

Shareletter

August 2010



Get outta town!

Auto Loans: A better way to get away

PNWFCU can help you head out on the highway with financing as low as 2.99%! You'll experience more than just great rates at PNWFCU; you'll enjoy quick loan turn-around, flexible terms, and the expert services of our Personal Auto Shopper who will find the vehicle you want at a price you can afford. Visit our website, www.pnwfcu.org, to take advantage of this historically low rate and learn how our Personal Auto Shopper can work for you.

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate as of 7/1/2010 and subject to change without notice. Rate quoted for lowest new car loan amount up to \$25,000, for 24-60 month terms, with automated payments. Cancellation of automated payments will increase APR. Rates may be different as determined by the individual creditworthiness of each applicant and the terms of the loan. Not all applicants, terms and loan amounts will qualify for the lowest rate. Other rates and terms available. Offer applies to certain cars and trucks only; recreational vehicles, motorcycles and boats are not included in this offer. Internal refinances available, \$100 processing fee will apply and will affect APR. Ask for complete details.

Visa Extra Awards Card: Collect points...then collect souvenirs

Looking for another way to get out of town? With our Extra Awards card, you get one point for every dollar you spend to use towards travel anywhere in the world. Think of it as an automatic vacation fund. That \$90 a week grocery bill? Why not make that 90 points a week towards your next vacation?

Travel without restrictions

Earn points for non-restricted airfare, car rentals, hotels and travel rebates every time you use your card. Unlike most other travel cards, you won't be locked into one airline or certain travel dates. Your travel options are virtually limitless.

No surprise fees

Our Extra Awards card has a low annual fee of \$30, a low rate, and no cash advance fees or increased cash advance rates.



Get a card that rewards you for using it. Visit our website today for complete program details.

>> 2010 Video Contest

**How do you live better for less...
and manage the rest?**

Win up to \$200! Contest begins September 1st. Visit www.pnwfcu.org for details.

Auto Loan Rates
As Low As
2.99 % APR*

Mortgage and Home Equity Solutions

Our auto loans aren't the only thing at record lows. Our mortgage rates are too. Whether you're making your first home purchase, relocating or refinancing an existing mortgage, PNWFCU's dedicated real estate team is here to help you make the right financing decision.

We offer:

- 1 Easy online application
- 2 Free pre-approval
- 3 Local service; in-house underwriting
- 4 \$500 flat origination fee

Job Loss Protection

PNWFCU now offers Job Loss Protection to help our members feel more secure about buying a home during difficult economic times. Free with Mortgage Insurance, Job Loss Protection will cover your payments up to \$2000, for up to six months, if you involuntarily lose your job.

Safeguard your mortgage from the start. Call our Mortgage Specialist at 1.800.444.5858, option 4 for details regarding this benefit or to get started on your home loan.

Tax Credit and Rebates for Energy Efficient Homes

Federal Tax Credits

The Federal Tax Credit for Energy Efficiency provides tax credits for 30 percent of the cost when you make these energy efficient improvements to your home:

Save up to \$1,500 on:

- Windows and doors
- Insulation
- Roofs (Metal and Asphalt)
- HVAC
- Water Heaters (non-solar)
- Biomass Stoves

No upper cap for:

- Geothermal Heat Pumps
- Solar Panels
- Solar Water Heaters
- Small Wind Energy Systems
- Fuel Cells

You May Be Eligible for Additional Incentives

The tax credits listed above are federal tax credits. You may be eligible to receive rebates from your state for the purchase of new ENERGY STAR qualified appliances. Each state has selected its own set of ENERGY STAR qualified products to rebate, based on the Department of Energy's list of recommended appliances that include:

- Boilers
- Heat pumps
- Furnaces
- Clothes washers
- Dishwashers
- Freezers
- Refrigerators
- Air conditioners
- Water heaters

For more information regarding these rebates and tax credits, visit: www.energysavers.gov.



Member Appreciation BBQs

It's that time of year again! Our staff will be happily serving up hotdogs (ice cream if you're in Hood River) at each of our branches to show you how much we appreciate your membership. Join us on the dates listed below for a good old-fashioned cookout.

Ross Branch

Tuesday, August 24, 2010
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Erin Way Branch

Thursday, August 26, 2010
11:00 - 1:00 p.m.

BPA Branch

Wednesday, August 25, 2010
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Join us for FREE ice cream at our Hood River Branch!

Friday, August 6, 2010
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.



Consumer Sense: Protecting your Future

Nobody wants to think of the idea of spending his or her sunset years in a nursing home. Nevertheless it is definitely something we need to think about. Care in an assisted-living facility or even in your own home can be extremely expensive. Without careful planning, you may exhaust your hard earned retirement savings trying to pay the bills. If you're one of the millions of baby boomers preparing for retirement, looking into long term care (LTC) insurance should be near the top of the planning "to do" list.

Living Longer

According to recent data, a person age 65 has an approximately 50% chance of living beyond age 85 for males, age 88 for females and for couples at least one spouse may live to age 92. According to a study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, people who reach age 65 will likely have a 40 percent chance of entering a nursing home. With the population generally living longer, the need for LTC and protection from the burden of its high costs is a distinct possibility in the future.

What is LTC?

LTC is a variety of services, including medical and non-medical care to people who have a chronic illness or disability. LTC is frequently associated with the elderly, but accidents and illness can put even children in the position of needing care.

What are the Costs of LTC?

The 2009 national daily average room rate in a nursing home facility ranges from \$198 to \$219 (semi-private to private room), or \$72,270 to \$79,935 annually. With this risk left unmanaged, prolonged care may exhaust a large portion of one's life savings. That's why it is important to consider incorporating LTC options into your long term financial plan.

Medicare

Generally, Medicare does not pay for long-term care expenses. Medicare pays only for medically necessary skilled nursing facility or home care for a limited number of days.

Medicaid Assistance

Medicaid is a state-administered health insurance program that helps many people who otherwise cannot afford to pay for medical care. To qualify for LTC coverage under the Medicaid program, individuals must meet strict financial and functional eligibility requirements.

LTC Insurance

Many major insurance companies in the private sector also offer LTC insurance. While these plans require policy owners to pay upfront or ongoing premiums, they often provide more flexible eligibility and coverage options and benefit payment terms. The greater flexibility can, in turn, help policy owners better protect their life and retirement savings from the ravages of high LTC costs.

Sources: http://www.longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main_Site/index.aspx; www.medicare.gov; The MetLife Market Survey of Nursing Home & Assisted Living Costs, October 2008.

Interested in Learning More?

Contact me to schedule a complimentary consultation to review your investment objectives, and to discuss any questions you might have. I look forward to speaking with you!



James Hull, AWMA®, CRPC®
1.800.444.5858 x2658
jamesh@pnwfcu.org

Se habla español

*Investments offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS) are not NCUA/NCUSIF insured, are not credit union guaranteed, and may lose value. Financial Advisors are employees of Pacific NW Federal Credit Union and registered through CFS. Pacific NW Federal Credit Union is affiliated with CFS (member FINRA/SIPC).