



United Community Credit Union

Members' Quarterly

www.unitedccu.org

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Take Advantage of a UCCU Home Equity Loan

Struggling under the weight of heavy expenditures, like home improvement projects, medical bills, tuition, or even a family wedding? A home equity loan from UCCU may be just the financial muscle you need.

A home equity loan gives you typically 80%, but sometimes up to 100% of—you guessed it—the equity in your home. Since your house secures the loan, the interest rate is much lower than what you'd pay on a credit card or personal loan.

And the rate is even more competitive at UCCU than other financial institutions. You can get a credit line with a variable rate that allows you to take advances anytime you have the need. Or, you can get a one time, fixed-rate, fixed-term loan that has level payments for the life of the loan.

**** APRIL SPECIAL ****

Right now, we are offering you an additional incentive to see us for a Home Equity loan. We will waive the closing costs* on all approved advances of \$10,000 or more. Take advantage of this opportunity with the following rates:

Home Equity Line-of-Credit	7.75% (variable; prime rate minus 0.50%)
Home Equity Fixed Rate	6.00% up to 60 months
	6.75% up to 120 months
	7.50% up to 180 months

Here's what makes our home equity loan such a smart way to pay off your big expenses:

- The potential for tax-deductible interest (consult a tax adviser);
- Low interest rates;
- Personal service to help you match your goals with your budget.

Why look elsewhere for a home equity loan when your credit union membership can get you the money you need, for less?

Ask us how much you can borrow based on your situation and make an informed decision. Call us today at 802-479-2836 and exercise your right as a member to lower borrowing rates. Your credit union membership entitles you to great offers like a Home Equity Loan with no closing costs at UCCU!

*Appraisals, if needed, are not eligible to be waived with this promotion

UCCU's 64th Annual Meeting

UCCU held its 64th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 3rd at the Canadian Club in Barre. 298 members and guests turned out for this year's meeting that included a fine prime rib dinner prior to the Business Meeting.

President Dorothy J. Gavin presided over this year's meeting. Elected to the Board of Directors for 3-year terms were Daniel L. Lambert and Dorothy J. Gavin. Also elected to the Board for a 1-year term was William John Mitchell II. Elected to a 3-year term on the Credit Committee was Forrest W. Rouelle.

Following the business meeting door prizes were awarded. This year's grand prize winner was Reginald Poulin who won a 20" flat screen TV/DVD combo. There was also a 50/50 raffle drawing to benefit the March of Dimes that was won by Tim Fortier.

At an organizational meeting held March 12th Dorothy J. Gavin was elected President, Daniel L. Lambert, Vice-President, Donald R. Denko, Treasurer and Mario D. Lorenzini, Secretary.

2007 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Again this year, UCCU is awarding \$500 Scholarships to (2) college-bound seniors from area schools who are themselves members, or whose parent is a member. Applicants will be judged on their academics and accomplishments in high school. Interested individuals may request an application from the Credit Union office or by e-mailing us at info@unitedccu.org. Deadline for submission of your application is May 25, 2007.

Check Out Our Website:

www.unitedccu.org

Are You A Winner?

If your account number appears below, let us know, and we'll credit your share account \$10.

#1089 #5095 #7753
#10522 #12745 #91003

Office Closings

May 28 Memorial Day
July 4 Independence Day



Members' Quarterly
is published each quarter by the
United Community Credit Union

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dorothy Gavin, President
Daniel Lambert, Vice-President
Donald Denko, Treasurer
Mario Lorenzini, Secretary
Patrick Timothy Mullikin
Mark McCarthy
Russell Slora

CREDIT COMMITTEE

C Martin Prevost Sr., Chairman
Gregory Bergeron
Forrest Rouelle

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Julianne Monty, Chairman
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Timothy W Golden, CCUE

LOAN OFFICERS

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Stephanie Boucher
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Kimberly Sumner, Head Teller
Deborah Brothers
Doreen Hutchins
Betsy Kelly
Brenda Labrie
Amelia Drown

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

Cynthia Bresett

Online Financial Sites Ask Questions to Protect Privacy

It might take a little longer to log in to United Community Credit Union's online banking Web site these days. Before getting frustrated, realize that it's for your safety. The change you're seeing is due to enhanced measures to secure Internet financial transactions.

As of January 1, 2007, financial institutions were required to have in place a process called multifactor authentication. This means that, instead of just being able to log in to an online banking site with username and password, you might be required to answer a question or two as well.

The first time you log on to a site using multifactor authentication, you'll be asked to answer questions such as: What is your favorite food? What street did you grow up on? What is your favorite teacher's name? Then, the next time you log in to the site you might be required to answer one of those questions.

You also might be asked to enter a security code that you see onscreen or confirm a verification text image. This prevents automated logins by ensuring that a person is at the keyboard.

Web sites will vary as to how often you'll have to answer questions or what methods they use to verify that you're trying to log in.

One of the most popular methods of fraud occurs through impersonating individuals during the login process. All these extra steps confirm that it's really you accessing your accounts—not some impostor who knows just enough about you to be dangerous.

UCCU has recently added multifactor authentication to our Home Financial Services website and our Bill Payer website for your added protection. Now you can be confident that you are on the correct site and that your information is safe and secure. If you have any questions about our online services, please contact our member services at 479-2836 and they will be happy to assist you.



OFFICE HOURS

	<u>Lobby</u>	<u>Drive-up</u>
Monday-Wednesday	8:30-5:00	8:00-5:00
Thursday	9:00-5:00	8:00-5:00
Friday	9:00-5:30	8:00-6:00
Saturday	9:00-12:00	9:00-12:00

UCCU RATEBOARD

(As of April 1, 2007)

DIVIDEND RATES

	APY
Regular Shares	1.01%
Share Drafts (checking)	0.25%
Multi-Purpose Club	1.01%
Christmas Clubs	1.00%
IRAs	4.59%
Hi-Yield	
\$500-\$9,999	2.00%
\$10,000-\$24,999	2.50%
\$25,000-\$49,999	3.00%
\$50,000 and above	3.50%
Term Certificates	
6 Months	4.50%
12 Months	5.10%
24 Months	4.75%
36 Months	4.70%
48 Months	4.65%
60 Months	5.05%

LOAN RATES

Secured: includes Cars, Trucks, Campers, RVs, Motorcycles, ATVs, Snowmobiles and Boats.

TERM*	RATE*
24 Months	5.00%
36 Months	5.50%
48 Months	6.00%
60 Months	6.50%
72 Months	7.00%

Add 1.00% for 2002 to 2003 model years

Add 2.00% for 2000 to 2001 model years

Add 3.00% for 1999 and older model years

Add 2.00% for vehicles over 100,000 miles

Deduct 0.50% for payments by Direct Deposit; or Deduct 0.25% for payments by Auto-Pay

Signature:

60 Months	9.75%
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* Rates and terms are determined by an evaluation of your credit.

Other:

Home Equity Line-of-Credit	7.75%
(Over 80% LTV)	8.75%
Home Equity Fixed	
60 Months	6.00%
120 Months	6.75%
180 Months	7.50%
Share Secured	3.00%
Hi-Yield Secured	4.00%
VISA Credit Card	11.90%
Home Mortgages	call for current rates

All Rates are subject to change.

(For current rates, visit our website at www.unitedccu.org)

Track Spending to Reach Your Goals

You can't make progress on your budget goals until you know where your money is going. That means it's time to track spending.

Get a grip—Recruit the whole family to help keep track of all expenses for at least a week or two—longer if you can manage it. You'll see patterns and how routine mindless spending can mean death by a thousand cuts to your budget.

You may decide to use a small notebook and record each expense. Or you may prefer to use software such as Quicken or Microsoft Money. It might work for you to collect all receipts and bills as you pay them. Whatever your choice, try to be consistent and pick a system you think you'll use and not abandon.

If that sounds too taxing, try this: Collect all your receipts for several days, then review each receipt. Put a plus sign or minus sign next to each expense—plus for on-budget, within your goals spending, and minus for off-budget, working against your goals spending. One red flag: being unable to even recall making a purchase.

Get a goal—You also won't make much progress unless you're monitoring spending for a reason—weighing your expenses against a larger goal or goals.

Give whatever tracking exercise you use a rest for a month and then repeat it. Do you see improvements? Or have the leaks just shifted to other categories? Use credit union tools—direct deposit and automatic deposits into savings to help you keep your eyes on the prize.

The money experts at your credit union can help you review your budget or refer you to other community professionals who can help.



MONEY MANAGEMENT:

Debt-to-Income Ratios Yield Budget Insight

Lenders use debt-to-income ratios to compare your earnings to what you owe. Your debt-to-income ratio determines how much lenders will allow you to borrow. But for most members the bigger question is, "How much borrowing can I afford?"

Examine 'rules of thumb'

Credit unions and other lenders often set their own ratios to determine how much debt is acceptable among loan applicants. These ratios usually are closely related to "rules of thumb" followed by the financial services industry.

Variations of two different rules may be used to examine your debt-to-income ratio.

1. The 28% housing ratio, also known as the housing expense-to-income ratio, says monthly mortgage costs should not exceed 28% of your gross income. Lenders vary on whether this figure includes property taxes and insurance. Some lenders use a higher figure for this ratio, ranging up to 33%.

2. The 36% ratio, also known as the debt repayment-to-income ratio, says total monthly debt payments should not exceed 36% to 38% of your gross income. Typically, this ratio focuses on mortgages, vehicle loans, student loans, credit card payments, and child support.

For both ratios, a lower figure is always considered better.

Put it in perspective

Debt-to-income ratios can be misleading if consumers interpret them as permission to spend to the highest level allowed. To keep spending in perspective, you also can use other methods to compare your debt with your overall budget.

First, consider using the "one-week rule," which says total housing costs should not exceed one week's take-home pay. Total housing costs include your mortgage principal payment, interest charges, property taxes, insurance, and, if applicable, an association fee.

Second, consider whether your current spending patterns leave you with enough money to make another debt payment. Start by listing the monthly payments for everything you owe on one sheet of paper. Then take a second sheet of paper and add up every living expense for the month.

Total each sheet, add those totals together, and then compare that amount with your take-home pay. The difference will tell you how much new debt you can afford.

Make choices

Using different rules and ratios to examine the impact of borrowing on your budget can help you weigh your choices for spending and borrowing. If you buy a more expensive house, for example, then you may have to buy a less expensive car and limit your credit card spending to stay below the 36% debt-to-income level. On the other hand, if you already exceed the 36% level and you hope to buy a house someday, you need to pay down debt.

Your debt-to-income ratio is likely to affect whether you can achieve goals like buying a new car or owning a home. That makes it worthwhile to figure out how much borrowing you truly can afford.

The lending professionals at United Community Credit Union can help you determine your debt-to-income ratio. Stop by today and talk to a loan specialist or call 479-2836.