

A New Year

Welcome to a new year, and a new look for East Idaho Credit Union. We wish you a wonderful 2011, and hope you will turn to us for all your financial needs during the coming months. Our website and newsletter are designed to help you with any and all of your concerns for you and your family's secured future. In this publication you will find advice and tips on how to approach your money. Online you will find updated articles, rates, tools and calculators for all ages. So enjoy this newsletter and check us out at www.EastIdahoCU.org. Happy New Year!

Holiday Closings

1/1
New Year's Day

1/17
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

2/21
Presidents' Day

Secrets to Maximizing Social Security

We now know that depending entirely on Social Security benefits as your retirement plan is not a prudent strategy. The earlier you start saving and investing your own money the more successful you will be at reaching your retirement goals. But, there are some ways to maximize the benefits you do receive from Social Security.

Strategy 1: File and Suspend

File for your benefits when you reach retirement age so your spouse or children can collect their benefits based on your earnings record. Immediately suspend your benefits and wait to claim at age 70 when they are worth much more. Your benefits will increase by an additional 8% for each year you delay collecting beyond your normal retirement age.

Strategy 2: Collect Some Now, More Later

Another strategy is to collect half of your spouse's benefits now and delay collecting your own benefits until later, when they will be worth more. This works best for two-career couples and is available only if one person is at least 66 years old.

Strategy 3: Retirement Do-Over

Many people file for Social Security as soon as they are eligible, assuming some money now is the safer bet. However, they often regret settling for the lower sum when they've reached age 70. There is an obscure provision that allows you to repay your benefits, interest- and penalty-free, and then reapply for a bigger monthly check at an older age. In order to get one, you must first file IRS Form 521 ("Request for Withdrawal of Application") at your local Social Security office.

As with any financial strategy, check with your financial planner for your unique situation. You can also visit the Social Security website at www.SSA.gov for more information.



Notice

Beginning Thursday February 10, 2011 our Overdraft, Courtesy Pay and Insufficient funds charges will change from \$22.50 to \$25.00 per occurrence. If you use these services please make note of any and all changes.

As we begin our 76th year, East Idaho Credit Union wants to thank you for your membership and encouragement, and let you know that we look forward to serving you.

Effect Change

The successful operation of a credit union depends on the participation of our dedicated volunteers. If you (or another member you know) would be a great candidate for our board of directors, consider a board member nomination. Please contact East Idaho Credit Union's nominating committee chair Daryl Olsen at 208.390.6898 or e-mail him at fotoguy430@gmail.com. The Deadline is Feb. 12, 2011.

The Five Items that Affect Your Credit Score the Most

When you try and get new loan for a home, car, or credit card, one of the first things that will happen is the establishment will check your credit score. Your credit score is used an indicator of the risk that establishment will take on if they grant you the credit you are requesting. It is presumed that the lower your score the higher their risk.

Help yourself by managing your money responsibly and keeping in mind these five items that affect your credit score the most.

Payment History - 35%: Did you and do you pay your loan obligations on time? Do you have foreclosures, charge-offs, bankruptcies? If you have to pay late, don't be more than 30 days late.

Amounts Owed - 30%: Keep your credit card balances below 15-25% of your total available credit. Being too close to your credit limits is a warning sign that you may be overextended.

Length of Credit History - 15%: The longer your credit history the more established you appear—as long as the record is also free of defaults and late payments.

New Credit - 10%: New credit, especially lots of new credit in a short period of time, is a red flag that you may be experiencing a financial crisis situation and will be a higher risk for repayment. When applying for a home mortgage or auto loan, don't open any new credit 6 months prior to your placing your loan application.

Types of Credit in Use - 10%: It's good to have different types of credit on you report that shows responsible money management across several formats—revolving credit, fixed loans, installment plans, national and department store credit cards.

Always check your credit file and credit score once a year and review for errors. Take the time to get them fixed. You're entitled to one free credit report every year from each of the top three credit bureaus and you can get them at one location—www.AnnualCreditReport.com. This is the ONLY official site to help consumers obtain their reports absolutely FREE.

Your 75th Annual Meeting

East Idaho Credit Union invites you to attend our (your) annual meeting on Thursday March 31, 2011. Please note that all members are equal owners of the Credit Union whether their deposits are \$50 or \$500,000 and you deserve to know what is going on with your financial institution.

East Idaho Credit Union's annual meeting is democracy in action. It's an occasion for management and elected officials to report to you, our owners. It is also an opportunity for you to raise concerns, ask questions and meet the management team.

You will learn more about the Credit Union's financial position, our products and services, current business issues, and future goals. You'll be able to meet face-to-face the professionals who run your credit union.

When Members actively participate and share ideas, the entire Credit Union benefits. Without member input, leaders can only guess what owners like you want from their financial institution. There is no better time to evaluate the financial condition of your Credit Union, learn more about how you save and borrow and be better prepared to face today's many financial challenges.

We look forward to seeing you on March 31, 2011. (Ask a Member Services Representative for exact time and location)



Dino Share Club

Quarterly Drawing Winners:

Branch

Main Office
Freeman
Ammon
Shelley
Rexburg
St. Anthony
Dubois
Arco
Challis
Salmon

\$5 Winner

Marie W.
Elizabeth J.
Treyson C.
Keagan H.
Nicholas K.
Chantea L.
Victoria M.
Sage B.
Kaelee M.
Trent B.

\$2 Winner

Natalie R.
Zachary H.
Haylee W.
Talynn R.
Brianna F.
Aiden D.
Brooklyn M.
Gunner W.
River C.
Kyra M.



Savings Rates*

APY**

Classic Savings	.25%
Savings Plus	
\$1,000 min.	.20%
\$2,500 min.	.30%
Money Market	
\$2,500 min.	.45%
\$20,000 min.	.65%
\$75,000 min.	.85%
IRA	
Floating Account	1.01%
Premier & Golden Access Checking	
\$500 min.	.05%
\$2,500 min.	.10%
\$10,000 min.	.15%

* Anticipated annual dividend rates. All rates are subject to change without notice.

** Annual percentage yield. Deposits are federally insured up to \$250,000 and Individual Retirement Account (IRA) deposits are insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

All rates are shown as Annual Percentage Yield (APY). Early withdrawal of funds may affect the Annual Percentage Yield (APY) and a penalty may be imposed. Rates are set by the Board of Directors and are typically updated weekly. Online rate schedule may not reflect most current rate changes and are subject to change without notice. Please verify rates with your local branch for complete accuracy.

Branches

Idaho Falls Branch

865 S. Woodruff Ave.
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
208.523.9068

Freeman Park Branch

1170 Science Center Dr.
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
208.523.9069

Ammon Branch

3255 E. 17th Street
Ammon, ID 83406
208.528.5430

Shelley Branch

418 W. Fir Street
Shelley, ID 83274
208.357.7680

Rexburg Branch

412 Grand Loop
Rexburg, ID 83440
208.356.0191

St. Anthony Branch

99 N. Bridge Street
St. Anthony, ID 83445
208.624.4352

Dubois Branch

227 W. Main Street
Dubois, ID 83423
208.374.5574

Arco Branch

302 W. Grand Avenue
Arco, ID 83213
208.527.3941

Challis Branch

1307A Highway 93 S.
Challis, ID 83226
208.879.4545

Salmon Branch

777 Shoup Street
Salmon, ID 83467
208.756.3329

Call Center

208.523.9068 or
1.800.727.9961
Monday-Friday: 9am-5:30pm
Saturday: 10am-2pm



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