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## News Release

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### **TWO WEST MICHIGAN CREDIT UNIONS TO MERGE AAC and Big Dutch Fleet Unite**

HOLLAND, MI – On Saturday, September 19th, Big Dutch Fleet CU will merge with AAC Credit Union. The uniting of the two financial institutions brings continuing AAC Credit Union to 14,080 members and over \$115 million in assets.

The merger offers benefits to the members of both credit unions. Mortgage services, an additional 7,500 ATM locations and expanded electronic services will be introduced to Big Dutch Fleet members, while expanding AAC's reach into Holland's south market. The merger also opens Big Dutch Fleet's doors to anyone who lives, works, worships or studies in West Michigan.

"We are excited to introduce ourselves to the members' of Big Dutch Fleet, our neighbors and community," said AAC Marketing Director, Velvet Fuller. "We look forward to bringing our brand of service to the new south location."

This makes the sixth AAC Credit Union branch. Other locations include Riley Street in Holland, and branches in Spring Lake, Grand Rapids, and Zeeland. A Standale branch is slated to open in Spring 2016.

Both credit unions have a rich history in West Michigan. AAC, founded in the furniture industry, formed in 1937 by employees of the American Seating Company. Big Dutch Fleet has served the employees of USF Holland since it formed 62 years ago.

When asked about the connection between a transportation credit union and a credit union founded in furniture manufacturing, Brian Turmell, AAC CEO responded,

"We believe it is our shared philosophy of helping our members that brought Big Dutch and AAC together. While we have different beginnings, both organizations grew from a sincere desire to do good business with good people. It is this matching principle that will make this a successful partnership."

According to CUNA, the Credit Union National Administration, the merger trend among credit unions nationwide continues. Credit unions are choosing to partner strengthening their place in the competitive banking landscape. This is AAC's third merger as the continuing credit union. Northside Credit Union of Holland merged with AAC in 2007 and North Kent CU of Grand Rapids in 2013.

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