

## Five Steps To Start A Monthly Budget

Do you know how to create a monthly budget? While some effort is necessary, garnering a better understanding of your cash flow is an important step to strengthening your family's financial situation.

CPFCU suggests the following steps to establish a basic budget:

**1. Keep track of your income and expenses for a couple of months.** You need an idea of what a "typical" month is like for you. For cash expenditures, keep receipts in an envelope you carry with you every day. Then go back to categorize and total the receipts at the end of the month.

**2. Lay out your budget.** In the "expenses" part of your budget, you will be accounting for two major types of expenses: fixed and variable. Fixed expenses are set amounts you pay every month, such as rent, car payment, and utilities. Variable expenses include discretionary items, such as entertainment and clothing. Write down all the necessities so you know how much you have left for discretionary spending.

**3. Pay yourself each time you receive a paycheck.** Payroll deduction or direct deposit can help you stick to the savings habit. No matter how modestly you begin, the important thing is to start saving and to include it in your budget. Even if you feel like you can't save enough to make a difference, do it anyway! You'll be establishing a savings habit that will be invaluable when you reach a point in your life when you have more to save.

**4. Evaluate your spending.** You may need to trim expenses. Take a good look at where you spend money, and cut out unnecessary items. Even if you cannot eliminate any large expenses, you may be able to cut several small items. Every little bit helps. Try making yourself stick to a "waiting period" on purchases. If you see something you think you can't live without, put it on hold instead of buying it on the spot. If you still have to have it after 24 hours, go back for it if you can really afford it.

**5. Don't overlook big, once-a-year expenses.** Holiday gifts and vacations can quickly turn into budget-killers if you do not plan. To help, divide what you spend on such items yearly by 12 and add this expense to your monthly budget. Also, budget a little each month to save for insurance premiums and car repairs if you want to avoid draining your savings account.

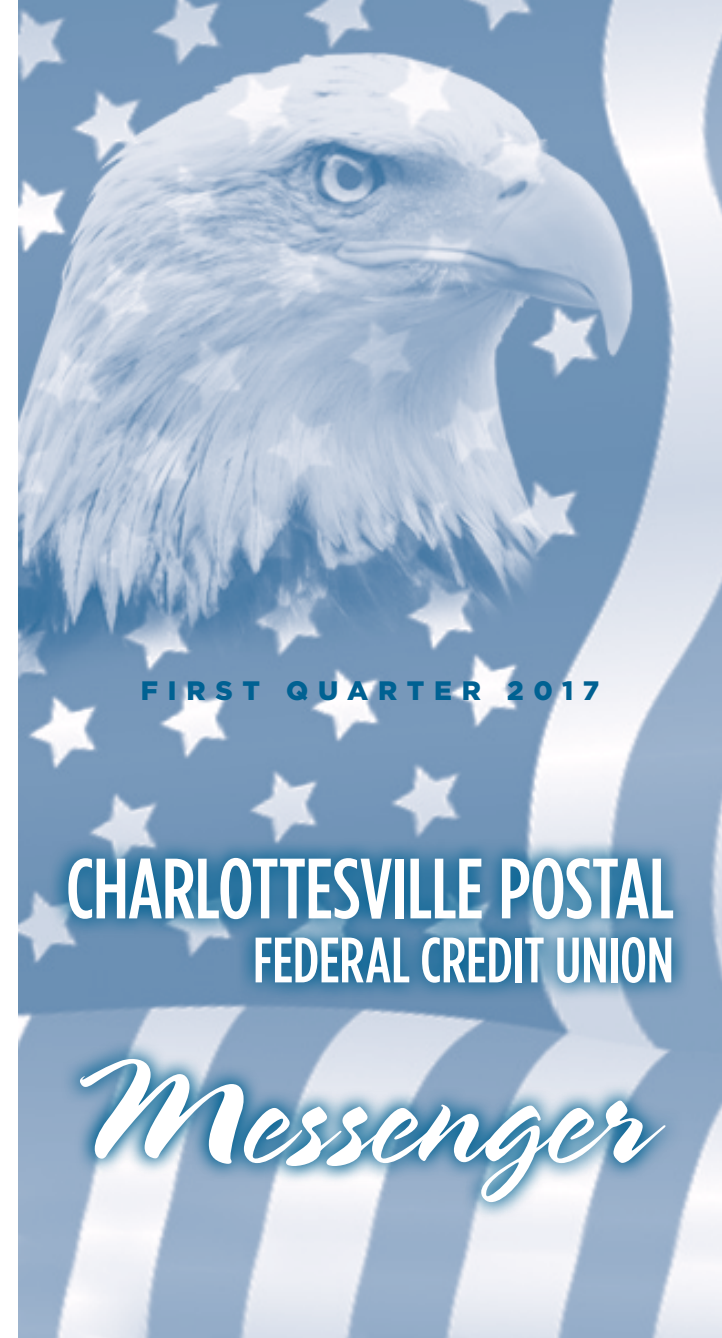
**Remember:** Don't be too hard on yourself. Don't make your spending limits unreasonable. Leave some room for unplanned expenses.



## PRODUCTS & SERVICES

- Savings Products
- Share Accounts (Savings Account)
- Prime Shares
- Share Draft (Checking Accounts)
- Loan Products
- New & Used Autos
- Personal Loans
- Real Estate
- VISA Credit Cards
- Lines of Credit Loans
- Overdraft Lines of Credit
- Credit Life and Disability Insurance (Loan Protection)
- GAP Insurance (Auto Loans)
- Electronic Services
- Home Banking (online Banking)
- Bill Pay
- E-Statements
- VISA Debit Cards
- Payroll Deductions
- Direct Deposit
- Other Services
- Regal Movie Tickets
- Kings Dominion (seasonal)

\*Access your credit card information by going to [ezCardinfo.com](http://ezCardinfo.com)



FIRST QUARTER 2017

CHARLOTTESVILLE POSTAL  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

*Messenger*

1155 Seminole Trail • P.O. Box 6488  
Charlottesville, VA 22906  
434.973.4280

With the end of 2016, Charlottesville Postal CU wants to “Thank You” for your membership. We hope you consider taking even greater advantage of all CPFUCU has to offer in 2017, and we hope that we will remain your financial institution of choice for a long time to come. We look forward to continuing to serve you in the months and years ahead.

## **We Have Money to Lend NOW**

Welcome to the beginning of the year, when holiday expenses collide head on into tax expenses. Then there is Old Man Winter and those energy efficiency improvements you’ve been delaying on your home that now need your attention. And expenses for your upcoming summer vacation or maybe a new car or a boat will also soon make an appearance as well.

If you need a little help juggling all these expenses, come see CPFUCU. Our low-interest loans will get you back on track and save you finance charges as well with rates and terms to fit your budget. For example, if your retail store credit cards carry an interest rate of 20 percent or more, you’ll save big with our VISA credit card with rates as low as 6.99% APR.

If a new car or boat is in your future, stop and see CPFUCU for a great rate and term on our vehicle or boat loans.

Whatever your need for credit, you’ll find it at CPFUCU . Call us at 434-973-4280, click on our website [www.charlottesvillepostalfcu.com](http://www.charlottesvillepostalfcu.com), or stop by our branch TODAY!

**WISHING ALL OUR MEMBERS  
A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## **REMINDER**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
ANNUAL MEETING  
WILL BE HELD  
APRIL 22, 2017.  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE  
UPCOMING INFORMATION**



## **Tax Refund**

**Request Direct Deposit for your Tax Refund and the refund will be sent electronically to your credit union account. Just complete the Direct Deposit line on your tax form.  
(Routing and Transit # 251480123)**



## **If you need that extra help this holiday season why not SKIP – A – PAYMENT**

Just complete the form below and drop it by or mail it to the credit union. The easy way to extra cash this holiday season just got a little earlier.

By using our holiday skip program, you can skip a payment on your vehicle or unsecured CPFUCU loan(s). Just fill out the form below if you would like to skip your January, 2017 payment and return it to us via mail or fax (434-973-4095) by January 31, 2017.

**\*\*VISA, Real Estate or Equity Lines are NOT eligible for the holiday skip. Normal interest will continue to accrue on the unpaid balance. Loan(s) must be 6 months old to qualify and loans with payment deferrals or delinquencies within the last 6 months (15 days or more) do not qualify.**

**YES!!** I’d like to skip my payment(s) for the month of \_\_\_\_\_.

**I understand that there is a \$35 processing fee per loan and that interest will continue to accrue on the unpaid balance(s).**

Please deduct the \$35 processing fee from my share account \_\_\_\_\_.

Enclosed is my \$35 processing fee.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Account# \_\_\_\_\_

Loan(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Holiday Closings**

January 16th – Martin Luther King, Jr.  
February 20th – President’s Day

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Eileen Pillar, Chairperson  
David Wyant, Vice Chairperson  
Charles Via, Treasurer  
Debra Taylor, Secretary  
A. B. Brown, Director  
Sol McCauley, Director

### **SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE**

Ardna Giannini  
Rodney Hildebrand  
Samuel Moore

### **SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE (only)**

PO Box 6363  
Charlottesville, VA 22906

### **STAFF**

Marilyn Sullivan,  
*Manager*  
Brittney Irving,  
*Member Service Representative*  
Marvin Mayo,  
*Member Service Representative*

### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Phone 434-973-4280 • Fax 434-973-4095  
Email: [cpfuc@embarqmail.com](mailto:cpfuc@embarqmail.com)

### **WEBSITE:**

[www.charlottesvillepostalfcu.com](http://www.charlottesvillepostalfcu.com)

### **MEMBER INFORMATION**

Membership is available to all USPS employees and retired employee, credit union employees, and members of the following:

Charlottesville Sectional Center  
Harrisonburg Processing Center  
Associate Offices of the above

Any retired USPS Employees who reside within The Credit Union’s service area

Charlottesville-Albemarle American Legion Post 74

It’s Auxiliary and Sons of Squadron 74

**Membership includes members of the above & family members of all credit union members.**