

## The North Word

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### Fairbanks Branch Opening Its Doors In New Location!

By the time you're reading this newsletter, you should be visiting your Fairbanks branch in our new location in the old US Travel building at 1211 Cushman St! While only a couple of blocks down from our previous location, members will now enjoy ample parking, two drive-through lanes, a drive-up ATM, and Saturday hours!

A formal Grand Opening will be held at a later date. Check back with us on the web at www.truenorth-fcu.org for updates!

### Spring Home Equity Line Special

From April 1, 2008 to May 15, 2001 all transactions of \$1000 or more on the True North Home Equity Line Cledit Card including cash advances, convenience checks and valence transfers will receive a special fixed rate of 5.75% APR\* until March of 2010!

\*Offer applies to HELCC cardholders in good standing. After March of 2010, rate will return to the standard revolving rate.

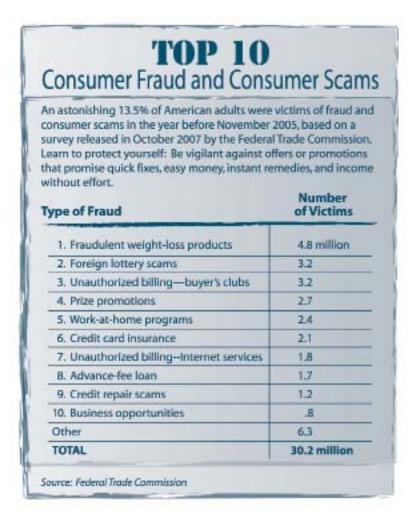


### WHEN A 'FREE' CREDIT REPORT IS NOT REALLY FREE

On the surface, it seems logical: You type the phrase "free credit report" in a search engine to access the Web site that offers free reports--which you're entitled to, by law. But here's the catch: Your search results might not drive you to the one legitimate Web site operated by the Federal Trade Commission.

Q: What's the danger in going to the wrong Web site to get your free credit report?

A:These sites hook you with offers of so-called free credit reports while aggressively marketing other services. Go to any site other than annualcreditreport.com and you may wind up paying needlessly for services you don't want. Or, you could pay \$75 for a credit score that otherwise costs \$8 to \$12. In one example, a site advertised a "free credit report" but failed to disclose adequately that, if you signed up, you automatically would be enrolled in a credit-monitoring program and charged \$79.95. Many disclosures are in the fine print and easy to overlook.



Q: What are some sites to stay away from? A: The one most heavily advertised is freecreditreport.com. Other variations include free-creditreports.com, freecreditreportsinstantly.com, thefreecreditreportsource.com, creditreport.com, creditreporting.com, and nationalcreditreport. com.

Q: Which site allows access to free credit reports without trying to sell unnecessary services? A: Go to annualcreditreport.com, which was established after the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 gave consumers the right to obtain--once a year--a free credit report from each of the big three credit reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Or, you can call toll-free 877-322-8228.

Q: Should I order the three annual free credit reports all at once?

A: You can order them all at the same time. A better strategy is to stagger your requests throughout the year. Order a free report from one agency, then wait four months and order a report from a different agency, then wait another four months and order the third report. After a year, start the process over again. That way, you're more likely to detect errors--or even fraudulent accounts set up in your name--than if you wait a whole year to look at all three of your reports.

### You Could Win A Trip To The Beijing 2008 Olympic Games With The Fastest Way To Be

Athletes spend their lives preparing for the Olympic Games, and now Visa® is offering you the chance to witness the suprethe Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

No other payment card can offer a trip like this. As a proud sponsor of the Olympic Games and America's Olympic Team, V they compete for gold. The Grand Prize package includes airfare, hotel accommodations, VIP hospitality access, event ticke for trip expenses!

When you use your Visa card issued by True North or any other Visa card between February 1 and April 30, 2008, you will by vacation from Visa. And when you pay a regular and ongoing bill with your Visa card, you will receive a bonus entry. On to

Remember, the more times you use your Visa card, the more automatic entries you'll receive.

### Payday Borrowing Pokes a Hole in Your Pocket

Getting a payday loan to solve your cash-flow problem is like poking a hole in the pocket where you carry your cash. Over time, your money is apt to disappear as you "roll over" your debt.

Rollover debt occurs when you can't repay the full amount of a payday loan when it's due. Instead, you're forced to take out another loan for the original amount plus interest and fees.

As a result, the amount owed to payday lenders quickly grows, with the average payday borrower spending \$793 to repay a \$325 loan, according to the Center for Responsible Lending.

Find an alternative. If you're straining to repay a payday loan, contact True North as soon as possible to ask for help.

Examine your options.

To reduce spending, take a hard look at what's a necessity and then cut out the extras. Next, consider options for generating income. Sell possessions that aren't being used, or work a second job or overtime hours.

# SWEET DEAL Come to the CREDIT UNION to start your financial future together.

### REBUILDING GOOD CREDIT

- Pay all bills on time
- Get your credit report ... check for accuracy
- Consider consolidating debts
- Get secured credit card if denied credit
- m Beware credit repair clinics
- Seek credit counseling—referral from CU
- Reduce unwanted credit card solicitations (optoutprescreen.com or call 888-5-opt-out)

To meet immediate needs, look for free services or merchants willing to let you pay over time. For example, if your car has a breakdown, look for a mechanic who will let you pay in two or three monthly installments.

The savings solution. To get out of the payday loan trap for good, establish a savings account.

Ask your True North branch about savings options, including how to directly deposit part of every paycheck directly into your savings. Those who take advantage of direct deposit save an average of \$90 more a month than those who don't, according to a study by NACHA, the electronic payments association.

By putting your savings in a credit union account, you can resist the temptation to tap the funds when you're short of cash. That way, the money will always be there when a true emergency arises.

Call us today at True North. We can help.

### ijing Promotion From Visa!

eme sportsmanship, leadership, and excellence in person during

isa can offer a truly unique trip to cheer for U.S. athletes while ts, Visa U.S. Olympic Team apparel, and even a \$500 Visa Gift card

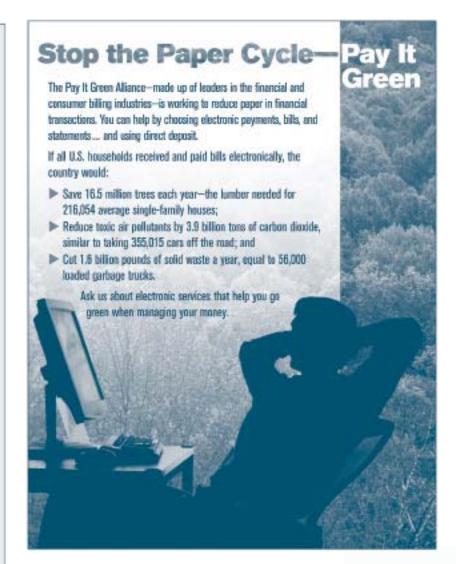
be automatically entered for a chance to win this once-in-a-lifetime op of all that, you can also enter online at visa.com/2008Olympics.



# Shopping for a Car? Skip the Legwork.



- Check your choices—edmunds.com and kbb.com get you started with side-by-side comparisons of cars on your list.
- Inspect safety records—nhtsa.gov (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) gives crash test results; find more detail at carsafety.org (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety).
- Find the real price—edmunds.com and kbb.com let you know the price and any manufacturer price incentive for the cars on your list.
- Find the best financing—Use your credit union's Web site to check auto loan rates and apply for a loan; when you shop with the equivalent of cash you'll be in a better bargaining position.



### Access Your True North Account At Participating Shared Service Centers!

Shared Branching gives you access to your True North account at participating credit unions locally and nation-wide! Look for the "swirl" logo that indicates a participating credit union. Once you're at a Shared Service Center location, simply present the teller with your True North member number and a photo ID. You'll then have the ability to make withdrawals, deposits, transfers, loan payments, and more!

To find a CU Service Center location near you, or to learn more, visit **www.cuswirl.com** or contact your local branch! You can also call **888 CU-SWIRL** (**287-9475**) for Service Center locations.



### True North Federal Credit Union · Creating A True Member Moment Every Day

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www.truenorthfcu.org

Express Teller:

Nationwide: 1-800-4-TELLER

Anchorage: 771-4744 Fairbanks: 328-4744

Juneau: 523-4744

24/7 Loans: 1-866-564-2259

24 Hr Bill Pay Support: 1-866-628-1691

Juneau Downtown Branch 907-523-4777

Fax 907-586-1173

Juneau

Mendenhall Branch 907-523-4700 Fax 907-523-4716

Juneau Administrative Office 907-523-4778 Fax 907-586-8078 Anchorage Branch 907-771-4777 Fax 907-561-1538

Fairbanks Branch 907-328-4777 Fax 907-456-6109

Yakutat Branch 907-784-3304 Fax 907-784-3415 Statistics

As of February 29, 2008 Assets .....\$95,060,174 Loans .....\$62,557,198, Shares ....\$86,608,897



We Do Business in Accordance With th Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act

