

## Piggy getting a little...

# Full?

GEMC FCU Members enjoy FREE use of the CoinStar Machines in our Tucker & Douglasville branches.

## Traveling with your GEMC FCU Credit Card this summer?

Don't forget to let us know! We want to ensure your card will work when you need it.

Call Card Services at: 770-270-7851



# Notes of Interest

July 2010

A Quarterly Publication of



### In Brief:

#### Summer Loan Promo:

1% off Boat, RV & Motorcycle Loans

#### Opt In to Overdraft Protection:

Opt In Today  
at [www.gemc.org](http://www.gemc.org)

#### Sign Up for E-Statements, get \$5!

#### Auto and Home Insurance Discounts

Contact Liberty Mutual Insurance

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#### President's Letter

page 4

#### Holiday Closings:

Monday, July 5 -  
Independence Day

Monday, September 6 -  
Labor Day

## Low Summer Rates on Boat, RV, & Motorcycle Loans

*Start the summer off right and take 1% off your loan rate!*

Whether you are looking to sail across the ocean, motor across the country, or sleep under the stars, we have the right loan for you. This summer, enjoy a **1% discount** on all Boat, RV and Motorcycle loans!

At GEMC Federal Credit Union, all of our lending decisions are made locally and typically within 24 hours. New and used boats, motorcycles and recreational vehicles are a breeze to get with our easy,

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## Courtesy Pay - Overdraft Protection

*Where will you be when you need it most?*



You've probably heard about new Federal legislation requiring checking account holders at banks and credit unions to opt in to Overdraft Protection/Courtesy Pay. Let's look at how Courtesy Pay works:

Let's say you swipe your debit card to pay for a \$150 purchase but you only have \$100 in your

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## Get \$5 When You Sign Up for E-Statements!

*Current E-Statement users are eligible to win a \$100 gift card!*

E-Statements are the quick, convenient, and most secure way to receive your monthly or quarterly statements from GEMC FCU. Sign up to receive your statement electronically in July and August and you'll get \$5 cash; plus, on August 31, 2010, one current GEMC FCU E-Statement user's name will be selected at random and will win \$100!

To sign up for E-Statements, log in to Web Account Access, click the "Self

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## Low Summer Rates on Boat, RV, & Motorcycle Loans

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no-hassle financing. Loan payments can be made by payroll deduction, freeing up your time to enjoy the great outdoors.

What does this mean for you?

**New boat and recreational vehicle rates start as low as 6.9% APR\*.**

Used boats as low as 9.90% APR\* and used RVs as low as 7.25% APR\*.

**New motorcycle rates are as low as 8.90% APR\*.**

Used motorcycle rates as low as 9.90% APR\*.

Apply for your loan today and start making fun memories tomorrow. Loans can be closed at all GEMC FCU branch offices. EMC employees may also elect to close at their EMC locations.

\*APR - Annual Percentage Rate. Qualification is based on an assessment of individual creditworthiness and our underwriting standards. All Credit Union loan programs, rates, forms, and conditions are subject to change at any time without notice. Call us at 770-270-7851 for current rates, terms and conditions. Discounts apply to new loans approved between 6/1/2010 and 8/31/2010.



## Get \$5 When You Sign Up for E-Statements!

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Service” tab and select the red E-Statements link on the right.

Accept the Terms and Conditions and you’re done!

### Why E-Statements?

**They’re Secure** - A paper statement will no longer be mailed to your home, reducing the risk of theft of your personal financial information. Instead,



your E-Statement is online, on an encrypted server, and password protected.

**Savings** - Not only will you be saving paper, you’ll be saving money! E-Statements reduce Credit Union costs, and those savings come back to you as a member/owner.

**Convenience** - You can view, print or download your E-Statement to your computer whenever you want,

allowing you to store your E-Statements together in one central location for easy retrieval.

**Speed** - Your E-Statement will be available online days earlier than a mailed statement.

**Cost** - E-Statements are a FREE service of your Credit Union!

To receive your statements electronically, you should be a current Web Account Access Online Banking user. Web Account Access is one of the most valuable account tools available to members of GEMC Federal Credit Union. With Web Account Access, you can check available balances, view account transaction history and pending transactions, and even make transfers between your GEMC FCU accounts and pay bills. To sign up for Web Account Access online banking, go to [www.gemc.org](http://www.gemc.org) and click the “Member Resources” link. Then select “Forms and Applications” to find the Web Account Access Application.

**Get your \$5 now. Sign up for E-Statements today!**

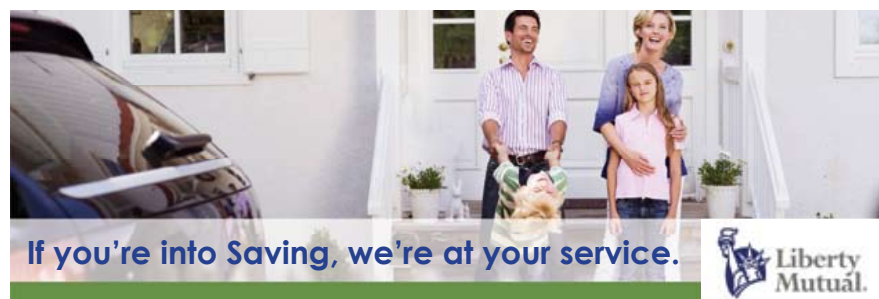
## GEMC Members receive discounts on Home and Auto Insurance from Liberty Mutual Insurance.

For a free, no-obligation quote, contact:

**Michael Spells** at (678) 838-9219, ext. 56835

[Michael.Spells@libertymutual.com](mailto:Michael.Spells@libertymutual.com)

[www.LibertyMutual.com/MichaelSpells](http://www.LibertyMutual.com/MichaelSpells)



If you're into Saving, we're at your service.



# Where will you be when your card needs to work?



The grocery store?



Out to dinner with friends?



The 24-hour pharmacy?



The gas station?

**Overdraft Protection. Opt In Today.**

## Overdraft Protection

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account. Without Courtesy Pay, the transaction is denied. But if you were enrolled in Courtesy Pay, the \$150 item would be paid. How? The Credit Union advances you the funds on a predetermined account limit, and in return for that service, you pay a small service fee.

**So if the Credit Union does this for you now, why do you have to re-enroll?** Effective July 2010, the new federal regulation will require anyone who wants to continue having Courtesy Pay on everyday debit card transactions and ATM withdrawals to sign an Opt-In Agreement. Some consumer groups are recommending people not opt in, saying personal finances should be managed better.

While this may be true, special circumstances do come up when we least expect them, and you should be prepared.

**Consider this real-life scenario:** You're in the grocery store with a cart full of groceries and your two kids, who missed their morning

naps and want their lunch *now*. You get your cart up to the checkout register, finally unload everything, and when you swipe your card to pay: DENIED. You don't have any other cards, your checkbook is at home, the kids are screaming, there's a growing line behind you at the register...and you just want your card to work! If you had Courtesy Pay, the transaction would have been approved and you would have been on your way.

**How do you opt in to Courtesy Pay?** Opt-In forms are available at all GEMC Federal Credit Union branches. You may also visit our web site at [www.gemc.org](http://www.gemc.org), and click the link for an Opt-In form. Simply follow the directions at the bottom of the form to return it to one of our branches.

**Proper account management and spending wisely are the best ways to avoid fees,** but if you're in a pinch, Courtesy Pay saves you the hassle and embarrassment of having a transaction denied.

**Opt In to Courtesy Pay today.**

## Ways to Avoid Overdraft Fees

If you're not careful, overdrafts and their fees can quickly get out of control. Avoid them altogether with these three simple tips:

### Keep a checkbook register!

Any money that goes into or out of your checking account should be tracked using a register - even if you're not writing checks. Keeping a written record of your transactions, balancing it regularly, and spending wisely are the most surefire ways to avoid costly fees.

### Be Aware of Holds.

When you use your debit card to make purchases, merchants routinely place a "hold" on your account to cover the transaction amount. We recommend that you try to avoid reserving a hotel stay or car rental with your debit card. These merchant holds are typically much larger than the actual purchase amount to cover incidentals or potential loss.

### Use Electronic Account Services to manage accounts.

It's easier to keep track of account balances and transactions using the full array of account services GEMC FCU has to offer. Including: ATM Inquiries, Online Banking and Bill Pay, E-mail Account Alerts, E-Statements, and Powerline Phone teller.

**Get your hands on a VISA Credit Card from GEMC FCU.**

**Rates as low as 8.90% APR\***

**Apply online today!**



\*APR - Annual Percentage Rate. Qualification is based on an assessment of individual creditworthiness and our underwriting standards. All Credit Union loan programs, rates, forms, and conditions are subject to change at any time without notice. Call us at 770-270-7851 for current rates, terms and conditions.

## Current Rates

### Regular Savings/Holiday Club

Dividend Rate	0.40%
Annual Percentage Yield	0.40%

Dividends are posted on July 1, 2010 for 2nd quarter 2010. Notice: 01 regular savings accounts with an Average Daily Balance of \$100 or less will not receive dividends. Any account closed before the end of the dividend period will forfeit dividends accrued. There will be a \$15 fee per quarter for members over the age of 16 with a savings balance of less than \$100 and no activity on the account for one year or more. If the fee brings the account balance below \$5, the account will be closed.

### IRA Accounts

IRA Dividends	0.85%
Annual Percentage Yield	0.85%

Dividends are posted on July 1, 2010 for 2nd quarter 2010. Any IRA account with an Average Daily Balance of less than \$500.00 and no transaction activity for two calendar years will be assessed an annual fee of \$10.

## Locations/Contact Information

### Main Office:

2100 East Exchange Place, Suite #101  
Tucker, GA 30084  
(770) 270-7851 (800) 241-5374 x7851  
(770) 938-9221 - Fax

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 450449 • Atlanta, GA 31145-0449

### Douglasville Office:

4040 Bankhead Highway  
P.O. Box 1527 • Douglasville, GA 30133-1527  
(770) 949-3557 (770) 947-1857 - Fax

### Dallas Office:

120 GreyStone Power Blvd. • Dallas, GA 30157  
(770) 445-2800 (770) 445-4946 - Fax

Lost or Stolen VISA Credit Card: (800) 299-9842

Lost or Stolen VISA Debit Card: (800) 472-3272

Powerline Telephone Teller: (888) 462-2844

Car Solutions Car Buying Service: (404) 530-9000

MEMBERS Financial Services -

Investment Services: (770) 476-6400 x1208

### First Mortgage:

Credit Union Financial Services  
(678) 658-4466 (800) 503-6855

Liberty Mutual Insurance - Home/Auto/Life

(678) 383-9219 x56835

## Credit Union Board of Directors

Chair - Tony Tucker, Mitchell EMC

Vice Chair - Tim Williams, GreyStone Power

Secretary - Matt Brinson, Planters EMC

Chief Financial Officer - Richard West,  
Georgia EMC

Joe Simpson, Excelsior EMC, Retired

Julianna McConnell, The Preston Group

Ray Miller, SEDC, Retired

## President's Letter

This time of year, extended families come together for reunions, weeks at the beach and backyard barbeques. We spend time 'catching up' with what's been going on in our lives. In my family, I always get asked about our Credit Union, how we're doing and what's the best money tip. Of course, I'm always willing to give free advice, so I thought I'd share my Top Favorites for the summer.

1. **FAMILY.** We love them dearly and we want the best for them. That's why I tell all my family that they can be members of our Credit Union. My parents, brothers, sisters, kids, aunts, uncles - anybody who comes to this summer's reunion!
2. **TRAVEL.** Our families go on long weekends, vacations, and extended trips overseas. Usually, the preferred method of spending is their credit card. I always offer this bit of advice: Make copies of everything in your wallet, front and back, and keep one set of copies at home and one set packed away from your cards. In case of a lost or stolen card or an emergency, you have contact phone numbers, account numbers, etc. Also remember that sudden changes in where you're shopping or how much you're spending usually set off credit card fraud alert systems, and until you clear up the confusion with the issuer, your card is blocked. Talk about a vacation downer! To avoid having your card suddenly stop working, it's a good idea to simply let the card issuers (credit union) know where you're traveling.
3. **VEHICLES.** My uncle Frank is very frugal and drives his car till it dies, but my cousin Larry is always shopping, kicking tires and trying to talk his way into a great deal. They both ask me how to get the best deal on a car loan these days. There are so many things to talk about before signing on the dotted line, including:
  - How is the car rated for repairs in *Consumer Reports* magazine?
  - How much is insurance going to cost?
  - How safe is the car according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration? Find out at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).
  - Does the price of the car include costly fees that add no value?After we talked about all of the above, I talk about the Credit Union car loan rates and the benefits of financing with the Credit Union.
4. **CHILDREN.** They come in all sizes. Currently, most of my extended family's kids are teenagers and college students. Now it gets fun, as the toys get bigger and more expensive! In just a few short weeks, school will be starting. Here are my words of wisdom for them all:
  - Learn the value of money and how to manage it.
  - Open a checking account with summer job money and learn how to balance it - *each month*.
  - Teach your young adult what happens when there's more month than money left.
  - Create a budget and stick to it. Sometimes these words are more accepted by our sons or daughters if they don't come from us parents, and that's OK! (The Credit Union is an expert at helping in this department!)

And parents, let me tell you a little secret: Your kids are watching and really are listening to you, and there are even studies that prove it. So if you set the example by sticking to a budget, tracking your spending, and regularly balancing your checkbook, chances are your kids will, too. And don't worry, we're here to help out you big kids, too, so don't be afraid to stop in and ask for a little advice.

Now: FUN Time! It can't be summer without a ride on a boat, a cruise on a motorcycle or camping in an RV! Our Credit Union is pulling out the stops to make this summer's family fun affordable. Check out our summer rate special on Page 1. Good Times for Less Money!

Have a Happy and Safe Summer!

*Denise Swan*  
President, GEMC FCU

