

Hey Kids!

Join Us For
National Credit Union
Youth Week:
The Magic Of Saving

April 19-25, 2009

Hocus-pocus – my money grew!
Maybe it's not that easy to save, but it
can be if you learn to save your
money while you're young.

Here are a few examples to help you
learn about the magic of saving.
These are fun games to play with
your parents!

- Try sorting different types of money into piles by color and size.
- Play grocery store or credit union by using a toy cash register.
- Help Mom or Dad comparison-shop at the grocery store.
- If you get an allowance for chores, split it into two parts – half for saving and half for spending.

If you start saving now, you'll be surprised how many bunnies – we mean monies – you 7038 can pull out of your hat!

Plus, if you make a deposit to your 1st City Credit Union savings account during April, you'll get to participate in the National Youth Saving Challenge. Ten young savers will be selected nationwide to each win \$100!

*Article courtesy of the Credit Union National Association.

Membership Enjoys Annual Meeting

More than 190 credit union members enjoyed food, prizes and information at the 1st City Annual Membership Meeting February 15 at the Kolping House.

We thank all of our members who joined us for the Annual Meeting 2838 and made the afternoon a great success!

Board Of Directors

James Boxdorfer, Chairman
Jolene Battles, Vice Chairman
Linda Kohne, Secretary
Denis Bewig
Raymond Brodzinski
Paul Dobberstein
James Knorr
Terry Ullrich
Paul Zacher

Credit Committee

Robert Blankman, Chairman
Robert Petri

Supervisory Committee
Mary Ann Fischer, Chairman
Edward Horn
Paul Zacher

Staff

Ruthann Fernandez,
Manager/President
Janet Pinski
Michelle Compton
Samantha Wildridge

Welcome to our new teller, Samantha! Please be patient and understanding as she learns the ropes.



Don't Miss Our Shred Event!

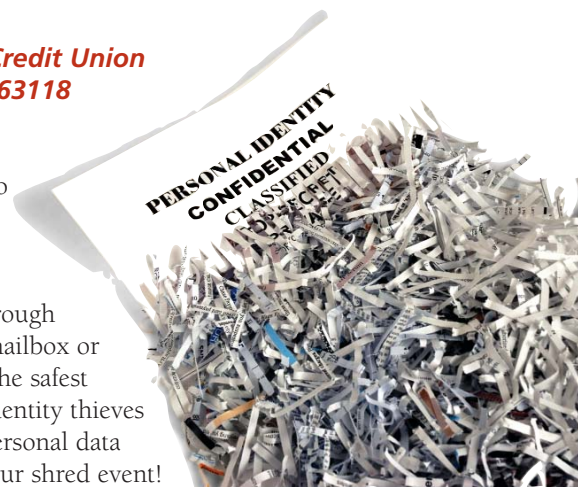
Date: April 25, 2009

Time: 9 a.m. – noon

Place: Anheuser-Busch Employees' Credit Union
1001 Lynch St., St. Louis, MO 63118

1st City Credit Union is partnering with Anheuser-Busch Employees' Credit Union to offer **free** document shredding for our members.

Most identity thieves obtain information through traditional paper-based sources (like your mailbox or trashcan) rather than electronic channels. The safest and most efficient way of thwarting identity thieves is to shred your documents. Protect your personal data and confidential information by attending our shred event!



Attend Our Free Seminar

Getting Ahead With What You've Got

Date: May 14, 2009

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Place: Kirkwood Community Center

111 South Geyer Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122

Doors
Open
6 p.m.

Join us for a free seminar with Suzanne Zemelman, consumer economics specialist from the 1746 University of Missouri Extension.

You'll learn:

- To set realistic and measurable financial goals
- To develop a spending plan that includes savings for goals and emergencies
- To become aware of strategies for bringing income and expenses into balance

This free seminar is brought to you by 1st City Credit Union, in conjunction with the St. Louis Chapter of Credit Unions. Seating is limited; contact us by May 11, 2009 at (314) 353-6676 to make reservations.



MOVIN' ON

Best wishes and good luck to Josephine Belaska, our Member Service Representative, whose last day was March 6. Jo dedicated 14 years of service to the credit union. We miss you, Jo!



Find Your Account Number For Big Bucks!

Don't forget about our "Big Bucks" program. Find your account number in the newsletter, tell a credit union employee and we'll deposit \$10 into your account!

Select Rates

Rates are effective 4/1/09. Contact the credit union for all current rates.

Dividend Rate

1.00% APR* 1.00% APY**

Loan Rates

New Vehicles 5.49% APR*
Used Vehicles 6.75% APR*
Signature Loan 8.50% APR*
VISA® Credit Card 9.00% APR*

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Loan rates are subject to change and based on member credit and other factors. See the credit union for complete details.

**APY=Annual Percentage Yield.

Holiday Schedule

We will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

Good Friday
April 10

Memorial Day
May 25



Are You Credit-Card Conscious?

Follow These Steps To Credit Success!

Tightening credit markets and interest-rate changes can turn credit cards from a convenience to a credit nightmare. Now is the time to develop smart spending and payment habits that save you money. Not only will you keep credit card companies off your back, you'll also keep your 5165 rates from rising and your credit score from falling. Follow these tips from 1st City Credit Union:

• Look for quality cards.

Don't be dazzled by introductory offers. Instead, apply for the cards that offer a reasonable rate over the long term, and stay away from cards with hefty fees.

• Pay on time.

Your payment history accounts for 35% of your credit score. By paying more than 30 days late, you will be charged higher fees, higher interest rates and see a drop in your credit score. Avoid this problem by marking mail-by dates on your calendar or scheduling regular payments online.

• Pay in full.

By paying the total balance due every month, you'll never have to worry about interest. If you can't pay in full, try to pay more than the minimum. This won't just lower your bills; it will raise your credit scores, since balances owed make up another 30% of your credit score.

• Mind your limit.

Maxing out on credit doesn't just incur a fee from the credit card company – it could result in a lower credit score and an increase in your interest rate. A good rule of thumb is to keep your balances at or below 30% of your total available credit. For example, if your card has a \$1,500 limit, try not to charge more than \$500.

• Keep cards manageable.

It seems simple: don't carry more cards than you can afford to pay. Department store accounts, home improvement cards and "emergency" cards can thwart even the best attempt at moderation. If having more than two cards tempts you to overspend, put those cards somewhere other than your wallet. If possible, avoid closing extra accounts because the additional credit helps to cushion your credit score.

• Know where your payments go.

The interest rate on your purchases may be low, but what about cash advances or balance transfers? Many credit card companies will apply your payment to the low-interest balances first, leaving the high-interest transactions to accrue additional charges. Be mindful of this when you make new transactions or pay your bill.

• Check your score.

Make sure your on-time payments are reported, and monitor any unusual activity by checking your credit reports. You can do this three times a year for free by going to www.annualcreditreport.com and requesting a report from one of the three reporting agencies every four months. Be sure to dispute any errors immediately.

• Communicate with creditors.

Often times, great rates and fewer problems are just a phone call away. Call your credit card companies and ask for a lower rate or an increase in credit. You can even ask them to waive fees associated with late payments or phone transactions. You should also contact credit card companies if you foresee problems with future payments due to job loss or unexpected difficulty. They will work with you to manage your debt and help you avoid a negative item on your credit report.

• Prepare for the unexpected.

Many people use credit cards as an emergency fund, but then find themselves in bigger trouble when the bills arrive. Instead, prepare for the unexpected with a savings account. By keeping at least three months' pay in a separate account, you can avoid running into credit problems.

Contact us today for more information about how to manage your credit cards responsibly, or to learn about your credit options through 1st City Credit Union!



www.1stccu.org
5011 Hampton Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63109
(314) 353-6676
fax (314) 353-9153

Lobby Hours:

Mon. & Fri.
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Tues., Wed. & Thurs.
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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