

CURRENCY



A Quarterly Publication of Novartis Federal Credit Union

WINTER 2016



Home Equity Loans Give You Room For Improvement

It's a tough choice for a homeowner:
Move into a new house, or improve the one you have.



It seems so easy to call a realtor and arrange a showing. But your current home has something no new home can offer – equity.

Home equity is on the rise, providing homeowners a ready financing source to turn home sweet home into home sweet dream home. On average, homeowners spend 18 months planning home improvements. It's time well spent; some renovations pay off better than others. Bathroom and kitchen renovations provide the greatest return, between 72% and 82%. Home office remodels hold the low end at 48%.

As you plan, look beyond your house to your neighborhood. Will renovations put you in a different league – and price range – than your neighbors? Also, keep in mind how long you'll be in your home. If you're going to fix it up and sell in six months, you'll get all the pain of remodeling and not much gain. But if you plan to live in your home more than three years, it makes economic sense to remodel.

Call our Loan Department at 973-947-1000, option 2 to help you calculate your equity and discuss your home equity loan options today.

IRA Contribution Deadline – April 15



For tax year 2015, the maximum IRA (individual retirement account) annual contribution limit is \$5,500. If you are age 50 or older at the end of the year you can make an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution for a total of \$6,500. You have until April 15, 2016 to make contributions for the 2015 tax year. Call our office at 973-947-1000, Option 3 to speak to a member service representative for more information or to open an IRA.

Tax Season is Here!



Direct Deposit your IRS refund check at the Credit Union. All you need is our Routing Number: **221278556** and your 4 or 5 digit account number (savings) or your checking account number. It's that simple to receive your refund safely and sooner!

Inside This Issue:

- Improve Your Home with A Home Equity Loan
- Lunch & Learn Seminars
- 69th Annual Meeting
- Scholarship Applications Available
- Preapproved Auto Loans
- Take Advantage of Online Services
- Holiday Closings

NOVARTIS
Federal Credit Union
www.NovartisFCU.org • info@NovartisFCU.org

Pre-Approve Your Way to a Better Car Deal

Before you set foot on the car lot, get preapproved for an auto loan at Novartis Federal Credit Union. Getting preapproved for a car loan means you'll know what kind of rate you'll pay, and what size loan you're qualified for.

Applications are available online at www.NovartisFCU.org, in our branches or we can mail, fax or email one to you. If you have questions about how much car you can afford, or how financing works, a Novartis FCU loan officer will be happy to help.

To apply for preapproval, you'll need to complete and submit the application along with proof of income.

Once you're preapproved, you'll receive a call from us and you can be on the way to the dealership to negotiate your best deal. Getting preapproved is a big advantage, as it shows car sales staff that you're a serious buyer. It also removes the pressure of negotiating financing contracts at the dealership, and allows you to focus your attention on finding the right vehicle. And, if you need another incentive, our low auto loan rates can get you on a faster track toward making your dream car a reality.

Call or stop into Novartis Federal Credit Union today. We're here to help with all of your vehicle loan needs.



Join Us for the 69th Annual Meeting

The Credit Union will hold its 69th Annual Meeting on March 23, 2016 at our main office located at 124 So. Ridgedale Avenue in East Hanover, NJ at 5:30 PM. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us. We will be serving refreshments and light appetizers and you'll have a chance to win a great door prize! We hope to see you there!

The Nominating Committee for the Novartis FCU has nominated the following individuals to be elected and serve as volunteers:

	Years on Board	Years on Committee
Board of Directors		
Mark Anderson	1	—
Maureen Crowe	16	14
Michael Hatolski	24	—
James Jon Lawton	—	4
Credit Committee		
Stephanie Nazario	—	—
Ruth White	—	4

Any member who wishes to run for a position on the Board of Directors or the Credit Committee may do so by submitting a petition for nomination. Each

petition must be signed by a minimum of 70 members of the Credit Union with the signature of the member, together with their printed name and the last 2 digits of their account number for verification. Any nomination by petition must be accompanied by a signed Certification from the nominee indicating they are agreeable to nomination and will serve, if elected, to the Board of Directors or Credit Committee of the Credit Union. Each nominee must also submit a *Statement of Qualifications* and biographical data with the petition. According to the By Laws of the Credit Union, there will be no nominations from the floor at the annual meeting and elections shall be by ballot. All nominations by petition must be filed with the Secretary of the Credit Union at least forty (40) days prior to the meeting.



At Your Service...



Surcharge-Free ATMs

NOVARTIS
Financial Planning Services

It's Free



Over 5,000 Shared Branches

Lunch & Learn Seminar Schedule for 2016

Sign Up Early as Seating is Limited!



Join us again in 2016 for our popular Lunch & Learn Seminars featuring our Financial Advisor Mary LaFerriere speaking on a variety of topics essential to everyone's financial wellbeing. Sessions are held the first Wednesday of the month at the Ridgedale Avenue office. Check our website and postings in our branches for the 2016 calendar.

Topics will include: Income for Life, Steering Toward Retirement with IRA's, Basic Estate Planning, Social Security and Weathering a Bear Market.

Sign up for any seminar by calling or emailing Sue Daniels at 973-947-1000 x103 or Ridgedale@NovartisFCU.org.

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ATTENTION: High School Seniors

2016 Scholarship Applications are Available Now

Novartis Federal Credit Union is taking part in the New Jersey Credit Union League's Youth Involvement Board's (YIB) 2015-2016 statewide Scholarship program. If you are a high school senior and a member of the Credit Union, you are eligible to apply!

The YIB scholarship is an award of up to \$1,000 to be paid jointly to the winning student and the student's chosen accredited educational institution. The applicant must be a member in good standing at Novartis Federal Credit Union and must be enrolled as a high school senior at the time of the application. Scholarship funds must be used for tuition only at an accredited educational institution (Community college, 4-year college, university, or vocational/technical school).

The judging of the entries will be performed by YIB volunteers and is based on academic performance, extracurricular activities, community service/involvement, references, and leadership roles. The application deadline is April 1, 2016.

Interested in applying? Visit www.NovartisFCU.org and click on the link for the scholarship application or contact Sandy Mullins at smullins@NovartisFUC.org to obtain an application. Fill out the application and return it to Ms. Mullins at the Ridgedale office by April 1, 2016. Good luck!



Dormant or Inactive Fees Explained

Any account experiencing no activity other than dividend postings for a period of one year and with a regular share balance below \$250.00 will be charged a dormant account fee of \$7.50 per quarter. Incorrect address fees of \$7.50 per statement will also be charged if you fail to notify the credit union when you move. The Board of Directors is asking that dormant and incorrect address accounts help subsidize the expense of maintaining their accounts so that we can continue to pay higher than market dividends and charge lower than market loan rates to our active members. Accounts that have balances over \$250.00, or Share Certificates, Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's), active Share Draft/Checking, Loans and Credit Cards will not be considered dormant unless returned mail is received. Activate your account today! We have great products and services to keep your account active. If you think your account is already in dormant status, it's never too late to get it up and running again! Stop by a branch to speak to one of our helpful Member Service Representatives today! *Let's keep our Credit Union working for everyone!*

The State of New Jersey requires the credit union to escheat dormant accounts after three years of incorrect addresses or being considered dormant. Please keep your accounts from falling into the above categories by notifying us of your current address when you move.



Save Time and Stay Secure With Our Online Services

Make a New Year's resolution to take advantage of all the convenient electronic services offered by Novartis Federal Credit Union.

e-CUPID

Online Banking lets you check balances, transfer funds, view history and retrieve statements

ARROW

Our bill pay service included with online banking to schedule and pay all of your bills

popmoney

Lets you send money to anyone, anytime with just an email or a mobile phone number

E-Statements

Secure delivery of your monthly or quarterly account statements

On Target Money Management

Consolidate all your accounts in one place

Mobile Banking

Access the Credit Union right from your smart phone with all of the services detailed above

Update Your Contact Information

Changed your email address? Have you recently moved or changed your phone number? If so, did you let us know about it here at the Credit Union? It is important for us to have your most current contact information so that we may keep you informed on matters regarding your account and knowledgeable about all the latest tools and products we have to offer. To update your information, contact any of our Member Service Representatives or visit a branch.

NOVARTIS Federal Credit Union

Loan Department

973.947.1000 – FAX: 973.947.0999

East Hanover Office (Bldg. 315)

One Health Plaza, East Hanover, NJ 07936
862.778.8160 – FAX: 973.781.6877

Parsippany Office

200 Kimball Drive, Parsippany, NJ 07054
973.503.8210 – FAX: 973.503.8213

Home Loan Department

877.885.4044 – FAX: 973.240.2201

Ridgedale Avenue Office

124 S. Ridgedale Avenue, East Hanover, NJ 07936

Suffern Office

25 Old Mill Road, Suffern, NY 10901

e-C.U.P.I.D. & A.R.R.O.W.

www.NovartisFCU.org

HOURS OF OPERATION

The Ridgedale Avenue Office is open Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; the Drive-Thru is open 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM.

The teller windows in East Hanover are open Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM for conducting financial transactions.

Other office hours can be found on our website at www.NovartisFCU.org – “about us”.

Member Service Representatives are available to answer questions and assist in loan processing in our Ridgedale and East Hanover offices from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS



Martin Luther King Day
Monday, January 18, 2016



President's Day
Monday, February 15, 2016

Ridgedale Branch – CLOSED
Campus Branch – OPEN