

# Financial Focus

Organized 1934

Working Together for Financial Freedom

November 2014



## Planning Your Retirement 2 Valuable FREE Member Seminars

Whatever your retirement goals are, ensuring a steady stream of income during retirement will be an important part of the road ahead. Social security, how to use your 401(k) and other investments are common concerns during retirement income planning.

Freedom Credit Union wants to help make your retirement less stressful before the journey begins! Join us for two educational seminars that will provide you with valuable information. Attend one or both!

**Income for Life\*** - to be held on Monday, December 8th at 6:00 PM at our Warminster branch - 25 Jacksonville Road, Warminster, PA 18974.

Help set your financial direction and learn the answers to questions like these:

- What sources of retirement income will you rely on?
- What retirement risks do you face now that you're drawing on your savings?
- Which income strategies should you consider?
- How can you use annuities to guarantee an income for life?

**Social Security and Your Retirement\*\*** - to be held on Monday, December 15th at 6:00 PM at our Northeast branch - 10400 Drummond Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154.

This seminar will address these issues and answer more of your questions:

- What are the rules for collecting your Social Security benefits?
- How can spouses coordinate their benefits and possibly receive more?
- Are there different routes to take that could potentially increase your benefit amount?
- How can Social Security fit within your overall retirement income plan?

Both events are no-cost, no-obligation seminars hosted by Brian Arrow, CUNA Mutual's Members Financial Services Representative at Freedom Credit Union. For more information or to reserve your place, call 215-612-6136. Space is limited, so make your reservations today.

Please see full disclosure on back.

## Focus Points

### Holiday Closing

Veterans Day – Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 27, 2014 and Friday, November 28, 2014

### Freedom Sponsors The Hatboro Holiday Parade

Join us on Sunday, November 23rd at 2:00 PM, as Freedom sponsors the 54th Annual Hatboro Holiday Parade! What a great way to kick off the holiday season. Join us along the parade route on York Road in the heart of Hatboro as Freedom Employee volunteers and their families march in the parade!

### Pictures With Santa

Take your kids for a FREE snapshot with Mr. & Mrs. Claus!

Saturday, December 6th, from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Warminster Branch

Saturday, December 13th, from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Northeast Branch

## Open the Door To A Lower Monthly Home Payment With A Freedom First Equity Loan

If you want to refinance your current mortgage but skip the lengthy, traditional mortgage process, consider a Freedom First Equity Loan. This Loan will pay off your first mortgage and become your primary real estate loan. When you get a First Equity Loan, you will lower your rate and save on closing costs—and you can choose a 5, 10, or 15 year term to make sure that the loan meets your financial needs. First Equity Loans offer:

- **Flexibility** - Pick a term that can lower your payment, or shorten the loan to be debt free sooner. The application process is also faster and easier than refinancing your mortgage so you will enjoy the savings almost immediately.
- **Cost Savings** - The Freedom First Equity Loan offers members one of the best rates around. Not only can you lower your rate, but with no application fees or closing costs, you don't have to worry about depleting your savings.
- **Peace of Mind** - With fixed rates, you don't have to worry about payments fluctuating with time. You will be locked into these low rates and enjoy them for the term of the loan.

For more details and to apply visit [FreedomCU.org](http://FreedomCU.org).

Loan must hold first lien position. Minimum loan amount is \$10,000. Current Freedom mortgages will not be eligible for Freedom First Equity Loan.

\*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) applies to Loan-to-Value (LTV) less than or equal to 80%. APR will not be less than 2.490% or greater than 5.24%. Rates valid as of 10/1/14 and are subject to change. The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Hazard Insurance is required. Flood insurance required where necessary. \*\*Eligible Freedom First Equity 10 year rate based on consumer credit score. Amount borrowed is based on home value and current equity. For loans over \$100,000, Title Insurance is required.



# Avoid Card Skimmers



Ever wonder how bad guys get your credit card information? Here's one method that has become VERY popular and is hitting our area very hard – skimming! A credit card or ATM card skimmer is a portable capture device that is attached in front of or on top of the legitimate scanner. The skimmer passively records the card data as you insert your credit card into the real scanner. Credit card thieves will often temporarily affix the card skimmer device to gas pumps, ATMs, or other convenient self-service point-of-sale terminals. Gas pumps and ATMs are preferred for the crime because it is easier for thieves to retrieve their skimmers and these terminals generally receive a lot of traffic.

Some skimmers capture the card information using a magnetic reader and use a miniature camera to record you typing in your PIN number. Others will even go so far as to place a secondary keypad over top of the actual keypad. The secondary keypad captures your PIN number and records it while passing your input to the real keypad.

## Here's how you can avoid being skimmed at an ATM or gas pump!

- 1. Inspect the card reader and the area near the PIN pad** - Most skimming devices are designed to be temporarily affixed to the ATM or gas pump so they can be easily retrieved by the bad guys once they've collected a batch of cardholder data. If you think the scanning device doesn't look like it matches the machine's color and style, it might be a skimmer. Unless skimmers are running a large operation, they probably are only skimming at one gas pump at a time at the station you are using. Look at the pump next to yours to see if the card reader and setup look different. If they do then you might have just spotted a skimmer.
- 2. Trust your instincts.** If in doubt, use another machine somewhere else – Our brains are excellent at recognizing things that seem out of place. If you get a sense that something looks off about the ATM you are about to use, you might be better off using one that you feel more comfortable with.
- 3. Avoid using your PIN number at the gas pump** - When you pay at the pump with your debit/credit card, you usually have the option to use it as a credit or a debit card. It's best to choose the credit option that allows you to avoid entering your PIN in sight of a Card Skimmer camera. When you use it as a credit card you usually only have to enter your billing ZIP code as verification which is much safer than putting in your PIN.
- 4. Keep an eye on your accounts** - Keep an eye on your account balance and report any suspicious activity immediately to the Credit Union.

### Income for Life

\*All guarantees are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuer. Insurance products are issued by CMFG Life Insurance Company (CMFG Life). MEMBERS Insurance & Investments is the marketing name for products offered by CMFG Life and other leading carriers. 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. Investment and insurance products 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

### Social Security and Your Retirement

\*\*All guarantees are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuer. Representative does not specialize in Social Security issues. For questions about your Social Security benefits, contact your local Social Security office. Representative is neither a tax advisor nor attorney. For information regarding your specific tax situation, please consult a tax professional. For legal questions consult your attorney. 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, IA 50677, 866.512.6109. Nondeposit investment and insurance products 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.

## LOAN RATES

Account Type	As Low as
VISA® Platinum or Gold Card	0.99% APR**
Vehicle Loan	2.99% APR*
Home Equity Loan	2.99% APR*
Personal/Signature Loan	8.49% APR*

\*APR Annual Percentage Rate. Rates accurate as of 10/1/14. Terms and rates are subject to change without notice. For Credit Cards, an eligible co-borrower will be required unless the Cardholder has independent means of repaying any credit extended. The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Visit FreedomCU.org for more information.  
<sup>†</sup> 0.99% Introductory APR only available for new Card applications. Introductory APR applies to all purchases, cash advances, and balance transfers made during six-month introductory period. After that, the fixed APR you receive will be based on your credit history and will not be less than 8.9% or greater than 17.9%. Offer subject to change without notice.

**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)

### Board Of Directors

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