



# Money Matters

## HALLIBURTON EMPLOYEES' FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

### Newsletter

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#### HEFCU OFFICERS

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Dr. Ray Loghry .....	Vice Chairman
Dwain King .....	Treasurer
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Sylvia England .....	Director
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Gary Lovett .....	Director
Steve Mackey .....	Director
Dr. Gant McPherson .....	Ex-Officio

#### HEFCU STAFF

Phillip Dysinger .....	President
Shirley Clark .....	Vice President of Accounting
Carol Poage .....	Vice President of Marketing/HR
Dawn Megee .....	Branch Manager (Houston)
Nancy Sanchez .....	Branch MSR (Houston)
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Doris Standford .....	Branch Manager (Carrollton)
Robbie Simmonds .....	P/T Branch MSR (Carrollton)
Steve Burford .....	Branch Manager (Duncan)
Kim McAllister .....	Branch Manager/AVP of Marketing (Duncan)
Linda Avens .....	Loan Officer
Jami Headley .....	Loan Officer
Holly Kruger .....	Loan Admin Clerk
Anissa Morrow .....	Loan Admin Clerk
Darlene Newberry .....	Loan Admin Clerk
Sharon Bush .....	Electronic Services Coordinator
Margaret Kapchinsky .....	Electronic Services
Sonia Crispin .....	P/T Electronic Services
Billie Copeland .....	Accounting
Cheryl Scifres .....	Accounting
Jessica Eoff .....	P/T Accounting
Mary Armstrong .....	Administrative Assistant
Amber Bernard .....	Member Service Rep
Terry English .....	Lead Member Service Rep
Lori Brewer .....	Member Service Rep
Jessi Hutto .....	Member Service Rep
Holly Jackson .....	Member Service Rep
Jamie Jordan .....	Member Service Rep
Melissa Keck .....	Member Service Rep
Beverly Ketchum .....	Member Service Rep
Daiquiri Shelton .....	Member Service Rep
Cynthia Whaley .....	Member Service Rep
Ann Brown .....	P/T Member Service Rep
Amanda Fuller .....	P/T Member Service Rep
Lauren Hendrick .....	P/T Member Service Rep
Desiree Ramirez .....	P/T Member Service Rep
LaWanda Allen .....	P/T Receptionist
Melba Howerton .....	P/T Receptionist
Joyce Russell .....	P/T Receptionist
Debbie Specht .....	P/T Receptionist
Nona Driskell .....	P/T Office Assistant

#### Supervisory Committee

Vickie Pollock .....	Chairman
Mary Beck .....	Member
Travis Buchanan .....	Member
Gerald Kierbow .....	Member
Gerald Riley .....	Member

#### WHAT'S YOUR SCORE?



Who's keeping score? The credit industry is. Every time you apply for a new credit card, a mortgage, perhaps even an insurance policy or a job, your application is judged in part on your credit score.

A credit score is a three-digit number that lenders use to objectively measure your creditworthiness. Each lender sets different ranges for what it considers "good" and "bad" credit scores. Consumers with lower credit scores often pay higher interest rates on mortgages, credit cards and auto loans because they're viewed as riskier members.

#### WAYS TO BOOST YOUR CREDIT SCORE

These tips can maximize your score and influence your credit worthiness.

1. Be punctual. Late or missed payments, foreclosures, and bankruptcies have the greatest negative effect on your credit score. This accounts for 35% of your credit score, so make sure to pay your bills on time.
2. Check your credit report regularly. Don't let inaccurate information ruin your credit score. Consumers are entitled to one free credit report per year, which you can get online at [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com).
3. Keep debt in check. Try to keep your account balances below 50% of your credit limit. About 30% of your credit score is based on the amount you owe in relation to your credit limit.
4. Avoid excessive inquiries. New inquiries for credit account for 10% of your score, so multiple credit requests in a short period of time can reduce your score.
5. Keep accounts open. Time is one of the most significant factors that can improve your credit score. 15% of your credit score comes from how long you've been managing credit.
6. Keep a healthy mix. The remaining 10% of your score depends on the types of credit. This includes things like mortgage, a credit card or two, a car loan, and perhaps a retail card.

**YOU CAN NOW VIEW IMAGES  
OF YOUR CHECKS ON LINE.....FREE!**

**DUNCAN OFFICE**  
(580) 255-3550  
1-800-368-2618  
Fax (580) 255-3662

**DUNCAN N. BRANCH**  
(580) 251-9071  
Fax (580) 251-9070

**HOUSTON OFFICE**  
(281) 871-7561  
Fax (281) 871-7560

**CARROLLTON OFFICE**  
(972) 418-3838  
Fax (972) 418-3914

**CU Money Line**  
1-800-390-5961  
(580) 255-2055

**E-MAIL US AT: [info@hefcu.org](mailto:info@hefcu.org) • VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: [www.hefcu.org](http://www.hefcu.org)**

## One Small Step for you — One Giant Leap for Online Safety

We're asking for a bit more information when you sign on to online accounts these days. Maybe your high-school mascot, your dad's middle name, or favorite ice cream flavor.

We're not nosy, just cautious. This small extra step confirms that it's really you accessing your accounts—not some impostor who knows just enough about you to be dangerous.

HEFCU is constantly working on ways to improve our home banking to be more stable and bring aboard new and enhanced features. We will keep you informed of these new features through our web-site.



## Beware of Travel Scams



Vacations are supposed to be carefree times to unwind and reconnect with friends and loved ones. But for consumers who unknowingly book their trips through unscrupulous travel marketers, vacations can be expensive disappointments.

According to the FTC, fraudulent companies promote their travel packages through the mail, by phone, and by unsolicited e-mails. The bottom line: If a vacation package sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

## The Best Time to Buy a Car



Put yourself in the best negotiating position, the time of month or year when you shop for a new car really does matter. Dealerships and salespeople have monthly quotas to meet. So in the last few days of a month, they're especially eager to make deals. Buying a leftover vehicle from the current model year can mean huge savings. Even consider shopping after bad weather. Any time when few people are out and about is a good time to be car shopping.

Even if you get a great deal, don't forget a cardinal rule of car buying: Plan ahead for your financing. Get financing pre-approved from HEFCU before you ever go car shopping. Call 1-800-368-2618 or stop by today!

## Your Home Holds the Key



Unlock the value of your home with a home equity loan.

Home prices have soared to historic highs, while interest rates have fallen to new lows. This offers many homeowners the opportunity to use these unique circumstances to their financial advantage and tap their home's equity. Whether you use it for debt relief, home improvements, or tuition, a home equity loan can help put some money in your pocket and could possibly be used as a tax deduction.

Stop in and find out more about how we can help unlock the value of your home.

## Risk-based Pricing

This is terminology that members will be hearing in the near future. Risk-based pricing is the method used by financial institutions to "cost prequalify" and adjust interest rates according to increased risk with increased cost. Risk factors generally depend on an individual's financial and credit factors, as well as the perceived risk of underlying property or collateral.

Credit score and history, property type, loan amount, loan purpose, and income and asset amounts, are common risk based factors currently used. Lenders "price" loans according to these individual factors and their multiple derivatives. Each derivative either positively or negatively affects the cost of an interest rate. For example, lower credit scores equal higher interest rates and vice-versa. Financial institutions value credit score and history most when pricing interest rates, for this reason it is very important to keep your credit in good shape.

## Holiday Schedule

The Credit Union will be closed on the following days:



**Independence Day** – Wednesday, July 4

**Labor Day** – Monday, September 3

**Columbus Day** – Monday, October 8

