

# FirstDraft



December 2008

Last chance for the perfect *holiday loan*



At 7.9% APR, CFCU's 1-Year, All-Purpose Loan is a low-cost alternative to credit card purchasing. In addition to a much lower rate if you carry a balance on your card, the one-year term means you're not saddled with long-term payback. Borrow for holiday gift giving or unexpected bills. You can also use this option to transfer existing higher-rate credit card debt from other bank or store credit cards over to CFCU. **This promotion ends in December so act now!**

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. 7.9% rate is guaranteed through 12/31/08, subject to change thereafter. Payment per \$1,000 @ 7.9% for 12 months is \$86.94. The Credit Union reviews every loan application individually to ensure fairness and compliance to CFCU policy.

## Cooperatives: **Good for you—Good for the economy!**

A cooperative is a group of people who join together to form a business for their own benefit. It's a not-for-profit entity, owned and controlled by the people who use it, not by outside investors. There are about 40,000 cooperatives throughout the United States. Collectively, these businesses represent about 150 million members. Seven out of 10 adult Americans are members of cooperatives. All these folks have said, we can do better working together for our own mutual benefit.

Land-O-Lakes, Ace Hardware and your Credit Union are all examples of cooperatives. In fact, CFCU Community Credit Union is the largest cooperative in Tompkins and Cortland Counties with roughly 56,000 members.

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### Cooperatives are gaining in popularity

No doubt, more and more people are longing for a sense of community. They're concerned with where their dollar is going. And they want to make a difference by supporting businesses that are part of the local economy.

### Co-ops bring value to members

Because they're controlled and operated for the benefit of member-owners, cooperatives also offer the average American a better deal. When it comes to banking, Consumer Reports, along with just about every other customer satisfaction survey conclude that credit unions give better rates on savings, better rates on loans, and lower fees. They also routinely rank credit unions higher in terms of friendly, personal service. People trust cooperatives because they know their friends and neighbors own and run them.



Benjamin Franklin started the first cooperative in America in the early 1700s. They have been on the upswing ever since. In a way, cooperatives are helping to keep "Main Street" America strong.

Equal Opportunity Lender

This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



## Five habits for safeguarding your personal identity

1. Always pick up boxes of new checks at your credit union or financial institution.
2. Mail bills only from a locked mailbox or the Post Office.
3. Never authorize payment over the phone unless you've initiated the call and you know the caller's reputation.
4. Shred pre-approved credit offers, statements you no longer need and any other personal documents.
5. Check your credit reports annually at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com).

You've Gotta Get It...


# Premiere Checking

If you don't already have a CFCU Premiere Checking account, you're missing out on a great checking account featuring a host of money-saving benefits and free extras. With Premiere Checking, there are no monthly service fees or charges as long as you maintain an average daily balance of \$500\*. Plus benefit from:

- Dividends paid on average daily balances of \$500 or more
- Dividend rate increases on new share certificates
- Rate discounts on new fixed-rate loans with autopay\*\*
- Free Internet Banking with free Bill Pay
- Free checks, travelers checks, money orders and more!

Stop at any CFCU branch to open your account, or to pick up more information! You can also learn more at [www.mycfcu.com](http://www.mycfcu.com).

\*Direct Deposit is required for this account. The average daily balance is determined by adding end of day balance in the account for each day of the month and dividing by the number of days in the month. If your average balance falls below \$500 for the month, you pay a \$5 per month fee. \*\* Credit card and mortgage loans excluded.

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## Wealth Management

Located at CFCU Community Credit Union

### Attention—

If you've been laid off or changed jobs, we should talk!

If you or someone you know has been laid off or changed jobs, it may be a good idea to have us review your 401(k) or other retirement plans. There are several strategies you can consider including: rolling over your retirement plan to an IRA for more control, making sure your beneficiary designation is set up correctly, and even receiving distributions before reaching age 59½ if needed. Please call to schedule a review session at your earliest convenience. We look forward to helping you.

**All consultations are free. Call 607-257-3282, ext. 299**

**Or 1-800-428-8340, ext. 299**

1050 Craft Road, Ithaca, NY

Securities, asset management, financial planning and insurance products offered through LPL Financial and its affiliates. A Registered Investment Advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC. Products are not NCUA insured, are not obligations of CFCU Community Credit Union, are not guaranteed by the Credit Union or any affiliated entity, and involve investment risk, including the possibility of loss of principal. CFCU Community Credit Union is not a registered broker/dealer nor is it affiliated with LPL Financial. Trust services are offered through The Private Trust Co., N.A., an affiliate of LPL Financial.



Bill Murphy, CFP®  
Financial Consultant



Nancy Kehoe  
Financial Consultant



## Holiday Hours

Our branches will be closed on the following days:

The Cornell Store and Ithaca College Branches will be closed Wednesday, 12/24 through Friday, 1/2  
Reopening Monday, 1/5

All other branches will be closed for

### Christmas:

Wednesday 12/24 at 3 p.m.  
Reopening Friday, 12/26

### New Year's:

Wednesday 12/31 at 3 p.m.  
Reopening Friday, 1/2



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[www.mycfcu.com](http://www.mycfcu.com)