



SUMMER 2011

# CREDIT UNION CHATTER

The **Heat** is on and we have a loan rate that **Sizzles!**



Rate available from July 1 - August 31, 2011 on new money only. \$4,500.00 for 36 months max. Cannot be combined with any other loans. Visit [www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org](http://www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org) or stop in to any of our locations to apply. Loan approval based on current loan guidelines.

GREATER PITTSBURGH  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
[www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org](http://www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org)

OAKLAND (MAIN) OFFICE:  
Monday thru Friday  
9:30 AM-4:00 PM  
412-621-6800  
FAX 412-681-7421  
TOLL FREE 1-888-673-7224

UPMC PASSAVANT OFFICE:  
Monday thru Friday  
9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
412-367-6338  
FAX 412-367-6658

UPMC PRESBY OFFICE:  
Monday and Wednesday  
7:30 AM-3:30 PM  
Friday  
7:30 AM-3:00 PM  
412-647-6337

UPMC CHILDREN'S OFFICE:  
Monday - Wednesday - Friday  
7:30 AM-3:30 PM  
412-688-0442

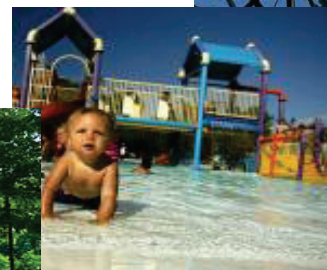
UPMC MERCY OFFICE:  
Tuesday  
8:30 AM-12:30 PM  
Thursday  
12:00 PM-4:00 PM  
412-232-7717

## Amusement Park Ticket Sale!

Our discount tickets are good for any day at any of the three parks shown below. We accept cash and direct transfers from your available shares only.

Tickets are available at the Main Office. Please call at least two days ahead if you wish to pick tickets up at any other location. See page 4 for more information on our other office locations.

Kennywood = \$28.50  
Sandcastle = \$22.50  
Idlewild = \$26.50



## Fall Auto Loan Special

If you missed the Spring Auto Loan Special, no need to worry. Our next special is right around the corner, starting August 1st. Keep an eye open for a mailer announcing the sale and rates in late July.



Cars



Boats



Bikes

Greater Pittsburgh  
Federal Credit Union

The Preferred  
Credit Union  
serving employees of the  
University of Pittsburgh,  
UPMC and many more!

All rates shown are subject to change without notice. For current rates please see our website.

### **HOME EQUITY LOAN RATES**

Fixed Rate Loans - Over \$25k  
New money only  
3.99%.....5 year repayment  
4.49%.....10 year repayment  
4.75%.....15 year repayment

Fixed Rate Loans - Under \$25k  
4.75%.....5 year repayment  
5.10%.....10 year repayment  
5.25%.....15 year repayment

Call the Main Office to apply.

All Home Equity Loans have a minimum of \$5000.00 and a maximum of 80% of the appraised value minus any mortgage balance.

### **HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT**

4.25%.....variable rate

### **PERSONAL LOAN RATES**

Minimum — \$500.00  
Maximum - 1 month gross salary if employed 3 to 12 months. 2 month gross salary if employed 1 year or more with current employer.  
8.50%.....3 year repayment  
9.50%.....4 year repayment

### **AUTO LOAN RATES**

New Car Loan.....4.45%  
100% financing for up to 5 years.  
\$25,000.00 or more up to 6 years financing.

Used Car Loan.....5.45%  
2007 - 3 year repayment  
2008 and newer - 4 year maximum repayment.  
Financing 80% of the NADA Blue Book Value.

The personal loan rates listed here are effective before and after the Summer Loan Special which ends August 31, 2011.



*"Nothing in the known universe travels faster than a bad check."*

Author Unknown  
Found in a fortune cookie

The following dividends were posted  
07/01/2011

### **REGULAR SHARES**

\$0.00 TO 149.99.....0.00%  
\$150.00 TO 4999.99.....0.20%  
\$5,000.00 TO 9999.99.....0.45%  
\$10,000 AND OVER.....0.70%

### **CLUB ACCOUNTS**

\$0.00 TO 149.99.....0.00%  
\$150.00 TO 4999.99.....0.10%  
\$5,000.00 AND OVER.....0.18%

### **IRA'S**

Passbook Accounts.....0.45%

### **CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT & IRA CERTIFICATES**

Six Month.....0.40%  
One Year.....0.50%  
Two Year.....0.70%  
Three Year.....1.00%  
Four Year.....1.20%  
Five Year.....1.40%

Minimum \$1,000.00 for  
Certificates of Deposit

### **VISA CREDIT CARDS**

Balance Transfers.....6.9%  
Cash Advances.....6.9%  
New purchases.....9.9%

Please call our North Hills Office for more information on our VISA credit card including how to obtain an account, cash advances, limit increases, and/or balance transfer information.

We also have a link on our home page which allows you to view your statement, payment activity, and balances of your credit card.



All offices of the Credit Union  
will be **CLOSED**  
Thursday, July 28, 2011  
for an In-Service day.

### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

*As we all know the economy is in a slump and finances are tight. Your credit union is here for you to assist you with your financial needs. Under current policies and loan guidelines all members are eligible to apply for a loan. For those members considering this and maybe having doubts or being aware of a problem with their credit, we suggest that you get an annual free credit report. Verify the information on that report, clarify the information and if you owe an outstanding balance work with the credit grantor to repay the obligations. This will prevent us from having to deny your loan request due to delinquent credit obligations.*

*We also ask that you complete your application, sign it, and provide a current pay stub so that all necessary information is provided. If you are using a co-maker on your loan please see that they qualify as well. Pertinent information is also required for the co-maker.*

*Please note that the credit union does not lend money to pay off delinquent accounts. All accounts appearing on your credit report must be current. The money we lend is money deposited into savings by our members and we must make every effort to guarantee that those funds are repaid on time and according to the provisions of the promissory note. If you have questions or need assistance with understanding our lending requirements you may consult with our staff members who will be happy to assist you.*

*Our biggest concern is making good loans to qualified members and protecting the investments of all of our members. Every time an account becomes delinquent, a loan or VISA balance is charged-off as a loss, or a bankruptcy is filed - that causes us a loss and the entire membership suffers. This prevents us from paying better dividends on our savings and offering great loan rates. Wise financial planning as well as good spending habits are important for now and in the future.*

Sincerely,

Patricia J. Juliano  
President & CEO

SUMMER 2011

## **Changes in the Fee Schedule - Effective September 1st**

There will be changes made to our fee schedule effective September 1, 2011.

The new fee schedule will be available on our website at [www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org](http://www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org) by the end of August. You can find it by clicking on the rates link. There will also be a postcard mailed to your household in July listing the new fees.

## **Club Accounts**

With vacation season in full swing, now is a great time to consider opening a Vacation Club Account with a payroll deduction. Just think, a bi-weekly deduction of just \$20.00 will save you a little over \$500.00 towards next year's vacation! Sweet!

We also have Christmas Club Accounts that allow you to start saving for the holiday season.

You may open either of these accounts at any time. The limits for withdrawals are as follows:

- Share Account = 8 withdrawals per year**
- Vacation Account = 3 withdrawals per year**
- Christmas Account = 1 withdrawal per year**

There is a fee for any withdrawals made after you reach the limit on any account. Currently the excessive withdrawal fee is \$10.00. Please see above about the changes in the fee schedule.

If you find that you are getting hit with an excessive withdrawal fee over and over again, you may want to take some time to review your payroll deductions. Lowering this amount can still help you save without shorting yourself come pay day.

Payroll deduction cards are available at any of our locations. They are not available online.

## **Tax Tips from The Internal Revenue Service (IRS):**

Did you know that you may be able to deduct some of your job search expenses on your tax return?

Many taxpayers spend time during the summer months updating their resume and attending career fairs. If you are searching for a job this summer, you may be able to deduct some of your expenses on your tax return. Here are the six things the IRS wants you to know about deducting costs related to your job search.

1. To qualify for a deduction, the expenses must be spent on a job search in your current occupation. You may not deduct expenses incurred while looking for a job in a new occupation.
2. You can deduct employment and outplacement agency fees you pay while looking for a job in your present occupation. If your employer pays you back in a later year for employment agency fees, you must include the amount you receive in your gross income up to the amount of your tax benefit in the earlier year.
3. You can deduct amounts you spend for preparing and mailing copies of your resume to prospective employers as long as you are looking for a new job in your present occupation.
4. If you travel to an area to look for a new job in your present occupation, you may be able to deduct travel expenses to and from the area. You can only deduct the travel expenses if the trip is primarily to look for a new job. The amount of time you spend on personal activity compared to the amount of time you spend looking for work is important in determining whether the trip is primarily personal or is primarily to look for a new job.
5. You cannot deduct job search expenses if there is a substantial break between the end of your last job and the time you begin looking for a new one.
6. You cannot deduct job search expenses if you are looking for a job for the first time.

For more information about job search expenses, see IRS Publication 529, Miscellaneous Deductions. This publication is available on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) or by calling 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

## **Important information from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC):**

For families and businesses affected by weather emergencies:

**Communication is more important than ever.** Call your creditors and ask for help. Ask about programs in place to defer your loan payments, waive late fees, or raise credit limit temporarily while you get back on your feet.

**Get a copy of your credit report.** If you've lost your financial records and need help identifying your creditors, get your credit report. It's free from [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com) or by phone at 1-877-322-8228.

**Be on alert for scams.** Advance-fee credit arrangements, where you are required to pay a fee for a credit card or some other line of credit before you receive it, are illegal.

For more ideas on what to do if you are affected by a weather emergency or what you can do to be prepared for an emergency, please log on to the FTC's website at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) and search for disaster preparedness.



*"I look just like the girls next door..."*

*if you happen to live next door to an amusement park."*

*Dolly Parton*



**ALTERNATE OFFICE LOCATIONS**

We have several locations available for your convenience to assist you with applications, deposits, payroll deductions, and any other questions you may have. **Checks can be printed from any of these locations with the exception of Shadyside.**

**UPMC SHADYSIDE SATELLITE:** There is a credit union representative available on a rotating schedule at UPMC Shadyside Hospital. Please call our representative at the UPMC Children’s location for more information. The phone number is 412-688-0442.

**UPMC CHILDREN’S OFFICE:** Located across from Children’s Hospital at 4414 Penn Avenue in Lawrenceville. This location is open 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. This office is closed for lunch from 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Call us at 412-688-0442.

**UPMC MERCY OFFICE:** Located on the 1st floor of St. Ann Center in room 108. This office is open on Tuesday from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and Thursday from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Call us at 412-232-7717.

**UPMC PASSAVANT OFFICE:** Located in the Professional Bldg beside Passavant Hospital. This location is open 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. VISA credit card questions should be directed to this office, and any check requests must be called in before 4:00 PM. Call us at 412-367-6338.

**UPMC PRESBY OFFICE:** Located in the hospital on the eleventh floor by the cafeteria. This location is open 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM Monday and Wednesday and 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM on Friday. This office is closed for lunch from 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Call us at 412-647-6337.



End of Summer = Back to School!

*“If there were no schools to take the children away from home part of the time, the insane asylums would be filled with mothers.”*

Edgar W. Howe



**LOOKING AHEAD**

JRJ, Jr. Memorial Fund Raiser

Fall Auto Loan Special

Back-to-School for the kiddies

**ANSWER TO THE LAST CHATTER CHALLENGE**

Q: What are the two things you should look for to determine if a website is encrypted?

A: You should look for the “https” and a lock icon to determine if a site is encrypted.

Thanks for Playing - and Good Luck with the next Chatter Challenge!

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

Stella D. Teynor  
Winner of last quarter’s Chatter Challenge  
&  
Jullian Wallace  
Winner of last quarter’s New Member Raffle.

**CHATTER CHALLENGE**

For this Chatter Challenge, see if you can answer this question: Where can you find the fee schedule on our website? If you know the answer, send it to us. Names of participants will be entered in a drawing. The drawing will be held at the main office on September 27, 2011. The winner will receive a \$50.00 deposit to their share account. All entries must include the member’s name, account number, and daytime phone number. Please mail or fax your answer to the Main Office in Webster Hall with the heading, “Chatter Challenge”.

You may also e-mail us at [info@greaterpittsburghfcu.org](mailto:info@greaterpittsburghfcu.org) with “Chatter Challenge” in the subject line. Remember to keep reading your Credit Union Chatter so that you stay informed, updated, and possibly rewarded!

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- In-Service Day.....Thursday, July 28th - CLOSED
- JRJ, Jr Memorial Fund Raiser.....Monday, August 22nd - Friday 26th
- Labor Day.....Monday, September 5th - CLOSED
- Patriot Day.....Sunday, September 11th
- Grandparents Day.....Sunday, September 11th
- Columbus Day.....Monday, October 10th - CLOSED
- Halloween.....Monday, October 31st
- Election Day.....Tuesday, November 8th

Greater Pittsburgh FCU  
4415 Fifth Avenue  
Suite 100  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
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North Hills Branch Office  
Passavant Professional Bldg  
1st Floor, Suite 1107 A  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
Phone: 412-367-6338  
Fax: 412-367-6658

Please also visit us at:  
[www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org](http://www.greaterpittsburghfcu.org)

**MEETING YOUR FINANCIAL NEEDS IS OUR TOP PRIORITY!**