

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F S A R A T O G A F E D E R A L

LOAN DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

Credit Union members are now being offered discounts on loan rates slashing rates by as much as 3% with loyalty rewards.

NO FEE OVERDRAFT PROTECTION

Swipe your card with confidence, even if pay-day is a few days away, with no-fee overdraft protection. Call to find out how to add this convenient feature to your account.

NO FEE ATM TRANSACTIONS

Enjoy surcharge free ATM transactions at Price Chopper/Market 32 locations in Saratoga, Warren and Washington counties.

YOU ASKED, WE ANSWERED. NEW BRANCH WITH 40+ PARKING SPACES COMING SOON.

Throughout my more than thirty years on the board of directors, various individuals contributed expertise to the credit union's growth. Throughout the changes, one thing remained the same, a vision of a new home for the credit union to meet members' needs. The need most often expressed, being parking.

As the city expanded, a parking garage was constructed near the credit union, easing some challenges for members. However, issues like circling the block or walking from distant parking spots persisted. While maintaining friendly service, efforts were made to rectify this inconvenience. We opened a branch on Geysers Road in Ballston Spa with convenient facilities and parking. While members enjoy the new location, many prefer a branch in Saratoga. Staff continued to encourage online and shared branch services, but the dream of a more convenient location in Saratoga remained.

After years of unsuccessful searching and numerous missed opportunities, the dream of discovering the ideal property finally materialized. A fully renovated site in Saratoga with convenient access, more than 40 parking spaces, and close proximity to shopping, including Market 32, is coming soon. This new branch will feature a drive-up teller service and Saturday hours.

You have options now. If you prefer shopping at Hannaford Markets, our office on Geysers Road is conveniently located close by. For those who frequent Market 32, our office on Rt. 50 will be situated in the same plaza. We strive to make it as convenient as possible for you.

Additionally, the welcoming staff you have come to know and love, who are friendly and knowledgeable, will be there to greet you. Dreams can indeed come true, and they can come true for you too. We are here to support you in achieving yours.

WATCH FOR OUR GRAND OPENING!

Jane Decoteau
Chairperson, Board of Directors



CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE LOAN HELPS TEACHERS PREPARE FOR SCHOOL YEAR

We're delighted to offer a special loan program tailored specifically for educators, providing up to \$500 with a 9 month term and absolutely no interest. This initiative is designed to support teachers in stocking their classrooms with essential supplies and materials, ensuring they have everything needed to create a vibrant and effective learning environment. With this short-term, interest-free loan, educators can access the funds they need immediately, without worrying about added costs. This program reflects our commitment to supporting teachers and enhancing the educational experience for students in our community.

- \$500 loan limit
- 9 month term
- No interest
- No catch



CAPTAIN
Community Human Services
Lifting people up. Building brighter futures.



REBUILDING FINANCIAL SECURITY AFTER DEBT: A ROADMAP TO RECOVERY

Emerging from debt can be a daunting journey, but with the right strategies and support, you can rebuild your financial security and set yourself up for long-term stability. At our credit union, we're committed to helping you navigate this path to financial recovery with practical tips and resources.

1. **Assess Your Financial Situation:** Start by taking a comprehensive look at your current financial status. Create a detailed budget that includes your income, expenses, and any remaining debt.
2. **Set Clear Financial Goals:** Define what you want to achieve in the short and long term.
3. **Prioritize Debt Repayment:** Focus on paying off high-interest debt first, such as credit card balances, while making minimum payments on other debts. Consider consolidating your debts into a lower-interest loan.
4. **Build an Emergency Fund:** An emergency fund is a financial safety net that can prevent future debt. Aim to save at least three to six months worth of expenses.
5. **Rebuild Your Credit Score:** A good credit score is essential for financial health. Pay your bills on time, keep credit card balances low, and avoid taking on new debt.
6. **Create a Savings Plan:** Once you're on more solid ground, focus on building your savings for future goals and unexpected expenses.
7. **Seek Professional Advice:** Rebuilding financial security can be complex, and seeking advice from a financial advisor can provide personalized guidance. Our credit union offers financial counseling services to help you create a plan tailored to your needs and goals.

Remember, recovering from debt is a journey, and progress may take time. Stay committed to your financial plan, and celebrate your achievements along the way. By taking these steps and utilizing the resources available through our credit union, you can regain control of your finances and build a secure and prosperous future.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: CREDIT UNION PARTNERS WITH CAPTAIN HUMAN SERVICES FOR SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

With the new school year upon us, our credit union fostered a meaningful partnership with Captain Human Services to support families in need within our community. Together, we launched a school supply drive to ensure that every child has the tools they need to start the school year on the right foot.

Together with our members, we collected a variety of essential school supplies at our branch locations. Items such as notebooks, pencils, backpacks, crayons, and other classroom necessities were gratefully accepted. These supplies will be distributed to local families through Captain Human Services, an organization renowned for its commitment to assisting those in need.

This initiative reflects our deep commitment to giving back and fostering community support. Education is a cornerstone of personal and professional growth, and we believe that every child deserves the opportunity to succeed. By participating in this drive, you our members helped ensure that students in our community are well-equipped for their academic journey.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Captain Human Services for their partnership and to all our members for their generosity. It was wonderful to work together to make this school year a successful one for children in our community.

SKIP-A-PAY OFFERS RELIEF FOR MEMBERS

You can take a break from your loan payments for a small fee, providing financial relief during unexpected expenses. Our Skip-A-Pay program is designed to give you breathing room without compromising your financial goals.

SAME RATE FOR ALL CREDIT SCORES

The credit union is offering the same competitive interest rate to all applicants with credit scores exceeding 600, fostering financial equality and inclusivity.

MOBILE BANKING MADE EASY

Download the Saratoga Federal App from Google Play or the App store and take advantage of mobile banking. Make deposits, transfer funds, check your balance and manage your cards with just a few taps.

Account Features	Basic Checking	Money Market Checking
No Fee Monthly Maintenance With E-Statements	✓	✓
No Fee Overdraft Protection	✓	✓
Unlimited No Fee ATM Transactions at Many Price Chopper/ Market 32 locations	✓	✓
Unlimited No Fee Transactions at Over 5,000 Shared Branch Locations	✓	✓
First Box of Checks No Fee	✓	✓
No Fee Online Bill Pay & External Transfers	✓	✓
No Fee Mobile Banking With Mobile Check Deposits	✓	✓
Limited No Fee ATM Transactions at Stewart's Shops	✓	✓
Unlimited No Fee Debit Card Transactions	✓	✓

UNLOCKING THE BENEFITS OF A MONEY MARKET CHECKING ACCOUNT AT SARATOGA FEDERAL

In the world of personal finance, finding the right account to manage your funds efficiently can make all the difference. If you're seeking a blend of high returns and flexible access, a Money Market Checking Account with unlimited transactions and debit card access could be just what you need. Let's delve into the advantages this type of account offers and why it might be the perfect fit for your financial needs.

1. Optimal Flexibility

One of the standout features of a Money Market Checking Account at Saratoga Federal is its flexibility. Unlike traditional money market accounts that typically limit transactions to six per month, our Money Market Account allows you to make an unlimited number of transactions. Whether you're paying bills, transferring funds, or handling day-to-day purchases, you have the freedom to do so without worrying about transaction limits. This can be especially beneficial for those who need to manage their finances actively.

2. Competitive Interest Rates

Money Market Checking Accounts generally offer higher interest rates compared to standard checking accounts. This means your money can grow faster while still remaining easily accessible. With a higher yield on your balance, you can make the most of your funds without having to tie them up in a fixed-term investment. It's a great way to maximize returns while maintaining liquidity.

3. Debit Card Access

Having a debit card linked to your Money Market Checking Account adds a layer of convenience and accessibility. You can make purchases, withdraw cash, and even access ATMs with ease. This feature is particularly useful for everyday transactions and travel, providing a seamless experience without having to use multiple accounts.

4. Ideal for Emergencies

The easy access and higher returns of a Money Market Checking Account make it a suitable choice for emergency funds. Whether unexpected expenses arise or you need quick access to cash, this account provides a safety net that combines the benefits of both checking and savings accounts. You can be prepared for emergencies without sacrificing potential interest earnings.

5. Flexible Budgeting

For those who like to keep a close eye on their budgeting, the combination of unlimited transactions and debit card access allows for precise tracking of expenditures. You can monitor your spending patterns more effectively, adjust your budget as needed, and make informed financial decisions.

A Money Market Checking Account with unlimited transactions and debit card access offers an exceptional blend of flexibility, high returns, and convenience. It's an ideal choice for individuals who want to optimize their financial management without compromising on accessibility or security. If you're considering a new account or looking to streamline your financial approach, this option might be the perfect solution. Visit us today to learn more about how a Money Market Checking Account can work for you and take advantage of the benefits it offers.

ATM Transactions: In addition to the fees charged on some accounts by Saratoga Federal, ATM owners may charge additional fees known as surcharges to use their ATMs. These vary by institution. The credit union has entered into an agreement to provide unlimited free ATM access at ATMs located near the customer service station at any Price Chopper/Market 32 stores within Saratoga, Washington and Warren counties. The credit union has also entered into an agreement with Stewart's Shops and the CO-OP Network to allow member's access to participating ATMs, Kiosks and cash dispensing terminals without paying surcharges. Credit union fees for exceeding the maximum amount of transactions as stated in our [fee schedule](#) and your account agreement will still apply. ATM transactions include balance inquiries, deposits, withdrawals and transfers.

First Box of Checks: Member is responsible for shipping fees.

Fees may reduce earnings.



Let us help you achieve your homeownership dreams.

SaratogaMortgage.org
Call today!
518.583.2323 ex. 123

PUTTING YOUR EQUITY TO WORK FOR YOU

By: Howard A. Litwak
Mortgage Loan Originator
NMLS #- 1914414



"You could do that?"
"If you could do that, it would be amazing!"
"How do I get started?"

I started in the mortgage business in 2000, mainly focusing on helping people regain control of their finances and creating greater financial stability with peace of mind. I've heard variations of these statements above hundreds of times while presenting solutions people did not know existed.

Leveraging the equity built up in your home can be a proactive and pragmatic approach to effectively reducing overall interest and expenses.

It is pretty common for borrowers to be able to lower their total monthly budget by \$300 - \$600 or more by consolidating debt such as high interest credit cards, high interest personal loans, and second mortgages (HELOC's). Sometimes even student or auto loans.

"This would change our lives," I have been told. Nothing makes me happier to hear than that!

With credit card interest rates often in the double digits (25%-30% not uncommon), and mounting credit card debt, scenarios like this exist for many people.

Do you have more than \$10,000 in credit card balances?
Is your mortgage rate above 7%?

We should talk.

If you would like to see if streamlining your debt obligations could create a brighter financial future, with more cash in your bank account for you, call or email me today. You may just end up saying something like the borrowers above.

"Create a brighter financial future
With more cash in your bank account for you."

WHY BECOME AN ACCOUNT NUMBER, WHEN YOU CAN JOIN A COMMUNITY

In an era dominated by impersonal banking giants, there's a refreshing alternative that puts people first: credit unions. Unlike traditional banks driven by profits, credit unions are member-owned financial cooperatives deeply rooted in their communities. One of the standout benefits of joining a credit union is the genuine care and commitment they show towards their members and the communities they serve.

At the heart of every credit union is a philosophy centered on member well-being. Because members are also owners, credit unions prioritize their needs above all else. This translates into lower fees, competitive interest rates on loans and savings accounts, and a dedication to providing personalized service. Members aren't just account numbers; they're valued individuals with unique financial goals and aspirations.

- ThankU Loyalty Discounts
- Same rate for all credit scores
- No-fee checking accounts
- Surcharge free ATM transactions at many PriceChopper/Market 32 locations
- Limited surcharge free ATM transactions at Stewart's shops
- We Get it

SCAN TO JOIN TODAY!



SaratogaFederal.com | 518.583.2323 | SaratogaMortgage.org

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36880-NEWS-0924

This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration. Equal housing lender.