



# It's *Spring* but watch our auto rates *fall*

In line with the market rate drops over the past few months, your Board of Directors has also dropped the interest rates on new and used vehicles!

Take advantage of the best opportunity in years to get a new car loan, or, refinance the one you have! If you took out a car loan, let's say, a few years ago. You've got two or three years left to pay, but judging by today's standards, your rate is exorbitant!! We've got a deal for you!

If you have a vehicle that's a 2003 or newer, you can apply for a loan for up to 36 months with a rate as low as 4.49% APR with qualified credit and applicable discounts.

Here's another deal: If you have a vehicle that's a 2003 or newer, you can apply for a loan for up to 24 months with a rate as low as 3.99% APR !

That's right! We're now offering vehicle loans as low as 3.99% APR with approved credit and applicable discounts.

That loan you got two or three years ago for a term of 60 or 72 months isn't as good now. Let TCC CU refinance that loan for you – maybe drop your monthly payments and save you money!

Check out the back page of this newsletter for more information on all of our rates!

Every day you don't call, you're losing money!! Get your refinance going today by calling Karen Williams at ext. 105, or Roy Adams at extension 106! Time's a wastin'!!

*All loans and rates subject to credit approval. Rates shown include applicable discounts.*

## Still Time To Make IRA Contributions For 2007!

If you didn't get those 2007 IRA contributions in before December 31, 2007, you've still got time! IRA contributions can be made up to April 15th for the previous

year. Regardless of which type of IRA you have – Traditional or Roth, you can still complete the maximum contribution you are eligible for until April 15th.

Depending on your Modified Adjusted Gross Income, for 2007 you may be able to contribute up to \$4,000, \$5,000 if you're 50 or older.

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## Préstamos Para Automóvil

**¿Le gustaría comprar un automóvil y poder hacer pagos mensuales?**

Antes de decir que "sí," hay mucho que debe saber antes de hacer una buena compra.

**¿Dónde comienzo?**

**Primero, obtenga el préstamo.**

Los préstamos de cooperativa de crédito ofrecen mejores tasas de interés y cargos más bajos que las concesionarias de autos. Si lo aprueban para un préstamo **antes** de ir a la concesionaria, podrá negociar un precio de compra más bajo.

**Tome en cuenta los cargos del préstamo.** El préstamo que le ofrece el vendedor de autos puede tener un interés más bajo que un banco o una cooperativa de crédito, **pero** podría ser más caro si considera todos los cargos.

**¿Son mejores los pagos mensuales más bajos?**

**No Siempre.**

**Un plazo de préstamo más corto cuesta mucho menos a la larga.**

Plazos de 18 meses a 2 años son típicos para préstamos de automóviles usados. Los plazos más largos reducen sus pagos mensuales, pero aumentan el costo total del préstamo, y pueden obligarlo a quedarse con el automóvil por más tiempo del que desea.

**Recuerde: Mientras más dinero pague inicialmente, mejores serán las condiciones del préstamo.**

**Evite las ofertas que dicen: "¿No tiene buen crédito?"** ¡No hay problema! Con frecuencia, estas ofertas son estafas con cargos escondidos que lo obligan a hacer pagos altos.

**Para más información, llámé a Dora Castro al número 1-800-256-0779, extensión 113.**

# Welcome to new TCC parents

The Staff and Officials of TCC Credit Union would like to extend our warmest greeting to all the parents who are new members of the credit union through our Tuition Loan Program. Parents who are sending their children to the finest of Catholic schools in the Dallas or Fort Worth Dioceses, twenty-six of them in all, have the opportunity to finance the tuition for their children if they are unable to pay it themselves in a lump sum.

Being a member of TCC Credit Union also means that you are eligible to take advantage of our other services such as FREE checking accounts, low (and now, even lower) auto loan rates, and competitive deposit rates on our regular savings accounts, certificates of deposit, Money Market accounts, and traditional, Roth, and Education IRAs.

By virtue of your membership in TCC CU, you now have the ability to escape outrageous bank fees and service charges. When you do business with TCC Credit Union, you will have an account number, but you won't be an account number! You'll be an owner in a financial cooperative that is formed on the basis of serving the members of the credit union with their financial needs, not making maximum profits at every turn!

To all of our returning parents, WELCOME BACK!! We're glad you've chosen to send your children to one of the schools that participates in our tuition loan program. You already know that with TCC CU, you get the best possible rates with great service!

To ALL THE PARENTS: If you haven't already, check out our new loan interest rates! We've dropped 'em

for you! If you've got a car loan out there with someone else at a higher rate, look at our rates for vehicles of 2003 model years and newer. You might be able to save some substantial \$\$\$ by refinancing with us.

AND, one last thing: The interest rates for the guaranteed tuition loans for the 2008-2009 has been reduced to 6.00% APR. That was the Prime Rate on March 1, 2008 and is the benchmark date the TCC CU Board of Directors uses to establish the rate for tuition loans. This is a drop of 2.25% APR from last year! AND...don't forget, you can get discounts off of the 6.00% APR rate by taking advantage of our automatic payment options. Call us for details or check out the loan forms for your school at our website: [www.tcccu.org](http://www.tcccu.org).

## IRA Contributions For 2007!

*Continued from page 1*

If you've already taken care of the contributions for 2007, there's no time like the present to start on your contributions for 2008! The possible contribution limits for 2008 are up to \$5,000, or if you're 50 or older, \$6,000.

Take advantage of these opportunities now! Whether you want to be able to have your contributions tax deductible now by using a traditional IRA, or use a Roth for contributions that aren't tax deductible now, take advantage of these opportunities to increase your retirement income.

Remember, none of this is intended as tax advice, so please consult a tax professional before making any final decisions. But if you decide on an IRA, check out TCCCU first! Call Dora at ext. 113 to get your IRA set up, or add to it if you've already got one.

*Opportunities Abound!!!!*

# Don't Let Debt Keep You From Achieving Your Financial Goals

Is mounting debt keeping you awake at night? Are you on the brink of financial disaster? If so, here are some **opportunities** offered by Jill Pharr, executive director of the Texas Credit Union Foundation (TCUF), that may help you regain control of your finances and get a better night's sleep.

## **Understand your current financial circumstances**

Ignoring your financial problems won't make them go away. The only way to get out of debt is to know exactly how much you owe and to whom. Many consumers, Pharr says, don't realize how much debt they owe because they've never tallied up their debt. "Often times, people think they are in control of their finances because they are able to make the minimum payments," says Pharr. "They may, for example, make a \$50 payment each month on their credit card and never pay attention to the fact that their balance is \$6,000. Paying \$50 a month isn't even putting a dent in the debt!"

## **Create a plan and stick to it!**

Once you've figured out how much you owe, you need to create a plan of action for getting yourself out of debt. When developing this plan,

Pharr says consumers should tackle debt with the highest interest rates first as this debt is costing the consumer more to carry.

"It's also important to write your plan down on paper!" exclaims Pharr. "You may have the best intentions of getting out of debt, but unless it's in writing, there is a good chance you won't follow through - 'Out of sight, out of mind!'"

## **Pay yourself first**

Most people buried under a pile of debt may think that's crazy - 'how can I possibly save when I am barely making ends meet.' However,

Pharr says people will be surprised at how much they are actually able to save when they are in better control of their finances. If you don't save it, Pharr says you'll likely spend it. "Savings is critical to achieving financial security," says Pharr. "Once consumers get use to the idea of stashing a little money from each paycheck into savings account, the money won't likely be missed."

## **Avoid making only minimum payments on credit cards**

If you are unable to make more than the minimum payment on your credit cards, then you are probably in over your head. By only making the minimum payment on a debt, you are extending your payments for many years. That \$65 dollar dinner you charged just might end up costing you double or more! "Take a serious look at your budget and identify areas where you can cut back spending, such as watching a made for television movie instead of going out to the theater, or limiting the number of times you eat out every month," says Pharr. "Instead, use that money to pay down debt."

## **Seek help if you feel out of control**

If you are unable to meet your financial obligations or find yourself using credit cards for every day expenses, chances are you are probably living too close to the edge and may need help regaining control of your finances. "Your credit union is a good place to start for help," Pharr says. "They can provide you with the tools and resources you need to make wiser financial choices."

## *Check Out These Opportunities!*

TCC Credit Union has checking accounts that are good for EVERYBODY!! Small balance accounts, large balance accounts, and even accounts that change from small to large and back again during the month!

You see, TCC CU, unlike many other places, doesn't charge you a monthly fee. No matter how small your balance (Zero is as small as it gets!). Our checking account are very simple to understand: They're fee-free! ("Fee-free" - say that 10 times real fast!).

Whether you are an individual member or an organization like a church or school, our checking accounts are made for you. Besides the fact that we don't charge anything, here are a few other goodies we include:

- MasterCard® Debit Cards that can be used for purchases at most places in the WORLD that accept MasterCard®.
- Free online banking.
- Bill pay.
- Download your financial information into Quicken to help manage your finances.
- Have your payroll or other recurring payments deposited into your account via Direct Deposit, the safest, fastest, and most convenient way of making deposits.

**WWW.TCCCU.COM**

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Dallas, TX 75238  
(214) 348-8670 (800) 256-0779  
FAX: (214) 348-8693

**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 38667  
Dallas, TX 75238

**Audio Response:**

(214) 503-1183  
or Toll-free 1-888-237-6607

**Lobby Hours:**

Monday — Friday 9 am to 4 pm

**Drive-through Window Service:**

Monday — Thursday 8 am to 5 pm  
Friday 8 am to 6 pm,  
Saturday 9 am to 12 noon

**Board of Directors:**

Chairman: Chris W. Burns  
Vice Chairman: Robert B. Sweitzer  
Treasurer: Charlie Walter  
Secretary: Robert Buchheit  
Bob Bonomi, Warren Davidson, David C. Haney, Raymond J. Vasinda, John Watters

**Credit Union Officers:**

President: Ronald M. Powers  
Vice President, Mktg: Robert Lawler  
Accounting Mgr: Bob Bishop  
Teller Supervisor: Dora Castro  
Loan Officers: Roy Adams  
Karen Williams

**Staff**

Celina Gomez, Bridget Guerrero,  
Maggie Gutierrez, Myvan Nguyen,  
Anna Pedersen



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*Holidays*  
we will be closed on.....

Monday, May 26 Memorial Day  
Friday, July 4 Independence Day  
Saturday, July 5 Independence Day  
Monday, September 1 Labor Day  
Monday, October 13 Columbus Day  
Tuesday, November 11 Veterans' Day  
Thursday, November 27 Thanksgiving  
Friday, November 28 Thanksgiving  
Wednesday December 24\* Christmas Eve  
Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day  
\* noon closing

## FTC Cautions Consumers About Tax And Rebate Scams

**Here's an opportunity to thwart scammers and phishers:**

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is cautioning consumers looking forward to rebate checks from the government that they may be targets of scammers out to steal their identity. The agency has issued an alert to help consumers avoid this situation.

The schemes work like this: consumers get a call or an e-mail claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Social Security Administration (SSA), or some other government agency, and claiming to need some bit of personal information to process the rebate check. Consumers may be asked to provide their social security number, checking account number, or another piece of personal information that a skillful crook can use to commit identity theft.

E-mails often include a link for a consumer to click: that link may take the consumer to an official-looking – but phony – website that is simply phishing for the consumer's information. Or, the link may take the consumer to a legitimate site but install spyware or some other form of malware on the way.

Neither the IRS nor the SSA collects information about government rebate qualifications by telephone or email. The FTC urges consumers who are contacted by phone or e-mail not to provide any personal information and to report the contact to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov or the SSA at (800) 772-1213.

## Share Rates

Your Board of Directors has declared the following dividend and interest rates for your accounts. The corresponding Annual Percentage Yield also appears. Rates may change at any time after any account is opened. Fees or other conditions could reduce the earnings on any account.

**SHARES: First Quarter, 2008**

Av. Daily Balance	RATE	APY*
\$000.00 - \$99.99	0.00%	0.00%
\$100.00 - \$9,999.99	0.55%	0.55%
\$10,000.00 and more	0.83%	0.83%

**MONEY MARKET: Effective 4/1/2008**

Av. Daily Balance	RATE	APY*
\$0000.00 - \$1999.99	0.00%	0.00%
\$2000.00 and more	0.83%	0.83%

Certificates of Deposit — Call for Rates

**IRA/SEP**

**Second Quarter, 2008**

Av. Daily Balance	RATE	APY*
\$000.00 - \$249.99	0.00%	0.00%
\$250.00 - \$1,999.99	1.05%	1.05%
\$2,000.00 and more	1.40%	1.41%

IRA CDs — Call for Rates

\*APY shown is accurate as of the last dividend declaration date.

**COVERDELL EDUCATION ACCOUNTS:**

(formerly Education IRA'S)

**Second Quarter, 2008**

Av. Daily Balance	RATE	APY*
\$000.00 - \$99.99	0.00%	0.00%
\$100.00 - \$1999.99	1.05%	1.05%
\$2,000 and more	1.40%	1.41%

## Loan Rates

**RATES EFFECTIVE 3/6/2008**

**NEW/USED VEHICLES: 2003 and Newer**

Mos.	APR**
Up to 24	4.49%
25 to 36	4.99%
37 to 60	5.99%
61 to 72 (\$20,000 or more)	7.99%

**USED VEHICLES (2000, 2001, 2002)**

Mos.	APR*
Up to 48	8.24%

Home Equity Loans and Lines of Credit,  
Call for Rates

\*\* Annual Percentage Rates available to qualified members with approved credit.

**SHARE SECURED LOANS**

Mos.	APR**
Flex.	4.75%

**CERTIFICATE SECURED**

2.50% above the interest rate paid on the Certificate of Deposit.

**PERSONAL AND VEHICLE LOANS**

(1999 and older vehicles and other collateral)

Mos.	APR**
Up to 24	12.25%
25 to 36	13.00%
37 to 48	13.25%

**ADDITIONAL SAVINGS**

.50% off for automatic payments through TCC CU Checking Account.

.25% off for automatic payments through any financial institution.