

QUARTER NEWS



A PUBLICATION OF EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION
AND KAUFMAN COUNTY CREDIT UNION,
A BRANCH OF EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

www.ecudallas.org

SERVING OUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 57 YEARS — 1952-2009

Spring 2009

INSIDER TIPS

Don't believe the rumors! ECU has money to lend

ECU has money to lend for that next new mortgage or refinance, home equity, new car, used car, and other financing opportunities. We make things happen! Come match our money to your needs.

ECU MasterCard reminder

Remember that the ECU MasterCard has a 3.9% APY balance transfer available through April 30, 2009. Rates are effective until the first billing cycle after July 2009.

New features for Home Banking

After many months of development, users of our Home Banking service can now reset their own PIN if they forget what they originally set up. This new ability removes the need to contact a credit union staff member during business hours to ask for a reset. We are always working on our services to make them as user-friendly as possible.

Need to update your address or telephone numbers? Send a message through the Secure message center located in Home Banking. Because of security we can't accept updates by e-mail or by telephone, this gives you a very convenient way to get the information to us.

Credit report notice

ECU/KCCU does report information about your credit union share and loan accounts to credit bureaus. Payments that may be late, missed or in default will be reported and reflected in your credit report.

IRA's: WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Have you been watching the black hole grow while your investment balance shrinks? You can change that!

Now is the time to put your money in an IRA certificate and provide safekeeping for your retirement years. No concerns over principal shriveling. For the tax year 2008, your IRA funds must be on deposit by April 15, 2009, and the maximum you can contribute is \$5,000 with an additional \$1,000 if you are age 50 or over.

Your IRA account is federally insured up to a maximum deposit of \$250,000 through the National Credit Union Administration Insurance Fund (similar to the FDIC for banks). Deposits should begin the first year of employment to establish the habit for your life time.

A wonderful gift for your children is to help them establish an IRA. Of course, they must have earned income of an equal amount being deposited. You can use the ROTH or the Traditional IRA. The ROTH offers many advantages such as allowing you to withdraw after



five years and past age 59-1/2 and incur no tax.

Or, you may wish to pass it on to your heirs – tax free. Some may choose to fund the Traditional IRA, which is tax-deductible, lessening the tax you may pay on income for the year.

Our IRA specialist can help you determine the best choice for your circumstances. But, don't wait – DO IT TODAY!

You can also begin to save for or totally fund your 2009 deposit, which has the same maximum deposit amounts. By doing so now, you can "immediately" begin the tax free interest you will earn.

continued to page 2

NO NEED FOR CREDIT CARD REFORM

Many changes are being required in the credit card industry due to the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act effective July 1, 2010. BUT, no changes are necessary at ECU/KCCU because we have ALWAYS been looking out for our members by offering reasonable programs and competitive rates. This is the perfect time to reward yourself and your credit union by using our great MasterCard program!

1. We have never taken the approach of increasing your rate with us if you failed to pay "another" vendor. Other lenders will be required to do what we do – prohibit "universal" default. Some lenders now have a policy where if you are late on any "one" account, wherever it may be, that will automatically trigger an interest rate increase on the credit card account you have with them. ECU does not do that. We have a reasonable approach. Overall "credit worthiness" has always been part of our loan policies. All late payments on your ECU MasterCard have an adverse effect on your credit report and score. All cards are

reviewed annually, not quarterly. If there is a dramatic decline in your credit score the credit union can adjust your rate based upon the credit card agreement.

2. Credit card issuers will now be required to bar "any time, any reason" interest-rate increases and account changes. ECU never did this.

3. Bar retroactive interest-rate increases, the allocation of all payments to lower-rate balances and double-cycle billing. Your credit union is not guilty of addressing members in this way.

4. Limit fees and penalties. Our fees/penalties have always been less than the average programs you see with other financial institutions.
5. Increase disclosures to cardholders. We do whatever it takes to make you aware of policy.

continued to page 2



NEED TO KNOW

MAIN LOCATION

Employees Credit Union

8989 Harry Hines Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75235-1717

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 542288
Dallas, TX 75354-2288

HOURS OF OPERATION

Lobby Tellers

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Member Services

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Drive-thru Tellers

Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday 7:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Loan Department

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(additional hours are available by appointment)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Office

214-357-3328 (metro)
888-344-9994 (toll-free)

Audio Response

214-357-9009 (metro)
877-525-9994 (toll-free)

Fax

214-357-3299

INTERNET

E-mail:

services@ecudallas.org
managers@ecudallas.org
ecufinancial@ecudallas.org

Web Site:

www.ecudallas.org

BRANCH LOCATIONS

Kaufman County Credit Union

A Branch of Employees Credit Union
315 E. Fair St.

Kaufman, TX 75142

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 988
Kaufman, TX 75142

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

(additional hours are available
by appointment)

DRIVE-THRU TELLERS

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to Noon

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Office

972-932-8323

Audio Response

214-357-9009 (metro)
877-525-9994 (toll-free)

Fax

972-932-8393

INTERNET

E-mail:

csadler@ecudallas.org

Web Site:

www.ecudallas.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Linville, *Chairman*
Jack (Bud) Burleson, *Vice
Chairman*
David Knop, *Secretary-
Treasurer*

Alma Connally, *Past
Chairman*
Mary Burgess
Ann Kahn
Lana McCallie, *President/
CEO - ECU*

PHISHING LEADS TO VISHING SCAMMERS SET UP FAKE PHONE NUMBERS

By now, almost everyone knows about phishing, where a crook sends an illegitimate e-mail that instructs

recipients to click a link in the email and confirm personal data such as their Social Security number, credit/debit card number, PIN, birthdate, etc.

A new version – vishing – is growing rapidly due to the rise of Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology, which allows scammers to set up and breakdown their operations quickly to avoid detection.

Short for “voice phishing,” vishing centers on the telephone. Vishing scammers set up fake phone numbers that they mask to appear legitimate. They operate using sophisticated systems similar to what consumers are accustomed to when they interface with their financial institutions.

There are two primary vishing variations:

1. You may receive an e-mail, similar to a phishing scam, but instead of being directed through an Internet link, you are instructed to call a phone number. There, an automated prompt (or a scam artist pretending to be a call center employee) asks for your personal information.
2. You may receive an automated or

live phone call requesting the same information or a message directing you to call a fraudulent number. The

vishing scammer may already have some personal information, such as an account number, which makes the request for additional information more convincing.



TO PROTECT YOURSELF:

- Be suspicious of any e-mail requesting personal information that claims to be from your credit union.
- Double-check any phone numbers against your credit union's customer service numbers listed on the back of your debit/credit cards and/or account statement.
- Be wary of phone callers who say they are from the credit union unless you know them personally.
- Never provide personal information such as your credit/debit card number or PIN.
- Instead of supplying the requested information to a caller or automated system, hang up and call the credit union back at the number listed on your debit or credit card or account statement;
- Report any suspicious calls to the credit union so the authorities and other members can be alerted.

Tax benefits of IRA's

Continued from page 1

REMINDER: For those 70-1/2 who might normally have a Required Minimum Distribution, the government has waived the distribution requirement for 2009. This will help folks who have invested in the market and who have experienced the diminishing trend in stock values. It will give individuals an opportunity to regain value rather than disburse.

holder meets his or her obligations under the plan. ECU already observes this policy. Once you have 6 consecutive months of payments made on time, your penalty rate can be reduced.

7. Require underage consumers (under 21) to obtain parent or guardian signatures who will co-sign on debt. ECU already follows this guideline. We want a responsible adult to jointly be liable for a young borrower until the young adult is qualified independently to handle the account. That gives parents an opportunity to help teach their adult offspring as well as allow ECU to protect funds owned by our membership.

Credit card reform

Continued from page 1

We don't like surprises, and we know you don't either!

6. Require issuers to reduce penalty rates after six months if the card

Security Note: As a safety measure, it is required that caps/hats and sunglasses be removed before entering our facility. Your cooperation is appreciated.





IN THE COMMUNITY

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

— Winston Churchill

People Helping People

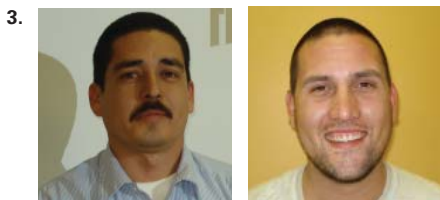
1. Valentines for Veterans The Office of U.S. Representative Jeb Hensarling (5th District of Texas) collected "Valentines for Veterans" in early February. The valentines were hand delivered to hospitalized veterans at the Dallas Veterans Administration Medical Center and to members of the armed services returning from overseas at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. Staff at the KCCU office participated in the project by making valentines. *Photo: Ginger Hughey (left), Connie Sadler and Jessica Sanchez.*



2. Pennies for Patients KCCU Collected "Pennies for Patients" for the Scurry-Rosser High School Student Council. The funds benefited the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Dallas. Those who contributed \$1.00 or more had a paper penny icon with their name on the icon on display in the Kaufman office lobby. *Photo: KCCU tells Pam Moore (left) Jessica Sanchez and Student Council Reps Kelsey McWha and Kailey Wright.*



3. Financial Wellness ECU presented Financial Wellness classes at Kahn Mechanical on Feb. 15 and 22, and at the Dallas Deaf Club on March 20. The Vatterott Educational Center has two training classes set for May 7. *Photos: Kahn's Alex Chavez (left) and Joel Rede were drawing winners.*



4. Career/College Fair ECU's Christella Guy participated in the T.J. Rusk School's 4th annual Career and College Fair March 11. More than 830 students attended. Participants were: DFW Area Health Education Center, Southwest Airlines, American Airlines, U T Southwestern Medical, AT&T, Sheriff's Department, Dallas Police Department, Love Field Aviation, Employees Credit Union, Brookhaven, El Centro, Eastfield, DCCC Outreach (Community Colleges), DART, UT Dallas, Princeton Review, and Archer Western – DART.

Charter School Partnership ECU partnered with Williams Preparatory

School in February to provide materials for them to teach the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) class to students.

Financial Planning ECU/KCCU partners with the Texas Credit Union Foundation where training is provided to credit union staff and professional school teachers. The training and materials are totally free. Individual workbooks are provided at no charge to each student participating in the program.

The book has seven units covering the following topics: Your Financial Plan: Where It All Begins; Budgeting: Making the Most of Your Money; Investing: Making Money Work for You; Good Debt, Bad Debt: Using Credit Wisely; Your Money: Keeping It Safe and Secure; Insurance: Protecting What You Have; Your Career: Doing What Matters Most.

Scholarships KCCU is providing a \$500 scholarship to a winning graduating senior at Kaufman and Scurry high schools. Check in with school counselors for participation details.

ECUBulletin

Your source for credit union info

Mark your calendar

ECU/KCCU will be closed on the following days:

- Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day
- Saturday, July 4 - Independence Day (KCCU)
- Monday, Sept. 7 - Labor Day
- Monday, Oct. 12 - Columbus Day
- Wednesday, Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
- Thursday, Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, Nov. 27 - Day after Thanksgiving
- Thursday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve
- Friday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

Applause

Feb. 10 was National Accredited ACH Professional (AAP) Recognition Day. Vonda Burkhart earned this designation in 2005 and Lisa Bellew earned her designation as an ACH Certified Professional in 2006. It is an ongoing process to stay on top of changes and improvements in the electronic payments processing.

Join us for CMN Golf Tournament, May 11

The Hackberry Country Club in Irving will be the site of the Children's Miracle Network Golf Classic on May 11. Proceeds benefit the Children's Miracle Network supporting the Children's Medical Center. All members are invited. The individual registration is \$150 until April 30. After April 30 the fee is \$200 per player. Team options are available. For more information, call Angela Bynum at (214) 456-8387.

Six Flags/Hurricane Harbor discount tickets

ECU and KCCU offer Six Flags Over Texas and Hurricane Harbor tickets and season passes. Tickets are on sale now.

April is Financial Literacy month

April is National Youth Financial Literacy Month. ECU/KCCU are out to "make a difference" by teaching financial literacy skills in the community. To schedule a class for your organization, call (214) 357-3328.

Upcoming on-site visits

- Dallas Market Center Health and Wellness Fair, April 23
- Andrews Distributing Health Fair, April 24.

Call ECU to schedule an on-site visit.

SERVICES

EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

SAVINGS:

Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)
Looney Tunes Savings Club
Money Market Savings Accounts
Share Draft (Checking) Accounts
Share (Savings) Accounts
Secondary Savings Accounts
Term Share Accounts (Certificates)

LENDING SERVICES:

Bill/Credit Consolidation Loans
CyberAutoNetwork (New & Pre-owned)

Dent Zone Insurance **NEW!**

Driving Sense Balloon Notes
Enterprise Car Sales (Pre-owned)
Free MasterCard Cash Advances
Home Equity Loans
Home Improvement Loans
Gold MasterCard with CashBack
MasterCard: Regular and Secured
MasterCard Balance Transfers
Mortgage/Real Estate Loans
New and Used Vehicle Loans
Preapproved Line-of-Credit
Signature Loans

SPECIALIZED AUTO SERVICES:

Extended Service Contracts
Guaranteed Auto Protection

CONVENIENCES:

24-Hour Bilingual Audio Response
Account Alerts via Home Banking
ACH Loan Payment **NEW!**
Check Cashing of Sponsor Checks
Checking Overdraft Protection
Direct Deposit and Payroll Deduction
Drive-Thru Teller Lanes
Drive-Thru ATM Access
Entertainment Passbook
E-Statements
E-Transfer

Family Membership Eligibility
Fort Worth Zoo Discounts
Free Bare Bones Checking Account
Free Home Banking **ENHANCEMENTS!**
Free Notary Service

Free Online Bill Payment with any Checking **NEW!**

Free VISA Cash Advances
LifeLock ID Protection
MasterCard Gift Card **NEW!**
Members Auto Insurance
Members Homeowners Insurance
Night Depository
Online Loan Application
Online Membership Application
Official Checks
Safe Deposit Boxes
Signature Validation
Six Flags/Hurricane Harbor Discounts
VISA Check Card (Debit Card)
Western Union/Wire Transfers
Web Site and E-mail

INSURANCE:

AD&D Insurance
Federally Insured Deposits
Loan Protection Insurance

'We love our credit union'

Members share their thoughts about ECU/KCCU

Over the years we have financed many personal vehicles, farm and business equipment, and personal loans. There was never an uncomfortable moment in the entire process.

Connie [Sadler] and the KCCU staff have never turned us away. Connie will tell you the best way to finance a need, the type of insurance required, state issues, and all that goes with making an important decision. The interest rates cannot be beat anywhere. KCCU has



George and Pat Evans (left) and Gayle Bailey and Connie Sadler.

even matched or beat rates that a dealership has offered. Through tragedy (we have had some) or triumph (had those too), KCCU and Connie were there every step of the way. We cannot begin to describe the comfort in knowing we had a place to turn when we needed it.

While our youngest son, Charlie, was in Iraq, Gayle made sure his accounts were taken care of and that he could access anything he needed. Gayle worked with him to make sure the Army paperwork was in order to have his money available to him all over the world. She also worked with Charlie via e-mail to help when he needed her the most. It is a true comfort to know there are others out there willing to help him.

The wonderful people here at KCCU are also our prayer partners. We love you and would do anything in the world for you — you surely have for us.

George and Pat Evans

You guys rock. I don't spend a lot of time banking, but your people represent what banking used to be — what it SHOULD be. I feel like Tony LaTour is my private lending agent. He remembers my name when he sees me and I can conduct almost any business via phone, fax or mail. He saves me so much time and trouble when I need a loan! Vonda [Burkhart] has been especially helpful in helping me set up the proper account to best suit my needs.

Trish Penna

Senior Compliance Specialist, Silverleaf Resorts, Inc.

There are two of your employees that are helpful, friendly and nice. One is Brandon Brown in your main office. I always look forward to his smile and "Hi, Ms. Bills." The other one is Charlie Boucher at the RIA office in Carrollton. I do not know what I would do without him. He has worked with me and my family in many types of situations for many years. They know me and I know them. Thanks to both of them.

Linda Bills

Vonda [Burkhart] has been more than helpful to me more than once or twice. She is a great asset to your organization and a valued employee in my eyes. I do electronic banking and she always is ready to help me if I do something stupid or have a question.

Bobbie Campbell



Pat Moore, Jessica Sanchez, Gayle Bailey, Ginger Hughey and Connie Sadler.

Readers Choice Awards:
The Kaufman Herald's Readers Choice Awards named KCCU as favorite financial institution (tie), Gayle Bailey as favorite banker (tie) and Ginger Hughey won Favorite Loan Officer.

Connie Sadler is the best employee that your office could ever have. She has always gone above and beyond for my husband and myself on any and everything we have ever needed. She has done things for us concerning our accounts that no other bank would have done. We just want to let you and especially her know that we appreciate everything that she does and we enjoy banking with you.

Kim and Charles Boyd