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NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors
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Darvin Fischer, **Secretary**
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Rodney Brosz

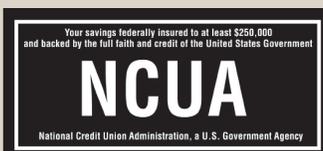
CEO
Harold Hagen

Kulm Office
Steve Anderson, **Sr. VP of Lending**
Betty Gunderson, **Sr. VP of Finance**
Mavis Brosz
John Elhard
Lisa Irion
Layton Johnson
Brandy Klusmann
Joleen Kinzler
Ann Laeger
Julia Mathern
Marsha Nitschke

Ashley Office
Lisa Neu, **Branch Manager**
Paul Nies
Heather Palmer
Kara Scherbenske
Pamela Schnabel

Hazleton Office
Patty Flegel, **Branch Manager**
Holly Bender
Ben Erickson
Gretta Grenz

Hours of Operation
All Locations:
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



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The Authentic Difference: International Credit Union Day

On October 20, 2016, credit unions around the world will celebrate International Credit Union Day (ICU Day).

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives, offering the same services as other financial institutions, but with a people-first philosophy. Since 1948, on the third Thursday of every October, credit unions have celebrated the principles that make credit unions the best financial partners of people all over the world. “The authentic difference,” this year’s ICU Day theme, zeroes in on what makes credit unions different from banks, fintech startups and other financial institutions — our principles.

Credit unions all over the world have operated according to the same core principles since the 1850s, when a group of weary German workers, tired of being exploited by loan sharks, formed the world’s first credit union by banding together to provide affordable credit to each other.

These principles are derived from the 7 cooperative principles, shared by all cooperatives. They are:

1. Democratic Control

One member = One vote. Whether you have \$5 or \$5 million, your voice is equal.

2. Open and Voluntary Membership

Members are connected by a bond of association, fostering a sense of community.

3. Non-Discrimination

Credit unions are open to all without regard for race, orientation, nationality, sex, religion, gender, or politics.

4. Service to Members

Credit unions are ranked No. 1 in service in numerous surveys, because they exist to serve members, not profit.

5. Distribution to Members

Credit unions return all profits to their members through dividends, lower fees, better savings rates, and improved services.

6. Building Financial Stability

Credit unions are historically stable organizations. They’re owned by the people they serve, so they don’t take unnecessary risks.

(continued on the back)



International Credit Union Day (continued)

7. Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Credit unions and cooperatives share the same principles. Together, they amplify each other's good works.

8. Social Responsibility

Credit unions strive for social justice by committing to strengthening their communities and helping people of modest means.

9. Ongoing Education

Credit unions prioritize financial education for their members, employees, and communities as part of their pursuit of social justice.

This is why we celebrate ICU Day at Hometown Credit Union. We think ideas like people before profit, social responsibility, and financial education improve lives. It's why cooperative banking is a key component of helping people in developing countries get access to microloans, or a middle-class couple receiving an affordable mortgage for their first home.

So when we wish you a Happy ICU Day at Hometown Credit Union, know that we're thanking you for belonging to a movement that's helping your neighbors — and people around the world — grow and thrive and follow their dreams.

If you have any questions about the credit union philosophy or how Hometown Credit Union can help you, stop by or contact us at any of our locations.

Managing Mom's Money: What You Need to Know

Managing someone else's money, usually via a power of attorney (POA) document, is a big responsibility. The undertaking is loaded with opportunities to stumble and create legal, financial, and relationship problems.

As a fiduciary, you must follow four key rules:

1. Always act in your parent's best interests — ahead of your own interests, says Naomi Karp, project manager for the CFPB's guides to managing someone else's money.

Translated to real life: That means don't use your dad's money to buy a car to take him to the doctor and then use the car more often for your own errands.

2. Manage money and property carefully. Avoid a conflict of interest or even the appearance of a conflict, says Jan McCurdy, co-owner of Senior Care Management in Ewing, N.J.

Translated to real life: Don't hire your son to mow grandma's yard for \$75 without getting an estimate first from a lawn care company. Then if someone — a jealous family member or judge — questions you, you can show the \$200 estimate from the lawn care company.

3. Keep your money separate.

Translated to real life: That means separate financial accounts, McCurdy says. "People put money into their [own] account just for ease of access and then they go to apply for Medicaid and realize this is a big mess trying to figure out whose money is whose."

4. Maintain good records. You need a paper trail to do a full and fair accounting.

Translated to real life: If your mom helped pay for one grandson's college books, write it down so no one will be surprised when grandma pays for another grandchild's books.

Make sure your POA document is complete and covers asset protection authority with the ability to make unlimited gifts, create trusts, take money out of trusts, and terminate trusts. Consult an attorney, preferably a certified eldercare lawyer. A qualified eldercare attorney can help your mom and/or dad legally protect assets to qualify for Medicaid to pay for nursing home care if needed.

Talk to us at Hometown Credit Union. We can help you streamline the management of parents' funds to comply with your fiduciary duties and keep things running smoothly at the same time.

Holiday Closings

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 24

MISSION STATEMENT

Hometown Credit Union is a financial cooperative, which is owned and operated for its members.

We seek to promote thrift and economic development of our trade area. We strive to provide the best possible financial service to meet members' needs.

Hometown Credit Union seeks to grow while maintaining its long-term financial stability.