



W I N T E R U P D A T E 2 0 0 7

# New Year's Resolutions

*Lose weight. Start exercising.  
Call Mom more often.  
Yadda. Yadda. Yadda.*

This year, why not make a resolution that is not only easy to keep, but smart as well. Check out BVCU's

## Cash-Out Refinance.

Use the equity in your home to consolidate your debt. Use the cash to pay for the upcoming tax season. Or so much more!

By refinancing your first mortgage and receiving cash back you can enjoy:

- Interest rates lower than your credit cards

- Lower monthly payments than credit cards
  - Income tax deductions\*
  - One monthly payment instead of multiple payments
- (continued page 4)*



**TODAY & TOMORROW** we're here for you

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Holiday Closures:

Monday, January 1  
*(New Year's Day)*

Monday, January 15  
*(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)*

Monday, February 19  
*(Washington's Birthday)*

## FREE SEMINARS

### MEMBERS Retirement Solutions Seminar

"Retirement Income"  
Monday, March 19  
*(Louisville)*

Wednesday, March 21  
*(Longmont)*

**RSVP: 303.473.4331**

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# Helping Hands!

## Volunteers Needed for BVCU Board

The annual meeting and volunteer election are upon us. Volunteers are essential to BVCU to help provide the

credit union's strategic direction, ensure that sound policies are established and adhered

*(continued page 3)*



# 5

## FICO Score Factors You Need to Know

Many people lack knowledge about their credit scores, arguably the single most influential number in their lives. The pie chart and information below show the five categories that make up a FICO credit score.

### 1. Payment History: 35%

This category includes payment history information about several different types of accounts such as credit cards, retail accounts and installment loans. Many factors are considered including number of past due items on file, amount past due and how long past due.

### 2. Capacity : 30% (Amount You Owe)

This category is weighted heavily because the majority of Americans who go bankrupt charge up their cards to the limits before they file. It is in your best interest to keep balances low on all revolving credit and pay off debt within open accounts instead of closing accounts and con-

solidating it into one or two accounts with higher balances.

### 3. Credit History Length: 15%

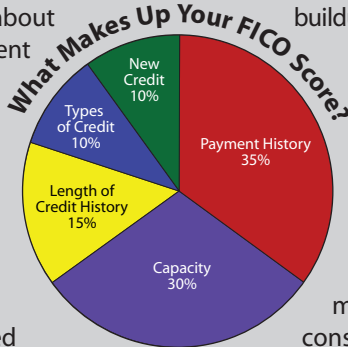
Even if you no longer want an older account, think twice about closing it. Lenders are looking for borrowers with long credit histories. Also, if your credit is newly established be cautious about opening too many accounts. Rapid buildup may look risky.

### 4. Types of Credit: 10%

This category looks at the overall mix of credit such as credit cards, mortgages or consumer finance accounts. Try to balance the mix but note that adding accounts will not likely improve your scores.

### 5 New Credit: 10%

Approximately 10% of your credit score is based on how many recent new accounts you have established. When rate shopping, try to do it all in a two-week period since numerous inquiries will count only once in that time frame. Also, if you check your credit scores through a credit reporting agency, it will not affect your credit.<sup>1</sup>



## Link Up!

2006 marks the 20th anniversary of the Link Up for Children's Hospital seasonal fundraiser. In the past, BVCU has joined over 50 Colorado credit unions to help raise more than \$2 million and this



year's goal is to add another \$150,000 more to that total.

At the midway point in December,

BVCU had already raised **\$1,440** in Links towards their **goal of \$2,800**. Kathy Britton, Broadway's Assistant Branch Manager, led the charge with \$318 in Links. She proudly presented Children's Hospital with BVCU's chain of links on December 14.

We'd like to thank our members and our staff for their ongoing generosity to this worthy cause.



# Retirement Income Seminar to be Held on March 19th and March 21st



## Financial Services

There's a big difference between not working and not worrying. But for millions of Americans, the worrying begins after the working ends. A "hit-or-miss" plan for generating retirement income may prevent you from experiencing the type of joyful, stress-free retirement you have worked so hard for. Don't let this happen to you. Learn answers to your retirement income planning questions now.

Attend a no-cost, no-obligation Retirement Income Seminar on:

**March 19th at 6:00PM  
at Boulder Valley  
Credit Union,  
Louisville Branch  
800 Coal Creek Circle  
Louisville, CO 80027**

Or:  
**March 21st at 6:00PM  
at St. Vrain Valley  
Credit Union  
777 21st Avenue  
Longmont, CO 80501**

This seminar will concentrate on the strategies and planning necessary to make your retirement successful. We'll address

the many issues affecting retirees such as:

- How do I get the most from my pension and Social Security?
- How should I invest to generate income during my retirement?
- How can I make sure that I can meet my health care needs?
- What sources of income should I draw upon and when?

For more information, or to reserve your place, call David Richey the MEMBERS Financial Services representative at **303.473.4331**.

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## We Need Your Help! (cont'd from pg. 1)

to, and maintain that operations are within the best interest of our members. We strongly believe that in order to continue building a sound organization, we need the support of the members and the community.

Our volunteers are members elected to three-year terms. We offer training and development opportunities. Volunteers spend 10 to 15 hours a month in service to the credit union and its members.

For more information, please direct inquires to:

**Boulder Valley Credit Union  
c/o Nominating Committee  
5505 Arapahoe Ave.  
Boulder, CO 80303**

Or call Jamie at **303.415.3501**.

Applications must be received by January 31, 2007.

# Resolutions — the New Cash Out Refinance Loan from BVCU

(cont'd from pg. 1)

So sure...go ahead and lose weight. Read more scholarly books. Climb Mount Everest. But whatever you do, get in shape. Financial shape that is with BVCU's Cash-Out Refinance.

If you're planning on any big purchases or you're carrying any credit card debt, you owe it to yourself to check out this new product from your credit union. Now that's grounds for a New Year's celebration!

Call **303.415.3505** or apply online today at **[www.bvcu.org/mortgages](http://www.bvcu.org/mortgages)**

\*Please consult your tax advisor.



# BVCU News

## NEW BRANCH HOURS!

For your convenience, we have added **Saturday drive-thru hours** at our Arapahoe Branch. The branch is now open Saturday morning from **9AM to 12PM.**

We have also **extended our hours at our Broadway branch** on Fridays. We are now open until 6PM on Friday evenings. We hope you find these additional hours of service beneficial.

As always, any suggestions you might have on how we can better serve you are always welcome. Please call **303.442.8850** to speak with a Member Service Representative.

## RAINBOW REWARDS ARE COMING SOON!

You've probably seen the advertising or heard about Rainbow Rewards on the radio. And we're proud to now offer our members this outstanding cashback rewards program.

This community-based endeavor is built from a coalition of Colorado businesses that believe in embracing loyal customers and giving back to the surrounding community.

As a big thank you for being a BVCU member, you'll receive cash back rewards every time you use your Boulder Valley Credit Union Visa Credit and Debit Cards. In addition to BVCU member rewards, Rainbow Rewards will also donate to both local charities and public schools. Watch for announcements within our branches and on our website for when the program becomes available. You may also visit online at **[www.rainbowrewards.com/bvcu](http://www.rainbowrewards.com/bvcu)** for additional information.

  
**rainbow rewards™**  
*Cash back that gives back.*

Making a  
World of Difference™



# Community Spotlight:

## CONGRESSMAN UDALL ANNOUNCES NEW BVCU EMPLOYER ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAM IN BOULDER

Boulder Valley Credit Union Members and Employees had plenty of reason for celebration on International Credit Union Day (ICU) including news of the new BVCU Employer Assisted Housing Program.

A core value of credit unions is to give back to the communities they serve. Boulder Valley Credit Union is committed to this deep-rooted philosophy! The announcement of BVCU's EAH fell —most appropriately—on the morning of ICU Day, October 19, 2006, when over 100 million credit union members around the world celebrate the big difference credit unions make in the lives of their members.

U.S. Congressman Mark Udall and Boulder's Mayor Mark Ruzzin heralded BVCU as the **first credit union in the state** to offer an Employer Assisted Housing benefit program to employees.

"When more employees can purchase homes within our community, the employee wins, the employer wins, and our community wins," explained U.S. Rep. Udall.

Boulder's Mayor, Mark Ruzzin commented that amid escalating housing costs, this

employee benefit helps to make home ownership possible for more people and helps employee retention as well.

"I am extremely pleased to announce that BVCU is continually expanding our employee benefits package to include this assistance to our employees. Promoting homeownership is good for our communities and our business. I encourage more employers in our community to investigate offering down payment and other housing assistance benefits, which will help them recruit and retain good employees," said Rick Allen, BVCU's President/CEO.

In addition, the credit union plans to assist its affiliated employer groups and other companies so that they can offer this exciting benefit to their employees as well. The program provides home buyers with down payment assistance to ease the burden and difficulties many home owners face. The Employer Assisted Housing program is a powerful benefit that helps home buyers achieve the dream of home-



From Left to Right: Steve Shrader, VP of Operations; Rick Allen, CEO/President; Boulder Mayor Mark Ruzzin; Kimberley Morris, Mortgage Lending Manager; Congressman Mark Udall; Wayne Turnacliff, BVCU Board Chairman; Jason Bauer, Marketing Manager.

ownership amid escalating housing costs.

Now that we have laid the groundwork for this exciting program, it should be much easier for other employers to develop and implement the program for their employees," said Wayne Turnacliff, BVCU's Board Chairman.



The celebration included a hearty BBQ along with cake and coffee. We also had games and prizes including Nuggets tickets, a DVD player and an MP3 player.

## Meet Gae Wells

We thought it was about time you met the voice of BVCU, Gae Wells. For the last 6 years Gae has been the receptionist at the Arapahoe Branch and is responsible for directing all phone calls coming into the credit union. Now you know the friendly face that goes along with the helpful voice.



Gae Wells

Get the best  
Refund Possible



With TurboTax Online<sup>SM</sup> and BVCU.

It's not too early to begin thinking about your taxes. By planning now, you still have time to make changes that can help lower your taxes — plus, you'll get an idea of how big your refund will be! We're pleased to offer our members the industry leading TurboTax Online to help make the planning and filing process quick and easy.

Visit our website to find ways to:

- Identify deductions and other money-saving opportunities
- Browse important tax tips and articles
- Use interactive tools, like tax calculators

To get started today, visit [www.bvcu.org](http://www.bvcu.org) and click on the TurboTax link under Marketplace and Other Services.

TurboTax and TurboTax Online, among others, are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Intuit Inc. in the United States and other countries.



### Arapahoe **ATM**

5505 Arapahoe Avenue,  
Boulder, CO 80303  
Phone: 303.442.8850  
Toll Free: 800.783.8850  
Fax: 303.440.0838

### Lobby Hours

Monday, Tuesday,  
and Thursday:  
8:30am - 5:00pm

Wednesday:  
9:30am - 5:00pm

Friday: 8:30am - 6:00pm

### Drive-Thru Hours

Monday, Tuesday,  
and Thursday:  
7:30am - 5:30pm

Wednesday:  
9:30am - 5:30pm

Friday:  
7:30am - 6:30pm

Saturday: 9am - 12pm

### Broadway

2667 Broadway,  
Boulder, CO 80304  
Phone: 303.449.3551  
Toll Free: 800.783.8850  
Fax: 303.449.0438

### Branch Hours

Monday, Tuesday,  
and Thursday:  
8:30am - 5:00pm

Wednesday:  
9:30am - 5:00pm

Friday:  
8:30am - 6:00pm

### Louisville **ATM**

800 Coal Creek Circle,  
Louisville, CO 80027  
Phone: 720.890.0404  
Toll Free: 800.783.8850  
Fax: 720.890.0407

### Lobby Hours

Monday, Tuesday,  
and Thursday:  
8:30am - 5:00pm

Wednesday:  
9:30am - 5:00pm

Friday: 8:30am - 6:00pm

### Drive-Thru

Monday, Tuesday,  
and Thursday:  
7:30am - 5:30pm

Wednesday:  
9:30am - 5:30pm

Friday: 7:30am - 6:30pm

Saturdays: 9:00am - noon

### Estes Park **ATM**

453 E. Wonderview Ave.  
(In Stanley Village)  
P.O. Box 4049,  
Estes Park, CO 80517  
Phone: 970.577.0750  
Toll Free: 800.783.8850

### Lobby Hours

Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, and Friday:  
9:00am - 5:00pm

Wednesday:  
9:30am - 5:30pm



Over 25,000 surcharge-FREE  
ATMs are also available  
nationwide, visit  
[www.bvcu.org/convenience](http://www.bvcu.org/convenience)  
for a complete listing.



**ATM** = ATM onsite