

2

- ELECTRONIC IS ECO-FRIENDLY
- NEW RULES FOR 2010 ROTH CONVERSIONS

3

- LAYOFFS...HOW VISTERRA CU CAN HELP
- CAN YOU GO IT ALONE FOR THREE DAYS?

4

- INTRODUCING SPRINT NEXTEL

1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2010

# views & news

MORENO VALLEY • CORONA • MURRIETA • RIVERSIDE

## advantages of

### VISTERRA CREDIT UNION'S CREDIT CARD



Does your credit card do what's right for you, even when no one is watching?

Does your credit card give you:

- **A low interest rate?**
- **Easy to understand terms?**
- **No hidden fees?**
- **And no tricky accounting that forces you to pay more interest and fees than you should have to?**

The Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 was designed to make other financial institutions do what Visterra CU has been doing all along — operating in consumers' best interest. According to the New York Times, credit union credit cards are the ones other credit card providers should emulate.

So, why are you carrying around those other credit cards from issuers that so mismanaged your trust that the government was forced to make them do the right thing for you?

Call us today at **888.696.2724** or apply online at **www.visterracu.org** and we'll get you started on a credit card that already has:

**Low Fees**

**Reasonable Grace Periods**

**Reward Options**

**Great Member Service**

After all, credit unions have been doing the right thing for their members all along... even when no one was watching.



*Where it all comes together.*

## ELECTRONIC IS eco-friendly

As you manage your money, using online technology gives the environment some needed help—and helps you save time and the money you're managing. It may not seem significant, but when you look at the number of financial transactions you make each month, multiplied by the number of people doing the same thing... it adds up.

When you need a loan, if driving to Visterra Credit Union isn't convenient, consider searching our rates online and applying via our website at [www.visterracu.org](http://www.visterracu.org). Applying online saves trees as well as gasoline.

Opt to receive e-statements via e-mail each month instead of mailed paper statements. Use our FREE Online Banking service to check balances and transfer funds between accounts. And when you pay bills, use our FREE Online Bill Payer. It saves paper and uses less energy since there's no need to create and deliver a paper invoice. Sign up for e-services at [visterracu.org](http://visterracu.org). It's safe, secure, and easy to do!

Since we only have one planet Earth, we all benefit from making eco-friendly choices. Did you know if every Visterra CU member opted to use e-statements instead of paper statements, we could save 1.9 million pieces of paper each year, that's 228 trees! If you're not using electronic services, check out what's offered. If you're unsure how to use our website, call **888.696.2724** and a Credit Union Representative will be happy to walk you through it—you can set up most electronic services with just a few clicks.

**SIGN-UP  
TODAY!**



## NEW RULES FOR 2010 roth conversions MAY HELP YOU SAVE ON TAXES

Many investors are familiar with the traditional IRA – an individual retirement account or annuity that provides a tax-deferred way to save for retirement. But many people are not aware of the Roth IRA alternative, an option that offers the potential for tax-free savings. Many are also not aware of the ability to convert a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, to take advantage of the Roth IRA's unique benefits. In the past, there were income limits that kept many traditional IRA owners from converting to a Roth. But beginning in 2010, the rules changed.

### No income limits for Roth conversions starting in 2010.

Before 2010, conversions from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA were available only for those making \$100,000 or less in modified adjusted gross income (MAGI). Beginning in 2010, though, the income limit goes away and everyone is eligible. Not only that, for conversions done in 2010, the taxes due when switching to a Roth IRA can be deferred and spread across two years – 2011 and 2012. For those considering a Roth conversion, that could provide real advantages.

For more information about the new rules for Roth conversions in 2010 contact Darren York, the Members Financial Services Representative, located at Visterra Credit Union at 951.656.4411 ext. 8732.

Representatives are registered, securities are sold and investment advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor, 2000 Heritage Way, Waverly, Iowa 50677, toll-free 866.512.6109. **Non-deposit investment and insurance products are not federally insured, involve investment risk, may lose value and are not obligations of or guaranteed by the financial institution.** CBSI is under contract with the financial institution, through the financial services program, to make securities available to members.

## layoffs... HOW YOUR CREDIT UNION CAN HELP

As many sectors of the economy struggle, credit union members may find their families affected by layoffs. If you see a layoff in your future, or have already received a pink slip, let the representatives at Visterra Credit Union lend a hand. Unlike other financial institutions, your credit union is a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative. That means your financial health is our primary concern. Ask us about how you can protect your collateral and credit rating with our Family Choice Loan Protection program.

Working together, we may be able to:

- Help you access community resources. You'll find agencies ready and able to give you the planning, networking, and emotional support you need.
- Consolidate your high-interest debts into one manageable loan.
- Set up a line of credit to tap into the equity in your home if that becomes necessary.

## CAN YOU go it alone FOR THREE DAYS?

Most Californians live near an active earthquake fault. The first 72 hours after an earthquake are critical. Electricity, gas, water, and telephones may not be working. In addition, public safety services such as police and fire departments will be busy handling serious crises. You should be prepared to be self-sufficient—able to live without running water, electricity and/or gas, and telephones—for at least three days following a quake. To do so, keep on hand in a central location the following:

- **Food.** Enough for 72 hours, preferably one week.
- **Water.** Enough so each person has a gallon a day for 72 hours, preferably one week.
- **First aid kit.** Make sure it's well stocked, especially with bandages and disinfectants.
- **Fire extinguisher.** Your fire extinguisher should be suitable for all types of fires.
- **Flashlights with extra batteries.** DO NOT use matches or candles after an earthquake until you are certain there are no gas leaks..
- **Portable radio with extra batteries.** Most phones will be out of order or limited to emergency use. The radio will be your best source of information.
- **Extra blankets, clothing, shoes and money.**
- **Alternate cooking sources.** Store a barbecue or camping stove for outdoor camping.
- **Special items.** Have at least a week's supply of medications and food for infants and those with special needs. Don't forget pet food.
- **Tools.** Have an adjustable or pipe wrench for turning off gas and water.

Some things you can do, perhaps with help from your employer's human resources department:

- Take a look at your health insurance policy so you'll know what to expect. (COBRA coverage offers temporary health insurance benefits so you can maintain health coverage at group rates.)
- File for unemployment benefits as soon as you receive word that you're out of work.
- Weigh your needs and establish priorities before making any purchase, and rank-order expenses to be sure you're paying the most important bills first.

If you're one of the many Americans directly affected by an economic downturn, call on us for help. We'll help you take a look at your budget and review your debt situation. You even may be able to make interest-only payments on your Visterra CU loans until things look brighter. For more information on how we may be able to help, visit [www.visterracu.org](http://www.visterracu.org) and click on the Financial Assistance page.

And remember: When things get tough, Visterra Credit Union is here to help.



# information CENTER

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

New Year's Day	Friday, January 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, January 18
President's Day	Monday, February 15
Memorial Day	Monday, May 31
Independence Day	Sunday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 6
Columbus Day	Monday, October 11
Veteran's Day	Thursday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 25
Christmas Day	Saturday, December 25

**Moreno Valley Branch:** 23540 Cactus Ave.

**Moreno Valley  
Stoneridge Branch:** 27130 Eucalyptus Ave.  
Suite E

**Corona Branch:** 650 S Lincoln Ave.  
Suite 101

**Murrieta Branch:** 25040 Hancock Ave.

**Riverside Branch:** 8543 Indiana Ave.

www.visterracu.org • mbrsvcs@visterracu.org

## HOURS

	Lobbies	Moreno Valley Branch only Drive-Up
Mon-Thurs	9am - 5pm	8am - 6pm
Friday	9am - 6pm	8am - 7pm
Saturday	9am - 2pm	8am - 2pm

No Real Estate or Call Center on Saturdays.

**Telephone Hours:** Mon - Friday, 8:30am - 6pm  
951-656-4411  
800-755-2347 or  
888-696-2724

**Fax:** 951-656-2119

**All mail should be addressed to:**  
Visterra Credit Union  
P.O. Box 9500  
Moreno Valley, CA 92552-9500

Have you received unsurpassed service from one of our staff members? If so, we'd greatly appreciate you taking a moment or two to drop us a line, or email us at [visterracu@visterracu.org](mailto:visterracu@visterracu.org). You may also fax us at 951-697-4505. Be assured, your comments are shared with the appropriate staff member and his or her supervisor. Given your okay, whenever possible, we enjoy including such compliments in our quarterly newsletters.

Views & News is published by Visterra Credit Union. The articles and opinions in this publication are for general information only and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. We suggest you consult your attorney, accountant, financial or tax advisor with regard to your individual situation. The first \$250,000 of deposits are federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. government agency. Special loan promotions not available for refinancing or payment of existing Visterra Credit Union loans, and applicable to qualified borrowers only. All terms, rates and yields are subject to change without notice. You agree to abide by all terms and disclosures, which the Credit Union may send you. Equal Opportunity Lender. The Credit Union may provide information about products and services available to members from other sources. However, it does not warrant, or accept liability for, the actions, products or services of others. APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APR = Annual Percentage Rate.

# INTRODUCING sprint nextel

Great wireless discounts are now within reach! Sprint offers phones, PDAs, push to talk, data service plans, music downloads, TV and more. Now, Visterra Credit Union members can benefit from the **Sprint Nextel** Credit Union Member Discount Plan:

- 10% off most regularly priced Sprint Nextel service plans
- 15% off most corporate liable wireless plans
- Waived activation fee on all new lines
- Waived upgrade fee
- Nationwide coast-to-coast coverage
- National rates with no roaming and long distance charges
- Existing Sprint Nextel customers can also save



Call **877.SAVE.4.CU** (877.728.3428) and tell them you're a **"Credit Union Member"**

Ask to be attached to the NACUC Corporate ID or visit **www.SprintSave4CU.com** or go to the nearest Sprint store.

If you're an existing customer please visit: **www.sprint-discount.com** and under **"Company/Organization Name"** enter: **Credit Union Member**



*Where it all comes together.*

[www.visterracu.org](http://www.visterracu.org)

