

# Media Members Federal Credit Union

September 2008 Volume 19 Number 3

# Your \$hare Credit Union News



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

### Media Members Federal Credit Union Invites Members to Join Us as We Celebrate International Credit Union Day AND Our New Name on Thursday, October 16, 2008

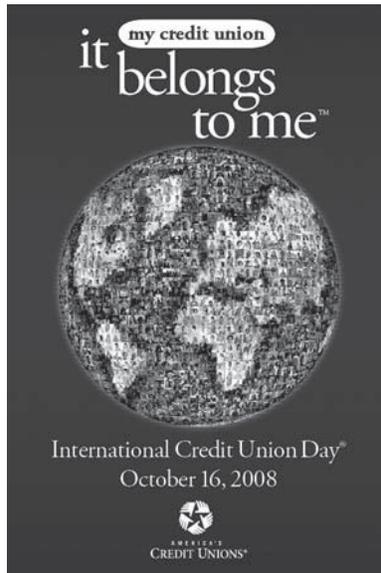
More than 177 million credit union members around the world will celebrate International Credit Union Day on October 16, 2008. This year's theme, *It Belongs to Me*, underlines the credit union and cooperative spirit, reminding all of us that credit unions were founded not for profit, not for charity, but for service.

Your Credit Union has something additional to celebrate this year. **Philadelphia Inquirer & Daily News FCU is changing its name to Media Members Federal Credit Union.**

Although our name may be changing, the quality service you've come to rely on isn't changing at all. In fact, we have more services available to our members than ever before. You'll see the same friendly faces offering the same excellent service we've always offered.

In honor of this very special day, **Media Members FCU** invites you to visit either our Philadelphia or SPP office. Everyone who stops by will receive a free gift and soft pretzel, while supplies last. In addition, we will hold several drawings throughout the day which will give you a chance to win a great prize. Our Philadelphia office will be open from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. and our SPP office will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Be sure to mark your calendar because you don't want to miss this special event!



### Celebrate Your Credit Union Ownership

Do you know who owns Media Members Federal Credit Union? YOU DO! And that's just one of the many things that make credit unions unique.

Credit Unions are not-for-profit, democratically controlled, volunteer-run, member-owned cooperatives. They exist to serve their members. Unlike most other financial institutions, credit unions do not issue stock or pay dividends to outside stockholders. Instead, earnings are returned to members in the form of lower loan rates, higher interest on deposits, and lower fees.

Because they are unique in both structure and purpose, credit unions provide a viable alternative to for-profit financial institutions in 96 countries. At Media Members FCU, we take pride in our heritage as a cooperative financial service provider and our connection to 49,000 credit unions worldwide.

At credit unions, every customer is both a member and an owner. Remember, you are our most valuable asset and the reason Media Members Federal Credit Union exists.

### Free Online Bill Pay Now Available

Effective September 1, 2008, free Online Bill Pay is available to members who have a share draft account with us. Simply go to our website at [www.mediamembers.org](http://www.mediamembers.org), click on Virtual Branch and enroll. You must be enrolled in Virtual Branch before you can sign up for Bill Pay.

If you are already enrolled in Virtual Branch, just look for the bill pay link on the left hand side when you click on to access your accounts.

Online Bill Pay is quick, efficient and easy to use. Best of all it's FREE!

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

### Thanksgiving

November 27

### Christmas Day

December 25

### New Year's Day

January 1, 2009

## Holiday Cash Coming Your Way

Our popular Holiday Loan will be available this year starting on October 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009. Borrow up to \$3,000 for 24 months at a special low rate.

Why use a high interest credit card for holiday expenses when you can pay cash and get a low rate from your credit union?

Holiday Club Accounts will be ready for withdrawal the week of October 13. Remember, it's never too early to start for next year.

Again this year, instead of a gift, ten lucky members will win a gift certificate for a restaurant, gas, movie or shopping trip. Stop in today to sign up for the Holiday Club and to be entered in the drawing.

## Holiday Gifts That Won't Cost a Fortune

If you're like most Americans, the winter gift-giving season will leave you strapped for cash. Before you know it, you'll only have a few dollars left but many more gifts to give. Here are some ideas from your credit union that will give you the most bang for your buck.

- **Cook It** – They say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Why not offer to make dinner for someone you love? Or bake cookies and gift them to friends and family members. You'll be amazed at how much time and money you'll save, and food is always a huge hit.
- **Re-Gifting is Okay Sometimes** – Unused jewelry in your jewelry box? Cleaned-up costume jewelry can be the perfect accessory for that teen in your

life. Even better, take some of your old, fun clothes and put them in a "treasure chest"; this dress-up box will be a huge hit with young ones!

- **Receive Now, Pay Later** – Remember when you gave mom a coupon that was good for dishwashing? Or the card to dad offering a car wash? The idea was to promise a future service without having to pay up front. You can still apply this same idea. Mock up tickets and give them to your kids, promising to take them to a baseball game in the summer. You'll end up spending the money, but it won't be at the same time you're shelling out money for other gifts.
- **Credit Union Membership** – Give your family members a jump start on their New Years resolution to save more money. It only takes \$5.00 to become a member of the Credit Union, and you can present your loved ones with the initial fee and an application you've picked up or downloaded.

These helpful gift ideas from your Credit Union will be a huge hit this holiday season. You'll spread expenses out over the year, and you'll be able to save some extra cash. And don't forget to put your extra money into your credit union savings account so that it will grow even more!

## Teaching Teens Spending Habits

It's important to teach your teen about healthy spending habits. At the Credit Union, we can help you with this challenge. We have Youth

Accounts so that your teens can learn how money really works.

### What Do I Do First?

Discuss with your child whether they want to open this account or if they'd rather receive their allowance in cash. Some teens don't want the responsibility of an account, and that's okay too. But for those that do, head to the Credit Union to get set up with a Youth/Teen Account. Make sure to apply for a Debit Card or ATM Card so that your teen has easy access to his or her funds.

### Set Guidelines

Make it clear to your teen about how the account will be used. Sign up for Online Banking to monitor your teen's spending habits and so you can transfer additional funds to/from the account. It's important that your teen understands they will be held accountable for their financial decisions.

### Follow Up

Reward healthy spending/saving habits. Transfer an extra five dollars into your teen's account for an extra chore completed. Offer a matching program: if there's \$25 left at the end of the month, give them an additional \$25. This will encourage your teen to spend less and save more. Go over transactions with your teen. Show them where they're spending money and where they could be saving money. Having something on paper can be more powerful than just hearing it.

At the Credit Union, we have the tools you need to turn your child into a responsible consumer. Stop in today and open a Youth/Teen Account. For more information on how to teach your teen about finances, give us a call!



#### Main Branch

400 North Broad Street • Philadelphia, PA 19130  
(215) 854-4460 • Fax (215) 854-2824  
Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm



#### SPP Branch

800 River Road • Conshohocken, PA 19428  
(610) 292-6762 • (610) 292-6737  
Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Friday 7:00 am to 3:00 pm  
1st Saturday of Every Month 10:00 am to 2:00 pm



[www.mediamembers.org](http://www.mediamembers.org)

email: [info@mediamembers.org](mailto:info@mediamembers.org)