



# Winter 2024 Newsletter

## Avoid Scammers in the New Year!

310 Bloomfield Street  
Johnstown, PA 15904  
(814) 262-9117  
FAX (814) 262-0709

544 Vine Street  
Johnstown, PA 15901  
(814) 539-5697  
FAX (814) 535-4207

Toll Free (888) 473-2198

Mon-Thurs 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.  
Fri 8:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Night Drop and ATM at Both Locations



### Friendly Reminders:

Your Credit Union will be closed on the following days:

Monday, January 1  
New Years Day

Monday, January 15th  
Martin Luther King Jr Day

Monday, Feb. 19th – Presidents' Day

Friday, March 29th – Good Friday closing at Noon

### Four Signs That It's a Scam:

- Scammers PRETEND to be from an organization you know
- Scammers say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE
- Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately
- Scammers tell you to PAY in a certain way, i.e. Gift Cards

### How to Avoid a Scam

- Block unwanted calls and text messages
- Don't give personal or financial information in response to a request you didn't expect
- Resist the pressure to act immediately
- Know how scammers tell you to pay
- Stop and talk to someone you trust

### Report Scams to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

\*For more information, please visit the Federal Trade Commission website at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov>

**The Supervisory Committee is currently conducting their scheduled audit of VISA and student loan accounts. Please submit any account discrepancies to:**

Franklin Johnstown Federal Credit Union

Supervisory Committee

PO Box 5442

Johnstown, PA 15904

**\*\*Please DO NOT send deposits or payments to this address\*\***

# It's Tax Season Once Again!!!

As we once again prepare to file our taxes, there are a few things we would like you to remember:

**Please double check the account number you have listed for direct deposit on your tax return as many deposits come in with incorrect account numbers.**

**Only deposits for names listed on an account are eligible for deposit. All others will be returned as No Account/Unable to Locate Account.**

The IRS needs your help as well. Here are a few common sense suggestions that can make a big difference in warding off cybercriminals.

Always use security software with firewall and anti-virus protections. Make sure the security software is always turned on and can automatically update. Encrypt sensitive files such as tax records you store on your computer. Use strong passwords.

Learn to recognize and avoid phishing emails, threatening calls and texts from thieves posing as legitimate organizations such as your credit union, credit card company and even the IRS. Do **not** click on links or download attachments from unknown or suspicious emails.

Protect your personal data. Don't routinely carry your Social Security card, and make sure your tax records are secure. Treat your personal information like you do your cash, don't leave it lying around.

Give personal information only over encrypted websites – look for "https" addresses. Check out companies to find out who you are dealing with. (Taken from IRS.gov)

## Account Passwords

To help prevent fraud, effective January 1, 2024 any member who wishes to transact business by phone will be **REQUIRED** to establish a password on their account. Members must give us password requests in person or in writing with a signature. No password requests will be accepted by the phone. Thank you for your cooperation.

## CHILLY DAYS – CHILLY NIGHTS

It's still just down right COLD! Our "FUEL LOANS" are still available for your heating purposes through the end of February, 2024. You can apply for an amount of \$500 through \$2,500 at an annual percentage rate of 7.99%\* for a term of 12 months. A monthly payment on \$2,500 would be approximately \$217.43, while a payment on \$500 is around \$43.49. Proceeds will go directly to the fuel distributor. Call the Credit Union "Chill Busters" in our loan department for information and don't be left out in the cold.



\* **Certain terms and conditions apply. Based on credit. Rates subject to change.**

## Non-Sufficient Funds Policy

Addendum to Debit Card Policy November 15, 2011

Debit Card transactions are guaranteed funds to merchants, members can use their debit cards over their account balance before the new balance file is updated. This can cause their share/share draft accounts to be in the negative. To reduce the number of members abusing their debit cards, the members debit card will be closed/blocked 3 days after the account goes negative. If FJFCU approves re-opening the debit card account, the member will pay a **FEE** of \$25.00 to reopen/activate the card. The reissuing of the card is **NOT** automatically approved and the member will pay any other costs associated with the reissue of the debit card.

## Attention members who have or have had auto loans with us:

When you pay off your auto loan, if you could please make sure to contact your insurance company in order to **remove FJFCU** as the lien holder on that vehicle. We greatly appreciate it!

## Keep information current

If you have moved, please inform us. In order to better serve our members, the credit union needs to have updated and current member information on file. Due to the continued growth of identity theft, we will not accept verbal requests for an address change. All address changes not made in person at our credit union branches must be in writing and signed by the account holder. Signature verification will be done. Proof of your address change will also be required, if the request is in writing, such as a utility bill or other mail you receive at your new address.

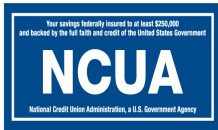
Please remember a \$5.00 fee will be charged for all returned mail.

## -Important-

YOUR CREDIT UNION WILL NEVER CONTACT YOU TO VERIFY INFORMATION THAT WE ALREADY HAVE ON FILE. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL OF YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS CORRECT. IF YOU RECEIVE A PHONE CALL OR EMAIL REQUESTING THIS INFORMATION BY INDIVIDUALS CLAIMING TO REPRESENT THE CREDIT UNION, DO NOT GIVE OUT ANY INFORMATION AND NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY!

### Loan Cancellation Fee

If you apply and are approved for a loan and then decide to cancel the loan (credit cards included), there is a \$30.00 loan cancellation



The Franklin Johnstown Federal Credit Union is a Not-For-Profit, member owned, financial organization dedicated to becoming the primary financial institution for our members. We strive to provide the highest quality of personal attention while maintaining stability and growth. We are ultimately committed to the credit union philosophy of:

### “Member Helping Member”

#### NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS WITH MORTGAGE LOANS

If you have a mortgage loan or home equity loan with us, please be sure to turn in a copy of your paid real estate tax and homeowner’s insurance receipts for 2023. This information is required for auditing purposes. If you haven’t sent us a copy yet, you will be receiving a notification in the mail. To those who have sent us the tax information, thank you



**Transfer Limits** Effective April 1, 2016 there is a \$7.50 fee each time you use your overdraft protection over the 6 free transfers. What this means is, if you look at your monthly statement and you see O/D TRANSFER FROM on your share (savings) account, this is an overdraft transfer. You are permitted six (6) free transfers per month and after that, you will be charged \$7.50 per transfer. If you are going to be using your checking (all debit card transactions with the exception of share (savings) withdrawals come out of the checking) put your money in the checking.

### State Law

Abandoned and unclaimed property state of repose (dormancy) is now three (3) years, previously five (5). This includes your accounts at the credit union. If there has been no activity on your account and we are unable to get in touch with you, we are required by law to turn these funds over to the state as unclaimed property after three (3) years. Be sure to keep your account active!

### Dormant Fees

Keep your share account from going dormant by making a deposit at least once a year. Dormant accounts that have a balance of less than \$100 are charged a \$3.00 monthly fee after one year with no activity. Post cards are sent each month to members who were charged the fee. If you receive a post card just come into the office and make even a small deposit and the fee will be reversed.