

Tips from the Budget Counselor

United Federal Credit Union is committed to helping members improve their financial lives, and provides free budget counseling. Budget Counseling is for everyone, not just those in catastrophic situations. Following are a few budget tips to consider:

Make a list of your debts. Include how much you owe and what rate of interest you are being charged on each debt. Pay off the one with the most expensive interest rate first, not necessarily the largest amount owed. Update the list each month and total the amount owed to make sure it is getting smaller each month.

Establish a savings plan. Have both short-term and long-term savings goals.

The short-term is for things like insurance, auto repairs, holiday gifts and other regular, predictable costs. The long-term is for house down payments, kids' college and retirement. Keep the two funds separate and set a specific amount to go into each fund out of every paycheck.

Save first. Don't try to save out of whatever money is left over after other bills have been paid. There usually isn't any left. Making your savings payments first forces you to see what you really have to live on. You may currently be living beyond your means but credit has disguised it.

Understand that credit is not more money. If your credit card has a \$5,000

limit, you don't have \$5,000. You only have the right to rent \$5,000 and you may have to pay a very high price for that right in some cases.

Use limited revolving credit. People find it easier to spend when they pull the plastic out of their wallet. If you can't control your credit card spending, cut your cards up and throw them away. If you crave the convenience, try a debit card. It offers all the immediate access of a credit card along with immediate reduction of your checking account.

For more information, call Judy Baker at 888-200-7834, extension #302 for an appointment.

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St. Joseph, MI 49085

Michigan: Benton Harbor, Berrien Springs, Buchanan, Holland, Niles, Stevensville, St. Joseph

Arkansas: Fort Smith, Van Buren **North Carolina:** Fletcher, Statesville

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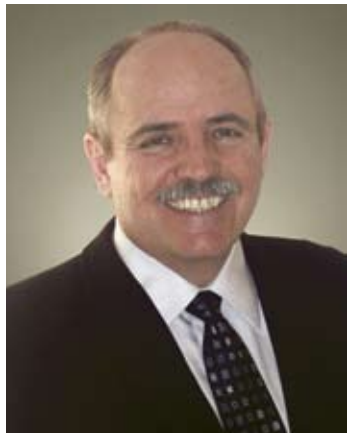
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memberupdate
SPRING/SUMMER 2007

Introducing our new CEO

The Board of Directors of United Federal Credit Union is happy to announce the appointment of **Gary Easterling** of Medina, Ohio, to the position of President and CEO. Gary is a seasoned executive with more than 20 years of credit union experience. Serving in various capacities at Wright-Patt Credit Union, Fairborn, Ohio, from 1995 to 2006, he has played leadership roles in almost every area. Gary's responsibilities have included Vice President and Chief Business Development Officer, Vice President and Chief Operations Officer, and Vice President/Information and Technology. These efforts resulted in the first \$1 billion credit union in Ohio while at the same time maintaining high levels of member service.



Gary Easterling

Most recently, Gary has served as CEO for Century Credit Union, Cleveland, Ohio. While serving in this capacity, he brought leadership to the management team and the Board of Directors to create an environment focused on service to the member and growth that is beneficial to all stakeholders.

Gary holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Indiana. He also holds certification through the Credit Union Executive Society (CUES) Institute as a Certified Chief Executive and has completed the Credit Union National Association's (CUNA) Management School.

As a strong supporter of community and service organizations, Easterling is a member of the Board of Trustees of Ronald McDonald Charities; an Adjunct Faculty Member for Indiana Wesleyan University; a member of the Board of Trustees and youth director for Faith Hill Church of God; and he has held the positions of Board Member, Board Chair and President of the New Carlisle Sertoma Club.

Gary and his wife Gay have been married for 35 years and have two daughters and two grandchildren. Gary will be joining the St. Joseph community on June 4 and Gay will follow as soon as they complete the relocation of their household.

what's inside

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> [Home Equity Loans](#)

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"We are both excited about making our new home in the St. Joseph area and I can't wait to take my grandkids fishing in my new hometown." — Gary Easterling

we'll get you there.



Members Advantage Money Market

product/service feature



HOW WE'RE DOING →

AS OF MAY 15.07

ASSETS	TOTAL LOANS	TOTAL DEPOSITS
\$729,941,180	\$636,795,751	\$529,111,040
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	76,132	
NEW MEMBERS Y.T.D.	3,254	

Make this a summer to remember!

Have you been thinking of adding a room onto your house? How about a new deck, a great vacation or even a new car? We can make it happen with our affordable home equity loans.

Because each person has individual needs, United offers several different programs that will help you achieve your goals.

- Choose from variable or fixed rate loans.
- No closing costs.
- Quick processing!

Give us a call today and let us show you how to make this summer one to remember!

Time for a new car?

Give us a call today and ask us about our great auto loans!

United's new Members Advantage Money Market provides you with liquidity plus a great rate of return!

Your rate is indexed, so when the market moves so will your rate. You will earn real market rates at all times.

Our tiered account does the work for you. When you reach the next level of savings, your rate will automatically increase - no need to call, no stopping by the branch - we'll take care of it for you.

As always, your funds are insured up to \$350,000 through a combination of the National Credit Union Administration and Excess Share Insurance.

Why not make your money work harder for you? Open **your** Members Advantage Money Market today by stopping by a local branch or calling us toll-free at (888) 982-1400.

\$1,000 - \$9,999	1.25%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	1.50%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	4.25%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	4.50%
\$100,000 - \$349,000	4.75%
\$350,000 +	5.25%

Liquidity.

Great rate.

No Hassles.



we'll get you

TravelLink

A UFCU/Carlson-Wagonlit Travel Partner-

United Federal Credit Union has made a commitment to our members to provide you with extra value from your credit union membership. We have added a special travel service for you, in partnership with Carlson Wagonlit Travel.

Features of this program include exclusive travel opportunities – ranging from one-day bus trips to cruises to exotic vacations to faraway places!

What makes this program unique from other online travel programs is that there are real people behind the scenes who can be contacted by telephone if you need help with your arrangements. Our program offers all of the same conveniences that other sites provide – and much, much more.

To visit TravelLink, go to www.unitedfcu.com and click on the TravelLink banner on the home page.

vacation winner



Congratulations to **Marlene Pudell!** Marlene was the winner of our \$5,000 Member's Choice Vacation Package. Marlene has been a member of United FCU since 1980.

congratulations!

Our Visa cards love to travel!

When travelling this summer, make sure to bring along your United FCU Visa card. These aren't your run-of-the-mill credit cards. United Visa cards not only offer a great low rate, but our Visa Gold and Platinum cards accumulate CardPerks points each time you make a purchase. Use your points to obtain free gift cards, airline tickets, car rentals and much more!

Win a free summer beach pack!

Each time you make a purchase this summer with your United FCU Visa card, you will be entered in a drawing for a free summer beach pack!



* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) as of June 1, 2007; subject to change. Minimum account balance of \$1,000 required to avoid penalties. Insurance provided by NCUA and ESI.

