

# VCCFCU NEWSLETTER

WINTER  
2019

**Teller Hours**

Mondays & Thursdays 2pm-8pm  
Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9am-12pm

3960B Hillman Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463

Phone: 718.549.5858 | Fax: 718.549.2921

Email: CreditUnion@vccfcu.com • Website: www.vccfcu.com

## GET RID OF DEBT FASTER!

Consolidate Multiple Debts into One Low Monthly Payment with a VCCFCU DEBT CONSOLIDATION LOAN.

Rates as low as **5.99% APR\***  
up to 60 months.

\*All Annual Percentage Rates listed are based on a credit score of 750 or more and the length of loan. Amount financed is based on member qualification and may need to be collateralized with co-signors. Borrowers with lower than 750 credit score or negative credit, regardless of credit score, including but not limited to outstanding: late payments, collection accounts, judgments, charge-offs and bankruptcies within 2 years are subject up to a 4.00% interest rate increase on all of the current rates listed.

**Come in or call the Loan Specialist at the Credit Union.**

### HOLIDAY GREETINGS

The Board, Management, and Staff of Van Cortlandt Cooperative Federal Credit Union join to wish you Seasons Greetings! May the peace and joy of the holiday season be with you and your loved ones throughout the New Year and beyond! From all of us, have a happy and safe holiday filled with good cheer.

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



A new decade is upon us, with enormous existing 21st century problems to deal with. Here's an incomplete sampling:

- More extreme climate gyrations, melting polar caps and rising sea levels.
- The scarcity of clean water will become the new oil.
- Impeachment.
- Unresolved immigration policies and reforms.
- Homelessness all across America without any near-term solution. Shipping NYC homeless families to New Jersey is neither a solution nor a short-term patch.
- Biological threats to our food supply.
- Our Infrastructure needs huge repairs – electric grid, bridges, tunnels, roads, waste management, water systems, etc., enough to keep us reconstructing America for over 100 years.
- The rise of radical nationalism all over the world, dividing and killing people by culture, religion, ethnicity, race, and sex, more than ever.

And I know there are myriad of other problems I have not even touched.

The potential solution? No, don't vote for me for President. No, we still have about two dozen candidates who want the job. No, we need to choose a leader(s) willing to make and carry out tough decisions, to do what's right for all of us, not what's good for their own and friends' pockets. Unfortunately, though in great need, leaders with great character are in short supply.

Also, our internet fascination with smartphones glued permanently, 24/7 to our hands leads to people actually believing all the trash that appears on their screens, intelligent or not, based on fact, or not, hateful, or not.

Here in our little corner of the world, we will continue to help you run your financial lives successfully. Loans to buy into the coop, car loans, education loans, debt consolidation loans, holiday and vacation loans, at very low rates, are always available.

In our own small way, making your financial life easier will help ease other stresses.

As for 2020 and beyond, my only advice is choose wisely and carefully America. The fate of planet earth hinges on your choices not just for you, but for your children and succeeding generations. Healthy and Happy Holidays to all, —Andrew Kimerling, President.

### SHARE RATES – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2019

### RATE

Regular Share	0.05% APY
Youth Share (for members up to age 21; paid on balances up to \$1000)	3.03% APY
Share Draft/Checking (paid on average balance of \$300 or more)	0.05% APY
Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)	0.05% APY
12-month Share Certificates	Call for rates

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, April 2, 2020  
at the Credit Union, 8:30 pm • (3960 Hillman Avenue)

Members interested in serving on the Board of Directors or Credit Committee are invited to submit a brief resume for consideration by the Nominating Committee, to be sent to the Nominating Committee, C/O VCCFCU, 3960 Hillman Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463 by February 3, 2020.



## SCAMS! Sharing what you know can protect someone who you know from a scam.

The Federal Trade Commission has an updated website (<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0030-pass-it>) with a list of all the new scams targeting unsuspecting consumers and especially the elderly. Here's a glimpse of just a few scams that have unfortunately affected members from our community. Pass on this information to a friend. You may see through these scams. But chances are you know someone who could use a friendly reminder.

### Grandkid Scams

You get a call: "Grandma, I need money for bail." Or money for a medical bill. Or some other kind of trouble. The caller says it's urgent — and tells you to keep it a secret. But is the caller who you think it is? Scammers are good at pretending to be someone they're not. They can be convincing: sometimes using information from social networking sites, or hacking into your loved one's email account, to make it seem more real. And they'll pressure you to send money before you have time to think.

**STOP!** Check it out. Look up your grandkid's phone number yourself, or call another family member.

### IRS Imposter Scams

You get a call from someone who says she's from the IRS. She says that you owe back taxes. She threatens to sue you, arrest or deport you, or revoke your license if you don't pay right away. She tells you to put money on a prepaid debit card and give her the card numbers. The caller may know some of your Social Security number. And your caller ID might show a Washington, DC area code. But is it really the IRS calling? No. The real IRS won't ask you to pay with prepaid debit cards or wire transfers. They also won't ask for a credit card over the phone. And when the IRS first contacts you about unpaid taxes, they do it by mail, not by phone. And caller IDs can be faked.

**STOP!** Don't wire money or pay with a prepaid debit card. Call the person, the government agency, or someone else you trust. Get the real story. Then decide what to do. No government agency will ever ask you to wire money. Once you send it, the money is gone. If you have tax questions, go to [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) or call the IRS at 800-829-1040.

### Work at Home Scams

You see an ad saying you can earn big money at home. Or one that offers help starting an online business — with a proven system to make money online. Or maybe your resume is on a job search website and someone calls: they want your driver's license and bank account numbers before they interview you. What happens next? If you answer the ad to work from home, they'll ask you for money for training or special access. But there'll be no job. If you buy that "proven system," you'll get pressure to pay more for extra services. But you won't get anything that really helps you start a business or make money. And if you give that caller your driver's license and bank account numbers, they might steal your identity or your money.

**STOP!** Check it out. Never pay money to earn money. And don't share personal information until you've done your research. Search online for the company name and the words "review," "scam" or "complaint."

### Money Mule Scams

Someone might offer you a job. Or say you've won a sweepstakes. Or start an online relationship with you. Whatever the story, next they want to send you money — and then ask you to send it on to someone else. They often say to wire the money or use gift cards. But that money is stolen. And there never was a job, a prize, or a relationship — only a scam. That scammer was trying to get you to be what some people call

a "money mule."

If you deposit a scammer's check, it might clear. But later, when the bank finds out it's a fake check, you'll have to repay the bank. And if you help a scammer move stolen money — even if you didn't know it was stolen — you could get into legal trouble.

**STOP!** Keep your money to yourself. Never agree to move money for someone who contacts you, even if they promise a relationship, job, or prize. You could lose money and get in legal trouble.

### Tech Support Scams

You get a pop-up or other urgent message from someone saying your computer is infected. It might seem like the message comes from a well-known company like Microsoft or Apple, or maybe your internet service provider. It tells you there are viruses or other malware on your computer. It says you have to call a number or risk losing your personal data. But is this threat — or their problem — real? Judging by reports to the Federal Trade Commission, no. These are scammers who want to sell you useless services, steal your credit card number, or get access to your computer to install malware, which could then let them see everything on your computer.

**STOP!** Don't call a phone number or click a link. Don't send money, give your credit card number, or give control of your computer to anyone who contacts you. Update your virus protection software daily. If you are unsure whether your computer has been infected, take it to a trusted reliable source for repair.

### If you spot a scam...

Please report it to the Federal Trade Commission.

- Call the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357) or TTY 1-866-653-4261.
- Go online: [ftc.gov/complaint](http://ftc.gov/complaint)

Your report can help protect other people. By reporting fraud, you can help the FTC's investigators identify the scammers and stop them before they can get someone's hard-earned money. It really makes a difference.

## Speed Up Your 2019 Income Tax Refund

Put your tax refund on the fast track with **DIRECT DEPOSIT**

Direct Deposit of your income tax refund is fast, safe, and convenient! When you choose to receive your tax refund by Direct Deposit, the amount will be transferred electronically to the account you indicate on your return. With Direct Deposit, there's no need to worry about whether your check has been lost or stolen and there is no chance of it being delayed in the mail.

To help you fill out your form correctly, enter our routing number, **226074111**

exactly as shown on Form 1040. Then mark whether the refund is going to a savings or checking account and write your seven or eight-digit account number.

### BRAVO TO THE CREDIT UNION

The accounting firm of Wojeski & Co., Certified Public Accountants, has just given us the final audit report certifying that the credit union is in excellent financial condition, heaping praise on the staff and volunteers who comprise our Board of Directors, Credit and Supervisory Committees.

### 2020 Holiday Closings

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**Wednesday, January 1st**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

**Monday, January 20th**

**PRESIDENT'S DAY**

**Monday, February 17th**

**MEMORIAL DAY**

**Monday, May 25th**



**TOP SAVER**

**Matthew King,**  
Youth Account Member

Matthew topped all credit union youth members in savings this past quarter earning him the title of TOP SAVER. In recognition of Matthew's money saving sense, we have awarded two prestige movie tickets for him and a guest valid at all Showcase, Multiplex, and Cinema de Lux theatres. — Congratulations Matthew!