



# Bulletin

4th Quarter 2020 | Fall

A Quarterly Publication by Brazosport Teachers Federal Credit Union



## Celebrate 72 years of International Credit Union Day® at Brazosport Teachers FCU!

On Oct. 15, 2020, credit union members around the world will celebrate International Credit Union Day®, an annual event to commemorate the Credit Union movement's impact and achievements. This year marks the 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of ICU Day and BTFCU! In honor of this special day, we invite you to visit us in our drive-thru for a special baked treat and small gift to celebrate! Also, be sure to pick up a color sheet for your child to enter our fall Coloring Contest prize raffle! (Check our Facebook page for more details!)

Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, BTFCU and Credit Unions around the globe have continued to provide a high level of service to their members and demonstrated a generosity to their local communities that has set them apart from other financial institutions. We are truly inspiring hope for a global credit union community. ICU Day 2020 is a celebration of the impact credit unions and other financial cooperatives have made—and continue to make for their members. It is also a chance to be thankful for the lives and communities that have been improved by our movement.

## Announcements



- Our in-person Annual Meeting is set for Thursday, October 8th at 5:00PM. Based on the advice of health officials, we decided to host the event as "by reservation only" with limited capacity of (50) member attendees, spaced seating arrangements, and face masks required. At this time, all registration spots are filled. If you wish to attend, please check back on our website prior to the event for openings.
- As of 10/1/20, we are still open to serve you with "Expanded drive-thru services" and lobby is open by appointment only.

## Did you know!?

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial cooperatives that provide an effective and viable alternative to for-profit financial institutions for more than 274 million members in 118 countries worldwide. More than 85,000 credit unions exist globally, providing an abundance of financial services for their members, recognized as a positive force for economic and social change.



Don't let **High Rates** Take You for a Ride

Transfer your debt to our MasterCard "Platinum Rewards" card and pay **0% APR<sup>^</sup> for 12 months!\***

Break the cycle with a **Balance Transfer!**  
Visit **btfcu.net** for more information or to apply!

^APR=Annual Percentage Rate. \*Subject to credit approval. Transaction fee of 3% of balance amount applies. Visit website for full terms & conditions.

# Brazosport Teachers Federal Credit Union

216 Lakeview Dr.  
Clute, TX. 77531  
979.265.5333 | fax: 979.265.4328  
Routing: 313182068

## HOURS

### Lobby

Monday—Friday: 8:30am to 5:00pm\*  
\*By appointment only. Please call first.

Expanded drive-thru services remain!

### Upcoming Holiday Closings\*

Columbus Day  
Monday, October 12th

Veterans Day  
Wednesday, November 11th

\*Check our website for full listing.

## ATMs

Locate one of our 20 ATMs, most of which are at CVS Pharmacy & Walgreens locations around Brazoria County, by visiting our website!

## E-ACCESS



Open Camera App on your Apple iPhone and point at picture to download our App!

You can also download for free thru the Google Play store for Samsung and other devices.



Like & follow us on Facebook!  
Search: BTFCU Smile

Our Vision Statement:

*Serving Members Inspires  
Lasting Excitement!*

We proudly serve the employees and family members thereof by blood or marriage:



NMLS # 643335. We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Laws and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act. ©2020 Brazosport Teachers FCU. All rights reserved.



Federally insured by NCUA.

# BUDGETING 101:

## *Taking care of the pennies!*



No doubt, the pandemic has us all feeling like we live in uncertain times. This makes saving for the future more important yet daunting than ever before. Rest assured, it's not as scary as it seems! Budgeting is the best way to create consistent spending habits that result in a successful savings plan. Following a budget keeps you on top of your finances, helps you meet your savings goals, pay down debt, and can create a fallback plan for future emergencies.

To start developing your budget, you first have to understand how much money you bring in each month. Record your paychecks and any additional income you might have. Next determine where all of your money goes. Start by noting all of your **fixed expenses**, such as mortgage or rent and car payments. Then look at variable **monthly expenses** like groceries, utilities or gasoline, and entertainment. Be aware that some months might have different expenses than others due to birthdays, holidays, or anniversaries.

Next determine your financial goals. How much do you want to have saved by next year? *What about in five, ten, or twenty years?* To make those goals happen, you'll need a plan—it might include becoming debt-free, having cash on hand, or investing for retirement. Achieving those future goals needs to be part of your current monthly budget.

Consider the value of a zero-based budget where each dollar you bring in has a place to go—whether that's toward monthly bills, debt, or savings. Remember the old adage, "take care of your pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves!" It really is true today. Managing your money is more of a mindset than anything else. If you find that your budget hits negative numbers, you need to make some adjustments. Typically, that will be in discretionary spending, such as dining out, gym membership, or clothes shopping. If cutting out those expenses still leaves you with a shortfall, you might need to take a harder look at some of your other lifestyle choices.

As you go forward with your new budget, be sure to track your spending and adjust that month's budget accordingly. **Hitting a zero-based budget will take attention and regular action.** For example, if gas prices surge and you're suddenly spending more to get around, you'll need to balance that by making a change somewhere else. Remember to save for emergencies or planned large expenses, such as car repairs. With these things in mind, you should see budgeting success as well as success toward your financial goals.

**If you would like more information or help, call us today to setup an appointment with one of our Certified CU Financial Counselors. Financial counseling is a FREE service we offer our members. We're here to help you reach your goals!**

*Fall in Love*  
WITH YOUR  
AUTO LOAN!  
SAVE YOUR CASH  
FOR HOLIDAY  
SHOPPING WITH  
NO  
PAYMENTS  
FOR 90  
DAYS  
\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate.  
\*Certain restrictions apply. Subject to credit approval.

AUTO INSURANCE

CREDIT UNION  
MEMBERS  
CAN SAVE  
HUNDREDS  
ON CAR  
INSURANCE



See how much you could save — visit [LoveMyCreditUnion.org/TruStage](http://LoveMyCreditUnion.org/TruStage) today for your FREE, no obligation quote.



48146-NEWS-1020