

WestWord

Buy → Smart ← Borrow

Making a decision to buy something is just not that easy – especially if it's a big ticket item like a new air conditioner, a solar water heater or a more efficient car. There are always so many choices and there are usually limits on our time and money. Plus you may be eligible for tax credits and incentives when you purchase energy efficient products. Check out www.energystar.gov and www.dsireusa.org for more information.*

When you're ready to make one of those more expensive purchases, keep these things in mind:

Create a budget

Decide how much money you can afford to spend. Start by reviewing your income, expenses and debt. Then decide how much you can afford to pay down on the purchase and how much of a monthly payment you can take on in addition to your other monthly

obligations. This becomes the baseline to guide your path as you begin to shop.

Determine exactly what you need

The lessons in distinguishing *wants* from *needs* will help you determine what you're really looking for. Don't be tempted to buy the \$75,000 car because it will look good in your driveway. But don't buy a window air conditioner for your 2,000 square foot home either. Look for items that provide quality and efficiency at a reasonable price.

Research your options

Use the Internet or talk to experts to get information about your pending purchase. Read the latest information available, check consumer rating services and ask friends and family who may have purchased similar items. Now is a great time to take advantage of incentives when you *go green!* There are many programs that will reward you for making these smart decisions.

Have your payment plan ready before you go shopping

If you're paying cash or using a credit card, be sure to verify that the funds are available before you shop. If you're getting a credit union loan for your purchase, do the smart thing and get pre-approved in advance. That way you won't have to worry about unpleasant surprises at the merchant or dealership.

Save money, time and aggravation when you buy smart and borrow smart. It just makes good sense! Give us a call today or visit us online at www.cuwest.org to get your loan application started because saving money on interest is always a smart way to buy!

All loan rates and approvals based on credit qualifications and performance. New Credit Union West accounts opened pursuant to the U.S. Patriot Act. Credit report must remain in credit union possession. Certain restrictions apply. *Credit Union West is not responsible for the operation, content or availability of the above mentioned Web sites. Privacy and Security Policies of the Web site may differ from those of Credit Union West. Programs subject to change without notice. Always consult your tax professional for complete details on tax credit eligibility.

Get Ready to Build Your Credit Score and Savings at the Same Time!

Establishing and maintaining a good credit history is very important. Not only can good credit get you better rates when you're ready to buy a home or a car but your credit history can impact life events like getting a great deal on your cell phone, or a nice apartment, reasonable rates on insurance and even a good job. Whether you're starting out or starting over; Credit Union West offers two convenient products to assist you – Credit Builder Loan and Credit Builder Visa.

How does a Credit Builder Loan work?

Credit Union West deposits the loan amount into a share savings account that earns dividends. The funds are held as you make low monthly payments for a fixed term. Making on-time monthly payments helps to build your credit score. Once the loan is paid off, you not only have a good credit history of on-time payments, you have money saved in your share savings that you're now able to

use for a down payment on a car, to buy a computer or go on that dream vacation.

We offer:

- Loan amounts from \$500 up to \$5,000
- Repayment terms from 12 – 36 months
- Affordable payments
- Same day approval in most cases
- Applications reviewed locally

How does the Credit Builder Visa work?

The Credit Builder Visa is a great way to improve your credit score and enjoy the benefits of a credit card! The Credit Builder Visa is established with your deposited funds that becomes the credit line held for the Visa. For example, if you put \$500 in the account, you can charge up to \$500. This is a great way to establish good credit history, and boost your credit score while you keep the money in your deposit account.

We offer:

- Credit lines from \$500 up to \$2,500
- No annual fee
- No cash advance fee
- Same day approval in most cases
- Applications reviewed locally

It's EASY to apply! Call 602.631.3290, 928.778.7156 or 800.621.0287 or stop by any branch. Visit www.cuwest.org for branch locations and hours.

*The Credit Builder Loan is share secured (the proceeds from the loan will fund the share account) - meaning that the proceeds would be frozen in a share account until the loan is paid off.

**The Credit Builder Visa is a share secured revolving line of credit with a variable interest rate. The Prime Rate used to determine your variable APR is the rate published in the "Money Rates" table of the Wall Street Journal on the 25th day of each month. The rate on all variable-rate Visa accounts may adjust monthly. Over-limit transactions will not be authorized. Minimum payments are 2.5% of the balance or \$25 monthly, whichever is greater and due on the 25th of the month.

New Credit Union West accounts opened pursuant to the U.S. Patriot Act. Credit report must remain in credit union possession. Must be 18 years of age to apply for the Credit Builder Loan or the Credit Builder Visa. The share account for either loan will be frozen for the life of the loan and any withdrawals will result in an immediate payoff and the member will be ineligible to receive another Credit Union West loan. Programs subject to change without notice.



Robert W. MacGregor • President/CEO

"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does!"

~WILLIAM JAMES

Dear Friends,

Isn't it great to be a part of the 92 million people who make up the credit union movement? We share the belief that by working together we can make a difference – everyday. We know that when household finances are in good shape, members enjoy peace of mind and enhanced quality of life. The credit union works hand-in-hand with local educators and community leaders to provide financial education to all ages. We appreciate this opportunity and so do our community partners.

As you read the inspiring stories in our monthly newsletter, it's easy to see why we've been recognized so many times for our community service. Take a look at how we support teachers and students in classrooms in both Maricopa and Yavapai Counties. And our commitment to active and retired military remains strong and unwavering. Our efforts

combined with those of educators, business leaders and community partners help ensure a brighter financial future for all those we serve.

Why do we "go the extra mile"? That's easy – it's all about the people. All the brick and mortar in the world wouldn't matter if it weren't for these great people, helping other great people!

It takes more than money to make a world of difference for our members and our communities. But that's all right because we are *so much more than money!*

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert W. MacGregor
President/CEO

Serving Those Who Served

The U.S. Veterans' Initiative (USVI) will be hosting a two-day Stand Down event to assist Northern Arizona homeless veterans. This event will be held on September 10th and 11th at the United Methodist Church located at 505 W. Gurley Street in Prescott.

The USVI is asking for donations of sleeping bags, warm jackets, backpacks or duffel bags. Credit Union West will be collecting these items during the entire month of August at our Prescott and Prescott Valley branches.

During the 2-day event veterans will be offered food, medical screenings, employment resources, benefits claims applications and follow-up, housing options, substance abuse treatment options, haircuts, legal, transportation, clothing and cold weather gear, showers and much more.

The USVI is asking for volunteers to assist at the event. Please contact the Stand Down organizer, Skye Biasetti, at 928.445.4860 ext. 5908 or by email at sbiasetti@usvetsinc.org.

Thank you for giving back to those who have served our country.



Get the Straight Scoop about Reg E

What is it?

The Federal Reserve issued final rules for overdraft services affecting ATM and One-Time Debit Card transactions late last fall. These new rules take effect July 1 for all new members and August 15 for existing members.

How does it work?

For credit union members who routinely maintain their checking accounts in a responsible manner the credit union may, at its discretion, authorize payment of a one-time debit card transaction even when funds may not be available in an account. This protection provides peace of mind in knowing that the transaction will be approved should a member make an occasional mistake in

a checking account or have an unexpected need to make a purchase. A Non-Sufficient Funds fee of \$30 is charged and the account becomes overdrawn.

Currently for those who qualify, this coverage is provided automatically. When the changes go into effect, one-time debit card transactions will be denied at the point of purchase if members don't have sufficient funds in their accounts – **unless the member notifies the credit union that they want to keep this valuable service.**

What do you need to do?

Members who qualify will receive a letter either by email or postal mail with instructions on how to **Opt-In. Remember if you do not Opt-In, ATM and One-Time Debit Card**

transactions will be denied if funds are not available. Members may withdraw their decision to Opt-In at any time.

Need more information?

Take a look at our new online video entitled *See How New Overdraft Charges Affect You*. Click the icon on our Home Page under the Important Update section.

We want to make sure you have the information you need to make a wise decision before you suffer the embarrassment of having a transaction denied. If you have questions, please call us at 602.631.3200, 928.778.7156 or 800.321.0287. You own the credit union and we work for you.



Not sure what to do with that old cell phone? Donate it!

Credit Union West is now a drop off location for the Cell Phones for Soldiers program.

The program sends donated phones to ReCellular, which pays Cell Phones for Soldiers for each phone. The proceeds are then used to purchase prepaid calling cards for our brave men and women of the armed forces serving around the world. Each donated phone buys enough to provide an hour of talk time to soldiers abroad.

Cell Phones for Soldiers was founded by teenagers Robbie and Brittany Bergquist from Norwell, Mass., with \$21 of their own money. Since then, the registered 501c3 non-profit organization has raised almost \$1 million in donations and distributed more than 500,000 prepaid calling cards to soldiers serving overseas.

Cell Phones for Soldiers has motivated people and businesses around the country to donate to this worthy cause. Their goal is to provide every US soldier with a way to call home for free. For more information, please visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com.*

*Credit Union West is not responsible for the operation, content or availability of the Cell Phones for Soldiers Web site. Privacy and Security Policies of the Web site may differ from those of Credit Union West. Programs subject to change without notice.

**Help our troops call home...
donate your old cell phone!**

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS



www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

A Tribute to Teachers

Credit Union West sponsored the 2nd Annual Make a Difference Dinner at Glassford Middle School in Prescott Valley. Students paid tribute to teachers that have made a difference in their lives today and will be remembered well into their future.



Students at Sunset Ridge Elementary School in Surprise had fun learning about Good Money Habits in their 3rd grade classroom. The Credit Union West presentation covered the difference between wants vs. needs, setting goals, saving money and a "tasty" comparison test of cereal.

Reward for Job Well Done!

Over 100 students at Prescott High School were recognized for perfect attendance at the end of the school year. Credit Union West was proud to join the Renaissance Committee in honoring the student's achievement by giving out gift cards and \$50 savings account certificates.



BRANCH LOCATIONS

ARROWHEAD

20155 N. 67th Ave., Glendale

AVONDALE

503 W. Van Buren St., Avondale

CACTUS

6777 W. Cactus Rd., Peoria

COTTONWOOD

1672 E. Cottonwood St., Suite C, Cottonwood

LUKE AFB

13708 W. Glendale Ave., Luke AFB*

METRO

3315 W. Peoria Ave., Phoenix

NORTH MOUNTAIN

350 E. Dunlap Ave., Phoenix

PRESCOTT

528 W. Gurley St., Prescott

PRESCOTT VALLEY

8640 E. Hwy. 69, Prescott Valley

SUN CITY WEST

19436 N. R.H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West

SURPRISE

16765 N. Litchfield Rd., Surprise

*Limited access to base location.

Holiday Hours

All branches will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2010 in observance of Independence Day.

For Your Convenience

Manage your personal finances anytime from your home or office. Access your account 24/7 at www.cuwest.org or by calling TELLERphone at 602.631.3456, or 800.531.4132 outside of Maricopa County. You can check account balances, transfer money, take credit advances, make loan payments and so much more!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman William W. Wright

Vice Chairman Dorothy M. Rowe

Directors: Raymond Boucher, James Cronk, Beverly Gately, Luis E. Gendreau, Robert L. Noiseau, Ben C. San Felipe, John M. Schurgard

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE:

Chairman Phyllis Brown

Vice Chairman Howard B. Weichsel

Secretary Sandra M. Lagesse

Members: Norman G. Holler, S. Marlene Sims

Alternate: James Cronk

The Supervisory Committee welcomes member correspondence:

7017 N. Litchfield Rd., #316, Glendale, AZ 85307-2005

THIS P.O. BOX IS INTENDED FOR CORRESPONDENCE ONLY. DO NOT SEND MONETARY TRANSACTIONS (DEPOSITS OR PAYMENTS)

Don't Leave Your Legacy to Chance!

Are your financial assets in order? Are you ready for any emergency? And would it comfort you to know that if you died unexpectedly, your family would be well cared for?

Plan to attend our upcoming Educational Workshop - *Don't Leave Your Legacy to Chance!*

Learn more on how estate planning can help you:

- Deliver assets to the proper people
- Ease the burden on your heirs
- Minimize death taxes
- Understand the different types of trusts
- Select a proper trustee

Sound financial advice and advance planning can help relieve stress on you and your family. Don't miss this opportunity for valuable information.

SEATING IS LIMITED - Make your reservation today!



For seminars in Maricopa County contact Marie Miller at 602.631.3233.

When: July 20th	When: July 22nd
Where: Rio Vista Rec Center	Where: Radisson Hotel
8866-A W Thunderbird Rd., Peoria	7475 W Chandler Blvd., Chandler
Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

For Yavapai County seminars, contact Diann Hickman at 928.445.1943 ext. 1010.

When: August 3rd	When: August 4th
Where: Rowle P. Simmons Community Center	Where: Cottonwood Recreation Center
1280B East Rosser St., Prescott	150 South 6th St., Cottonwood
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Not NCUA Insured

No Credit Union Guarantee

May Lose Value

Securities and Insurance products are offered through LPL Financial and its affiliates, member FINRA/SIPC. Credit Unions are not a registered broker-dealer nor affiliated with LPL Financial.

Save BIG with New Online Video and Calculator

Credit Union West offers new tools to uncover the secrets behind 'bargain' deals when purchasing a new or used vehicle. Our home page now features an educational auto loan video to help you understand the auto purchasing process. Learn about the benefits of a credit union loan so you can take advantage of a manufacturer's rebate over a dealer's hyped rate. Becoming an informed shopper before you make the decision to buy could save you thousands on your auto purchase! Be sure to check out the payment calculator to choose the right credit union auto loan for you. Visit www.cuwest.org and click on LEARN AUTO LOAN SECRETS and become a smarter shopper!

Loans subject to credit qualifications and approval. Annual percentage rate (APR) based on credit qualifications and performance. New Credit Union West accounts opened pursuant to the U.S. Patriot Act. Credit report must remain in credit union possession. Programs subject to change without notice.