



# the Source

»» Winter 2018

**Inside:** Visa® To The Rescue | Budgeting 101 | Evaluate Your Goals | And More

## »» It's A Bright New Year – Embrace Your Financial Freedom

Celebrate your Credit Union and its value. TCAFCU is in your community modeling our mantra of "people helping people" as you can see by our community involvement below. Our members become owners when they join. In return, we offer all the tools you need for your journey toward financial freedom.

- Higher dividends
- Lower loan rates
- 24/7 Online and PhoneXpress
- Mobile App featuring Mobile Deposit
- Visa® Debit Card
- Surcharge-free ATMs
- Shared branching
- And much more



Know someone who's fed up with soaring bank fees and declining customer service? Tell them I don't have to answer to greedy stockholders at TCAFCU. I answer to our member-owners. Each new member strengthens the Credit Union and allows us to return earnings to you through better rates and lower fees.

### Refer Today

Share the value of membership and tell your family, friends and co-workers about TCAFCU. Ask them to stop by or visit [www.tcafcu.org](http://www.tcafcu.org).

Andrew C. Pistoria | President/CEO

## »» Community Events

### We Made A Difference Together!

We are happy to report that \$5,000 was donated to CUaid's General Disaster Relief Fund – a result of TCAFCU's pledge to donate \$50 for every loan closed in October. All donations aided Credit Union members affected by recent disasters like Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and the California wildfires. Visit [www.cuaid.coop](http://www.cuaid.coop) to learn more.

### Empowering Students To Be Money Wise

We partnered with Diamond CU, Citadel and the Pennsylvania Credit Union Foundation to present a Financial Reality Fair at Pottsgrove High School on November 8th. Over 250 students learned how to budget and manage their money in a one-day "real world" environment. Thanks to Credit Union volunteers and participants, Market Street Sports Group and Wrigley's Business Products and Services (who also donated T-shirts for students and volunteers).

### Salvation Army's Angel Program

This holiday season, our employees donated clothing and toys to less fortunate families through the Salvation Army's Angel Program.

### Meals On Wheels Delivers Extra Smiles

Keeping with our annual holiday tradition, all Meals on Wheels recipients in the Pottstown area received a poinsettia plant donated by TCAFCU.

### Upcoming Blood Drives

We will be hosting blood drives at our Pottstown and Pennsburg locations on Friday, January 26th from 2-6 p.m. Be a hero and donate! Call **610-326-2954** to schedule an appointment.

## Budgeting 101

Only 40% of American families have a working monthly budget, which means 60% of you don't. Avoid spending more than you make by creating a budget for 2018. Start with your after-tax income (your paycheck) plus other sources of income (less taxes and business expenses). Choose a budgeting plan and start to track ALL spending.

To boost your success rate, automate where possible using apps or online tools. Take advantage of TCAF CU's FREE Online Banking and Mobile App and keep a pulse on your funds 24/7.

- Deposit checks
- Pay bills
- Turn your debit card on/off
- Apply for a loan
- Transfer funds
- View balances
- View account activity
- View check images
- Locate a branch or surcharge-free ATM

### Download The App Today!

Download TCAF CU Mobile now through the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. Enjoy self-registration right from your mobile device.



## Auto Loans

Rates As Low As

**1.99%**  
APR\*  
Up To 60 months

### »» Buckle Up In A New Car

#### Grab Your Xpress Check First!

Car shop like a pro with the negotiating power of cash in hand when you step into the dealership. Finance your vehicle with TCAF CU and enjoy these benefits:

- Competitive rates
- Up to 115% financing
- Preapprovals to power your negotiations
- Flexible repayment terms
- First-time Buyer's Program

#### Apply Now!

Stop in and we can calculate your best auto loan. Visit [www.tcafcu.org](http://www.tcafcu.org), call 610-326-3705 or stop by a branch.

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The rate disclosed is as low as 1.99% APR for New Vehicle Loans up to a 60-month term, secured by a 2018-2016 vehicle model with a loan-to-value ≤90%. Call or visit our website for Used Auto Loan rates. Rate is subject to change. Not all members will qualify for the lowest rate. Rate can vary based on creditworthiness, age of vehicle, loan-to-value and terms of the loan. An auto loan with a balance of \$10,000 at a rate of 1.99% APR and a term of 60 months will have a payment of \$175.23. Rate disclosed includes .25% discount for automatic payment from a TCAF CU account.

### »» Visa® To The Rescue

#### Transfer And Save

If your debt has piled up from the holidays, hit it head on by transferring your high-rate balances to a low-rate TCAF CU Visa® Platinum credit card and save! Plus, EMV-chip-enabled cards give you added protection and enhanced security.

- No annual fees
- No balance transfer fees
- Free credit card alerts give you peace of mind

#### Apply Now!

Visit [www.tcafcu.org](http://www.tcafcu.org), call 610-326-3705 or stop by a branch.

## Visa Platinum Credit Card

As Low As

**4.90%**  
APR\*  
12 months

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. The Annual Percentage Rate of 4.90%, which is a monthly periodic rate of 0.4083%, is for 12 months from the issuance of the balance transfer. When the discounted rate expires, the APR on existing balances will increase to the new non-discount rate on the first day of the billing cycle. These rates are subject to change without notice. Existing balances, new purchases and cash advances will accrue interest at the regular APR. Internal balance transfers are not eligible for the promotional rate.



**Chris Griffith** | Financial Advisor

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[christopher.griffith@investfinancial.com](mailto:christopher.griffith@investfinancial.com)

## »» What Is A Roth IRA?

Roth IRAs are tax-favored financial vehicles that enable investors to save money for retirement. They differ from traditional IRAs in that taxpayers cannot deduct contributions made to a Roth. However, qualified Roth IRA distributions in retirement are free of federal income tax and aren't included in a taxpayer's gross income. That can be advantageous, especially if the account owner is in a higher tax bracket in retirement or taxes are higher in the future.

A Roth IRA is subject to the same contribution limits as a traditional IRA, the maximum combined annual contribution an individual can make to traditional and Roth IRAs is \$5,500 in 2017, unchanged from 2016. Special "catch-up" contributions enable those nearing retirement (age 50 and older) to save at an accelerated rate by contributing \$1,000 more than the regular annual limits.

To learn more about Roth IRAs and their advantages, call me today at **610-326-1570**. I look forward to hearing from you.

## »» How Much Do I Need To Save?

Many realize the importance of saving for retirement, but knowing exactly how much they need to save is another issue altogether. It is sometimes difficult to decipher what is appropriate for your specific situation.

One rule of thumb is that retirees will need approximately 80% of their pre-retirement salaries to maintain their lifestyles in retirement. However, depending on your own situation and the type of retirement you hope to have, that number may be higher or lower.

Some factors to consider are retirement age, life expectancy, future health-care needs, lifestyle, inflation and social security.

I can help you build a strategy with the objective of providing an income stream throughout your retirement years. Call me to set up an appointment.



## »» New Year. Time To Evaluate Your Goals.

Happy New Year! This is a great time to honor your resolutions and take charge of your finances. The first step is meeting with a trusted professional to evaluate your financial goals. I enjoy meeting new members while continuing to serve existing clients. I can help with the following:

- Retirement Planning
- 401(k) and Pension Rollovers
- Tax-Advantaged Investing
- Traditional and Roth IRAs
- Annuities
- Life Insurance
- Mutual Funds

This is a no-cost, no obligation service that TCAFCU provides for its members. Call me today at **610-326-1570** and get on track for 2018.

## »» Put Some Of Your CD Money To Work For You

Is your CD maturing soon? Are you looking for alternative investment options? Do you need an objective opinion from someone who knows about investments?

We offer a variety of investment options and provide assistance in determining your financial goals. This meeting is at no-cost and no obligation.

Call me today at **610-326-1570** to set up a consultation. I look forward to exploring possible options for you.

# Bulletin Board

## Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 15  
Presidents' Day – Monday, February 19  
Blood Drive – January 26, 2018

## »» Income Tax Assistance And Faster Tax Refunds

See your tax refund sooner by up to three weeks by choosing Direct Deposit when you file your return. Funds will be accessible immediately upon deposit into your TCAFCU account. **TCAFCU Routing Number: 231385183**

Looking for a tax professional this year? **United Tax Services** has worked with Credit Union members since 1992, offering tax preparation, electronic filing services and more. Contact Ron at **610-369-5923** for details.

## »» Save On TurboTax® And Get A Chance To Win \$25K

Members can save up to \$15 on TurboTax® – the #1 best-selling tax software. With TurboTax, you'll get your taxes done right and your biggest possible refund – plus, a chance to win \$25,000! To be automatically entered to win, just try TurboTax Online® for FREE (and provide your email address) by February 15th.\*

### Start TurboTax For Free!

Visit [www.tcafcu.org](http://www.tcafcu.org) today.

\*#1 Best-Selling brand of tax software based on aggregated sales data for all tax year 2016 TurboTax products.

Visit <http://turbotax.intuit.com/lp/yoys/guarantees.jsp> for TurboTax product guarantees and other important information.

\*Limited time offer for TurboTax 2017. Terms, conditions, features, availability, pricing, fees, service and support options subject to change without notice. Intuit, TurboTax and TurboTax Online, among others, are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Intuit Inc. in the United States and other countries.

TurboTax \$25,000 Sweepstakes. NO PURCHASE OR FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States or the District of Columbia, 18 years of age or older at time of entry, who are customers of participating Financial Institutions or employees of participating businesses. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes ends 2/15/18. Subject to complete Official Rules and all applicable federal, state and local laws. For Official rules including participating Financial Institutions and business, odds of winning, alternate method of entry and prize descriptions, visit <http://turbotax.intuit.com/go/sweepstakesrules>. PRIZES: 1 Grand Prize: A check for \$25,000. Retail value, \$25,000. 12 First Prizes: A check for \$1,000. Retail value, \$1,000 each. Maximum retail value of all prizes is \$37,000. The odds of winning a prize depend upon the total number of eligible entries received by the end of the Promotion Period. SPONSOR: Intuit Inc., 7535 Torrey Santa Fe Rd, SDG-2A-03-22E, San Diego, CA, 92129.

## »» Seize A Scholarship!

**Application Deadline: March 15, 2018**



### Wow, Time Flies By, Doesn't It?

High School graduation parties will soon fill your calendar. Your college packing list will keep growing with stuff you need to buy or borrow for dorm living. Make sure to seize the chance at getting a \$1,500 TCAFCU Scholarship to be used toward higher education at an accredited college or trade school. Applicants will be judged based on community involvement and academic achievement.

### Get Started Today!

Visit [www.tcafcu.org](http://www.tcafcu.org), call **610-326-3705** or stop by the Credit Union for scholarship information. Applications are also available at our student branches located inside Pottstown and Pottsgrove high schools.

## »» Scam Alerts

Living in a wireless world makes everyone's personal and financial information vulnerable to cyber criminals. One "card cracking" scheme uses social media to target college students or recent graduates who are likely cash-strapped. The best way to avoid this scam is to never share debit card information and/or PINs with anyone.

Got big travel plans this year? Beware of free charging stations at the airport. "Juice Jacking" is a form of cyberattack that can lead to identity theft. Hackers get access to personal or sensitive data or inject malicious code into it when an unsuspecting victim gets a quick charge at compromised public charging stations.

## »» All Members Invited To The Annual Meeting

**March 21, 2018, 8 a.m.  
Pottstown Office**

Please join us for TCAFCU's annual meeting, open to all members. The Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations to fill available positions of Credit Union officers. Nominations for vacancies may be made by filing a petition signed by one percent of the membership, or 140 members in good standing. Nominees must also submit their qualifications and biographical data on forms approved by the Board of Directors. All petitions and related information must be received by the Credit Union no later than February 9, 2018.

**TriCounty Area**  
**FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

Your Community. Your Credit Union.

1550 Medical Drive, Pottstown, PA 19464  
110 Pottstown Ave., Pennsburg, PA 18073

[www.tcafcu.org](http://www.tcafcu.org) | **610-326-3705**



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Federally insured  
by NCUA

