



# Ruby Valley Financial Roundup



Spring 2011

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## **CUSTOMER APPRECIATION PICNIC SCHEDULED FOR JULY 14**

Mark your calendar to join the staff and Board of Directors for our annual fun summer event. We will be hosting a picnic to show appreciation for our customers at the Sheridan High School football field on Thursday July 14. Dinner will be served from 5:00 to 7:00. Last year we served over 500 of our communities' residents a fantastic meal complete with a beautiful summer evening. Come early to visit with your neighbors and friends and we hope to see you there!



**Go Direct®** is a national campaign designed to motivate more Americans to select direct deposit for their Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), VA Compensation and Pension and other federal benefit payments. The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks are sponsoring the campaign.

With direct deposit, your money goes straight into your account at the same time each month, thus giving you more control over your money. It eliminates the risk of stolen checks and forged signatures and helps protect you from identity theft. Direct deposit also provides immediate access to your money. It's easy to sign up for direct deposit, and it only takes a few minutes — call the **Go Direct®** Customer Service at (800) 333-1795 or enroll online at [www.godirect.org](http://www.godirect.org). You can also sign up at the bank or the local Social Security office. **By March 1, 2013**, everyone getting federal benefits by paper check will need to switch to electronic payments - **direct deposit** to a bank or credit union account or to the **Direct Express®** Debit MasterCard® card

The Treasury issues more than 140 million benefit checks annually. If all those were converted to direct deposit, it would save taxpayers more than \$130 million annually. Almost all the money saved remains in the Social Security Trust Fund. The vast majority of the money saved on postage, printing and other costs as a result of **Go Direct®** will be used to cover the costs of future Social Security payments. Today, about 83 percent of federal benefit payments are made by direct deposit.

For Social Security and SSI recipients without bank accounts, Treasury recommends signing up for the **Direct Express® Debit MasterCard®**. The **Direct Express®** card is a prepaid debit card that offers another safe and convenient alternative to paper checks. Visit <http://www.usdirectexpress.com> or call (877) 212-9991. For all other Federal benefit payment types contact a bank or credit union in your area to discuss your banking account options.

## TO ALL PARENTS OF 2011 GRADUATES

You have already done a lot to prepare your son or daughter for adult life. Fiscal responsibility starts with teaching young adults the importance of taking an active role in the management of their checking account. Keeping an accurate register of transactions and monitoring their account balances will help set them down the path to financial well being.

1. Stress the importance of not writing checks or using a debit card if the funds are not available. Having a check returned can be embarrassing, and why pay unnecessary fees?
2. Encourage them to monitor their account activity daily. If there is a transaction that doesn't seem proper, instruct them to call their bank right away to start an investigation. If it is fraudulent, the account can be protected immediately.
3. Discuss with your young adult the importance of developing and maintaining a good credit score. A poor credit score could impact their ability to rent an apartment or house, the price they pay for auto insurance and even future employment opportunities. A high credit score is something every adult should aspire.
4. Tell them not to be tempted by credit card solicitations that offer free gifts or other incentives to sign up. A credit card is a loan and if the monthly payments are late or not made, it will impact their credit score.
5. Encourage them to take advantage of services that most banks offer like free checking accounts, email statements, internet banking, account alerts and banking by telephone.
6. It is a good idea for one of the parents to be authorized on the student's account. This allows the parent to help with the management of the account, like debit card issues, depositing and transferring funds.

Congratulations to all the area graduates and best of luck in your future endeavors from all of us at Ruby Valley National Bank.

*Thank you to those of you that participated in our feedback survey. We appreciate the comments and suggestions that were submitted. They keep us focused on what is important to you as we evaluate our services and products offered.*

**If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge, would they call it Fed UP?**

### Dates to Remember

Father's Day	Sunday June 19
First Day of Summer	Tuesday June 21
Independence Day	Monday July 4
Customer Appreciation Picnic	Thursday July 14

## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

We are pleased to announce the following local students are the recipients of a \$750 scholarship from Ruby Valley National Bank.

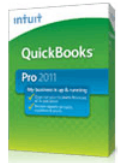
- Tawnya Gilstrap**—Whitehall High School  
Parents: Todd and Laura Gilstrap
- Annie McLaughlin**—Sheridan High School  
Parents: Mark and Kaye McLaughlin
- Karson Sutton**—Beaverhead High School  
Parents: Russ and RayAnn Sutton
- Michelle Tilstra**—Sheridan High School  
Parents: Kent and Vicki Tilstra
- Matthew Tilstra**—Twin Bridges High School  
Parents: Mark and Traci Tilstra

The Bank provides the scholarships through the Twin Bridges School and Community Foundation. Good luck to our scholarship winners in the next step in education!



### GOOD NEWS FOR QUICKEN® & QUICKBOOKS® USERS!

Ruby Valley National Bank now offers Direct Connect to download your account and credit card information directly into Quicken® or



QuickBooks®.

**No manual data entry** - Once you're set up, you can download all your transactions right into Quicken or QuickBooks instead of typing them in by hand.

**Automatically reconcile data** - Direct Connect data includes complete transaction and balance information to make categorization and account reconciliation easy.

**No duplicate transactions** - Direct Connect incorporates a special transaction-matching algorithm that prevents the download of duplicate transactions.

**Easier to use** - Direct Connect files may be automatically opened from within Quicken/QuickBooks, which eliminates the need for you to search for files that have been downloaded. Previously you needed to login to RubyNet internet banking and initiate the file download to Quicken or QuickBooks. Now simply perform the One Step Update in Quicken/QuickBooks and your transactions are automatically downloaded. Please call us if you need help transitioning to this new process.



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