



# New Year, New You!

## REAL ESTATE

Receive up to \$500\* toward closing costs on equity loans.

Refinances are available on existing VECU loans.

## PERSONAL/SIGNATURE

Receive up to a .20% discount with Apple Rewards.\*\*

## CREDIT CARDS

Receive the convenience of a card with non-variable rates and no annual fees.

## NEW & USED VEHICLES

Receive up to a .20% discount with Apple Rewards.\*\*

Receive \$250 over Kelly Blue Book on a trade-in on an Enterprise used vehicle financed with VECU during February and March.



### To Do List RESOLUTIONS

- Refinance home
- Consolidate debt
- Open lower rate credit card
- Purchase vehicle
- Save more money!

*We loan to all credit scores!*

*Visit [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org)  
OR CALL 757.930.2425*

and select Option #2 to apply for a loan today!\*\*\*

## President's Note



A New Year is a time for reflection, but also a time to set new goals for the year ahead. Personal resolutions such as eating healthier are usually on our list of things to accomplish, but we need to also add in a goal to review or improve our "financial health". Reviewing your credit report is a step in the right direction, and we have experts at your credit union to assist you with this annual "check-up". Reviewing this report will verify if credit items or tradelines are reporting correctly, and if there are any unknown items that are lowering your overall credit score. As this score directly affects the interest rates you pay on loans, this is an essential step to maximize your savings potential. Contact us and make your appointment today for a free credit report analysis, and start this New Year with a resolution that you can achieve.

Once we have assisted you with reviewing your credit report, keep in mind that Virginia Educators Credit Union (VECU) successfully provides loans for all credit scores – not just the perfect scores which can be difficult to achieve and maintain. Credit unions originated so that individuals would be able to have affordable rates to borrow funds, and we are continuing with this key mission to ensure members are provided with competitive rates to meet their needs. Now is the time to take advantage of excellent vehicle, real estate and personal loan products. If you have financed a vehicle from another financing source, please contact us about reducing your payments with a VECU loan today. There has never been a better time to save.

Thank you for your continued membership and for making the "educated" financial choice with Virginia Educators Credit Union. Here's hoping you and your family enjoy a healthy and prosperous 2018!

Sharon G. Conti, CPA, CGMA  
President/CEO

## DON'T FORGET ABOUT VECU'S GREAT Credit Cards!

The start of a new year is a great time to start looking for more ways to save money! After another busy holiday season, now is a great time to apply for a low interest rate credit card from VECU! With non-variable rates of 7.99% or 11.99% APR\* and no annual fees or cash advance fees, the savings really add up!

You can also transfer balances from your high rate credit cards to your VECU card with ease with no balance transfer fees!

We are excited to announce that in 2018 we will be rolling out new credit cards with EMV chips. This chip-card will not eliminate fraud, but it is an extra layer of protection to help prevent credit card theft.

Apply at [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) or call 757.930.2425 option #2 today!

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate.

# 2018 Annual Meeting AND MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

We are excited to announce the date of the 2018 Member Appreciation/Annual Meeting Day. Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 29th. Make sure to stop by to vote for any open board positions and receive a gift. As the final details are finalized, they will be posted on the website for your convenience at [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org).

If you are a credit union member and you are interested in being considered for a position on the Board of Directors or Supervisory Committee, contact the credit union at 757.930.2425 ext. 925 by February 28th. We are happy to provide any information in regard to credentials and position requirements.

## FREE Credit Report Analysis

Make an appointment with a financial service representative for a free review of your credit report. We can help you understand your score, verify your information and teach you how to grow your score. Call today or send us a request on our website, [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) under contact us/secure form.

VECU loans to ALL credit scores!



# Scholarship Opportunities



The **Educated** Financial Choice

**NETTLES DRIVE OFFICE**

12626 Nettles Drive, Newport News, VA 23606

**MAIN STREET OFFICE**

812 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23605

**LOBBY HOURS**

MON, TUE, THU 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WED 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FRI 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

**DRIVE-THRU HOURS**

MON 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

TUE 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WED 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

THU 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FRI 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Main Number:** 757.930.2425

**Toll-Free Number:** 800.930.2425

**Audio Response:** 930.2425 (Opt. 1)

**Loan By Phone:** 930.2425 (Opt. 2)

**CREDIT UNION SERVICE CENTERS**

5028 George Washington Hwy., Yorktown, VA 23692

3711 Huntington Ave., Newport News, VA 23607

433 Denbigh Blvd., Newport News, VA 23608

110 Cybernetics Way, Yorktown, VA 23693

2369 George Washington Hwy., Hayes, VA 23072

9155 Seabee Rd., Norfolk, VA 23505

5885 Harbour View Dr., Suffolk, VA 23435

2445 Taylor Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321

5624 Portsmouth Blvd., Portsmouth, VA 23701

4171 Ironbound Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23188

**FOR OTHER SERVICE CENTER LOCATIONS**

[www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org)

**ATM LOCATIONS**

12626 Nettles Drive

812 Main Street

CNU David Student Union

CNU Freeman Center

CNU Tribble Library

CNU Ferguson Center **(NEW)**

**CU24 LOCATIONS**

Visit [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) to find a location nearest you.

**WEBSITE**

[www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org)

As an educational based financial institution, Virginia Educators Credit Union recognizes the importance of education. We encourage our graduating high school seniors and educators to enter our scholarship essay contests this year.

All scholarship applicants, excluding full-time educators, must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. Scholarship applications must be accompanied with a one-page essay that is typed and double spaced.

For additional information about the scholarship opportunities available at Virginia Educators Credit Union including essay topics and deadline information, visit our website at [www.vecu.org/scholarships](http://www.vecu.org/scholarships) or stop by one of our offices to pick up an application.

The following scholarships are offered to VECU members:

- **W. Phil Wynn Scholarship**  
\$1,500 scholarship awarded to a graduating high school senior who has been accepted and plans to attend a four-year college or university.
- **K.B. Bennett Educators Scholarship**  
\$1,500 scholarship awarded to a full-time educator who teaches at a school located within the credit union's field of membership.

## TAKE **VECUC** WITH YOU EVEN IF YOU MOVE OR TRAVEL!

Even if you have moved out of the area, VECU can still help you with low loan rates and great service.

*"I was finally able to purchase my dream car with the tremendous help from VECU. Living in Florida, I was unsure as to how quick and easy the process was going to be. I was stunned with how swift and personal my experience was... I highly recommend working with VECU for all financing needs!"*

~ Naomi Broadrick



Use convenient services such as the free mobile VECU app, online loan applications, remote deposit, and the Internet Branch (Moneylink) for 24/7 access to financial services at home and when traveling.



Federally Insured by NCUA up to \$250,000.

# Holiday Closings

## Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 15

## Presidents' Day

Monday, February 19

## Spring Holiday

Monday, April 3



## Good Grade Drawing

### Congratulations!

These winners from the Fall 2017 grading period received \$25 deposited into their Loot Owl/Youth accounts!

**Jacob Buzzard**  
Hilton Elementary School

**Kendahl Bell**  
Woodside High School

The Good Grade Drawing rewards A, B, S, & E grades for elementary, middle and high school student members each grading period. To enter, just drop off a copy of your student's report card to any VECU office after the next grading period. Two students win each grading period!

# TIMELY TAX TIPS

April 15th may seem far away, but taking control of your tax situation now can save you time and frustration later. By getting a jump start, you'll have time to request copies of missing documents, avoid the last-minute rush, and if you're getting a refund, probably receive it sooner.

## HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO JUMP START YOUR TAX PREPARATIONS:

- **Gather records in advance.** Make sure you have the documentation you need, including W-2s and 1099s. Save a copy for your files.
- **Get the right forms.** Visit your local library or check the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) web site's Forms and Publications section at <http://www.irs.gov>.
- **Watch the mail for your IRS Forms.** VECU will soon be mailing out IRS Form 1099 for members who earned \$10 or more in dividends on VECU accounts and Form 1098 for reporting mortgage interest. Please retain these forms for tax preparation purposes.
- **Double-check your math and Social Security number.** These are among the most common errors on tax returns.
- **Consider filing electronically.** It's easy and fast and the refund will be in your account even faster.
- **Request Direct Deposit.** For a quicker refund, complete the Direct Deposit line on your tax form and let the IRS put your refund right into your VECU account.



If you end up with a payment due to the IRS, a VECU personal loan may be a good choice for you.

*Loan rates based on terms and credit worthiness. Other restrictions may apply.*



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VECU offers FREE financial literacy presentations for all ages including students, faculty, school employees and PTA groups. Please contact VECU at [financialliteracy@vecu.org](mailto:financialliteracy@vecu.org) or call 757.930.2425 ext. 953 to schedule a presentation today!

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## Daylight Saving Time REMINDER

Daylight Saving Time will begin on **Sunday, March 11th at 2:00 a.m.** Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!

