

expanding Horizons

4 Ways to Save on Home Maintenance

1. Use budget finds and money saving “hacks”

Find secondhand materials through local and online garage sales, Facebook groups and Facebook marketplace, flea markets, or secondhand renovation stores such as Habitat for Humanity’s ReStore or Goodwill.

Don’t do a complete remodel – refinishing your current cabinetry can save you up to 50% of the cost it would take to completely replace your cabinets. You could even replace the doors and leave the current cabinets in place if a coat of paint and new hardware wouldn’t satisfy you.

2. Do the work yourself, but know your limits

An obvious way to cut costs on home renovations and improvements is to do it yourself. This is an especially good idea for smaller projects with more simple work – like painting, changing cabinet hardware, etc. You can rent tools that you don’t have from a local hardware store to save yourself the money of buying them – this also gives you a good incentive to finish the project quickly. With larger jobs, like putting up drywall, tiling, installing a new sink, etc., it is probably best to hire a professional. Some things, such

as garage door repair and maintenance, require a professional in order to keep the warranty valid. There are also things you shouldn’t do without a license, such as electrical work, major plumbing, or structural changes to your home.

3. Do the prep-work yourself

Lots of contractors do work hourly, so if you do need to hire one, see if you can do the prep or finishing touches on your own. For instance, if you can demo the current work space safely, prepare surfaces, or do the painting afterwards, it could save you money.

4. Act quickly when it comes to repairs

Sometimes it might seem like it is okay to wait to repair something that you know is broken, but it could end up costing more money in the long run. Do not wait until something that is broken is causing damage before you fix it. What starts as something very minor could end up being a disaster. For instance, a leaky pipe could lead to a rotten floor or a sagging garage door could lead to a broken spring and a worn out garage door motor.

Helpful Tip

Home Renovation Plans? Make it happen with a Home Equity Loan as low as 4.24% APR* for 10 years.

*Annual Percentage Rate as of April 1, 2019 for a fixed rate Home Equity Loan at a 70% Loan-To-Value (LTV) Ratio for 120-month term. For example, the monthly payment would be \$102.45 per \$10,000 borrowed and does not include taxes and insurance premiums. Your actual payment may vary based on the loan amount, term, APR, credit worthiness, tax and insurance, and other factors. Other rates and terms are available. Rates and loan approval subject to individual credit worthiness. The minimum loan amount is \$7,500 and the maximum amount is \$250,000. Property must be the borrower’s primary residence. Property insurance is required. Borrower is responsible for Maryland recordation tax – amounts may vary by county and amount borrowed. Rates subject to change without notice. Other restrictions apply. Equal Housing Lender. THIS CREDIT UNION IS FEDERALLY INSURED BY THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION



A message from the President

Let me start out by thanking YOU and all of our members for choosing Patriot and placing your trust in this financial cooperative. While the first three months of 2019 are already behind us, I want to take a little time and reflect on last year's progress.

2018 was a fantastic year! Your credit union grew to over 67,000 members with \$515 million in loans (an increase of \$77 million since December of 2017) and \$577 million in shares (an increase of \$60 million since December of 2017). And for the 103rd consecutive quarter, Patriot earned a 5-Star (the highest) rating by Bauer Financial for safety and soundness. All of this is great news!

But the most important facts can't be summed up in numbers and financials – it is about *People Helping People* and the individuals, families and small businesses who have been touched by Patriot. Whether it's giving back in higher dividends, helping people when they're in financial straits, or giving a young person an auto loan so they have transportation to their first job, we're about helping people not with a hand-out but by providing a hand up.

Just over a year ago we welcomed over 1,400 new members from Neighbors 1st Federal Credit Union into the Patriot fold, while adding another Patriot branch and ATM location to our network – at 626 North Grant Street, Waynesboro. As last summer came to a close, we transitioned our credit card program in-house, resulting in improved member service and added convenience through accessibility of credit card accounts in eBranch and Patriot Mobile. In the fall, we opened our much-anticipated Robinwood Branch in Hagerstown across from the Meritus Medical Center and have gotten many favorable responses from existing and new members alike.

While these projects focused on improving the member experience and enhancing the convenient access of services, we refuse to remain satisfied on past laurels and are equally excited about the upcoming improvements that are planned for 2019. To start this year, 'instant issue' for debit and credit cards was rolled out in five of our ten Patriot branches. What this means is that existing members who lose or damage their card can have it replaced the same day and new members can receive a debit or credit card instantly at the time of account opening. Previously, the replacement and fulfillment of cards took anywhere from 7-14 days – which just doesn't meet the needs of many of our members. Next, members will gain the flexibility, security, and peace of mind of **card controls** – the ability to turn your debit or credit card on or off, choose the countries or regions which the card can be used, and more. This feature will be available through our Mobile app by mid-April and in eBranch by early June. In addition, members can look forward to other feature upgrades on both eBranch and Patriot Mobile by the end of spring as we continue to find ways to offer the products and services you need in a convenient manner - - - making your overall Patriot credit union experience better and more fulfilling.

In closing, I appreciate your feedback and welcome your suggestions. As we continue to improve member experience, we know that we aren't perfect and will make some mistakes. When this occurs we ask for grace and the opportunity to make the situation right. What makes a financial institution great isn't the absence of errors, because we are all human, but how we address the few errors we make.

As always, we love to hear from you – please let me know what we can do to better serve you – and hope that you will continue to recommend us to your family, friends, and neighbors.

Sincerely,

Brad R. Warner, President & CEO
Patriot Federal Credit Union

Shred Day: Get rid of clutter and help protect your identity!

Join us at our Wayne Avenue branch on **June 1st** for our "Shred Day." This is a great opportunity to securely dispose personal documents such as old bills, credit union statements, and other documents containing personal information to reduce clutter and help protect your identity.

Please limit the amount of paper you bring for shredding to four boxes. No plastic, binder clips, cardboard, or 3-ring binders, please.

When: Saturday, June 1st 8:00am-11:00am (please note end time change)

Where: Wayne Avenue Branch – 800 Wayne Avenue, Chambersburg

We'll also be collecting food items to help stock local food pantries. Please bring canned and boxed food items to donate to those less fortunate.



Annual Meeting Notice

June 25, 2019

You are invited to attend Patriot Federal Credit Union's Annual Meeting, which will be held Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at the Corporate Center Training Room, 1330 South Seventh Street, Chambersburg, beginning at 1:30 pm. Please plan to be there to elect board members and receive reports on the performance of Patriot.

RSVP your plans to attend by calling 717-262-4301 no later than June 21, 2019.

Doors open and registration will begin at 1:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Biographies for the candidates nominated for the Board of Directors are shown below. Other members who would like to be considered as candidates for the Board of Directors may do so by petitioning to have their names placed on the ballot. The following information must be submitted to the Secretary of the Board of Directors by Thursday, April 11, 2019.

- A Petition Containing 100 Members' Names
- A Written Statement of Qualifications
- A Biographical Information Sheet

Complete information can be found in the Volunteer Recruitment Kit available in all Patriot offices, or by calling 717-262-4301.

Nominations

Dennis Coons, Thomas Luzzi, Gary Patterson have been nominated to fill three, 3-year terms on Patriot Federal Credit Union's Board of Directors.

Dennis C. Coons

Dennis C. Coons of Chambersburg is an owner of Global Data Consultants, LLC. A graduate of Shippensburg University, Mr. Coons attained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics and Computer Science. He owns multiple businesses, and has areas of expertise in strategic planning, cost control and business development. When asked his primary reason for wishing to continue serving on PFCU's Board of Directors, he stated, "I have spent my entire life in the area and would like to aid in enhancing the overall performance of PFCU, by offering my business background and experience."

Thomas Luzzi

Thomas Luzzi resides in Chambersburg with his wife Christine and is currently retired after spending over 45 years as Chief Financial Officer, Professor, and consultant to non-profit organizations. He continues to share his expertise in financial and business management, budgeting and forecasting, and mergers. Mr. Luzzi is currently the Treasurer of the Majestic Ridge Home Owners Association. Mr. Luzzi holds a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Business Administration from the State University of New York at Albany. He is an Army veteran serving during the Vietnam era. Mr. Luzzi has served on a number of Board of Directors for human service agencies providing care for substance abuse, child abuse and neglect, the mentally ill, and developmentally handicapped members of the community. Mr. Luzzi stated that his primary reason for wanting to serve on the Board of Directors of Patriot Federal Credit Union is to give back to the community many of the lessons he has learned, so that the community might be a better place to live now and in the future.

Gary Patterson

Gary W. Patterson, of Chambersburg, retired from Letterkenny Army Depot in 1995. Mr. Patterson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Penn State University. He has been a credit union member for many years. A volunteer since 1981, he served on various subcommittees and is a past Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. Patterson's credit union achievements and awards include completion of the CUES Director Leadership Institute where he received the Certified Credit Union Director's designation, the Insurance for Credit Unions Certificate of Achievement, the Friedrich W. Raiffeisen Award, the Edward A. Filene Award, and the Roy F. Bergengren Award. Mr. Patterson states, "It is my desire to extend my service to PFCU members keeping this credit union a strong and caring financial institution, continuing in the credit union tradition of people-helping-people."



Applying for a Mortgage
Has Never Been So Lucrative

For a Limited Time Get
\$500 Back at
Closing!

\$500 incentive for borrowers who submit a mortgage application to purchase a primary residence between now and April 30, 2019. The \$500 incentive will be applied as a Lender Credit to reduce the amount you pay toward closing costs.

\$500 incentive is paid as a lender credit at closing. Loan must fund to receive lender credit. Rates and loan approval subject to individual credit worthiness. Other restrictions apply. Equal Housing Lender. THIS CREDIT UNION IS FEDERALLY INSURED BY THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

Step Up Your Savings

2.50% APY*

For \$10,000 opening balance

39-Month Step-Up Certificate¹

**Annual Percentage Yield (APY) as of April 2, 2019 and is subject to change without notice. Minimum balance of \$10,000 is required to open this certificate and to earn the APY. Higher rates are available for higher balances. No brokered deposits or public funds accepted. The APY assumes that all dividends remain on deposit until maturity. Fees could reduce earnings. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Not valid with any other offer.*

¹Features a one-time "step-up" opportunity for the member to increase the certificate rate at their discretion to the then current rate any one time during the original term of the certificate. At maturity the certificate will automatically renew for a term of 48 months at the prevailing rate. THIS CREDIT UNION IS FEDERALLY INSURED BY THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION



As a valued member of Patriot, we are committed to providing you with the financial services and solutions that meet your needs. And as a benefit to you, we are providing you with free access to **GreenPath Financial Wellness**, a financial education and counseling program. Through comprehensive education and exceptional service, GreenPath has been assisting individuals for more than 50 years.

You can receive assistance with:

- Personal and family budgeting
- Understanding your personal credit report and how to improve your score
- Personal money management
- Debt repayment (*fees may apply*)
- Avoiding bankruptcy, foreclosure, and repossession

GreenPath can give personalized answers to your individual needs. For issues ranging from a proactive savings plan to saving a home from foreclosure, advice is only a phone call away at 877-337-3399.

Express Signature Loans



Our Express Signature Loan* is a quick and easy way to get a \$1,000 loan for 12 months. And there's no credit check required!

Call 717-263-4444 888-777-9982

Apply online at patriotfcu.org or stop by a branch

**To qualify for an Express Signature Loan, you must be a member in good standing for at least one year and be eligible for Overdraft Protection. Applicant must also have a recurring direct deposit, no less frequency than monthly for \$500 or more and have a checking account for at least 3 months. There will be a \$25 application fee payable at the time of loan disbursement. The fee cannot be added on to the \$1000 loan. Interest rate 12.50%. Monthly payment on a \$1000 loan for a period of 12 months is \$89.10 with a 17.33% APR. Loan subject to approval. Equal Opportunity Lender.*