



ADVISER

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Credit Union News

Lights! Camera! Action!

You can purchase your movie tickets from Healthcare Plus! The tickets are \$7.50 each and can be used at the Carmike Theatre in the Lakewood Mall. The tickets can be purchased at either of our offices. A great gift idea! These tickets are only available to our members.

Debit Card News

On October 25, Healthcare Plus Federal Credit Union began offering Internet PIN Debit – a simple, secure new way to pay with your Advantage Checkcard online. PaySecure from Pulse is a convenient and easy way to pay with PIN debit on the Internet. When you use your Advantage Checkcard at participating on-line merchants, the PaySecure graphical PIN-pad will appear at checkout for the secure entry of your PIN. Enter your PIN using your mouse and your transaction is processed. It's that simple! Visit <http://paysecure.acculynk.com/pulse> to watch a demo, learn the FAQs, and view an up-to-date participating merchant list, special merchant offers, and more.

ATM/Debit Card Fee

Effective February 1, 2011 the replacement fee for ATM/Debit Cards will increase to \$5.00.

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 29 as we embark on our 32nd year of business. Registration begins at 6:00 PM and dinner will be served at 6:30 PM with a short meeting to follow. The annual meeting will be held at the Ramada Inn and tickets will go on sale in early March. Tickets are \$6.00 each until the week of the Annual Meeting then the price will increase to \$10.00 each if there are tickets left. Be sure to buy your tickets early as last year we sold out. Watch for more details. There are three Board of Director terms expiring. Please contact Guy Trenhaile at 605.725.0900 or guy@hcpfcu.coop if you are interested in volunteering.

\$500 Educator Appreciation Scholarship

HCPFCU recognizes the need for financial assistance for educators in Brown County school systems today. The scholarship is for \$500 and half is awarded to the teacher and half is awarded to the school. The scholarship money is to help promote financial literacy among our students. President, Guy Trenhaile said, "We are excited to embark on the second year of the Educator Appreciation Scholarship for persons who have chosen this valuable career path." Applications are available online at www.hcpfcu.coop or at either of our offices. The deadline is March 2, 2011 for scholarship applications.

Leaving For College Soon?

You don't have to leave the credit union. With services like online banking, direct deposit, and ATM networks available across the country, you can manage your credit union accounts while you're away at school just as easily as you did from home. For more information give us a call or stop in today. We can help you make the most of your membership during your time on campus.

Winter 2011

Four- \$500 Scholarships Available!

Healthcare Plus Federal Credit Union will be awarding one \$500 scholarship to a high school senior planning on attending a post-secondary institution. The second \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in his/her second year or higher at a post-secondary educational institution. The third \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in graduate school. The fourth \$500 scholarship is a new scholarship called the Educator Appreciation Scholarship. Applicants must be current credit union members. Applications became available January 3, 2011 and may be picked up at either office or from our website www.hcpfcu.coop, click on Press Room. All applications must be received by March 2, 2011. Scholarship winners will be notified by mail. There will be a certificate ceremony for the four winners at our Annual Meeting on April 29. To ensure fairness, the scholarship applicants will remain anonymous to the scholarship committee.

In addition to our four scholarships, if you have been a member of our credit union for at least one year you are eligible to apply for the MidAmerica Credit Union Association Scholarship. The MidAmerica Credit Union will award ten \$500 scholarships for the applicants that exemplify the credit union philosophy of "people helping people" through volunteerism, community service, and leadership. Five \$500 scholarships will be awarded in North Dakota and five \$500 scholarships in South Dakota. Applications may be accessed via our web site www.hcpfcu.coop under press room.

Trivia

Would you guess that the average life expectancy of a one-dollar bill is just 18 months or that you can fold a dollar bill 8,000 times before it will tear?

A New Year, A New You, A New Finance Plan?

Is it time to review your financial plan and goals? Ed Hargens, CFP can help you. His office is located at our Dakota St location and he is here on Fridays from 9am-12noon. Appointments are recommended but not necessary. Call 725.9800 for more information.

Holiday Closings:

Monday, January 17, 2011
Martin Luther King Day

Monday, February 21, 2011
Presidents Day

Christmas Club Account

Now is the time to start your Christmas Club Account. You can set up weekly, bi-weekly, monthly deposits into your account. Make next year's Christmas shopping easier by saving all year long.

IRA Reminder

Your annual \$10 IRA administration fee will be deducted from your IRA unless paid by January 10th. Please call 605.725.0900 if you have questions.

Financial Snapshot

November 2010

Members: 3390

Shares: \$20,512,000

Loans: \$28,819,000

Assets: \$33,158,000

This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration at least up to \$250,000.

Financial Education Info

Pay on time or pay more – the choice is yours. Making just one late auto loan payment cuts your credit score by as much as 98 points, changing a good credit rating into a mediocre score. A lower credit rating means high interest costs for loans, cell phones, vehicle insurance and more. Source: Experian

½ Price Safe Deposit Boxes Available!

You can have a safe deposit box at Healthcare Plus Federal Credit Union's Dakota Street office. Our safe deposit boxes are designed to give you a safe place to store your valuables, along with the peace of mind that comes from knowing that these items are secure. Safe deposit boxes are available in a variety of sizes. So no matter how large or small the items that you want to keep safe, we have a safe deposit box that will meet your needs.

There are three sizes available:
3 x10 box for \$20 **SALE \$10**
5 x10 box for \$30 **SALE \$15**
10 x 10 box for \$40 **SALE \$20**

These prices are for a 1 year commitment and will be billed annually. The contents inside your safe deposit box are not insured by the credit union. Please contact one of our Member Services Representative at 605.725.0900 for more information. This offer **expires February 28, 2011** so call now!

Simplify your 2011 IRA Contribution with Direct Deposit!

One way to ensure that you adequately fund your IRA in 2011 is to instruct the IRS to directly deposit all or a portion of your 2010 tax refund into your Traditional or Roth individual retirement account.

Direct deposit is fast, safe and convenient. Tax payers who e-file and chose direct deposit often get their refund in half the time of traditional paper filers. With your 2011 IRA contribution safely deposited in your account early in the year, you won't have to worry about end of the year expenses robbing your ability to fund your IRA when tax time comes around again. **Don't forget; the faster you can put your contribution in, the longer it has to work for you!**

To arrange for direct deposit of your 2010 tax refund, enter our routing number, 291481496, where instructed on your 2010 tax return. You can also direct the IRS to split the direct deposit of your refund among multiple accounts. Download Form 8888 and additional instructions from the IRS website at www.irs.ustreas.gov.

Notice to Advantage ATM and Checkcard customers:

Your Advantage ATM and Checkcard allows you to conduct purchase transactions through Visa or PULSE networks. If you select the credit button on the merchant terminal, the transaction will be routed to Visa. If you choose the debit button and enter your PIN, it will be routed to PULSE (referred to as a "PINned Network"). If the merchant accepts more than one network you have the right to select Visa or a PINned Network. Some e-commerce merchants are authorized to accept PINned transactions without requiring you to enter your PIN. Unauthorized transactions that route through Visa are protected by Visa's Zero Liability. Cardholders may be held partially responsible for unauthorized PINned Network transactions. If you have any questions please call our office.

Avoid Overdraft Fees

How do you avoid overdraft fees? Here's what many members do:

- Record all withdrawals in your check register as soon as you initiate the transaction and all deposits as soon as they become available.
- Check e*Teller regularly to monitor activity in your account. Remember that your available balance in e*Teller only reflects transactions that have cleared your account up to that moment. Checks and debit card purchases that have not cleared and ACH withdrawals scheduled to occur in the next few days are not reflected in that balance.
- To cover potential mistakes, keep a cash cushion in your account.
- Review your statement promptly each month and verify the entries in your check register. Balance your account regularly.
- Sign up for Overdraft Protection. This is a special pre-approved line of credit to qualified members of HCPFCU. If a transaction exceeds your balance, we will automatically deposit that amount to your account up to your pre-approved limit. There is no cost to apply for Overdraft Protection to your checking account and it will only cost a small transfer fee of \$2/transaction and an interest charge when you need to use it.

Good Debt vs. Bad Debt

Is there such a thing as good debt? The answer may surprise you. Good debt is debt that can provide a financial pay off. Borrowing to buy/remodel a home, paying for a child's education, advancing your own career skills or buying a car to get to work can provide long-term financial benefits. Bad debt is when you borrow for things that don't provide financial benefits or that don't last as long as the loan. This includes borrowing for vacations, clothing, furniture or dining out.