



# Michigan First MoneyWise

Summer 2016

## Introducing...Michigan First Insurance Agency

**Need insurance? We have you covered!** Michigan First Insurance Agency, our full-service agency, is offering convenience, reliability and savings on the insurance policies you need to protect you and your family. We've partnered with large, well-known insurance companies to save you time and money. We'll do the research, present you with the best options and you make the final decision. Here's how we can help you:

- **Vehicle** – covering cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, RVs and recreational vehicles.
- **Property** – guarding you, your family and valuables against fire, theft and other disasters.
- **Business** – helping protect your growing bottom line and future.
- **Renters** – leasing or renting a home, condo or apartment? We'll help protect your belongings against fire, theft and other disasters.
- **Personal** – providing life, vision, dental, pet, travel and more to cover you and your family.



The more policies you have, the more you'll save, so feel free to ask for multiple quotes!

For a free, no obligation quote, call **844.788.0818** or visit **MichiganFirst.com**.

### Hours of operation:

- **Monday through Friday** – 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- **Saturday** – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Average savings  
is **\$558**  
per year.\*



*\*Average Savings figure is a national average savings number from the previous 12 months of auto, homeowner, and packaged policyholders' savings per customer when compared to the policyholders' former premiums. Individual premiums and savings will vary.*

*Michigan First Insurance Agency, LLC is a subsidiary of Michigan First Credit Union. Business conducted with Michigan First Insurance Agency, LLC is separate and distinct from any business conducted with Michigan First Credit Union. Insurance products are not issued by or guaranteed by Michigan First Credit Union.*

## We Need Your Votes!

WDIV Detroit is hosting the Vote 4 the Best contest and we're in the running! Help Michigan First win the top spot again by voting for us daily at **4thebest.clickondetroit.com**. We're under credit unions in the financial category. Thank you for voting!



## Preparing Your Finances for Home Buying

If you've been looking for a new house or are a first-time home buyer, you may have experienced some challenges during your search. A recent article from TheMReport.com, a mortgage banking publication, states some homebuyers are facing a limited housing inventory, which can make it difficult to find the ideal property. Low inventory levels can also lead to potential bidding wars, which can prolong the process or force buyers to search for a different home.

Another issue is affordability, and some buyers might be having trouble finding the right home at a price point within their budget. While inventory levels and home prices are not something you can control, you can review your finances to ensure you're ready to act quickly when you find the perfect home. Here are some tips:

- **Get pre-qualified before you start house hunting** – This means you'll know how much home you can afford and which mortgage program(s) best fits your needs.
- **Know your personal finances** – Reviewing finances prior to talking with a lender can help speed up the process when you seek financing to buy a home.
- **Understand all the costs involved with a new mortgage** – While your monthly payment is a vital part of your mortgage, you'll also be responsible for insurance, property taxes and lender fees, which your lender will help you understand.

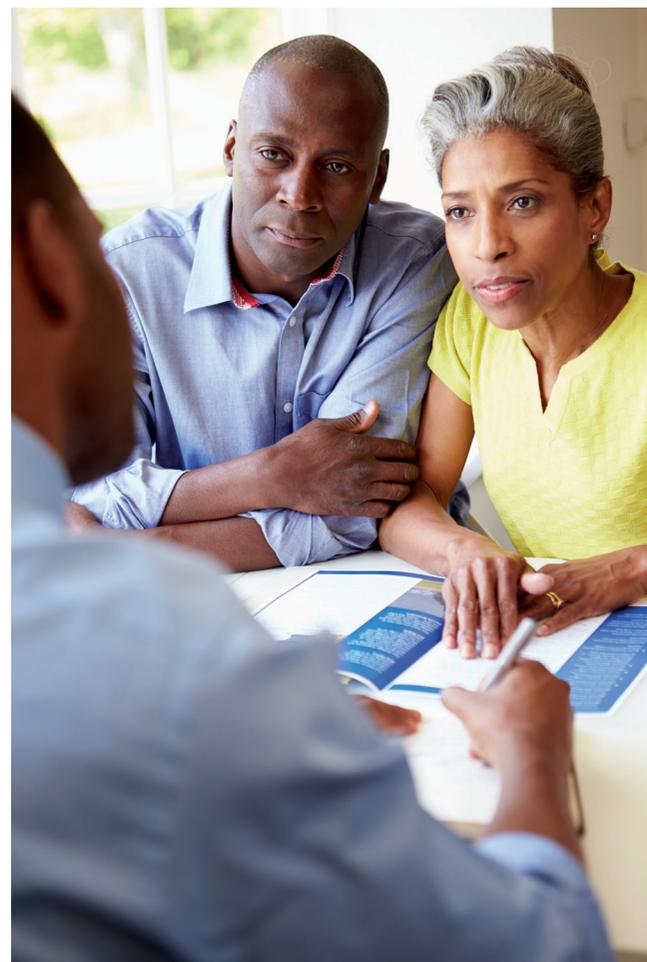
If you're thinking of buying a home, or looking to refinance your mortgage, Michigan First Mortgage is here to help. Call us at **877.312.9033** or visit **MichiganFirstMortgage.com**.

For additional home buying and mortgage tips, visit **MichiganFirstMortgage.com/blog**.



## Reach Financial Goals with Guidance from Accel

At Michigan First, we understand using credit or managing debt can be overwhelming at times. To help you navigate financial decisions with ease, we've partnered with GreenPath Financial Wellness, a non-profit organization, to offer members free financial counseling through GreenPath's Accel program. To take advantage of this membership benefit or to learn more, visit **MichiganFirst.com** or call **877.332.2235**.



# Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Educational Seminars

The following seminars will be held at 27000 Evergreen Rd., in Lathrup Village:

■ **Maximizing Your Social Security Benefits**  
Wednesday, September 7, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
*Presented by Jamie Russell, Advisor*  
*Michigan First Wealth Management Group*

■ **Basics of Estate Planning**  
Wednesday, September 21, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
*Presented by Deborah Lampar, Attorney*  
*Planning for Your Future, PLLC*

The following seminar will be held at 21650 Gratiot in Eastpointe:

■ **Basics of Estate Planning**  
Wednesday, October 5, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
*Presented by Deborah Lampar, Attorney*  
*Planning for Your Future, PLLC*

For additional information or to register, please visit [MichiganFirst.com/Seminars](http://MichiganFirst.com/Seminars) or call Member Services at 800.664.3828 and then press zero.



## Discounted Cedar Point® Tickets for Thrill Seekers!

Are you brave enough to ride Valravn™, Cedar Point's latest rollercoaster? If you plan to visit the park to check out the new ride and other attractions, purchase discounted tickets through Michigan First before you hit the road! You can buy tickets at our Evergreen, Wyoming, Gratiot, Wayne or New Center Branches. Tickets can also be purchased online\* at [cedarpoint.com/affiliates](http://cedarpoint.com/affiliates).

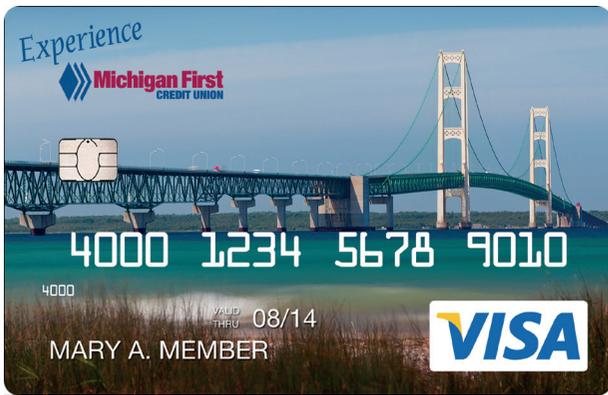
\*Enter username: MICHIGANFCU and password: mfcu2016



## Hot Loan Rates to Help You Cruise through Summer

From Saugatuck to Southfield, most Michiganders love enjoying summertime in our Great Lakes state. If traveling in an RV is one of your favorite ways to experience summer, you're not alone. NPR recently reported that RV sales are on the rise, which is likely related to low interest rates and gas prices. If you're thinking of purchasing an RV, call Michigan First at 866.933.6333 for details about our competitive loan rates! We can also help you with loans for all summer toys:

- Auto
- Boats
- Motorcycles
- Jet Skis
- ATVs



## New EMV Chip-enabled Credit Cards

Michigan First is scheduled to start issuing EMV chip-enabled credit cards in July. Replacement cards may have new expiration dates and security codes on the back. If any of your card information changed, please update the card data on your automatic payments and the websites you shop to reflect the new card.

If you have any questions, please stop by a Michigan First branch or call 365 Live anytime at **800.664.3828**.



365 Live Call Center:  
**800.664.3828**  
Call us 24 hours a day,  
7 days a week, 365 days a year

24-Hour Loan Center:  
**866.933.6333**

 [MichiganFirst.com](http://MichiganFirst.com)

 [MichiganFirst.com/Facebook](http://MichiganFirst.com/Facebook)

 [MichiganFirst.com/Twitter](http://MichiganFirst.com/Twitter)

 [MichiganFirst.com/YouTube](http://MichiganFirst.com/YouTube)

Michigan First Credit Union is  
federally insured by the National  
Credit Union Administration.

Routing & Transit Number: 272078365



NMLS#493687  
NMLS#130329

## Thank You for Hitting the Greens!

Our annual Raymond Dudus Memorial Golf Outing was held on Monday, June 6, and we'd like to thank all of the participants and those who donated to the event. \$60,000 was raised for the Michigan First Foundation and Lathrup Village Community Foundation! Funds benefiting the Michigan First Foundation are used for our yearly Young & Free Michigan scholarship program for high school seniors and college students.

If you would like to help provide scholarships, please consider a donation to the Michigan First Foundation at **MichiganFirstFoundation.com**. Your support is truly appreciated!



*Thank you to our presenting sponsor Planning for Your Future, PLLC!  
The firm provides affordable and accessible legal services to Michigan First members and community groups for estate planning, probate, elder and family law needs.*

# Experience Summer with Your Rewards Visa!

Summertime in Michigan brings many opportunities for travel and fun. While you're out enjoying the season, don't forget to bring your Experience Michigan First Rewards Visa®!

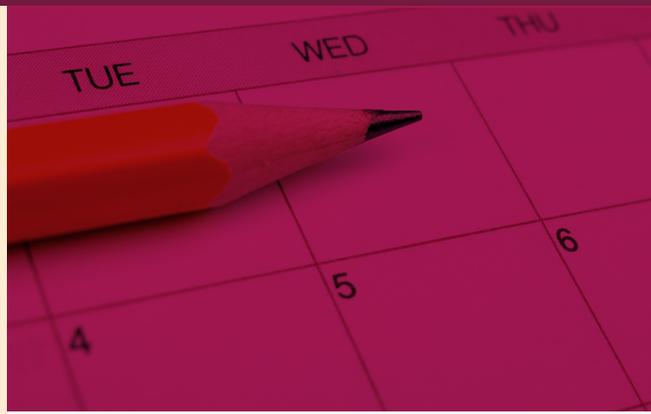
## Enjoy:

- No annual fee or balance transfer fee
- An attractive annual percentage rate
- Earn reward points for using our card and extra points for spending in Michigan
- Redeem reward points for restaurants, retail stores, family attractions and more



Want a card of your own? Visit [ExperienceMichiganFirst.com](http://ExperienceMichiganFirst.com) or call us 24/7 at **866.933.6333**.

**12 scenic Michigan card designs to choose from!**



## Holiday Reminder

- **Labor Day**  
**Monday, September 5**  
All branches closed

Although our branches are closed, you can talk to us 24/7, 365 days a year by calling **800.664.3828**.

**365Live**  
our 24-hour call center  
**800.664.3828**



## Banking on the Go!

While visiting faraway places or enjoying a staycation at home this summer, rest easy knowing you can complete transactions from your phone, wherever you are! Through our mobile banking app, you can:

- Transfer money between accounts or to another member
- Pay your bills with bill pay
- Deposit a check\* with the snap of a picture

\*Restrictions may apply. See [MichiganFirst.com](http://MichiganFirst.com) for details.

## Go Whitecaps™!

We're excited to announce Michigan First is a 2016 season sponsor of the West Michigan Whitecaps! This class "A" affiliate of the Detroit Tigers™ is a professional minor league baseball team near Grand Rapids.





## Take Your Company to the Next Level

Our Business and Community Relations team is presenting the Small Business Resource Expo to help entrepreneurs and small business owners start or grow a company. Other presenters include Michigan Business Connection, Small Business Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center and Small Business Administration.

**When:** Tuesday, September 27  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Check-in begins at 9:00 a.m.

**Where:** Evergreen Branch  
27000 Evergreen Rd.  
Lathrup Village

For additional information or to register, please visit [MichiganFirst.com/Seminars](https://MichiganFirst.com/Seminars) or call Member Services at **800.664.3828** and then press zero.

## Saving or Investing: Is There a Difference?

Financially speaking, the terms “saving” and “investing” are often used interchangeably. But, the concepts behind these terms actually have some important differences. Understanding these differences and taking advantage of them may help you in working toward financial goals for you and your family.

### Saving

- You may want to set aside money for a specific, identifiable expense. You park this money someplace relatively safe and liquid so you can get the amount you want when you need it. According to the Securities and Exchange Commission brochure Saving and Investing, “Savings are usually put into the safest places, or products, that allow you access to your money at any time. Savings products include savings accounts, checking accounts, and certificates of deposit.”

### Investing

- While a return of your money may be an important objective, your goal might be to realize a return on your money. Using your money to buy assets with the hope of receiving a profit or gain is generally referred to as investing. Think of investing as putting your money to work for you – in return for a potentially higher return, you accept a greater degree of risk. With investing, you don’t know whether or when you’ll realize a gain.

The money you invest is not usually federally insured. You could lose the amount you’ve invested (e.g., your principal), but you also have the opportunity to earn more money, especially compared to typical savings vehicles.

The investment is often held for a longer period of time to allow for growth. It is important to note, though, that all investing involves risk, including the loss of principal, and there is no assurance that any investing strategy will be successful.

### Why is it important?

- Both saving and investing have a role in your overall financial strategy. The key is to balance your saving and investing with your short- and long-term goals and objectives. Overemphasize saving and you might not achieve the return you need to pursue your long-term goals. Ignore saving and you increase the risk of not being able to meet your short-term objectives and expenses. Get it right and you increase your chances of staying on plan.

For more information about savings and investing accounts, contact Jamie Russell with Michigan First Wealth Management Group at **248.443.4619**.

*Securities offered through Royal Alliance Associates, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Rehmann Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor not affiliated with Royal Alliance Associates. Security products are not NCUA guaranteed, not credit union guaranteed and may lose value. Fixed and/or Traditional Insurance Services offered through Rehmann Insurance Group. Rehmann Insurance Group is not affiliated with Royal Alliance or registered as a broker-dealer or investment advisor. Michigan First Credit Union is not affiliated with Royal Alliance, Rehmann Financial or Rehmann Insurance Group.*



# YOUNG & FREE<sup>®</sup> MICHIGAN



## Welcome, Erin!

Michigan First is excited to announce Erin Winters is the next Young and Free Michigan<sup>®</sup> Spokester! Erin is continuing our efforts to help 17-25 year olds learn about finances and successfully manage their money. She's creating fun and useful blogs and videos; managing the program's social media channels; and representing Young & Free Michigan at events around the state. Connect with Erin on social media and view her blog at [YoungFreeMichigan.com](http://YoungFreeMichigan.com).

### To help you get to know Erin, here are some fun facts!

- She studied abroad for six months in Cape Town, South Africa, where she pet an ostrich, walked an elephant through the jungle and went skydiving!
- Erin had a four-year fellowship with Fox 2 News and produced "A Place to Call Home," a segment that helped foster care children in Michigan find forever homes. She also traveled to California to interview actors Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn!
- She has a sweet tooth – Snickers, Caramel Cookie Crunch Talenti Gelato and brownies are her favorite treats.

We'd also like to thank Ebeth Fielder for the amazing job she did as our Spokester for the past two years. Ebeth's energy and passion for her job directly translated to her work and we wish her all the best in her future endeavors!



## Guarding Identities and Helping Our Community

Thank you to everyone who participated in our April Shred Day events at the Evergreen, Gratiot and Plymouth branches. More than two tons of personal documents were shredded! These events keep your personal information out of the hands of identity thieves and also benefit our community. In total, we collected enough canned goods and monetary donations to provide 4,000 meals to our hungry neighbors.

### Upcoming Shred Days

#### Saturday, October 8

- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Gratiot Financial Store in Eastpointe

#### Saturday, October 22

- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Evergreen Branch in Lathrup Village
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Plymouth Branch in Grand Rapids

## Reflecting on Another Great Year

The 2016 Annual Membership Meeting was held at our Evergreen headquarters on Thursday, April 28. The Board and Michael Poulos, President/CEO, updated members on the Credit Union's accomplishments and celebrated 90 years of member service! During the meeting, the following individuals were re-elected for three-year terms:

### Board of Directors

- Shelia Anderson
- Richard LeMoynes
- Nadine Tibbs-Stallworth
- Lola Foster
- Yvonne Willis

### Supervisory Committee

We'd like to thank our Board Members and Supervisory Committee for dedicating their time and talents to ensuring the Credit Union continues to provide excellent member experiences and value.



27000 Evergreen Road  
Lathrup Village, MI 48076

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Gearing up for the August Car Sale!

Need new wheels? Save money on your next vehicle purchase with Michigan First! This summer, watch for details about the dates and times of our August Car Sale at [MichiganFirst.com](http://MichiganFirst.com).

