

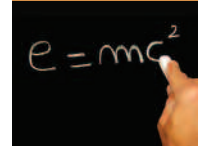
# NEFCU DIRECT TO YOU

MARCH 2010

## E V E N T S & N O T I C E S

### STEM SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

NEFCU's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Scholarship program promotes education in the sciences while supporting students' career goals. This year, NEFCU will award **three \$3,000 scholarships** to NEFCU members applying to or enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate science program. Applications are available at any NEFCU office or online at [nefcu.com](http://nefcu.com), and must be **postmarked no later than April 30, 2010**.



### ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The 2010 NEFCU Annual Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 24 at 5 pm** at the Credit Union's headquarters at 141 Harvest Lane in Williston. Our guest speaker, Art Woolf, is currently an associate professor of Economics at the University of Vermont, was the state economist from 1988-1991, and co-founder of *The Vermont Economy Newsletter*. That evening Mr. Woolf will discuss "The Vermont Economy".

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## P R O D U C T S & S E R V I C E S

### Personalize Your Debit Card!

NEFCU's **NEW** "My Picture Card" is a creative and fun way to personalize your NEFCU Debit Card.

You can choose a picture from our image library, or upload one of your own favorite photos. It can be a picture of you, your family, your pet, or an activity like one of your sports or hobbies.

The "My Picture Card" personalized Debit Card from NEFCU can be yours for only \$6. If you already have a NEFCU Checking Account with a Debit Card, just go to **[nefcu.com/mypicturecard](http://nefcu.com/mypicturecard)** and follow the instructions. You'll get your new, personalized card in the mail.

If you don't have a NEFCU Checking Account with a Debit Card, please first speak to a Member Service Representative at any branch, or call us at 802-879-8790 or 800-400-8790.



*my* picture,  
*my* card,  
*my* picture card



## Sign up for BillPay and you could win \$500!

Save time and postage by paying your bills online – safely and securely

Every month, you receive bills in the mail– your phone bill, electric bill, TV/internet bill, heating bill, etc. – why not reduce the time you spend opening and sorting through these bills, writing out the checks and going to the post office, by switching to NEFCU’s online BillPay?

BillPay is a fast and easy way to manage nearly all of your bills online through PC Banking. All you have to do is enter your account information once, and then let BillPay do most of the rest of the work for you!

### Using BillPay, you can:

- View and pay bills manually with a click of a button
- Make payments to any company, or to anyone – it doesn’t have to be a bill!
- Set up automatic payments
- View and print out reports
- And much, much more!



### Tired of bills and envelopes piling up?

Start having your bills delivered online for free instead of by mail – organized, clutter free, and ready to pay, by choosing an e-bill! An e-bill is an electronic version of your bill that you receive directly within BillPay, that you can view and pay immediately. It looks exactly like your paper bill, except it is delivered to your BillPay account instead of to your home.

To learn more, or to sign up for BillPay, please contact a Member Service Representative at 802-879-8790 or 800-400-8790, or come in to any branch. For most members, BillPay is available at no additional cost\*, so what are you waiting for!

**We will award one member with a \$500\* cash prize – chosen at random from among all those who pay a bill during the months of March and April 2010.**

*\*BillPay is provided at no cost to eMembers, Bank@Work members, and members with loan and/or deposit balances greater than \$5,000. Otherwise there is a fee of \$6 per month. Void where prohibited by law. Employees and their families are not eligible. Only one entry per BillPay user. There will be only one cash prize winner.*

## Build your “nest egg” at NEFCU

### Safe and secure savings options to meet your needs

Having money set aside in a savings account is always a good idea, especially if you’re planning on making a large purchase, hope to send your children to college, or just want to be prepared for a rainy day. Whatever your aspirations may be, we offer a variety of safe and secure savings account options to meet your needs:

**Share Account (Savings)** – All you need is \$5 to start saving today for your next major purchase or vacation.

**Power Account** – Save at higher money-market rates while maintaining easy access to your funds (minimum balance of \$1,000).

**Term Share Certificates** – You can save with higher yields and flexible terms through the credit union equivalent of certificates of deposit (CDs), with NO maintenance fees.

**Future Saver** – Earn the great rate of a term share certificate, with a low initial deposit of only \$25 and the ability to add funds whenever you want.

**IRA** – Save and get a possible tax benefit by investing in Roth, Coverdell Education Savings, SEP or traditional IRAs.

*With **Automatic Savings**, available through PC Banking, you can arrange to have money deposited automatically on a regular basis into your savings or Future Saver accounts, including accounts that you can “name” yourself! In PC Banking, go to Transfers and click on Scheduled Transfer to start making automatic deposits right away. To “name your own” savings account, please speak with a Member Service Representative.*



## Earned Income Tax Credit Do you qualify?

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a refundable federal income tax credit for low- to moderate-income working individuals and families. A tax credit reduces the amount of tax you owe and may also result in a refund.

To qualify, you must meet all of the following rules:

- Must **file a tax return**, even if you did not earn enough money to be obligated to file a tax return
- Must have a valid **social security** number.
- Must have **earned income** from employment or self-employment.
- Filing status cannot be **married filing separately**.
- Must be a **U.S. citizen** or resident alien all year, or a nonresident alien married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien and filing a joint return.
- **Cannot** be a **qualifying child** of another person.
- If no qualifying children, taxpayer must:
  - be age 25 but under 65 at the end of the year,
  - live in the United States for more than half the year, and
  - not qualify as a dependent of another person.
- **Cannot file Form 2555 or 2555-EZ** (related to foreign earned income)
- Must **meet the EITC income thresholds** and limitations
- **Investment income** must be **\$3,100** or less for the year.

To find out more about the qualifications for EITC, see the EITC Announcement on [nefcu.com](http://nefcu.com) or call 1-800-829-1040 or visit the Internal Revenue Service website at: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Additional VT State information is available at 1-866-828-2865 or on the Vermont State Tax Department website at: [www.state.vt.us/tax](http://www.state.vt.us/tax).

Learn Online *at* [nefcu.com/learn](http://nefcu.com/learn)

### THIS MONTH'S FEATURE

## SAVINGS AND YOUR FUTURE

#### ARTICLE:

**THE GREAT RECESSION IS A TEACHER**

#### COACH:

**COUPLES & MONEY**

#### RADIO:

**BUILD A SAVINGS PLAN THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU**

#### CALCULATOR:

**SHOULD I PAY OFF DEBT OR SAVE**

## Seminars *at* NEFCU

### ENERGY SAVED IS MONEY SAVED

Tuesday, March 9

5:30-7 PM

### ABCs OF BUYING A HOME

Thursday, March 11

5:30-7 PM

### UNDERSTANDING BILLPAY

Tuesday, March 30

5:30-7 PM

### SELLING A HOME IN TODAY'S MARKET

Wednesday, April 7

5:30-7 PM

### TAKE CHARGE (GOOD CREDIT CARD PRACTICES)

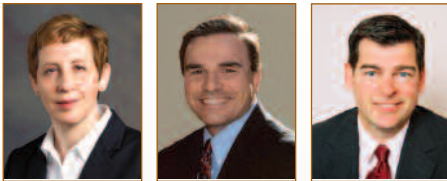
Thursday, April 22

10-11:30 AM

Thursday, April 29

5:30-7 PM

*Note: These seminars are held at NEFCU, 141 Harvest Lane, Williston. Seating is limited. Register at [nefcu.com](http://nefcu.com) or call 800-400-8790.*



**Janet Cooper,  
Chris Miner and  
Roger Webster**

Registered Representatives of New England Securities serving members of NEFCU, can help you evaluate your situation. To learn more, call 802-879-8580 or 800-400-8790 ext.8580 to schedule a no cost, no obligation consultation.

## NO-COST WORKSHOPS

At NEFCU, 141 Harvest Lane, Williston, VT 05495

### Retirement Plan Distributions

**Tuesday, March 23** **5:30 - 7 PM**

The retirement plan distribution method you choose will have different tax implications and may impact how long your funds will last. We are here to help you better understand the options that can help preserve your funds to last throughout retirement and help you avoid costly mistakes.

### Estate Conservation

**Thursday, April 15** **5:30 - 7 PM**

Estate conservation principles can help you manage your estate and prepare for the orderly transition of assets to your heirs. We will talk about the challenges, distribution techniques and strategies that can help you achieve your goals.

### Reservations

Seating is limited. Call 802-879-8790 or 800-400-8790 to reserve your seat today or reserve online at nefcu.com.

## Which Distribution Method Is Right for You?

There are many issues to consider when you make decisions about your retirement. Some of these decisions can affect the longevity of your retirement portfolio. You will need to decide how much you can withdraw safely from your savings and investments - including your retirement plans - each year with the dual goals of maintaining your lifestyle and preserving funds to last throughout your retirement years. The retirement plan distribution method you choose will have different tax implications and may impact how long your funds will last. Knowing and understanding the key decision areas will help you develop the right strategy.

Call today for a financial portfolio review – a no cost, no obligation consultation is a great way to get a second opinion on your current situation.

Before investing, carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the mutual fund and variable annuity as well as their investment options. This and other information is contained in the prospectus, which you should read carefully before investing. Prospectuses are available from your registered representative. Mutual funds and variable annuities are subject to market risk. Your principal value may decline.

**New England Financial and its representatives do not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax adviser or attorney for such guidance.**

New England Federal Credit Union is a separate entity from New England Financial and New England Securities. Each firm is independently responsible for the services it provides. New England Financial is the service mark for New England Life Insurance Company, Boston, MA. New England Life Insurance Company and New England Securities are affiliates. Securities products are offered through Registered Representatives of New England Securities Corp. (Member FINRA/SIPC). Baystate Financial services is a separate entity from New England Securities. Branch office Suite 1400, One Exeter Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. Phone: 617-585-4500

Investment Products are:

• Not FDIC/NCUSIF Insured	• Not a Deposit Product	• May Lose Value	• No Bank/Credit Union/Affiliate Guarantee
• Not a Condition of Any Bank/Credit Union Service		• No Guarantee of Insurance Underwriter Performance	

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