

REMODELING MAY BE MORE AFFORDABLE THAN YOU THINK

## Let Your Home Pay the Tab

**W**e can help you use the equity in your home to fund improvements

2

PLAN FOR A GOLDEN RETIREMENT WITH AN IRA

3

YOU'LL SCORE WITH 4.99% APR ON BALANCE TRANSFERS



Sprucing up your home not only increases its value but also makes it more marketable when you choose to sell. Even if you don't plan on moving, improving your home will create a more livable space for your family to enjoy.

You may think you don't have room in your budget for improvements, but we offer home equity loans and home equity line plans at rates that make your remodeling projects affordable. Starting as low as 5.50%<sup>1</sup>, our fixed rate home equity loans feature terms of 5, 7, 10 or 15 years. Home equity financing offers tax

advantages<sup>2</sup>, and with our closing cost credit of up to \$500, most borrowers won't pay any closing costs! Even if you currently have a mortgage and home equity loan with NWFCU, you may still have some untapped equity that you'll want to take advantage of at today's low rates.

The chart below estimates the average costs of today's popular remodeling projects and what your monthly payment would be at the given rates/terms. All you need to decide is which improvement you'd like to make and the amount of equity you'll need to tap into to get the job done. Then, once you're ready to apply, visit [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org) or speak with a mortgage professional at 703-709-8921 (1-866-709-8921 toll-free), Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm.

Read more about home equity financing at [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org). Search: Home Equity Loans



<sup>1</sup> Rate current as of 3/1/08 and subject to change without notice.  
<sup>2</sup> Consult your tax advisor.

### CAST YOUR VOTE

Ballots for the 2008 NWFCU Annual Election will be mailed out this month. Remember to cast your ballot for the three vacancies on our Board of Directors by voting online, through the mail or at any branch. Election ballots are due by Mon., Apr. 7.

### You CAN Afford to Make Home Improvements

IMPROVEMENT	AVERAGE COST*	LOAN AMOUNT	RATE <sup>1</sup> & TERM	EST. MONTHLY PAYMENT**
Bathroom (mid-range)	\$11,000-\$15,000	\$15,000	5.500%, 5yr	\$287
Kitchen Countertops (Corian or Granite)	\$3,600-\$11,000	\$11,000	6.000%, 7yr	\$161
Deck (25'x25')	\$16,000-\$25,000	\$25,000	6.625%, 10yr	\$285
Garage (two-car; detached)	\$13,000-\$47,000	\$47,000	6.875%, 15yr	\$419

\*Approximate average cost for professional installation according to articles posted on [www.costhelper.com](http://www.costhelper.com).

\*\*Monthly payments are for illustrative purposes only. Rates for 5, 7, and 10-year loans are based on 90% loan to value ratio (LTV); 15-year rate is based on 80% LTV. Speak with an NWFCU mortgage representative for an official estimate.

MAKE YOUR RETIREMENT YEARS GOLDEN

# Secure Your Future with a Northwest Federal IRA

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

CACI

Precision Communication & Technology

Citizen

Technical Analysis Center (TAC)

**Y**ou may need up to 85% of your current income to maintain a comfortable standard of living during retirement.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### All About Reverse Mortgages

Sat., Mar. 8 (9:00am-11:00am)  
Enterprise Bldg., Herndon  
Register at [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org)  
or call 703-709-8900, ext. 5040

### NWFCU Election Ballots Mailed

Mar. 10-Mar. 12

### Finding & Financing a Home in Today's Market

Sat., Mar. 29; Sat., Apr. 26;  
Sat., May 17  
(9:00am-11:00am)  
Enterprise Bldg., Herndon  
Register at [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org)  
or call 703-709-8921,  
option 7

### Credit Union Miracle Day Odyssey Cruise to Benefit Children's Miracle Network

Sat., Apr. 5  
3:30pm-5:30pm  
Purchase tickets (while  
supplies last) at  
[www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org) or call  
703-709-8900, ext. 6607.

### Election Ballots Due

Mon., Apr. 7

### NWFCU Annual Meeting

Sat., Apr. 12 (10:00am)  
Westin Tysons Corner Hotel

### Credit Union Youth Week

Apr. 21- Apr. 26

### Member Appreciation Day & Shred-it Truck

Sat., Apr. 26 (9:00am-Noon)  
Enterprise Bldg., Herndon



Even if you participate in a 401(k) plan, supplementing your portfolio with an IRA is a good idea. Credit Union IRAs offer tax benefits, the power of compounding, and they're secure—federally insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration.

We offer both Traditional and Roth IRAs, each with competitive rates, no minimum contribution requirements and no maintenance fees. You'll enjoy a tax break this year by investing in a Traditional IRA; or, invest in a Roth IRA and save on taxes when you retire.

**It's not too late to make an IRA contribution for the 2007 tax year.** The deadline is April 15, 2008 and most investors can contribute up to \$4,000. (If you're over age 50, you can contribute \$5,000.)

### 2008 Savers will benefit from increased contribution limits this year.

The maximum yearly contribution will increase to \$5,000, and people who will reach age 50 before the end of the year can contribute \$6,000—the highest amount ever allowed by law.

To decide which type of IRA is right for you, visit [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org) and click on 'Tools & Education' to help guide you. Then, download the application from our website and return it by mail or drop it off at any branch. If you have questions, contact our IRA Specialist Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm at 703-709-8900 ext. 6289 (1-866-336-3384 toll-free).

Read more about how you can save for retirement at [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org). Search:

*Now Accepting Applications*

### APPLY TODAY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

The NWFCU Foundation is accepting applications for its 2008 scholarship program. Fifteen Ben DeFelice scholarships will be awarded to students who exemplify leadership, dedication and commitment in school, at home and within the community—qualities exemplified by Mr. DeFelice who devoted 40 years of service to Northwest Federal Credit Union and its subsidiary, Northwest Financial LLC (NWF).

For an application and eligibility requirements on the scholarships administered by the Foundation, visit [www.nwfcufoundation.org](http://www.nwfcufoundation.org) and click on 'Programs'. Applications will be accepted online only and must be received by April 15, 2008.

SOUNDS TOO GOOD, BUT IT'S TRUE

# You'll Score with 4.99% APR<sup>1</sup> on Balance Transfers and No Transfer Fees

**W**hen most lenders make a too-good-to-be-true offer, it usually is. At NWFCU, we don't play games.



NWFCU delivers what we promise: a great opportunity! Through March 31 we're giving you a chance to transfer balances from your high-rate bank and retail credit cards to your NWFCU Visa Platinum or Travel Rewards Gold MasterCard and pay just 4.99% APR until the transferred balance is paid in full.

Consolidate your debt into one convenient monthly payment. Save money and pay off your debt sooner with no strings attached. And remember, most credit card companies offer a great balance transfer offer with a catch: a 3% fee. That translates to a cost of \$150 to transfer a \$5,000 balance. Our fee? Zero.

If you don't have an NWFCU credit

card yet, apply today at [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org) or call 703-709-8901 or 1-866-709-8901 (toll-free). Choose our variable rate Visa Platinum, featuring a low rate of just Prime<sup>2</sup> + 3%. Or select our Travel Rewards Gold MasterCard and, with every purchase you make, you'll earn points that you can redeem for airfare or cash. Members between the ages of 15-22 can opt for the FirstCard Visa Platinum, featuring a low fixed-rate and no annual fee. Whichever card you choose, you won't pay a fee for balance transfers!

Already carry an NWFCU credit card in your wallet? Visit [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org) to download, complete and return the balance transfer request form. If you need a higher credit limit to consolidate your debt, complete an online application, call us at 703-709-8901 (1-866-709-8901 toll-free) or stop by a branch.

Hurry! Balance transfer requests must be completed by March 31, 2008 to qualify for 4.99% APR for life of the transferred balance.

<sup>1</sup> APR – Annual Percentage Rate on balance transfers current as of 3/1/08.  
<sup>2</sup> Prime Rate is based on the *Wall Street Journal* Prime Rate listing on the last business day of the month.

Learn more about our Visa and MasterCard benefits at [www.nwfcu.org](http://www.nwfcu.org). Search:



## Your Feedback Matters

### MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY

If you received our biennial questionnaire in the mail recently, we encourage you to complete and return it today. Every response is critical to our analysis, and your input will be used to shape our future.

## UPCOMING SEMINAR

### MANAGING RETIREMENT INCOME

Thurs., Mar. 13  
(5:30pm–7:00pm)

This seminar, presented by Northwest Financial LLC, reviews the important factors of managing post-retirement income, including length of retirement (number of retirement years to fund), sources of retirement income, and investment strategies for managing retirement income. To register, visit [www.nwffllc.com](http://www.nwffllc.com); contact [contact@nwffllc.com](mailto:contact@nwffllc.com); or call 703-810-1072, ext. 109.

Advisory services, securities and insurance products offered through LPL Financial and its affiliates. Member FINRA/SIPC. Not NCUA insured. No credit union guarantee. May lose value.

## WE'RE EXPANDING TO BETTER SERVE YOU

**NWFCU will be opening a brand new branch in Manassas, VA (Liberia Avenue & Signal Hill) in late 2008. Stay tuned for more details.**

## CREDIT UNIONS FOR KIDS PLUSH DOLLS

**Purchase a pair of adorable *Credit Unions for Kids* dolls for the children in your life and help a child in need. All proceeds go to Children's Miracle Network. For details, stop by a branch or visit [www.nwfcufoundation.org](http://www.nwfcufoundation.org).**

