



# HOT SPOTS



## When was the last time your bank paid you a bonus?

It's hard to pick up a newspaper or watch the news without seeing reports about a recession and economic crisis. Well, here's some good news for a change! Your Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union is about to close the books on the most prosperous year ever.

Well before the economic turmoil of 2008, the Board of Directors made sound decisions to position the credit union for difficult times. The staff delivered on those plans with loan growth over 17%, strategic investing, operating expense ratios well below industry peers, and an overall return on assets in excess of 1%.

As a result of this success, the Board voted to return to the members a 25% bonus dividend. As of December 31, 2008 the total dividends paid to each member throughout 2008 on all share and certificate types will be calculated and an additional 25% of those amounts will be added to the corresponding regular share accounts.

This is what belonging to a member-owned, not-for-profit, financial cooperative is all about. Thanks to the members who chose to pool their resources at the credit union, others could borrow at below market rates. When your Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union does well, members share in the rewards!

If you have any questions about your bonus or the credit union, please call us at 228-1614 or e-mail us at [staff@dffc.org](mailto:staff@dffc.org).

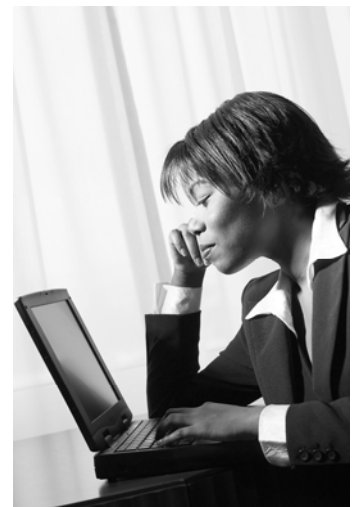
## The new website is here! Check it out at [dffc.org](http://dffc.org)!

Check out our new website. We have re-designed the website to make it more user-friendly, professional, and convenient for you. Our new addition and our new website are a great way to Welcome in 2009.

The new site lets you log in to online banking right from the home page. With online banking you can, check your balances, transfer funds, see copies of cleared checks, and access bill

pay. You can also link to all the services we added to online banking in 2008; text banking and viewing your e-statements securely online.

This new website will highlight our current promotions and introduce new products and services. And there is a special section dedicated to links for Firefighters. When you have questions about your credit union, the website will be your one-stop shop for answers. Log on now!



**visit the website**

**[www.dffc.org](http://www.dffc.org)**

**Winter 2008**

# 2009 Board Nominees

The following candidates are being nominated to fill the vacancies on the Board of Directors and will appear on the ballot for the Annual Meeting January 31, 2009.



*"As your Board of Director's member, I work hard to better serve you."*

**Norman F. Essman**

Board Director, Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union since 2007; Consultant, Tech Town Redevelopment since 2006; Director of Economic Development, City of Dayton 1975 - 2006; B.S., Wright State University; M.P.A., University of Dayton; Attended nine on-line credit union courses and three seminars

on credit union issues and regulations; Board of Directors of the United States Air and Trade Show; Trustee of Greater Dayton Foreign Trade Zone; member of International Economic Development Council; member Ohio Development Association.



*"I want the Credit Union to continue to grow its membership, attracting people throughout the area ..."*

**Richard J. Olszewski**

Board Director, Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union since 2007; Attended Sinclair Community College 1990 – 1993, Wright State University 1980 – 1983; Firefighter, City of Dayton for 16 Years; Union Steward, IAFF Local 136 for 5 Years.



*"I would like to see the Credit Union continue to grow on the steady, sound path it has followed in the 24 years I've been a member."*

**Kent L. Parker**

Board Director and past Member Service Rep., Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union since 1986; Chairman and Director, Miami Valley Chapter OCUL, 10 Years; Firefighter, City of Dayton since 1984; Associate degree, Sinclair Community College; Committee Chair, Cub Scouts Pack 320 since 2002; Athletic Department Treasurer, Immaculate Conception 1990 - 1998.

- Member Services
- Share savings
- Share draft checking
- Share certificates
- Direct deposit
- Payroll deduction
- Money orders
- CU Easy Wheels
- VISA credit cards
- VISA Travel Cards
- Vehicle loans
- Personal loans
- First mortgages
- Second mortgages
- HELOCs
- Debt Cancellation
- Vehicle Service Contracts
- ATM/Debit cards
- H.A.L. 24-hour account access
- Online applications
- Wire transfer
- Free notary public
- Home banking
- Bill pay

Important Telephone Numbers

VISA

1-800-237-6211

MasterCard

1-800-523-4175

## Holiday Closings

**Dr. Martin Luther**

**King Jr. Day**

**Monday**

**January 19, 2009**

**President's Day**

**Monday**

**February 16, 2009**

**Special Event**

**Annual Meeting**

**Saturday**

**January 31, 2009**

# Health Savings Accounts are here!

## *What is a Health Savings Account (HSA)?*

A Health Savings Account (HSA) is a U.S.-government-sponsored account that individuals can establish to make tax-deductible contributions, earn tax-free interest on contributions, and withdraw money tax-free for qualified\* medical expenses.

An HSA is a way for you to save for qualified current medical expenses and put aside money for future medical expenses tax free. You must qualify with a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP).\*

## *How does it work?*

Contributions to an HSA account can be made by your employer, by you, the individual or both.\* The deposits can be made in person or using payroll deduction. Then when medical expenses arrive and you have met your deductibles, you can use your HSA funds.

## *How do I access the funds?*

When you have a “qualified” medical expense, you can write a check or use your HSA debit card to pay for the item or bill. You can even use your HSA debit card number to pay a bill by mail, phone or online. You can also come into our office and withdraw the money for the qualified medical expense.

## *Why the Credit Union?*

Those members and potential members with a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) can benefit from the local personal service a Health Savings Account at your

credit union can offer. We are local and you know us, not some online bank where it may be difficult to get your questions answered. And with lower fees than other banks *or* HSA providers, your money is working harder for you.

## *What if I do not use all the funds?*

An HSA allows the account balance to carry over from year to year. There is no “use it or lose it” provision like a flexible spending account.

## *How do I open an HSA?*

First, you have to determine that you qualify to make contributions to an HSA\*. Once you determine your eligibility for an HSA, contact the credit union at 228-1614 or visit our office.

With easy access to your funds through checks and an HSA debit card, you can make paying for your healthcare needs a little easier.

Need more general information on HSA accounts? Log on to: <http://www.treas.gov/offices/public-affairs/hsa/faq.shtml>

\*It is the individual's responsibility to determine if they are eligible to make contributions to an HSA and if those expenses are “qualified” medical expenses.

Please consult a tax professional for tax advice. Contribution limits are set by the IRS each year and will depend on the account type (single or family).

Qualified medical expenses are ones permitted by federal law, a partial list can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**With a Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union HSA you receive:**

- **Access to your account 24/7 via Online Banking and HAL**
- **Competitive Monthly Dividends**
- **Access to your HSA funds for qualified medical expenses via special HSA Debit Card and HSA Checks**
- **Local Personal Service**
- **Multi-Tiered Rates**
- **Account balance carry over from year to year**
- **No monthly service charge**
- **No transaction fees**
- **No minimum balance on HSA**
- **HSA contributions via direct deposit (provided employer offers this benefit)**



## Important information regarding late fees

The Board of Directors of Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union has voted to adjust our late fee to reflect current market fees. Beginning February 1, 2009, only on payments more than 10 days late, a fee of \$25 will be assessed. We have several automatic payment options to help you avoid this fee. Contact one of our Financial Service Officers for more information. Please retain this notice with your LOANLINER® Agreement and Truth in Lending disclosures for future reference.

## Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance January 31st!



The Annual Meeting and Dinner Dance is scheduled for Saturday, January 31st, 2009. Mark your calendar for this great night out. We will have dinner, dancing, the annual meeting, board nominations and of course door prizes. Come celebrate the success of your credit union. We hope to see you there! Tickets on sale now for only \$30 a person.

## Calendars have arrived

Your 2009 DFFCU Calendars are here waiting for you. Remember one free calendar per household and extras are only \$1. The calendars provide firefighters and their families a way to track platoon shifts and Union events. The 2009 calendars also include credit union holidays, services, important numbers and more! You can even view a copy of the calendar on the new website. Please make sure to support the advertisers who help make this calendar possible.

## New calendar year for “New” cars

With the new year here, the terms for “New” cars change. The credit union considers a new car; the current year and three previous years. In 2009, the 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 models will be considered new cars.

Have you checked out CU easy

wheels for your car buying needs? CU easy wheels, our car concierge buying service, can help you get the best price on your new or used vehicle. Next time you are in the market for a car, log on to [dffcu.org](http://dffcu.org) and check out CU easy wheels.

Save the Date!

Annual Meeting  
and Dinner Dance  
January 31, 2009

Presidential Banquet Center  
4548 Presidential Way  
Kettering, Ohio 45429

6PM Host Bar  
7PM Dinner  
8PM Meeting  
9PM Dance w/DJ

**DAYTON FIREFIGHTERS**  
  
**FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**



338 S. Patterson Boulevard  
Dayton, Ohio 45402  
(937) 228-1614  
Fax (937) 228-0068  
H.A.L. (937) 228-2883  
VISA (800) 237-6211  
MasterMoney (800) 523-4175  
[www.dffcu.org](http://www.dffcu.org)

### Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri.  
Lobby: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Drive Up: 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Thurs: Lobby & Drive Up: 10- 6p.m

## Dividends

The dividend rate for the fourth quarter of 2008 was set at **1.0%**. The annual percentage yield (APY) is 1.00%. This lower dividend rate is tied to our consumer friendly loan rates and incredibly higher earning deposit products. Regular share accounts must have a balance of \$50.00 or more to earn dividends. Your money earns dividends from the day of deposit to the day of withdrawal.

Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000  
and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government

**NCUA**

National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency