

### Happy Birthday To America's Credit Unions!



As America's Credit Unions celebrate their 107th birthday, it seems pertinent to look back and remember that instrumental day in 1908 when Alphonse Desjardins travelled to Manchester, NH to help open America's very first credit union, St. Mary's Bank Credit Union. The forerunner of North American credit unions and community banks would no doubt be pleased and proud to see how

the credit union movement in America has grown and evolved throughout the years but yet has stayed true to the age-old purpose and credit union philosophy.

St. Mary's Bank Credit Union was founded and run by French-speaking immigrants who essentially paved the cooperative way for today's member-owners. While many years have passed and the ways in which we bank may have changed with modern-day advances and such, the fundamental purpose of credit unions remains the same - to provide a safe haven for saving and an affordable option for borrowing while never skimping on member service.

As they were over a century ago for the very first member-owners of St. Mary's, today's credit unions have become a financial sanctuary of sorts. As not-for-profit institutions with a focus on 'Serving the Underserved' and working to improve individual lives as well as communities, America's credit unions are dedicated to offering better rates, lower fees, and quality financial literacy that is much-needed in today's society. And so we wish a very Happy Birthday to America's Credit Unions, and thank you to the members for their loyal support. Here's to the next 107 years!

3. Work and Save! Encourage kids to work and save their earnings, even from an early age. Working and earning money for the things you want builds character and establishes good habits. As young children, they can do chores or take on extra small jobs around the house for which they'll earn money, rather than simply being handed an allowance for existing. These jobs can increase in difficulty and payment amount as your child grows. As your youngster approaches the teen years, he or she can begin babysitting or lawn mowing. And once they're able to legally work, having a part-time job that doesn't interfere with school, should be encouraged.

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**CLOSED Monday May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Memorial Day**

