

The Common Thread



www.avelta.com

July 2009



Aventa
CREDIT UNION

What happens when 0% APR jumps to 19.99%? Debt can be overwhelming!

Let's say you shift \$10,000 from your old credit card to a new card promising a 0% APR introductory rate. You pay the 2% monthly minimum for three months. These three payments bring your balance down to \$9,400. So far, so good. Then, a day late with your payment and the rate jumps to 19.99%. If you continue to pay \$200 a month, it takes 93 months to pay off \$9,400. Plus, you're paying \$9,093 in interest. That's a total of \$18,493 ... a lot more than you bargained for.

For more information on credit card debt, go to avelta.com. Click on Protect Your Money in the upper right corner of the home page. You can learn more about credit cards, credit reports and other ways to safeguard your hard earned dollars.

We've Gone Digital!

It costs about \$12 per member each year to mail hard copies of statements, notices and newsletters. Multiply that by 17,000 members and it adds up to quite a bit of money ... money that could be distributed as dividends! These mailings also generate thousands of pieces of paper annually — and much of that printed information is accessible to our members electronically!

This issues introduces our new, electronic newsletter, The Common Thread. We hope that you enjoy this new format and support our goal of reducing costs and paper waste.

Electronic Banking Is Safer For You

We are living in a time when our personal information is more at risk than ever before. It seems as though every week brings more news stories about individuals who have had their identities or money stolen by increasingly clever thieves.

One method these crooks use is to steal documents from mailboxes and trash. With a financial statement in hand, they can find ways to access an account, or trick a victim by phone or email into providing even MORE confidential information, such as a Social Security number.

While 100% security is

nearly impossible to achieve, you can reduce risk to yourself and your family by signing up for home banking and e-statement services.

The credit union maintains a very high level of security with regard to member personal and account information. Members who use our electronic services bank securely online, protected by passwords and internal systems that keep your data safe.

If you're not a home banking user already, consider signing up today. It's easy to do! Call our Contact Center at 719.482.7600 for details.

Tired of Paying Inflated Credit Card Rates? We Have a Better Alternative!

If you have credit card debt on one or more cards, maybe you have noticed some unpleasant changes in the interest rates that you are being charged on your balances. When monthly interest charges go up, it can become more and more difficult to pay what you owe.

Aventa has a better alternative: a signature loan with rates that start as low as 9.24% ... that might be less than half the interest you're currently being charged!

To find out if this is the best option for your situation, call us today at 719.482.7600 or apply online at avelta.com.

See the box at the right to learn more about credit card debt and how high interest rates impact your personal finances.

Aventa Credit Union

Dublin Branch

2735 Dublin Boulevard
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Cascade Branch

426 South Cascade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Willamette Branch

3010 East Willamette Place
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Lobby Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday at Dublin and Cascade

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday at Willamette

9:00 a.m. to noon

Drive-up Hours

Monday through Friday

7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday at Dublin and Cascade

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday at Willamette

9:00 a.m. to noon

Note: Full service Saturdays at Cascade only.

Contact Center

719.482.7600 and 800.555.6665

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Quick Reference Contact Information

VISA lost or stolen

Credit card — 800.847.2911

Debit card — 800.528.2273

Change debit PIN

800.851.4859

Credit card balances and history

www.cardmemberservices.com

Internet homebanking

www.avena.com

Easy Access (audio response)

719.473.4995

Reorder checks 24/7

800.355.8123

Or online at: www.ClarkeAmerican.com

Routing Number (direct deposit or ACH)

307074690

Email Aventa Credit Union

contactus@avena.com

Dividend Rates

A dividend rate of .250% APY* was declared on regular shares for the month of October 2008 based on available earnings. This annual percentage yield is based on a 365 day year, calculated on the daily balance and compounded monthly.

Certificates

Certificates are available with \$500 or more. **Mini Jumbo Certificates** available with \$10,000 to \$49,999.99
Jumbo Certificates available with \$50,000 or more.

Share/Savings Accounts

Accounts require a minimum balance of \$5.00 to open. The credit union offers a variety of products designed to meet member needs.

Tiered Money Market Accounts

Money Market Accounts are offered in four tiers: \$2,500 to \$4,999.99; \$5,000 to \$9,999.99; \$10,000 to \$49,999.99; and \$50,000 or more.

For current rate information, call or visit us online.



Our New Partner: PCE Federal Credit Union

In May, the boards of directors for Aventa Credit Union and Pueblo City Employees (PCE) Federal Credit Union completed a management agreement. Under the new partnership, Aventa will provide a variety of services to PCE including risk management, human resources, collections and marketing.

The two credit unions remain separate

entities, however, the efficiencies of the agreement will benefit both organizations.

PCE has select employee group (SEG) membership that is very similar to Aventa's: both focus on serving city employees, including police, fire, utilities and administration.

We have enjoyed working with our new team members in Pueblo!

Giving Back

On June 24, approximately 30 Aventa associates and family members turned out for the 2009 Colorado Springs Heart Walk, held at the Grand Lawn in Cordera. Though this was the credit union staff's first year in joining the event, we achieved almost 15 percent participation and raised several hundred dollars.

Heart disease is the number one killer in America ... we're all affected by it in some way. We were proud to play a small role in generating more money for research and education, benefiting our entire community.