CHECKUP

October 2009

The New Credit Card Laws And What They Mean For You



ATM And Debit Cards Replaced By New Visa Debit Cards See page 3.

Make Holidays

Happier With

HSFCU! See page 2.

Brighten Up The Holidays (And Your Budget!) With Skip-A-Pay See page 4.

Healthcare Systems
Federal Credit Union
3300 Gallows Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

Touch Tone Teller: 703-776-2498

Main Office: 703-776-2700 1-800-250-9676

Loan Office: 703-776-7960

www.healthcarefcu.org help@healthcarefcu.org





On May 22 of this year, a new law called The Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act (also known as The Credit CARD Act) went into effect. The Act eliminates many of the unfair and deceptive practices that some credit card companies were using to increase their profits, such as unexpected rate hikes, double-cycle billing and insufficient time to make payments. In addition, the language used in future card disclosure agreements will be simplified and easier for consumers to understand.

In addition to credit cards, the Act also affects some open-end loans such as Vehicle Loans, Signature Loans, Mortgages and Share Secured Loans. Here's how the new law will impact HSFCU members:

- Due dates will change to the 28th of each month for credit cards and other open-ended loans. (Effective 8/20/09)
- You'll receive your account statement 21 days before a payment is due, so you have more time to pay your bill. (Effective 8/20/09)
- You will have 45 days' notice, in writing, before major changes take effect in your credit card. (Effective 8/20/09)
- If you have been given a higher annual percentage rate for late payments on your credit card, your card could be returned to the lower

- rate if you have paid on time for six consecutive months. (Effective 8/20/09)
- Credit cards will not be issued to HSFCU members under 21 unless they have an adult co-signer or have visible proof of income.*
 (Effective 2/22/10)
- If you are going over your credit limit, you will be notified. You can choose whether or not to make the purchase and avoid an over-limit fee. (Effective 2/22/10)
- Gift cards will not expire for at least five years. (Effective 8/22/10)

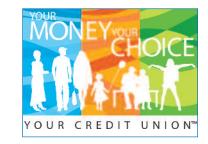
Unlike other lenders, HSFCU has never participated in the unfair and deceptive credit card practices addressed by the Act. Our cards have always been – and continue to be – a great value. If you are unsatisfied with your current credit card, apply for a Visa® Platinum Credit Card at HSFCU! Our Visa Platinum Credit Card has a credit line of up to \$25,000, no fees for purchases or cash advances, no annual fee, and the CU Rewards® program for earning free travel and merchandise. Best of all, the annual percentage rate is as low as 8.90%!** For more details, stop by an HSFCU office, call 703-776-7960 or visit us online at www.healthcarefcu.org.

*HSFCU members under 21 who already have Visa Credit Cards will be exempt.

**Subject to change. "As low as" rates are the lowest available rates; actual APRs may vary, based on the applicant's creditworthiness.

International Credit Union Day Is October 15

To celebrate International Credit Union Day, we will be holding member appreciation events during various facilities' benefit fairs. Be sure to stop by and say hi!



HSFCU Thanks Retiring Potomac Hospital President Bill Moss

Earlier this summer, HSFCU management presented a plaque to Bill Moss, the retiring President of Potomac Hospital in Woodbridge, VA. The plaque commemorates Bill Moss's support of the credit union movement and his efforts in providing his employees with outstanding benefits.



From left to right, back row: Director of Communications Raj Chalise, Director of Foundation Services Lynn Arturi, VP Human Resources Bill Ramey and HSFCU Board of Directors Chairman Diane Latvala. Front row: President & CEO Potomac Hospital William H. Flannagan, Jr., HSFCU Director Patricia Russo, Bill Moss, HSFCU President/CEO Bill Hawkins, and HSFCU VP of Member Services Brad Roteman.

Make Holidays Happier With HSFCU!



HSFCU can help you and your budget, especially during this year's holiday season when your finances may feel a little tight. Contact us today or visit us online at www.healthcarefcu.org for more information about these time-saving, money-saving products!

- Visa® Platinum Credit Cards
- Visa Gift Cards
- Reloadable Visa Debit Cards
- Personal Loans
- Holiday Club Accounts (see page 3)
- Skip-A-Pay Program (see page 4)

A Look Back On Our First 40 Years: 1969 - 2009

What Was Happening During HSFCU's Third Decade?

- **1989** Nintendo® releases the Game Boy portable video game.
- 1990 Douglas Wilder of Virginia becomes the country's first African-American governor.
- 1991 The Dead Sea Scrolls are made available for public viewing by California's Huntington Library.
- 1992 The European Union is founded by the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in the Netherlands.
- 1993 The World Wide Web is started at CERN headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
- **1994** The underwater Channel Tunnel opens between England and France.
- 1995 Adventurer Steve Fossett becomes the first person to make a solo flight by balloon across the Pacific Ocean.
- 1996 Sprinter Michael Johnson sets a world record during the 200-meter race at the Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia.
- **1997** The *New York Times* prints its first color photo on the newspaper's front page.
- 1998 Internet search engine Google is founded in Menlo Park,

 California by Stanford University students

 Larry Page and Sergey Brin.
- **1999** Cyclist Lance Armstrong wins his first Tour de France.





Holiday Club Payouts Coming October 15

If you have a Holiday Club Account with HSFCU, you will receive a direct deposit to your Share Savings Account on October 15. The amount of \$5 will be kept in the account so that the account will automatically renew for next year; the remainder of your balance will be transferred to your Share Savings Account. If you make deposits into the account with Payroll Deduction, these payments will continue unless you instruct us otherwise.

We also offer
"Any Reason, Any Season"
Club Accounts to help you
save for almost anything!
Visit us online at
www.healthcarefcu.org
for more details.

Join The Club!

If you don't have a Holiday Club Account already, start your account today! It's a great way to build a fund for next year's holiday expenses, and it's easy to make deposits with Payroll Deduction.

To start a Holiday Club Account, visit an HSFCU office or call 703-776-2700 or 1-800-250-9676 toll-free.

ATM And Debit Cards Replaced By New Visa Debit Cards

During the week of September 14, 2009, HSFCU replaced all existing ATM Cards and Visa® Debit Cards with new Visa Debit Cards. The new Debit Cards will use



real-time, online processing, so that you will get a more accurate picture of your account's balance at the ATM or in Online Banking. Also, "float" (the time lapse between when you deposit a check and when it is processed) will be greatly reduced, so be sure to have enough funds in your account to cover your transactions.

Please note: HSFCU members with Share Savings Accounts will only be able to use the new cards at HSFCU ATMs and other ATMs marked with the Visa logo, worldwide. HSFCU members with Checking Accounts may use the new cards at ATMs or for point-of-sale purchases.

And did you know that HSFCU's Visa Debit Card is also a valuable, time-saving addition to an HSFCU Checking Account? Our Checking Account has no minimum deposit or balance requirements, free Direct Deposit, free Online Banking, free Online Bill Pay, free eStatements and much more!

It's easy to switch your checking account to HSFCU! For more information, stop by an HSFCU office, call 703-776-2700 or 1-800-250-9676 toll-free, or visit us online at www.healthcarefcu.org.

We've Got Mortgage Services!

Please check www.healthcarefcu.org or call our loan specialist, Alex Alquinta, at 703-426-6961.

Don't wait! Rates are at all-time lows for purchasing or refinancing. And, the \$8,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers ends soon!

No Time To Come To HSFCU? Visit Our Website

Instead!

Short on free time? Come to our electronic branch – www.healthcarefcu.org! It's open 24/7 and is simple to use.



- Find out more information about a product or service we offer
- Apply for a loan
- Get the location of a branch or ATM
- Use Online Banking and Online Bill Pay to get your account balance, transfer funds between your accounts, pay bills and more
- See your Visa® account information
- Get financial guidance
- Watch informative videos in the Resource Library
- Send a message to the Credit Union
- And more!

Log on to www.healthcarefcu.org today for details!



Why Monkey Around With A High-Rate Auto Loan? Come To HSFCU For A Better Deal!

Dealers can offer you what seems like a good loan at first, but they often manipulate the loan financing so that they – and not you – come out the winner. Come to HSFCU instead. As an HSFCU member, you have more advantages and you'll save more time and money!

- Rates as low as **3.99%** APR* on new and used auto loans
- Other rates and terms up to 84 months available**
- Up to 100% financing on new auto loans or up to the NADA+ retail or trade-in value on used auto loans
- Quick loan decision
- Make loan payments easily with our Payroll Deduction service
- Save money by refinancing a high-rate auto loan from another lender⁺⁺
- Mechanical Repair Coverage option ask us for details

Apply online, 24/7, at www.healthcarefcu.org!



Apply today! Stop by an HSFCU office, call 703-776-7960 or visit us online at www.healthcarefcu.org.

*Annual Percentage Rate; subject to change. "As low as" rates are the lowest available rates; actual APRs may vary, based on the applicant's creditworthiness. Rate quoted for new and used auto loans is with a 36-month loan term.

- **84-month term only available on new auto loans.
- *National Automobile Dealers Association.
- ++Existing HSFCU auto loans cannot be refinanced.

Brighten Up The Holidays (And Your Budget!) With Skip-A-Pay

In need of some extra cash during this holiday season? Then try HSFCU's Skip-A-Pay program. With Skip-A-Pay, you can skip a December payment on one or more loans, and all HSFCU loans (except credit cards and real estate loans) are eligible!

No processing fees or charges apply!

Just fill out the Loan Extension Agreement form below and send it to HSFCU, 3300 Gallows Road, Falls Church, VA, 22042 by December 28, 2009. To skip a payment on more than one loan, make copies of the form below or contact HSFCU's Loan Office at 703-776-7960 for more forms.

Loan Extension Agreement It is mutually agreed that the December 2009 payment on Account #______ Loan # ______ will be deferred and extended to the end of the original term of this loan. All other terms and provisions of the original loan are unchanged and will remain in full force and effect. I acknowledge that this is not a waiver of interest and interest will continue to accrue during this period and will be collected from future payments when payment is resumed. Borrower Name (Please Print) Co-Borrower Name (Please Print) Date Co-Borrower Signature Date

This agreement must be signed by all Borrowers and Co-Borrowers. If you have more than one loan that you wish to extend, you must submit a separate Loan Extension Agreement for each loan. If your loan is paid through Payroll Deduction, the normal December payment will be deposited to your Share Savings (S1) Account.

Office Now Available In Stafford!

New HSFCU

HSFCU now has a new office in the cafeteria of Stafford Hospital Center, located at 101 Hospital Center Boulevard in Stafford, VA. Visit our website for more information.

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day -Monday, October 12

> Veterans Day – Wednesday, November 11

Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 26

Christmas -Friday, December 25

New Year's - Friday, January 1, 2010

Congratulations
To Our Bill Pay
Winner!

Theresa Bondurant \$100