





FROM THE PRESIDENT

Learning from the most common money mistakes other people have made can help you to avoid similar missteps and prepare you for a solid financial future. Consider the 8 mistakes noted below and take precaution to avoid making them!

- **1. Spending more than you earn** Millions live above their means and struggle financially. Controlling your budget can ensure you have money left at the end of the month to add to savings or pay off debts.
- **2. Delaying financial planning** When it comes to time-sensitive financial actions like retirement planning or paying off debt, delaying the process could cost you more money in the long run. Try setting aside time to check in on your finances and accomplish important goals.
- **3. No emergency savings** 60% of Americans don't have enough money in their savings account to pay for an unexpected \$1,000 expense. It's recommended to have enough cash set aside to cover all of your family's expenses for 3-6 months.
- **4. Postponing retirement savings** Age 65 can seem far away for some, but money saved early will grow into a much larger nest egg for later. It's wise to start saving as early as possible and to maximize any matching programs from employers.
- **5. Delaying payoff of high-interest debt** It's hard to save when you're in considerable debt especially if you're losing money every month to high interest rates. Paying off debts with high interest rates is a great strategy that can save you money in the long run.
- **6. Not buying enough insurance coverage** Having the right insurance is key to good financial planning. You should review your insurance coverage each year and determine which policies you may or may not need based on any major life events.
- **7. Not monitoring your credit scores and credit reports** Credit scores can affect you in many ways so it's important to see a credit score similar to what a potential lender may see. You can easily check your profile with each of the 3 nationwide credit bureaus, and then work with your lenders to correct any problems or errors that you discover.
- **8. Not having a will** If you pass away without a will, a court will determine who gets what based on your state's laws. Creating a will makes your wishes known and reduces the stress of your surviving loved ones who are already facing a difficult time.

Brian Akin President/CEO

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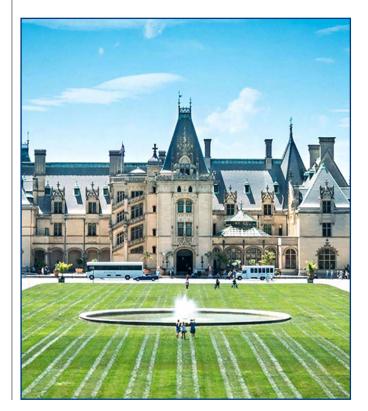
All loans subject to credit approval. See credit union for full details.



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WHAT IS AN EMERGENCY FUND AND HOW CAN I START ONE?

An emergency fund is a savings account with money set aside to pay for large, unexpected expenses, such as unforeseen medical expenses; home-appliance repair or replacement; major car repairs; or unemployment. Emergency funds can keep you afloat in a time of need without having to rely on credit cards or highinterest loans. Use these steps to start your emergency fund so you're prepared!

- **1. Calculate how much you want to save** Figure out your expenses for a six-month time period.
- Set a monthly savings goal It's helpful to set up automatic funds transfer to your savings account each time you get paid.
- **3. Keep the change** Use mobile technology to save extra funds automatically each time you make a purchase.
- 4. Save your tax refund Saving your refund can be an easy way to boost your emergency stash. When you file your taxes, consider having your refund deposited directly into your emergency account.
- Assess and adjust contributions Check in every few months to see how much you're saving, and adjust if needed, especially if you recently withdrew money from your emergency fund.

Holiday Closings

Independence Day – Monday, July 4 Labor Day – Monday, September 5

Gervice Awards:

Karen Thomason – 10 Years Melissa Wallace – 10 Years



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P.O. Box 280 Toccoa, GA 30577 (706) 886-1441 Fax: (706) 886-3757

Lavonia

11850 Augusta Road Lavonia, GA 30553 (706) 356-7001 Fax: (706) 356-7008

Hartwell

249 East Franklin Street Hartwell, GA 30643 (706) 376-6961 Fax: (706) 376-3184

www.ngcu.org

Lobby Hours Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Drive-Thru Hours Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Management Team

Brian Akin, President/CEO Laura Williams, Vice President Sonya Speed, Lending and Collections Manager Robin Bridges, Data Processing & Operations Manager Brooke Stowe, Toccoa Branch Manager Christina Mosley, Lavonia Branch Manager Brandy Floyd, Hartwell Branch Manager

Directors

Deborah Gibby, Chairman Tony Thomas, Vice Chairman Juanita Worley, Secretary Michael Herron, Treasurer Harold Harbin, Audit & Supervisory Committee Chairman

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Harold Harbin, Chairman Tommy Ayers James Norris Mack Wayne Keith Worley







