

Speaking FINANCIALLY

December 2011

Smart talk about money matters.

iQ CREDIT UNION
Financial Intelligence Pays Off

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Has Your Sleigh Seen Better Days?

If you've got good credit and a down payment, it's time for an iQ Credit Union auto loan. Competitive rates, flexible terms and personalized service can help you drive home a winner. Cool deals on hot wheels are just a click away. Visit www.iQcu.com today.



Holiday Schedule

iQ Credit Union will be closed on the following days:

Christmas Day (*Observed*)
December 26

New Year's Day (*Observed*)
January 2

Celebrate the Season with a Home Sweet Home Equity Loan

Looking for a sweet deal to brighten your holidays? If you're a long-term homeowner with good credit, iQ Credit Union has a Home Equity loan for you! For those who qualify, you can borrow up to 100% of your home's appraised value, then use the money for whatever you want.

Deck the halls with a new roof or remodeled kitchen. Wrap up tuition for the kids. You can even make merry by using the money to pay off post-holiday high-interest credit card bills and save big. For more information or to apply online, visit www.iQcu.com today.



Sweeeeet!

In honor of our Home Sweet Home Equity promotion, staff members at each iQ branch created a one-of-a-kind gingerbread house for our first-ever Gingerbread Wars. Stop by your branch today and check out their goodie-gumdrop entry — including the winning house from the Vancouver Mall branch.

Bridge The Gap
Toy Drive



Please consider donating a toy at any of our branches.

Friday, November 25th - Monday, December 19th

Online banking
and bill pay are the
cat's meow!

Plus, you could
WIN \$5,000!



Simply pay one bill online during November or December and you'll automatically be entered into a contest to win \$5,000!

NEWS & NOTES

Keep Debt in Check

At some point, nearly everyone has accumulated personal debt. In order to properly manage debt, it is important to distinguish between “good debt” and “bad debt.” From a purely financial perspective, good debt is borrowing in order to purchase an asset that is likely to appreciate in value (e.g., a home or business). On the other hand, bad debt is borrowing in order to purchase an asset that is likely to depreciate in value (e.g., an automobile) or borrowing for non-asset consumption (e.g., a vacation). In order to manage your debt effectively, it is helpful to consider the following points:

Get a “Snapshot” of Your Debt.

Ask yourself how much “good” and “bad” debt you have. Then, categorize your debts as *short-term* (e.g., credit card), *intermediate-term* (e.g., car loans), and *long-term* (e.g., mortgage and home equity).

Pay Off the “Right” Debt First.

It generally makes sense to pay off high-interest debt first. Stretching out payments is most appropriate for intermediate- and long-term debt.

Limit Your Credit Card Use.

If you tend to use credit cards to purchase consumables, rather than assets that appreciate, you may want to reduce your dependence on them. Avoid the minimum payment trap. By making only the minimum monthly payment, the interest that accumulates as you stretch out payments can make even “bargain” purchases costly in the long run.

Being Realistic

Spending is not always based on purely financial considerations. However, common sense strategies (such as the ones outlined above) can help you control your debt, and make it more manageable to live within your means.

Here, There and Everywhere

iQ members can always find fee-free cash nearby.

*‘Twas the holiday season, shoppers frantic for cash
With an iQ ATM or Debit Card in hand,
there was no need to dash.*

Shop, swipe and spend.



Whether you’re searching for the perfect gift, shopping for the family feast or gearing up to deck the halls, odds are you need cash. No problem. As a member of iQ Credit Union, you’re covered. There are more than 80 fee-free ATMs throughout Clark County — including ATMs in local 7-11 stores and Walgreens. And that’s just the beginning!

Easy money.

Whenever you need cash on the go, you can use your iQ Credit Union ATM or VISA Debit Card at nearly any cash machine. Just look for an ATM with the CO-OP logo (there are more than 28,000 of them!) and there’s never a fee. This goes for ATMs around the corner, across the country and the world over. For a complete and up-to-date list of all CO-OP ATM locations, visit www.iQcu.com and click on the CO-OP logo/Find an ATM logo at the bottom of our home page.

Shared Branching

It’s like having an iQ Credit Union wherever you go.

For more than 70 years, iQ Credit Union has been part of your life in Clark County, always ready to take care of your financial needs. But every now and then, you need us to be in Seaside ... or Seattle ... or even New York.

Now we are. As a member of CU Service Center’s Shared Branching, we are connected to a nationwide network of non-competing credit unions — all linked together to provide services to each other’s members. This makes it possible for you to access your iQ accounts and conduct your in-branch iQ business wherever you live, work or travel.

Look for the CU Service Center logo and it’s just like being at your local iQ Credit Union branch. Step inside a shared branch and you can make a deposit, take a cash withdrawal, make a loan payment and more. It’s perfect if you work in downtown Portland (or Gresham or Beaverton) or find yourself relocated or vacationing outside the area. Great during holiday travel times, too. Through our Shared Branching network, members have access to more than 6,700 credit union branches nationwide. And while they won’t all have iQ logos, they’ll still work like they did.



For a complete list of all Shared Branch locations, visit www.iQcu.com and click on “About Us.” From the pull-down menu, select “Branch Locations,” then click “Shared Branches” from the menu on the left.



Looking for a CU Service Center while you’re out and about?

There’s an app for that! Visit www.iQcu.com, click on the CU Swirl icon and download the free Branch Locator app for iPhone and Android.



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