

THE CREDIT UNION COLUMN

ANNUAL SHRED DAY

It happens every year and I know it will happen next week. Inevitably a member will come in right after our annual shred day and ask "...when are you going to do it again?" It's convenient, it's beneficial and I know it's appreciated, but it also is not cheap, so once a year will have to do. Next Wednesday, April 17th, will be the day this year. It will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. No sooner and no later!

As I mentioned in an earlier column, please do not leave your shredding curbside early in the morning and leave. If there is no one in the parking lot, that means it hasn't started, so don't drop and leave. Only at the advice of a Credit Union staff member should you leave your shredding behind.

Also, as a reminder, items that cannot be shredded are plastic files, leather of any kind, three-ring binders, ink cartridges and compact discs of any kind. Please do not leave these types of items hoping that we will find another way to take care of them. If it can't be shredded, please dispose of it prior to bringing your other shredding to us.

NOT FOR PROFIT

The following is from the January 1991 Boulder Dam Credit Union Newsletter:

"Effective immediately, the charge for a check written against insufficient funds is \$20.00 per check. Your Credit Union does not charge a fee for regular account activity. But the cost and risk of loss is very high for funds drawn against insufficient or non-existent funds. For most of our members, this charge will be irrelevant because they never write bad checks. But for those who choose to write checks before they make a deposit, this fee change could prove very costly!"

It is now 2019 and the charge for NSF checks? \$20.00

At other financial institutions, those who can least afford fees are the ones who pay the most. Why add insult to injury. If \$20.00 was a deterrent in 1991, then it should be today. Any greater fee is done for the wrong reasons against those who can least afford it.

We are here to help, not to profit!

IT SOUNDED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE HOSPITAL

In today's era of fraud, identity theft, extensive social media, and privacy concerns, it has never been more important that you protect all your personal information and take all steps possible to make sure your identity is not confused with someone else.

As a result, what used to be done out of pride is now a considerable risk. Naming your kids exactly as you were named! The "II" after the name won't mean a thing. Take it from an institution that has seen dozens, if not hundreds of members' credit bureau information co-mingled with a son (the most frequent case) or daughter who were proudly named after their parents.

Worse yet, if you have a family fall-out in later years, it becomes easier for one family member to impersonate another in fraudulent activity (yes, we have witnessed this).

This confusion over combined information can cause your family years of headaches trying to sort out who is who in the public domain.

You may love your name, but give your children their own identity, and one that is easier to protect!

WORDS OF WISDOM

Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can't, and the other half who have nothing to say and keep on saying it.

- Robert Frost



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ACCOUNTS INSURED UP TO \$500,000



American Share Insurance insures each account up to \$250,000. Excess Share Insurance Corporation provides up to an additional \$250,000 of insurance per account. This institution is not federally insured.