

# SERVICES

# AT WGE

OUR GOAL IS TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES THAT BEST FIT YOUR NEEDS. WE WANT TO BECOME YOUR PRIMARY SOURCE FOR ALL OF YOUR FINANCIAL NEEDS.

"Your source" means that we are your resource when selecting new products and services and when you open or transfer products or services from other financial institutions. Our member service is driven by offering you more than just products and services; we offer solutions!

### MEMBER PRODUCTS

- Totally Free and Interest Checking
- Money Market and Certificates
- Traditional IRA and Roth IRA
- First Mortgages
- Equity Loans and Home Equity Lines of Credit
- Auto, Truck, and Recreational Loans
- Consumer/Personal Loans
- Visa® Credit Cards (with Rewards)
- Visa® Debit and ATM Cards

### MEMBER SERVICES

- Online Banking - WGeNet
- Bill Pay - WGePay
- Bank by Phone - WGeLine
- Online Loan Application - WGeLoan
- Online Mortgage Application
- Safe Deposit Boxes

### BUSINESS DEPOSITS

- Small Business Checking
- Business Checking with Interest
- Basic Business Savings
- Business Money Market
- Business Certificates
- Business Online Banking
- Business Online Bill Pay
- Business Online Payroll Service
- Business Online Invoicing Service

### COMMERCIAL LENDING

- Business Term Loans
- Business Line of Credit
- Commercial Real Estate Loans
- Business Credit and Debit Cards

# WGE

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

You've Got Connections!

# THE FINANCIAL



JANUARY 2011

YOUR FINANCIAL  
SOURCE TO BETTER  
MANAGE YOUR MONEY

# BRIEF

## INSTANT ISSUE OFFERS CONVENIENCE

The instant-issue Visa® Debit card is being offered at the Bethel Branch; with the other branches offering next business day service, or members may pick up their Visa® Debit cards at Bethel the same day.

"Exploring convenient ways to streamline our services to members is one of our top priorities," said Jackie Kennedy, Electronic Services Manager. "Our members have demonstrated great interest in any service that makes their lives easier, whether it's by giving them a debit card the minute they open their account, or speeding up the time it takes to pay a bill. Our goal is to continue to innovate and provide them with proven tools to make their lives more convenient."

The instant-issue Visa® Debit card provides several benefits to the member. Before instant issuance, you had to wait several days to receive your Visa® Debit card after opening an account or ordering a replacement card. Now, you can have your card within minutes at the Bethel Branch or the next business day at Broadway or Madison branches. There is no cost for a new card on a new account, and the replacement cost on an existing account is just \$10.00 per card compared to \$5.00 per card for the regular 10 to 14 day waiting period on a replacement card. When paired with the WGePIN Select, your instant-issue Visa® Debit card is secure by selecting a PIN before you leave the branch.



## ARE YOU FINANCIALLY FIT?

There are many facets to financial planning. Here are some questions you can ask yourself to help evaluate where you stand with your personal financial plan.

- Have I recently analyzed what proportion of my income is being allocated to savings and investments?
- What have I done to establish and maintain a positive credit standing?
- What percentage of my take-home pay is going into debt payments? Is this a manageable percentage?
- Am I aware of my overall financial situation and do I have a written financial plan?
- What methods do I use to keep financial records?
- Do I have emergency money for unplanned expenses or an emergency fund equal to three months of regular income?
- Do I have life insurance coverage for major wage earners in the family?

## CELEBRATING 75th ANNUAL MEETING

FROM BEGINNING IN A CIGAR BOX TO ONE OF THE STRONGEST CREDIT UNIONS OF ITS SIZE IN INDIANA, WE ARE HERE TO STAY.

Warner Gear employees pooled their assets and made loans to one another, earning dividends on savings, and created a member-owned financial cooperative. The Warner Gear Company Credit Union was founded shortly after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Federal Credit Union Act in 1934. Before then, 32 states had already passed credit union legislation to help small borrowers, some of whom were being charged up to 42 percent in bank interest.

It was during the Great Depression in 1935, when banks were failing and many folks couldn't get credit that a cigar box kept in the kitchen of James Logan served as the first Warner Gear Company Credit Union. Workers that wanted to join the credit union had to deposit a share into the box to establish

their membership. All deposits were recorded on a tally sheet. If a member wanted to borrow from the box, they signed a simple promissory note to pay back the loan with weekly installments. The small cooperative began to flourish and the cigar box was chartered as Warner Gear Company Credit Union on July 30, 1935. It was a modest beginning for a credit union that would grow to become the largest in Delaware County with \$134 million in assets and over 20,000 member accounts in 26 states.

In 2010, WGE launched a line of business services to embrace the changes in Delaware and surrounding counties. Big banks began calling in their loans to small businesses making it difficult for them to operate. Now, WGE offers commercial loans, business checking, commercial deposits, and merchant card services to the small business owner at great rates to give our area a chance to see a

light at the end of the recession tunnel. WGE Federal Credit Union is now celebrating its 75th Annual Meeting – 75 completed years in operations – with three branches and an administrative branch, with an aggressive line of products of services for individuals and business, and a staff that still knows you by name. WGE is looking towards the future – embracing change and moving with the times to be your financial institution of choice.



pg 2 BOARD ELECTIONS  
Two board of director positions are open for election.

pg 3 COLLEGE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS  
529 Plans can offer significant tax benefits while you save for college.

## CALL CENTER AVAILABLE 24-HOURS A DAY

The WGE Federal Credit Union Call Center is available 24/7 to serve our members' needs. By contacting the Call Center, you may initiate opening an account, request stop payments, set up home banking, transfer funds, order checks, make payments, and check balances. Our trained employees can



Let us know how we can be of assistance to you.

problem solve at the source, rather than transferring members to multiple people or departments. Members can expect short wait times and employees who will offer personal service.

WGE offers several ways for members to apply for loans. Apply in person at any branch, online, or through the Call Center. The processes are quick and easy. Choose which ever one is most convenient for you.

## MEMBERS RECEIVE HIGHER SAVINGS COVERAGE

WGE Federal Credit Union is qualified to insure regular member savings accounts up to \$500,000—the highest combination of federal/private savings insurance available to consumers.

This coverage is a combination of \$250,000 per member provided by the National Credit Union Administration, an agency of the federal government, and \$250,000 per member provided by the Excess Share Insurance Corporation (ESI), a licensed property and casualty insurer. Joint, retirement and certain other account relationships are insured separately and are subject to other federal guidelines, and also qualify for this supplemental coverage.

ESI accepts only credit unions meeting strict underwriting criteria, and therefore insures many of the nation's most respected credit unions. "WGE's acceptance into the program reflects the credit union's commitment to safety and security," said Jeff Sikora, President/CEO. "This increased level of deposit insurance is just another example of how we are determined to provide our members with the highest quality of financial services available," said Sikora.

Full details on this coverage are available by calling 765-289-2148 or by visiting the credit union.

# 2011 BOARD ELECTIONS

WGE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2011.  
THE MAGICAL EVENING WILL BE HELD IN THE HORIZON CONVENTION CENTER.

At this year's Annual Meeting, two Board of Director positions are open for election. The Nomination Committee has submitted a list of candidates to the Secretary of the credit union. If any member is interested in having his/her name placed on the ballot to become a director of the Board, you may do so by petition signed by one percent of the members with a minimum of 20 and maximum of 500. Each nomination by petition must submit a statement of qualifications and biographical data with the petition. Each nominee or nominees are required to sign a certification stating that they are agreeable to nomination and will serve if elected to office.

Nominations must be filed with the Secretary of the credit union at least 40 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The secretary, at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, will mail a printed ballot to all

members eligible to vote. Ballots must be returned no later than midnight five days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Election will not be conducted by ballot and there will be no nominations from the floor when there is only one nominee for each position to be filled.

Unlike banks or other financial institutions, your credit union is a cooperative that is owned and governed by you, our members. Credit union board members are volunteers that are elected by the membership to govern and direct your credit union. As directors, these individuals are not compensated for their countless hours of dedication they spend on behalf of you, a member of WGE Federal Credit Union.



Johnny Reason has been a WGE member for as long as he can remember. He sees great things for WGE, like growing into the largest credit union in the area and becoming a leader in product development for credit

unions. Johnny has served as the Vice Chairman of the Negotiating Committee for Local 287. He has been married for 31 years and has two children. Johnny is the current Board President.



Marilyn Smith has been a member of WGE for over 40 years, and has served on the board for five years. She is a licensed Realtor for Remax Real Estate Groups. Marilyn has served on several

committees that help make Muncie a better place to live. Her family, four children and 13 grandchildren, always bring a smile to her face. Marilyn is currently a Board Director.

## ANNUAL MEETING



Spend Saturday evening, April 30 with the staff and board from WGE as we celebrate 75 years of Annual Meetings at the Horizon Convention Center. This year's theme is "Red Carpet". Enjoy the red carpet treatment, from roaming reporters to paparazzi flashing photos

as you walk down the red carpet, to a magic show by illusionist Kevin Heller. It will be a night you won't soon forget!

Illusionist Kevin Heller tours throughout the Midwest with what has been described as a roller coaster ride of magic, comedy and illusion. Along with his wife Robin, Kevin has become a magical tour de force. From the smallest banquet rooms to the largest grandstands and theaters, Kevin and Robin have presented their unforgettable style of magic for corporate and private events, schools and colleges, fairs, festivals and theaters throughout the Midwest.

Your mind will bend when you see the large 'Vegas Style' stage illusions only to be bent in another direction by even the most intimate miracles that may happen right in your own hands. Check out Kevin's Web site at [www.hellermagic.com](http://www.hellermagic.com) to see his magic.

# COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS

A 529 PLAN CAN OFFER SIGNIFICANT TAX BENEFITS WHILE YOU SAVE FOR COLLEGE.

### What is a 529 Plan?

A 529 plan is a tax advantaged way to save for college and pay for higher education expenses. Unlike some other savings vehicles, a 529 allows you to make sizeable contributions, often over \$300,000. The funds may generally be used for any qualified college or higher education expense, including tuition, room, board, fees, books, supplies and equipment. Tax benefits may be subject to certain restrictions. Money in a 529 plan grows federal and state tax free. In addition, you can withdraw the money without having to pay federal and—depending on the plan and

where you live—state income taxes, as long as it's used to pay for qualified higher education expenses. If the money is used for other purposes, the earnings portion of a withdrawal is subject to ordinary federal income tax, an additional 10% federal tax and any applicable state income taxes.

### Who needs a 529 Plan?

Families who are saving for their children's college education, or adults saving for a college education for themselves, may find that a 529 plan can be a key component of their education funding.

Read the complete article on MassMutual's Web site: <http://www.massmutual.com/productsolutions/individuals/families/producttype/collegesavingsplan>



ASK THE EXPERT



Estep \* Doctor & Company

Should I borrow from my 401(k)?

The basics of borrowing from your 401(k) plan:

- The amount you can borrow is limited to 50% of the value of your vested benefit or \$50,000.
- If certain requirements are not met, your loan could be treated as a premature distribution for tax purposes, subject to current income tax at ordinary rates plus a 10% early withdrawal penalty.
- You must repay the loan within 5 years unless you borrowed to make a first-time home purchase for your principal residence. Secondary and vacation homes are excluded.
- Loan repayments must be made at least every quarter. If you are unable to repay the loan and default, the IRS treats the outstanding balance as a premature distribution from your 401(k). Most plans require you to repay the loan within 60 days if you leave your job. A few drawbacks to borrowing from your 401(k):
- Many plans prohibit you and your employer from making contributions to your account until you repay the loan.
- The money you borrow will only earn the interest you pay on the loan. Typically, administrators use an interest rate of one or two percentage points above the prime interest rate.
- Potential double taxation: Money used to pay loan interest is taxed on your paycheck currently, and then later when it is distributed to you from the plan in retirement it is taxed at ordinary income tax rates. You should consult with a tax professional on questions relating to your personal situation. Please see our newsletter article on this subject located on our Web site at [www.edcpa.com](http://www.edcpa.com).

# Changing with the Times

The WGE newsletter has had many looks over the years. Above, you will see a few of them beginning in 1990. So, why has WGE changed its look so many times? The answer is easy - to keep up with the times! The "times" include the printing industry, the membership, the employees, the financial world, and everything else in between.

A change could take place simply because the printing industry changed. In 1990, it wasn't cost effective to print in full-color. Today, the cost is minimal. In 1990, WGE didn't have the computer programs to design a sophisticated newsletter. Today, the software comes standard on most desktops.

The membership and employees have changed. People expect to find in their newsletter more than just rates (which change before the newsletter is published) and who got a promotion at the branch. They want to know if they should borrow from their 401K, and how to raise their credit score.

The entire world has changed and WGE has to keep up. We live in a world of instant information and a printed newsletter has gone the way of "snail mail" and "land lines" - they are considered archaic by some, a pleasure by others. Which are you? Did you take time to read this? Let us know on Twitter and Facebook.