

WHITING REFINERY Federal Credit Union

1339 119th STREET • WHITING, INDIANA 46394 • (219) 659-3254 • www.wrfcu.org • January, 2007

72nd Annual Membership Meeting

Mark your calendar now to attend your credit union's 2007 annual meeting. This is one of your credit union's most important yearly events where you will learn about the financial health of your credit union through various reports by your credit union officers. And, most importantly, you will take part in the democratic process of electing new board members. This is a key difference between your credit union and banks and other "forprofit" financial institutions. You actually get to have a voice in your credit union's future through your member-elected governing board. There will be prizes and refreshments and a chance to meet and visit with staff, elected officials, and your fellow credit union members. Plan to attend now. If you have any questions about the annual meeting, call or stop by today.

Annual Meeting Date

March 19, 2007 at 7:00 pm

St. John Panel Room 1844 Lincoln Ave. Whiting, IN 46394

Membership Drive

(Through 2/28/07)

Now's the time to open an account for anyone in your immediate family who is related to you by blood or marriage. By encouraging them to come in and become a credit union member, we will deposit a finder's fee of \$20.00 into your savings account at the credit union.

We're also looking for those BP employees who do not currently have an account at the Credit Union. We will make an initial deposit of \$25.00 into a savings account for them. A finder's fee of \$20.00 also applies towards sending in a BP Employee.

Top FIVE Most Common TAX MISTAKES

- **1.** Simple math errors. Always recheck your math calculations (addition, multiplication, and subtraction).
- **2.** Entering incorrect Social Security numbers, Double-check all the SSNs on your return. All must be correct in order to process the return.
- **3.** Every dependent claimed on your return even a new baby must have a Social Security number.
- **4.** Don't forget to include interest income, dividends, and capital gains. All financial institutions report these amount to IRS.
- **5.** Last but not least don't forget to sign your return!

Home Mortgages Available At Your Credit Union



Shopping for a mortgage on your first home or thinking about refinancing an existing mortgage to lower your monthly payment? Think about your credit union first. Many people still think of their credit union as a place for basic financial services such as savings, checking, and car loans. But, did you know your credit union offers very competitive rates and terms on home mortgages?

As a non-for-profit financial institution, your credit union doesn't pay stockholder dividends and operates with a volunteer board of directors.

As a result, we can return a portion of our operating income directly to our members in the form of lower rates on all types of loans, including home mortgages. Avoid the come-ons from banks, other financial institutions, TV, and the Internet. They promise great deals, but when you check out the fine print, they usually aren't such a great bargain. At your credit union, we offer the best overall deal when you factor in interest rates, fees, and closing costs. Stop by or give us a call to find out our rates. If you're ready to apply for a mortgage, give Ted Izak a call at Lake Mortgage – 1-219-769-5941 or 1-800-627-5566.

DON'T GET Phished, Pharmed or Vished

The identity thieves are at it again, and they are getting more and more devious in their attempts to lure you into their nets. Once they have your personal information, they can wreak havoc on your financial life, costing you hundreds and even thousands of dollars. First, there was phishing and pharming to obtain your personal and financial information via e-mail. Phishing is where you reply directly to the e-mail. Pharming is a more elaborate scheme where the perpetrators lure you (via e-mail) to a Web site that resembles the real thing. However, it's an elaborate "mirror site" where all your information (passwords, account numbers) go directly into the thieves' hands for immediate misuse.

With the public getting wise to Internet scams, thieves are turning to a new ploy, vishing, that combines old and new technology. The old technology is the telephone, which thieves believe their victims are more familiar with and relaxed about. The new technology is Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), a type of phone service, which allows thieves to blanket an area with fake phone calls and then harvest information once the victim responds to the phone call. Since the phone calls (both outgoing and in-

coming) hitch a "free ride" on the thieves' Internet service, the phone calls cost them virtually nothing.

It usually works like this: The victim receives a phone call with a recorded message saying their credit card has been compromised and to call a certain phone number immediately. Once they call that number, another recorded voice asks them to enter their 16 digit account number. Easily obtainable software converts the phone keystrokes into a numeric display. We'll leave the rest to your imagination.

The solutions are easy. With phishing and pharming, do not reply directly to e-mails, and do not click on links supplied in the e-mails. If you get a phone call with a recorded message, do not call the number given. Instead, call your financial institution's number (usually printed on the back of the credit card) to ask if there is a problem with your account.

Your credit union wants you to play it safe with your personal and account information. Don't become a victim of identity theft. It can cost you big and take months to make it right again.

CHECK US OUT

If your checking account is still at a bank, it's time to check out checking at the credit union. Our checking accounts make using the Credit Union easier than ever. Simplify your finances by having your paycheck or other recurring payment deposited directly into your credit union checking account. You can also set up direct payments for your mortgage or other loans.

Also, if you need money over the weekend when the credit union is closed, you can apply for an ATM card to access your funds. The credit union does not charge any fees for • this service. (You may get charged • a fee by the owner of the ATM machine you use.)

Spring Forward Early This Year!

Beginning in 2007, Daylight Savings Time is extended one month – it starts at 2:00 am on the second Sunday in March and ends at 2:00 am on the first Sunday in November. The new times were set in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

TIPS for DRIVING in SNOW

Winter is here and that means snow. If you have to drive in the snow, your credit union offers these tips:

- Turn your lights on day as well as night.
- When traveling on slick surfaces, use low gears. You will have more traction.
- Don't tailgate. Drive slowly.
- Avoid turning your wheel suddenly. Accelerate gradually. Sudden movements can cause skidding.

If it starts snowing before you start driving, try to wait until one or two inches of snow have fallen before driving. Dry snow on the road can actually provide more traction than spotty snow coverage.

WRFCU AUTOMOBILE LOANS

New - 4/1/2006			
CAR YEAR	RATE	% FINANCING	TERM
NEW & USED	4.80%	100%	36 Months
2006 & 2007	4.90%	100%	48 Months
	5.00%	100%	60 Months
ONLY AVAILABLE ON			
NEW & USED	6.00%	100%	72 Months
2006 & 2007	7.00%	100%	84 Months
OVER \$20,000.00			
2005	5.00%	100% Book Value	36 Months
	5.25%	100% Book Value	48 Months
2004	5.50%	100% Book Value	48 Months
2003	5.25%	75% Book Value	42 Months
	6.00 %	100% Book Value	42 Months
2002	5.25%	70% Book Value	42 Months
	6.25%	100% Book Value	42 Months
2001	5.25%	65% Book Value	36 Months
	6.25%	100% Book Value	36 Months
2000	5.50%	60% Book Value	24 Months
	6.50%	100% Book Value	24 Months
1999	5.75%	50% Book Value	24 Months
	6.75%	100% Book Value	24 Months

DIVIDEND NEWS

The Board of Directors declared to pay 2.50% APR/2.52% APY on all eligible share accounts for the Fourth quarter of 2006 payable January 1, 2007.

CERTIFICATE RATES

1 Year (\$1,000.00 min) 5.00%APR/5.12%APY 2 Year (\$1,000.00 min) 5.25%APR/5.38%APY

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY BOOKS

Golden Opportunity Books are now on sale at the Credit Union for a cost of \$25.00/Book.

We only have a limited amount, so stop on by and get your book while supplies last.

LOAN RATES

SIGNATURE LOAN

7.00% 12 Months 9.50% 48 Months

SHARE PLEDGE LOAN

4.50% 60 Months

STOCK LOAN

5.00% 60 Months

EDUCATIONAL LOAN

7.00% 48 Months

MORTGAGE LOANS

Our low loan rates change often. Call Ted Izak at Lake Mortgage for more information or to apply for a loan. 219-769-5941 or 1-800-627-5566.

Whiting Refinery Federal Credit Union

SERVING OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1935

1339 - 119th Street, Whiting, Indiana 46394 (219)659-3254

HOURS

8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday thru Friday Payday Friday - Open until 6:00 p.m.

www.wrfcu.org

Holiday Closings

Monday, January 1, 2007 NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY

Monday, February 19, 2007 PRESIDENT'S DAY



Savings Rate: 2.50% APR/2.52% APY 2.52% APY 2.52% APP

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
1339 - 119th Street
Whiting, Indiana 46394

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