



4th Quarter

Winter 2007

Thanks

For being a member of H.P.C. Credit Union!

Gifts to buy and to wrap. Celebrations to attend. Holiday greetings to send. It may be the most wonderful time of year, but it's also the busiest. Amid the hustle and bustle of another holiday season, it's important to reflect on life's blessings.

We want you to know how much we appreciate your being part of our credit union family. We're a financial cooperative and that means we're owned by you - our valued member/owner - not by outside stockholders. Any profits are returned to you in the form of better rates on savings, lower rates on loans, and new or improved products and services. So the more you use the credit union, the more you enjoy the benefits of belonging. You not only help yourself, you help the credit union grow and prosper. And that's to everyone's benefit. Thank you for being an active member of the credit union, and best wishes for the holidays and the new year.

Beware Of Instant Refund Tax Loans

With tax filing season right around the corner, your credit union urges you to avoid tax preparers' "instant refund" feature. Fees for this service may seem "reasonable" at the time, but such refunds are actually loans that carry very high

interest rates when you consider the tax preparer gets his money back in a very short time - as little as two weeks in many instances.

A fee of \$50, for example, on a refund of \$500 that the tax preparer gets back in two weeks works out to an annual interest rate of 240%. Think about it. Would you borrow money from anyone at that rate - for money that is yours to begin with? Of course not. But millions of people every year pay these kinds of fees for a little convenience.

With electronic filing (used by most major tax preparers), wait times have been dramatically reduced for tax refunds. Take our advice. Wait the short amount of time it takes to get ALL your money back.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MANAGER

DUE TO CHANGES WITH OUR DATA PROCESSOR - your H.P.C. Credit Union Board of Directors and Management have decided to participate in Shared Branching. Shared Branching allows members to make deposits, withdrawals, cash checks, etc. at any Credit Union which participates in Shared Branching. A few years ago, we took this concept to the membership at the Annual Meeting and it was voted down. However, since that time, there have been data processing changes. The most important change allows the Credit Union to offer the member a choice to participate in Shared Branching. Once we receive your signed authorization, Shared Branching can be activated for your account. If you DO NOTHING, your account WILL NOT be subject to Shared Branching. This means your personal information and your account balances will not be visible to anyone outside of H.P.C. Credit Union. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, please do not hesitate to contact a Member Service Representative.

WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT APRIL 1ST will be the approximate starting date for construction of US 23 North. For your Credit Union this means that access to our Main Office from Chisholm Street will be under construction. We have been assured by MDOT that access to the Credit Union's Main Office will be available throughout construction from 14th Street. (The street directly across from the main entrance and exit of the Credit Union) We will be staffing our Branch location at the Alpena Mall heavier than normal to help with the extra member traffic. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Credit Union.

COMING SOON.....HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS - keep watching your Credit Union's advertising and Newsletters for more information about Health Savings Accounts!

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS - Your H.P.C. Credit Union's Annual Meeting will be held at the KofC Hall in Alpena. This year's Annual Meeting will be the Meeting - Dinner / Dancing and Prizes. Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 15th, 2008.

FOR OUR LUCKY SNOWBIRD MEMBERS - please be sure to change your address WITH THE CREDIT UNION so you may continue to receive credit union correspondence in a timely manner. Remember, the post office WILL NOT forward your statements, nor will they forward renewing credit or debit cards. You must change your address with the Credit Union, or be assessed a return mail fee.

IF YOU HAVE HAD ANY LIFE CHANGING events in your life recently such as marriage, divorce, given birth or adopted a child, or have had a death in the family, you may want to consider updating the beneficiary(ies) listed on your IRA and any other account with the Credit Union. If you have any questions, please contact a Member Service Representative or an IRA Specialist at the Credit Union.

FOR THOSE MEMBERS WITH MORTGAGE LOANS - Please be sure the Credit Union has a copy of your paid property tax receipts for 2006 including Summer and School Taxes. On January 18th, 2008 the Credit Union will be ordering tax receipts for those accounts that have not provided this information to the Credit Union. A fee of \$20 will be assessed to obtain this information.

CHRISTMAS LOAN SPECIAL - If Christmas spending is creating a financial pinch, check out your H.P.C. Credit Union's Christmas Loan Special. Maximum amount \$5,000 for 12 months at 5%. Christmas Loan Special good thru January 31st, 2008.

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Committee Members and Employees of H.P.C. Credit Union, we wish you all a

VERY Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cindy M. Krentz, Manager

Main Office: 1234 W. Chisholm Street • Alpena, MI 49707 • (989) 354-4698 • FAX (989) 356-6912

Branch: 2336 U.S. 23 South • Alpena, MI 49707 • Toll Free # 1-888-554-5944

(located in the Alpena Mall)

Visit us at www.hpccu.com

Don't Make Yourself An Easy ID Theft Target

An estimated 3.6 million American consumers annually have their identities stolen, according to consumer experts, with the average loss per theft amounting to \$2,500. While there is no guarantee that you won't be one of the victims, there are basic precautions you can take to avoid being an easy target:

- ➔ Do not carry your Social Security card - keep it in a safe place.
- ➔ Release your Social Security number only when necessary for example, on forms and employment records, or for banking, stock, and property transactions.
- ➔ Do not give account information or personal information over the phone unless you initiate the call.
- ➔ Do not respond to e-mails from service providers asking to verify your account information for "security" purposes or in response to "possible suspicious activity" on account. If in doubt, go to the provider's secure Web site, log in with your user ID and password, and see if there is a legitimate message concerning your account. If still in doubt, call or visit the provider directly.
- ➔ Invest in a crosscut paper shredder and destroy all receipts, credit card offers, statements and pay check stubs before throwing them away.
- ➔ Keep track of your mail. Review your monthly statements to ensure all credit and debit activity is correct. Unauthorized charges should be dealt with immediately. Missing statements should be reported to your account provider at once.
- ➔ Send bill payments from a secure mailbox (one that can be opened only by U.S. Postal Service employees).
- ➔ Review your credit reports annually to make sure they're accurate.



Credit Union Hours

Main Office (Chisholm Street)

Drive-Thru: Monday thru Friday opens at 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Lobby: Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: DRIVE-THRU ONLY 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Branch (located in the Alpena Mall)

Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Closed Saturday

H.P.C. Credit Union's Mission is to serve and promote members' personal financial success and to continue the Credit Union Philosophy of "People Helping People."

Holiday Help

Santa can look to his elves for help with the holidays, but what about you? Need some help to make it through the holiday season?

HPC Credit Union
5% for 12 months
 \$5,000 maximum loan

Look no farther than HPC Credit Union. Our holiday loans can actually save you money. Here's how: Many department charge cards, even some credit cards, carry rates as high as 24 percent. When

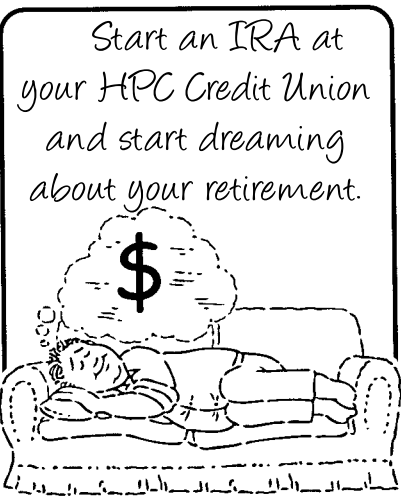
you pay for gifts and other holiday expenses with plastic and then make only the minimum payment, you may be paying for your purchases over and over again. But a lower rate loan from the credit union, you'll not only pay less interest, you also can pay cash for your purchases. With cash, you pay for your gifts or other expenses, plus, you will likely spend less because it's easier to stick to your budget. Stop or call the credit union for details on a holiday loan today.

Don't Forget To Open A 2007 IRA

It's still not too late to open an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) for tax year 2007. An IRA is a great way to supplement your retirement income. Almost anyone is eligible for an IRA. And depending on your income, and whether your employer offers a qualified retirement plan, part or all of your

IRA contributions may be tax deductible. Consult with a qualified tax professional to find out whether your IRA contributions are tax deductible.

The deadline for opening an IRA for tax year 2007 is April 15, 2008. But don't wait until the last minute. Call or stop by your credit union today. Let us explain the benefits of an IRA in more detail and open an account tailored to your specific needs and goals.



Clip and Return

QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION DRAWING
CASH FOR THE NEW YEAR!

1ST PRIZE - \$200.00

2ND PRIZE - \$100.00

3RD PRIZE - \$ 50.00

Drawing will be held January 25, 2008

Member Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

One Entry Per Account

Congratulations Last Quarter Winner of the Family Bicycle Pkg. - Vanessa Adamski

Thank you Peggy Szatkowski for drawing our winner!

Small Change Big Savings

Would you like to be able to save \$30 to \$60 a month without too much pain? Financial expert Suze Orman suggests paying for your purchases with paper money, then putting the change in a jar. By the end of the month, you'll be surprised as to how much the pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters add up to.