

# *The Sheaf*

## ***It's On the House\*\****

Not long ago, consumers turned to home equity loans mostly to fund projects such as remodeling the kitchen or building a deck. Not anymore. Today, people borrow against their home equity to consolidate debt and to pay for medical bills, college tuition, cars, and business start-ups -- as well as home improvements.

Borrowing against home equity takes two forms: loans and lines of credit. A loan has a fixed rate for a set dollar amount and time period. A line of credit is a revolving credit that can be tapped as needed, up to a maximum amount, over a typical term of 5 to 15 years. The interest rate is variable, tied to some index such as the prime rate, and thus can climb later.

Low rates are one reason for the soaring popularity of home equity loans and lines of credit over other forms of borrowing. An added plus is that the interest paid is usually tax deductible\*.



Agriculture FCU offers home equity loans with rates as low as **4.99% APR**<sup>(1)(2)</sup>  
and home equity lines of credit with rates as low as **5.00% APR**<sup>(1)(3)</sup>.

***To apply, log on to [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) or call (888) 451-5626 any time, day or night.***

\*Consult your tax advisor.

<sup>1</sup>APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Rate is effective 09/16/08 and may change at any time without advance notice. Flood and/or hazard insurance may be required. All loans are subject to credit approval. Closing costs must be paid if loan remains open less than 24 months. Minimum amount is \$10,000. Certain restrictions and conditions apply.

<sup>2</sup>To receive the special rate of 4.99%, the maximum amount is \$30,000, maximum term is five years and maximum LTV is 80%. Limited time only.

<sup>3</sup>APR will vary based on the Wall Street Journal prime rate plus or minus a margin and based on LTV and/or your credit rating. The current prime rate is 5.00% as of 04/30/08.

**Online Bill Payment makes  
handling your money easier.**



## **Pay Your Bills Online-- It's Easier and Safer\*\***

Why write checks and pay postage to mail your bills when, with the click of a button, you safely can pay online?

Online bill payment saves you the bother of handwriting checks and envelopes each month. You'll save on postage, too, and online

transactions via secure websites are much safer than mailing checks. Paper checks can be stolen--or your account information compromised--during the several points they're handled in the mail or during processing. With today's identity theft issues, that's a real concern.

At Agriculture FCU, online bill payment is easy and convenient to implement. Just log into your account and enter your service providers' information and then schedule bills to be paid automatically on certain days each month. Or, you can go to our website and pay each bill whenever you wish. Either way, the amount transfers electronically from your checking account to the service providers.

**For more information visit our website at [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) or call (800) 368-3552.**

## Jump for Joy...AFCU VISA Platinum!

- Balance transfer rate of **6.90% APR** with no balance transfer fee\*
- Low fixed rate of **12.90% APR\*\***
- No annual fee
- Online account access

With AFCU's Visa Platinum card you have world-wide acceptance and 24-hour cash advance capabilities. Travel, shop or just run errands with ease!

Apply online at [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) or call (888) 451-5626 any time, day or night.

\*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Rate is effective 09/16/08 and may change at any time without advanced notice. Rate quoted is for balance transfers from non-Agriculture Federal Credit Union accounts only. Full details will be provided when you become a cardholder. Certain restrictions and conditions apply.

\*\*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Rate is effective 09/16/08 and may change at any time without advanced notice. Qualification for a VISA Platinum is based on a credit evaluation and other factors. Those who do not qualify may qualify for an AFCU Classic Visa. Rate quoted is for purchases and cash advances only. Full details will be provided when you become a cardholder. Certain restrictions and conditions apply.



## Education Corner



Agriculture Federal Credit Union Presents:  
Proven Ways to Handle Your Bills Seminar  
Wednesday, October 22, 2008  
USDA, South Building, Room SM-2  
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Lunch will be provided. Seating is limited.  
RSVP to (202) 479-3851 by Oct. 20, 2008.

Agriculture Federal Credit Union Presents:  
Credit Workshop  
Wednesday, October 29, 2008  
M Street Branch - Room 3086  
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Lunch will be provided. Seating is limited.  
RSVP to (202) 479-3851 by Oct. 27, 2008\*.

Agriculture Federal Credit Union Presents:  
Proven Ways to Handle Your Bills Seminar  
Wednesday, November 12, 2008  
M Street Branch - Room 3086  
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

Lunch will be provided. Seating is limited.  
RSVP to (202) 479-3851 by Nov. 10, 2008.

\*To receive a free copy of your credit report, please submit signed credit authorization form prior to the workshop. Ask for the credit form when you RSVP.



### Drive in to great savings.

Who doesn't want to save money? With Agriculture FCU you can get a loan that fits your needs and your budget. With low rates, pre-approval and quick, friendly service, we will get you into a car faster.

New and used auto rates as low as **3.74% APR\*** or refinance\*\* your vehicle at AFCU and enjoy your lower car payments!

Apply online at [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) or call (888) 451-5626 any time, day or night.

\*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Rate is effective 09/16/08 and may change at any time without advance notice. Rate quoted is based on new or used auto with a term of 24 months or less. Rate may vary as it is determined by an evaluation of credit, amount, term and other factors. Certain restrictions and conditions apply.

\*\* Current AFCU auto loans do not qualify.



*Find your way home to Agriculture FCU and begin your dream of financial freedom.*

Open a membership today and enjoy these benefits:

- Home Equity Loans
- Share Savings
- New and Used Auto Loans
- Share Certificates
- Free Financial Check-up
- Over 60,000 Surcharge-Free ATMs Nationwide

*...and many more!*

*We'll guide you through all your financial needs.*

Open your membership online at [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) or call (800) 368-3552 any time, day or night. Use promotion code 2216 to have \$5.00 credited to your savings account just for becoming a member!



Ross McLaughlin, of ABC 7, pictured above, speaks with children ages 3 to 17, at the Youth Seminar, Saturday, September 13th.



Agriculture FCU would like to thank everyone who participated in the second annual Youth Seminar. We hope you enjoyed it and we look forward to seeing you again next year.



AFCU collected books for DC area schools. Fay McDonald, pictured here with students, delivered books to Cardoza High School. Thank you to all who donated.



Let Agriculture FCU **HELP** you with your bills... consolidate and feel the difference!

Use the money to pay off your bills and have one easy monthly payment. With signature loan rates as low as **7.99% APR\*** and terms up to 60 months, you can already feel the difference!

Apply online at [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) or call (888)451-5626.

\*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Rate effective as of 09/16/08. Rate may vary as it is determined by an evaluation of credit, amount, term and other factors. Minimum loan amount is \$500. Terms up to 60 months. Certain restrictions and conditions apply.

**International Credit Union Day.**  
 October 16th  
 Join members worldwide in celebrating our accomplished history, our shared values, and our bright future.

**Holiday Closings:**  
**Columbus Day** - Monday, October 13th  
**Veterans Day** - Tuesday, November 11th  
**Thanksgiving** - Thursday & Friday, November 27th & 28th  
**Christmas** - Thursday, December 25th  
**New Years Day** - Thursday, January 1st

### The Story of Small Change...Big Difference

Charles Sim, director and former chair of Scotwest Credit Union, Glasgow, Scotland, and John Link, director of Agriculture Federal Credit Union, Alexandria, VA, spearheaded this great initiative. The two directors met on a World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU) study tour to Ecuador last year and returned home wanting to get more involved with international credit union development. They later visited the MD&DC Credit Union Association and learned of the international partnership in the works between the Association of British Credit Union League (ABCUL) and the MD & DC Association. On that same trip, they learned about WOCCU's Afghanistan program, where we are helping to rebuild the war-torn country by building financial cooperatives compliant with Sharia law that offer small loans and savings accounts. A subsequent meeting of Sim, Link and Worldwide Foundation Executive Director Valerie Breunig led to the idea of offering everyone at the World Credit Union Conference the opportunity to make a big difference in people's lives with small change, with just the local currency left in their pockets at the end of the conference. They raised a total of \$700 for international credit union development. WOCCU would like to thank two WOCCU Supporters and their credit unions, on opposite sides of the Atlantic, for sponsoring the "small change...big difference" envelopes.

# RATES

	APR*		
Vehicle - Fixed Rate	New	Used	
	100% MSRP	100% NADA	
Up to 24 months as low as	3.74%	3.74%	
Up to 36 months as low as	4.24%	4.24%	
Up to 48 months as low as	4.49%	4.49%	
Up to 60 months as low as	4.99%	4.99%	
Up to 72 months as low as	5.49%	5.49%	
Up to 84 months as low as	5.74%	5.74%	
Recreation Vehicle - Fixed Rate	3.00% + current vehicle offering rate		
Signature Loans - Fixed Rate up to 12 months as low as	7.99%		
Credit Cards - Fixed Rate			
Visa Platinum (no annual fee)	12.90%		
Visa Classic (no annual fee)	14.90%		
Visa Secured	14.90%		
First Mortgages Visit <a href="http://www.agriculturefcu.org">www.agriculturefcu.org</a> for current rates.			
No Closing Costs Second Mortgage - Fixed Rate **	APR*		
80% LTV	Up to 60 months as low as 5.74%		
81% -90% LTV add 1%	Up to 120 months as low as 5.99%		
	Up to 180 months as low as 6.24%		
	Up to 240 months as low as 6.74%		
No Closing Cost Home Equity Line of Credit - Variable Rate	APR*		
80% LTV up to 180 months/as low as	5.00% (Prime)		
90% LTV up to 180 months/as low as	6.00% (Prime + 1.00%)		
Share Savings - Variable Rate	Int. Rate	APY	Min Balance
Base Share Savings	0.25%	0.25%	\$5.00
Club Account	0.25%	0.25%	\$5.00
IRA Share Savings	0.25%	0.25%	\$5.00
Money Market - Variable Rate			
Balance up to \$2,499	0.25%	0.25%	
Balance up to \$2,500	0.65%	0.65%	
Balance up to \$10,000	1.24%	1.25%	
Balance up to \$30,000	1.64%	1.65%	
Balance up to \$40,000	1.88%	1.90%	\$2,500
Balance up to \$50,000	2.08%	2.10%	
Balance up to \$60,000	2.22%	2.25%	
Balance up to \$70,000	2.37%	2.40%	
Balance up to \$80,000	2.57%	2.60%	
Balance \$100,000 or more	2.86%	2.90%	
IRA and Share Certificates - Fixed Rate			
6 months	2.72%	2.75%	\$1,000
12 months	3.06%	3.10%	\$1,000
24 months	3.36%	3.40%	\$1,000
36 months	3.70%	3.75%	\$1,000
48 months	3.80%	3.85%	\$1,000
60 months	4.23%	4.30%	\$1,000
Asset Builder Certificate			
24 months	2.58%	2.60%	\$0

# LOCATIONS & HOURS

South Building Branch  
USDA, Room SM2  
14th and Independence Ave, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Cafeteria Branch  
USDA, Room 1210  
Hours: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Riverdale Branch  
4700 River Road  
Riverdale, MD 20737  
(301) 277-2295

Park Center Branch  
3101 Park Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
(703) 578-2918

M Street Branch \*\*  
1800 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 694-5750

Smithsonian Branch  
Smithsonian Castle, Rm B-10  
1000 Jefferson Drive, SW  
Washington, DC 20560  
(202) 357-2981

\*\* Business hours at this branch are Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

Office Hours  
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm  
Call Center Hours: 24/7  
Online Loan Application: 24/7

## Contact Information

24-hour Call Center  
(202) 479-2270  
(800) 368-3552  
Fax - (202) 479-3877

E-mail  
[members@agriculturefcu.org](mailto:members@agriculturefcu.org)  
Website  
[www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org)

24-hour Telephone Banking  
Audio Response Teller (A.R.T.)  
(202) 479-2270  
(800) 872-AFCU (2328)

24-hour Loans by Phone  
(888) 451-5626

Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 3419  
Alexandria, VA 22302

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[directors@agriculturefcu.org](mailto:directors@agriculturefcu.org)

Clifton Jeter, Chairperson  
Stephen Hawkins, Vice-Chairperson  
John Link, Treasurer  
David Rose, Secretary  
Deborah Ben-David

Iris Carter  
Preston Davis  
Patricia O'Connell  
Elard J. Phillips

## SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

[supervisory@agriculturefcu.org](mailto:supervisory@agriculturefcu.org)

Wilhelmina Bratton  
Arthur Holmes  
Senney Turner

Harolyn Boulware  
Jim Holohan

## PRESIDENT/CEO

Margie Click - email: [margieclick@agriculturefcu.org](mailto:margieclick@agriculturefcu.org)

All rates effective 09/16/2008 and may change at any time without notice. Prime Rate is 5.00% as of the effective date indicated above. Offering rates are subject to change without notice.



Federally insured by NCUA

\*Annual percentage rate. Rate effective 09/16/2008 and may change at any time without advanced notice. Visit [www.agriculturefcu.org](http://www.agriculturefcu.org) for current rates.

\*\* Closing costs must be paid if loan remains open for less than 24 months. There is a \$300 application fee that will be refunded at loan closing. A \$2.00 monthly charge applies if average monthly share balance is below \$100 and aggregate balance of all AFCU accounts is less than \$5,000.