



# Member News

CARTER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Summer 2005

Our Mission: To improve our members' financial well-being

### Online

Access your account information  
[www.CarterFCU.org](http://www.CarterFCU.org)

### Local Access

#### Telephone Numbers

24 Hour Audio Response System  
(318) 382-1109

Springhill, LA area  
(318) 539-3502

Shreveport, LA area  
(318) 688-3620

Mansfield, LA area  
(318) 872-2711

Minden, LA area  
(318) 382-8400

Magnolia, AR area  
(870) 234-1964

Access Carter Federal's Services listed below by calling your local number.

**Audio Response System**  
Option 3

**Speak to a Representative**  
Option 4

**24-Hour Loans**  
Option 5

**Business Loans**  
Ext. 1580

### Branch Locations

- 100 W. Church St., Springhill
- Bayou Walk - Kroger  
6652 Youree Dr., Shreveport
- 6885 Bert Kouns, Shreveport
- 1204 Polk St., Mansfield
- 918 Homer Rd., Minden
- 45 Hwy 79 N., Magnolia, AR

## We've Filled Our Auto Loan Pool with

# 20 Million Bucks!

### Don't Let This Great Deal Sink! Rates are Going Up!

It's no secret that the Federal Reserve is pushing rates higher. If you're going to buy a new or used vehicle in the near future, act now and save money by financing before rates go higher!

### Give Us a Chance to Quote Your MRC (extended warranty) and GAP!

In many cases, you'll be able to purchase your Mechanical Repair Coverage (often called extended warranty) and GAP from Carter Federal at a considerable savings over the dealer cost. Just ask for a quote when you purchase and finance your next vehicle with Carter Federal.



### Take advantage of loan rates

as low as **4.25% APR\*** and **Financing up to 105%!**

### Plus, 90 Days No Payment!

### Credit Union Financing is a Smart Way to Save

Those 0% financing deals usually require paying full price for the vehicle. If dealers require financing with them to earn the cash rebate, go ahead and sign on the dotted line, then bring your loan to Carter Federal and we'll work hard to help you save money on your monthly payments!



## Don't Wait... The Water's Great!

Claim your portion of our 20 million dollar loan pool before the funds are drained away. Call the Carter Federal branch in your area and select option 5 (see the list at left). You can always stop-in and visit with a loan officer at any branch, or apply online 24/7 at [www.CarterFCU.org](http://www.CarterFCU.org).



\* APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Limited time offer, may be withdrawn at any time. When this auto loan pool is exhausted, the special financing rate and term will revert to standard credit union loan policy. Not every member will qualify for the lowest financing rate. Carter Federal's best loan rate is 4.25% APR with rates ranging up to 14.75% APR. Terms are available from 24 to 72 months. Visit with a Carter Federal loan officer to discuss your rate. Your rate will be determined by your credit worthiness. Rates are subject to change without notice. 105% financing is determined using the MSRP for new vehicles and NADA average retail for used vehicles. Offer ends September 30, 2005. Member eligibility required.



# 4.25% APY\*\*

## 15-Month CERTIFICATE SPECIAL\*\* Take Advantage of This Fantastic Offer Before It's Gone!

\*\* APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Limited time offer, may be withdrawn at any time. This 15-month non-renewable certificate special requires a \$5,000 minimum deposit, is not eligible for Carter Federal's jumbo bonus, nor is it available as an IRA or Roth certificate. This offer is not available to brokers, dealers, or other financial institutions. Membership eligibility required. Dividends compounded monthly. Additional deposits not allowed. Penalty for early withdrawal. All other certificates require a \$1,000 minimum deposit and are available as IRA and Roth certificates.



# Read the *Fine Print* for Credit Cards

If you have a credit card or are thinking about acquiring another credit card, it's important to evaluate the costs and rules, including interest rate, annual fee, and grace periods. Here are some other tips to consider:

- If there is a short-term introductory rate, look for the actual interest you'll pay later. Rates can be an amazing 24%, even higher. CFCU rates are fixed.
- The introductory rate can sometimes only apply to balance transfers. If the offer is for a rate of 1.9% for the first six months, the rate only applies if you are transferring a balance. CFCU doesn't offer temporary rates, but rather the lowest rate available to you, based on your creditworthiness.
- Be weary of balance transfer fees and annual fees. CFCU does not charge an annual fee or a balance transfer fee.



- On some credit cards, you will pay a higher rate on cash advances. With a CFCU Visa you pay the same rate for purchases as you do for cash advances.
- Closely review statements and other rate or policy notices as you receive them. Fees and rates can mysteriously change.
- Keep the original agreement and disclosure, as well as any subsequent notices you receive.
- Do not be afraid to complain or cancel a card if you think you are not being treated fairly.

Credit Union Member Sara Baker shares her experience with an introductory rate special.

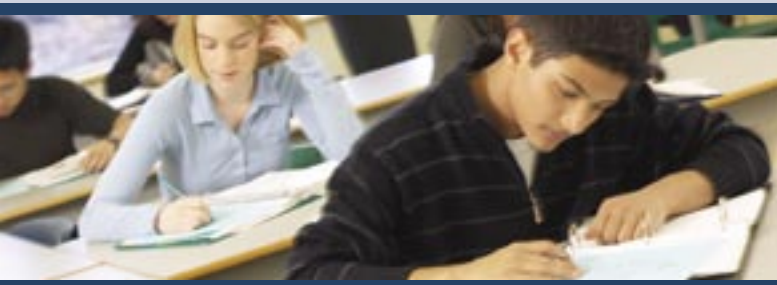
*"We bought a four-wheeler through a dealer's credit card company because they were offering a rate of 3.9% for the first three years. When it came time to make my first payment, I made my payment over the phone using my checking account. Whenever I received my next statement I noticed that I was charged the regular rate of 17.9%. I called to make them aware of the error. They responded that since I used their automated service for that payment they charged me the higher rate. What it boils down to is this — if I had made my payment by mailing them a check I would have gotten the 3.9% for that payment. The only way to take advantage of the 3.9% rate is to mail them a check. The company reasoned that they were already giving me the convenience of the low rate, so I could not use the convenience of the automated service."*

Your best choice is a Carter Federal Classic or Platinum VISA, from the people you know and trust. Our fixed rates range from 8.9%-13.9% APR (depending on qualifying credit), and you'll never have to worry about fine print tricks.

## Take Advantage of *Specialty Loans*

### Back-to-School Loans

Carter Federal knows what back-to-school time means. It means new clothes, new supplies, new uniforms and much more. It'll be time for school again before you know it, but it's never too late to think about back-to-school loans. If you need a helping hand, Carter Federal is here to help. Take out a loan for whatever back-to-school items you need. Then you can relax and pay it off over the next few months.



### Vacation Loans

Everybody needs a summer vacation, but not every one can afford it. With a Carter Federal vacation loan, you can. Take out a loan and take a much-needed break. You can leave all your worries behind knowing that you got a great rate on the loan... and were able to take a great vacation.

# Improve Your Credit Score with Carter Federal's Score Enhancement

Did you know that "information in your credit report can affect your ability to get a job, a mortgage, a loan, a credit card or insurance", according to the Federal Trade Commission (2/8/02). Now that you know that, you'll be glad to hear about Carter Federal's Score Enhancement.

With Score Enhancement, we will help you review, protect and strengthen your credit. You'll also learn ways to increase your credit score, so that you'll qualify for better loan rates the next time you apply for a loan. Let Carter Federal help empower you to manage your credit. Call your local Carter Federal number, option 4, go to [www.CarterFCU.org](http://www.CarterFCU.org), or visit a branch near you to speak to one of our employees today!

*These are not CFCU rates. These rates are based on the national average for a \$150,000 mortgage loan. Rates are subject to change daily.*

YOUR FICO® SCORE	YOUR INTEREST RATE	YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENT
720-850	5.74%	\$875
700-719	5.87%	\$887
675-699	6.40%	\$939
620-674	7.55%	\$1,054
560-619	8.53%	\$1,157
500-559	9.29%	\$1,238

## GOOD FINANCIAL HABITS For Kids!

It's never too soon to teach your youngsters good money management skills. Statistics show that children today have more disposable income than ever before... and they're spending at a rapid rate. Of course, spending is easy; but learning to save is crucial for their success in later life.

Summer jobs provide an excellent learning opportunity. If you haven't opened a savings account for your child, do it now. All it takes is a \$25 minimum deposit. Then show your children how to make their money grow. Here are some guidelines that will help:

### GUIDELINES TO LAST A LIFETIME

- Help your children set savings goals.
- Choose realistic goals. These may include making weekly or monthly deposits or saving to purchase a special item.
- Encourage them to save 15% of allowance, earnings, or cash gifts.
- Show you value your children's efforts by rewarding good savings habits. Rewards may be as simple as a milk shake on the way home from making a deposit at the Credit Union, or a movie when a savings goal is met.
- Small savers can become "big earners" by opening a Young Savers Account with only \$25. This account does not have any low balance fees and deposits can be made at any time. This is an ideal option for a teen with a summer job.

Regularity is the key. A child who gets "hooked on" building wealth through saving is less likely to get "hooked" into debilitating credit card debt later on.

Good habits are one of the best things we give our children — because they last a lifetime.





PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #1079  
Shreveport, LA

MAY 2005 STATS	
Assets	\$104,339,088
Shares	\$92,358,576
Loans	\$88,329,317
Members	18,206

Routing #311-175-983

**HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

The service centers will be closed for business on these days:

**Labor Day**  
Monday, September 5, 2005

**Columbus Day**  
Monday, October 10, 2005

ALL Service Center locations will be OPEN Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve (close at 1:00 pm) and New Years Eve (close at 1:00 pm).

**NCUA** Each account is insured up to \$100,000 by the National Credit Union Administration, an agency of the federal government.

**EQUAL HOUSING LENDER** We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Carter Federal offers a \$2,000 scholarship each year to a very deserving college-bound member. Please join me in congratulating AMANDA YARBROUGH, a high school student at Mansfield High School. She currently has a grade point average of 3.99, and is in the top 1% of her class. She is very involved in her community and was selected last year as a Student Representative from Louisiana to attend ELAB (Environmental Study) in Belize, where she was able to experience the rainforests and coral reefs. We wish Amanda the very best as she begins her career path.



Amanda Yarbrough

## Branch Management Team

- Springhill**  
Vickie Kinchen, *Manager*
- Shreveport Bayou Walk-Kroger**  
Melissa Dale, *Asst. Manager*
- Shreveport**  
Cora Chavez, *Manager*  
Bridget Cassell, *Asst. Manager*
- Mansfield**  
Scott Gannon, *Manager*
- Magnolia**  
Kay Emerson, *Manager*
- Minden**  
Sandy Bounds, *Manager*
- Call Center**  
Peggy Matthews, *Manager*
- Business Services**  
Bernie Paga

## Senior Management Team

- James P. Gibson  
*President/CEO*
- Lisa Lewis, CCUE  
*Vice-President of Operations*
- Earl Hodgkins  
*Vice-President of IT*
- Sherrell Matlock, CCUE  
*Vice-President of Finance*
- Laurie Griffith  
*Vice-President of Marketing*
- Herb Doughty  
*Vice-President of Lending*
- Tim Shields  
*Assistant Vice-President of Lending*

## Board of Directors

- Roy Spence, Jr. *Chairman*
- Joyce Butler
- Frankie Craig
- Philip Day
- Billy Dubois
- Robert Hood
- Kathleen Lindsey
- Robert Lyons
- Rachel McDonald

# Welcome Director Dubois



Billy Dubois

Billy Dubois has joined Carter Federal's board. Mr. Dubois is a veteran of the U.S. Army and is a Shift Supervisor at International Paper Co. in Springhill, where he has worked for 37 years. He is a member of Calvary Baptist Church and enjoys spending time with his family, fishing and hunting. He and his wife, Winnie, have been married for 33 years and have two grown children and three grandchildren.