

Don't Fall Victim to Predatory Lending

When economic times get tough – as they have been for some time now – people often turn to others for financial assistance. Peoples' budgets are stressed to a breaking point – they are looking for a lifeline. Too often, the 'lifeline' they grab is being offered by what are known as "predatory lenders."

Predatory lending is when lenders take advantage of borrowers' financial need through deceptive, unfair or even fraudulent practices, to entice borrowers into taking a loan from them for a home, cars or everyday expenses.

Yes, the borrower DOES get a loan and money they need. But it often comes at a very steep price, sometimes even worsening the borrower's situation. Of course, the loan terms *greatly* benefit the lender through extremely high interest rates or excessive fees to be paid by the borrower.

The most popular of predatory loans are payday loans, car title loans, and tax refund loans. And there are three primary tactics of predatory lending:

- Making a loan based on the borrowers' assets rather than their ability to repay.
- Enticing borrowers to refinance a loan, so the lender collects needless fees.
- Concealing certain terms of the loan from the borrower.

Of course, there are several practices in predatory lending, including:

- **Excessive fees:** Fees that exceed 1% of the total loan amount are unnecessary. Excessive fees are common with re-financed loans.
- **Packing:** Costs are added – such as insurance services – into the loan the borrower really doesn't need.
- **Balloon Payment:** Initial low monthly payments, but a large lump sum payment at the end which oftentimes is unaffordable by the borrower.
- **Prepayment Penalties:** Hide certain clauses in the loan terms that force the borrower to pay a penalty if they pay off the loan early.
- **Bait-and-Switch:** When agreed-upon loan terms are changed to the lender's benefit when it is time to sign the loan documents.

Your Loyola Credit Union can help guard you against such practices. We are here to HELP you in whatever financial situation. 'Payday lenders' and the like are NOT your friends, and should not be a choice you make. And bankruptcy should be the last option.

Come talk with us first – let's see what we can do together to resolve your situation.

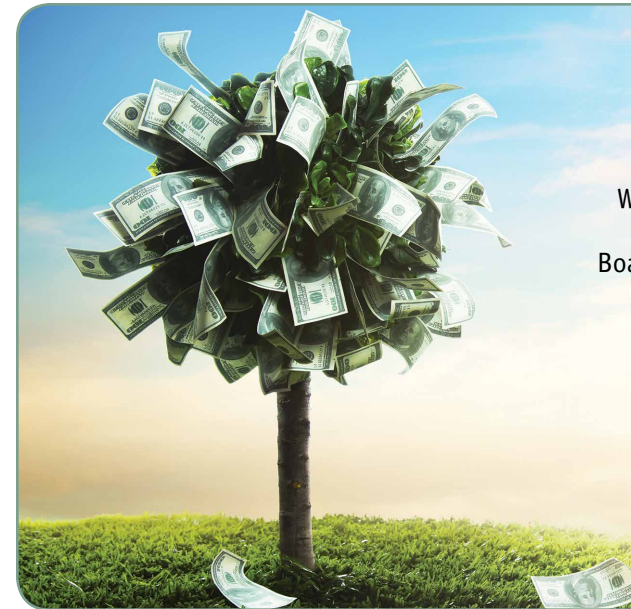


CONNECTION

www.luefcu.org

Newsletter of Loyola University Employees Federal Credit Union

Summer 2017



The Interest Rate Paid on CDs is Growing!

We have long reminded you that you get MORE from your money through your membership in Loyola Credit Union. And the Board of Directors' recent approval to **increase the rate of interest paid on CDs** is just the latest proof of that.

Effective June 1st, ALL CD interest rates are now
1.05% APR with a 1.054% APY

SO IT'S TRUE ... you really DO get more for your money at Loyola Credit Union.

APR = Annual Percentage Rate. APY = Annual Percentage Yield

Don't Let a Car Loan Drive You to Trouble

After our homes, vehicle purchases are likely the next largest one most of us will make. And many of us may end up making costly mistakes. Don't let your desire for a new vehicle drive you to financial trouble. Here are some easy-to-remember tips.

Be Budget Smart.

Don't purchase/finance more than you can handle. When costing out a vehicle, take into account *everything* it requires each month, not just the loan payment. Remember to factor in insurance, gas, maintenance, etc. Totaled, these should be no more than 20% of your take-home pay.

Payment Problem? Be Proactive.

If you're having difficulty making your payment – or have already missed one – don't delay! Talk with your lender. Most – like Loyola Credit Union -- are happy to work with you ... IF you give them a heads up to the situation and let them know. Tell them how much you can pay now (and when you'll be able to make full payments again), or ask about a loan deferment. This pushes the missed payment to the end of the loan term.

Consistently Pay Late? Maybe it's time to get creative.

- **Refinance your vehicle** to get a lower rate or a longer payback period.

- **Downsize your vehicle.** Sell the vehicle you can't afford and buy one you *can* afford.
- **Rework your budget.** Re-examine your budget to see where you can cut expenses so you're better able to make vehicle payments.

Talk with Loyola Credit Union.

Before you even go out vehicle shopping, visit with a loan officer at your credit union. We can help you determine – in advance – how much vehicle you can comfortably afford and still meets your needs/wants. **We're here to help you ... BEFORE the fact, and after.**

Courtesy of Nerdwallet, personal finance network.



Holiday Closures

And other dates to remember!

Loyola Credit Union will be closed in observance of the upcoming holiday:

Monday, September 4 Labor Day

And mark your calendars for **Wednesday, October 11th**, as we celebrate the annual **International Credit Union Day** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit our web site (luefcu.com) for more information as the date draws closer.



The credit union is closed every Wednesday, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., for staff meetings and training.

You can access your Loyola Credit Union accounts 24 / 7 any time we are closed (week-ends, holidays, night-time, etc.), simply by using these easy, time-saving services: LCU VISA Card, Debit Card, checking account, ATM networks, online and by calling ART.

Current Rates*

Regular Shares (Savings)	Rate	(APY)
Ending Balances:		
25.01-450.99	0.25%	0.250%
451.00-5,000	0.30%	0.300%
Over 5,000	0.40%	0.400%
Club Accounts		
Christmas (25)	0.35%	0.350%
Vacation (27) Up to 4,999.99	0.35%	0.350%
Vacation (27) Over 5,000.00	0.40%	0.400%
Certificate of Deposit (CD)* – One year term		
1,000.00-9,999.99	1.05%	1.054%
10,000.00-49,999.99	1.05%	1.054%
50,000.00 and above	1.05%	1.054%
Individual Retirement Accounts		
Regular IRA and Roth IRAs	0.45%	0.451%
Certificate of Deposit (CD)* - Regular IRA and Roth		
1,000.00-9,999.99	1.05%	1.054%
10,000-49,999.99	1.05%	1.054%
50,000 and above	1.05%	1.054%
Share Drafts (Regular)	0.00%	0.00%

* CD rates are subject to change at any time, per Board approval. A penalty will be enforced for the early withdrawal from a CD which will be 90 days of interest. Call the Credit Union for the current rates at 708.216.4500, or visit our web site at www.luefcu.org for current rates and the Truth in Savings Account Disclosures.



Traveling This Summer? Let Us Know...

Just a friendly reminder that if you are planning some out-of-state or international travel this summer (or ANY time!) – and plan to use your Loyola Credit Union VISA Card – please let us know in advance.

Because of increasing fraud and identity theft, some U.S. states and numerous countries around the world have been placed on 'watch lists' or have instituted automatic blocks on charge cards. **This is for your safety.**

To avoid any inconvenience when you use your Loyola Credit Union VISA cards, just give us a heads up. Visit or call us – let us know your travel plans. We can ensure your cards are not blocked and will be available for use.

Buy a Shirt, Benefit Charities

In keeping with the international credit union philosophy of 'people helping people,' we have partnered with three local charities – **Misericordia**, **Greater Chicago Food Depository** and **Ronald McDonald House** – that are like-minded organizations. Each of them is deeply committed to helping people.



And we – and you – can aid their efforts by buying our custom 'charity' t-shirts, for just \$10. **Your FULL \$10 goes toward helping these three charities** in their efforts: Good people doing good works.

T-shirt sizes range from small to 3XL. Supplies are limited; stop in the credit union office today! Or call us and we can deduct your donation from your account.

Mortgage Loans to Meet Your Needs



Call Kevin Beck, Senior Mortgage Planner, at 630.697.3231, or e-mail mortgages13@yahoo.com. 100% financing Doctor loans, up to \$650,000.

Discount Great America Tickets Are Back

Again this year, you may purchase tickets to Great America in Gurnee at your credit union for a discounted savings.

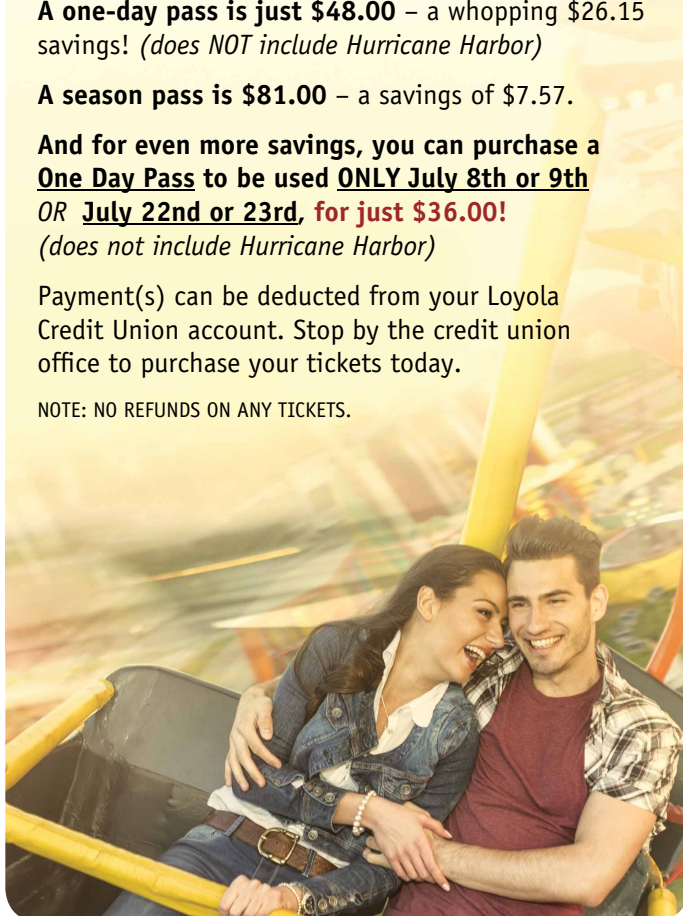
A one-day pass is just \$48.00 – a whopping \$26.15 savings! (does NOT include Hurricane Harbor)

A season pass is \$81.00 – a savings of \$7.57.

And for even more savings, you can purchase a **One Day Pass** to be used **ONLY July 8th or 9th OR July 22nd or 23rd, for just \$36.00!** (does not include Hurricane Harbor)

Payment(s) can be deducted from your Loyola Credit Union account. Stop by the credit union office to purchase your tickets today.

NOTE: NO REFUNDS ON ANY TICKETS.



Will You Outlive YOUR Retirement Accounts?

That's a question many of us ask ourselves. We work long and hard so we can enjoy our retirement ... but is it enough?

- *What will my retirement look like?*
- *How much money will I need each month in retirement?*
- *What role do my Loyola retirement benefits play in planning my retirement?*

Attend any of the upcoming **FREE Financial Planning and Retirement sessions** and get answers to these and other questions.

JULY: Wednesday, 12th and Tuesday, 25th

AUGUST: Wednesday, 9th and Thursday, 24th

SEPTEMBER: Thursday, 7th and Tuesday, 19th

OCTOBER: Wednesday, 11th and Thursday, 26th

All sessions are **FREE**, open to everyone, and will be held: Noon until 1 p.m., Loyola Credit Union Conference Room, Room 0903, Maguire Building.

For more information or to reserve a seat, please email renae@infinityfinancialconcepts.com, or call 708.410.0400.

We're Proving that Less IS More because...

We Just REDUCED New Loan* Interest Rates BY A FULL 1%!

Through August 18, 2017, interest rates on NEW loans from Loyola Credit Union are **REDUCED by a FULL 1%!** AND, this **1% Rate Reduction is good for the life of the loan!**

This offer is good through August 18, 2017.

Don't miss out! Call 708.216.4500 or stop by the credit union for more details.

Regular credit rules apply. Not all Loyola Credit Union members will qualify. *Does not apply to Credit Revival or Pledge loans, or refinancing of existing Loyola Credit Union loans.



FREE 'Lunch and Learn' Feeds Your Knowledge

Our expanded 'Lunch and Learn' curriculum now offers a session with Liberty Mutual Insurance to cover a wide range of insurance topics/questions. Of course, we continue to offer sessions on home mortgages, retirement and financial planning, and ID theft and personal/financial safety.

✗ JULY 12 (Wednesday)
FIGHT BACK against **IDENTITY THEFT** and **FRAUD**. Keep your money, your personal information and **YOURSELF** safe. **How to fight Identity Theft, Fraud, and Personal Attacks.**

✗ AUGUST 8 (Tuesday)
Gain Understanding of Various Retirement Benefits. Tips of what to do **NOW** to **manage your money** while you're working, so your money works for you in retirement.

✗ AUGUST 29 (Tuesday)
Learn **EXACTLY** what **auto insurance terms and coverages** really mean... and how they can **directly affect you.**

✗ SEPTEMBER 21 (Thursday)
How to Shop for the Right Mortgage Loan...and the many "do's and don'ts."

ALL sessions are FREE, and will be held from Noon until 1 p.m. in Room 150, SSOM.

To reserve your seat, email Roseann at ruzzard@lumc.edu, or call her at 708.216.4500.

