



491 Raritan Street  
Sayreville, NJ 08872

PRST STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
NEW BRUNSWICK NJ  
PERMIT NO 72110

# Money Mentor

JANUARY 2010

www.rbfcu.coop



## Coming Soon! New Edison Branch!

Raritan Bay FCU will be opening an office at 1581 Route 27, Edison.

Our new full-service branch will feature:

- 24-hour Drive up ATM
- Drive-Up Teller Service
- Friendly & Knowledgeable Staff

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## Too Many Debts Weighing You Down?

Is your monthly payment absorbed by finance charges and late fees? Take that weight off your shoulders with a debt consolidation loan at the Credit Union. Get a handle on your high-rate debt. Our low fixed rates and flexible terms add up to affordable payments. Want even more convenience? Arrange for automatic payments or payroll deductions. A consolidation loan is a smarter way to repay your debts. Call our loan department today at **732.727.3500 ext. 220** for more information or visit us online at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop).

- Post Holiday Loan**
  - Rates as low as 7.99% APR\*
  - Terms up to 12 months
  - Borrow up to \$7,000
- Signature Loan**
  - Rates as low as 9.95 % APR\*
  - Terms up to 48 months
  - Borrow up to \$10,000

For more information and application, visit our website at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop) or contact our Loan Department at **(732)727-3500 ext.220**

\*APR= Annual Percentage Rate. Rates are accurate and current as of a January 1, 2010. Rates subject to change without notification. All loans subject to approval. Proof of income may be required. Rates published are base rates. Actual rate may vary based on individual creditworthiness.

## Holiday Closures

Raritan Bay FCU will be closed on the following days:

- Friday, January 1, 2010:** New Year's Day
- Monday, January 18, 2010:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Monday, February 15, 2010:** President's Day

## Borrow from Your Credit Union & Save

Never Borrow Anywhere Without Checking with Your Not-For-Profit Lender, Raritan Bay Federal Credit Union.

### Attend Your Credit Union Annual Meeting

**Friday, May 7, 7 p.m. – Main Branch, Sayreville**  
**Reports by Credit Union Management & Directors**

**All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Everyone present will receive a copy of the Credit Union's Annual Report. Light refreshments will be served.**

**Annual Meeting Grand Door Prize: Win a \$100 Gift Card. For more information, call, stop by or visit us at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop).**

## Membership... Our Door is Open!

You are eligible for membership if you live, work, worship, attend school or have a business or other legal entity in Middlesex County or are related to an existing member.

## Resolve to Budget, Save and Invest in the New Year

January is a good time to take stock of your personal finances. You can make positive changes to your spending and saving habits, whether it's making a New Year's resolution to get spending under control, figuring out how to save for a down payment on a house, or analyzing your investment portfolio. Many people, however, don't know where to start.

### Where are you now?

Start with a personal assessment. Ask yourself: Do you track where your money goes? Have you identified your spending leaks? Do you have a written spending plan? Do you have an emergency or rainy-day fund? Do you live within your means? Do you have written financial goals?



### Know the difference.

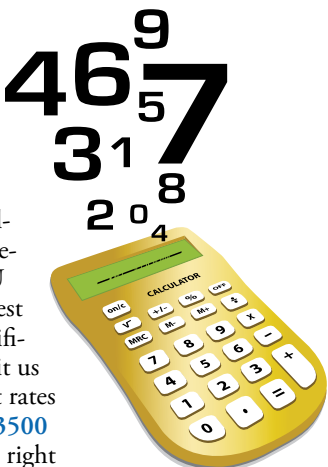
Many people think that if they don't overdraw their financial accounts, they're doing just fine. But that's not the whole story. Not even close.

Having a plan for different aspects of your life is essential. Consider a plan where you:

- Budget ... for short-term goals.
- Save ... for medium-term goals.
- Invest ... for long-term goals.

### Ask for help

Budgeting, saving and investing are essential components of financial well-being, and they require different strategies. Your friends at Raritan Bay FCU can help you get started. Start your nest egg today with one of our Share Certificates or Money Market Accounts; visit us online at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop) for current rates and terms. Call us today at **732.727.3500** to help you start the New Year on the right financial footing.



## LOCATIONS

### MAIN OFFICE

491 Raritan Street • Sayreville, NJ 08872  
Phone: (732) 727-3500/Fax: (732) 727-2527  
Teller-Phone: (732) 727-3232 or (732) 727-3500 ext. 260  
Web Address: [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop)

### SOUTH RIVER OFFICE

93 Main Street • South River, NJ 08882

### PARLIN SERVICE CENTER

502 Washington Road • Parlin, NJ 08859

### EDISON BRANCH – COMING SOON!

1581 Route 27 • Edison, NJ 08817

### LOBBY AND DRIVE-UP

Monday – Wednesday 8 am – 5 pm  
Thursday – Friday 8 am – 6:30 pm  
Saturday 8 am – 2 pm



We Do Business In Accordance With The Federal Fair Housing Law And The Equal Credit Opportunity Act.



# Let the Sun Shine Through: Refinance Your Car

These days, any extra money can come in handy. If you're trying to cut costs, refinancing your car loan can free up some cash.

With the money you save by refinancing, you might be able to pay down other debt or stash some away in an emergency savings fund.



**Contact us today!** A low-rate auto loan can help you Budget for short term goals. Set up your payment through Direct Deposit, Bill Pay or Automatic Debit.

- Rates as low as 4.99% APR\*
- Terms up to 84 month
- Set up your payment through Direct Deposit
- Credit Disability Protection (Makes your loan payments if you are sick or injured.)
- Credit Life Coverage (Pays off so family members have one less worry)
- Guaranteed Auto Protection Coverage (Pays your loan off if the balance is greater than the insurance carrier will pay. Payments up to 125% of retail value of the auto at the time of the accident.)

Apply right online at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop) today! Or contact our Loan Dept. at **(732)727-3500 ext.220**.

\*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. All loan payments are transferred from a RBFCU Account or credited through Direct Deposit. Add ¼% if payments are not automatically transferred. Qualified borrowers only. Rates subject to change as of 01/01/2010 after notice. Rates published are base rates. The rate you pay will be based on the number of years your loan is financed plus your credit worthiness.

## Go GREEN With These Great Online Services!

Raritan Bay FCU is proud to offer our members a "GREEN" option with these great FREE online services:

**Bill Pay:** Schedule your one-time or reoccurring payments right online and have it automatically withdrawn from your RBFCU Checking Account. No more buying stamps or having to send checks!

**Home Banking:** View your account 24/7 with our FREE home banking. With this great service, you can view processed share drafts, make transfers, check your account balances and so much more!

**eStatements:** No more waiting for your statement to arrive in the mail! With eStatement you will receive an email notification to let you know your statement is ready to view, simply log into your home banking account and view your monthly statement! eStatements are also safe. No more worrying about mail theft; eStatements are safe and secure!

For more information visit us at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop) or contact a Raritan Bay FCU representative at **(732)727-3500**.

## VISA Gift Cards

It's the perfect gift that lets the recipient decide what they really want!

- Choose any denomination from \$10 to \$500
- A low purchase fee of \$3.50 per card lowest in the area
- Eliminate the hassles of wondering what to buy or returning unwanted gifts
- A safe alternative to carrying cash
- Use anywhere VISA Cards are accepted\*
- More flexible than merchant gift cards
- Incredible time saver!



For more information visit us at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop) or contact a Raritan Bay FCU representative at **(732)727-3500**.

\*VISA Gift Cards can not be used at the following locations: ATM, gas stations (pay at the pump), hotels, car rentals. Restaurant transactions have 20% added to authorizations to allow for any tips added.



## Haunted by the Ghosts of Christmas Past? Open an Holiday Club!



Don't let past holiday spending bloopers scare you away from future holiday festivities. Open a Holiday Club Account at your Credit Union and you'll be prepared to shoo away haunting shopping temptations.

Stop in today and we'll get you on the road to a season full of joy and smart saving. Our Holiday Club is for saving not spending.

For more information please visit us on the web at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop) or contact a Member Service Representative at **(732)727-3500**.

## Private Student Loans

Federal loans not enough to cover the cost of your college education? The EdAccess Loan can be the answer to your funding needs.

### Main Program Features:

- Borrow as little as \$2,500 or as much as \$30,000 per year. \$120,000 lifetime maximum
- Defer full principal and interest payments until six months after graduation or leaving school
- Variable interest loan based upon LIBOR index plus margin
- Interest paid on loan may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor
- Zero fees or low fees (2% - 4%) based on repayment options selected. Borrower has the option to choose between making interest payments or a nominal \$25 "Good Faith" payment towards the loan while in school
- Use the funds for any qualified educational expense, including past due tuition bills
- No prepayment penalty and 30-day loan cancellation policy
- Fast pre-approval once we receive your completed application



### Student Benefits:

- Credit + Academic based underwriting. We use the FACS grade, which takes into account the credit history of the borrower/cosigner as well as the academic progress of the student. Good grades and getting closer to graduation means a lower loan rate!
- 1% Interest Rate Reduction once you have entered repayment and repaid just 10% of the loan
- 30 Day No-Fee Return Policy. Find a cheaper way, you can cancel the loan. No questions asked. As long as you cancel within 30 days of approval date, you owe no fees and no interest!
- Zero Fees. Borrowers that choose to pay loan interest while in school pay no loan origination fees. If you choose to make only the \$25 "Good Faith" payment while in school, a small 2%-4% fee applies
- Cosigner release after 24 payments. The cosigner may be released from the loan once the loan is in repayment and the borrower has made just 24 on-time payments. The borrower must meet the minimum credit requirements.

### Eligibility & Credit Requirements:

- Borrower must be enrolled in an eligible school and pursuing a degree program
- Borrower must be a member or join a participating credit union during the online application progress
- Borrower or cosigner must be a U.S. Citizen. Foreign students can apply with a U.S. Citizen as a cosigner
- Freshmen and sophomores must apply with a creditworthy cosigner who has at least 21 months of credit history
- Creditworthy juniors or seniors enrolled in a 4-year program can apply without a cosigner. Applying with a cosigner is highly recommended to qualify for lower rates!

For more information or to apply, visit us on the web at [www.rbfcu.coop](http://www.rbfcu.coop).