

Member Solutions

Quarterly
Newsletter

Second
Quarter
2009



federal credit union
your banking solution

Holiday Closings

Memorial Day
Mon, May 25th

Locations

Billings West End
3212 Central Ave

Billings 24th Street
1111 24th Street W

Billings Downtown
219 North 25th St

Billings Heights
895 Main Street

Columbus
912 E Pike Ave

Laurel
220 First Ave

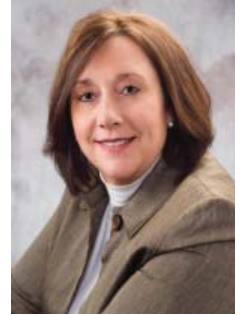
Red Lodge
821 S Hauser

www.avantafcu.org
406.651.AFCU

Merger News!

Dear Members,

As most of you are aware, Avanta Federal Credit Union and Summit Credit Union finalized the merger of our two credit unions on March 3rd. By uniting resources, the consolidated credit union will continue to offer you personalized service, make more products available, and make every effort to assist you with your future financial needs.



Avanta's commitment to serving our members is one of the standards by which we measure our performance. It's a motivator, and in today's business, it represents survival. We believe that if we're unable to perform, we won't stand much of a chance of succeeding.

We want you to be able to depend on us. We create solutions for managing your finances without hassle. We provide accessibility and convenience, deliver new products and services, and maintain solid financial growth for the continued good of all.

We offer a variety of products and services including debit and credit cards, savings accounts, investments, checking accounts, consumer loans, mortgage and home equity loans, electronic services, as well as business products. To continually meet the needs of our diverse membership, we're committed to creating new products and services as the needs arise.

As a result of the merger, we now have seven branch locations. Our corporate office is located on the corner of Central Avenue and 32nd Street in Billings. Additional locations include the Heights, Downtown, 24th Street West, and Columbus, Laurel and Red Lodge. Members will have access to all branch locations once the data processing merger is finalized on the 27th of April. At that time, all account data will be consolidated into one system. Our primary goal is to make the transition as smooth as possible for you.

We thank you for your support of this merger and look forward to the benefits that it will bring to both credit union memberships. We welcome the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Diefenderfer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rhonda Diefenderfer
President/CEO
Avanta Federal Credit Union



Cost Recovery Schedule

Effective April 27th, 2009

Safe Deposit Boxes

Safe Deposit Boxes (3x5)	\$15 yr
Safe Deposit Boxes (3x10)	\$30 yr
Safe Deposit Boxes (5x10)	\$45 yr

Checking Account Costs

Business Checking Excess Items	.20 ea
Check Copy	\$2 ea
Insufficient Funds (Pay or Return)	\$32 ea
Return of Cancelled Checks	\$10 mo
Stop Payment	\$15 ea
Temporary Checks (4 per Page)	\$4 pg
Travelers Checks Traditional, Dual	1.25%
Travelers Checks Gift Checks	\$2.50 ea
Teller Checks (If 3rd Party)	\$1 check

Card Services Costs

Check Card Sales Draft Copies	\$10 ea
Foreign ATM Transaction	\$1.50 ea
Visa/ATM/Check Card Replace.	\$10 ea
Visa Late Charge	\$29 ea
Visa Over Limit Fee	\$29 trans

Online Services

Check/ACH Copy	\$15 ea
Stop Payment	\$25

Savings Account Costs

Dormant Accounts	\$5 qtr
IRA/Money Market (Below Min Bal)	\$10 mo
IRA Closure Fee	\$25 ea
Savings Account (Below Min Bal)	\$5 mo
Savings (Closing within 60 Days)	\$25

Service Costs

Account Balancing/Research	\$25/hr
Check Cashing (single service)	2% or \$5 min
Collection Fee	\$20 ea
Bad Address/Return Statements	\$5 ea
Deposit Item Return	\$5 ea
Faxes	\$1 pg
Levy/Writ	\$30 ea
Notary Service (Non-member)	\$5 min
Photocopies	.20 ea
Statement Copies	\$5 ea

Wire Transfer Costs

Outgoing	\$20 ea
International	\$40 ea
Rejected	\$20 ea
International Draft	\$25 ea
Card Wires	\$15 ea

Buy a Raffle Ticket for 14 Great Prizes!

Purchase a CUAC raffle ticket from any Avanta employee and you could win 14 different prizes. Prices are \$2/ticket, 3/\$5, or 13/\$20. Ask about the great prizes you could win!

IRA Contribution Reminder!

You have until April 15th, 2009 to establish or contribute to an IRA for 2008.



Old Advice Is Still Smart: Live Within Your Means

Back in the day, people used to worry about keeping up with the Joneses. The phrase means you spend more than you planned to keep pace with, say, the neighbors or your brother-in-law. These days, many of us have zoomed way past the Joneses.

Evidence from the Department of Commerce and the Federal Reserve is that American households spent 125% of disposable income in 2007 to pay off debts.

To make real progress building your personal wealth, live below your means.

Yes, that's hard to do when food, fuel, and medical costs climb relentlessly. But another time-tested piece of advice can help you plug leaks in your family finances: Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without. Some examples:

- Use it up: Don't buy a new, heavily advertised cleaning product when you have others left over in your cupboards.
- Wear it out: Keep driving that older vehicle a year or two longer; update last year's wardrobe with a few accessories instead of stuffing your closet with new clothing purchases.
- Make it do: That flat screen TV is calling you, but there's nothing wrong with the one in your family room.
- Do without: Give future purchases a minimum three-day cooling off period; you'll usually find that the item you "had" to have has lost its luster - but you've saved what you might have spent on it.

You can think of other examples that fit your daily life. The idea is to stop spending without thinking. For more help wrestling with debt overload, talk to the people at Avanta Federal Credit Union.

Before you know it, the Joneses will be envying you and your financial independence.



**April is Celebrate Youth Month!
Bring Kids to Avanta to teach them
the magic of saving!**

April is Celebrate Youth Month!

Hocus-pocus - my money grew! Well, maybe it's not that easy to save, but by teaching kids from a young age, it can be. As they grow to tweens and teens, they'll have one of the most difficult aspects of saving under their belt - being consistent.

Bring your kids and young family members, under the age of 18 to Avanta during April to celebrate Youth!

By opening a savings account for your child, their name will go into a drawing for \$100. If they already have an account, every deposit made into their saving account during the month will get their name into the drawing.

Kids 0-11 can enter our coloring contest. The winner receives \$25!

Stop by, or visit online at www.avantafcu.org to learn more and print the coloring page.

Free Financial Workshop

Join us in a FREE workshop and learn personal financial skills that will help you make informed financial decisions for you and your family. If you attend all three nights, you will receive a \$50 savings bond.

You'll hear information about the best practices when buying a car, understanding credit & credit reports and whether refinancing your home is right for you.



Thursday, April 9, 16, and 23
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

MSU-Billings Downtown Campus
208 N Broadway

Pre-Registration is Required.
To register, call Heidi at 651-2321.

You and Your Money is brought to you by: Midland Empire Chapter of Credit Unions and Montana Credit Unions for Community Development.

Loan Rates

New Vehicle 60 mos.	As low as 5.60% apr
RV, 5th Wheel Camper	As low as 5.60% apr
Share Secured	As low as 4.50% apr
Construction Loan 12 mos.	As low as 7.25% apr
Mobile Home 180 mos.	As low as 8.75% apr
Home Equity	
5 year	As low as 5.95% apr
10 year	As low as 6.45% apr

APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates in effect as of 11/1/08. Rates subject to change without notice.

Savings Rates

Wealth Builder Savings Account	1.65% apy
Wealth Builder Plus	1.90% apy
Roth IRA \$1,000 - \$9,999.99	0.95% apy
Roth IRA \$100,000 +	1.95% apy
Christmas Club	2.00% apy

Ask about our Money Market Accounts!

*APY= Annual Percentage Yield. Dividend rates subject to change without notice. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal on Share Certificate Accounts. Rates in effect 2/20/09.

60
years
of service

Annual Meeting Notice!

You're invited to our annual meeting,
which will be held on Saturday,
June 6th at 10:30 am
at 3212 Central Avenue
on the Billings West End.

We'll hold our meeting and host a BBQ for you and your family. Please join us in celebration of our 60th year! We hope to see you there!

Management

President/CEO
Rhonda Diefenderfer

VP of Finance
Patsy Guenther

VP of HR & Marketing
Tracy DuFresne

VP of Lending &
Operations
Kathy Tuttle

VP of Sales & Service
Scott Avants

Downtown Mgr
Becky Owens

Columbus Mgr
Heather Hasbrook

Laurel Mgr
Becky Dickerson

Red Lodge Mgr
Laura Getz

Board of Directors

Chairman
Richard Nauman, Sr.

1st Vice Chairman
William Pedersen

Secretary/Treasurer
Richard Lohof

Directors
Greg Erpenbach
Robert Fox
David Grubbs
Mick Mennie

Supervisory
Committee
Genia Jansma
David Grubbs
Mary Reiter



Change in Hours

Effective April 27th, the hours at
the 24th Street Location will be:

Lobby Hours:

9:00 - 5:00 M - F

Drive-Up:

7:30 - 5:30 M - Th

7:30 - 6:00 F

Effective March 30th, the Heights
branch will close daily from
1:15 - 2:15.

Shared Branching

Summit Credit Union and Billings FCU
have enjoyed a long time cooperative
relationship with a shared branching
agreement. We regret to inform you
that this partnership will discontinue
after April 24th, due to data system
changes.

Members that use the Billings FCU
Downtown branch can use the Avanta
branch at 219 North 25th St, just
behind Billings FCU, one block to the
south.

AARP Driver Safety Program

If you are age 50 or older, you may be eligible for
a discount on your auto insurance by attending
the AARP Driver Safety Program.

June 24th 1pm-5pm (1 day class) at the Laurel
Senior Center

Call Sabrina at 651-2345 to register.

