

# Monad Federal Credit Union

January 2010 Member Newsletter

## Don't Let Fees Take Their Toll

Consumers are willing to pay for convenient financial services, but how much is too much? Some fees finance the research and development of future products and services. Still other fees are used to modify negative behaviors, such as routinely writing checks against nonexistent funds. But when it comes to fees, you can trace the difference between how many and how much to one major philosophical difference in the way credit unions and banks operate.

Banks are for-profit institutions: The profit motive influences the number and size of their fees.

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives. Because there is no pressure from profit-minded stockholders, Monad charges fees to enable us to provide more convenient and useful services for our members.

That explains why credit unions usually charge fewer and lower fees than banks.

How much can members save just by using a credit union checking account?

According to the CUNA's 2006/2007 Credit Union Fees Survey Report, 75% of credit unions offer free checking accounts.

Why lose your hard-earned money to monthly fees and fines at for-profit banks and expensive check cashing programs? Open a Monad checking account today and take advantage of these services: **free** home banking, **free** overdraft transfers from your savings (6 per month), **free** Visa check card, **free** online statements, and best of all, *there is no monthly service charge for having a Monad checking account.*

## Humane Society Donations

Our heartfelt thanks to the members that participated in our Skip-a-Payment promotion during October, November and December in 2009. Monad will be sending a check to the Benton Franklin Humane Society in Pasco for over \$500. Monad charges \$10 for each loan payment skipped, and all of those fees will be sent to the local humane society. We do not keep any portion of the fee.

The Benton-Franklin Humane Society is a no kill animal shelter. They are a private, nonprofit organization that is supported solely by contributions. They have been in business in the Tri-City area since 1966.

## Year-end Tax Reporting Information

Your year-end statement shows the year-to-date dividends received on all savings accounts with Monad. If you earned less than \$10, you will not receive a 1099-INT in the mail. For members with a mortgage loan, the year-to-date interest you paid on your loan is also shown on the statement.

Monad will be mailing out all 1099-INT, 1098, and 1099-R forms by January 31.

*Special notice for Individual Retirement account holders:* The year-end balance on your IRA account with Monad is being reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as the fair market value of your IRA. If you made a contribution to your IRA during 2009, you will not receive a 5498 until late April, as the deadline for contributing to an IRA for 2009 is April 15, 2010.

When you file your taxes for 2009, you can have your tax refund direct deposited into your account at Monad, all you need is our routing number of 325181060 and your account number, either savings or checking.

### LOAN RATES

- 2006-2010 Auto **4.99%**
- 2005 & Older Auto **6.5%**
- 2006-2010 Boat & RV **7%**
- 2005 & Older Boat & RV **8%**
- Timeline (Line of Credit) **13.5%**
- Visa Classic & Secured Credit Cards **12.9%**
- First Time Car Buyer **8.25%**
- Classic Auto **8.50%**
- Computer Loan **8.50%**
- New & Used Off Road Vehicle **8.50%-10%**
- Savings Secured **3.50%**
- Quick Cash Loans **18%**
- We also offer Student Loans. Contact us for details.

Rates quoted are the lowest available rate and are based on how you have managed your credit, the resulting credit score, and includes an active member discount. All interest rates stated are fixed annual percentage rates and are subject to change by the Board of Directors.



### Location & Hours

1817 W. Sylvester  
Pasco, WA 99301  
Phone (509) 545-1406  
Fax (509) 545-1450  
Toll Free (888) 488-1406

Lobby hours are:  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Drive-up window hours are:  
8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Visit us on the Web at:  
[www.monadfcu.com](http://www.monadfcu.com)

### Holiday Closing

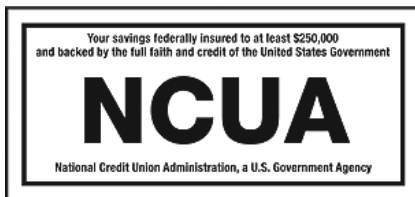
Monday, January 18, 2010  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 15, 2010  
Presidents' Day

### **SAVINGS RATES**

- Membership Share/Savings  
**0.50% APR-0.50% APY**
- Christmas Club & Vacation Club Shares  
**1.50% APR-1.51% APY**
- Super Saver Shares  
**1.50% APR-1.51% APY**
- Traditional & Roth IRA, Coverdell ESA  
**2.25% APR-2.27% APY**
- We also have certificates. Call us for current rates and terms.

APR is the annual percentage rate, APY is the annual percentage yield. Quoted rates are what was paid on accounts as of 12/31//2009. Dividend rates are not guaranteed as they are paid from available earnings and are subject to change by the Board of Directors. For any fees or restrictions, contact our office.



## Monad Audio Response System (MARS)

Have you tried our touch tone telephone teller yet? We frequently refer to it as our **MARS** line, and it is available 24/7 for you to find out important information on all of your accounts with Monad. By using our MARS line, you have immediate access to your account balance and all transactions on your accounts. You can find out which checks or debits have cleared your checking account and when your last deposit was made. You can also get an advance on your Timeline loan, transfer funds, make a loan payment or request a check withdrawal from your account.

The great thing about this service is it is available when we are not, and it is free. You do not have to wait for our office to open to find out what you need to know, and there are no fees for any transactions performed. All members are automatically enrolled in this free service, but you will have to contact our office for your access number and pin. Then, the next time you need to check your account, call our MARS line at 545-1989.

## Debt Protection for Real Life Events

We all worry about things that might happen tomorrow - the unexpected, real life events. Unemployment, getting injured, a disability, or even death.

Life is unpredictable. That is why we are introducing a new product called Debt Protection. Debt Protection helps relieve the financial stress and worry related to making loan payments when your life takes an unexpected turn.

Debt Protection provides you with the peace of mind of knowing your monthly loan payments will be cancelled in the event of death, disability or involuntary unemployment.

Our new Debt Protection program offers you 3 different options, giving you the flexibility to pick the Debt Protection package that is right for you. Each option has specific eligibility requirements and a different range of benefits.\* For complete details, including the monthly cost for each option, talk with our Loan Department today or call us at 545-1406. We can discuss this program with you and explain how it is different from traditional insurance. There is an open enrollment period of 60 days, so you can add Debt Protection to your existing Monad loan now through February 28, 2010.

\*Now for the fine print: Your purchase of Debt Protection is optional. Whether or not you purchase Debt Protection will not affect your application for credit or the terms of any existing credit agreement you have with Monad. We will give you additional information before you are required to pay. This information will include a copy of the contract containing the terms and conditions of Debt Protection. There are eligibility requirements, conditions and exclusions that could prevent you from receiving Debt Protection benefits. You should carefully read your contract for a full explanation of the terms and conditions of the Debt Protection Program.

## Too Many Debts Weighing You Down?

Do you have too many debts weighing you down? Are finance charges and late fees piling up faster than you can pay them? Take the weight off your shoulders by moving your loans to Monad. We have affordable rates and terms for all types of loans, and by moving your loans to Monad you might be able to lower your monthly payments. Monad has new and used auto loan rates as low as 4.99%, our Visa Classic credit card is 12.9%, and we also have lines of credit up to \$3,500 to help you consolidate those small department store debts.

All loan rates carry a fixed annual percentage rate and you have the added convenience of making your payments through your employer's payroll deduction plan or automatic transfer from your Monad savings or checking account.