Bay Vatch A Publication of Bay Federal Credit Union



Spring 2025



Behind the scenes, our team members have been hard at work at our newest branch. Located in Marina, this location is slated to open early this summer.

The Marina branch is centrally located at Promenade at the Dunes right next to Trader Joe's, making it a convenient place to stop in and take care of your banking and shopping needs. There are also lots of dining opportunities in the area.

At this new location, you can expect the same great BayFed service while enjoying the modern branch design. You'll be able to access home loan advice and easily take care of your personal and business banking. Plus, you'll have 24-hour ATM access!

This branch will not just be a place to bank, but a center for financial wellness and local support. We're excited to help more people than ever to celebrate successes and milestones in their financial lives.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Marina branch very soon!





Find & Finance Your Next Used Car

More and more people are considering a used car for their next vehicle. Finding the right ride might be easier than you think, and Bay Federal is here to help!

Start by Getting Preapproved

The best first step is to get preapproved for your auto loan. By filling out an application before shopping, you will find out exactly how much car you can afford and how much your monthly payments might be.

It's very easy to apply for an auto loan with us. For a streamlined experience, log into your online banking and get started under the "Open and Apply" tab. Or, visit **bayfed.com/apply**.

Use AutoSMART to Find Your Car

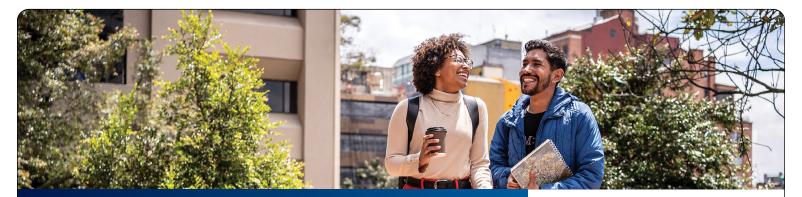
AutoSMART is a resource to help you research price points, search inventory at local participating dealerships, order a used vehicle history report, and more. This program is available to you as a Bay Federal member, so take advantage of it at **bayfed.com/autosmart**.

Start Driving! Test Driving, That Is

Once you know what you are looking for, you can start shopping. Look at vehicle histories, inspect cars closely, and test-drive until you find the right set of wheels.

When you're ready to sign, tell the dealer you are preapproved for a loan with Bay Federal Credit Union. They'll do the rest!

If you have any questions, please call 831.479.6000 or toll-free at 888.4BAYFED, or visit **bayfed.com/vehicles**. You'll be driving into the sunset in no time!



Financial Wellness at Bay Federal Credit Union

Presented by our partners at GreenPath Financial Wellness

From 401(k)s to Roth IRAs Demystifying Retirement Accounts



If you've ever caught yourself staring at your 401(k) statement blankly or questioning whether a Roth IRA is the right move, you're not alone. With guidance, these accounts can feel less daunting and more like tools you can confidently use to secure your future.

401(k)

A 401(k) is like a retirement starter pack, especially if your employer offers a match (which is free money!). Contributions are taken out of your paycheck before taxes, however you'll pay taxes when you withdraw in retirement. If you withdraw early, you'll face income taxes as well as a 10% penalty.

Roth IRA

Unlike the 401(k), you contribute to a Roth IRA with after-tax dollars, so you won't get an immediate tax break. The upside? When you take money out in retirement, it's tax-free. Roth IRAs offer flexibility; you can withdraw your contributions (not your earnings) at any time without penalties.

Traditional IRA

The Traditional IRA is a solid option, especially if you're looking for a tax break now. Like the 401(k), contributions to a Traditional IRA may be tax-deductible, which can lower your taxable income in the year you contribute. However, withdrawals in retirement are taxed as ordinary income.

SEP IRA

If you're self-employed or run a small business, a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) IRA might be your go-to. SEP IRAs allow you to contribute up to 25% of your net earnings from self-employment, or \$66,000 in 2024, whichever is less. This high contribution limit can make SEP IRAs a powerful tool.

Next Steps

How do you choose? If you're eligible for a 401(k) with a match, start there. The best retirement account for you is the one you start funding now. Starting small and being consistent will get you far.

If you'd like to get some personalized advice, our trusted partners at GreenPath Financial Wellness can help you plan your financial future. Get started by calling 877.337.3399 or visit **bayfed.com/greenpath.**

Annual Meeting

Open to all members, our Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Join us at our Capitola Branch for an informational summary of our 2024 financial and member service results.

To RSVP, please call **831.477.8504** or email **annualmeeting@bayfed.com.**

New Cards, Big Rewards

Have you checked out our new fleet of Visa® Credit Cards yet? Our new and improved cards can help everyone, from new borrowers establishing their credit to experienced shoppers raking in the cash back.

Ready to earn some serious rewards? Stop in at any branch or apply for a card at **bayfed.com/apply**!

