Panhandle Federal Credit Union

2nd Quarter 2009 UPDATE 403 N. Washington ~ PO Box 26 ~ Wellington, KS 67152 www.panhandlefcu.com

KNOW the Facts ~ Check your Credit Report

Even though none of us can individually control the economy, we can take charge of an important part of our own financial picture – our credit. There are some basics everyone should know:

Credit Reports: Your credit report shows the amount and type of credit accounts, your on-time or late payments and whether a collection agency was contacted to collect your debt. A clean report and a good credit score make it easier to get the best rates when applying for a home mortgage, auto loan, credit card or other loan.

Credit Report Problems: Even though you have managed your credit well, you could still have some nasty surprises on your Credit report. You might be the victim of identity theft and not know it or have someone else's information mixed in with yours due to clerical error. Your credit score could suffer if these errors aren't identified by you and fixed.

Credit Score: Whenever you apply for credit, the lender considers your credit score. Your score is determined by a rating system based on your credit report. Your individual score is meant to indicate how likely it is that you will pay back a loan.

Check Your Report

You can begin to take charge by checking your credit report free of charge once a year through each of the three major credit bureaus (TransUnion, Equifax and Experian) at annualcreditreport.com. You are under no obligation to buy any of the additional products and services offered, and checking your report once a year is a great way to make sure it is clean.

Notice Advisory Effective July 1st

We will no longer mail courtesy NSF and share overdraft protection transfer notices. Since the mail process does not provide the timeliest warning of this adverse action we are instead encouraging you to use HFS Services (internet banking) or M.A.X. Audio Response (24 hour phone automated transaction system) daily to monitor transaction activity and manage your accounts at no charge. Please contact Nedra at (620) 326-2285 for HFS and Audio Response enrollment or to answer any questions.

\$250,000 Insurance Limit Extended to 2013

President Obama recently signed the Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 (S.896) that includes provisions extending the \$250,000 NCUA deposit insurance limit to December 31, 2013.

Last year when the financial crisis began, NCUA deposit insurance was temporarily increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000 until the end of this year to help boost consumer confidence.

The NCUA is the independent federal agency that regulates, charters and supervises federal credit unions. NCUA, with the backing of the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, operates and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, insuring the deposits of nearly 89 million accounts in all federal credit unions and the overwhelming majority of state-chartered credit unions.

As a Credit Union member, you may maximize insurability through a combination of individual, joint and revocable trust accounts. Contact us for help anytime in organizing your family's accounts for best coverage or go online yourself to <u>http://webapps.ncua.gov/ins/</u> to access NCUA's Electronic Share Insurance Calculator.

Send Your Teen to College With Their Credit Union

Don't forget to make sure they have their personal financial tools when they leave:

- Free PFCU Checking Account
- Free PFCU Shazam Debit/ATM Card
- Free 24 hour PFCU HFS Online Banking
- Free 24 hour PFCU M.A.X. Audio Response System

Your Credit Union has the tools to help them learn the financial ropes:

Cross Account Transfer

Parents can set up cross-account transfer into a child's account so the money is there when they need it.

Great Auto Loan Rates

If a car is in the plan for college, PFCU can help you in a vehicle quickly and easily.

Stay Informed

Account access via <u>www.panhandlefcu.com</u>. Credit Union membership IS their financial toolkit...make sure it's part of their College experience. Set them up before they leave! Give us a call at (620) 326-2285 or toll free (888) 313-3494.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Independence Day
Labor Day
Columbus Day
Veteran's Day
Thanksgiving Day
Drive thru only open
Close at 1:00
Christmas
Close at 1:00
New Years Day



Watch out for the Sweepstakes Scam

If someone contacts you to say that you "won" a sweepstakes that you don't recall entering, beware! If they require that you pay a fee to "claim the prize", this is probably a hoax. A legitimate sweepstakes will NEVER require that you pay to collect your winnings.



Get the Best Deal

Take PFCU's Rate AND the Auto Rebate!

It's a Buyers Market

Fantastic deals on new and used autos are waiting for you at Auto Dealerships everywhere. Simply call PFCU for pre-approval. Don't forget you can also finance your boat, RV or motorcycle with us too.