

APRIL 2020



expanding Horizons

4 Tips for Securing Your Finances during Economic Uncertainty

During times of economic uncertainty, people tend to panic about the hit the shock could take on their finances. If you are feeling uneasy about the status of your future finances, these tips can help you decide what to do next.

Manage Your Credit Availability and Credit Score

Credit is a great thing to have, especially when hard economic times hit. Try to keep your credit lines free or establish new ones so that you have credit to use if you need it. Pay down credit line debt as fast as possible and don't use them to purchase unnecessary things until the uncertainty has passed. Some credit cards may allow you to request credit line increases, which will give you more wiggle room if you need it without having to apply for new credit card accounts or other loans.

Establish a Financial Safety Net

If you haven't already started, begin saving for an emergency fund. It is ideal to have three to six months' worth of living expenses saved up for emergencies and times of economic hardships. Think about how much you owe on loans and other payments each month to decide the amount you need to save. Try to reduce discretionary spending to help save faster.

Refinance or Consolidate Your Debt

If you have high interest rate debt, times of economic uncertainty can have some of the lowest interest rates to refinance or consolidate debt into. Look at your current debt and the interest rates on each loan to determine

if refinancing will be worth it. Try to only refinance the largest and highest interest rate loans. If you open too many new credit accounts at the same time, it will take a hit on your credit score. Consolidating multiple loans into one new loan with a lower interest rate is also a great option to save money on monthly payments and help you pay down debt faster.

Do Not Forget Unused Gift Cards or Credit/Debit Card Rewards

We often forget about gift cards that we received from friends or family during the holidays that we have not yet used. In hard or uncertain economic times, a gift card can be that extra meal that you may not have otherwise. According to Bankrate, about half of all adults in the US have unused gift cards, so now is a great time to see if you could be one of them.

Credit or Debit card rewards can also be very helpful for extra purchases during hard times.

Good financial planning is necessary no matter what the circumstances. Hardships are temporary, but great financial habits can help keep you safe and secure for a lifetime.

Did You Know? 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. Receive assistance *with*: personal/family budgeting, understanding your credit report and how to improve your score, personal money management and much more. Call **888-337-3399** or visit <http://www.greenpath.com/greenpath-financial-wellness!>

A message from the President of Patriot Federal Credit Union



It is our sincere hope this communication finds you and your family well. Generally, we like to update our stakeholders as to Patriot's financial wellbeing and follow up with new products and services we're preparing to launch. Yet we are living in uncertain times and

it's important that you know our highest priority remains the health and safety of our Members and Employees.

Today we are monitoring the evolving threat known as the Coronavirus (also known as COVID-19). The COVID-19 is basically a virus new to humans. Simply stated, we haven't had time to develop anti-bodies within our bodies to protect ourselves. Therefore slowing down the spread of this virus gives our medical professionals time to develop better medical treatments and vaccines.

Patriot is constantly reviewing information published from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as from our state and local authorities; making on-going adjustments to our existing plans as new information becomes available. We want you to know we take this responsibility seriously.

Yet the basics haven't changed. Good hygiene continues to be the keystone to protecting yourself and others around you. Washing your hands and not touching your face is important. Additionally, Patriot has increased our office cleaning, routinely sanitizing surfaces frequently touched. We have increased the cleaning of the canisters and buttons on the drive-up units, as well as the ATM keypads and screens, but we still recommend that consumers wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before

and after using an ATM or other high-touch device. And it is important that we begin to practice "social distancing", for example no longer shaking hands, etc.

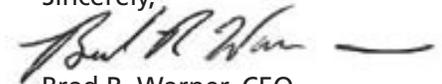
If you read nothing else, please understand it's important that we don't panic. Pandemic viruses aren't new. We've seen them before; and together we'll get through these difficult times. If you're looking for additional information or up to date efforts Patriot has enacted to protect members and employee's alike, please visit our website at <https://www.patriotfcu.org/covid-19-update/>.

Also, you should know that Patriot offers many ways to access your account(s) 24/7 without leaving your home or office. We encourage you to utilize our eBranch and Mobile banking to view transactions, check balances, make payments and transfers, deposit checks, and more. Additionally Visa® debit and credit cards are great options for making transactions without the need for cash.

Our employees stand ready to SERVE. Should you find yourself impacted by the Coronavirus and need help, Patriot has an Assistance Program to work with members impacted. We are only a phone call away.

As of the writing of this letter, all Patriot branch lobbies are temporarily closed for routine visits from March 19 through 30. Our drive-ups remain open, and members can make branch appointments to handle transactions that can't be done through the drive-up, Patriot Mobile, eBranch, or the contact center. We have no way of knowing how long our country will be facing the COVID-19 pandemic, but we are hopeful that by the time you receive this our lobbies will have re-opened. But there is no guarantee.

Sincerely,



Brad R. Warner, CEO

Rest assured with Patriot's Debit Cards

All of Patriot's checking accounts come with a Patriot debit card, which is protected by various security features. Put your mind at ease knowing that your hard earned money is being guarded from cyber-attacks by:

- **Chip-Enabled Technology:** Patriot debit cards are embedded with microchips to give you an extra layer of security beyond regular debit cards
- **3D Secure by VISA®:** Personal Patriot debit cards are equipped with advanced risk technology by Visa to further evaluate transactions
- **Fraud monitoring:** Patriot proactively monitors your account to bring suspicious purchase activity to your attention
- **Card Controls:** Activate, disable and enable your card, mark your card as lost or stolen, order replacement cards, all from your Patriot Mobile App, wherever you are.

Call us at **888-777-9982**, or visit us at patriotfcu.org.

Annual Meeting Notice

June 23, 2020

You are invited to attend Patriot Federal Credit Union's Annual Meeting, which will be held Tuesday, June 23, 2020 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 19, 2020.

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 9, 2020.

- 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

Robert Brooks, Sr, Garry Gontz and John Washabaugh have been nominated to fill three, 3-year terms on Patriot Federal Credit Union's Board of Directors.

Robert Brooks, Sr

Robert Brooks, Sr. is currently serving on Patriot's Board of Directors. He is a resident of Chambersburg, PA and is retired. His work experience included corporation CEO, and serving as Executive Assistant to the Commander of the largest and most sensitive communication system in the United States. Mr. Brooks completed a 22 year career in the Army and was an Executive Administrator at Mount Saint Mary's University, and served 22 years as a Department of the Army Civilian at the Senior Management Level. He has extensive training in leadership, security, law enforcement and executive management, and is a graduate of the Army Management Staff College. Mr. Brooks has been a member of Patriot Federal Credit Union since 1983. He will be standing for Re-election to fill a full 3 year term.

Garry Gontz

Garry E. Gontz, a resident of Chambersburg, PA, is a retired Business and Industry Specialist for the U.S. Department of Defense-Office of Economic Adjustment with nearly 34 years combined federal service. His work experience included working for the Pentagon coordinating defense department assistance, project management and grants at Base Realignment and Closure sites across the country and was the Base Transition Coordinator for Department of the Army at Letterkenny Army Depot. Mr. Gontz holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in public relations from Shippensburg University and a Certificate in Strategic Planning from the Graduate School, Washington, D.C.

He is the Secretary on the Board of the Letterkenny Industrial Development Authority. Mr. Gontz has served on the Franklin County Assessment Board and most recently on the County's Board of Elections. Mr. Gontz has been a member of Patriot Federal Credit Union since 1973 and currently serves as Board Treasurer. He will be standing for re-election to fill a full 3-year term.

John Washabaugh

John Washabaugh is the Director of Plant Operations for Johnson Controls Navy Systems, LLC. His responsibilities encompass all Manufacturing Operations at the facility, including close surveillance to assure coordination and integration of work, budgetary conformance, schedules, and optimum utilization of personnel. He is experienced in preparing budgets, forecasts, and controlling expenditures in accordance with those approved plans and budgets. He has coordinated and directed major projects such as expansion, acquisition, installation of equipment, and major repairs.

Mr. Washabaugh's education and experience includes degrees in Business Administration and Organizational Leadership from Penn State University. He previously served 7 years on Neighbors 1st Fed Credit Union Board of Directors. He is also a coach for 18U Girls Tournament Fast Pitch Softball.

He, wife Kerri, and daughter reside in Fayetteville PA. They also have 2 adult sons.

As a member of the Board of Directors for Patriot Federal Credit Union, John will promote the highest levels of member service while maintaining fiscal responsibility for credit union operation. He has been a member of Patriot Federal Credit Union since 1987.

LIFE HAPPENS

Handle It Fast with an
Express Signature Loan

A Quick and Easy Way to Get
a \$1,000 Loan for 12 Months



Call 888-777-9982 or visit
patriotfcu.org to learn more.



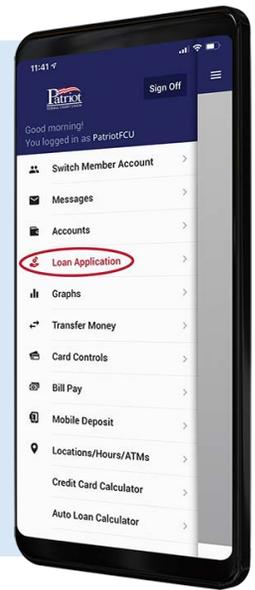
To qualify for an Express Signature Loan, you must be a member in good standing for at least 6 months, and be eligible for Overdraft Protection. Applicant must also have a recurring direct deposit, no less frequency than monthly for \$500 or more and have a checking account open for at least 3 months. There will be a \$20 application fee payable at the time of loan disbursement. The fee cannot be added on to the \$1,000 loan. Interest rate is 13.50% effective 3/18/20. Monthly payment on a \$1,000 loan for a period of 12 months is \$92.27 with an APR of 17.056% for 12 months. Subject to approval. Other restrictions apply. All terms subject to change without notice. Equal Opportunity Lender.

THIS CREDIT UNION IS FEDERALLY INSURED BY THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION



Applying For a Loan is Easier than Ever!

- **Convenient** – access wherever you are
- **Secure** – Start by logging in to eBranch or Mobile
- **Quicker** – refills loan application with your info



Save Hundreds on Auto Insurance

As a valued Patriot member you'll enjoy exclusive savings on auto insurance made available by our partner TruStage® (underwritten by Liberty Mutual). Plus, you may qualify for various discounts such as – multiple vehicles, Anti-lock brakes and more!

Schedule an appointment with our Liberty Mutual representative to learn more about discounts and to receive a personalized quote.



Shana Mickle
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**Auto Insurance Program is made available through TruStage Insurance Agency, LLC and issued by leading insurance companies. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. Discounts are not available in all states and discounts vary by state. A consumer report from a consumer reporting agency and/or motor vehicle report will be obtained on all drivers listed on your policy where state laws and regulations allow. Please consult your policy for specific coverages and limitations. The insurance offered is not a deposit, and is not federally insured, sold or guaranteed by your credit union. Your credit union enables this insurance program to be offered and is entitled to compensation from TruStage.*

EXPECT MORE FROM OUR DIVIDEND CHECKING ACCOUNT!

- ✓ Unlimited ATM withdrawals at Patriot ATMs
- ✓ Access to over 55,000 surcharge-free ATMs worldwide
- ✓ ATM surcharge fees refunded
- ✓ FREE Online & Mobile Banking Access
- ✓ FREE Bill Pay Access
- ✓ And more!



Minimum balance required to earn dividends is \$2500. Rate is variable and subject to change. Fees could reduce the earnings on the account. Limit of no more than one Dividend Checking account per social security/tax identification number. Must be a member. INSURED BY THE NCUA