

Liberty Horizons

★ A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF LIBERTY SAVINGS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ★ Summer 2010 ★



A NEW BENEFIT OF LIBERTY SAVINGS FCU MEMBERSHIP: BALANCE FINANCIAL FITNESS PROGRAM

Liberty Savings FCU is dedicated to helping you realize your financial goals – reducing your debt, saving for higher education, buying your first home, or planning for retirement. This is why we are excited to announce *your newest benefit of membership: BALANCE Financial Fitness Program.*

Through BALANCE, you have access to free, unbiased money management information and assistance. All you have to do is make a toll-free phone call.

BALANCE counselors can answer many of your questions immediately – from how long an item stays on your credit report to whether it's better to lease or buy a car. BALANCE counselors can also give you the personal attention you need to help you with more complex issues like debt elimination or budget development.

If bills have gotten out of hand, your counselor may be able to arrange a Debt Management Plan. BALANCE negotiates with creditors to reduce interest and fees so you can pay your debt quickly and efficiently.

To use the new program, simply call 888-456-2227. Counselors are available Monday through Thursday from 8am to 11pm, Friday, 8am to 8pm, and Saturday, 11am to 8pm (Eastern Time) or you may visit www.balancepro.net for more information.

We recognize that financial concerns have a serious effect on your quality of life. Now, through our newest partnership, you have access to the very best professional guidance – so you can achieve financial security faster than you ever thought possible! ★

What You Need to Know about Overdrafts and Overdraft Fees

An overdraft occurs when you do not have enough money in your account to cover a transaction, but we pay it anyway. We can cover your overdrafts in two different ways:

1. We have standard overdraft practices that come with your account.
2. We also offer overdraft protection plans, such as a link to a savings account, which may be less expensive than our standard overdraft practices. To learn more, ask us about these plans.

This notice explains our standard overdraft practices.

➤ What are the standard overdraft practices that come with my account?

We do authorize and pay overdrafts for the following types of transactions:

- Checks and other transactions made using your checking account number
- Automatic bill payments

We do not authorize and pay overdrafts for the following types of transactions unless you ask us to (see below):

- ATM transactions
- Everyday debit card transactions

We pay overdrafts at our discretion, which means we do not guarantee that we will always authorize and pay any type of transaction.

If we do not authorize and pay an overdraft, your transaction will be declined.

➤ What fees will I be charged if Liberty Savings FCU pays my overdraft?

Under our standard overdraft practices:

- We will charge you a fee of up to **\$25** each time we pay an overdraft.
- If your account is overdrawn for 30 or more consecutive days, we will not pay any additional overdrafts.
- There is no limit on the total fees we can charge you for overdrawing your account.

➤ What if I want Liberty Savings FCU to authorize and pay overdrafts on my ATM and everyday debit card transactions?

If you also want us to authorize and pay overdrafts on ATM and everyday debit card transactions, call 201-659-3900, visit www.lsfcu.org and login to LibertyLink, or complete the form below and present it at a branch or mail it to LSFCU, 666 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07306

I do not want Liberty Savings FCU to authorize and pay overdrafts on my ATM and everyday debit card transactions.

I want Liberty Savings FCU to authorize and pay overdrafts on my ATM and everyday debit card transactions.

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Member Number: _____

LIBERTY SAVING FEDERAL CREDIT UNION SALUTES WOMEN RISING, INC.

Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union salutes Women Rising for providing assistance to women in need throughout our community. "We applaud the mission and goals of Women Rising and we look forward to our continued partnership with them for many years to come," said LSFCU President/CEO Jim Miller, Sr. Women Rising works to strengthen the community and the lives of people in Hudson County. We help to turn the tide against the challenges the women of Hudson County face and help them to:



- *Gain control over their lives*
- *Escape violent domestic situations*
- *Become economically independent*
- *Participate in the local economy*
- *Achieve self-sufficiency*

Some of the services offered by Women Rising include economic development, domestic violence counseling, transitional housing support programs, and youth programs.

In addition, Women Rising's Family Micro Loan Program offers financial literacy classes to residents of Hudson County, as well as grants small one-time micro loans to qualified participants. These loans are to assist with expenses that interfere with one's ability to work or reach their short and long term goals. The January 2010 kick-off class featured a number of experts from banking and finance, including Sean McDonald, Chief Marketing Officer at Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union. The event was filled with valuable financial tools and information to get the participants on the fast track to financial freedom. "Women Rising is especially proud to be partnering with Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union in helping increase the economic vitality of the communities we jointly serve in Hudson County and the surrounding vicinity," says Dr. William Bajor, Program Director at Women Rising.

Women Rising, Inc. is located at 270 Fairmount Avenue in Jersey City. For more information on the Family Micro Loan Program or other services, please contact **Program Coordinator Linnet V. Caban** by telephone at 201.333.5700 ext 554 or e-mail at lcaban@womenrising.org. ★

ATTENTION: CHANGES TO COURTESY PAY BENEFIT!

One-time charges

Recent changes in the law will affect how we apply Courtesy Pay to some transactions using your Liberty Savings Check Card. Beginning August 15, 2010, unless you give us permission, we will no longer be able to honor one-time card transactions or ATM cash withdrawals if they will cause your account balance to become negative.

To avoid having your transactions declined at the point of sale or ATM machine, ***you are required to tell us that you want your Courtesy Pay coverage to continue. You must opt-in for each individual personal checking account you have with us.*** Your election applies only to check card transactions and will not affect Courtesy Pay on your checks, ACH or recurring debit card payments.

You can notify us of your request to have these charges included in your Courtesy Pay protection by returning the enclosed form by mail or by enrolling through the Account Preferences option in our online banking platform, LibertyLink. You may also enroll in person at any LSFCU branch. You may revoke this permission at any time through the same methods.

Courtesy Pay Changes for Freedom Checking accounts

Our Freedom Checking accounts include Courtesy Pay protection, a service that ensures your checks and debit card transactions are paid even when you have accidentally overdrawn your account. Courtesy Pay helps you avoid the embarrassment and additional charges caused by "bounced" checks and declined check card transactions.

There is a limit of one Freedom Checking account per membership. This means that under each member number, only one checking account may qualify for Courtesy Pay protection. Additional checking accounts under the same member number are not evaluated for inclusion in the Courtesy Pay program. Accounts used for associations, businesses, and minors are not eligible for the program.

***So don't delay! Return your opt-in form or enroll through LibertyLink or at a branch TODAY!
Again, the new law takes effect on August 15, 2010!***

SECRETS OF MONEY

Did you know that LSFCU provides an array of outstanding online resources to our members?

Simply go to our website and click on the "Secrets of Money" tab. That will bring you to our online resources page. There you'll find:



Anytime Advisor – an interactive website featuring new articles, blogs, and virtual "coaches" on a variety of financial topics.

Home & Family Finance Resource Center -

Whether you're just starting out in financial matters or a seasoned Baby Boomer looking for advice on how to live a comfortable retirement, this tool is loaded with valuable information that you can use RIGHT NOW.



Googleplex - Perfect for students! Teaches young people the importance of saving & budgeting.

Credit Union Calculators - Go here to view and use planning calculators that cover mortgages, auto purchasing, savings, and lending needs.



Money Mix – Great for young adults looking to purchase a home, buy a car, learn how to save more or perhaps invest some of your hard-earned money. With informative articles, videos, blogs, and more - MoneyMix is a great resource to help you get to where you want to go. ★



Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union Members:
We'll give you Blue Book® Trade-In Value on your vehicle PLUS \$500!
And, receive rates as low as 4.75% APR! (Upon used vehicle purchase from Enterprise Car Sales).

Call 201-659-3900 or visit www.lsfcu.org to get pre-approved by Liberty Savings FCU today!

Saturday, July 24th, 2010 9am – 2pm

Visit our ONE DAY event at the JCEA Building, 1600 Kennedy Blvd. Jersey City, NJ.

Preview our great selection of quality used vehicles at cuautodeals.com ★

LSFCU IS NOW ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!

Attention Twiterville - LSFCU is now on Twitter! Follow us @LibertySavings. You can also become a fan of ours on Facebook. Spread the word. Let people know about YOUR credit union!

LSFCU CELEBRATES NATIONAL CREDIT UNION YOUTH WEEK

During the week of April 19, 2010, LSFCU participated in National Credit Union Youth Week. Our celebration started on Monday April 19 with a kick-off event at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hudson County. The children were treated to a performance by a magician (see photo) and parents were able to attend a workshop on saving for their kids. LSFCU also held events in our service centers throughout the week. "Credit Union Youth Week is an opportunity for LSFCU to communicate the importance of saving to both children and parents. This year's events were very successful. We gained a lot of new memberships in our BEARy Club (youth accounts) and created more awareness about LSFCU in our community. I am very pleased," said Cassandra Wiggins, LSFCU's Youth Week Coordinator. ★



USE YOUR CREDIT UNION FOR YOUR LENDING NEEDS

We at LSFCU understand that times are tough right now. The economy is slumping a bit and your families might be "feeling the pinch" so to speak. We at LSFCU are committed to helping you navigate through the tough economic waters that exist now and that may lie ahead. Whatever your lending needs may be, your credit union is willing to help.



We've all heard about the distressed economy and the tightening of financial institutions' lending abilities. Don't be afraid of what the media says. More importantly, don't disqualify yourself from a loan before you've even spoken with an LSFCU

Member Service Representative! Call the credit union for a consultation and they will work their hardest to find the right solution to your lending needs! Our Member Service Representatives are dedicated to working with members to create lending solutions that are tailored to meet individual needs and satisfy financial goals. Don't put off addressing your lending needs any longer.

Remember, we also offer a Credit Makeover program to help our members understand their current situation and to help them improve the way they use credit. We've also developed programs like the Asset and Credit Builder Loan and Certificate Program to help members build credit and attain their goals. Call a Member Service Representative today at one of our convenient branches to get started. ★

LSFCU PROMOTES WEISS TO AVP

LSFCU is proud to announce the promotion of long-time employee Michele Weiss to the position of Assistant Vice-President/Chief Member Service Officer. Michele has been employed at the credit union for 12 years and has served as the credit union's Chief Lending Officer and most recently as Branch Manager of the Five Corners Service Center.



LIBERTY SAVINGS
★ Federal Credit Union ★



Five Corners Service Center

666 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07306

Greenville Service Center

1590 JFK Boulevard, Jersey City, NJ 07305

North Hudson Service Center

108 48th Street, Union City, NJ 07087

Phone: 201-659-3900 Fax: 201-659-7623 www.LSFCU.org