

# Your Dollar \$ Worth

HUD Federal Credit Union

Your Personal Financial Institution

Chartered 1936

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## SAVE THE DATE!

### 2007 ANNUAL MEETING



Mark your calendars! HUD FCU's 2007 Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2007 at the Channel Inn. This yearly event will give you the opportunity to hear about your Credit Union's successes during the last year, and the challenges facing us. Watch for more details coming soon on the 2007 Annual Meeting.

## FREE Is Our Favorite Number!

FREE is our favorite number here at HUD FCU. As a member, you have access to a number of free services. As we enter this New Year, keep in mind some of these free services you may want to take advantage of, if you haven't already:

- ✓ FREE Online Account Access
- ✓ Free Bill Payment Online
- ✓ Free E-Statements

Besides being free, these services add convenience to your already busy lives. They will save you time, energy, paper, and postage – both yours and ours!

Sign up for these three free services between January 1 and April 15, 2007, and you will be entered to win a new personal computer. Winner will be selected at the Annual Meeting on April 28, 2007.



## Is Your Identity Safe? Help Save Your Identity With E-Statements

Reduce your chances of being a victim of mail fraud—receive your HUD FCU statement electronically.

Even though identity thieves are finding new ways to steal information over the Internet, the original theft – for example, taking out a credit card in your

name – tends to be a low-tech crime. According to the Federal Trade Commission, about half the country's victims know how their information was swiped, and in many cases the breach was paper – bills, credit card solicitations, and financial statements – pilfered from garbage cans and mailboxes.

Online banking and bill payment not only cut off thieves' access to the papers they need to commit ID theft, but also help detect the crime sooner. This is because consumers who bank online check their accounts more frequently—nearly four times a month compared with once a month for those who receive statements by mail.

Save our trees! Receive your statement electronically and enjoy safety, timeliness, and convenience. For more information, or to sign up, call HUD FCU at (202) 863-2800, option 3 or visit [www.hudfcu.org](http://www.hudfcu.org).

## Holiday Schedule

HUD FCU closes its offices for all Federal holidays, including the following:

### **New Year's Day**

Monday, January 1, 2007

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

Monday, January 15, 2007

### **Presidents' Day**

Monday, February 19, 2007

## At Your Service

- Credit Union Family Service Centers  
For locations, call 1-888-287-9475 or visit [www.cuservicecenters.org](http://www.cuservicecenters.org)
- Falls Plaza East  
1118 West Broad Street  
Falls Church, Virginia
- Marlow Heights Shopping Center  
4003 Branch Avenue  
Marlow Heights, Maryland
- Springfield Plaza  
6314 Springfield Plaza  
Springfield, Virginia
- Hampton Mall  
9001 Central Avenue  
Capitol Heights, Maryland

Open: Weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with 24-hour ATMs

- Credit Union Mortgage Assoc. Evening and Weekend Hours by appointment, call: 703-425-1204 or 800-231-8855

Share your ideas to improve HUD FCU operations, register complaints, or give commendations to the Staff by writing to:

HUD FCU Supervisory Committee  
P.O. Box 23160  
Washington, D.C. 20026-3160

- HUD Federal Credit Union  
Monday through Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
(Please use our EXPRESS TELLER Phone and two ATMs available 24/7)

### MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 23273  
Washington, D.C. 20026-3273  
202-863-2800 or 800-345-8032  
202-863-2124 FAX  
202-488-1393 or 800-345-8717 Express Teller Phone

Visit us at [www.hudfcu.org](http://www.hudfcu.org) to access your accounts, pay your bills, apply for a loan, for membership application, current rates and terms, loan payment calculator, current events.

All information in this newsletter is as current as possible. HUD FCU reserves the right to add, change, or delete services. Rates and terms may change at any time.

## You'll Never Catch Us Phishing HUD FCU Respects Your Privacy

At HUD FCU, we respect your privacy and will never call or send you e-mail asking for personal information. If you get a message asking you to verify personal information, it didn't come from HUD FCU!



We'll never send a letter or e-mail asking for your account numbers, usernames, passwords, or Social Security number. If you get a message like that – called phishing – don't bite. Most often these messages are sent so that a mystery company can send you money that you either falsely inherited, or won in a contest you never entered. Please be aware of these messages.

Call your Credit Union to find out how to protect yourself from identity theft.



## Family Membership: The Gift Of A Lifetime

Although the gift giving season has ended, doesn't your family deserve savings, convenience and personal service when it comes to handling their financial affairs? We think they do, and we'll be happy to give it to them. All they have to do is apply for membership, and they'll receive the gift of a lifetime.

Once a member, he/she will have access to all the great financial products and services we offer. Whether your family members are looking to borrow, save for the future, or manage their money more conveniently, we can help make it happen. As their needs change over the years, we'll be there to meet them, since credit union membership lasts a lifetime!

## A Wealth Of Information Your HUD FCU Web Site

Have you checked out [www.hudfcu.org](http://www.hudfcu.org) lately? If you have not, maybe it's time you do. Our web site is not only easy to navigate; it also provides information concerning our products and services, and any changes that may come up.

From the comfort of your own home, you can:

- *Apply For A Loan*
- *Access Your Credit Union Accounts*
- *Send An E-Mail To The Credit Union*
- *Access To Financial Info And Advice For Members Of All Ages*
- *Learn About Our Upcoming Promotions*
- *Reorder Checks*
- *Purchase Online Through "Verified By Visa"*
- *Use Calculators*
- *And So Much More*

For more information on how our web site can benefit you, call or stop by today.

## How Much Equity Do You Have?

All homeowners look forward to the day when they pay off their homes. However, even if you're still making mortgage payments, the money you've paid so far can work for you. That money is called equity, and you can borrow against it with a HUD FCU Home Equity Loan.

Credit cards, home improvements, education expenses: These are some things your home's equity can help you with. Your home can provide a low home equity line of credit, and only one monthly payment to handle.

Since your home equity is your own money, borrowing against it entitles you to an especially low interest rate, currently, The Wall Street Prime Rate. What's more, the interest you pay may be tax-deductible (consult your tax advisor for details). Unlike other types of loans, you can use a home equity loan for any worthwhile purpose, whether it's a new car, a family vacation or debt consolidation.

### Your options:

- **Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loans** – Borrow the money you need all at once and lock in your low rate.
- **Variable-Rate Home Equity Line Of Credit** – Borrow the money you need as you need it without having to apply for a new loan each time.

For more information or to apply, call (202) 863-2800, option 4, or visit with a Loan Officer.

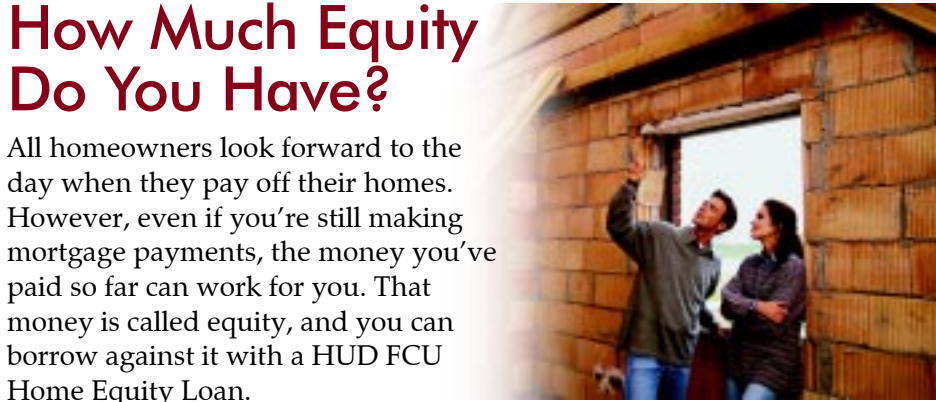
## It's All About Teamwork At HUD FCU

The HUD FCU Board of Directors, Supervisory Committee and Staff work together as a team to provide you with the best available credit union products and services. If there is anything we should be doing differently, or if you have any questions/concerns, please let us know. If you're not happy, we're not happy!



## Best Wishes For A Peaceful New Year

The Board of Directors and entire Staff at HUD FCU express our gratitude for your loyal membership this past year. Best wishes for a safe, happy and prosperous 2007 to you and your family.



## Reduce Heating Costs Check Out These Money-Saving Tips



In view of the rapidly escalating costs of home heating oil, propane, and kerosene, you may be paying twice as much to heat your house as you did just a few years ago. Here are some tips to help you save money on heating bills this season:

- Do an "energy audit" of your house. Survey what areas are most likely to leak heat. Check around windows, doors, fireplaces, and other areas that may be at risk for leaking. Use such products as weather stripping, plastic and other means to stop leaks.
- If your house is poorly insulated, add an additional layer of insulation to help reduce heating costs.
- Don't heat areas of the house that you don't use regularly (such as a guest room, basement, etc). Close the heating vents in these rooms, and seal all windows and doors.
- When you leave the house, or during the night, turn your thermostat back, but not off. Also, be careful not to turn it too low. Turning it down too low or turning it off can cost you more in the end, because the entire house has to be reheated.
- In winter, open the blinds and curtains on the sunny side of the house, when the sun is shining. As soon as the sun goes down, close the blinds to retain solar heat. In the same respect, close blinds and curtains on the shady side of the house.

## Current Loan And Dividend Rates

Contact us for current rates before you borrow. Loan rates are subject to change any time. Loan and dividend rates are expressed in annual percentage rate (APR) and annual percentage yield (APY).

- New & Used Cars as low as 5.40%
- VISA® 9.90%
- Mortgage Loan

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortgages at competitive rates. Various options: conventional, VA, FHA, adjustable rate and balloon mortgages. Call CUMA, our mortgage partner at 703-425-1204 or 800-231-8855 or visit [www.hudfcu.org](http://www.hudfcu.org) and click on CU Mortgages

- Special 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortgage Loan  
Up to \$100,000, 15 years 7.75%



Visit us at:

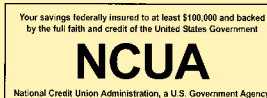
[www.hudfcu.org](http://www.hudfcu.org)

## Check Your Dividend Rates

Your Credit Union works to keep dividend rates up. The Board of Directors has declared dividend rates for the quarter ending December 31, 2006:

	Rate	Yield
• Regular Shares	1.00	1.01
• Premium Share Draft	1.00	1.01
• Regular IRA	2.00	2.02
• Money Market Share Account		
\$2500—\$24,999	2.00	2.02
\$25000—and over	2.50	2.53
• Share and IRA Certificates		

Rates change every Tuesday. Call a Member Services Representative for current rates and terms.



## Tax Service And IRA Contribution Information You Should Know

As we head into this New Year, be sure that you are aware of some important information regarding your taxes and IRA:

- As a member, you have access to tax preparation services through Schreiner, Legge & Co., to make the process fast and convenient for you.
- IRA insurance limits were recently increased. Your IRA is insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) up to \$250,000 per account/depositor.
- The maximum contribution limit on Traditional and Roth IRA were also increased. From 2005-2007, it is now \$4000 for each year. In 2008 it will rise to \$5000.\*

## Direct Deposit Of Tax Refunds

You can receive this year's income tax refund quickly and safely by having it deposited directly into your Credit Union account. Simply check the appropriate box on your return to indicate whether you want your refund deposited into your Savings or Checking Account. Then enter the HUD FCU routing number, and your account number. If you have a joint tax return, your refund must be deposited into a joint account.



More important: you can also receive your net pay, retirement checks and other types of government payments via Direct Deposit. Direct Deposit could save you many trips to the Credit Union, and you don't have to worry about your check being stolen or lost in the mail, since your funds are sent electronically. Best of all, Direct Deposit is a totally free service, no matter who is sending you the money. Sign up for Direct Deposit today.

*\*Consult your tax advisor for details. This information not intended as tax advice.*

## Your Secret Is Safe With Us

Before you leave for a vacation, be sure to notify us. We can flag your account so we'll know if there's suspicious activity. We suggest that you notify the post office as well so it can hold your mail until you return. This way thieves will not clue in to an overly full mailbox – alerting them to an empty house.

Before you leave, be sure to sign up for online banking. This way you can access and manage your accounts from anywhere in the world that has Internet.

**Enjoy your trip!**