



FIRST UNITED Federal Credit Union

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2012

Contact Us

Hours:

Mon – Thurs 9:00 – 5:00

Friday 9:00 – 5:30

3140 Ivanrest Ave.

(1/2 mile south of 28th Street)

Grandville, MI 49418

phone: 616-532-9067

fax: 616-532-9196

email: contact@firstunitedfcu.org

www.firstunitedfcu.org

Mobile Banking:

<https://m.itsme247.com>

ItsMe247 Website:

www.itsme247.com/153

Shared Branch locator:

[http://xtendcu.com/branches/
find/xtend](http://xtendcu.com/branches/find/xtend)

ATM Locator:

www.co-opfs.org

Phone: 1-888-748-3266

GPS: 692667 (MYCOOP)

“CU Talk” Audio Teller:

FUFCU ID #153

616-285-5720 or

Toll Free 1-800-860-5704

FUFCU Routing

272480775

Start the New Year out right!

Resolve to save money!



Refinance your mortgage and pay it off early!

With today's lower interest rates you can refinance your mortgage and pay it off sooner!

Let us help you pay off your debt sooner!

If you have loans elsewhere, save money and refinance your loan with First United FCU. Many times we can save money on monthly payments allowing you to save that money or pay off your debt sooner!

Save more!

With products like Save To Win and Debit Card Round Up you can build your own savings account!

SAVE TO WIN!

Build up your savings account while earning a chance to win extra money!

Our new Save to Win program is a prize linked savings account that will pay .30% APY. The account will be like a certificate account in that it is a 12 month CD that be added to over the course of the year. The account can be opened with a minimum of a \$25 initial deposit. There is a \$25 penalty for early withdrawal and only one withdrawal is allowed. Every \$25 deposited in to the account earns an entry in to the raffle. The prizes are awarded as follows:

MONTHLY PRIZES

80—\$50 prizes per month January through August

90—\$50 prizes per month September through December

ANNUAL GRAND PRIZES

10—\$10,000 prizes

What Are The Banks Up To Now?

By Jeff Krueger, President

You may have heard about the recent “Switch Day”, when countless people closed their accounts at banks in response to some of the major bank’s announcements of additional fees. The \$3 monthly “Debit Card” fee proposed by Bank of America was probably the one that garnered the most outrage. While Bank of America decided charging their customers \$3 a month for the privilege of using their ATM card wasn’t such a great idea, they weren’t in fact the first bank to charge for ATM card usage. You can rest assured that while the bank has backed off this fee for now, it will be back in some form or fashion. You see big banks have recently lost part of their profit sources when Congress decided that the interchange rate paid to big banks by retailer’s that accepted debit & credit card transactions would be reduced, thereby lowering the retailer’s expenses. It was the hope of Congress that these savings would be passed on to the customer in the form of lower prices from the retailers. While most of the major banks are reporting record profits, their shareholders don’t want that to change. You can rest assured that the banks will replace that “lost” income through whatever means is necessary. A common refrain in financial circles is the day of the free checking account is about over. That is not the case at First United FCU. While we too charge fees, they pale in comparison to what you’re being charged at the “big” banks.



It is another reason you should have all your accounts with the credit union. Credit Unions don’t answer to stock holders whose primary goal is to reap more profits. We answer to you the owner. We offer “free” checking accounts, “free” internet banking, “free” mobile banking, and 100 X-tend branches located all around West Michigan where you can conduct various transactions at no charge to you. Most importantly, we still put you the member first. We offer a full array of products and services. We offer various methods for you to conduct transactions, and most importantly, we deliver first class service. Don’t let the banks get in your pocket. Make First United FCU your only financial service provider.



We will be closed all day Tuesday, February 7 for all staff training.

Welcome, Melissa Jacobusse!

Melissa Jacobusse is our new part time teller. Prior to coming to First United FCU, Melissa worked at Flagstar Bank as a Senior Personal Banker for 12 years. Melissa also worked for a few years managing a health club. Melissa is an active Precinct Delegate. She is excited to be a member of the First United Team. Melissa lives in Zeeland and has two beautiful boys. In her free time she enjoys volunteering at the boys’ school, her Great Dane, spending time with the boys, and of course Michigan State football.



You've just financed your dream car. Well, before you drive away, consider this...

- The car began depreciating immediately.
- One in three Americans will suffer the total loss of a vehicle.
- One in every 20 drivers will experience an unrecovered theft.

Vehicle prices continue to increase and at the same time we want longer loan terms and are making smaller down payments. It's typical for a vehicle's outstanding loan balance to be significantly higher than its actual cash value, especially during the first few years of the loan.

If your vehicle is totaled or stolen, your insurance settlement will be based on its actual cash value, not the outstanding loan balance. This may create a deficiency balance or a "gap".

We have the product that will prevent you from incurring a financial loss...Guaranteed Asset Protection (GAP). This product eliminates the potential for loss in the event your vehicle is totaled or stolen.



To learn more about GAP or how you can add GAP to your loan, please contact us!

Holiday Skip-A-Payment

Only one more month to take advantage of our Holiday Skip-A-Payment program—just in time for the holiday shopping and travel season! Any member having a loan in good standing with First United FCU can choose to "Skip" a January 2012 loan payment for a \$35.00 processing fee. This offer does not apply to Mortgage, Visa, Home Equity Line of Credit or Overdraft Protection Loans and cannot be used to skip the first payment of any loan. Just complete this "Skip-A-Payment" form and return it to our office. If you have any questions regarding this program please give us a call.



FIRST UNITED
Federal Credit Union

Skip-A-Payment

Yes, I want to take advantage of the First United Federal Credit Union Skip-A-Payment Program.

Name _____

Account Number _____

Address _____

Loan(s)_Suffix _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

I wish to Skip my: January 2012

Processing Fee Payment: # of Loans _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

____ Please deduct from my FUCU Account # _____ Suffix _____

____ I've enclosed my check/MO

Your Signature _____

Joint Signature _____

By signing above, you authorize First United Federal Credit Union to extend your final loan payment by one month. Interest will continue to accumulate on your loan during the month you skip your payment. Payments made through payroll deduction or direct deposit will be deposited in your Share Savings account. All loan payments must be current to qualify. Coupon cannot be used to skip the first payment of any loan. Mortgage, Home Equity, Visa, and Overdraft Protection loans not eligible. Coupons must be returned by the last day of the month for which you wish to skip-a-payment. All parties who signed the original note must sign above.

Monitor your credit score with ID Protect

What does \$2.00 a month get you?

- Provides you with access to your actual credit score and any updates every 90 days.
- Provides you with complete unlimited access to all 3 of your credit bureau files.
- E-mail alerts when anyone else ever requests a copy of your credit report.
- Consolidate all your credit and debit cards in one place and have only one contact to make if your cards are ever lost or stolen.

Call First United today
and sign up!

ID PROTECT™
Protection You Can Count On.

Do you have your checking account with First United FCU? If not, why not?



If you don't have your checking account with First United FCU, why not? Checking accounts at First United boast many optional (and valuable!) features, including:

- **Debit card round up**—a great way to start saving for a vacation, college fund, or another special purchase or event. When you enroll in our free Round Up Savings program, the amount of any FUFUCU debit card purchase posted to your checking account is rounded up to the next whole dollar. The difference is transferred into a savings account of your choice.
- **NEW Mobile text banking**—available in January of 2012! Go to our website <https://obc.itsme247.com> and sign in to online banking. Once in online banking, click on the “Go Mobile” button at the top of the Its Me 247 toolbar. Once enrolled, members can send text message requests and receive text message replies on the available balance of accounts enrolled in the service. Standard text messaging and data rates from your carrier will apply for this service plus a \$0.05 fee per message will be charged to your First United FCU account.

Annual Meeting 2012

The 74th Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at the Grand Valley Armory, 1200 44th Street SW, Wyoming, Michigan 49509. The business meeting will start at 7 PM, and will be followed by the election of Board & Committee members. The door prize drawing will be held following the elections. There will again be a special program for our younger members. Refreshments will be available following the meeting. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Potential Candidates

Any member in good standing, and at least 18 years of age, can have their name placed on the ballot for the next scheduled election April 19, 2012, by submitting a petition signed by 25 current members. The petitions can be picked up at the Credit Union office, or we can mail one to your home. All completed petitions must be submitted at the Credit Union office, 3140 Ivanrest SW, Grandville, Michigan 49418, by the close of business March 15, 2012. Anyone desiring information about the duties and responsibilities associated with these positions can either call or stop in the office and see Jeff Krueer. There will be no nominations accepted from the floor the day of the meeting. Mr. Tony Russo is the chairman of the Elections Committee. Anyone wishing to contact him can send their inquiries to the Credit Union office, addressed to Mr. Russo.