

# the source

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Buckeye Community Federal Credit Union

Happy New Year from your BCFCU staff!

## Fiscal Fitness

It's that time again. Time to resolve to spend less time hunting and more time with your family, lose 10 pounds, call your mother more, stop smoking, get fit, etc. That's right. It's New Year's resolution time, the one time of year when we're supposed to focus on improving our lives.



We recognize that it's important to be physically fit, but we believe it's just as important to be **Fiscally Fit**. Here's our take on a few resolutions to help improve your financial well-being:

- 1) **Determine what you're financially worth and set goals.**
- 2) **Look closely at all your assets and liabilities to get a clear picture of where you are and determine where you want to be.** Set new savings goals for 2014, including how much you would like to add to your retirement account or to your children's education fund. Do you want to buy a vacation home? Start a fund to save for the down-payment.
- 3) **Take a hard look at all your expenses.** How much do you spend each month on cable TV, your cell phone plan, lattes, eating out? Could you make changes in any of these areas which would help you reach your financial goals?
- 4) **Simplify your day-to-day finances.**
  - A) **Start by putting bill-payments on auto-pilot.** If you're still writing and sending checks, set up an online account at BCFCU so that bills are paid automatically.
  - B) **Automate savings by leveraging payroll deduction or automatic transfers.** But be sure to transfer amounts earmarked for savings from your checking account to a designated savings or investment account that is not easily accessed, making it less tempting for you to spend the money that you have managed to save.
  - C) **Look at reducing the number of accounts you have.**

5) **Expect the unexpected.** For most of us, it is less a matter of *if* an emergency will arise than *when*. Start an emergency fund if you don't have one with enough cash to cover at least three months of basic living expenses.

6) **Reset your retirement savings.** At work, you probably have the opportunity to save for your retirement through a plan sponsored by your employer. Consider having your employer withhold enough through salary deferrals to ensure that you reach the maximum limit each year. If you'll be 50 or older by December 31, bump that amount to account for the additional catch-up contributions you're allowed to make.

7) **Pay down your credit cards.** According to a recent Nilson Study, about 37% of consumers carry a credit card balance. If you owe money on your credit cards, determine how much you can realistically afford to pay off during the year. If you have high interest credit card balances, consider whether it would be more beneficial to pay off those high interest debts or to add to your savings. BCFCU offers an interest rate below market-average. If you hold high interest rate cards, consider switching to a BCFCU credit card.

8) **Review your credit report.** Review your credit report, and take steps to repair any negative aspects.

9) **Review your life insurance and disability insurance needs.** As we move through life, our insurance needs continue to change. Give some thought to how much protection you need and compare it to the coverage you currently have. BCFCU offers affordable insurance to help make your loan payments if you are out of work due to a disability. This should be an important financial consideration.

10) **Leverage your BCFCU membership.** We are your financial partner. Let us know how we can help you achieve your financial goals.



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Sam Drawdy..... Vice Chairman  
Brenda Carlton..... Secretary/Treasurer  
Link Claverie..... Member  
Anne Hendry..... Member  
Clyde Hendry..... Member  
Bob Lillott..... Member

### Supervisory Committee

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Kathy Sauls..... Writer/Assistant Editor

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Rob Hilley..... Marketing Director  
David McMullen..... Contract Services

### Address & Phone

1825 S. Jefferson St. • Perry FL 32348  
850-223-7100 • Fax 850-223-7191  
www.bcfcu.coop

### Office Hours

Lobby..... 8:00-5:00 M, Tu, Th, F  
Lobby..... 9:00-5:00 W  
Drive Thru..... 7:30-5:00 M  
Drive Thru..... 8:00-5:00 Tu  
Drive Thru..... 9:00-5:00 W  
Drive Thru..... 8:00-6:00 Th  
Drive Thru..... 7:30-6:00 F

### Important Phone Numbers

Report lost debit cards to 1-800-543-5073.  
Report lost credit cards to 1-800-808-7230.  
*You might want to put these numbers in a location you could reach in the event your wallet or purse was lost or stolen.*

### Follow us on Facebook



# BCFCU Targets Card Safety

With the holiday season coming to an end, your credit and debit cards are probably ready for a break. Like most Americans, you probably use plastic cards more during this time of year than any other. Unfortunately, it's a busy time for criminals also. As you are probably aware, Target retail stores had nearly 70 million plastic cards compromised right before Christmas. Rest assured that BCFCU has, and is taking, every necessary precaution to make sure your information is safe and secure. In the event we are notified of a card being compromised, we will re-issue a new debit or credit card free of charge to our members. BCFCU takes extraordinary measures to safeguard your sensitive information and we will always work to provide you with the best banking experience possible. Should you lose or misplace your debit card you can call 1-800-543-5073 to cancel the card or order a new one.

## ATM CARD FEE CHANGE

Beginning in March 2014, "ATM Only" cards will be assessed an annual charge of \$10.00. There will also be a fee of \$5.00 to issue or re-issue any "ATM Only" card. This fee DOES NOT AFFECT any card with the VISA or MASTERCARD logo.

BCFCU works to provide the most affordable financial services possible. However, there is significant cost to maintaining and issuing "ATM Only" plastic cards. These new fees are to help offset those high costs. Members can avoid the "ATM Only" Card fees by requesting a VISA check card for their BCFCU checking account. Contact us at 850-223-7100 if you have any questions about the new fee or how to avoid it.

## Upcoming Elections

In the book, "How to Live to 100", psychologist Mark Snyder notes that 1 in 3 adults do meaningful volunteer work on a sustained basis, and the US has one of the world's highest rates of volunteerism.

"People who volunteer tend to have higher self-esteem, psychological well-being, and happiness," Snyder says. "All of these things go up as their feelings of social connectedness goes up, which in reality, it does. It also improves their health and even their longevity."

So, what are you waiting for? If you are

interested in serving the credit union or know someone who is, please let us know. Our Nominating Committee Chairmen, consisting of Clyde Hendry and Sam Drawdy, has begun seeking candidates who are interested in running for the Board of Directors. Elections are held at our Annual Meeting in March. Being a volunteer for BCFCU is a great way to give back and make a difference in YOUR credit union and community. Contact them directly or Pam Rigoni-Parker at 850-223-7100 for further information.

## UPCOMING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

*We will be closed the following days:*

Martin Luther King Jr. – January 20th, 2014

Good Friday – April 18th, 2014

*We will be open on President's Day, February 17th, 2014*



# Going Paperless

In an effort to reduce fraud and paperwork, the State of Florida has moved to an Electronic Lien and Title System, requiring financial institutions (including your credit union) to adopt a paperless lien and title system. Gone are the days of long paper titles requiring numerous signatures and snail-mail. Today liens and titles are handled with a few mouse clicks. This program has been in place for several years and BCFCU is now an E-Title credit union. Please be aware that should your vehicle or vessel have an E-Title and the loan is paid off, BCFCU will not mail the title to you. We will notify the tag office electronically to release the lien and you may request a paper title thru the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Paper titles may be requested immediately at a tax collector's office that offers this service for a service fee of \$10.00. A complete explanation along with F.A.Q.'s may be found at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/elt.html> including department contact information.

## Ugh...Tax Time Again

We know preparing your income tax return can be time-consuming and stressful. To make the process a little less painful, we are pleased to announce a special discount on Turbo Tax software, just for BCFCU members. Look for details on the BCFCU Home Banking website in the coming weeks. Now you can balance your checkbook, apply for a loan and do your taxes all in one place. Remember the deadline for a filing is Tuesday, April 15th.

## COMMUNITY MINDED CORNER

It's hard to believe that 2013 has come and gone. Buckeye Community Federal Credit Union enjoyed a very special year, due in large part to the outstanding group of members we are fortunate to serve every day. We are excited about the future and look forward to what 2014 has in store for the credit union.

It was a very busy end of the year for us. It was great being out in the community at all the festivals and events to close out the year and to meet current and future members throughout Taylor and our surrounding counties. From Pioneer Days in Mayo, to the Florida Forest Festival, Pickin' In the Pines and the Blues and Bar B Q festival, right up to Santa making a special stop at the credit union; BCFCU was taking "Community Minded" to the extreme over the last three months

All of us at Buckeye Community FCU hope you and all of yours had a very special Holiday Season. Our members make BCFCU the premier financial institution of the Big Bend and we thank you for it. Let's make 2014 the best year in the history of YOUR credit union! Happy New Year from the credit union that's community minded, just like you!



## Loan Rates

\*rates quoted for Beacon scores 750 and above and with loan incentives included

\*\* Annual Percentage Rate

APR**	Approximate Repayment Period	Daily Per. Rate
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### New Vehicles\*

2.25%	24 Months	.00616%
2.75%	36 Months	.00753%
2.75%	48 Months	.00753%
2.75%	60 Months	.00753%
2.75%	72 Months	.00753%

### Used Vehicles\*

3.75%	60 Months or Less	.01164%
4.00%	60 Months or More	.01233%

### New boat and R.V. loan rates\*

Used and New rates now combined as follows:

5.00%	up to 72mo.	.01507%
4.75%	up to 84mo.	.01438%
4.50%	up to 144 mo.	.01370%
4.00%	up to 180 mo.	.01233%

### Stock Secured\*

Currently	Prime	
4.50%	+ 1%	.01233%

### Share Secured\*

Currently	Share Rate	
3.50%+	+3%	.00959%

### Consumer Durable Goods\*

7.25%	24 Months	.01986%
10.25%	48 Months	.028082%

### Vacation\*

6.25%	12 months	.01712%
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### Share Certificate

3.00%*	Based on Maturity	
	*above certificate rate	

### Signature Loan\*

9.25%	24 Months	.02534%
11.25%	36 Months	.03082%
13.25%	48 Months	.03630%
15.25%	60 Months	.04178%

### Signature Loan (Kwik Kash)\*

10.00%	Revolving	.02739%
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### VISA/MasterCard

10.9%	Revolving	.02986%
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### Mortgages

quoted daily



**Annual Meeting  
Date Set**

**Mark your  
calendars now  
and plan to attend  
the credit union  
annual meeting  
on March 25th at  
Taylor County  
Middle School.**

**Investment Options**

<b>Savings</b>	<b>Ann% Rate*</b>	<b>Ann% Yield**</b>
Less than \$5,000	0.05%	0.05%
\$5,000 – \$24,999	0.15%	0.15%
\$25,000 – \$49,999	0.25%	0.25%
\$50,000 or more	0.35%	0.35%

*Compounded quarterly. No minimum balance.*

**Checking**  
\$500 minimum to earn dividends  
.15%  
*No monthly service charges and compounds quarterly.*

**Certificates**

6 Months	0.25%	0.25%
1 Year	0.30%	0.30%
2 Year	0.45%	0.45%
3 Year	0.50%	0.50%
4 Year	0.65%	0.65%
5 Year	0.95%	0.95%

*Rates updated weekly. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal.*

**IRA Savings**

Less than \$5,000	0.10%	0.10%
\$5,000 – \$24,999	0.30%	0.30%
\$25,000 – \$49,999	0.45%	0.45%
\$50,000 or more	0.80%	0.80%

\* Annual Percentage Rate  
\*\* Annual Percentage Yield