

Financial Focus

Organized 1934

Working Together for Financial Freedom

October 2014

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In This Issue

Simple Ways To Protect Your Account...	Page 2
First Time Homebuyer Tools.....	Page 2
Vehicle Buying Seminar.....	Page 4
Employee of the Quarter.....	Page 4

Membership Specials!

Earn Cash, Plus Young New Members Get A Special Gift

You already enjoy the many benefits of being a Freedom Member, including better rates, fewer fees, and helpful service— why not share the benefits of membership with a friend or loved one, by referring them to Freedom?

Now, when you refer a new Member to the Credit Union, and that person joins, you'll each earn \$25!* We want to reward our new Members for choosing Freedom, and reward our existing Members for helping us grow. Plus, you get \$25 for every new Member you refer.

And, when you take advantage of this offer for a child, grandchild, or other special kid in your life age 14 or under, the young Member will also receive a "Smart Saver" green piggy bank that can help them turn cents into dollars— to be deposited in their new Freedom Account!

For more information and to help a new Member open an Account, visit the News section of **FreedomCU.org** or stop by a Freedom branch. Don't forget to mention R8 when opening an Account to earn these membership rewards!

* Promotion Code R8 and referring Member information must be provided. Cannot be combined with any other offer. A Joint Savings Account Owner age 18 or older is required for Members under 12. Each person can only be a new Member once. If eligible and in good standing, Referring and New Members' Primary Savings Accounts will each receive a \$25 incentive by the 25th of the month after the new Primary Savings Account opened. The \$25 incentive will be a taxable dividend on the 1099 Form we will send you in January. Offer is subject to change without notice.

President's Message



2014 has been an important year for Freedom Credit Union. It's been 80 years since our Credit Union was chartered. Over the years a lot of great change has happened in the Credit Union Movement and here at Freedom. I consider it an honor to be the CEO during this momentous time in our Credit Union History.

To mark our 80th anniversary we asked our Members to share with us some of their experiences they have had over the years and how, if in any way, we helped them with their financial well-being. The following are some of those stories.

"We joined Freedom many years ago because of your direct deposit program; we stay because of your services and employees. When we visit any branch we are treated by the friendliest people. We find your services to be quite outstanding. When Hurricane Sandy hit, you cut through any red tape to ensure we were able to secure the funds we needed to fix the damage to our home and property. When we moved to our new home you made it easy to update our information and protected it. As members of Freedom we continue to be pleased by your efforts to keep our accounts safe. Thank you for all you do."

~The O. Family (Northeast)

"When I was looking for a bank I thought I would try the credit union. Freedom Credit Union has helped me accomplish saving money for my husband and I to travel out west to see our son and family. I have the money directly taken out and deposited, so it is very convenient. We have been very pleased with the staff. Our computer was stolen and we had to have our banking closed down and all new account numbers and the staff was so wonderful and helpful, they made the situation a lot easier to handle. We wish Freedom Credit Union success in the years ahead."

~Floss W. (Warminster)

"Simply put, FREEDOM CREDIT UNION IS THE BEST! Bar none! I wouldn't trade them for a bank, ever! I recommend that ANYONE who is looking for great, professional service, considerate and polite employees, as well as benefits JUST NOW becoming available with some banks, to join Freedom Credit Union!! You'll be glad you did."

~Thomas E. (Northeast)

With the on-going support of our current Members and new Members to come in the future, I'm confident we will continue to prosper, enjoying success and growth for many more years to come.

We are always looking to bring new services to our Members, and so I am pleased to introduce our NEW Platinum Card with a cash back feature. This service is available now. You can apply for this new card on-line, over the phone, or if you happen to be in a branch we can help you there too. The 1% cash back will be applied to your savings account at the beginning of each month based on the previous month's purchases. We hope you enjoy the new service.

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of the credit union, I wish to thank you for your Credit Union Membership and continued support.



John F. King
President /CEO





Keep Your Sensitive Info Safe On The Web

Simple Ways To Protect Your Account

At Freedom Credit Union, your online security and identity is of the utmost importance to us and we want you to know that we are doing everything we possibly can to ensure that your information remains safe with us. As we continue to proactively protect our Member's accounts, we have created two new E-Alerts which will notify Members of potential fraudulent account activity.

1. **New Member to Member Transfer Set Up-** Any time a new Member to Member transfer of funds is set up via online banking and the Member has a valid email, they will receive this alert.
2. **Unique IP Address-** When the Member's account has been accessed via Home Banking and the IP address is new or not been used in the last 6 months, an E-Alert will be issued.

****Helpful Tip: To verify your computer's IP address go to your internet browser and type in the search box "What's my IP address?" The IP address will display on the search screen.***

Here are a few tips you can follow to avoid your information getting into the wrong hands:

- **Get creative with your passwords.** Hack-proof your password: choose a random set of at least eight alphanumeric characters with at least one upper-case letter. In addition, try to vary your passwords from website to website. For your safety, Freedom has multiple levels of encryption in place when you use Online Banking, including a pass phrase, security image, randomly-generated security question, and a user-created password.
- **Reply with caution.** Identity thieves go to great lengths to try and fool email users. Called "phishing," this practice involves sending emails that look like official communications from legitimate enterprises, for the purpose of scamming the recipient into revealing private, sensitive information. If you receive a message that seems suspicious, do not click any links in the email, or attempt to reply. Instead, delete the message from your inbox, and then empty it from your deleted items folder. Freedom will never ask for your ATM or Online Banking PIN, Account Number, or Social Security Number by email.
- **Don't forget the "S."** The next time you have to enter a password to gain access to a site or to your account—whether it is your Freedom Credit Union Account, a social networking account, or your favorite online clothing store—make sure the web address includes "https://" at the beginning of the address. That "s" means that the connection is secure for you to enter your private information, which is especially important when you connect to the internet via Wi-Fi. Freedom's website always uses an "https://" connection to keep your information safe.
- **Protect your computer.** Run anti-virus and malware protection programs to actively monitor and secure your PC.
- **Use caution.** Use extreme caution when using public computers and avoid accessing sensitive data that could be captured by the host providing free access.

Sources: CNN Money, Indiana University.

A New Benefit Of Freedom Membership: BalanceTrack Personal Finance Education Center



FINANCIAL FITNESS PROGRAM

Freedom is dedicated to helping you realize your financial goals, which is why we are excited to announce our newest benefit: BalanceTrack, an online personal finance education center – located at <http://www.balancetrack.org/partners/freedomcu/index.html>.

BalanceTrack allows you to explore all of the essential elements of personal finance. Each of the learning modules is interactive with links to helpful resources and has a quiz to allow you to test your knowledge of the subject.

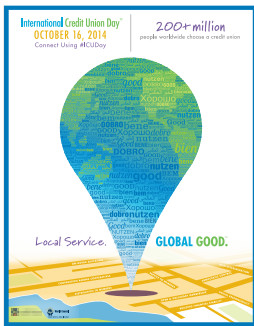
We recognize that money concerns have a serious effect on our quality of life. Now, via the web or via phone at 888-456-2227, financial education is available to you free of charge as a benefit of belonging to Freedom!



First Time Home Buyer? 4 Tools You'll Receive With Freedom

- 1) **Local experience:** Freedom's Mortgage team has over 45 years of real estate lending experience in the Delaware Valley. Their expertise takes away the stress of the mortgage process and gives you peace of mind.
- 2) **Loan options that fit your budget:** Freedom can find out what mortgage best fits your needs. We also offer title insurance, and have real estate partners so you never have to work with anyone outside of the Freedom umbrella.
- 3) **Savings that add up:** On average, our Members save more money by financing their mortgage with Freedom. Deep discounts on closing costs and homeowners insurance combined with lower fees keep more money in our Members' pockets.
- 4) **A team who knows you and your needs:** From the time you submit your application to the day you make settlement on your home, you will be partnered with Freedom's home lending team. No outsourcing here. When you have a question, need to send or receive important paperwork, or just want advice — the same, dependable Freedom team is there to help.

Visit the Real Estate center on **FreedomCU.org** for a complete look at all the ways we can help make your move a smooth one.



Celebrate International Credit Union Day

Thursday, October 16th At All Freedom Branches

On October 16, 2014, credit unions in 100 countries will celebrate International Credit Union (ICU) Day by banding together and celebrating their cooperative spirit. The theme of this year's ICU Day is "Credit Unions Unite for Good," recognizing an unwavering belief in people helping people, the philosophy upon which the credit union movement was built.

To help us celebrate the Day, stop in to any Freedom branch, for your free token of our appreciation. Visit the Locations & Hours section of FreedomCU.org for a complete branch listing—and make plans to join the celebration!

FREEDOM AWARDS \$6,000 IN MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS



President/CEO John F. King presents the 2014 Freedom Scholarship funds to winners (from left) Jenna Acheson, Blake Champagne, and Sarah Portis.

Freedom Credit Union recently awarded \$2,000 scholarships to three graduating high school students, to use in furthering their educations. To qualify, applicants had to be Members of Freedom Credit Union, and had to submit a copy of their most recent academic transcripts as well as an original, 500-word essay on a pre-selected topic. This year's topic was the most influential person in U.S. history.

This year's winners are:

- **Jenna Acheson of Warrington, PA who will attend University of Colorado at Colorado Springs with a major in Sports Management, and a double minor in Spanish and American Sign Language.**
- **Blake Champagne of Lansdale, PA who will attend Albright College as a Biotechnology major.**
- **Sarah Portis of Abington, PA who will attend Villanova University, majoring in Nursing.**

As a financial institution originally founded to serve teachers and employees of the School District of Philadelphia, Freedom is committed to the value of education, and to helping make post-secondary schooling possible for Members of the Credit Union. Additionally, Freedom provides financial services to students at several Philadelphia-area educational institutions, including Community College of Philadelphia, Gratz College, and Thomas Jefferson University.

MONEY MARKET, CHECKING & SAVINGS RATES

Account	Dividend Rate	APY [*]
Money Market		
\$0 - \$9,999.99	.20%	.20%
\$10,000 and above	.30%	.30%
Checking	.10%	.10%
Primary & Club Savings	.20%	.20%
Education & IRA Savings	.20%	.20%
Health Savings	.10%	.10%

^{*}APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates accurate as of 3/7/14. Rates subject to change without notice and may change after Account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Dividends on Savings 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 will be greater than our Primary Savings rate, and subject to monthly adjustments. Dividends will be paid monthly on the average daily balance, based upon the current tier level rates.

SHARE & IRA CERTIFICATE (CD) RATES

Account Type	Dividend Rate	APY [*]
6 Months	.30%	.30%
12 Months	.45%	.45%
18 Months	.60%	.60%
24 Months	1.00%	1.00%
36 Months	1.49%	1.50%
48 Months	1.79%	1.80%
60 Months	2.13%	2.15%

^{*}APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates accurate as of 3/7/14. 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 RATES²

Credit Card Type	APR ¹
Visa® Classic/Gold	0.99% Intro APR, then as low as 8.9%
Student Visa	11.90%
Share Secured Visa	15.90%

NEW/USED VEHICLE LOAN RATES

Term	APR ¹
1-48 months ³	as low as 2.99%
49-66 months ³	as low as 2.99%
67-75 months ³	as low as 3.99%
76-84 months (New Only)	4.99%

HOME EQUITY LOAN RATES⁴

Term	APR ^{1,5}	Monthly payment per \$10,000 borrowed
1 - 60 months	2.99%	\$179.70
61 - 120 months	3.99%	101.25
121 - 180 months	4.24%	75.20

HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT^{4,6}

Index	Margin	APR ^{1,3}
Prime Rate	-0.01%	3.99%

FIRST MORTGAGES

Call Freedom at 215-612-6196, or visit www.FreedomCU.org, for current rates and terms. Call CU Abstract at 267-803-5000 for title insurance services.

OTHER LOAN RATES

Type	APR ¹
Share Secured Loan	7.00%
Share Certificate Secured Loan ⁷	7.00%
Personal Loan ⁸	as low as 8.49%
Overdraft/Line of Credit ⁹	as low as 10.90%

¹APR=Annual Percentage Rate. The maximum unsecured debt per Member is \$30,000. Rates accurate as of 6/6/14. Terms and rates subject to change without notice. ²The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than listed above or greater than 18%. ³0.99% Introductory APR applies to all purchases, cash advances, and balance transfers made using the new Freedom Classic and Gold Cards 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. ⁴The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than listed above or greater than 11.99%. ⁵APR 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. Low, all services fee of \$95. ⁶APR will not be less than 3.99% or greater than 6.99%. The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Make 60 payments of \$184.20 per \$10,000 borrowed at 3.99% APR. Applies to loans in the 2nd lien position. ⁷Home 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. ⁸The greater of 7% APR or 2% above the Term Share Certificate rate. ⁹The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 16.99%. Loan minimum is \$500. ¹⁰The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 17.9%.



Employee Of The Quarter

Yelena Furman

Congratulations to Yelena Furman, Freedom's Employee of the Quarter! Yelena is a dependable, hard worker who always gives 100% to her job. She puts a lot of thought

into her work and it shows in everything she does for Freedom Credit Union. This is clearly evident when she assists her colleagues at the Operations Center and Members at the Branches with any questions or issues they may have. In addition, she continuously takes that extra step to ensure the Credit Union maintains its good reputation within the community and within our workplace.

Five Ways To Scare Up Halloween Savings!



- Buy your pumpkins the day before Halloween. You won't get as good of a selection, but they'll be half-priced, and you can buy more than one for decoration. Also, you won't need to worry about rotting.
- Use everyday items to decorate the house. You can take cereal boxes and spray paint them black or gray to place in the yard to make it look like a cemetery. You can also use quilt padding to make cob webs.
- Instead of throwing a party for the kids, play a game. Video/photo scavenger hunts are really fun. Make a list of things to find or do around the neighborhood (i.e. a black cat or an abandoned "haunted" house)
- Make your own costumes. Dressing like a celebrity or an iconic figure is usually the easiest to do. You can do the same for kid's costumes.
- For couples, have a scary movie marathon. Pop some popcorn and bake some spooky looking cookies, and watch scary movies from Netflix or the Red Box.

Source: MoneyCrashers.com

Focus Points

Holiday Closing

Columbus Day – Monday, October 13, 2014

International Credit Union Day

- Thursday, October 16th – enjoy a free token of our appreciation at all Freedom Branches

Trick-Or-Treat At Freedom Branches!

Take your child to any Freedom branch on Saturday, October 25th for Halloween treats. Kids in costume can trick-or-treat at the branch for festive goodies. Happy Halloween from Freedom!

Vehicle Buying Seminar

Join us on Thursday, November 13th at 6:30PM at our Warminster branch to learn tips and tricks for getting the right car at the right price when you visit the dealership.

First time home buyer?

We can help! Contact us for information & to apply online at FreedomCU.org



Main Telephone: (215) 612-5900

Main Fax: (215) 612-5939

Telephone Teller: (215) 612-5919
(877) 612-5919 (Outside The Local PA Area)

Call Center Hours

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM (M-Th)

8:00 AM - 7:00 PM (F)

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa)

Website, Online Banking, Loan Application and Shared Branching: FreedomCU.org

ABA Routing/Transit #: 2360-8475-1

Operations Center

CenterPointe Office Center

626 Jacksonville Road, Suite 250 • Warminster, PA 18974

CONSOLATION BRANCH

4900 Princeton Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19135

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (M-W)

9:00 AM - 6:00 PM (Th)

9:00 AM - 7:00 PM (F)

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa, Su)

SEARS BRANCH

Cottman & Bustleton Avenues • Philadelphia, PA 19149

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM (M-W)

9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (Th)

9:30 AM - 7:00 PM (F)

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa)

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Su)

ABINGTON BRANCH

1440 Old York Road • Abington, PA 19001
(See Hours Below)

LANSDALE BRANCH

Hillcrest Shopping Center

636 East Main Street • Lansdale, PA 19446
(See Hours Below)

NORTHEAST BRANCH

10400 Drummond Road • Philadelphia, PA 19154
(See Hours Below)

WARMINSTER BRANCH

25 Jacksonville Road • Warminster, PA 18974
(See Hours Below)

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (M-W)

9:00 AM - 6:00 PM (Th)

9:00 AM - 7:00 PM (F)

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Sa)

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Secretary/Treasurer
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Marie Sejda, Member
Lowell A. Tinner, Member
Charles Whiting, Member

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Victor Derrick, Member
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