

# THE CU Exchange

Serving the Saint Luke's Medical Community

OCTOBER 2009



## We've Drastically Reduced Rates!



Now may be one of the better times to purchase a new or used vehicle. Why now?

In addition to deductions from the federal stimulus package relating to vehicles, federal credits for purchasing gas efficient and hybrid vehicles, and our partnership with Auto Direct, we are adding to the money you'll save with reduced vehicle loan rates for anything with tires—as low as 3.5%. We have also lowered qualifying credit scores. So, it can be a great time to buy.

The latest 2010 models are rolling out and dealers will want to move previous models. With manufacturer and dealer incentives, it's not unusual to snag a vehicle at, or below, dealer cost.

Just see us for your pre-approved loan, check out Auto Direct's discounted prices just for members, and drive off with the wheels you need. You can see all the rates and qualifying credit scores by clicking on the "Loan Rate" link on our website. Or just call us—we'll help you get the right set of "tires" at the right price. ♦

## The President's Memo

As our American soldiers continue to fight in Afghanistan and Iraq for the Freedom of our country, it makes me proud to be an American. On Wednesday, November 11th, this country will recognize the 90th anniversary of a special day set aside to honor the contributions of those who have, and do serve our country. The first nationwide commemoration was held on November 11, 1919, a day proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson to honor all of those who have served in "Wars" to protect "Our Nation." On this special day, Veterans Day, be sure and thank a soldier or a veteran for aiding in preserving our freedom. Never take freedom for granted; it is a valuable privilege that we will always preserve.

*Louise Venable*

## Come Celebrate With Us on October 15!

What do 177 million people worldwide have in common? They all belong to a Credit Union to achieve their financial goals, thereby enriching their lives.

The Credit Union will celebrate "International Credit Union Day" on Thursday, October 15th. The celebration of this day began in 1948 in recognition of a cooperative financial that puts people before profits. A credit union represents value, trust and high-quality service—a safe place to save and a fair place to borrow.

Stop by the Westport Branch of Saint Luke's Credit Union anytime on October 15th and enjoy refreshments on us. ♦



YOUR CREDIT UNION™

## Economic Stimulus Package—

## Has Something For All

The record-setting \$787 billion stimulus package passed by Congress includes something for nearly everyone. But some tax-credits are for a limited time only, so don't miss out on any that might apply to you. Consult your tax advisor for guidance.

- ❖ First-time homebuyers are eligible for a refundable tax credit of up to \$8,000 for purchases made before December 2009. The credit phases out for single taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes that exceed \$75,000, or \$150,000 for married couples filing jointly. If you sell the house within three years, the credit is forfeited.
- ❖ Tax credits for purchases to make your home energy efficient, such as

new furnaces or insulation, are increased to 30 percent through 2010, for up to \$1,500.

- ❖ Buy a new vehicle in 2009 (with a price tag of up to \$49,500) and you can deduct state, local and excise taxes, as well as the interest on your car loan. The tax break is an above-the-line deduction, which means it can be taken even if you do not itemize other deductions. The deduction begins to phase out for single tax filers with adjusted gross income of more than \$125,000, or \$250,000 for married couples filing jointly.
- ❖ The tax credit for purchasing a plug-in-hybrid vehicle is now \$7,500.

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## NEW ATM

A "surcharge free" ATM will be installed in the Medical Plaza II Building, located across from Cardiovascular Consultants. We're scheduled for an October 7th installation, so watch for this convenient new ATM! Foreign cards used from other financial institutions will also be surcharge free.

## theINbox

good things to know

### Best CU in the Northland!

The North Branch Location of Saint Luke's Credit Union was awarded as one of the "Best Credit Unions North of the River." The Credit Union considers this quite an honor and would like to thank all of the members who voted for us!

### A Branch That's Always Open

It's midnight and you want to know that balance in your checking account. Or it's 6 a.m. and you need to transfer funds to make a loan payment. No need to wait until the Credit Union office is open—our online branch—FastNET—is always open. When you sign up to use FastNET, you can do many transactions on your schedule, not ours. We will even set you up on electronic statements. You'll not only receive the statement more quickly, it won't ever get lost in the mail or stolen from your mailbox. To find out more about putting the Credit Union at your fingertips, call us today, it's easy to sign up.

### Loans Online 24/7

Our online loan application puts the Credit Union at your fingertips 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's as quick as a few mouse clicks and as easy as a few keystrokes, and secure, too. For more information, just visit our website. If you need help, just call our office at 816-932-5300 and ask for Mitch or Shani. They are always here to serve you.

## AutoDirect Offers Solid Deal



The Credit Union and AutoDirect will again partner for a variety of discounted auto purchases available to our members. AutoDirect specializes in used autos and trucks, and is located at 7805 Frontage Road in Overland Park, Kansas—just off the outer road of I-35 & 75th Street. If you are in need of a vehicle, stop by the Credit Union for a pre-approved auto loan and then drive to AutoDirect for your great auto deal.

**AutoDirect will make the first payment, up to \$300.**

This offer is not valid on previous purchases or combined with any other offer. Some restrictions may apply. The vehicle must be purchased from AutoDirect and financed through Saint Luke's Credit Union to qualify. Offer valid 10/1/09 - 11/30/09. ♦



## 12-12-12: Ho-Ho-Ho-liday Loans

The holidays are just around the corner and this year, especially, that may not be news of good cheer. The Credit Union is here to help with our popular holiday loan. Use the money for whatever you need to make your holidays happy and bright. A holiday loan can actually save you money when you leave your credit cards at home. That's because department store and other credit cards

may have interest rates as high as 24 percent. You may be paying for purchases over and over again when you make only the minimum payment. With a Credit Union holiday loan, you'll pay for presents, shipping and postage, decorations, food, entertainment and other expenses only once. Plus, a holiday loan can help you stick to your budget because it puts your spending on a cash basis. Apply for our **12-month, \$1,200 at 12%** loan today and put some "ho-ho-ho" into your holiday.

## Christmas Club \$ Available November 3rd

If you have been one of our "thrifty members" who have saved all year for Christmas, your money will be available on Tuesday, November 3rd. Your money will be placed directly into your Saint Luke's Savings Account. If you want us to place this into a different account, or you would like us to mail you a check, just call our main location at 816-932-5300. Your Christmas Club account will automatically roll over and begin saving for next year. ♦



## SMILE...It's Picture Time

The Credit Union will again be providing a free 8 x 10 color portrait of our members and their families (one per family, please). Pictures will again be taken at the Main Branch location in Westport at 4200 Pennsylvania, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 6, 7 & 8th. Don't hesitate...phone our main location at 816-932-5300 and make your appointment today as space is limited.

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Columbus Day – October 12th                    | Christmas Day – Dec 25th                    |
| Veterans Day – November 11th                   | New Years Eve – Dec 31st (close at 1:00 pm) |
| Thanksgiving Day – November 26th               | January 1, 2010 - Closed all day            |
| Christmas Eve – Dec 24th<br>(close at 1:00 pm) |   |

### Plaza/Westport

4200 Pennsylvania, Ste 161  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
(816) 932-5300  
Fax: (816) 932-3175  
Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri  
7:30-5:00 p.m.  
Wed: 7:30-4:00 p.m.

### South

12300 Metcalf Ave.  
Overland Park, KS 66213  
(913) 317-7770  
T, Th & F 8:00-4:30 p.m.

FastLINE 24-Hour Teller: (816) 932-FAST (3278)

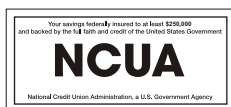
Toll Free Access: 1-888-888-0624

### North

5800 NW Barry Road  
Kansas City, MO 64151  
(816) 880-6364  
MWF 8:00-4:30 p.m.

### East

100 N. E. Saint Luke's Blvd.  
Lee's Summit, MO 64086  
(816) 347-4833  
M & F 8:00-4:30 p.m.



## Economic Stimulus Package—

*continued...*

- ❖ Buy an Energy Star appliance and get a rebate.
- ❖ The federal Hope Scholarship for 2009 and 2010 is expanded to provide a tax credit of up to \$2,500 a year for all four years of college tuition, instead of \$1,800 a year for the first two years. The tax credit phases out for individuals making above \$80,000 and couples earning over \$160,000.
- ❖ A tax credit at a rate of 6.2 percent of earning income (after federal taxes are taken out), up to \$400 for individuals and up to \$800 for couples, will be provided in 2009 and 2010. The credit begins to phase out at income levels of \$75,000 for individuals and \$150,000 for married couples filing jointly. Since the credit is "refundable," people with no federal income tax liability will get money back. Recipients of Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Benefits, and Veteran's Disability Compensation or pension benefits were given a one-time payment of \$250.