



# On Your Account

SPRING 2010

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION OF BALTIMORE, INC.

MECU's Commitment to Its Members and Its Community

"Not for charity, not for profit,  
but for **service**"



## Message from the Chairman and President and CEO of MECU



Dear Valued Members,

**A**s we look back at the past year, we're aware of the difficult times that many people faced with the tough economy. But, we're glad to report that it was a good year for MECU. You, our members, have given us your support. We know you have choices, but we work hard to provide you with great products and services. Year in and year out, we offer you the best rates around. We also have returned money to you every year since 1981 through the extraordinary dividend and the loan interest rebate. Just this past year, we returned over \$4 million dollars to you.

We are proud of the outreach activities that MECU has developed to give back to our community. We are even more proud of the outreach activities that called on our members to help us.

We asked for your support for the earthquake victims in Haiti when you came into the branches. And we asked you to support Holiday Harvest that benefited the Bea Gaddy Thanksgiving dinner. Many of you brought canned goods and donations to ensure that the neediest in our community had a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner. Through Warm Holiday Wishes you brought warm coats and winter clothing into the MECU branches to go to St. Vincent's Mobile Clothing Bank for people living in Baltimore's shelters or on the streets.

MECU has developed a number of activities to help young people in the community – possibly your sons or daughters. These activities especially warm our hearts.

For the youngest in our community, we work with the City of Baltimore to host the Pee Wee Preakness, where children from the ages of three to six race each other on bouncy balls. To help children a little older, our branches have formed partnerships with six elementary schools in Baltimore City. The branch staff goes to the schools regularly to give that extra one-on-one help that can help a student better understand a lesson.

The MECU team also takes the fifth grade from one of our partner schools to Junior Achievement's Biz Town every year. But we don't forget the rest of the students. MECU holds a yearly book drive so that every student in all the partner schools have a book of their own to take home at the end of the school year. In 2009, we collected over 4,900 books to distribute.

We work with the CollegeBound Foundation to help high school students learn about managing their money – a skill they will need to have when they start the next phase of their lives. Also, MECU's Board and Committee members started the Annual MECU Charity Golf Tournament to raise funds to provide ten scholarships for CollegeBound.

One of the most exciting programs we have is for college students. Through the African-American Credit Union Coalition, we have up to five students intern at MECU every summer. These students add a great deal to our work environment, and many of the students come to work for MECU after graduation.

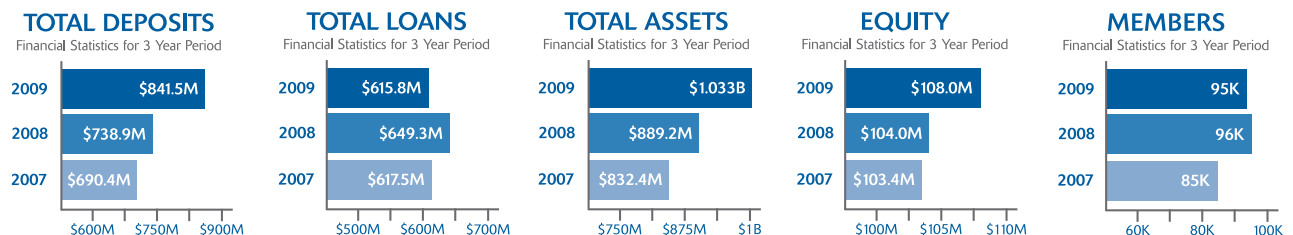
We hope you enjoy reading about a few of MECU's outreach activities in this newsletter and we invite you to join us when we reach out to our members. With the tough economic times it has been even more important to give back to our community.

Thank you for your support of MECU and we look forward to serving you in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Herman Williams Jr.  
Chair

Bert J. Hash Jr.  
President & CEO



*MECU — Baltimore's Credit Union — A Sound Financial Partner for Members*

# and a Strong Partner for the Community.

**F**or almost 75 years, MECU has provided its members with financial services developed to help them reach their goals in a safe and sound manner. That approach helped us guide our members through the Great Depression, just as we safely lead our members to financial stability in today's economic upheaval.

MECU's strength reflects the strength of the community in which we all live. That is why MECU's outreach committee works to develop long-term relationships with organizations serving different people in our community. By helping improve the lives of individuals, MECU makes our community stronger. While we know that our efforts help our community, every MECU team member knows that his/her life has been enriched by the experience.

MECU team members volunteered nearly 3,500 hours in 2009. And, as long as there are people needing support in our community, MECU will reach out to help.



*MECU serves the community through its branches and its volunteer efforts.*

## Sandtown Habitat for Humanity

Imagine taking a shell of a hundred-year-old row house and creating a new home for a family. That's just part of

what MECU does through its long standing commitment to Sandtown Habitat for Humanity.

Throughout the years, MECU volunteers worked on Saturdays to rehab houses they had "adopted." And each June, along with hundreds of volunteers from across the nation, dozens of MECU employees participate in Blitz Week and work on several homes under construction.

MECU's Doug Hinkle says, "You can't participate in Blitz Week and not be moved by the whole process and the positive energy and the goodwill. It just speaks volumes about what's possible when people come together with a common goal and purpose to do good."



## MECU's Annual Book Drive

Why is the Book Drive special? "The faces! The excitement on the children's faces as they search for a book of their own is something that you'll never forget," says MECU's VP for Branch Operations Pat Roberts.

"Our Annual Book Drive is one of our favorite activities. We began the program eight years ago so every student in every one of our partner schools would have a book of their own to take home and read at the end of the school year," she continues.

*"Our Annual Book Drive is one of our favorite activities."*

In 2009 MECU collected and distributed over 4,900 books to seven schools.



## JA BizTown™

MECU has participated in Junior Achievement's BizTown for a number of years by sponsoring one of our partner schools. In 2009, we hosted nearly 200 Ft. Worthington Elementary School students for a day of "trying out" being an adult.

JA BizTown provides an extraordinary opportunity to help educate and prepare tomorrow's leaders. "It's a fun and important part of MECU's outreach to promote financial literacy," explains Donte Leggett, who coordinates the project. "Students take home real skills. They know how to write a check and balance their account. And they are often the first in their family to know how to do that."

A student at a recent JA BizTown visit said, "When I'm working here it's almost like going into the future and seeing myself as an adult."

## Salvation Army Angel Tree

The Holiday Angel Tree is not just one of the highest profile events for the Salvation Army, it's an event that helps create the holiday spirit at MECU. There is no better place to get into the holiday spirit than MECU's main branch on Redwood St. The ledge around the mezzanine is filled with bright packages for the children.

"The Angel Tree program makes us all feel so good. All of us. It's an event that allows us to collect gifts for little Angels at Christmas. Our employees and board members go way over the top to provide for Baltimore boys and girls who don't have the blessings of so many others. And, it makes the holidays even more warm and special for us. I wish we could do it all year," says MECU's Hope Newton.



# MECU'S Fast, Easy & Convenient Loan Application

**For faster service, apply securely online at [www.mecu.com](http://www.mecu.com), or call (800) 373-2914 24/7.**

Or, please tri-fold this form on margin "fold" marks with MECU address facing out and seal closed with tape across the top edge of the mailer and mail your application to us postage-paid, fax it to (410) 223-4000 or return it to any MECU office.

To apply for a **HOME EQUITY LOAN** or **LINE**, please visit [mecu.com](http://mecu.com) to apply securely online, or call (800) 373-2914 24/7.

To apply for a **MORTGAGE**, please visit [mecu.com](http://mecu.com) to apply securely online, or call (800) 730-7599 Mon. – Fri. 9 AM – 5 PM.

Requested Amount	Loan Type(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Credit <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Credit
\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Refinance <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Approval
\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa® Credit Card
\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Purpose _____ (auto repair, credit card payoff, etc.)
Total Requested \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Loan (term desired: _____ months) <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Line (purpose: _____)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Please contact me to discuss my options.

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## Comments

ALL applicants, please complete the following:

**Married Applicants:** May apply for a separate account. **Individual Credit:** You must complete the Applicant section about yourself and the Co-Applicant section about your spouse if: 1) you live in or the property pledged as collateral is located in a community property state (AK, AZ, CA, ID, LA, NM, NV, TX, WA, WI), 2) your spouse will use the account or 3) you are relying on your spouse's income as a basis for repayment. If you are relying on income from alimony, child, support or separate maintenance, complete the Co-Applicant section to the extent possible about the person on whose payments you are relying. **Joint Credit:** Each applicant must individually complete the appropriate section below.

	Applicant	Co-Applicant (Joint Credit)
Name		
Current Street Address		
City, State & ZIP Code		
Length of Time at Current Address	____ Years ____ Months	____ Years ____ Months
Previous Street Address <small>(If less than 1 Year at current address)</small>		
City, State & ZIP Code		
Home Phone #		
Preferred Phone #		
Email Address		
Date of Birth (MM / DD / YYYY)		
Social Security #		
Monthly Housing Expense	\$ _____ Own ____ Rent ____ Other	\$ _____ Own ____ Rent ____ Other
Employer Name / Income Source		
Occupation / Job Title		
Date of Employment (MM / YYYY)		
Gross Monthly Income	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other Income *	\$ _____ Source: _____	\$ _____ Source: _____
Preferred MECU Branch	<input type="checkbox"/> Dundalk <input type="checkbox"/> Fallstaff <input type="checkbox"/> Hamilton <input type="checkbox"/> Lochridge <input type="checkbox"/> MLK <input type="checkbox"/> Redwood <input type="checkbox"/> Westview	

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- You promise that everything you have stated in this application is correct to the best of your knowledge. If there are any important changes (i.e. Change of address, phone number, Email, employer, expenses, income, etc.) you will notify us immediately. You authorize the Credit Union to obtain credit reports in connection with this application for credit and for any update, increase, renewal, extension or collection of the credit received. You understand that the Credit Union will rely on the information in this application and your credit report to make its decision. If you request, the Credit Union will tell you the name and address of any credit bureau from which it received a credit report on you. It is a federal crime to willfully and deliberately provide incomplete or incorrect information on loan applications made to federal credit unions or state chartered credit unions insured by NCUA.
- If you are applying for a credit card, you understand that the use of your card will constitute acknowledgment of receipt and agreement to the terms of the credit card agreement and disclosures. You grant us a security interest in all individual and joint share and/or deposit accounts you have with us now and in the future to secure your credit card account. In the event of default, you authorize us to apply the balance in these accounts to any amounts due. Shares and deposits in an Individual Retirement Account, and any other account that would lose special tax treatment under state or federal law if given as security, are not subject to the security interest you have given in your shares and deposits

\* Alimony, child support, separate maintenance payments need not be revealed if you do not wish to have it considered as income.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for Purchases</b>	<b>1.99%</b> Introductory APR* for the first 6 statement closing dates following the opening of your account. After that, your standard APR will be <b>9.90%</b>
Platinum Visa	
Gold & Classic Visa	<b>12.92%</b> APR
<b>APR for Balance Transfers</b>	<b>1.99%</b> Introductory APR* for the first 6 statement closing dates following the opening of your account. After that, your standard APR will be <b>9.90%</b>
Platinum Visa	
Gold & Classic Visa	<b>12.92%</b> APR
<b>APR for Cash Advances</b>	<b>1.99%</b> Introductory APR* for the first 6 statement closing dates following the opening of your account. After that, your standard APR will be <b>9.90%</b>
Platinum Visa	
Gold & Classic Visa	<b>12.92%</b> APR
<b>How to Avoid Paying Interest on Purchases</b>	Your due date is at least 25 days after the close of each billing cycle. We will not charge you interest on purchases if you pay your entire balance by the due date each month.
<b>Penalty APR</b>	None
<b>Minimum Interest Charge</b>	None

For Credit Card Tips from the Federal Reserve Board go to [www.federalreserve.gov/creditcard](http://www.federalreserve.gov/creditcard)

Fees

<b>Annual Fee</b>	None
<b>Transaction Fees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance Transfer: None</li> <li>• Cash Advance: None</li> <li>• Foreign Transaction: 1% of transaction in US dollars</li> </ul>
<b>Penalty Fees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late Payment: Up to \$24, dependent upon your outstanding balance</li> <li>• Over-the-Credit Limit: None</li> <li>• Returned Payment: Up to \$15, dependent upon your outstanding balance</li> </ul>
<b>Other Fees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Card Replacement Fee: None</li> </ul>

**How We Will Calculate Your Balance:** We use a method called "average daily balance (including new purchases)."  
**Billing Rights:** Information on your rights to dispute transactions and how to exercise those rights is provided in your account agreement.  
 \* In the event of default, your introductory rate will convert to the standard rate

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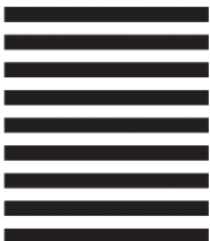
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MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION OF BALTIMORE, INC.  
 7 EAST REDWOOD STREET  
 BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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 NECESSARY  
 IF MAILED  
 IN THE  
 UNITED STATES



ATTN: TLC

## DID YOU KNOW THAT **SMALL BUSINESS** CAN BANK AT MECU?

That's right; just as we've been helping Baltimoreans with their personal finances for more than seven decades, MECU can now meet the needs of thousands of our members who operate or work for small businesses.

We offer a host of products to help your business become more successful, such as:

### **Business Platinum Visa® with Rewards**

- 1.99% APR for the first 180 days after account is opened, then...WSJ Prime + 5% (currently this equates to 8.25% APR) \*
- No annual fee
- Credit limits up to \$50,000

### **Business Vehicle Loans**

- No or low down payment
- Great rates, as low as 5.49% APR \*\*
- Rebate on interest paid

MECU vehicle loans for business have the same low rates as personal car loans. Buy or replace that vehicle today, avoid headaches later and take advantage of this great time to buy.

MECU Small Business Banking begins with great, individualized service. **Just call Frank Ciesla, at 443.263.4290 or e-mail at [business@mecu.com](mailto:business@mecu.com) to open an account.**

\* APR = annual percentage rate. Rates may be different as determined by the individual creditworthiness of each applicant. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate. Prime rate is obtained from the Wall Street Journal, currently it is 3.25%.

\*\* APR = annual percentage rate. APR includes .25% discount for automatic payment and assumes a 10% down payment. Offer subject to change at any time without notice.

## MECU'S CREDIT CARDS RECEIVE "SEAL OF **APPROVAL**"

The web site [www.creditcardconnection.org](http://www.creditcardconnection.org), as seen on Suze Orman, Oprah, Larry King, MSNBC, CNN and more, has recognized MECU for its fair and ethical credit card practices.

MECU is listed on the site's Dean's List and has a 5-star rating because:

- 1) Rates are under 18% (MECU's are 9.90% APR \* Platinum, 12.92% APR \* Gold and Classic)**
- 2) Late fees are under \$25**
- 3) No annual fees**
- 4) No balance transfer fees**
- 5) We don't charge penalty rates**

If you already have a MECU credit card, you know the value of using a credit union card instead of one from a big bank. If not, now's the time to apply. **Just complete and return the application on the previous page.**

Remember, MECU doesn't charge balance transfer fees. Consolidate your balances from your high rate, high fee cards on to your MECU Credit Card. You will pay off your balances faster.

\* APR = annual percentage rate.



## DROVE AWAY AND DIDN'T FINANCE WITH MECU?

Refinance now. Get a better car payment.  
And a \$100 gas card.\*



Refinance your auto loan 24/7. 1-800-373-2914 [www.MECU.com](http://www.MECU.com)





Want to see MECU in the community?  
Go to [www.youtube.com/mecutv](http://www.youtube.com/mecutv)

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BALTIMORE, MD

**Corporate Offices**

7 East Redwood Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

**Elmer Bernhardt Redwood Street Branch**

7 East Redwood Street, Baltimore, MD 21202  
Mon/Tues/Wed 8:30-4:30; Thu 9:00-4:30; Fri 8:30-5:30

**Fayette Remote Teller System**

401 East Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD 21202  
Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri 8:00-4:00; Thu 9:00-4:00

**Herman Williams Jr. Fallstaff Center Branch**

6814 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD 21215

**John T. O'Mailey Hamilton Center Branch**

2337 East Northern Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21214

**Charles L. Benton Jr. Westview Center Branch**

5910 Baltimore National Pike, Catonsville, MD 21228

Fallstaff/Hamilton/Westview Lobby: Mon-Thu 9-4; Fri 9-5:30; Sat 9-3  
Drive thru: Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri 7:30-5:30; Thurs 9-5:30; Sat 9-3

**Harry Deitchman PJM Business Center Branch**

312 North Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21201  
Mon-Wed 7:30-4; Thu 9-4; Fri 7:30-5:30; Sat 9-3

**Loch Ridge Center Branch**

8507 Loch Raven Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21286  
Lobby and Drive thru: Mon-Fri 12-7; Sat 9-3

**Dundalk Branch**

7220 Holabird Avenue, Dundalk, MD 21222  
Mon-Thu 9-4; Fri 9-5:30; Sat 9-3



Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency. Additional coverage provided through Excess Share Insurance Corporation to a combined total of at least \$325,000. Equal Housing Lender — We do business in accordance with Federal Fair Lending laws.

**HONEY, I SHRUNK THE PAYMENTS**



- ★ lower your monthly payments
- ★ put extra cash in your pocket
- ★ pay off high rate credit cards and loans

Are all those monthly bill payments shrinking your wallet? Why not shrink your payments instead!

	Here's how to shrink your payments	To learn more or apply:
<b>If you own your own home</b>	• Refinance your Mortgage and roll your other bills into the payment	- call (410) 823-3300 or (800) 730-7599 - apply online <a href="http://www.mecu.com">www.mecu.com</a>
	• Home Equity Line of Credit Home Equity Loan	- apply online at <a href="http://www.mecu.com">www.mecu.com</a> - visit any MECU office
<b>Other ways to shrink your payments</b>	• Personal Loan or Line of Credit • Share Collateral Loan	- call MECU's 24/7 lending line (800) 373-2914 - complete & mail the enclosed application
	• MECU's no annual fee, fixed-rate Credit Card	- call MECU's 24/7 lending line (800) 373-2914 - complete & mail the enclosed application