

Happy Holidays

From:

Blackhawk Federal Credit Union

With the holidays approaching, we at the Blackhawk Federal Credit Union would like to take a moment to thank our members for a wonderful year! Both Blackhawk School District and our Credit Union have seen many changes this past year. With all of those changes, we hope to remain a constant in your lives. Along with that hope, we wish for all of our members to enjoy a Christmas season, filled with love, warmth, good food, and family.

NEW MEMBERS

As we look forward to the New Year, we are continuing in our goal to grow our membership. Because we are a closed membership Credit Union (like a secret club), new members have to be qualified to join. Many people may not be aware that they are actually eligible. Remember that the Blackhawk Federal Credit Union membership is available to any parent, sibling, child, grandchild, or economic household member of a current member as well as any Blackhawk School District employees. If you have questions about a family member's eligibility, please call us at the office to confirm. Feel free to invite your family to become a part of the Credit Union you love!

CHRISTMAS CLUB

When is the best time to start thinking about saving for Christmas 2017? How about right now! Yes, we offer a Christmas Club Account at BFCU. Members that take advantage of this account can set up automatic transfers of their desired amount weekly, biweekly, or monthly to help reach next year's Christmas goals. These funds will not be disbursed until the day after Columbus Day. On that day, the funds in the Christmas club account will either be deposited into an accessible savings account here at the credit union, or at special request, a check can be mailed to the member. All of this happens just in time for Black Friday Shopping. One member is using her account to save for her Disney Trip, while another member has funds transferred straight from his paycheck biweekly so that he never has to remember to put the money aside for his Black Friday Shopping. How would you use your Christmas Club Savings?

Don't Forget!

The office will be closed for the Holidays on the following dates:

Monday, Dec 26, 2016
Monday, Jan 2, 2017

Have You...

Moved, changed your phone number, last name, or email address?

Contact us at the office to make sure all of your information is up to date!

Blackhawk Federal Credit Union

2358 Darlington Rd, Beaver Falls, Pa 15010 – (P) 724.846.7929 (F) 724-847-7618 – info@bfcu.net

DORMANT ACCOUNTS

Have you received a letter from us indicating that your account is dormant and something must be done? It is our policy at Blackhawk Federal Credit Union that a member will be charged a \$10.00 inactivity fee if that members account is left dormant for 24 months. A checking account with less than \$100.00 will be charged a \$10.00 inactivity fee if it is left dormant for a year. Pennsylvania's Unclaimed Property Act requires us to escheat all funds left in an account that has been dormant for 36 months. Those unclaimed funds are surrendered to the State Treasury of the last known residence. Funds will be returned to their owner after the appropriate forms are filed with the State Treasury. To avoid putting our members through the trouble of having to track their money with the Treasury, the inactivity fee is charged and a letter is mailed to the member asking them to take action. They have the option of reactivating the account by making a deposit, withdrawal, or to close the account.

To claim what is yours or get more information about the unclaimed Property Law Visit: <http://www.patreasury.gov/index.html>

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Beaver Valley Chapter of Credit Unions is taking applications for their scholarship again this year. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1st, 2017. Winners will be notified March 10, 2017. There will be 5 scholarships given. Three will be given \$500 each; one at \$1000, and the highest will be for \$1500. The requirements, application, and a photo release form are a separate attachment to the email. You may also stop in at the office to pick up a printed application. We would love to see one of our members awarded this year!

MASTERCARD SECURE CODE

The Blackhawk Federal Credit Union is taking steps to make online shopping safer with your Mastercard Debit Card. To do this, a Mastercard Secure Code is being required for anyone making purchases online with their debit card. There are two ways you may register your card. You can click the following link: https://secure4.es.arcot.com/vpas/elan_mc/enroll/index.jsp?locale=en_US&bankid=31140 or you will be instructed to register when you are making purchases with an online vendor that participates. This code is a 6 digit pin number that must include at least one letter and one number.

How does this code make online shopping safer? Any retailer that participates will require that the pin be typed in at check out or the transaction will not be processed. This means it will prevent fraudsters from using your card numbers to make purchases without your Secure Code. If a purchase is made with a retailer that does not participate and it is fraud, you will automatically have chargeback rights. If you have any questions regarding this change, please don't hesitate to contact us at the office. We are more than happy to help.

VISA CREDIT CARDS

Keep your eyes open! This June, we will be switching Credit Card processors. New Chip Credit Cards will be mailed to existing active cardholders this spring. You will still be able to enjoy all of the perks of being a Visa Credit Card holder as well as our 14.00% Annual Percentage Rate.

LET US HELP YOU SHOVEL AWAY DEBT!

Did you put your Christmas fun on your credit card? Don't pay a high interest rate on your holiday spending. Our Loan Processor, Jessica, is here to help you decide the best way to consolidate your Holiday debt. Call her at 724.846.7929.

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