

PANNONIA

Federal Credit Union

Spring 2009

Second Quarter

Ruth M. Thomas

1923 to 2009

Our credit union has lost a very dear friend, leader, and director. Ruth died January 31 of this year. She was hired by Morris Segal, Treasurer in 1953. She was a single mother, having lost her first husband, Richard Berry, in World War II. She was working part time for another credit union when she was asked to help out Pannonia. Like a breath of fresh air, she resolved the accounting problem with a snap of the fingers. Mr. Segal was astonished with her ability and asked her to work for Pannonia. Ruth was as pretty as she was intelligent. Burroughs featured Ruth on their brochure of the latest computer in the fifties. She entered the credit union industry when there were very few women. She was asked to speak to other credit union professionals at various conferences in the state of Pennsylvania.

Ruth became Treasurer and President/CEO of Pannonia. She retired from the office of President/CEO in 1992 but continued to serve Pannonia as a director until she died.

Ruth remained active in the community. She taught as a volunteer to poor, inter-city school children. She and her husband, Jim Thomas, traveled, and played golf. Whenever faced with adversity, she was at her best. She was contacted by a tiny town in France, 50 years after the death of Richard. They wanted to honor Richard and requested that his family be present. At this time, however, Jim was suffering from cancer. She declined the offer, but she still found new friendships in this tiny town. Her daughter, Susan would translate the correspondence. The next year, Ruth and her family flew to France to accept the accolades and honors for Richard.

The office staff and board of directors extend condolences to her daughter, Susan Eberhardt, grandchildren, Richard, Amy and Joanne, niece, Elizabeth Baxter and family and a very special nephew, John Ciesla.

Join me in a prayer of thanksgiving for this life that has touched so many. May you rest in peace, Ruth.

“House of the Future” Will Blend Old and New

Mention “house of the future” and many people conjure up images of sleek homes made of white plastic, sitting atop high stilts, with a robot tending to daily chores. Just like in the old “Jetsons” cartoons.

But the house of the future is probably going to look a lot like the house of yesterday and today. We are just too accustomed to the “warm” feeling of a traditional looking house – with brick, siding, doors, windows – sitting steadfastly on terra firma. We’re not ready for a plastic bubble in the sky – not anytime soon at least.

The biggest advances in technology over the next few years will likely be hidden. They will either be part of the building materials, disguised to look traditional. Or they’ll be hidden behind walls, buried underground, or part of the “mechanicals” of the house (plumbing, wiring, heating/air conditioning system) we rarely see. Here is a sampling of some technologies being developed:

- ▶ Exterior building materials that adapt to the environment. Siding, roofing, windows, and other vestiges of a traditional home will be built from materials that can reflect light (to help cool a house in the summer) or absorb light (to help warm a house in the winter).
- ▶ Wireless devices placed strategically (and discreetly) throughout the house that will allow you to monitor/run the house by personal computer or cell phone. Uses would include monitoring pets and childcare professionals, turning lights off and on, and adjusting heating/air conditioning settings as you commute to and from work.
- ▶ Geothermal heating and air con-

ditioning systems that take advantage of the near constant 55° environment that exists just below the frost line in the earth around your home. Air circulated through a duct system buried in a trench around your home is pre-heated or pre-cooled (based on season) to be used to heat/cool your home at a fraction of the cost of traditional furnaces and air conditioners.

- ▶ “Smart” lighting and appliances that power up and power down as they sense your approach. High-energy appliances such as clothes dryers, dishwashers, and water heaters may respond directly with utility companies to operating during off-peak times to save money and reduce environmental impact.

These technologies and more are available now but have not been widely implemented due to cost and reliability issues. But with advances in science, and the cost of energy ever increasing, these and other features will likely be finding their way into your future home.

Track Your Credit Report for Free

Which credit bureaus will your credit union, auto dealer, mortgage broker, or credit card company check? Usually all three will be reviewed with the average (or sometimes lowest) score providing the basis of your interest rate. Know what’s on your credit report. It’s easy with the free annual credit report that is provided to legal U.S. residents once a year at www.annualcreditreport.com. Review your report for any inaccuracies that could cost you money through higher interest rates.

Request your free credit report online, by phone, or by mail. Free reports requested online are accessible immediately. Free credit reports

requested by phone or mail will be processed within 15 days of receiving your request.

After receiving your report, look for inaccuracies, including late payments, unknown accounts, unknown addresses, incorrect spellings, or any thing else you do not recognize. The phone number for each creditor is located next to the entry on your credit report. Taking time to fix simple inaccuracies can save thousands of dollars in interest fees if the inaccuracies were lowering your credit score.

The next step is to check your credit report every year. Get on your computer and add a reminder to your calendar to check again next year.

Spruce Up with a Home Improvement Loan

Even with all of the ups and downs in the housing market, your home is still your castle. Don’t neglect the turrets or the moat! Ignoring problems like a leaky roof or a crumbling foundation won’t make them go away. Keeping up with maintenance and repairs makes your space a nicer place and helps protect your investment.

If you are planning a major remodel, remember that you’ll rarely recoup the entire cost and that some improvements have a higher percentage payback than others. Upgrading the kitchen or the bathroom will return more on your investment than adding a sunroom or home office. Factor in how long you plan to stay in your current home.

For projects large or small, see your credit union for a home improvement loan. We may not be able to help you pick out the new color scheme, but we will help you figure out the financing that matches your style. Call or stop by your credit union today.

Calendar of Events 2009

PASSOVER

Begins Wednesday, April 8, 2009

The Credit Union will be
closing at 2 PM on Wednesday,
April 8, 2009 and closed Thursday
and Friday, April 9 and 10, 2009

Pannonia Federal
Credit Union Annual Meeting
Wednesday, May 6, 2009



Your Savings
At The Credit Union
Are Insured To At Least
\$250,000

Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000
and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government
NCUA
National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency

Wake Up Your Account

Your credit union is required by law to escheat (give) to the state any funds from member accounts that have been dormant after a period of time.

“Dormant” means:

1. No activity (deposits/withdrawals) during the preceding twelve months and
2. No written correspondence from the member to the credit union during the preceding twelve months.

Wake up your account today. If your account is dormant, please make a small deposit or communicate with us in writing. This will reactivate your account! If you no longer need the account, visit the Credit Union to close it.

If you know where we can locate these members, call the Credit Union:
Allen S. Gurst • Debbie Weinstein

MVCP

Buying a vehicle? Protect yourself by calling the Motor Vehicle Certification Program. MVCP will save you money and time by making sure you get a fair deal. Call 1-800-345-0990 to speak to a consumer advisor. MVCP is a free service provided to you by Pannonia Federal Credit Union.

Attention All Senior Homeowners (62 & older)

Contact: David Bernstein, National Reverse Mortgage Specialist
(215) 379-5001 X 103

Keep Us Current with Your Address

Don't forget to let us know of your change of address if you move. We need your current address for our mailings. Keep your account safe by being sure it is going to your address and not the new occupants of your old house. And remember, once a member, always a member. So if you move out of state, you can continue being a member of the credit union.

Credit Unions Celebrate Centennial

Happy 100 Birthday U.S. credit unions! The first U.S. credit union was chartered on April 15, 1909 in Manchester, New Hampshire. The parishioners of St. Mary's Church organized the credit union with help from Alphonse DesJardins, a Canadian journalist, who recognized that people needed an alternative to loan sharks, and had opened the first credit union in North America in Levis, Quebec in 1901.

Chartered as La Caisse Populaire Ste. Marie by a special act of the New Hampshire legislature, the credit union is today known as St Mary's Bank and now serves the entire Manchester community.

The credit union idea was slow to catch on, but the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act in 1934 spurred growth. Across the country, people joined credit unions to have a safe place to save and a fair place to borrow.

From their humble beginning, credit unions today provide a wide variety of financial services to some 91 million member-owners. As not-for-profit cooperatives, at credit unions, people mean more than money. Now that's something to celebrate.

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



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** FINANCE UP TO 80% OF PROPERTY VALUE. Rates subject to change and financing is subject to availability of funds.

Ballroom Mortgages are available

Used Car

Share Secured

New Car

Unsecured

** Home Equity

** First Mortgage

(Maximum 5 years) 20% down

(Maximum 5 years) Personal Loan

80% of Market Value minus 1st mortgage

80% of Market Value

Join today so you and your family members can begin to realize the many benefits of Credit Union membership.

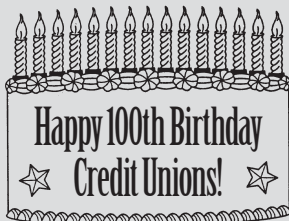


Pannonia Federal Credit Union
90 Bustleton Pike
Feasterville, PA 19053-6343

Pannonia Federal Credit Union

Credit Union Hours and Location

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Products and Services Available to You as a member of Pannonia Federal Credit Union

- Savings Accounts
- U.S. Savings Bonds
- Wire Transfers
- Notary Services
- Direct Deposit

Join today so you and your family members can begin to realize the many benefits of Credit Union membership including GREAT loan rates!