UALU 354 Federal Credit Union

Not for Profit, Not for Charity, But for Service



Pauline Kriston Scholarship

The Credit Union awards one member a \$500 college scholarship each year. All full time students who maintain active members' accounts with the Credit Union are eligible to apply. <Kevin Burgess> Applications will be available January 1, 2018 and must be received back in our office no later than April 1st in order to be considered. For more information or if you are interested in applying, please call the Credit Union at 724-925-9354 or 1-800-344-3540 and we will be glad to assist you.

We would like our members to be aware that you will only receive a 1099 Interest Statement if you earned more than \$10.00 in dividends for 2017.



Office Closings:

March 29- closing at 1pm- End of quarter close out

March 30- Good Friday April 2- Easter Monday



The Pennsylvania Unclaimed Property Law requires that if an account remains inactive for a period of 3 years, the Credit Union is liable to turn the funds over to the Treasury Department of the State by April 15th. <Daniel Ott> Your Credit Union does not want to have to do this. This can be avoided by making a small deposit or withdrawal from your account. Please call the Credit Union if you have any questions and we will be glad to assist you.

If you see your name "hidden" in the newsletter, call the Credit Union and you will receive a \$5.00 deposit to your account.

The Annual Credit Union Meeting will be held in April 2018. <Harry Stoner> This meeting usually takes place the last Saturday of the month. More information will be disclosed in the next quarterly newsletter. We hope to see you

UALU 354 FEDERAL CREDIT UNION PO DRAWER I YOUNGWOOD, PA 15697 724 925 9354 or 1 800 344 3540 OFFICE STAFF Diane Obitko →Manager Jennifer Warrington →Asst. Mgr

Your savings Federally Insured to \$250,000 NCUA National Credit Union Administration a US Government Agency

Top 10 New Year's Resolutions for Consumers for 2018

Pennsylvania Secretary of Banking and Securities Robin L. Wiessmann is offering 10 resolutions to help consumers protect and grow their money in 2018. <Kristie Harbaugh>

"Financial capability is essential for Pennsylvanians to secure their financial futures and make wellinformed decisions about their money," said Secretary Wiessmann. "These resolutions offer straightforward, practical ways to approach saving, investing, and guarding one's finances as steps to establishing a solid financial foundation heading into the New Year."

Secretary Wiessmann encourages consumers to consider the following 10 New Year's resolutions for 2018:

<u>Take time to change or reset all your passwords.</u> Changing your passwords will help prevent hackers from accessing your accounts to steal your financial and personal information. Read "Cybersecurity" for tips to protect yourself.

<u>Investigate before you invest.</u> Before spending your time and money on a financial service, product, or company, contact the department at 1-800-PA-BANKS to get started. Learn how to investigate financial services and products.

<u>Pay cash for your big expenses this year.</u> Avoid taking on debt from big purchases. Banks and credit unions can offer a safe place to deposit your money for these short-term goals, and some even offer special savings accounts, such as Holiday or Vacation Club accounts. Learn more about "Banking Basics."

<u>Start saving for your future</u>. No matter how much or how little, getting started now ensures that time is on your side through the power of compounding interest. <Joel D. Reed>

<u>Pull each of your credit reports this year.</u> You are entitled to a free credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies – Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion – each year. Rather than checking them all at the same time, you can instead check one every four months to monitor your credit throughout the year. Learn more about "Understanding Credit Reports and Scores."

<u>Create a realistic spending plan.</u> Department of Banking and Securities staff travel across Pennsylvania to present a variety of programs – including "Spending Plans" – at community groups. Contact us to book a presentation.

<u>Learn to protect yourself from financial fraud and scams.</u> Scams and schemes may take different forms, but the underlying method usually preys on your emotions, circumstances, or your lack of knowledge. Take time to become well-informed about prevalent scams designed to rob you.

<u>Learn more about how the Equifax breach, or any data breach, could affect you.</u> The Equifax data breach will affect people for months and even years. You can take steps to control your personal data. Learn more about this issue here.

<u>Check on the senior citizens in your life and report any signs of elder financial abuse.</u> This type of abuse often goes unreported. Our neighbors, friends, and family members are all susceptible to this crime and deserve our assistance. Check out these resources for "red flags," prevention tips, and where the abuse can be reported.

<u>Protect Yourself from ID Theft.</u> While technology has made some tasks easier, it has also made it easier for scammers to steal your personal information and financial security. Read "Protecting Yourself from Identity Theft" for warning signs and tips to protect yourself.