

# Financial Focus

Organized 1934

*Working Together for Financial Freedom*

July 2018

## In This Issue

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Summer Skip-a-Pay.....                          | Page 2 |
| Freedom Annual Meeting.....                     | Page 2 |
| Do More Banking From Your<br>Mobile Device..... | Page 3 |
| Scholarship Winners.....                        | Page 3 |
| Retirement Seminar.....                         | Page 4 |

## President's Message



### What's the difference? Credit Unions vs. Banks

I'm often asked what the difference is between Credit Unions and banks. Well let me tell you.

I was watching TV one night recently and a commercial from Wells Fargo came on. I was expecting the usual marketing pitch but this was a bit different. It was a commercial apologizing to their customers and future customers for their inappropriate business practices of late. You know the one about opening up credit card accounts without the customer's knowledge or the underhanded dealings with their mortgage process, just to name a few. It got me thinking, where did they go wrong? The only explanation that stuck was greed. Greed for the management team in bonuses. Greed from their stockholders and Board Members in the form of increased stock prices. Plain and simple, they lost focus for the money and greed took over the organization.

Now what makes Banks different from Credit Unions? It's the structure. Banks are a for profit entity and Credit Unions, your Credit Union, is a not for profit financial cooperative. Now that's a mouthful but what it means is that all the Credit Union's profits that are earned are turned back to the members in the form of higher dividend rates, lower loan rates and low cost services, not to bonuses or stock splits that only benefit a few. In other words, we give back we don't take. It's the structure of the organization you belong to. We do everything with the member's financial wellbeing in mind. Not how much money we can make.

Thank you for your membership and continued support of your credit Union. You are the reason we exist and prosper. Without you, there is no financial cooperative.



John F. King  
President / CEO



## Summer Skip-a-Pay is Here

Summer vacation season has arrived. This year, treat yourself to a vacation from your expenses with Skip-a-Pay. Eligible Members with an auto or personal loan can skip their July or August loan payment for just a low \$28 processing fee.\*

To skip your payment, simply visit [FreedomCU.org/SkipAPay](http://FreedomCU.org/SkipAPay). Enter your loan information and your next payment will be skipped! Payments may only be skipped using our online form and if you have more than one loan you'd like to skip you will need to enter them separately.

\*The \$28 processing fee per loan will be automatically deducted from your Checking Account and the funds must be in your Account at the time your application is processed or it will be declined. If you do not have a Checking Account, the fee will be taken from your Primary Savings Account. Loan payments can be skipped only on Personal or Vehicle Loans. In order to qualify for this promotion, all Accounts and Loans must be in good standing and each Loan cannot be skipped more than twice per year (once per promotion period). After skipping the payment, your regular monthly payments will resume in accordance with your existing payment schedule. Interest will continue to accrue during the month skipped and your term will be extended by one month. You must process your skip request at least two days prior to the loan payment date, if you miss your loan payment due date, your skip will be declined.

## Freedom Annual Meeting

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at  
CenterPointe Office Center

The Annual Meeting will take place at 6:00pm Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at the CenterPointe Office Center, 626 Jacksonville Road, Suite 250 Warminster, PA 18974-4862. The 2018 Election of Officers will be conducted by Mail Ballot. The following positions are open this year: three (3) positions on the Board of Directors, one (1) position on the Supervisory Committee, and one (1) position on the Credit Committee.

The Nominating Committee has selected the following candidates:

**Board of Directors:** Joseph Yerkes, Andrew J Folino, Charles M. Whiting

**Supervisory Committee:** Steven J. Turco

**Credit Committee:** John F. King

Nominations of candidates must be made by the Nominating Committee or by petition. No nominations will be permitted from the floor except in the case of insufficient nominations by the Committee and/or by petition. In the event that all nominations result in a non-contested election, the ballots will not be mailed, and each nominee will be declared elected at the Annual Meeting.

Members wishing to use the petition procedure must file their petitions for nomination with the Secretary of the Credit Union by the close of business on August 4, 2018. Petitions for nomination must contain signatures and Account Numbers of at least one percent of the Membership (657 signatures). Eligibility to sign petitions is limited to Members in good standing at the Credit Union. "Good standing" means that all entrance fees have been paid, all loans with the Credit Union are current, and the Credit Union has suffered no losses as a result of a charge-off or discharge in bankruptcy of any loans or other obligations by the Member to the Credit Union.



The Secretary of the Credit Union shall investigate the standing of all signers, and his decision shall be binding. To be effective, nominations by petition shall be accompanied by a signed certificate from the nominee or nominees stating that they are agreeable to nomination and, if elected, will serve.

The Pennsylvania Credit Union Code requires all elected officials to sign a sworn statement disclosing whether or not the person has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving dishonesty, breach of trust, or violation of the Credit Union Code. Each nominee by petition shall submit a statement of biographical data with the petition containing the following data, which will be published in the official candidate listing and mailed out with the ballot:

1. Number of years as a member or employee of a credit union.
2. Current and past employer(s) and positions held.
3. Years of service and accomplishments with Freedom Credit Union, other credit unions, or credit union organizations as director, officer, or member of committees.



## Banking on the Go

Our free mobile app offers enhanced features so you can access your accounts anywhere, anytime and perform transactions right on your devices. You can make deposits, send money to a friend, transfer funds and more - all from your mobile device.



## Mobile Deposit- Limit Increase

Have a check? Save yourself a trip and use the mobile app to take a picture of the check and deposit it directly into your Freedom account. We now allow up to \$2,500.00 immediate availability on deposits made using our Mobile Deposit App. No need to come into a branch in order to deposit a check. Deposit the check from the comfort of your home or office and know the money is secure and available to you immediately.



## Scholarship Award Winners

Freedom Credit Union awarded three area students with educational scholarships. Each winner received \$2,000 to be used for educational expenses. We are pleased to recognize the 2018 recipients:

- Alexa Nyx Boldon, who will be attending the University of Scranton
- Ashley Renee Eatmon, who will be attending Eastern University
- Omar Jamaladdin, who will be continuing his education at Temple University

Thank you to all of the members who entered, we enjoyed your essays and wish you all the best in your academic future.



**Pictured in Front row: (l to r) John King, President and CEO and the scholarship winners Ashley Eatmon, Alexa Baldon and Omar Janaladdin.**

**Pictured in Back row: (l to r) Sean Gallagher, Maxine Williams, Miguel Duprey, and Sandy Dworecki from the Scholarship Committee.**

## MONEY MARKET, CHECKING & SAVINGS RATES

| Account                 | Dividend Rate | APY <sup>1</sup> |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Money Market            |               |                  |
| \$0 - \$9,999.99        | .30%          | .30%             |
| \$10,000 and above      | .55%          | .55%             |
| Checking                | .10%          | .10%             |
| Primary & Club Savings  | .30%          | .30%             |
| Education & IRA Savings | .30%          | .30%             |
| Health Savings          | .10%          | .10%             |

<sup>1</sup>Dividends on IRA, Savings, Club, and Checking Accounts are computed monthly on average daily balances of \$5 or more and posted monthly. The Money Market Account has a variable rate which may be greater than our regular savings rate, and subject to daily adjustments. Dividends will be paid monthly on the average daily balance, based upon the current tier level rates. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Rates accurate as of 05/16/18. Rates subject to change without notice and may change after account is opened.

## SHARE & IRA CERTIFICATE (CD) RATES

| Account Type | Dividend Rate | APY <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| 6 Months     | .75%          | .75%             |
| 12 Months    | 1.69%         | 1.70%            |
| 18 Months    | 1.74%         | 1.75%            |
| 24 Months    | 1.89%         | 1.90%            |
| 30 Months    | 2.08%         | 2.10%            |
| 36 Months    | 2.23%         | 2.25%            |
| 48 Months    | 2.33%         | 2.35%            |
| 60 Months    | 2.62%         | 2.65%            |

<sup>2</sup>APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Rates accurate as of 05/16/18. Minimum opening deposit and amount to earn APY is \$500, \$250 for ages 25 and under. Penalty required for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Terms and rates are subject to change without notice.

## CREDIT CARD RATES<sup>4</sup>

| Credit Card Type            | APR <sup>3</sup>                      |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Visa <sup>®</sup> Cash Back | 0.99% Intro APR, then as low as 9.90% |
| Visa <sup>®</sup> Gold      | As low as 8.90%                       |
| Student Visa                | 11.90%                                |

## NEW/USED VEHICLE LOAN RATES

| Term  | APR <sup>3</sup> |
|---|------------------|
| 1-66 Months (New) <sup>5</sup>              | as low as 2.89%  |
| 1-66 Months (Used, Refinance) <sup>5</sup>  | as low as 3.39%  |
| 67-75 Months (New) <sup>5</sup>             | as low as 3.39%  |
| 67-75 Months (Used, Refinance) <sup>5</sup> | as low as 4.39%  |
| 76-84 Months (New Only)                     | 4.39%            |

## HOME EQUITY LOAN RATES<sup>6</sup>

| Term           | APR <sup>3,7</sup> | Monthly payment per \$10,000 borrowed |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1-60 Months    | as low as 3.24%    | \$181.80                              |
| 61-120 Months  | as low as 4.24%    | \$102.28                              |
| 121-180 Months | as low as 4.49%    | \$76.35                               |

## HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT<sup>6,8</sup>

| Index      | Margin          | APR <sup>3</sup> |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Prime Rate | as low as -.01% | as low as 4.74%  |

## FIRST MORTGAGES

Call Freedom at **215.612.6196** or visit **FreedomCU.org** for current rates and terms.

## OTHER LOAN RATES

| Type  | APR <sup>3</sup> |
|---|------------------|
| Share Secured Loan                          | 7.00%            |
| Share Certificate Secured Loan <sup>9</sup> | 7.00%            |
| Personal Loan <sup>10</sup>                 | as low as 8.99%  |
| Overdraft/Line of Credit <sup>11</sup>      | as low as 10.90% |

<sup>3</sup>APR=Annual Percentage Rate. The maximum unsecured debt per Member is \$30,000. Rates accurate as of 05/16/18. Terms and rates subject to change without notice.

<sup>4</sup>The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than listed above or greater than 17.9%. 0.99% Introductory APR applies to all purchases, cash advances, and balance transfer made using the Freedom Visa Cash Back card during the 6-month introductory period. This offer is only available for new Card applications. Card issuance subject to final approval. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer subject to change without notice.

<sup>5</sup>The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than 2.89% for new cars or 3.39% for used cars, or greater than 11.99%

<sup>6</sup>APR applies to Loan-to-Value (LTV) less than or equal to 80%. Hazard Insurance is required. For loans over \$100,000, Title Insurance is required. Loan subject to final approval. Terms and rates subject to change without notice.

<sup>7</sup>APR will not be less than 3.24% or greater than 6.49%. The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Applies to loans in the 2nd lien position.

<sup>8</sup>Home Equity Line of Credit is subject to a Variable Rate which is based on the highest Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal and will be the rate 10 days prior to the first day of each calendar quarter of each year. Margin will not be less than listed above or greater than 1.49%. Rate will not be less than 3.99% or greater than 18.00%.

<sup>9</sup>The greater of 7% APR or 2% above the Term Share Certificate rate.

<sup>10</sup>The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 14.99%. Loan minimum is \$500.

<sup>11</sup>The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than the above or greater than 17.9%.



# “Social Security and Your Retirement” Seminar

Regardless of when you plan to retire, Social Security will likely be an important part of the road ahead. But do you know the “rules of the road” when it comes to Social Security? Determining when to begin benefits could be one of the biggest financial decisions you face, and there are key issues to consider. How can you get the most out of your benefits? Here’s an opportunity to attend a valuable educational seminar on this important topic, at no cost and no obligation:

**Tuesday, July 31, 6:00 pm at our Northeast branch.**  
**Wednesday, August 1, 6:00 pm at our Warminster branch.**



This free event is hosted by Brian Arrow, CUNA Mutual’s MEMBERS Financial Services Representative at Freedom Credit Union. Participants will learn the important rules of the road for receiving Social Security benefits, how to evaluate the possible routes they can take to make the most of Social Security benefits, ways to develop a retirement income plan that considers their Social Security situation and more. For more information or to reserve your place, call 215-612-6136.

Representatives are registered, securities are sold, and investment advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor, 2000 Heritage Way, Waverly, Iowa 50677, toll-free 866-512-6109. Nondeposit investments are not federally insured, involve investment risk, may lose value and are not obligations of or guaranteed by the financial institution. CBSI is under contract with the financial institution, through the financial services program, to make securities available to members.

## Refer a Member, Earn Cash



Share the benefits of your credit union with friends and family and you can earn up to \$100 for every new member you refer.\* New members should open their account online; they will need to include the promotional code R9 and your name when asked for the referring member information.

| Incentives (One per new member)   | New Member receives | Referring Member receives |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------|
| New member joins FCU opens Savings account  | \$25                | \$25                      |
| New member joins FCU opens Savings, Checking, eStatements, and Check Card                 | \$50                | \$50                      |
| New member joins FCU opens Savings, Checking, eStatements, Check Card, and Direct Deposit | \$100               | \$100                     |

\*Limited time offer. Promotion Code R9 and referring Member information must be provided during the application process, retroactive referrals will not be eligible. Maximum incentive is \$100 per New Member Referring Member relationship. The incentive is only for new member accounts, not new accounts for existing members or joint members and is based on account openings, not applications. Each person can only be a new Member once. A Joint Savings Account Owner or Custodian age 18 or older is required for Members under 12. For a checking account and check card all parties on the account must be 16 or older. If criteria is met and the referring member is in good standing, Referring and New Members’ Primary Savings Accounts will each receive the \$25 or \$50 incentive by the 25th of the following month after the new Primary Savings Account is opened, the second \$50 for Direct Deposit will be deposited once the Direct Deposit has been processed and verified. The incentive will be a taxable dividend on the 1099 Form we will send you in January. Payment of taxes on incentive will be the responsibility of the recipient. Offer is subject to change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer.

## Focus Points

**Holiday Closing - Wednesday July 4**  
 Although we will be closed, mobile banking, online banking, telephone teller and our Credit Union network of ATMs will be available.



### Board Of Directors

Christopher McGinley, Chairman  
 George Madden, Vice Chairman  
 Charles M. Whiting, Secretary/  
 Treasurer  
 Joseph Yerkes, Member  
 Andrew Folino, Member  
 Marie Sejda, Member  
 Lowell A. Tinner, Member  
**Associate Directors**  
 Matthew Malinowski  
 Vincent M. Rutland  
 Donald Woods

### President/CEO

John F. King  
**Credit Committee**  
 John F. King, Chairman  
 Rick MacLeod, Secretary  
 Victor Derrick, Member  
**Supervisory Committee**  
 Crystal Barnett, Chairperson  
 Wade Birchfield, Member  
 Steven J. Turco, Member