

Consolidate with 2.9%^{APR} Balance Transfers*

Community Connection



WINTER
2017

Pay Off High Rate Cards Today.

The calendar has turned a page and it's the start of another New Year. It's also the start of the holiday shopping bills. It's easy to get caught up in the holiday spirit and put just a few more purchases on that credit card. Our December blog *Holiday Budgeting Lessons for Parents*, shared that, according to a T. Rowe Price survey, over half the parents surveyed will pay for their holiday gifts with credit cards. Just 61% of them plan to pay off their spending within three months, and 16% say they will pay it off over the course of six months or more.

Does that sound familiar? Then let Community Financial help you save money by consolidating your higher-rate retail credit card balances to your Community Financial MasterCard®. Transfer balances to a Community Financial MasterCard **between January 9, 2017 and February 28, 2017** and you'll pay only **2.9% APR** on the transferred amount **until August 31, 2017**.

*2.9% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) offer applies to balance transfers made between January 9, 2017 and February 28, 2017. After August 31, 2017, the APR will be 10.74% to 18.00% based your cardholder agreement. Call (877) 937-2328 for complete details.

Together We Are Stronger

Bill Lawton
Chief Executive Officer



The New Year is a time to look back on our 2016 accomplishments and reaffirm our goals for the New Year. Last year was a special one for Community Financial Credit Union as we proudly celebrated our 65th anniversary. We celebrated our members, with appreciation days, service focused on their specific needs and special rate bonuses. We celebrated our communities, by donating both volunteers and dollars to help enrich the lives of the people living around us. We celebrated with our team members as we earned the "101 Best Places to Work" for the eleventh year running.

We were proud to award nineteen (19) scholarships through the Community Financial Scholarship Fund in 2016. In addition, our award winning Student-Run Credit Union program helped educate over 25,000 youth through our partnerships with local schools.

As we move through 2017 our focus will remain the same. We will continue to offer a high level of service and a wide range of financial products focused on your specific needs. We recognize that individuals, families and businesses each have unique needs and our dedicated team is here to help members save, borrow and invest wisely.

Thank you for being an owner of Community Financial. I hope you feel a sense of pride in being a part of a cooperative that is making a difference for our members and our communities.

Board Election Notice



Deb Ronayne
Director & Nominating
Committee Chairperson

Community Financial is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned and governed by its members. Your Board of Directors is comprised of nine elected members who serve as trustees for our credit union, focusing on the members/owners' perspective. The Community Financial Nominating Committee recommended incumbents Al Berrie, Paul Bedich and Ron Meteyer

to be placed on the 2017 ballot for the Board of Directors. In addition, no nominations were received via petition.

As a result, the board secretary will cast a unanimous ballot for election of the persons nominated above at the annual meeting to be held at **6:00 p.m. on Thursday March 9, 2017** at The Inn at St. John's Conference Center.

College Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

Community Financial to Award \$1,000 to 21 Students!

Each year, in collaboration with the Community Foundation of Plymouth (CFP) and the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (AAACF), Community Financial Credit Union Awards the Margaret Dunning, George Lawton Memorial and Ron Carlson Scholarships to college students who excel academically and who demonstrate a commitment to the community. Qualifying applicants who embody Community Financial's "People Helping People" philosophy are given consideration to receive one of twenty one \$1,000 scholarships.

The application will be available by the first week of January. To apply, visit the Student Services page at cfcu.org. You will find a link to the online application, scholarship criteria and



2016 Scholarship Recipients

instructions for applying. Applicants must have an active Community Financial account open for a **minimum of six months** prior to the date the application is submitted. Other requirements apply. Interested students need only complete one application to be considered for all scholarships.

All application materials must be received by Tuesday, March 14, 2017.



Making A Difference Warming Hearts & Homes

At Community Financial, we believe everyone should have access to basic needs such as heat, food, shelter and clothing, especially during the cold winter months. That's why we resumed our "Warming Hearts & Homes" Charitable program in December, donating \$25 for every new Facebook Like, Twitter post or Instagram picture message we received.

In total, \$40,000 was donated to charitable organizations including: The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW), The Salvation Army's "Coats for Kids" program, Gleaners Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the communities we serve.

Community Shares

Community Financial is proud to continue supporting local schools through our Community Shares program. In 2016, CFCU donated \$31,600 to local school districts to help fund teacher grants. The dollars helped fund additional choir supplies (costumes, music, music stands), electronic chargers for an auto class, STEAM supplies for elementary libraries and a 3D printer.



Five local foundations were recipients in our south communities. They included; Clarenceville Education Foundation, Livonia Public Schools Foundation, Plymouth-Canton Educational Excellence Foundation, Northville Education Foundation and Novi Educational Foundation. Through these foundations, Community Financial was able to help fund several teacher grants throughout the districts.

In addition, four local school districts in the north received funds. The districts include; Atlanta Community Schools, Gaylord Community Schools, Hillman Community Schools and Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools. Schools will use the funds for their choir department, and school climate and culture supplies.

Feedback Welcomed

The Ownership Linkage Committee is a Board subcommittee formed to ensure that the Board of Directors is meeting the needs and expectations of the member/owners of Community Financial. If you would like to provide the committee with feedback, please send your email to: ownertoowner@cfcu.org



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www.cfcu.org
(877) 937-2328

Plymouth Canton Northville Novi Livonia Gaylord Hillman Lewiston Atlanta



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