



## 28th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held this year at the Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City on April 14, 2012. Social hour begins at 5:30 pm followed by dinner and business meeting. Please plan to purchase your tickets early this year at a price of \$10.00 from any office. Or purchase tickets by calling any of our offices.

### Secretary Notice of Nomination and Election Procedure:

The nominating committee from the Board of Directors has nominated the following individuals to fill two seats expiring in 2012: incumbents Donald Crawford and Rex Reed.

Nominations for vacancies on the Board of Directors can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 1% of the current credit union membership (1% of the credit union membership is equal to 109 members). The petition must be submitted to the Nominating Committee no later than 40 days prior to the Annual meeting or March 5, 2012. Qualifications for Directors are that you must be at least 18 years of age, a member in good standing (no delinquencies or existing bad debt with the credit union), not an employee or an immediate family member of an employee. Any properly qualified member who submits a properly signed petition will have

his/her name placed on the 2012 Forest Area Federal Credit Union Board of Director's ballot.

There will be no ballot distributed if the number of nominations equals the number of positions to be filled. The term of office is three years and requires continuing education and attendance at monthly meetings. Contact Merri Nixon or Robert Raden for more information on the duties of a Volunteer Board Member or other volunteer positions.



## ELECTRONIC SERVICES AVAILABLE 24/7

Check out these great services available 24 hours a day:

Its Me 247: Log in to open a Certificate, apply for a loan, view account history and balances, transfer money between accounts and memberships. Print your statement, or a check that has cleared your share draft account.

CU\*Easy Pay is our FREE online bill pay. You can schedule all your monthly bills through 'Its Me 247'. Sign up is easy too, just contact our staff to get

started.

CU\*Talk is Our Audio Response system to check your balance when we are closed. You can also transfer funds and check our rates. Call any of our offices to gain access to the audio system making it available when you need it.

ATMs are located at all offices. They provide withdrawals to members without charge. Additionally our Co-op Network offers surcharge free access at



over 24,000 nationwide ATMs.

Mobile Banking and Alerts, are also available today, and coming soon you will appreciate the new Mobile Text to be tested and available in the spring of this new year.

Forest Area Federal Credit Union.....There is a Difference.

### Special points of interest:

- Be sure to keep this month's statement, as it also serves as your 1099 tax form.
- In 2012, all offices will be closed on:

February 20th

May 28th

July 4th

September 3rd

October 8th

November 22nd

December 24th at 12 p.m.

December 25th

December 31st at 12 p.m.

January 1st, 2013

- Get your taxes in soon to avoid the big rush! Call 879-3864 for more details on having your taxes prepared and E-Filed by Forest Area Services, LLC.

Shares APR % declared for funds on deposit 10/01-12/31/11

\$0.01—\$499.99 0.10%

\$500—\$2,499.99 0.15%

\$2,500 and over 0.25%

12 Month CD 0.70%

IRA Deposits 1.76% APY

Effective 1/1/12-3/31/12

\*APY stands for Annual Percentage Yield

<b>Fife Lake Branch</b> 638 Boyd St. PO Box 118 Fife Lake, MI 49633 Phone: (231) 879-4154 Fax: (231) 879-3989	<b>Kalkaska Branch</b> 782 S. Cedar St. PO Box 901 Kalkaska, MI 49646 Phone: (231) 258-2665 Fax: (231) 258-6781	<b>Kingsley Branch</b> 6966 Cougar Trail PO Box 642 Kingsley, MI 49649 Phone: (231) 263-3790 Fax: (231) 263-3793	<b>Manton Branch</b> 516 N. Michigan Ave. PO Box 593 Manton, MI 49663 Phone: (231) 824-3060 Fax: (231) 824-3362
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Look for us on FACEBOOK and check out our daily money saving tips.

## 8 IRA RULES EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

**Rule #1. You need earned income to qualify.** If you are younger than 70 1/2 and have taxable compensation during the year, such as salaries, wages, tips, bonuses, commissions and self employment income you're eligible to contribute to a traditional or a Roth IRA. You can contribute an amount equal to your taxable compensation up to \$5,000 or up to \$6,000 if you're age 50 or older.

**Rule #2. Minors qualify too.** Anyone with earned income can contribute to an IRA, no matter your age. So children can start saving for retirement as soon as they get their first part-time job. They can contribute as much as they earn, up to the maximum limit of \$5,000 for 2011.

**Rule #3. Spouses without earned income may qualify.** If you're married and file a joint tax return and just one of you has income, both of you can have an IRA. That helps an unemployed or stay-at-home spouse save for retirement.

**Rule #4. You can't make IRA contributions for someone else.** Each owner of a retirement account must qualify to open up and contribute to an IRA. So a parent can't fund a retirement account

on behalf of a child, for instance, if the child doesn't have earned income. However, if a child does have earned income, the money to fund an IRA could come from a parent.

**Rule #5. You can keep an inactive Roth IRA.** If you contributed to a Roth IRA in the past but now make too much money to be eligible, congratulations! But don't let that stop you from saving for retirement — you can open up and contribute to a traditional IRA instead, or contribute to your employer sponsored retirement plan. If your income falls below the Roth cutoff in the future, you can start making contributions again to the same Roth IRA.

**Rule #6. You can have multiple IRAs.** You can open up and contribute to as many traditional and Roth IRAs as you like. However, your total contributions to all of them can't exceed your annual limit (which is \$5,000 if you're under 50 for 2011). You can make any combinations of contributions in the same year, such as \$1,000 to a Roth IRA and \$4,000 to a traditional IRA.

**Rule #7. You can have an IRA and a workplace retirement account.** You can contribute to a retirement plan at work (401(k), 403(b), or 457) and still max out contributions to an IRA in the same year (income limitations apply).

**Rule #8. Forest Area Federal Credit Union has IRAs.** Traditional, Roth, Educational IRA accounts are available at Forest Area Federal Credit Union. Automatic saving from your direct deposited payroll is a great retirement saving strategy. Set yours up today, and remember you can make 2011's IRA deposit any time up to April 17, 2012. You can even fund your IRA with your 2011 income tax refund. Consult our tax professionals at Forest Area Services, LLC for all your tax guidance and preparation.



## FOREST AREA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

If you are a High School Senior or the parent of a High School Senior and have made plans to attend college in the fall, apply for one of the \$500.00 scholarships to be given to one student from each high school located in our branch location towns. To qualify for the scholarship you:

- \* Must be a member of the Forest Area Federal Credit Union.
- \* Complete and return an application to the credit union by April 15, 2012.
- \* Must be a student in good standing and have a minimum 3.00 grade point average.
- \* Study for a degree in any field but preference may be given to an applicant who is studying finance or business.

Apply by contacting your high school counselor or visit a Forest Area Federal Credit Union office to pick up an application.



# Our Privacy Notice



Keeping your personal information secure has become increasingly important.

**“Use caution when disclosing your account numbers, social security numbers, etc. to other persons. If someone calls you, saying the call is on behalf of the credit union, and asks for your account number, you should beware. Official credit union staff will have access to your information and will not need to ask for it.”**

FACTS	WHAT DOES FOREST AREA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?
Why?	Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.
What?	The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include: Social security number, account balances, credit history & credit score When you are <i>no longer</i> our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice.
How?	All financial companies need to share member’s personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their personal information; the reasons Forest Area Federal Credit Union chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does Forest Area Federal Credit Union Share?	Can you limit this sharing?
<b>For our everyday business purposes</b> — such as to process your transactions, maintain your account, respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	Yes	No
<b>For our marketing purposes</b> — to offer our products and services to you	Yes	Yes
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>For our affiliates’ everyday business purposes</b> — information about your transactions and experiences	Yes	No
<b>For our affiliates’ everyday business purposes</b> — information about your creditworthiness	No	We don’t share
<b>For our affiliates to market to you</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>For non-affiliates to market to you</b>	Yes	Yes

To Limit our Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Call 888-879-4154</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Please note:</b> If you are a <i>new</i> customer, we can begin sharing your <b>information days from the date we sent this notice. When you are no longer our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice. However, you can contact us at any time to limit our sharing.</b></p>
Questions?	Call 888-879-4154

Who we are	
Who is providing this notice?	Forest Area Federal Credit Union
What we do	
How does Forest Area Federal Credit Union protect my personal information?	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.
How does Forest Area Federal Credit Union collect my personal information?	We collect your personal information, for example, when you 1) Open an account or Deposit money 2) Apply for a loan or give us your income information 3) Provide account information  We also collect your personal information from others, such as credit bureaus, affiliates, or other companies.
Why can’t I limit all sharing?	Federal law gives you the right to limit only sharing for affiliates’ everyday business purposes—1) information about your creditworthiness 2) affiliates from using your information to market to you 3) sharing for non-affiliates to market to you 4) State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.
What happens when I limit sharing for an account I hold jointly with someone else?	The limitations will apply to all joint owners on the account.

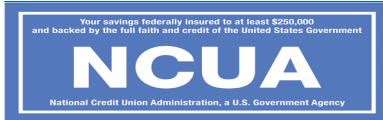
Definitions	
Affiliates	Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies. Forest Area Services, LLC & CU*Answers
Non-Affiliates	Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies. Allied Solutions & CUNA Mutual
Joint Marketing	A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you. Invest in America



Forest Area FCU Newsletter

Visit us Online!

www.forestarea.com



We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.



From our CEO:

I want to thank all of our members for their business this past year. It has been a tough year for financial institutions as well as for many of our members! Your Credit Union looks forward to the New Year with promise and hope for better times for all!. Merri Nixon, CEO

## CHRISTMAS CLUB BENEFITS

Wouldn't it be nice to have money for Christmas set aside each year? With a Forest Area FCU Christmas Club, you can be financially prepared for every holiday season. Christmas Clubs are frozen accounts, so your deposits are safe from casual expenses throughout the year. These accounts also receive a higher interest rate than our regular

share accounts. Each year, your savings will be released overnight on October 31st, signaling to you that it's time to start your shopping.



## Explore our Services



- Free Online Banking
- Free Bill Pay
- Free Checking
- Free Notary Service

\*NEW\* Free Financial Counseling

Free IRA Administration

Earn Score Card Points for Debit Card Use

Earn Score Card Points for Visa Card Use

## Introducing, CheckFolio™! Changing the Way You Look at Checks

An exciting change is coming to Forest Area Federal Credit Union. Harland Clarke conducted extensive market research and asked consumers what they thought about the way checks were packaged and organized. The research findings inspired the creation of **CheckFolio**, an innovative new check system that is revolutionizing the way account holders receive, use and store their checks. With CheckFolio, multiple checkbooks are neatly aligned in a compact folio for ease of use and convenient storage. Designed to deliver an exceptional check experience to our account holders, CheckFolio is:

- **Organized.** All components are packaged together neatly, ready to place in a drawer, filing cabinet or on a bookshelf for easy access and storage.
- **Secure.** CheckFolio arrives in a tamper-evident package and its unique design makes for discreet and flexible storage options — helping to protect the account holder identity
- **Eco-Friendly.** The compact and efficient design uses less material and creates less waste — plus, CheckFolio is recyclable.

CheckFolio has received outstanding reviews — in fact 94 percent of respondents prefer it — and we're excited to bring it to our account holders.



## Forest Area FCU

### Notes and Numbers

#### Board of Directors

Lee Sandy—Chairman

Donald Crawford—Vice-Chair

Polly Piltz—Treasurer

Jack Lyon—Secretary

Richard Gray—Board Member

Rex Reed—Board Member

Lyle Spalding—Board Member

Alan McCullen—Associate Director

#### Asset Size as of 11/30/11

\$84,626,053.70

#### Number of Members as of 11/30/11

10,962

Our mission is to provide our members with quality financial services, giving special attention to their individual needs.

**ANNUAL NOTICE OF REQUIRED PROPERTY INSURANCE: If you have a loan with Forest Area Federal Credit Union which gives the credit union a lien on your vehicle, home or other property, you are required to provide us a copy of the insurance coverage and list the credit union as an additional insured on your policy. Please ask that your insurance company provide the annual paid policy statement to us.**