



## Bankruptcy Is Not The Only Way Out!!! Your Future Is Our Concern, Too

**I**f today's tough times have you thinking about bankruptcy as a solution, stop by the Credit Union before you do anything you'll regret. Talk to one of our loan officers about your situation. We've helped other members in a tight spot find a way out of their financial trouble without resorting to bankruptcy; maybe we can help you too.

When you file bankruptcy it jeopardizes your ability to obtain credit for a very long time. The bankruptcy filing remains on your credit record for ten years! Bankruptcy has very serious ramifications for all of us. It is not a quick and easy fix. While it may provide financial relief, you should consider other alternatives to filing bankruptcy before making this tough decision.



- 1 CALL YOUR CREDITORS**- Don't hide from your situation. If you explain that you are considering bankruptcy, they may lower your payment or rate to help you get through the difficult time.
- 2 WRITE OUT A BUDGET**- Understanding how you are spending your money may help you get a handle on your finances and avoid bankruptcy.
- 3 GET A DEBT CONSOLIDATION LOAN**- If a credit union or bank finds you creditworthy you could get a consolidation loan to pay off your credit cards as an alternative to filing bankruptcy.
- 4 BORROW MONEY FROM FAMILY**- You may have family or friends who could loan you money to help pay off high rate debts to avoid bankruptcy. Remember to treat this type of loan just as you would any loan from a financial institution and pay it back on time.
- 5 REFINANCE A LOAN**- If you're able to get better terms, it might be a good idea to refinance a car loan or mortgage.
- 6 BORROW MONEY FROM SAVINGS**- Depending on your situation, it may be an option for you to borrow against your 401(k) to pay off credit cards or loans that have high interest rates.

**So if your financial situation is bleak and you're considering personal bankruptcy as a way out, see us first.**



# Real Estate Professional Services (REPS) Program

The REPS program is an exclusive program offering professional and full service real estate services with reduced pre-negotiated commission rates provided to the members of Family Advantage Federal Credit Union. The Credit Union saw the need to establish these full service benefits in order to bring more value to its members and their families.

With the current real estate market, it has never been more important to have professional assistance to help you buy or sell a home. If you are planning to buy or sell, be smart. You will want to access the market like the pros do, to determine present median prices of neighborhood homes, prices per square foot, length of time on the market in a given area and the foreclosures in your area, because these factors will dramatically affect home prices. A REPS Professional at FAFUCU will be glad to assist you with these and many other elements of the real estate process with no obligation to you.

For Members wanting or needing to sell their home, the REPS program offers a reduced real estate commission that has been pre-negotiated based on the

Commission Reduction	Home Sale Price
.50%	\$0 – 149,000
.75%	\$150k – \$199k
1.00%	\$200k - \$275k
1.25%	\$275k - \$325k
1.50%	\$325k and up

**Just One More Way We Help Our Family**

purchase price of your home. This reduced commission goes a long way to offsetting the drop in real estate prices that are affecting our area presently. (See the commission chart).

There has never been a better time to consider buying a home. Contact FAFUCU and have one of the licensed buyer real estate representatives help you with your purchase. There is no cost to the FAFUCU members for this service.

Call FAFUCU at 931-486-3125 or 931-381-6580—ask for Frank (615-594-7190) or David (615-491-7291). Be sure to mention that you are a Family Advantage Federal Credit Union member.

Contact

Spring Hill  
931.486.3125

Columbia  
931.381.6580

Mobile Banking  
800.201.3694

Home Banking  
myfafcu.org

Lost or Stolen VISA  
ATM/Debit Card  
800.554.8969

Lost or Stolen VISA  
Credit Card  
800.289.5939

Hours

Spring Hill  
Mon-Friday  
9am - 5pm

Saturday  
8am-12pm

Columbia  
Mon-Friday  
9am - 5pm

**Invest in America**  
with **DRIVING the DISCOUNT**

**Credit union members drive away with two great deals. A terrific discount on most new GM and Chrysler vehicles. Plus a low loan rate from your credit union!**

Whatever vehicle you choose, drive away happy knowing you just did your part to Invest in America.

**BE DRIVEN...** Find out more at **LOVEMYCREDITUNION.ORG.**

### Wire Notice:

When requesting an outgoing wire transfer please provide the full address of the recipient. This information is necessary to maintain compliance.

### Invest in America

A Huge Success! Both our members' bottom line and our country's economy have been boosted thanks to Invest in America's discounts. More than 139,000 cars have been sold through the Credit Union Member Discount From GM and Chrysler's Credit Union Member Cash program!

Your opportunity for saving on your next car has gotten even better! Chrysler and GM both have additional promotions going on right now that you can add to the above discounts.

And don't forget, when you finance your new vehicle with Family Advantage Federal Credit Union you'll save even more with our low loan rates!

Talk to a member representative to learn more about Invest in America or to get approved for an auto loan. You can also go to [www.lovelmycreditunion.org](http://www.lovelmycreditunion.org) for more details on these great discount programs.



### Veterans Honorary Bulletin Board

Family Advantage Federal Credit Union is honoring our military men and women on a special bulletin board inside the Credit Union. If you served or are currently serving our country in the military—please bring a picture to post on the bulletin board. The board will be displayed until September 2009.

### Fee Notice:

Effective September 1, 2009, all International ACH Transactions (IAT's) will be assessed a \$5.00 fee per transaction. Revoke ACH fee--\$29.00

## Barter for What You Need



**T**hese days, more and more people are turning to the world's oldest form of "currency" in order to save money---bartering. It's fairly simple: you trade something you have for something else you need. If you don't have something tangible to trade try trading your services with a friend or business for something you need. Here are some ideas: painting, pet sitting, computer services, music lessons, house cleaning, sewing/alterations, errand-running, child care, gardening. This is just a some sampling of what services you can barter—the sky's the limit.

Many of these ideas don't require that you be an expert in any particular field, only that you have some spare time. Try performing one or more of these services for a friend or business in return for something you need. One word of caution: The IRS regards bartering as a form of income, so ask a qualified tax preparer for details.

## Members Make the Difference

**W**hat's so special about your credit union?

It's a unique financial institution owned by its members. Unlike other financial institutions, which operate for profit, your credit union is a cooperative, not-for-profit financial institution organized to promote savings and provide credit to those who belong. Your membership means a lot at your credit union. Members elect our board of directors to plan the direction and set policies. The supervisory committee, in addition to our external auditor ensure that your assets are protected. Plus your deposits are insured up to \$250,000 by the NCUA a federal agency.

Are you getting the idea that it's the members who make Family Advantage very special and unique. Not to worry—you've got "Family". We only serve our members. There are no outside stockholders to answer to. All net earnings after

expenses are paid out to our members in the form of interest and dividends on the savings accounts and lower interest rates on loans.

It's true that your credit union offers many of the same services as other institutions, but unlike them, we are in business to serve our members. We exist to provide you a safe, convenient place to save and borrow at reasonable rates.

How can we serve YOU? Remember you've "Got Family"



## Teach your Credit Card Balance to Rollover

**I**f you don't already have a Family Advantage Federal Credit Union Visa Card, now is the perfect time to get one! With rates as low as 9.9% APR, you'll want to "roll over" those high rate cards or do your shopping with a Family Advantage Federal Credit Union Visa card.

You will not only save money with a lower interest rate (bank cards average well over 18% APR) you'll be pleased with the 25-day grace period on your purchases. Also no annual fee with our card. Why not apply today? And since you can use your Family Advantage Visa Card to pay off other higher interest cards, you can refinance your way to lower monthly credit card payments.

Holiday Closing

Labor Day,  
September 7, 2009

Gary Winningham  
Chairman

Maxine Gilmore  
Vice-Chair

Jim Brandau  
Secretary

Karen Woodall  
Treasurer

Mary Hall  
Board Member

Karen Woodall  
CEO

Anita Thomas  
VP Operations

Shelly Nichols  
VP Lending

Betty Clem  
VP Accounting

Board of Directors

# Are You About To Retire?

**C**oncerned about your income in retirement or losing a portion of your pension to events outside your control? Need a 2nd opinion? Did you know that if you receive a lump-sum distribution from your 401(k) or pension plan you might face a tax withholding of 20% on that distribution? Unless, of course you do a direct rollover to another qualified plan, or to a self-directed IRA available through Member Investment Services, LLC, located inside Family Advantage Federal Credit Union.

First of all, a self-directed IRA truly puts you in charge of your retirement assets. Depending on what your financial goals are, you make your own investment choices from a spectrum of alternatives. Your choices include mutual funds, stocks, bonds, annuities and more.

Second, a self-directed IRA gives you the flexibility to move your money among the various programs in your portfolio when needed. So, if there is a change in your

goals or in the market, you can easily respond to these changes. And your money is not tied to one family of funds like it has been in the 401k.

Third, a self-directed IRA gives you a better tool to control your retirement assets by bringing transparency to your accounts in terms of fees, expenses and total costs, which you haven't been able to see in your 401k all this time.

So, if you are ready to take charge of your retirement assets, we would love to help. Just call us at 931-486-3125 today for an appointment. Ask for Frank or Lee.

*Securities offered through Next Financial Group, Inc. Member NASD/SIPC. These investments are not insured by the NCUSIF, or any government agency. They are not deposits or obligations of Family Advantage Federal Credit Union and include possible loss of the principal*



*amount invested. Family Advantage Federal Credit Union and Member Investments Services, LLC are not affiliated with Next Financial Group, Inc.*



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Spring Hill, Tennessee 37174

PRST STD  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
NASHVILLE TN  
PERMIT NO. 119

Membership open to anyone living, working, worshipping or attending school in Williamson or Maury County.