

QUARTERLY TIMES

www.bdfcu.com

Don't get "phished." We never initiate e-mails requesting sensitive account info.

Inside this issue:

*Turn Your Home into a Haven
and Boost the Resale Value
with a HELOC*

page 2

*Bulldog has the Best Vehicle
Financing*

page 3

*Tips to Avoid Getting Hooked
in a Check Scam*

page 3

*Board Members to be Installed
at Annual Meeting*

page 3

*Tax Refund Check Cashing
Policy Explained*

page 3

Rates, Holidays, Contacts

page 4

New Friday Hours Effective May 1

Lobby 9 am - 5 pm

Drive-up 9 am - 6 pm

Earn More With Your Share Account Now

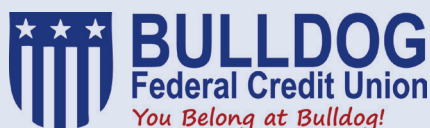
Like the spring thaw, the icy grip of inflation is starting to ease. But we're not out of the woods yet. Prices for everyday essentials like food and housing are still through the roof, disproving the adage "what goes up must come down" at least for now. With family budgets stretched thin, it's essential to squeeze every ounce of value out of your hard-earned money. That's what makes our safe and simple share account such a smart place to stash your cash.

There's no other place in the tri-state where you can earn 1.77%* APY and still have 24/7 access to your money – with no lengthy terms or early withdrawal penalties.

If you can afford it, the smartest way to protect your nest egg is through diversification or spreading your investments across a variety of savings vehicles. This allows you to shield your wealth from downturns in any one sector. Make your BFCU share account part of your diversification plan. It's the perfect place to park the money you need to access every day and still earn a stellar return.

If you don't have the risk tolerance to dive into the stock market, or large chunks of money to chase fleeting CD rates, a BFCU share account is the easiest way for you to stretch your money safely and enjoy an excellent return. Consider bumping up the balance in your share account and take advantage of 1.77% APY while it lasts.

*Annual percentage yield (APY) accurate as of 3/31/24 and subject to change. \$25 must remain in account to maintain membership and earn APY. Balances below \$25 subject to low-balance fee.



Discover how to turn your home into a haven now and a cash cow later

Rates for 30-year fixed rate mortgages hit a 23-year high of 7.79% in October 2023 and fell below 7% in February for the first time since August 2023. While that downward trend is encouraging, don't expect a radical change overnight. The forecast for 2024 is for rates to dip to 6.5% by year's end and home prices to fall only 1.7%...not nearly enough to make a dent in affordability for the average buyer.

Instead, many homeowners are remodeling their home both for their own comfort and with an eye toward future marketability. Knowing what features can boost resale value can help you to prioritize your home renovation projects.

A fresh coat of paint: Whether you tackle this job yourself (be prepared to move a lot of furniture), or you call in the professionals, a fresh coat of paint can create a strong first impression. Choose a neutral color such as gray that has been trending in recent years.

Bathroom remodel: Remove dated wall coverings, replace fixtures, cover an old tub, and swap old shower doors for fast fixes. If there's room in the budget, consider replacing a tub, tile surround, floor, toilet, sink, or vanity. With the amount you'll recoup at resale, a bathroom remodel is a worthy investment.

Kitchen makeover: The kitchen tends to be the hub of a home, and it's a great place to focus your remodeling attention. It's estimated that homeowners can recover over half of the cost of a kitchen upgrade upon selling a home. Trends include drawer-style microwaves and dishwashers, commercial ranges, hidden outlets, and even wine refrigerators.

Updated heating and cooling system: Homeowners may be able to recoup 85% of the cost of new HVAC systems when they sell their homes. Many millennial buyers are not willing to overlook old mechanical systems.

Curb appeal: A home's exterior is the first thing buyers will see. Often buyers will equate a home that features an impressive exterior and welcoming outdoor living spaces with meticulous upkeep and attention to detail on the inside as well.

Whether your improvements are for your own enjoyment, or you're thinking ahead toward resale, the best place to start is with a HELOC. Variable rate HELOCs are lines of credit based on your credit score and available equity. They feature a 10-year draw period during which time you can use and re-use those funds as you pay down the loan. Because they're secured by your home, rates are typically much lower than other types of loans.

With a HELOC from Bulldog, you'll save up to \$1500 because we pay your closing costs. One low \$225 application fee covers the appraisal, title search, recording fee, document stamps...everything! The more you save on your financing, the more you'll have to spend on your renovation. Shop and compare. When you're ready to get started, visit our website to learn more, then call to make an appointment with one of our real estate lending professionals today.





Go Ahead, Do the Research—

We Have the Best Vehicle Loans!

If you're one of those select few "extremely well qualified buyers" who qualify for primo dealer financing on a brand new vehicle, congratulations! But for the rest of us, there's Bulldog.

You can get rates as low as 5.25% APR¹ for up to 84 months² on a new or used³ vehicle with \$0 down. That's right. 100% financing and rates as low as 5.25% APR for up to 7 years — even...on...used!

Don't just take our word for it. Shop around. If you can find a better deal, by all means take it. We want you to get the best

value for your money. But if you're shopping especially for a used vehicle, or if you need a longer term to make your payments more manageable, then Bulldog financing is for you. Apply now at bdfcu.com or stop by any convenient branch.

¹ Variable rate effective through March 31, 2024, and subject to change. Rates based on credit history; yours may be higher. Variable rates not available through indirect dealer partners. Fixed rates available. ² 84 months on loans of \$25,000 or more. ³ Vehicles over 100,000 miles, add 2% (max. mileage 115,000); Vehicles over 10 years, add 2%.

Directors To Be Installed at Annual Meeting

You're invited to attend the Annual Business Meeting, May 30, at 4:30 p.m. at the credit union's Main Office at 580 Northern Ave., Hagerstown.

Two incumbents will be installed for 3-year terms on the Bulldog Federal Credit Union Board of Directors during the meeting. They are Robert Markle and James Stouffer.

These dedicated volunteers donate a great deal of time and expertise so that our credit union can continue to grow and flourish. We extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation for their unwavering efforts.



The scholarship application deadline is 5:00 pm Apr. 19

Winners will be announced by April 29. Download the app at bdfcu.com

Avoid Getting Hooked in a Check Scam

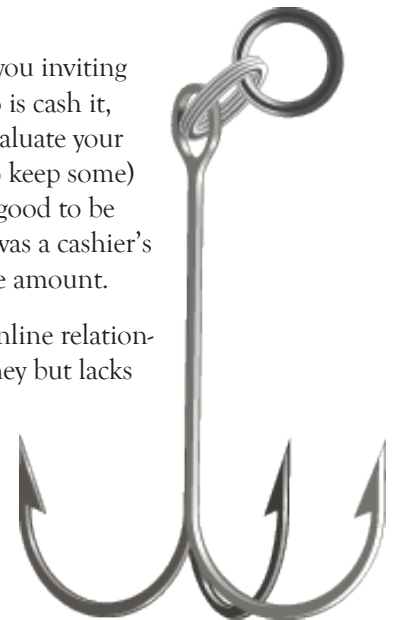
Strap on your waders; it's fishing season! But for those whose job it is to angle you out of your hard-earned clams, every day is "phishing" season. Take the bait and you could get suckered out of a boatload of bucks. Their bait of choice: counterfeit checks. Consider this:

Out of the blue you receive a check made out to you inviting you to be a "mystery shopper." All you have to do is cash it, use the funds to buy bitcoin or gift cards, then evaluate your experience and send most (but not all...you get to keep some) of your purchases back to the sender. Sound too good to be true? It is! That check was counterfeit...even if it was a cashier's check...and now you're on the hook for the entire amount.

Or...Someone with whom you've developed an online relationship (but likely never met in person) is owed money but lacks access to banking services. They have the check made out to you so you can cash it and send the proceeds back to them via gift cards or bitcoin. And you're on the hook for the counterfeit check when it's returned as fraudulent.

Think you're protected by check holds? Think again. A check can be returned as fraudulent long after the hold has expired. Regardless of how long it takes, you're still on the hook for that amount because you received the proceeds.

The moral of the story: If someone sends you a check and instructs you to cash it, keep some, and send the rest back, don't swallow this scam hook, line and sinker. Let this be the big one that got away.



Tax Refund Check Cashing Policy

We process federal and state income tax refund checks for members only. If the check is issued in two names and only one is a member or joint owner, it must be personally endorsed by all parties in the presence of an MSR. Photo ID is required. State refund checks must be endorsed by all parties even if they are for deposit only.

Loan Rates & Terms

as of March 31, 2024

FIXED	APR	VARIABLE	APR
Car/Truck/SUV* up to 24 mos.	as low as 6.50%	Car/Truck/SUV* up to appx. 48 mo.	as low as 5.25%
25-36 mos.	as low as 6.75%	49 to appx. 84 mo.	as low as 5.25%
37-48 mos.	as low as 7.00%		
49-60 mos.	as low as 7.25%	Boat/Motorcycle/RV* up to appx. 48 mo.	as low as 5.25%
61-84 mos.	as low as 7.50%	49 to appx. 84 mo.	as low as 5.50%
Boat/Motorcycle/RV* up to 24 mos.	as low as 6.25%	Signature up to 36 mos.	as low as 10.50%
25-36 mos.	as low as 6.50%	37-48 mos.	as low as 10.75%
37-48 mos.	as low as 6.75%	49-60 mos.	as low as 11.00%
49-60 mos.	as low as 7.00%	Share Secured	3.75%
61-84 mos.	as low as 7.25%	Eliteline	as low as 12.50%
Signature up to 36 mos.	as low as 12.00%	First Mortgage	Call for rates
37-48 mos.	as low as 12.25%	Home Equity	as low as Prime+0%
49-60 mos.	as low as 12.50%	Credit Cards	Call for rates



Rates/terms subject to change without notice. Offered to those who qualify with approved credit.
*Secured rates are non-promotional. Extended terms available based on amount financed.

Saving Rates & Terms

as of March 31, 2024

Share Account	Min. Balance	APR	APY
Regular Share	\$25	1.750%	1.77%
Christmas/Vacation Club	none	1.750%	1.77%
Share Draft	none	0%	0%
Money Market Share	under \$2000	0.500%	0.50%
	\$2000 - \$9,999	0.550%	0.55%
	\$10,000 - \$24,999	0.650%	0.65%
	\$25,000 - \$49,999	0.750%	0.75%
	\$50,000 - \$99,999	0.800%	0.80%
	\$100,000 and over	0.800%	0.80%



APY is annual percentage yield. For more information about account terms and conditions and Truth-In-Savings disclosures, please call the Credit Union. Rates subject to change. Call for current APRs/APYs.

Contact Us

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fax (240)420-2000
www.bdfcu.com
email: info@bdfcu.com

York Road Branch
17555 York Road
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Dual Highway Branch
1240 Dual Highway
Hagerstown, MD 21740

The Centre at Hagerstown
17990 Garland Groh Blvd.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Smithsburg Branch
22317 Jefferson Blvd.
Smithsburg, MD 21783

Sharpsburg Pike Branch
10306 Remington Dr.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Homewood at Williamsport
16505 Virginia Ave.
Williamsport, MD 21795

Routing Number: 2550-7751-6

K-9 Line: 888-966-5618

Debit Card Directory

Lost/Stolen: 1-866-559-4805 after hours
Activation/PIN: 1-866-985-2273

Credit Card Directory

24-hr Card Services & Disputes:
1-866-590-7731
Lost/Stolen: 800-449-7728
Activation: 1-800-631-3197
PIN Now: 1-888-886-0083
Rewards: 1-800-637-7728

Lobby Hours

Mon. - Thurs.: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Drive-Up Hours

Mon. - Thurs.: 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
Saturday: 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

**New Friday hours effective May 1:
Lobby 9 - 5; Drive-up 9 - 6**

Homewood Branch

Tues. & Fri. 9:00 a.m. - noon



Stop by and see us!
25th Annual Strawberry Festival
Homewood at Williamsport
Saturday, June 1 • 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Stop by our Homewood branch for a free gift!

HOLIDAYS

Monday, May 27
Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 19
Juneteenth

Thursday, July 4
Independence Day

CU At A Glance

Assets
\$230,738,183
Loans
\$66,396,407
Shares
\$221,486,297
Members
19,279