



Dollars and Sense

A Biannual Newsletter for Members of Eastern Maine Medical Center Federal Credit Union
December 2010

NEW LOCATION FOR HOSPITAL CREDIT UNION

Currently the Credit Union is negotiating with the medical center to secure a permanent location within the Webber complex. Our new home is slated for the former Eye Center located at the far end of the Webber West. Moving date has not yet been determined; however we would expect to be in our new facility sometime during the first quarter of 2011. "We are really excited about this opportunity and felt it was important to lock in a more permanent home based on long term plans the hospital has," said Mary Jo Freeman, Vice President of EMMCFUCU. We will keep you updated on the progress of the renovations, so keep an eye on our website for progress reports.

BILL PAYER AVAILABLE SOON

The Credit Union will be offering a bill payer program starting January 18, 2011. This service has been discussed for years, however, now, we feel the product is a good one, with a very friendly interface, ease of use and a reasonable price. More information will be available at every branch of the Credit Union, so if you are interested, please stop by and pick up a brochure.

AND THE WINNERS ARE

Our winners for the Monty Moose contest are:

Kelsi Day and Andrew Green

Congratulations to both of our winners! Twenty Five dollars will be deposited to their accounts.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The Credit Union is in the process of revamping our web site with the emphasis of making everything more informative, interactive and educational. We would love to see our page used daily by the membership as their first stop into the internet. Be checking for the update to happen sometime in the near future. We think the change will be helpful to all.

THREE CANDIDATES FOR THREE POSITIONS

This year there are three candidates running for three positions on the Board of Directors. All three members are currently serving on the board. The following pictures and biographies will help you see the diversity and experience EMMCFUCU has when determining who serves on the board. These individuals will be re-elected to the board at the annual meeting in March. If any one is interested in serving on the board of directors, or having your name placed on the ballot in March you may contact Ralph Ferland, CEO of the Credit Union to obtain the rules required for submission.



Ann M. Dyer

Department: Retired as Associated Director of Human Resources

Years of Service: Approximately 20 years on the EMMC FCU Board and 28 years at EMMC

Tell us something about your job:

Since I am retired from EMMC I take care of my own personal business, enjoy every day, participate in my community activities, and try to keep up with current events.

Why do you want to be on the Credit Union Board of Directors?

I would like to continue working on the Board of Directors of the EMMC FCU. I have served on the Supervisory Committee and the Board of Directors in many positions including the Chairman for approximately 17 years and am currently serving as the Chairman of the Board. I enjoy all aspects of the Credit Union's mission to serve the membership responsibly as well as preserving the integrity of the Credit Union as a financial institution. I strongly believe in the Credit Union's philosophy and that our Credit Union is one of the best.

What will you bring to the position?

I have a Master's in Business from the University of South Carolina, a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Maine, and a Diploma from the Eastern Maine School of Nursing. I have worked in many and various departments at EMMC in many and various positions. I truly appreciate the EMMC FCU Board members and staff's due diligence for the successes of the Credit Union. I believe that I can help maintain the stability of the organization while it continues to grow and to serve the members.



Susan More

Department: Human Resources Extension: 5771

Years of Service: Employed at EMMC/EMHS since 5/89 • EMMCFUCU member since 1989

Tell us something about your job:

I have worked in the Human Resources Departments of both EMMC and EMHS since May of 1989. Most of my time is dedicated to assisting the Human Resource Departments at affiliate hospitals with their implementation of the Lawson HRIS software, along with building and maintaining accurate

information for reporting purposes. Assisting customers (employees) with questions related to policy and procedures.

Why do you want to be on the Credit Union Board of Directors?

The EMMCFUCU is one of the great benefits we reap as employees of EMHS/EMMC. I'm proud to be a member of the Credit Union, and by sitting on this Board of Directors, I feel like I'm giving something back to them. They provide such a wide array of services – they give great customer service – it's just great to be on their team – working for all of us – their members!

What will you bring to the position?

A strong work ethic, always keeping the member's best interest first.



Don Sleight

Department: Affiliated Healthcare Systems

Years of Service: 35

Tell us something about your job:

My position as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer includes the overall financial operation of Affiliated Healthcare Systems (AHS). In addition to the financial services responsibilities I have line responsibilities for a number of the operating divisions of AHS.

Why do you want to be on the Credit Union Board of Directors?

As a member-owned organization I think it is important for members to help provide input into the direction the credit union is heading and to help ensure its long-term success.

What will you bring to the position?

I will bring a dedication to be a good steward, representing the members of the credit union and bring a commitment to understanding and helping to guide the financial well-being of the credit union.

Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 17

Presidents' Day

Monday, February 21

Patriots' Day

Monday, April 18

Statistics

as of November 30, 2010

Total Assets

\$40,303,592

Total Shares

\$35,769,968

Total Loans

\$24,524,687

Total Members

5,142



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Post-holiday shopping: 10 ways to guard your card

There's nothing quite like the hustle-bustle of holiday shopping, unless it's the hustle-bustle of holiday returns and post-holiday sales. If you're jostling to check out of a crowded store or shopping for bargains at an unknown website, it could give someone a chance to hijack your debit or credit card data. Here's a mini-refresher course on protecting your account information:

- **Don't** carry any cards you don't need.
- **Don't** leave cards in your car. Many credit and debit cards are stolen from unattended vehicles in parking lots.
- **Don't** sign a blank receipt. If spaces have been left blank, draw a line through them before signing.
- **Don't** keep your account number or PIN near your card.
- **Don't** give out your account number over the phone unless it's to someone you trust – and you've initiated the call.
- **Do** save receipts to compare with your monthly statements.
- **Do** call the card issuer immediately if you don't receive your statement on time. An identity thief may have taken over your account.
- **Do** look for a lock icon in the browser status bar when banking or buying online. This indicates that the site encrypts your financial data before transmitting it.
- **Do** notify your card issuer if you plan a larger than usual purchase or will be traveling to unusual places, so fraud programs don't red-flag these purchases.
- **Do** keep a separate record of your cards, account numbers, and contact information so you can quickly report loss or fraud.

Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

Remember, fraud liability is trickier with debit cards

Federal law says you owe no more than \$50 for unauthorized credit card transactions, no matter how long it takes you to report them. Period.

By contrast, the law covering debit cards says that if your card is actually stolen, your liability is:

- Limited to \$50 if you report a lost card or suspicious transaction within two business days of noticing it.
- Up to \$500 if you report it within two to 60 days.
- Unlimited if you wait longer than 60 days to report it.

If only your account number is stolen, your liability is:

- Zero if you report it within 60 days of receiving the account statement showing fraudulent activity.
- Unlimited thereafter.

There's no denying that debit cards are useful and highly convenient. To make sure you won't have any problems with yours, stay alert when you're using it, and review your account statement carefully every month.

“Should I borrow from the credit union, or from a bank?”

If you need to borrow money, your credit union is the place to begin. At a time when many banks are making fewer loans, we offer home mortgages with great rates and lower closing costs.

There's much more, of course. We also make loans for new or used vehicles, often with special pricing when dealer sales start in February. You can apply for a low-cost personal loan for home improvements, major and minor purchases, or debt consolidation. Or we can help you put the financial power of your home to work with an equity loan or line of credit.

Since credit unions are nonprofits, you get the best rates and fewer fees. In Maine alone, that's been calculated to save members nearly \$73 million a year. Moreover, we never engage in predatory practices such as subprime loans or payday lending with exorbitant rates and fees.

Credit unions also offer financial guidance for their members. Whether it's opening branches in schools, hosting a financial planning seminar, or conducting a workshop on ID theft prevention tips, our staff members are glad to share their financial knowledge with the community.

So if borrowing is on your mind, make us your first stop. We have money to lend... with local decisions made by people you know and trust.

Car shopping: upscale safety features are trickling down

Think you can't afford top-of-the line features to keep your family safe? Think again.

The Wall Street Journal points out that if you'd bought a Chevy Cavalier back in 1994, you'd have paid about \$12,000 for a car with no airbags or electronic stability control. If you buy the Cavalier's 2011 successor, the Cruze, you'll get 10 standard airbags (including one for the driver's knees), stability control that helps prevent rollovers, and an automatic sensor that tightens seatbelts before a crash. The cost: about \$11,553 in 1994 dollars, or \$16,995 after inflation.



In short, don't settle for limited safety features when you're shopping for a new car. You might not be able to drive home in a Mercedes or a Lexus, but your loved ones may be as safe as if they were in a much pricier car.