

Since 1953

# Coloramo

## Federal Credit Union

Same Name. Same Great Service!

Quarterly

## Newsletter

October 2010

**Main Office**  
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Grand Junction  
Colorado 81501

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se habla español

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Coloramo's mission is to build lifelong member relationships based on quality service, integrity, solid financial management and education.

## Mortgage rates are at historic lows!

If you're in the market to refinance your home or buy a new home, now is a great time to get a mortgage with Coloramo! Rates for a 30 year, fixed rate mortgage have been as low as 4.25% APR. Call or visit our website for the current rate and apply today!

Coloramo's Home Equity Line of Credit rates are as low as 4.00% APR!

This is a great way to use the equity in your home to consolidate your debt or complete your home improvement projects.

What rate is in your wallet? Another great value at Coloramo is our credit card! Our rates have been 13.9% APR for unsecured and 7.9% APR for a share secured card for over a decade!



Coloramo has NO Overlimit Fees on our credit cards AND

you get a 5 day grace period AFTER your due date before you get a late fee! 3/7 Does your card do that? Apply for Coloramo's Visa credit card today. Best of all, you call Coloramo if you have questions, not someone in a remote country!

**New Benefit For Coloramo Members!** – The next time you come in for a loan we want to reward you for being a Coloramo member! You will receive a 1/2 % discount on any new auto, personal, recreational vehicle, or utility trailer loan! Apply today!

**CURRENT  
AUTO  
LOAN  
RATES**  
are as low as  
**4.99% APR\***  
based on your credit.

\* APR = Annual Percentage Rate

## READ AND WIN!

Hidden within the text of this newsletter are at least two *italicized* birth dates. If you find your birth date in *italics* and are the first to call the credit union at 243-7280 and tell the receptionist, you've just won \$5 that we'll put in your account!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Get Your Seasonal Flu Shot at Coloramo

Interim Health Care will be coming to Coloramo to provide flu shots at 1pm on Friday, October 29th. The cost is \$25 and you will get a receipt for possible reimbursement with your health plan. If you have Medicare Part B or Rocky Mountain HMO, bring your card to receive your shot FREE! Flu shots are administered in the upper arm, so please wear clothing that may provide convenient access. No appointment needed. Just stop by our 28 Road location!



### Blood Drive

Coloramo is holding a St. Mary's Blood Drive on Friday, October 29th, from 2:30pm – 4:30pm in the St. Mary's Bloodmobile at our 516 28 Road location. Don't let Halloween vampires suck your blood! Give to St. Mary's first. You'll be giving blood in 1st class in a 37-foot, specially equipped, climate-controlled motor coach! You'll get a FREE mini physical! You'll find out your blood pressure, temperature, pulse rate, receive a FREE cholesterol screen and find out your blood type.

### CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MADE EASY WITH VISA

Coloramo offers Pre-Paid Gift Cards, perfect for the holidays! These are VISA gift cards and may be used anywhere VISA is accepted! These make great stocking stuffers. You may purchase the Pre-Paid Gift Cards in the amount of your choice, from \$25 to \$500. Get yours today and finish your Christmas shopping early!



## THE RUSH TO ROTH IRA CONVERSIONS IN 2010



Terri Hickman  
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

*Here's why 2010 represents a great year to make that move.*

**Income limits: gone.** If your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) was more than \$100,000, you couldn't do a Roth IRA conversion. In 2010, anyone with any MAGI can convert.

**Potential advantages: considerable.** Many have rolled old 401(k) assets into traditional IRAs. In 2010, they can convert them to Roths, which means:

- Tax-free growth (limitations and restrictions may apply)
- Tax-free withdrawals if considered qualified
- No minimum distribution once you turn 70½
- Eventual reduction in taxable estate

**Taxes: deferred.** If you convert in 2010, the taxes on the

conversion will be spread out over the 2011 and 2012 tax years.

**The non-deductible IRA option.** High-income taxpayers can't deduct their IRA contributions like the middle class can. If you don't qualify to make a deductible IRA contribution or a Roth contribution, the non-deductible IRA lets you make a permissible "end run" to build some assets that can "go Roth" in the near future.

**Why would Congress give IRA holders a break like this?** A LOT of cash will be pumped into the Roth IRA program, and that will result in a LOT of taxes (a short-term revenue boost).

**Ready for 2010?** In 2010, you will want to know about the changes in tax law affecting IRAs, other retirement savings vehicles, your estate and your investments. Come by Coloramo's Main Office and talk to Terri Hickman, who understands the coming rules modifications.

Securities and Insurance products offered through LPL Financial and its affiliates, Member FINRA/SIPC. Not NCUA Insured, No Credit Union Guarantee, May Lose Value

Fee Disclosure,  
effective August 15, 2010  
One Time Only Foreign Items  
Sent for Collection,  
Fee Varies by Item.

### HOW TO AVOID INACTIVITY FEES

Did you get charged with Coloramo's \$20 Inactivity Fee in September? We don't want to charge you the fee. We just want you to use your account with us! There are many ways to utilize your credit union. A member's account is considered 'active' by making at least one deposit every six months, using your checking account, having certificates, IRA's, loans, credit cards, Christmas Clubs, accounts for minors or by maintaining a balance of \$250 or more. Cashing checks against your account will NOT keep the account active! The posting of dividends does NOT count as activity. Accounts subject to this fee are those with no member activity occurring during the last six months. Inactivity fees are charged each September and March. Please understand that as a not-for-profit organization, we try to keep our costs low and this fee offsets the cost of printing and mailing statements to people who don't use their accounts or just use their accounts to cash checks. Because inactive accounts are also more susceptible to fraudulent activity, we try to keep the number of these accounts to a minimum. However, if you were charged and feel you got this fee in error, please contact a teller.

## Give yourself the gift of Skip-A-Payment!

Our Skip-A-Pay program has become quite a hit over the years. It's nice to have the option to defer a loan payment every once in awhile... especially around the holidays! The Skip-A-Payment option is available in November, December, or January. Take advantage of our Skip-A-Payment option on your Coloramo loan. As long as your loan is in good standing, is not a Visa, not secured by real estate, and you haven't asked for a payment to be skipped twice since last year's program, you may elect to skip your loan payment. There is a \$30 processing fee per loan. Yes, you may skip more than one loan... just make a copy of the coupon! You should receive the green Skip-A-Payment coupon in the mail over the next couple of weeks! It will have other specials, including the Christmas Loan Special! Return the completed coupon by mail, fax, or in-person at least one week before your due date in the month you wish to skip your payment. Our fax number is (970)242-6506. A loan officer will call you only if you are not eligible to skip a payment.

## Member Tips

Members! Beware of all the scams criminals come up with to strip you of your hard earned money. In these tough times, we can feel especially thankful when a financial miracle seemingly falls from the sky conveniently in our lap. However, be extra careful and do not disclose personal information to strangers.

Case in point. A man called and told our member he could settle his credit card debt for just \$5,000 and to make a \$235 monthly payment to him. This man also said he would make the payments for him and it wouldn't affect his credit! A) When you're current on your credit card, they're not going to simply settle for a smaller amount. B) The difference between the settlement and balance will reflect as a charge off on your credit for seven years! C) This man was not even associated with the credit card company, but called out of the blue. 12/16 Coloramo was able to convince the member to not send any more money to this man and keep paying on his credit card balance since it was still current.

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Coloramo is on your side. If you ever have any questions about the validity of a large check you receive in the mail with instructions to wire money back, from people you don't personally know... DON'T do it! Bring it to our attention and we will do what we can to protect you.