



First Federal Credit Union

425 1st Avenue SW 1035 N. Center Point Rd
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405 Hiawatha, Iowa 52233
Phone: 319-362-3171 Phone: 319-743-7806
Fax: 319-362-1057 Fax: 319-743-7810
Audio Response Teller (ART): 866-9933
www.firstfedcu.com

Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #901
Waterloo, IA

New Business Hours

1st Avenue

Monday–Thursday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
(Note: After 5, only the drive will be open)
Saturday 9:00 am to noon

Hiawatha

Monday–Thursday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
(Note: After 5, only the drive will be open)
Saturday 9:00 am to noon

24-hour Banking

Audio Response Teller
866-9933
www.firstfedcu.com

Check 21 and YOU

Beginning in October 2004, Federal law permits all financial institutions to recognize a new type of payment document called a “substitute check”. This means that this “substitute check” will be used for clearing and settlement of paper checks. The government, media and industry call this new ability **Check 21**. As you may have already seen with many merchants, to process your check, they simply scan it and give the check back to you as your receipt. The scanning device converts your check to an electronic image for collection purposes. Once the (1882301) image is transferred, the financial institution may collect from the image of the original check. Here’s what to know about Check 21 and you:

The “float” will disappear...

More rapid processing of checks will mean less float...the time between a check is written and when it clears.

Consumer rights are protected...

Protections for consumers have been built into the law and the regulations.

Check 21 should help combat payments fraud...

The faster collection and return of checks facilitated by Check 21 should reduce overall fraud in the check collection system.

For questions or concerns contact First Federal Credit Union. \$

Shopping Trip to Chicago?

The season for Christmas shopping is upon us and we are planning a shopping trip to downtown Chicago on Sunday, Nov. 21st. This trip is for members and guests. If we have a big enough response, we will get one to two buses from Tri-State Travel. The trip consists of visiting the Magnificent Mile on Michigan Avenue, which includes these great stores: Saks Fifth Avenue, Lord & Taylor, and Neiman Marcus. If you’re going for the sights, you will have an opportunity to see what makes Chicago the city it is today. The trip would cost \$30 for the bus ride. We plan on leaving in the morning to get there as the stores open and come back that day. There may be an opportunity to win some extra shopping cash. Please contact Chris Neal at 743-7806 or chris@firstfedcu.com by November 8th if you are interested in going. \$

Congratulations Roy McClary

Roy was this summer’s winner of Timothy Says. He and his family successfully calculated how much less of our gross income we spend on operating expenses than our peers on an annualized basis in terms of dollars. \$



F.Y.I.

Fall
Quarter Three
2004

Just Think About It!

FOR YOUR INTEREST

An Exceptional Newsletter from First Federal Credit Union

A Time of Thanksgiving

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Leroy LaBarge



Here to serve you at
2 Locations

425 1st Avenue SW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405
Phone: 319-362-3171
Fax: 319-362-1057
and
1035 N. Center Point Rd
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Phone: 319-743-7806
Fax: 319-743-7810

A Thanksgiving for Friends



Megan Byers

that before, and my friends still gave me another chance. By loving people, I need to be able to trust them and open up to them. Keeping things bottled inside of you, in the long run, will hurt you even more. There’s a fear in loving because you’re the most vulnerable to get your heart broken. If you don’t let the heart break, it won’t grow and eventually love the ultimate one you’re supposed to love. You need to love people, because you need love back.

My life right now is very key. I’ve just started a new chapter in my life. Being in high school changes a lot of things. I’m growing up even more. People that are important now may not be as important years down the road. Things that happen now are what are going to develop me for my future self. All I can hope is that I keep making the right decisions and stay with the right people.

I always need to remember to love and care. Continue to put people before myself. Sometimes it’s easy to forget, and you hurt people that mean the most to you. I’ve done

Remember your true friends. They’re the ones who will really stick beside you in the end. They’re the ones who won’t betray you and turn against you. You need to have them to talk to and just someone to trust. Boyfriends and girlfriends can’t always fulfill all the things that your best friends do. Even if I don’t keep the great friends I have now, I need to watch out for the (272001) people that wear masks with hate behind it. Those are the people who appear nice and friendly on the outside, but you don’t find out what’s behind that until it’s too late. \$

A Boy...

A rapid heart beat and carrying the baby high does not necessarily mean a girl. Imagine our surprise when Michael John Cunningham was born. Michael was born July 14, 2004 at 7:48 a.m., weighing 7lbs. 12oz. Big sisters Emily and Sarah are not aware of their responsibilities of having a brother. Even Lexi, our yellow lab has no idea what expectations Michael has in mind.



Coming from a family of three brothers and three sisters, having brothers is a wonderful experience. You don't just play with the dolls and Barbie toys, you get to play with tractors, trains and later in life you become your brother's protector from the "other girls" in the world.

Once again Brad and I have realized as parents how fast time goes by when children enter into your life. We need to take time and enjoy the moment with our children, because once those times pass, (922109) it is gone forever and our children are another year older.

2005 Annual Meeting Notice

Mark your calendars for the 78th annual meeting to be held Saturday, February 26th, 2005, at the **Elk's Lodge**, 801 33rd Avenue SW in Cedar Rapids. **Please note the location change.** Dinner is being catered by the Elk's Lodge and hors d' oeuvres will be provided prior to the business meeting.

Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at either credit union location, or over the phone. There will be cash drawings during the business meeting and dance. Please try to attend and have a good time.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

- 5:30 p.m. Business meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Social
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Dance

An election will be held during the business portion of the meeting. There are currently three Board positions up for election. If you are interested in serving as a Director and would like your name placed on the ballot, please mail a short resume and cover letter to: Nominating Committee Chair, 425 First Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405 no later than Wednesday, November 24th. Nominations will not be taken from the floor.



Leroy LaBarge

Board Member Corner

Meet Leroy

Leroy has been on the Board of Directors since 1977. He has served on the Audit Committee, Chairman, and is now serving on the Credit Committee.

Leroy has been a member at First Federal since 1961 and can remember when the credit union had assets of only \$79,000. We are now looking at assets of nearly \$60,000,000. A lot has certainly changed over 43 years.

Leroy is now retired after spending 30 years with the United States Post Office. He is married and has three grown children.

Just a Reminder

Your Credit Union will be closed:

Thursday, November 11th, 2004

Veterans Day

Thursday, November 25th, 2004

Thanksgiving Day

Saturday, December 25th, 2004

Christmas Day

Christmas Club checks will be mailed November 3rd.



Peanut Butter Bars

by Nicole Osterhaus

INGREDIENTS

- 2 eggs
- 2 C. oatmeal
- 2 C. flour
- 1 C. butter (melted)
- 1 C. white sugar
- 1 C. brown sugar
- 2/3 C. peanut butter
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 tsp. Baking soda
- 1 pkg. Chocolate chips

Cream butter, sugar, eggs and vanilla. Blend in peanut butter and add dry ingredients. Spread in greased 9 x 13 baking dish. Bake at 350° for 20-25 minutes. Sprinkle with chocolate chips and let melt.

FROSTING

- 1 C. powdered sugar
- 1/2 C. peanut butter
- 4 T. milk

Mix together and spread on cooled bars.

Account Numbers

Call either location to claim your cash prize if you find your account number (0000.000) within the FYI Newsletter.

Don't Go Unprotected – Get GAP!

You've just financed your dream car. Well, before you drive away, consider this:

- The car began depreciating immediately.
- One in three Americans will suffer the total loss of a vehicle.
- One in every 20 drivers will experience an unrecovered theft.

Vehicle prices continue to increase. At the same time we want longer loan terms and are making smaller down payments. It's typical for a vehicle's outstanding loan balance to be significantly higher than its actual cash value, especially during the first few years of the loan.

If your vehicle is totaled or stolen, your insurance settlement will be based on its actual cash value, not the outstanding loan balance. This may create a deficiency balance or a "gap".

We have the product that will prevent you from incurring a financial loss...Guaranteed Auto Protection (GAP). This product (136208) eliminates the potential for loss in the event your vehicle is totaled or stolen.

In addition to the protection GAP offers, our program offers the following advantages:

- Enrollment is easy and coverage begins immediately.
- We offer coverage for a variety of both new and used vehicle types.
- Up to \$1,000 of your primary insurance carrier's deductible may be covered (not available in all states).
- An additional \$1,000 towards the purchase of a replacement vehicle financed through the credit union.

Without GAP **you** are liable for the deficiency balance. This means you could end up paying for a vehicle that you can no longer drive, while forced to purchase a replacement vehicle. Drive your dream car knowing you are safe from falling into the "gap"! To learn more about how you can add GAP to your loan, contact First Federal Credit Union at 362-3171 or 743-7806.

Get Your Holiday Extensions Here

Members, we would like to offer you a monthly extension on you loan(s) with us. When approved, your monthly payment will be (1288002) transferred from the current month, to the end of the note. This will not reduce the number of payments, but extend the note an additional month. Choose the month you want to do the extension – November, December or January, call First Federal Credit Union and tell us you want the holiday extension, and we will take care of the rest.