



**Build a Portfolio
You Can Live In**

**Or Live In One
That's Already Built**

Home ownership is one of the best investments you can make for your future. Whether you're building a new investment or using the profit from an existing one to make life easier, we have a loan program that can help...

- * User Friendly Construction Loans
- * Refinances
- * Great Rates
- * Home Improvement Loans
- * 100% Purchase Loans
- * Fixed Rates
- * Home Equity Loans
- * FHA/VA Loans
- * Adjustable Rates

From the people who are used to helping people, let Michigan Columbus FCU and MMS help you with your investment.

Call Clay Burke at **800-945-4506**

Enjoy The Convenience Of Service Centers

You and your family can enjoy the convenience of making transactions on your credit union account at 21 Family Service Centers in Michigan. Each branch offers extended evening and Saturday hours. Make deposits, transfers, withdrawals, inquiries, and more. There is no charge to use this convenient service.

- Ann Arbor - 4687 Washtenaw (E. of US-23)
- Canton - 5810 N. Sheldon (at Ford Road)
- Detroit - Eastside - 14481 Gratiot Avenue (N. of 7 Mile Road)
- Detroit - Northwest - 18463 Livernois (S. of 7 Mile Road)
- Garden City - 30094 Ford Road (W. of Middlebelt)
- Grand Rapids - Grandville - 3022 28th Street SW (E. of Ivanrest)
- Grand Rapids - Walker - 3286-0 Alpine NW (N. of I-96)
- Jackson - Vandercook Lake - 1238 McDevitt Avenue (W. of M-127)
- Kalamazoo - Portage - 6286 S. Westnedge (S. of I-94)
- Lansing - 6250-13 S. Cedar Street (N. of I-96)
- Livonia - 33036 W. 7 Mile Road (E. of Farmington Road)
- Madison Heights - 1419 W. 14 Mile Road (W. of I-75)
- Novi - 41690 W. 10 Mile Road (at Meadowbrook)
- Redford - 25489 Grand River (N. of 7 Mile Road)
- Riverview - 19224 W. Fort Street (at Sibley)
- Rochester Hills - 925 E. Auburn Road (at John R)
- St. Clair Shores - 31065 Harper (at 13 Mile Road)
- Southfield - 23647 Greenfield Rd. (10 Mile and Greenfield)
- Sterling Heights - 43722 Schoenherr (at Canal)
- Taylor - 21584 Ecorse Road (E. of Telegraph)
- Waterford - 5150 Highland Road (M-59) (at Crescent Lake Road)

Hours
Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

For directions to any of these locations, call 800-800-9700, or visit their web site at: www.scc-sc24.org



**Remember...
National
Shared
Branching
is also
available.**

Transact your financial business at locations across the nation through a unique network of shared branches called Credit Union Service Centers. Just look for the "swirl" logo at over 600 Credit Union Service Centers and outlets in 33 states. To find a Credit Union Service Center, visit www.cuservicecenters.com. For a booklet containing a list of Credit Union Service Centers, stop by the credit union office.



CU SERVICE CENTERS

Holiday Closings

Labor Day
Monday, September 2, 2002

Columbus Day
Monday, October 14, 2002

Call for
current
Savings,
Certificates
& IRA rates.



30419 W. Six Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48152
(734)425-5080
Fax: (734)425-1181
(800)452-5094

E-Mail: micolfcu@aol.com
Web Site: www.mcfcu.net

Office Hours

Monday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday &
Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Management

David Busdeker, President
Barb Bennett, Vice President

Board of Directors

Frank Sheridan, Chairman
Jim Molloy, Vice Chairman
Pat Casey, Treasurer
Pat Kinney, Secretary
Frank Urban, Director
Larry Vendal, Director
Charles Zuccarini, Director



COMMUNICATOR

Michigan Columbus Federal Credit Union

July 2002

Make The Switch To MCFCU's No-Fee Checking Account & Receive A FREE Koozie® Hot/Cold Hard-Top Kooler



If you have a checking account at another financial institution, now's the time to make the switch to a no-fee checking account at Michigan Columbus Federal Credit Union. Here's why:

- No minimum balance requirement
- No monthly maintenance fee
- No per check transaction fees
- FREE Debit MasterCard / ATM Card
- FREE Online Banking
- Carbonless copies and monthly statements
- Overdraft options available

In addition, sign up now and receive a FREE Koozie® Hot/Cold Hard-Top Kooler (valued at over \$30.00). Other features include:

- Two large separate sections, each insulated & watertight
- Total capacity 12 cans
- Adjustable 45" shoulder strap
- Watertight middle section to carry: phone, keys, CD case, etc.

Remember...time is money. Think of all the time and money you'll save by switching to a MCFCU Checking Account. Take the time to make the switch to MCFCU's Checking Account and enjoy the convenience of a debit card, free home banking, no fees, and more, plus a FREE Koozie® Hot/Cold Hard-Top Kooler, while supplies last.

Auto Loan Specials... New, Used & Refinances

Let Michigan Columbus Federal Credit Union put you behind the wheel of a new or used vehicle with a great low-rate loan and **no payments for 90 days**. Even if you already purchased your vehicle and financed it somewhere else, it's not too late to refinance at MCFCU and take advantage of our loan specials.

Example: MCFCU 5.9% Fixed APR Loan

Purchase Price: \$13,000	Purchase Price: \$25,000
Term: 60 Months	Term: 60 Months
Monthly Payment: \$250.76	Monthly Payment: \$482.23

Choose the term and create a monthly payment to meet your budget!

Hurry, these specials won't last forever! To apply:

- Call 734-425-5080 or 800-452-5094.
- Apply online at: www.mcfcu.net
- Stop by the credit union office.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates subject to change. Interest on this loan begins to accrue from the date the loan is disbursed. Contact the credit union for details.

MICHIGAN

As Low As **5.9%** Fixed APR

Terms Up To 60 Months & No Payments For 90 Days!*

GREAT LAKES





Skip-A-Payment For The Summer

Take advantage of MCFCU's Skip-A-Payment and have extra cash for the summer. MCFCU is offering Skip-A-Payment to members who have a loan through the credit union. If your existing loan payments are up-to-date and you have a good payment record, you may be eligible to skip a payment on your credit union loans (mortgage, home equity, VISA credit card loans not included). If you have payroll deduction, any funds in your account will be available for you to withdraw, provided you have arranged for Skip-A-Payment. Qualified members may skip one payment on each loan per year.

To request a Skip-A-Payment form, contact the Loan Department at 734-425-5080 or stop by the credit union office. Finance charges will continue to accrue on your outstanding loan balances. A fee of \$20.00 will be charged for each loan payment skipped.

MCFCU's Home Equity Loans Improving The Value Of Your Home



The size of a house and the number of bathrooms are important in determining the price of a house, but the neighborhood affects the home's price the most. In a study, conducted by the National Association of Home Builders, a standard home was assumed to have 1,900 square feet of floor space, three bedrooms, two baths, three other rooms, a basement and a garage.

The study also showed that there are 12 factors that significantly impact the price of a standard house, in addition to age, location, and region of the country. Those 12 factors are:

- Home's square footage
- Number of full bathrooms
- Number of bedrooms
- Number of rooms other than bathrooms and bedrooms
- A garage
- Basement
- Central air conditioning
- Fireplace
- A body of water within 300 feet of the house
- Roads nearby in need of repair
- Abandoned buildings
- Trash, litter and junk

**Prime Rate
Less 1/4%
(4.50% APR*)
& No Fees**

The analysis found that when all else is equal, increasing the floor space or the number of bathrooms, bedrooms or other rooms, adding a fireplace, or locating the house near a body of water increases the price. However, eliminating the basement, garage, central air conditioning or one of the bathrooms, or locating the house near bad roads, litter or abandoned buildings reduces the price.

See Us For A Home Equity Loan

If remodeling makes sense, make sure you hire a reputable contractor. The quality of work will affect your home's appraised value. Stop in and see us about a home equity loan. Features include:

- Low rate - Prime less 1/4% (4.50% APR*)
- No fees
- Limits up to 80% of the appraised value (less mortgage & liens)
- Credit limits from \$5,000 to \$100,000
- Interest may be tax deductible (consult your tax advisor)

Michigan Columbus Federal Credit Union has a home equity loan to fit your needs. To apply, call the Loan Department at 734-425-5080 or stop by the credit union and request your application today.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate as of June 1, 2002 and is subject to change.



VISA...Value & Savings From MCFCU

If you have a high-rate credit card from another financial institution, now is the time to transfer your balance and save with a Michigan Columbus Federal Credit Union VISA. Pay off credit card and loan balances at other financial institutions with a cash advance from your MCFCU VISA Gold or Classic.

VISA Gold

- 9.88% fixed APR*
- Cash back program (provided yearly on retail purchases)
- No annual card fee
- 25-day grace period
- ATM access worldwide
- Extended warranty and 90-day product protection program
- Flight & rental car insurance

VISA Classic

- 11.88% fixed APR*
- Cash back program (provided yearly on retail purchases)
- No annual card fee
- 25-day grace period
- ATM access worldwide

It's easy to apply.

- Call 734-425-5080 or 800-452-5094.
- Apply online at: www.mcfcu.net
- Stop by the credit union office.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate.



Identity Theft - Protect Yourself

Identity theft, when someone appropriates your personal information without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft, is one of the fastest-growing crimes in America. To protect yourself the Federal Trade Commission, working in conjunction with other government agencies, recommends following tips to help reduce your risk of becoming a victim.

1. Before you reveal any personally identifying information, find out how it will be used and whether it will be shared with others. Ask if you have a choice about the use of your information: can you choose to have it kept confidential?
2. Pay attention to your billing cycles. Follow up with creditors if your bills don't arrive on time. A missing credit card bill could mean an identity thief has taken over your credit card account and changed your billing address to cover his tracks.
3. Guard your mail from theft. Deposit outgoing mail in post office collection boxes or at your local post office. Promptly remove mail from your mailbox after it has been delivered. If you're planning to be away from home and can't pick up your mail, call the U.S. Postal Service at 1-800-275-8777 to request a vacation hold. The Postal Service will hold your mail at your local post office until you can pick it up.
4. Put passwords on your credit card, bank and phone accounts. Avoid using easily available information like your mother's maiden name, your birth date, the last four digits of your SSN or your phone number, or a series of consecutive numbers.
5. Minimize the identification information and the number of cards you carry to what you'll actually need.
6. Do not give out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you have initiated the contact or know whom you're dealing with. Identity thieves may pose as representatives of banks, Internet service providers and even government agencies to get you to reveal your SSN, mother's maiden name, financial account numbers and other identifying information. Legitimate organizations with which you do business have the information they need and will not ask you for it.
7. Keep items with personal information in a safe place. To thwart an identity thief who may pick through your trash or recycling bins to capture your personal information, tear or shred your charge receipts, copies of credit applications, insurance forms, physician statements, bank checks and statements that you are discarding, expired charge cards and credit offers you get in the mail.
8. Be cautious about where you leave personal information in your home, especially if you have roommates, employ outside help or are having service work done in your home.
9. Find out who has access to your personal information at work and verify that the records are kept in a secure location.
10. Give your SSN only when absolutely necessary. Ask to use other types of identifiers when possible.
11. Don't carry your SSN card; leave it in a secure place.
12. Order a copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit-reporting agencies every year. Make sure it is accurate and includes only those activities you've authorized.
 - Equifax - www.equifax.com or call: 800-685-1111
 - Experian - www.experian.com or call: 888-EXPERIAN (397-3742)
 - Trans Union - www.tuc.com or call: 800-916-8800

If you feel you have been the victim of identity theft, contact the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline toll-free at 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), or visit their web site online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft.