



# WHITING REFINERY Federal Credit Union

1339 119th STREET • WHITING, INDIANA 46394 • (219) 659-3254 • www.wrfcu.org • January 2008



## 73<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**ANNUAL MEETING DATE**  
*March 17, 2008*

At 7:00 pm  
St. John Panel Room  
1844 Lincoln Avenue  
Whiting, IN 46394

Mark your calendar now to attend your credit union's 2008 annual meeting. We will talk about the financial status of the credit union and goals for the upcoming year. We will also hold elections for the 2008 Board of Directors. This important distinction makes your credit union different from banks and other for-profit financial institutions. Our governing body (Board of Directors) is democratically elected by you, our members. They volunteer their time to help guide our primary mission of providing a wide range of not-for-profit financial services. We return the income made from our services directly to our members in the form of better interest rates on savings and lower interest rates and fees on loans.

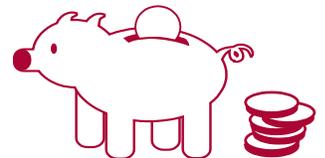
Come be a part of this important occasion. For more information, call the credit union.

## LONGTIME EMPLOYEE PASSES AWAY

On Friday, November 16th, Ruth Magurany passed away. Many of our older members will remember Ruth as being a very kind, compassionate and helpful person. Ruth was an employee of the credit union for 15 years with many years of service as a member of the Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee. We'll miss her greatly.



## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE (1/1/08 - 2/29/08)



Now's the time to open an account for anyone in your immediate family who is related to you by blood or marriage. By encouraging them to come in and become a credit union member, we will deposit a finder's fee of \$20.00 into your savings account at the credit union.

We're also looking for those BP employees who do not currently have an account at the Credit Union. We will make an initial deposit of \$25.00 into a savings account for them. A finder's fee of \$20.00 also applies towards sending in a BP employee.

## Best Rates on Vehicle Loans



If you're in the market for a new or newer used vehicle, please stop by or call your credit union to talk about financing. We've got the best rates on a variety of loan programs designed to fit your needs and budget. Finance up to 100% of the full purchase price,

including tax, license, and any service contract. Loans for new automobiles can be financed for up to 7 years at a fixed interest rate.

We urge you to see your credit union first for financing BEFORE you visit the dealer. With your financing in place, you can bargain from a position of authority and get your best deal by applying all dealer and factory incentives directly to the purchase price of the vehicle.

# *important information!*

1. The next time you order checks, have only your initial (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your checkbook, they will not know if you sign your checks with just your initials or your first name, but your bank will know how you sign your checks.

2. Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put "PHOTO ID REQUIRED".

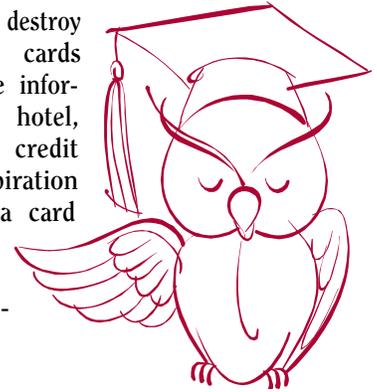
3. When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers, the credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check-processing channels will not have access to it.

4. Put your work phone number on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a P.O. Box, use that instead of your home address.

5. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what's in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. Also carry a photocopy of your passport when traveling either here or abroad. We have all heard horror stories about fraud that is committed on us in stealing a name, address, social security number, credit cards, etc.

6. When you check out of a hotel that uses cards for keys (and they all seem to do that now), do not turn the "keys" in.

Take them with you and destroy them. Those little cards have on them all of the information you gave the hotel, including address and credit card numbers and expiration dates. Someone with a card reader, or employee of the hotel, can access all that information with no problem whatsoever.



## *Here is some critical information to limit the damage in case of fraud:*

1. Cancel all credit cards immediately. The key is having the toll free numbers and credit cards handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

2. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent and this is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one). However, here is what is perhaps the most important of all;

3. Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and social security number. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

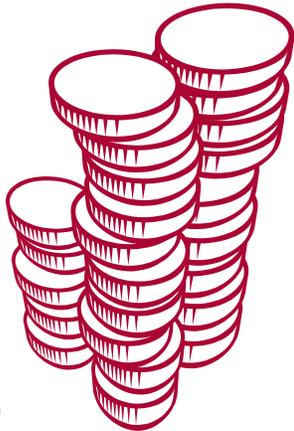
## *Now here are the numbers you always need to contact about your wallet and contents being stolen:*

1. Equifax: 1-800-525-6285

2. Experian (Formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742

3. Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289

## **SMALL CHANGE BIG SAVINGS**



Would you like to be able to save \$30 or \$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.

## **STOP WRITING CHECKS:**

## **GET YOUR CU DEBIT CARD TODAY**



Writing checks is great for some things – like paying the rent/ mortgage or the utility bill, but for buying \$20 worth of gas or a latte at your favorite coffee shop - no way; it just requires too much time and hassle, and many merchants do not even accept checks any more.

For small, incidental purchases, we recommend a Debit Card from the credit union. It looks and works just like a credit card. Once you swipe the card through the card reader, you enter either your PIN or sign a receipt. The only thing you need to do is record the transaction in your check register just as though you had written a check.

A Debit Card is fast, convenient and best of all free. Call or stop by the credit union today to learn more.

# LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME?



Don't be swayed by television ads (and all those spam e-mails in your inbox) promising a mortgage at what seems to be an impossibly low monthly payment. We'll let you in on a little secret: It's impossible. Your low payment will only last for a few months, then, through some contractual fine print in your lending agreement, your monthly payment will skyrocket, or you'll receive a bill for a "balloon payment" for the entire remainder of the mortgage. Can't meet their new terms? Well then, get ready to refinance (at a much higher cost, of course) or, worse, sell your home.

**The answer?** Go local with your mortgage by turning to a financial institution that has earned your trust over the years with straight talk and no surprises on all your financial needs – your credit union.

You may think of your credit union as only a source for the "basics" – like checking and auto loans, but the same honesty and integrity we offer with the basics extends to our many mortgage products as well. We'll work with you to finance that dream home with a mortgage you can afford and with no surprises down the road.

For more information regarding our mortgage loans, contact

**Ted Izak at Lake Mortgage.**

**1-219-769-5941 or 1-800-627-5566.**



# 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.

## WRFCU AUTOMOBILE LOANS

*New - 4/1/2007*

CAR YEAR	RATE	% FINANCING	TERM
NEW & USED	4.80%	100%	36 Months
2007	4.90%	100%	48 Months
	5.00%	100%	60 Months
ONLY AVAILABLE ON			
NEW & USED	6.00%	100%	72 Months
2007	7.00%	100%	84 Months
OVER \$20,000.00			
2006	5.00%	100% Book Value	36 Months
	5.25%	100% Book Value	48 Months
2005	5.50%	100% Book Value	48 Months
2004	5.25%	75% Book Value	42 Months
	6.00 %	100% Book Value	42 Months
2003	5.25%	70% Book Value	42 Months
	6.25%	100% Book Value	42 Months
2002	5.25%	65% Book Value	36 Months
	6.25%	100% Book Value	36 Months
2001	5.50%	60% Book Value	24 Months
	6.50%	100% Book Value	24 Months
2000	5.75%	50% Book Value	24 Months
	6.75%	100% Book Value	24 Months

## DIVIDEND NEWS

The Board of Directors declared to pay 2.50% APR/2.52% APY on all eligible share accounts for the Fourth quarter of 2007 payable January 1, 2008.

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## CERTIFICATE RATES

1 Year (\$1,000.00 min) 4.50%APR/4.59%APY  
2 Year (\$1,000.00 min) 4.75%APR/4.85%APY

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## LOAN RATES

**SIGNATURE LOAN (\$10,000 maximum)**  
7.00% 12 Months  
9.50% 48 Months

**SHARE PLEDGE LOAN**  
4.50% 60 Months

**STOCK LOAN (50% Market Value)**  
5.00% 60 Months

**EDUCATIONAL LOAN**  
7.00% 48 Months

### MORTGAGE LOANS

Our low loan rates change often. Call Ted Izak at Lake Mortgage for more information or to apply for a loan. 219-769-5941 or 1-800-627-5566.

## Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union

*SERVING OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1935*

1339 - 119th Street,  
Whiting, Indiana 46394  
(219)659-3254

### HOURS

8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday thru Friday  
Payday Friday - Open until 6:00 p.m.

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

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## Holiday Closings

**Tuesday, January 1, 2008  
NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY**

**Monday, February 18, 2008  
PRESIDENT'S DAY**

**Friday, March 21, 2008  
GOOD FRIDAY**

Your Savings Federally Insured to \$100,000

# NCUA

National Credit Union Administration.  
a U.S. Government Agency

Savings Rate: 2.50% APR/2.52% APY  
2 Year (\$1,000.00 min) 4.75%APR/4.85%APY

**WHITING REFINERY  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**  
1339 - 119th Street  
Whiting, Indiana 46394

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