



HOT NEWS

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Hours & Phone



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Find Your Account Number and Win \$25!

If you are one of the lucky members who finds his or her account number hidden in this issue of "Hot News" by October 31, 2005 you will win \$25. Congratulations to last quarter's winner Susan Petrella!

The Myth of 0% Financing

Shopping for a new car or truck? Unless you plan on paying cash, you are really shopping for two things: the vehicle and the loan.



Dealers offer 0% financing only when they make more profit on the car. Often, they offer a choice of a cash rebate or 0% financing. At first glance, 0% dealer financing may seem like a better deal, but take a close look below at how getting a rebate and financing through the Credit Union can be the better deal.

Example*: \$30,000 car with \$2,000 down vs. taking a \$3,500 rebate and financing at 4.9% APR with the Credit Union:

	0% from Dealer	Credit Union
Car Price	\$ 30,000.	\$ 30,000
Down payment	\$ 2,000.	\$ 2,000
Rebate	-0-	\$ 3,500
Loan Amount	\$ 28,000.	\$ 24,500
Loan Rate	0.0 % APR	4.9% APR
Loan payment 48 months	\$ 583.00.	\$ 563.11
Total of Payments	\$ 28,000	\$27,029.28
Total Cost (out of pocket)	\$ 30,000	\$29,029.28
Savings on purchase		\$ 970.72
Monthly payment savings		\$ 20.22

* The above example is based on a vehicle priced at \$30,000 with a dealer/ factory rebate of \$3,500 and financing of 4.9% Annual Percentage Rate. Purchase price, down payment, rebate and financing rate may differ.

Applying the dealer rebate reduces the purchase price. Combine this with a low-rate vehicle loan from the Credit Union and you lower your monthly payments and the total amount you pay over the life of the loan.

Consider getting pre-approved Credit Union financing before you go into the dealership to shop for your new vehicle. You can then focus on negotiating the lowest price for the car and qualifying for the cash rebate.

Call the Credit Union today to discuss financing your next vehicle purchase!

HOLIDAYS

Columbus Day
October 10

Veterans Day
November 11

Thanksgiving
November 24

Christmas
December 26

New Year
January 2

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AMERICA'S
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ATLANTIC CITY FIREMEN'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Take the Naughty Out of Holiday Shopping CU Holiday Club Accounts

When was the last time you began the holiday shopping season knowing you had enough money set aside for all of those gifts? If you're like most, you take what you can from your fall paychecks, and put the rest on credit cards. With a little advance planning, you could avoid the stress of running through your next holiday season's gift list with much more cheer.

The Credit Union offers you ways to save up that are easy and painless. By using Payroll Deduction, you can have a pre-determined amount deposited into a Holiday Club Account for you. When the next holiday shopping season arrives, you'll be surprised at the amount you've got waiting for you. The Credit Union has many financial solutions available. Contact us today and we'll help you come up with a plan to make your life easier and your dreams come true.



Financial Literacy for Youth and Children

With credit card and student loan debt on the rise for college students, it has never been clearer that kids are not receiving the financial educations they need. It might seem like just one more thing in the schedule, but educating youth about how to manage their money can help them avoid many pitfalls in their adult years.

Here are some simple lesson ideas for helping your kids become more financially savvy:

Checking Accounts: If a child can add and subtract, they can balance their checking account.

Credit: For any of us, playing with credit is like playing with fire. Understanding how credit cards work is critical for anyone. There are many resources available to you for teaching your youth about credit. Contact your local Consumer Credit Counselor for extra information.

Other possible topics include: Cell Phones: Understanding cell phone minutes and charges; Holiday Gift Giving: how to make a budget and choose gifts based on meaning, not glitz; Value for the Dollar: those \$250 designer jeans may be the latest, hottest thing, but what are you trading off when you drop all of your money in one place?



Holiday Greetings from the
Staff at Atlantic City
Firemen's FCU.

Free Personal Credit Reports Now Available to Consumers

September 1 marked the date when residents of 13 eastern states, Puerto Rico, and all U.S. territories, can obtain a free copy of their credit report from one of the three credit reporting agencies under the new federal Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act (FACT Act).

The new law permits consumers to receive one free credit report per year from Equifax, TransUnion, and Experian. The goal is to prevent identity theft, resolve consumer credit disputes, and improve the accuracy of consumer credit reports. According to the Federal Trade Commission, more than 6,530 residents of New Jersey were victims of identity theft last year.

Consumers are urged to be wary of companies with similar sounding names that may require a purchase in exchange for the free credit report or ones that make offers to repair damaged credit. If consumers are not certain a credit-reporting agency is legitimate, or they believe they are a victim of identity theft, they should contact the FTC at www.ftc.gov.

We suggest staggering your requests to each agency over the year so that you may periodically check on your credit throughout the year (every four months, for instance). Free reports may be requested online at www.annual-creditreport.com or call toll-free, 877-322-8228. Consumers may also send a request by mail to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.