Act of 2009 rules were meant for credit cards only!

Other concerns that may affect your account are pending in Congress right now. Congress is looking at doing away with the Overdraft protection programs. This will hurt many of GFCU's members.

Our legislators are also looking at reducing the interchange income that financial institutions earn on debit cards. 7-11 and Wal-Mart are lobbying that financial institutions are making too much money. That is not the real issue. The Wal-Marts and 7-11s want to make more money by paying less for this service.

Please take time to let your Congressman or Congresswoman know that these changes will affect the consumer in a negative way. Who will pay for the cost of automation if they reduce the amount of money you can earn on it? These costs like everything else will be passed on to you "the consumer". Let your legislator know that just because it sounds good doesn't mean it is the best choice for public policy.

If you are interested and need more information on these pending new laws, please feel free to stop in and see me at your earliest convenience. My door is always open. Thank you for being a member of Guthrie FCU.

Cordially,

Eric L. Chase

What Is The Best Savings Deal On Planet Earth?

It Is A Roth IRA!

A Roth IRA is one of the best savings plans for later in life. Starting January 1, 2010, the income limits that have prevented many from converting to a Roth IRA have been eliminated. Why a Roth IRA? Virtually all income growth and withdrawals are "tax-free".

Stop in and see Justin or a loan officer for more details today!



Fixed Rate Home Equity Line Of Credit Is Here!



Stop in and refinance the home equity you have with a local bank or other credit union with Guthrie FCU's fixed rate Line of Credit. This product will give you the security of a fixed rate for 5 years before it converts to an adjustable rate. Use this product for college tuition needs, remodeling or debt consolidation (keep in mind your holiday bills).

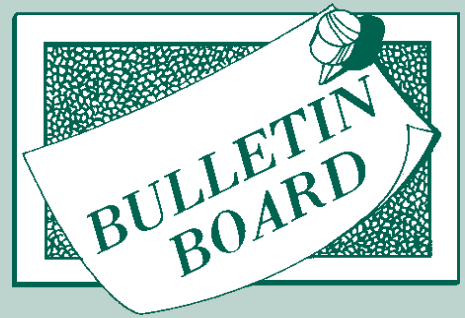
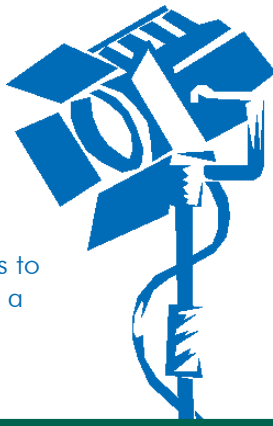
Your home is a valuable asset that you've worked hard for over the years. Take advantage of your home's equity today! Stop in and see Nancy in Troy or Karen in Sayre.

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Shannon McCarty

Shannon McCarty has been 5429 promoted to the position of Accounting Clerk. Shannon comes to us with many years of banking experience. She is a key part of our backroom account functions.

Thank you for all of your hard work, Shannon!



Holiday Closings

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2010

Presidents' Day

Monday, February 15, 2010

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a happy and safe holiday season. The Staff and Board of Directors of Guthrie FCU wish you and your family a happy and prosperous New Year!

We look forward to meeting all of your financial needs in 2010 and in the years to come!

Please Update Your Account Information

In order to better serve you, we would like to keep our files accurate and updated. If you have had any changes (new home phone number, different cell phone number, new work extension, new home address, etc.), please call or come by so we can update your information. Thank you.

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 February 2, 2010, and we'll deposit \$10 into your Share Savings Account. Good luck!

Go Green!



Stop in and see Justin Shaw (888.7135 ext. 112) at our Sayre office or Bonnie Parsell (297.2440 ext. 112) at our Troy office and see how many different ways you can use your credit union and "be green" while doing it.

Direct deposit, debit cards, ordering checks 110396 online, e-bill, and e-statements are just a few of the ways you can save yourself money and keep the environment looking good!

Visit Our Web Site!

Our web site, www.guthriefcu.org, offers lots of good stuff for people of all ages. We have links for everything from Kirby Kangaroo Kids Club to information about IRAs and everything in between. Surf on over today!

What Are You Going To Do With Your Tax Refund?

Why Not Give Direct Deposit A Try?

With direct deposit, your federal income tax refund can be deposited right into your Guthrie FCU account.

Direct deposit is safe since your refund is deposited electronically into your account. You don't have to worry about your check being lost or stolen. Your refund is deposited approximately three weeks before your check would arrive in the mail. This means you can start earning dividends as soon as possible.

When filling out your tax return, select your Checking or Share Savings Account and enter our routing number 231388494. Remember, if your tax return is a joint return, your tax refund must be deposited into a joint account.

Direct deposit also works for your paycheck, Social Security check or any other government issued check.

Give us a call or stop by if you have any questions.



Snap Back To Reality

Time To Pay Your Holiday Bills



The holiday season has come and gone. Now it's time to pay for all of the fun and merriment you just enjoyed for the past few weeks. Here are some tips on how to pay your holiday bills before they completely consume your life.

- Pay on time. Pretending they don't exist and ignoring them aren't going to work. You'll have to pay late fees and it could easily spiral out of control.
- Do the math. Figure out how much you owe by calculating your holiday bills and adding in the interest rate on your credit cards and loans.
- Get a game plan. Determine how much you can comfortably afford each month. You don't want to go broke paying for those holiday gifts.
- Start saving! How can you save and make payments at the same time? It can be done. Start getting ready for next year's holiday season. You could set up payroll deduction or open a holiday club account so you're not bombarded with high bills next year.
- Don't add insult to injury. You don't need to be out spending when you're still paying for what you already bought. Wait until you have a handle on the holiday bills before you start spring shopping.
- Consolidate debt. High credit card rates are only going to cost you. Consider transferring those high balances to a Guthrie FCU credit card to start saving immediately. Keep in mind the low 3.99% APR* balance transfer rate special we're offering.
- Try really hard to make more than just one minimum monthly payment on your credit cards. If you only pay the minimum amount each month, it can take years to pay off your debt.

We can help! Stop by or give us a call to get some counseling. We can help you get your finances back on track.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate based on creditworthiness of individual applicant and subject to change without notice.

The 2010 Annual Meeting

The 31st Annual Meeting

Save the first Saturday in March and plan on coming to the 31st Annual Meeting of Guthrie Federal Credit Union. This important event is your chance to hear all about the credit union and to socialize with fellow credit union members.

Thank you for your continued support. Remember, this is YOUR credit union and that we are a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative whose board is made up of volunteers.

Date: Saturday, March 6, 2010

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: To Be Announced

Cost: As always, tickets for members and their guests will only be \$5 dollars.

We will have Board of Directors elections. This year, we have four individuals running for three positions – Bernie Smith, John Simonds, Norman Briggs, and Roberta Sabitus-Place.

Watch the website for more details.

Guthrie FCU
"a place YOU Belong"

PLEASE OPEN AND READ...
NEW LETTER
Connections

104 N. Elmer Ave.
Sayre, PA 18840



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 140
Pottstown, PA 19464