



# Farm-tastic! The 74th Annual Meeting is here!



Are you ready for a great night with WECU®? At this year's annual meeting we will elect board and supervisory committee members, review our growth in 2009, and enjoy some down home cooking, a few games, and oodles of prizes!

**When:** Thursday, January 28, 2010. Seating will be available beginning at 5:30pm. The business meeting will start promptly at 6:30pm, followed by dinner.

**Where:** Best Western Lakeway Inn in Bellingham

**Who May Attend:** WECU® members who have had accounts for over 6 months. Because this is a business meeting, all those attending must be a WECU® member 18 or over.

**Reservations Required:** Space is limited to the first 500 people.

We will begin accepting reservations at 9am Tuesday, January 5th. Reservations will not be accepted prior to that time. Space for dinner is limited to 500 seats. If reservations for the dinner portion of the meeting are not filled on Tuesday, we will close reservations at 5pm and reopen reservations at 9am the following morning. The cost of the 2010 annual meeting dinner will be \$3.00. Please indicate your meal choice in your rsvp; your choices are hazelnut-Dijon crusted chicken or vegan vegetable pasta primavera. **This year we will be accepting reservations in person at our branches, through our call center at 676-1168 and on the website (not through InfoGuy) at www.wecu.com.** The business portion of our annual meeting does not require an RSVP, and is open to all members 18 years of age and older who have had a WECU® account for over 6 months.

This is an election year; below are the incumbents and candidates:

## Incumbents



**David Waschke** - Position #2: Board Director  
Serving since 1992, term expires in 2010

*Employment:* Ershigs, Inc; Contract/Project Manager

*Education:* BS, Industrial Technology and MBA, Western Washington University.

David has been on the board since 1992 and has served as WECU's board chair, vice chair, and secretary. His other WECU® involvement has included working on the Executive, Partnering, Social Responsibility, Strategic Planning, Nominating, and Credit Committees. WECU's Habitat for Humanity and trail maintenance projects have been particular favorites of David's.



**Bruce Burpee** - Position #3: Board Director  
Serving since 1989, term expires in 2010

*Employment:* Independent Education Consultant, providing leadership consulting services to schools. Retired from Meridian School District as Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

*Education:* BA in Education and Masters in Education, Western Washington University

Bruce has served on the board since 1989. During his tenure on the board of directors, Bruce has served as chair of the board as well as on the Credit, Executive, and Strategic Planning Committees.

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## Business and Home Loan Center award

WECU® recently received an Award of Merit from the AIA Northwest Washington Chapter of Design. This is the second highest award for projects that are worthy of study by the profession at a regional level. Congrats to the team of fantastic local professionals who worked together on this beautiful building!

## VISA cash back rebates post this month!

WECU® credit card holders have been looking forward to this all year long. WECU® Visa credit card users, your 1% cash back rebate will post to your VISA account this month. Thank you for choosing your WECU® Visa first!

## Instant issue debit cards

Instant Issue of Debit cards on personal accounts is now available at our Holly, Ferndale and Sunset branches. You may apply for a Debit card, pick your own PIN and walk out the door with a card you can use immediately! Please be aware that you will need to see a loan officer for Instant Issue of a Debit card on a personal account.

## Keeping things safe in the new year

Looking for a place to store your valuables and personal documents? As most of you know, WECU® has safe deposit boxes available at our Holly office. But for your convenience, we also have boxes available at our Ferndale, Blaine, Lynden, Fountain, Sunset and Everson branches! Safe deposit box rental starts at as low as \$12.00 per year. Take advantage of this safe, low-cost option for storing your important items and information.



**WECU will be closed Friday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day and Monday, January 18th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.**

## File online with Turbo Tax or in person at Jackson Hewitt

As a WECU® member you can file your simple return FREE with TurboTax Federal Free Edition or save \$30.00 on Jackson Hewitt tax preparation. Choose a tax filing option and get started now!

### TurboTax makes tax time easier:

- Great for new users! TurboTax walks you step-by-step through your entire tax return with guidance designed specifically for people new to tax software.
- Maximum refund guaranteed or your money back! TurboTax is the most trusted brand of tax software in America and can help you make this your easiest tax year yet.

### Relax and let a local Jackson Hewitt tax professional handle your taxes:

Preparing your own taxes can be a complicated and confusing process. At Jackson Hewitt Tax Service, you'll find trained tax preparers who understand your income tax situation. The preparers will address your concerns and questions with professional, friendly service. Visit [www.wecu.com](http://www.wecu.com) to print your \$30.00 discount coupon or simply mention Coupon Code FCF2C when your tax preparation is complete.

Whether you prefer to self-prepare online or work with a tax professional, we have a helpful option for you. To get started today, visit WECU®'s website and look for the Turbo Tax link.

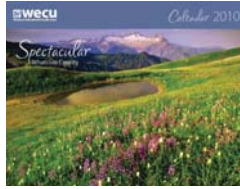
## Food 4 Tots drive a success

During the month of November our five Bellingham WECU® branches were equipped to take donations of both food and money for Bellingham Food Bank's Food 4 Tots drive. Our goal was to collect \$1,000 worth of baby food. The food bank was pleased to hear that we not only met our goal, we surpassed it by a healthy margin. WECU® members deposited \$1,078.78 to our donation account and dropped off 277 baby food jars at our branches! Thanks to those who donated and helped ensure the most vulnerable among us don't go to bed hungry.



## 2011 Calendar Contest

Our 2010 member-photo contest calendar was a smashing success so we're going for another round. Attention all member photographers: send us your photos of Whatcom County! Thirteen lucky photographers will have their work featured in the 2011 WECU® calendar. In order to submit you must be a WECU® member. Please note that photo contest winners will not receive monetary compensation for use of their photos. Winners from the 2010 calendar are not eligible to submit for the 2011 calendar. You may submit a maximum of 3 photos; photos must be of scenes in Whatcom County and should focus on landscapes rather than people. Photos may be either tif, eps or jpeg format. They must measure 11.25" wide by 7.75" high and be 300 dpi or higher resolution. Please email photos to [kessa.volland@wecu.com](mailto:kessa.volland@wecu.com) - be sure to include your name and contact information.



## seminars

**Details:** These free seminars will be presented in the WECU Education Center at 511 East Holly St. in Bellingham, and are open to the public. **Reservations are required.** RSVP online at [www.wecu.com](http://www.wecu.com) [Your CU/Seminars] or call our reservation line at 676.1168, ext. 7000.

### Social Security, Medicare and You

Wednesday, January 6th, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Will you or a family member be reaching Social Security or Medicare age soon? If so, you may be overwhelmed by the media bombardment and paperwork that fills up your mailbox. FSMG and CUSTOM, Inc. will be here on January 6, 2010 to offer a "Social Security, Medicare and You" seminar to help make sense of the process. The goal is to provide basic information, resources and handouts to be better prepared to make decisions for the future.

### Transitioning Your Garden from Winter to Spring

Wednesday, February 24th, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Bakerview Nursery will offer tips on everything from lawn care to fruit trees and vegetable gardens. Join us for an evening of in-depth gardening discussion!

## NON-PROFIT OF THE MONTH

### Interfaith Coalition's Friendly Visitors

Interfaith Coalition's Friendly Visitors program matches compassionate volunteers with isolated seniors whose health and well-being may improve with meaningful social connection.

After a three-hour orientation and training session, volunteers are matched with a senior. All volunteers and seniors are interviewed and carefully screened to ensure that compatible and helpful matches are made. Volunteers make weekly home visits, which may involve conversation, activities, common interests, or shared hobbies. Volunteers also help seniors participate in social activities outside the home.

The Friendly Visitors program focuses on people who are disconnected from the community due to mobility



limitations, health issues, few friends or family living nearby, or residence in a rural setting.

The health consequences of loneliness have been well documented in studies nationwide. Friendly Visitors offers not only a caring human contact, but also possible health benefits, from improved self-esteem, mental health and alertness to reduced stress and risk of heart disease, and lower blood pressure.

Interfaith Coalition offers monthly orientation and training sessions to individuals interested in bringing a caring presence into the lives of isolated seniors. For more information, call the Friendly Visitors office at 756-5179.

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He has attended numerous training sessions provided by the Credit Union National Association, Credit Union Executives Society, and the Washington Credit Union League to keep current on trends and regulations in the credit union movement.

Bruce has been involved in public schools for over 41 years, including positions as teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, and education consultant.



**Kathleen (“Kay”) Rich** – Supervisory Committee; serving since 2001, term expires in 2010

*Employment:* Retired, former Director of University Housing and Dining Systems at Western Washington University.

*Education:* BA in English, Washington State University; M. Ed. in Higher Education, Western Washington University. Kay is seeking her fourth full term on the Supervisory Committee. Kay retired after 27 years at Western and 17 years as Director of the Housing and Dining System. In that position, she had oversight of a department and staff who are responsible for development, maintenance, and day-to-day management of the university residence halls, apartments, dining facilities, the Viking Union and Lakewood facilities. Kay has spent time as Interim Director of Alumni Relations. Active in the community, Kay has served on various boards including Visiting Nurse Home Health Care, St. Luke’s Foundation, and Whatcom Crisis Services. Kay has also served as President of the Bellingham Sunrise Rotary Club and currently serves on their board of directors.

## New Candidates



**Dale J. Zender**  
Candidate: Board Position #1

*Employment:* Regional Vice President, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and Organizational Integrity Officer PeaceHealth / St. Joseph Hospital.

*Education:* CPA, Washington State Board of Accountancy Certified Public Accountant; MBA, City University; BA, Western Washington University, College of Business and Economics. Advanced Training Program (ATP) in

Healthcare Delivery Improvement, Intermountain HealthCare - Salt Lake City, UT.

Dale is seeking his first term as a WECU® board member. He has been employed for the past 26 years by PeaceHealth, St. Joseph Hospital, a Washington not-for-profit corporation sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace. During this time he has built a distinguished and diversified background in the health care industry including strong finance, strategic and planning skills with a deep understanding of all aspects of fiscal operations and management. He is viewed as a servant leader: confident, patient, determined and constantly aspiring to learn new things. Active in the community, Dale has served on various governing boards in the community and as a volunteer coach for youth sports.



**Margo Hammond**  
Candidate: Board Position #1

*Education:* B.S. in Chemistry, WWU; M.B.A., Seattle University; Certificate of Construction Mgmt., UW.

Margo is seeking her first term on the WECU® board. She has worked at the BP Cherry Point Refinery for 23.5 years, initially in the Laboratory, then Finance, Control and Accounting, and now TAR Construction Planning. Margo brings knowledge, experience in business, collaboration, and teamwork to WECU®. As a lifelong member of this community she has volunteered various places including twice at WECU® as a member of the Social Responsibility Committee, and as a member of the board nomination team. Margo states, “As a member for over 30 years, I would be honored to continue my service to WECU® and represent the membership on the board.”

**Have some bright ideas for your business?**

Whether you're building, moving, changing or expanding, our Business Services Department can help make your business dreams a reality!



**Our vision: Provide the means for members to achieve their dreams.**

This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.