



YOU SPOKE. WE LISTENED.

We saw a tremendous response with our most recent member survey. Thank you to everyone who took the time to give feedback! Your feedback is incredibly important to us and helps guide our decision-making and management of your credit union.

A big percentage of survey-takers said financial literacy is important to them. We are listening! Our new survey is all about financial literacy and you are invited to take part.

Mail or drop off your completed survey by April 20. You'll be entered to win a \$250 Visa® gift card as our thanks to you!

[LOOK INSIDE FOR A FOLLOW-UP SURVEY ►](#)



coopfcu



@coopfcu

Cooperative Center FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

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SPRING 2018

NEWSLINE

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Stop by for our **76th Birthday and Member Appreciation Day on April 20**. It's our chance to celebrate 76 years of service to our members!

We're Converting Our IT Operating System!

The credit union is excited to announce that we're converting to a new computer system August 1, 2018. The new system addresses many of the features you have said were important to you in addition to creating easier and faster processes for credit union staff.



Mobile Banking - Coming Soon!

Our new and free Mobile App will be available to download to your mobile device for easy account access on the go.



Remote Deposit Capture - Coming Soon!

You'll be able to skip the trip to the credit union and deposit checks instantly with our new Mobile App.



E-Alert Enhancements

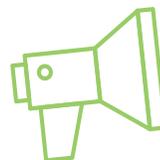
You can already receive account alerts via text message, but we'll be improving this service for you. Set alert preferences in online banking, including when balances are running low, when a large transaction occurs and more.



E-Statement Enhancements

Our new and improved e-statements will keep your life organized. They are more secure, more environmentally friendly and less mess on your desk!

While the core conversion will mostly be happening behind the scenes, there will be times when it will affect some of the services you may use. The credit union will keep you up-to-date on when and what will be affected so that you will be prepared. For now, please mark your calendars: **July 31 we will close at **1:30pm** and we anticipate re-opening **August 1** at **2:00pm** with limited services. Be sure to watch your newsletters, mail, flyers and handouts for additional information regarding these exciting changes!**



Call for Nominees!

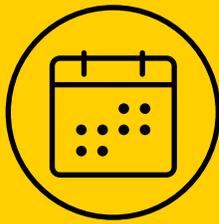
The Nominating Committee is currently accepting applications for two (2) seats for our Board of Directors.

The volunteer Board of Directors plays an important role in the credit union and is responsible for the general direction and control of Cooperative Center FCU.

Cooperative Center FCU has opportunities for members to get involved in the leadership of the credit union. It's your chance to become a bigger part of our cooperative movement!

For more information regarding the Board or to pick up a packet, please contact Rhonda Redo at (510) 845-6428 x 1645 or email at rredo@coopfcu.org.

Completed packets must be turned in by April 16, 2018.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MARCH – Bunny Bucks to benefit Berkeley Humane Society

26: CLOSED in observance of Cesar Chavez Day for staff training

APRIL – National Credit Union Youth Month

17: Tax Day

20: Credit Union 76th Anniversary and Member Appreciation Day

Stop in for refreshments and special giveaways and offers

21: Bay Area Craft Beer Festival

(Martinez Waterfront stop by Cooperative Center FCU's booth and say hi!)

MAY

4: Cinco de Mayo (one day early)

Lobby celebration

10: Bike to Work Day

Cooperative Center FCU will have a table at the Ashby BART Station between 7:00am and 10:00am as part of Bike Link's Pit Stop

28: CLOSED in observance of Memorial Day

JUNE

2: Berkeley Humane's 5th Annual Pints for Paws Beer Fest (be sure to stop by our booth for fun giveaways)

17: Berkeley Juneteenth (be sure to stop by and say hi!)

21: First Day of Summer

Stop in for great rates on Motorcycles, Boats and RVs

National CU Youth Month

Every child dreams about their future. Some of those dreams may require money to come true. How do you help your children achieve their dreams?

One way is to help them learn how to save their money.

In April, Cooperative Center FCU is celebrating Youth Month, which is a program that helps teach and encourage kids to develop good financial habits.

The theme this year is "The Science of Saving[®]," showcasing fun, sci-fi-inspired characters. Science has proven that if you start with small goals, saving your money can become a regular habit. This year's Youth Month inspires children to begin saving the money they earn so they can attain their dreams of a happy future.

Join us for fun, family-friendly activities throughout the month of April, including:

- **Coloring Contests for Youth Ages 5 - 13**

Coloring pages available in the lobby. We will randomly draw three lucky artists to receive \$25 into their account.

- **Play the "Guess How Many" Game in Our Lobby**

Closest to the number will win the amount into their account.

- **Cooperative Center FCU Science of Savings Kindness Rock Contest**

In time for spring, the credit union is encouraging parents and grandparents to help your young savers get outdoors by painting and hiding kindness rocks around the city. Have them include what they're saving for and the @coopfcu handle, take a picture of the area you've hidden your rock and tag us on Instagram and/or Facebook. Details on Cooperative Center FCU's upcoming Kindness Rocks contest to follow.

To learn more, visit us on our website at www.coopfcu.org or check for our events tab on Facebook, www.facebook.com/coopfcu.

4 Steps to Teach Your Children How to Save

1. To help your children get into the savings habit, start by having them cut out pictures of something they'd like to have someday and post the images where they'll see them often.
2. Then help them open a savings account at Cooperative Center FCU. You can open an account with as little as \$5.
3. Encourage your child to make regular small deposits each week. Tell them their money will earn interest while it's in their account.
4. If they keep this routine going, they'll quickly see their savings grow!

We also have openings on our Supervisory Board.

This volunteer group is responsible for the audit function of the credit union, ensuring the effectiveness of internal controls and adherence to policies and procedures and making sure the credit union is sound and functioning within mandated guidelines.

For more information or to pick up a packet, please contact Rhonda Redo at (510) 845-6428 x 1645 or email at rredo@coopfcu.org.



It's Crunch Time...

Take the bite out of tax season.



Tax Loans With a Low Fixed Rate of 11.76%^{APR*}

Owe more than you thought?

If you're like most people, you don't have all that extra cash lying around and wonder what you're going to do.

Our low rates and affordable payments will ease all your tax-time worries.

- ▶ Borrow from \$500 to \$10,000
- ▶ Low fixed rate of 11.76%^{APR*}
- ▶ Terms up to 48 months¹

APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The APR represents the total cost of credit. Rate is based on credit criteria. Certain terms and restrictions may apply. ¹Terms not to exceed 48 months. Tax loan proceeds must be made payable direct to IRS and/or State Franchise Tax Board. Payment example: \$26.21 per \$1,000 borrowed at 11.76% APR for 48 months. \$35,000 is the max combined total unsecured loan limit/balances per member. Cooperative Center FCU membership required. Offer ends April 30, 2018.

Don't Forget to Make Your IRA Contributions

Remember, you still have time to contribute to your tax-advantaged Traditional, Roth or Coverdell IRA for the 2017 tax year. The deadline is April 17, 2018.

Those under age 55 have an annual contribution limit of \$5,500, while those age 55 and older may contribute up to \$6,500.

If you haven't yet set up an IRA or would like more information about Cooperative Center FCU investment and retirement account options, give us a call or drop by.



Saving your money isn't always easy, especially when you don't have a lot to spare. After paying all your usual expenses, there may be very little "fun" money at the end of the month. When we do find ourselves with some extra cash, like a tax refund, many of us rush out to buy those shoes or that electronic gadget we've been eying for months instead of putting it into our savings.

Why do we do that? Why do we spend the money we planned on using for our future?

We can blame it on our brains. Behavioral science has shown that humans are hard-wired to act on impulse and that it takes conscious thought to delay gratification. It's also much easier to focus on the present than our future.

To help you save for your future, behavioral science suggests visualizing yourself as you might look when you're older. For instance, if you want to save for retirement, imagine yourself at age 67, living comfortably, maybe travelling the country, or having the time and the means to do something you've always wanted to do. According to a study done in 2014, this technique works. The researchers took photos of 50 college students and digitally altered each person's photo to make them look 70 years old. The participants were instructed to study the photos. Then they were told to imagine receiving \$1,000 and were asked how they'd like to use the money: buy something now for a special person or for an extravagant night out, or put that money into a retirement fund. After seeing a photo of themselves at 70 years old, the majority allocated more of the money to their retirement fund than to the other options.

Another way to help you save for your future is by making it a habit. Start with small goals. For instance, commit to putting a certain amount, say \$10, into a savings account every week. If you have direct deposit, you might want to consider setting up an automatic transfer of \$10 into your savings account every time your paycheck is deposited. Over time, you can gradually increase the amount by a dollar or two.