

# Cooperative Center FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Supporting the financial needs  
of our community since 1942

2001 Ashby Avenue | Berkeley, CA 94703

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## October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Read on for details about how  
Cooperative Center FCU continues  
to support Breast Cancer Awareness  
and the **Faith Fancher Breast Cancer  
Emergency Fund.**



coopfcu



@coopfcu

## Give a Gift That Means More Stocking Stuffers That Support Breast Cancer Treatment

Real United States currency – bankable & spendable!

Each Dollar or Note purchase includes  
a greeting card and envelope.

\$1.50 of every Dollar or Note  
purchase will benefit the  
Faith Fancher Breast Cancer  
Emergency Fund.



**Angelic Notes™**  
**\$3.50**

**Santa Dollars™**  
**\$2.50**



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## Cooperative Center FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

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FALL 2019

# NEWSLINE

## Plan for Your Holidays

The holidays can put a financial burden even on the best shoppers and savers. Taking time to plan can help you avoid the stress that comes with overspending.

### 1. Set a budget

Count up all your typical expenses so that you don't come up short on bills or rent. Next, think about what else you may be spending on in the coming months. Are you hosting a party at your home, or traveling to visit family or friends? Estimate what those things will cost you. Once you've subtracted any expenses from your usual budget, you can think about how much you have to spend on gifts. You can use our online budget calculator to help at [bit.ly/Budget\\_Calc](http://bit.ly/Budget_Calc).

### 2. Make a list

With all of the excitement of the holidays, it can be easy to get carried away. Make a list of the gifts you need and cross them off as you go.

### 3. Decide how you're going to pay

Are you going to use cash or credit cards to pay for gifts? A helpful budgeting rule to set for yourself is to only bring the amount of cash you plan to spend. Otherwise, using a credit card can give you more consumer rights. Additionally, our Visa gift cards are the best of both worlds – the convenience of a card with the helpful budgeting rule of carrying a set amount.

### 4. Track your holiday spending

Just like you wrote down your lists to keep track of what you need to buy, you could also keep track of what you've spent. Periodically check to see if you are on track and sticking to your budget.

## Avoid Plastic Pitfalls This Holiday Season

The holiday shopping season has begun! As you're shopping through retailers, getting all the awesome gifts and trunkloads of food, beware the pitfall of signing up for a store credit card. It can be tempting to take advantage of store card offers like "interest-free until next year" and "20% off when you open a new card," but these offers can come back to bite you. Store cards often come with some of the highest interest rates around. Both your budget and your credit score could take a big hit when you realize the 20% you thought you were saving wound up costing you more in interest by the time you finish paying off your purchase.

Make your holiday money stretch and avoid high-interest-rate store cards. Our Cooperative Center Visa® Credit Card comes with a low, fixed rate and no annual or hidden fees. And if you need help paying off store card(s) you already have, come talk to us – we're here to help.

**Just give us a call or stop by!**

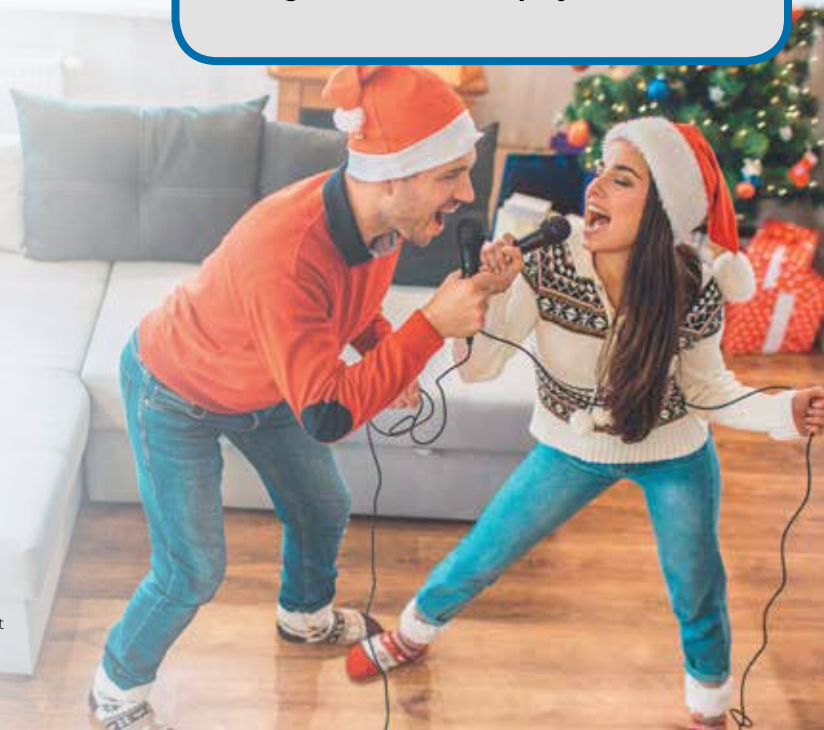
## Our Holiday Loans Hit All the Right Notes

The most wonderful time of the year is not always the most wonderful time for your wallet. But don't fret – we're here to help when the financial stress starts to spoil the harmony. Make the holiday one to remember with a low-rate loan, or help your budget along when emergencies crop up.

- Loan amounts from **\$500 to \$2,500**
- Great, low fixed rate of **7.77% APR\***
- Take up to **12 months to pay**

**Call or visit the branch to apply for your Holiday Loan!**

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Min \$500. Max \$2,500. APR 7.77% up to 12 months. Loan payment example: \$87.17 per month with \$1,000 borrowed for 12 months. All loans subject to credit approval. Cooperative Center FCU membership is required. Offer ends December 31, 2019.



# Local Service. Global Reach.

## Cooperative Center FCU Celebrates International Credit Union Day®

Everything credit unions do serves the needs of members on a local scale. Credit unions impact local communities across the globe by bringing financial empowerment to their community, which inspires other credit unions to enhance their service. It's all about people helping people. Cooperative Center FCU is proud to be a part of a movement that helps empower people.

This year, we're celebrating International Credit Union Day's theme "Local Service. Global Reach." Celebrate with us on October 17, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.! We will have refreshments and **giveaways** to commemorate the day with some very special treats during SPECIFIC hours.

**Lunch is on us!** 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Lunch is free. Please call (510) 295-1657 or email Linda Meza at [Imeza@coopfcu.org](mailto:Imeza@coopfcu.org) to RSVP.

### FREE ON-SITE SHRED HOURS:

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.



This is an on-site secured commercial shred service, and hours are limited. We hope you'll plan ahead and take advantage of this important benefit to help secure your personal identity by bringing up to two boxes of sensitive, confidential materials to safely and securely shred. Our vendor, Corodata, wants to remind members to remove all paperclips, binder clips, and staples prior to bringing them for shredding.

## Are You at Risk of Becoming a Victim of Identity Theft?

You may think that identity theft or fraud won't happen to you, but the truth is that more than 15 million Americans will experience fraud this year. Anyone could become a victim of identity theft, but some people are more at risk than others. Based on recent studies, there are certain factors that increase your risk of identity theft:



**YOUR AGE:** The elderly, college students and children are more likely to be victims.



**YOUR EDUCATION:** Having a college degree or post-graduate education puts you at greater risk.



**YOUR INCOME LEVEL:** Households with incomes of \$50,000 or higher are more likely to experience identity theft.



**WHERE YOU LIVE:** Residents in the District of Columbia, California, Florida, Massachusetts, Nevada, Illinois, Texas, Michigan, Missouri and Connecticut are more at risk.



**HOW MUCH INFORMATION YOU SHARE:** People who share information such as their address, birthdate, full name, location and other personal information online have a higher risk of identity theft. Those who provide this information over the phone, don't password-protect their smartphone or leave their mailbox, car or home unlocked are also at a higher risk.

Even if you don't fit into one of these categories, identity theft can still happen to you. But, you can protect yourself by keeping your personal information private and verifying any company that asks for your information.

**To learn more about protecting yourself from identity theft, give us a call, stop by the branch or visit [bit.ly/ID\\_Protection!](http://bit.ly/ID_Protection!)**



# Need a Do-Over?

## REFINANCE YOUR AUTO LOAN AND SAVE BIG!

Have a high-rate auto loan with another financial institution? Now is your chance to redo your existing auto loan by refinancing with Cooperative Center FCU. By refinancing with us, you can keep the ride you love, drop the rate you loathe and lower the monthly payments you dread!

Our auto loans come fully equipped with great features to help you save:

- **1% off your existing rate<sup>1</sup>**
- **Earn up to \$200 cash back<sup>2</sup>**
- **60-day payment vacation<sup>3</sup>**

**Call or visit the branch to apply today!**

APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The vehicle must be a model between 2011 and 2019, have a balance owed of at least \$10,000 and currently be financed through another financial institution. Loans currently financed through Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union are not eligible. The loan must be current to qualify. Rate and term may vary based on creditworthiness, age of vehicle, mileage and value of vehicle. Contact a Loan Officer for minimum/maximum loan terms based on amount financed. Subject to credit approval. Floor rate of 2.95% APR applies. All loans are refinanced for the remaining term of the original loan. Payment example: \$22.15 per \$1,000 borrowed at 2.95% APR for 48 months. Offer good October 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. <sup>1</sup>Verification of your current rate is required. Some members may qualify for more than 1% APR savings. <sup>2</sup>The cash back is referred to as a "Refinance Reward" of 1% and is based on the financed amount up to \$200 and will be deposited into the member's account within 90 days of loan funding. Please speak with a Loan Officer for complete details and restrictions. <sup>3</sup>60-day deferred payment is optional. Interest will continue to accrue during the 60-day no-payment period. First payment(s) may be applied to interest only. This offer is not for cash out refinancing or lease buyouts.



**First-time buyers:** Get 1% off your qualifying rate when you complete our car loan learning module!

[bit.ly/CarLoans\\_101](http://bit.ly/CarLoans_101)

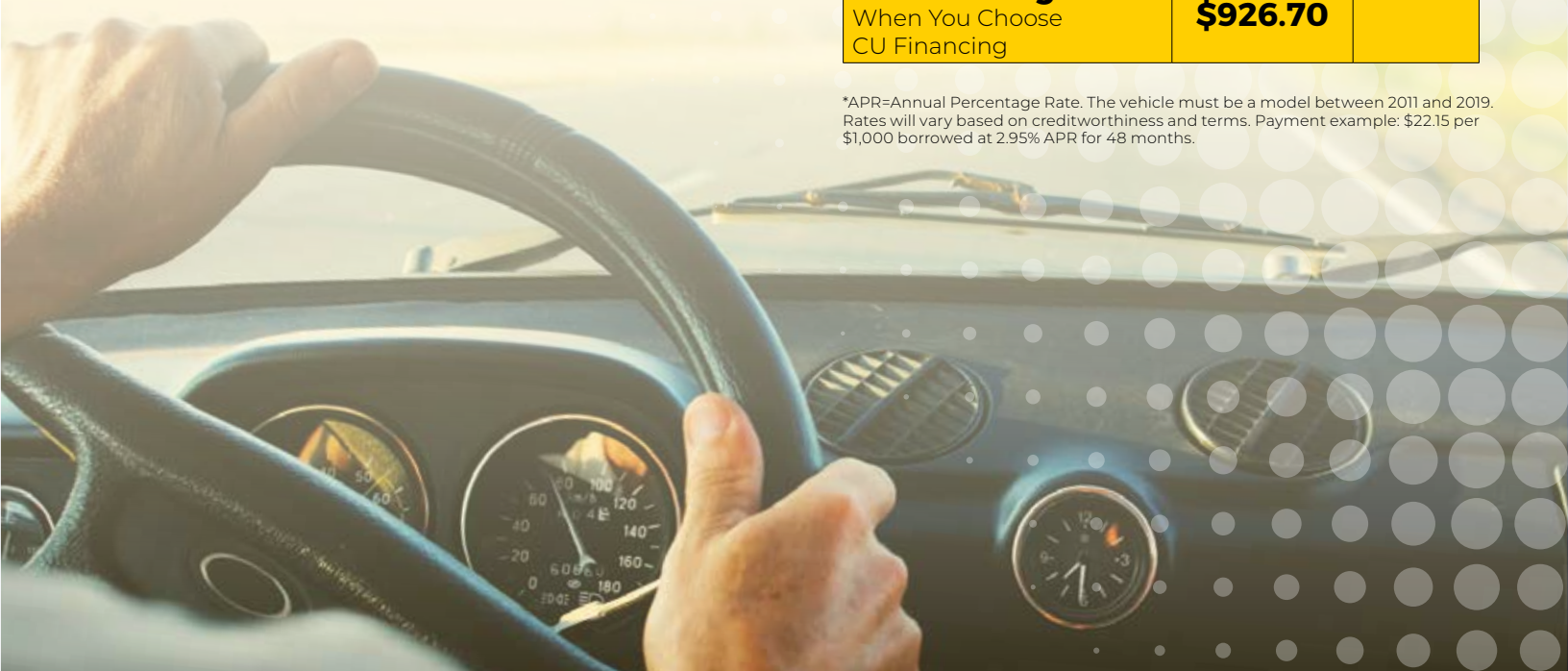
## WHEN IS 0% REALLY NOT 0?

First-time buyers, compare your total savings available to you when you choose the dealer rebates and credit union financing. Offers like "0% dealer financing" may sound good, but as a first-time buyer, you may not qualify for these attractive specials.

By taking the rebate and financing your loan through Cooperative Center FCU, you know you're getting the best deal possible. We are a financial partner that looks beyond the numbers to find the right loan opportunity for you.

Compare a \$30,000 auto purchase:	Cooperative Center FCU	Dealer
APR*	2.95%	0%
Vehicle Purchase Price	\$30,000	\$30,000
Less Dealer Rebate	-\$3,000	\$0
= Amount Financed	\$27,000	\$30,000
Over 60 Monthly Payments	\$484.55	\$500
Total Amount Paid Over Life of Loan	\$29,073.30	\$30,000
<b>Total Savings When You Choose CU Financing</b>	<b>\$926.70</b>	

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. The vehicle must be a model between 2011 and 2019. Rates will vary based on creditworthiness and terms. Payment example: \$22.15 per \$1,000 borrowed at 2.95% APR for 48 months.



# OUR 78TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020.

# VOLUNTEER

# NEEDED

## We Need Leaders – Like You!

Cooperative Center leadership consists of Board, Supervisory Committee, and Education Committee Members who all contribute their talents, expertise and passion to help Cooperative Center and the credit union movement grow. Being part of People Helping People is a rewarding experience like no other, and we want you!

Each year, an appointed Nominating Committee seeks interested candidates for open Board positions; in 2020 there are three (3) open seats. The Nominating Committee will begin accepting applications for submissions for our Board of Directors starting December 31, 2019.

### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES INCLUDE:

- **December 31, 2019:** The Chair appoints a Nominating Committee of three or more members. Nominations will open for the Board of Directors.
- **January 31, 2020:** The Nominating Committee files all nominations with the Secretary of the Credit Union.

### ANNUAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS

CUNA MUTUAL GROUP HEREBY PROVIDES YOU WITH NOTICE REGARDING THE PREEXISTING EXCLUSION PROVISION ON OPEN-END CREDIT LIFE AND/OR CREDIT DISABILITY ACCOUNTS AS REQUIRED ANNUALLY BY THE CALIFORNIA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

CALIFORNIA NOTICE:  
THIS INSURANCE MAY NOT COVER AN ADVANCE OR CHARGE UNDER YOUR CREDIT LINE IF YOUR DISABILITY OR DEATH RESULTS FROM A CONDITION FOR WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN A DOCTOR OR CHIROPRACTOR IN THE SIX MONTHS BEFORE THE ADVANCE OR CHARGE.

## Call for Supervisory Committee Member Volunteers

The Supervisory Committee is an integral part of the credit union. Made up of member volunteers – members like you – they're the "watchdog" for your credit union, and they help ensure the Board of Directors is safeguarding member assets and that the credit union management is complying with agreed-upon policies and procedures.

You too could be a part of this critical committee. We're looking for members to volunteer their time and help make sure the credit union is the best it can be for its members. It's a great way to give back to the community, too!

### The main Supervisory Committee responsibilities include:

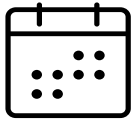
- Arranging and reviewing the annual audit,
- Verifying member accounts, and
- Handling member complaints

### As a member of the Supervisory Committee, you'll help the Board of Directors and management to:

- Ensure sound internal controls to safeguard assets,
- Confirm the accuracy and reliability of accounting data and financial reporting,
- Promote operational efficiency, and
- Encourage adherence to prescribed managerial policies

The Supervisory Committee meets monthly. Free training is provided.

Contact Tom White, committee chairperson, via email at [twhite@coopfcu.org](mailto:twhite@coopfcu.org) for more information.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### OCTOBER



#### Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Cooperative Center FCU continues to support Breast Cancer Awareness and will have items available for donation throughout October. Proceeds benefit the Faith Fancher Breast Cancer Emergency Fund.

- 14: **CLOSED** in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day (Columbus Day)
- 17: **International Credit Union Day**  
**FREE Shred Day**
- 25: 🍂 **NationalPumpkinDay** Cooperative Center staff will celebrate the day with displays of carved and decorated pumpkins. Be sure to stop by and vote for your staff favorite.

### NOVEMBER

- 11: **CLOSED** in observance of Veterans Day
- 13: 🍂 **NationalKindnessDay** If we told you what to expect, it wouldn't be random. "Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." ~ Dalai Lama
- 28-29: **CLOSED** in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday

### DECEMBER

- 4: 🍪 **CookieDay** With the holidays upon us, we want to take time to enjoy the simple things in life, like a cookie exchange! Bring some, take some, let's have a little fun.
- 24: **OPEN 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in observance of Christmas Eve
- 25: **CLOSED** in observance of Christmas Day
- 31: **OPEN 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** in observance of New Year's Eve

### JANUARY

- 1: **CLOSED** in observance of New Year's Day
- 20: **CLOSED** in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day



NOV 25 - DEC 13  
Toys for Tots Drive



Join us in the lobby for these fun "hashtag" holidays!

# Cozy up to extra cash.

Take advantage of our Winter Skip-A-Payment Program and snuggle up to some extra cash for the holidays!

With Skip-a-Payment, you can skip your monthly loan payment(s) and use that money for anything else you need. Pay off holiday bills, fix the furnace or just enjoy a little extra padding in your wallet. All you have to do is pick up a Skip-a-Payment Form from the branch, fill it out and submit it with a \$25 fee per loan skipped.

**Stop by today to skip your loan payment(s)!**

