

WINTER EDITION

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

David B. Suvall



Typically when the Federal Reserve raises rates as they have done many times already, you are likely to see the increase reflected in your credit card rates within the next few billing cycles and often by the same amount as the Fed increase. This

may be true of other credit card lenders, but NOT us.

The Annual Percentage Rates (APR) on our non-variable rate credit cards have remained the same for decades and are not rising as the Fed raises rates. Simply take a look at your other credit card statements to see what Annual Percentage Rate you are paying. It is very possible that you will see APRs above 19% since most credit card APRs are variable and often tied to Prime Rate.

Choosing the right credit card can be a very important

decision. Pay careful attention to the credit card rates before signing up especially if you tend to carry a balance. Many credit card companies are offering tempting bonuses and introductory APRs, but read through all the fine print before signing up.

I am confident that if you take a few minutes to compare your current credit card to ours, your choice will be easy. We have the credit card with non-variable rates, no annual fees, no balance transfer fees and a very competitive rewards program.

Saving money is always important but even more so now. We have an easy way to save money. Open a Rhode Island Credit Union Credit Card, transfer higher rate balances, and start paying down debt more affordably.

Wishing you and your families a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!



Mark your calendar for the 73rd Annual Rhode Island Builders Association Home Show and be sure to visit our booth! If you're planning a home or room remodel, looking to build a new home, considering a landscaping project, or just like to browse, the home show is the perfect place to visit.



Log in to Online Banking to sign up.

# CONGRATULATIONS PAUL V. VALLIERE!



Paul V. Valliere has retired from our Board of Directors after 30 years of dedication and exemplary service. We wish Paul and his family a happy and healthy future and thank him for his tireless efforts and commitment to our success.

## Don't get spoofed!

Telephone spoofing is a unique type of technology that enables fraudsters to fake the number they are calling from by making a false number appear on your caller ID. It's extremely effective, because the number displayed appears to be from a legitimate source.

### How the scam works:

Cybercriminals have resorted to Caller ID spoofing to deceive people into giving them their personal and banking information. These scammers pose as employees and convince you to share your banking information such as online banking password and username, PIN, or debit card number.

Scammers find a legitimate reason to trick you. Mostly, they'll tell you they have detected suspicious fraud activities targeting your account, and they need your banking information

to secure your account. They then use the information to access your bank accounts and defraud you or use your identity to commit credit card fraud. The scammers use a variety of messages and techniques, but the desired outcome is the same.

What can you do? If you get a phone call or text message claiming your account has been compromised and there is



a request for your information, hang up and call back at a reliable number and be sure not to click on any links or reply to any text messages. Never give personal information regardless of who is calling you to "verify" your identity.

Please be assured that we will never call or text to ask for your PIN, password, social security number or any other personal information. Remember that this can happen with your bank, utility company, lender or any other company. Any company can be spoofed so remain vigilant.

If you receive a call that appears to be from us and are asked to provide personal information, **HANG UP!** 

Call us back at a trusted number. Don't become a victim of fraud.





It is with incredible sadness that we mourn the passing of R. Gary Clark who served on our Board of Directors since 2004.

Gary was the former Tax Administrator for the State of Rhode Island for 32 years before retiring in 2006. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

He was our colleague and friend and we will miss his kindness, wit and wisdom.

Rest in peace Gary.



### **Control Your Credit Card**

Full control of your Rhode Island Credit Union Credit Card is available on a mobile device with SecurLOCK™ Equip. The mobile app lets you control when, where, and how your credit card is used.

### TURN YOUR CARD ON AND OFF

Lose or misplace your credit card? With just one swipe in the SecurLOCK<sup>™</sup> Equip app, you can turn your credit card off if you think it's lost or stolen. As soon as you find it, just swipe to turn it back on. When your card is "off," no transactions will be approved.

### MANAGE YOUR MONEY

If you're sticking to a budget, the SecurLOCK<sup>TM</sup> Equip app can help. Set spending limits for yourself for general use or by merchant types, like gas, groceries, and retail stores. These can even be set and controlled by geography. You can update these any time you want within the app for events like vacations and holiday shopping.

### **CONTROL YOUR LOCATIONS**

Limit transactions to locations that you choose, from a region on a map to international use. This provides another layer of protection against unauthorized use of your card.

### **GET INSTANT ALERTS**

Set up alerts in your app for spending limits and merchant and transaction types.

Download the app today and take control of your credit card.





### Another successful Thanks-For-Giving Food Drive!

Thanks to the generosity of our members and staff, we donated hundreds of pounds of food to our local soup kitchens and food pantries to help ensure a healthy holiday meal for those less fortunate.

### YOUR LEADERSHIP

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jane F. Correia Chair

Ernest A. DeAngelis 1st Vice Chair Robert E. Christie Treasurer Robert P. Gemma Secretary

Dennis B. Tripodi Assistant Treasurer
Beverly A. Dwyer Assistant Secretary
Henry A. Godin, Jr. 2nd Vice Chairperson
Roger A. Pincince 2nd Vice Chairperson

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Joseph C. Durand Chair Nathan W. Biah Member Suzanne M. Champagne Member

#### CREDIT COMMITTEE

Nancy L. Zeppa Member Maureen K. Jendzejec Member Janice Kluge Member



### More than just banking

160 Francis Street, Providence, RI 02903 401.751.7440 • 401.553.2200 Fax 401.751.0189 M, T, W - 8:30-3:30, Th - 8:30-5:30, Fri - 8:30-6:00

URI Memorial Union 50 Lower College Road, Kingston, RI 02881 401.789.0253 ● Fax 401.789.0087 M-Th - 8:30-4:30, Fri - 8:30-5:00

60 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859 401.568.6271 • Fax 401.568.0025 M, T, W - 8:30-4:00, Th - 8:30-5:00, Fri - 8:30-6:00

860 Reservoir Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910 401.941-8770 • Fax 401.941.0096 M, T, W - 8:30-4:00, Th - 8:30-5:30, Fri - 8:30-6:00

390 Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI 02809 401.253.1313 • Fax 401.253.1389 M, T, W - 8:30-3:30, Th - 8:30-5:30, Fri - 8:30-6:00

594 Central Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02861 401.722.8236 • Fax 401.729.0027 M, T, W - 8:30-4:30, Th - Fri 8:30-5:00

> Express Service Phone 24 401.351.7760

www.ricreditunion.org





### PAY DOWN HIGH INTEREST DEBT!

Move your higher rate balances to a Rhode Island Credit Union Credit Card

# 2.99% APR\* for 6 billing cycles on balance transfers for new and existing accounts

- No balance transfer fees
- Pay off your balances more quickly
- Save money on interest charges
- Simplify your life with one low monthly payment and one due date

Visit www.ricreditunion.org or any branch location to obtain a balance transfer form.

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The 2.99% APR balance transfer promotional rate will be in effect from the time of the posting of the initial qualifying balance transfer to your credit card account for six consecutive billing cycles. After the expiration of your balance transfer promotional rate, the remaining unpaid portion of the original balance transfer request will be subject to your standard APR. Balance transfers may not be used to pay any Rhode Island Credit Union loan or VISA® Credit Card.

### Holiday preparation starts with a Christmas Club

The holidays are such a special time of year but can also be financially stressful. One of the best ways to be prepared is to start a Christmas Club now.

Set aside money weekly, biweekly, monthly or whenever you decide and for any amount. Deposits can be made by payroll deduction, automatic transfer, online banking transfer, mobile banking, by mail or in person.

