

Don't wait! Find hope and local resources...



The recent crisis in mortgage foreclosures has hit the Miami Valley area especially hard. According to RealtyTrac, Ohio ranks third in the nation in foreclosures, and Montgomery

County is second worst in the state. The reasons are many, including job loss and illness. But worst of all are the foreclosures resulting from predatory lending practices employed by unscrupulous lenders in past years.

To help combat foreclosures in the area, and help more families stay in their homes, eleven area credit unions, including Wright-Patt, have banded together to provide more than \$65,000 to the HomeOwnership Center of Greater Dayton to expand their services in the area. As a direct result of this contribution, the center has hired a certified foreclosure counselor to work with families in the local communities.

If you're concerned about your mortgage, you're not alone...but there is hope.

Mortgage loans processed and underwritten by Wright-Patt Financial Group, Ltd. - a wholly-owned subsidiary of WPCU.

Ways to recover from holiday debt

Being generous is wonderful, but if you're among the millions of Americans who gave a little too much during the holidays, here are some steps that can help you recover:

1. Pay more than the minimum on your credit cards to help minimize credit-card interest.
2. Pay bills on time to avoid late charges.
3. Get your taxes done. If you're due a refund, do your taxes as soon as possible and apply the refund to your holiday bills.
4. Cut back on entertainment and meals out. This is a fairly painless source of "found money" to pay off bills.
5. Cut back on cable TV. Could you do without those pay-per-view or premium channels? Apply the savings to your credit card bills.

Are these ideas still not enough to bring your

BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE?

Don't wait! Contact your lender, and the HomeOwnership Center right away. There are several tools that can be used to help you get your mortgage current, such as:

1. Negotiating with your lender to create a workable repayment plan.
2. Helping you refinance your mortgage with more affordable terms.
3. Receiving a Rescue Loan to help bring your mortgage current.

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR ADJUSTABLE RATE?

If you have an adjustable rate and you're concerned that the rates might make your payments too high, contact Wright-Patt today! We may be able to help you refinance into a fixed-rate mortgage that could help you save hundreds of dollars.

The most important thing is not to wait until it's too late. Contact the HomeOwnership Center of Greater Dayton at 888-995-HOPE, and Wright-Patt at (937) 912-7000 or (800) 762-0047.



State Representative Chris Widener (right), Chairman of the House Financial Institutions, Real Estate, and Securities Committee, met with CEO Doug Fecher at WPCU on December 14 to discuss how credit unions are making a difference.

NOTICES AND CLOSINGS

IT'S ALMOST HOMEWORLD TIME!

Once again, Wright-Patt is pleased to sponsor HomeWorld, the Miami Valley's premier home improvement show. Filled with ideas to help your home become your dream home, HomeWorld is being held Thursday, February 7 through Sunday, February 10 at the Exposition Center at Dayton International Airport. Tickets are available at the event.

To find out more, including hours of operation, exhibitor lists, workshop schedules and more, visit www.miamivalleyhomeworld.com.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The mail ballot for voting members and Annual Business Meeting Notice are enclosed.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Our member centers and administrative offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Tuesday, January 1

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY: Monday, January 21

¹ APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate based on credit history. ² Skip-a-Pay requirements: you must have a positive balance, no late payment history on the loan of more than 31 days, have had the loan more than six months and be current on all your WPCU loans. ³ StretchPay requirements: you must be a WPCU member for at least 60 days, show proof of income, have no delinquent WPCU accounts and not be in the process of filing for bankruptcy. Annual fee of \$35 for a \$250 loan limit; \$70 for \$500 loan limit.

'TIS THE SEASON FOR IRAS

You can start saving now with an IRA and contribute up to \$5,000 for 2008. If you're age 50 or older, you can also make an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution.

And there's more good news: if you haven't yet made your 2007 contribution, you can still do so until April 15, 2008 and receive your tax benefits for the 2007 tax year.*

Not sure which IRA is right for you? Here's some basic info on the two types of IRAs available.

ROTH IRA

- Contributions are not tax-deductible, but money accumulates tax-free
- Make tax-free and penalty-free withdrawals of annual contributions at any time
- Make tax-free and penalty-free withdrawals (including earnings) after five years and:
 - Reaching age 59½
 - For first-home purchase (up to \$10,000)
 - In case of death or disability
- There's no requirement to begin taking distributions at age 70½ — you can even keep making contributions if you're still working

TRADITIONAL IRA

- Contributions may be tax-deductible*
- Growth is tax-deferred (withdrawals are subject to tax)
- Penalty-free withdrawals for post-secondary education, first-home purchase (up to \$10,000), and certain medical expenses

Since there are so many choices to make when selecting an IRA, you may want some help. Wright-Patt offers a full suite of IRA products through our broker/dealer, CUSO Financial Services, L.P., in addition to the Credit Union's deposit accounts. Contact us at (937) 912-7000 or (800) 762-0047 to learn more about your IRA options or to schedule a no-obligation appointment with one of our Financial Advisors.

* For specific tax advice consult a tax professional.

Investment products and services offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS) are not NCUA/NCUSIF insured, not Credit Union guaranteed and may lose value. Advisors are employed by Wright-Patt Credit Union (WPCU), and registered through CFS. WPCU is in partnership with CFS. (Member FINRA/SIPC and SEC Registered Investment Advisor).

Powerful information for life

Our mission is to help you through life. One way we do this is through our series of no-obligation seminars with our Financial Advisors, brought to you through CUSO Financial Services, L.P., our broker/dealer. Seating is limited, so call (937) 912-7855 or (800) 762-0047, ext. 7855 to reserve your spot today. Refreshments are provided.

JANUARY 18**GANTT MEMBER CENTER**

2465 EXECUTIVE PARK BLVD., FAIRBORN

12:00 pm – 1:20 pm: **Retirement Plan**

Distributions, presented by Bob Scarfo, Financial Advisor, CUSO Financial Services, L.P.

JANUARY 28**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE**

AREA C, BLDG. 2, ROOM 224

11:00 am – 12:00 pm: **Ideas and Insight to**

Help with Your Thrift Savings Plan, presented by Dick Pacifico, Financial Advisor, CUSO Financial Services, L.P.

FEBRUARY 6**MIAMI VALLEY GOLF CLUB**

3311 SALEM AVE., DAYTON

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm: **Protecting Yourself from Identity Theft and Getting Your Financial House in Order**, presented by Brian Summe, Oppenheimer Funds, hosted by David Kearney, Investment Representative, CUSO Financial Services, L.P.

Investment products and services offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS) are not NCUA/NCUSIF insured, not Credit Union guaranteed and may lose value. Advisors are employed by Wright-Patt Credit Union (WPCU), and registered through CFS. WPCU is in partnership with CFS. (Member FINRA/SIPC and SEC Registered Investment Advisor.)

Tax preparation just got better

One great way to help with holiday bills or unexpected expenses is to get your tax refund as soon as possible. Better the money is working for you than sitting in the Treasury!

As a Wright-Patt member, you have access to TurboTax Online at a special 15% discount. Not only do you save on the tax preparation itself, but TurboTax Online offers tools to help you get the maximum refund possible—interactive tools such as tax calculators. It's easy to use, comprehensive, and since it's a Web-based program, there's no software to buy or install.

To use TurboTax Online, simply visit www.wpcu.coop and click the TurboTax link.

**Springfield
Member
Center
coming soon!**

**"HIDDEN" WORD CONTEST—
WIN A \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE**

This month's word is: *premium*. It can be in any article or text in this newsletter! Find the word, then visit us online at www.wpcu.coop, search hidden word, and enter to win a \$100 Visa® gift card. Include your name, account number and the article or section in which you found the word. The drawing will be held on or about January 15th. December's winner was Lisa Iavarone.

For a complete set of contest rules, visit our website at www.wpcu.coop or write to Wright-Patt Credit Union, Hidden Word Contest, P.O. Box 286, Fairborn, OH 45324. Entries may also be mailed to P.O. Box 286, Fairborn, OH 45324. Be sure to include your name, account number and article or section in which you found the hidden word.

MEMBER HELP CENTER

(937) 912-7000 • (800) 762-0047
TDD: (937) 912-7001

CALL-24™

(937) 912-8000 • (800) 336-7277
24 hours a day

WWW.WPCU.COOP

**ADDRESS**

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