

VRU Free 24 Hour
Automatic Teller
(518) 581-5208
1-800-723-1201 ext 7900
FAX: (518) 581-7076

THE CREDIT CONNECTION

STEWART'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

www.stewartscu.org

Credit Union Hours:

Mon: 8:00-3:00
Tues: 8:00-3:00
Wed: 8:00-3:00
Thu: 8:00-5:00
Fri: 8:00-5:00
Plant: Thurs 11:00-1:00

Contact Us At:

1-800-723-1201 ext. 3900

Winter 2009

STEWART'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION- SAFE...STRONG...SECURE!

We treat our members right with personal service.

We have been helping our members through the good times and the bad times for more than 25 years, and we recognize the fact that everyone is facing economic challenges today.

If you are curious about the financial stability of places where you do business, we would like to assure you that your credit union remains safe, strong and secure. As a financial cooperative owned by our members, we are committed exclusively to your well-being and we are continuing on a steady course.

Our members' savings are now federally insured to at least \$250,000. All individual credit union deposit holders are insured through the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), a US government agency. This insurance covers all your deposit accounts; including Savings accounts, Checking accounts and Certificates of Deposit.

We want you to know that we care about your financial well-being and that we are here for you. All you have to do is give us a call and our staff will be happy to help. As always, your business is handled in confidence.

Credit Unions are simply "people helping people".

You Said It Best!

December 12, 2008

Stewart's Federal Credit Union
Attn: John Bottisti
PO Box 435
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



Dear John,

As you may know, I have been a member of the credit union since I started working for Stewart's 16 years ago. I have always appreciated the personal service and friendly atmosphere provided to your members. Recently, I received a phone call from the Visa Services department letting me know that they were concerned with the amount of activity on my debit card the night before. They asked that I verify the transactions for my security. I was not aware that this was a service provided to your members. Understandably, I was tentative about providing information at first. They were gracious and patient with my questioning and seemed to understand my hesitancy, but once it became clear that this was not a scam, the process was painless and efficient.

I am very pleased with the amount of support and security that is being provided to your members, myself included. Thank you for a good year of service.

Sincerely,
Joanne D. McDermott

DID YOU KNOW? You can now get an ATM card if you only have a savings account!
Call us for details!



Scholarship Opportunity for Our High School Seniors

Stewart's Federal Credit Union is a member of MVI, an independent trade association of credit unions. As a means of giving back to our community, we are offering a \$1,000.00 (one time) scholarship from the association to a member of an MVI Member Credit Union meeting the eligibility requirements outlined below:

- The recipient must be a member in good standing of an MVI Member Credit Union.
- The applicant must be a graduating high school senior who will be attending a 2 or 4 year accredited college or trade school.

Application requirements must be completed in full and postmarked by March 13, 2009. Further information may be obtained at stewartscu.org, or call us at 518-581-1201 ext 3900.

Understanding Your Credit Report

Each credit report includes your credit score. The Fair Isaac and Company developed the most commonly used score. These scores range from 300 to 850, with a higher number being less risk. The higher your score, the easier it will be for you to get a loan with a lower rate of interest. The following areas of credit information are used to determine your FICO score:

- **Payment History (35%)** The more consistent your payment history, the better your score will be. Recent, frequent, and extremely late payments will have a negative impact.
- **Amounts owed (30%)** The amount of outstanding debt you have has an impact on your score. High balances, especially if the balances are close to the credit limit, can lower your credit score.
- **Length of credit history (15%)** Accounts that you've had for more than two years will have a positive impact on your score versus newer accounts.
- **New Credit (10%)** The type, number, and proportion of recently opened accounts matter to your score, as do inquiries. Neither accessing your own reports nor employment inquiries are factored into your score. Pre-approved credit offers have no impact either, unless you actually apply.
- **Types of credit used (10%)** Having a variety of credit such as credit cards, retail accounts, installment loans, mortgage and consumer finance accounts is favorable to your credit score. This shows that you can manage the various responsibilities that come with each debt type.

Free Credit Reports Are Available

You have the opportunity to get a free annual credit report once per year. To get your copy you can use one of these three channels.

- 1) **By Phone:** Call 1-877-322-8228. You will be required to go through a simple verification process, then your report will be mailed to you.
- 2) **By Mail:** Obtain a copy of the request form from the Credit Union or go on-line to www.stewartscu.org to print a copy of the form.
- 3) **By On-line:** The fastest way to get your report copy is on-line at the official site for free credit report services. The web address is www.annualcreditreport.com. You will have to answer basic personal questions prior to selecting one of the credit bureaus from which to order. You may order a free report from each bureau (Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion). Once completed, make sure you either save or print your report. Once you close the report window you will not be able to get another report for a year.

A FREE REPORT TIP: We want to remind you that each bureau's information should be much the same. You might want to order from one right away and then not order from another one for a few months. This way you can get a free look at your credit report three times per year!

February 1, 2009 RATE CORNER SAVINGS

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Share | 1.00% APY |
| Club | 1.00% APY |
| Share (effective March 1) | .75% APY |
| Club (effective March 1) | .75% APY |
| Share Certificates | |
| 6 mos. | 2.50% APY |
| 12 mos. | 2.75% APY |

LOAN RATES

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------|
| Used Car | as low as | 4.99% |
| New Car | as low as | 4.99% |
| Home Equity | as low as | 6.00% |
| Recreation | as low as | 6.25% |
| Personal | as low as | 9.25% |

Rates are Subject to Change.

Holiday Closings

The Credit Union Staff gladly serves our members during normal business hours on all Federal Holidays in 2009 except:

Memorial Day - May 25th
Independence Day - July 4th
Labor Day - September 7th
Thanksgiving - November 26th
Christmas - December 25th

GET JUST WHAT YOU NEED... ON THE HOUSE!

Low cost financing is easy using the equity
in your home.

Home Repairs... Energy Saving...
Investments... College Tuition...
Family Vacation... Debt Consolidation...
All of the Above?

CHOOSE STEWART'S FCU
HOME EQUITY LOANS

Convenience of Payroll Deduction!
Call Susan or John today to discuss
Your options!