

EnerGComm

Federal Credit Union

...Your Interest Come First

www.energcomm.org

Butte Office: 2100 Harrison Avenue • Butte, Montana 59701 • (406) 782-2139

July 2006

Colstrip Branch: 421 Willow • Colstrip, Montana 59323 • (406) 748-2324

Need Cash for College?

We have the answer for you

Do you need to set up your student with a new computer or cell phone? How about moving costs?

EnerGComm Federal Credit Union has a great cash loan special right now!

Loan Special

up to **\$5,000*** for

5.55% APR

Term for 2 years*

Give us a call @ 1-800-735-6816 or (406) 782-2139. Special ends August 31st.

If cash isn't the answer how about a Student Loan? We've got the loan for you.

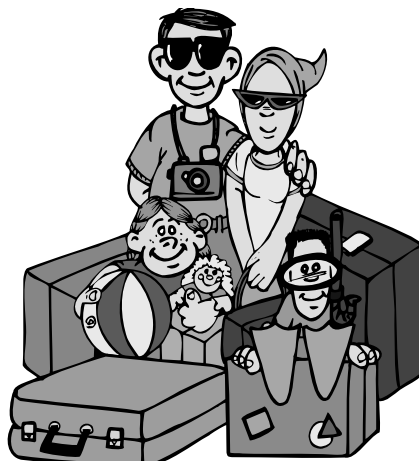
Let us help you plan for the future. Contact EnerGComm today!

*For a \$5,000 loan at 5.55% over two years, the payment would be \$220.63. Maximum loan amount \$5,000. New money only.



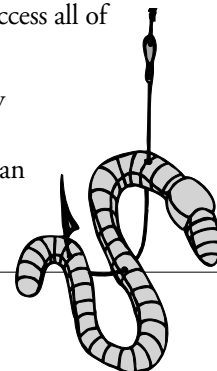
So Much Family Fun, So Little Money

A lot has changed in the world of kid-friendly, affordable vacations. Today, there are boundless ways families can vacation together at reasonable rates.



A growing number of airlines, resorts, cruise lines, theme parks, entertainment centers, restaurants, and sports facilities have responded with discounts to attract families. Here are a few tips to consider:

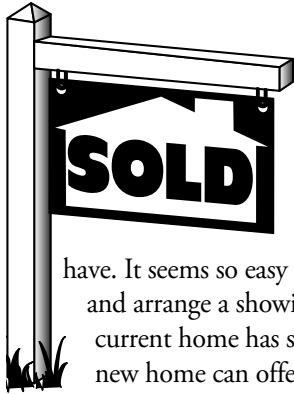
- Travel off-season and you may cut the cost of your trip in half.
- Don't forget about using frequent flyer miles for free family travel.
- Did you know most airlines offer half-price seats for children younger than two? You may be able to use an unsold (free) seat for your toddler if you book your flight during an off-peak time when the flight is less apt to be full.
- How do you find reasonably priced airfare/resort packages? Ask your travel agent and check airlines' Web sites.
- The best lodging deals are where kids (usually under 12) dine free, have connecting rooms with parents for free or half price, and can access all of the resort's children's programs at no charge.
- Meals can be one of the costliest spending areas during a family vacation. The key is to bring along food that doesn't need refrigeration Or try to book a place with a kitchenette so you can prepare your own meals.



Phishing Alert: Don't Take The Bait

If you get an e-mail that looks like it's from us or from another financial institution and it asks for your Social Security number, account number for verification, login ID, or password, don't take the bait. It's not legitimate it's phishing and it's fraud. Report it to us or to the affected financial institution, then delete it.

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. Over the past 10 years, home equity loans have skyrocketed with Americans borrowing more than \$500 billion.

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 90% and 95%. Decks and home offices hold the low end: between 65% and 70%.

As you plan, keep in mind how long you'll be in your house. 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 the house more than three years, it makes economic sense to remodel.

Call EnerGComm Federal Credit Union at 1-800-735-6816, to discuss your home equity loan options today.

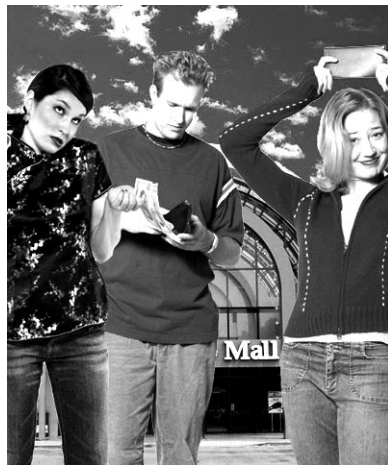


MT Students' Financial Literacy Above Average *Jump\$tart Survey Examines Money Management Knowledge*

Montana high school seniors correctly answered over half of the questions in a personal finance survey conducted nationwide for the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy.

On average, students in Montana answered 54.4 percent of the questions correctly. This topped the 2006 national average score of 52.4 percent, which itself was up somewhat from national average scores of 52.3 percent in 2004, 50.2 percent in 2002, and 50.9 in 2000. 2006 was the first year in which results were available for Montana students.

The results were part of Jump\$tart's 2006 nationwide survey measuring high school seniors' level of knowledge of personal finance basics and comparing these to the results from similar surveys conducted in 2004, 2002, 2000 and 1997 by the coalition.



In all but one category, Montana participants scored higher than the national average. This is very encouraging, however, an overall average score of just over 50 percent indicates that there is a significant need for financial education for students. A good understanding of personal finance and money management is a fundamental life skill. While the continuing expansion and diversification of financial services and products offers more

options and opportunities for consumers, education about these new products and services has not kept pace. As a result, we see growing debt, lower savings rates, and more financially destructive behaviors. Financial education is key for ensuring our young people are empowered, not victimized, in the financial marketplace.

For more information about Jump\$tart and its biennial survey visit www.jumpstart.org in the "News" section.



We'll Send You Places

Whether by train, plane, or automobile, your credit union can help you get to the vacation destination of your dreams. If you've always wanted to ski in Colorado or relax on the beach in Hawaii, we can get you there.

Travel experts say they see no signs that Americans are trading down to cheaper vacations. Your credit union offers low rates and easy repayment options on vacation loans that won't deplete your savings or your paycheck.

Holiday Closures

July 4

Independence Day

September 4

Labor Day