OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SINGING RIVER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION • SECOND QUARTER 2012

### Dear awesome SRFCU member,

**JUST A QUICK REMINDER:** We are in the dream fulfillment and wish granting business! We've got millions to lend, and we're ready to help make your dreams come true. So drop by any SRFCU branch and talk to a Personal Lending Consultant today. We're lending at great rates and ready to finance your success, **so tell us what you'd like to achieve!** 

Maybe your dream is to win an iPad2. If so, we're giving one away and introducing our latest technological upgrade at the same time! You see, SRFCU now has instant-issue debit cards, which means you've got access to your money and the power of debit immediately. No more waiting a week for your debit card. And if you lose your debit card, it's no problem. Drop by any SRFCU branch and get another one – in two minutes! For more information on how you can be eligible to win that iPad2, see page 2.

During the dog days of summer, it's hard to think about heading back to school. But we all know it's coming – the endless supply lists, new uniforms and the latest laptop for your student. Don't worry. **SRFCU is making back-to-school easy on your wallet with a special loan at a great rate.** See page 3.

The temperatures are high but our loan rates are low and we can't wait to help you. Escape the heat of high bank fees and being treated like just another customer. You're an owner at SRFCU and **life's cooler at the river**!

Sincerely,

We have

How much would you like?

James B. Smith Jr., President/CEO iPad2

Win an

Back to school

Summer money tips

pay bills • manage accounts • apply for a loan • contact us  $\rightarrow$  www.srfcu.org

Other debit cards are...



## Our debit card is more...

Waiting for your debit card is so **yesterday**. And we're giving away an **iPad2** to prove it.



Still waiting a week to get your debit card? Open a totally free SRFCU checking account and walk out with a debit card you can use immediately. Choose from three contemporary designs and start enjoying the convenience and power of debit instantly.

Do it **now through August 31** and you'll also be eligible to win an iPad2!<sup>\*</sup> It's your money. Use it now with an SRFCU instant-issue debit card.



\*Membership required. Offer valid on new SRFCU checking accounts with direct deposit only from July 1-August 31, 2012. No purchase necessary. Entry in this giveaway gives permission to SRFCU to use winner's name and photo in promotional materials. Winner will be notified no later than September 15, 2012. For official rules visit www.srfcu.org. Terms subject to change without notice.

## Dealer financing can cost you

Consumers who finance their vehicles through auto dealerships are charged at least hundreds of millions – and perhaps as much as a billion – dollars annually in undisclosed finance markup charges, reports the Consumer Federation of America, Washington, D.C. **These hidden markups typically add at least \$1,000 to the cost of an auto loan.** This markup practice is encouraged by all of the auto industry's leading captive finance companies

and top auto-lending banks. Marked-up finance rates are determined arbitrarily by the dealer and encouraged by the lender, regardless of the consumer's creditworthiness, with kickbacks to both. Don't be part of the statistics. Come see SRFCU today for all your auto financing needs.



### New Team Members

Amber Barlow is the new IT Specialist. Sasha Watts is the new Title Clerk.

### New Opportunities

### Melaine Presley is now a full-

time teller at the Pascagoula branch.

### Milestones

Congratulations to **Amanda Lucas**, who celebrates six years of service; **Scelina Singleton**, who celebrates seven years of service; **Susan Powell** and **LeeAnn Fix**, who both celebrate nine years of service; and **Selina Burch**, who celebrates 17 years of service!

# **Rollover** your retirement plan to an **IRA**

ARE YOU CHANGING JOBS or retiring?

You should rollover your retirement plan to an IRA. In uncertain economic times, many are facing unplanned moves to another job and others are contemplating retirement. Knowing your options for how best to handle your qualified retirement plan could save you plenty in IRS penalties.

While you could cash out your plan, a better way to handle it is with a direct rollover to a traditional IRA. That simple move can keep your account intact and growing, while maintaining your tax-deferred status. On the other hand, if you cash out your account, you could be subject to income taxes and a 10% penalty if you're younger than 59½.

You can avoid those financial pitfalls by directly rolling your plan into an IRA here at Singing River Federal. All you have to do is contact one of our



IRA Specialists, and they will help you start the direct rollover process.

For more details on an IRA rollover, and answers to any questions you might have, call one of our IRA Specialists at 228-475-9531.

# **Big** school list on a **small budget?**

Come to Singing River Federal from **July 13 through August 17** and make back-to-school easy on your wallet.

Up to \$1,000\*
9.99% APR
12-month term

\*Membership and proof of income required. Loan subject to credit approval. APR: Annual Percentage Rate. Loan may not be refinanced or extended. Offer valid only from July 13-August 17, 2012. Terms subject to change without notice.

> Want to manage your accounts on your cell phone? It's easy! Log on to Virtual Branch, click the Self Service tab, and sign up for Mobile Money™!

# **Five summer spending blunders**

### and how to avoid them

### It's THAT TIME OF YEAR. You're

feeling carefree and in the mood to spend. Hang on to your wallet and beware of the following:

- Weddings On average, there are 2.5 million weddings celebrated each year, many in the summer. If you're on the guest list, plan ahead and budget for gifts. If you see something on sale now, pick it up. No one will never know you got it for half price.
- Garage sales Warm weather inspires many people to drag out the junk they don't want and sell it to someone else. Block the temptation. Don't stop at a yard sale unless you're really looking for something.



- Camping This year you'll forego the fancy hotel and plane trip and rough it in the woods. Be careful, that \$450 sleeping bag that will keep you warm down to -10 degrees Fahrenheit might not be what you need in the summer. Outdoor sporting goods retailers know consumers want the coolest and latest equipment. Also keep in mind park entrance fees, campsite fees, and other items you'll need such as firewood and food.
- "The Old Ball Game" According to Team Marketing Report, the cost for a family of four to attend a major league ballgame including tickets, food and beverages, and souvenirs is now \$191.75, up 8.3% from 2007. Consider watching the game on TV, or, if you do go, eat before the game and set a limit as to what you'll spend on extras.
- Credit cards Consider leaving the credit cards at home. It's easy to use plastic, but your worst nightmare could be paying for that summertime fun after your tan has faded. If you think you will need to use a credit card, talk to a Member Service Representative at Singing River Federal. Credit union credit cards interest rates generally are lower than bank credit card rates.



Board of Directors Stuart White, *Chairman* Dederia Demouey, *Vice Chairman* Bettie Concannon, *Secretary* Pete Fairley, *Treasurer* Sherman Blackwell Walter Greene Brian Hughey Jimmy Massey

### **Moss Point Branch**

Edwina Williams

P.O. Box 8685 Moss Point, MS 39562 6006 Highway 63 Moss Point, MS 39563 Office: 228-475-9531 Fax: 228-475-5919 Toll Free: 888-474-0080

### Lucedale Branch

201 Scott Road Lucedale, MS 39452 Office: 601-947-4578 Fax: 601-947-9401 Toll Free: 888-947-7732

### Pascagoula Branch

3210 Market Street Pascagoula, MS 39567 Office: 228-762-7878 Fax: 228-762-8325

### Mobile, AL Branch

6151 Airport Boulevard Mobile, AL 36608 Office: 251-544-5600 Fax: 251-544-5620

### Hours of Operation

*(All Branches)* Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 9 am - 5 pm Wednesday: 10 am - 5 pm

After Hours Loan Center 866-564-0875

> VISA<sup>®</sup> Debit Card Lost or Stolen 800-262-2024

VISA<sup>®</sup> Credit Card Lost or Stolen 800-991-4964



### Auto dealer extras cost less at SRFCU

Pay attention to what auto dealerships are charging for GAP (guaranteed asset protection) insurance and mechanical repair coverage. GAP insurance covers the difference between what a consumer owes a lender and what an auto insurer will pay if a car is totaled or stolen shortly after it's purchased. Mechanical repair coverage extends the dealer warranty, sustaining the resale value. Singing River Federal offers these products, often at a substantially lower cost.



Singing River Federal Upcoming Holiday Closings July 3 & 4: Independence Day September 3: Labor Day