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## Your Security is our #1 Priority!

### EMV Chip Debit Cards

The security of your account information is of primary importance to us, and to build more protection around your everyday banking, we're happy to announce the upcoming conversion of our MasterCard Debit Cards to the EMV "chip" technology.

We will soon be replacing debit cards with the new EMV "chip" technology. So don't be surprised when your **new card and pin** are upgraded.

#### How the chip works:

- For added security, EMV cards have a microchip with encrypted account information. Chip cards and merchant terminals work together to protect in-store payments. A unique one-time code is generated behind-the-scenes that is needed for the transaction to be approved – a process that is virtually impossible to replicate in a counterfeit card.

#### No interruption to service:

- *If the merchant is equipped* with EMV terminals, the chip in your card will be used to authenticate and process your card transaction.
- *If the merchant is not equipped* with EMV terminals, the information stored in the card's magnetic strip will be used to process your card transaction.

#### What you need to do:

**It's simple.** Just use your new EMV cards as you normally do knowing the chip in your cards help protect you from in-store fraud while you do your everyday banking.

**Note: Reestablish Automatic Payments:**

If you have authorized any merchants to make automatic payments using your current debit cards, you'll need to provide these merchants with the updated card information necessary to automatically process payments, such as your card's new expiration date, or new card number if applicable.

## Your Financial Future

### YOUR GUIDE TO LIFE PLANNING

October 2015

Our roads to success may have twists and turns and ups and downs; together we can navigate a course and enjoy the scenery along the way.

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#### Retirement Planning for Dual-Wage Earning Households

Dual-wage earning couples have a lot to consider when assessing their various retirement portfolios.

#### Investors: Don't Let Fear Keep You on the Sidelines

Fear is a powerful emotion and market losses can be fear inducing. But history shows that emotion is a poor compass for charting your investment course.

## Can You Take a Loan From Your IRA?

### Tapping into your IRA for a short-term loan

Putting away money for retirement is a great feeling, and most people would prefer to keep watching that money grow than tap into it early. There are many instances, however, when people do end up wanting to take a loan from their retirement savings.

The good news is that if you find yourself in need of a short-term loan, it is typically possible to borrow from certain qualified retirement accounts. IRAs are technically not accounts that qualify for loans, but there are methods that some people use to withdraw money from them on a short-term basis.

"Generally speaking, you cannot take a loan from your IRA as this would result in a prohibited transaction, which is in violation of certain areas of the Internal Revenue Code," states Denise Appleby from Investopedia.com. "Some will argue that a short-term loan is permitted if the amount is rolled over to the IRA within 60 days. Technically, however, this is not a loan but a distribution and a rollover contribution."

If you wish to take advantage of this technicality, then you can take out money from your IRA such that it is essentially the equivalent of a short-term, interest-free loan. If you do this, however, there are strict rules you need to follow in order to comply with IRS rules and not lose money in fees and penalties.

"According to the IRS, you can withdraw—tax free—some or all of the money in your Roth IRA as long as you invest the money back into the same Roth IRA or into a traditional IRA within 60 days," states Investopedia.com.

If you have a traditional IRA and not a Roth IRA, you can still withdraw money from it, provided you pay it back into the same account or roll it into another traditional IRA within the 60-day period. It is important to note that this is a period of 60 calendar days and not business days.

"Keep in mind that this would not be a revolving loan," states Don Taylor, Ph.D., CFA, CFP, CASL, for Bankrate.com. "That means you could not return the funds to the traditional IRA and then take the money back for another 60-day loan."

If you are not able to pay back the loan within 60 calendar days, you may be able to apply for a waiver or an extension. Talk to your financial institution right away if you suspect that you will not be able to pay it back, in order to determine your options and your best course of action.

In the event that you don't qualify for a waiver or extension, then the money you took out will count as a distribution from the account. If you are younger than 59 1/2, that means it is an early distribution, and you will pay a 10 percent penalty. Depending on your age and the type of IRA you have, you may also have to pay taxes or fees on the amount.

Your financial institution or financial planner can help you determine the exact regulations for your specific IRA and can also help you decide whether you are better off taking money from your IRA or taking out another type of loan.



## Financial REALITY Fair

On Saturday, October 3, 2015 in Southfield at the Torch of Wisdom Center, PSCU hosted A Financial REALITY Fair allowing teens to actively discover for themselves the choices that will affect their financial future. The event started with a budget worksheet customized with a realistic starting annual salary and student loan debt appropriate to a career of each participants choosing starts them off.

### *Making Choices*

Students then visit several stations operated by credit union and community volunteers to make decisions on the monthly expenses they will face when living on their own. The object is to find a place to live, purchase furniture, transportation and services to support themselves for one month in the real world. Teens must figure out how to balance their budget and support a savings goal. If they don't make ends meet, they must look at options such as obtaining a part-time job, finding a roommate or canceling a service.

### *They Really Get It*

After struggling with their budgets and making some hard choices, the teens are eager to absorb important money management advice. They sit down to review their financial profile with a credit union financial counselor and discuss the importance of saving from every paycheck and strategies for paying down debt.

PSCU had over 40 employees and Torch of Wisdom people volunteer to work with the youth on this event. It was a wonderful success, and would love the opportunity to participate in this kind of workshop in the future. Thanks to all that made it possible.



## Focus: HOPE Walk

### SAVE THE DATE!

41st Annual Walk on October 11, 2015

This year marks the 41<sup>st</sup> Focus: Hope walk, Eleanor's Walk for Hope. As one of the past supporters, we hope that you will plan to join us for this year's walk. But even if you can't be there, you can help by supporting another walker or team with a donation. Or you can help us publicize Eleanor's Walk for Hope through Facebook or Twitter.

#### How to support Eleanor's Walk for Hope:

1. To sign up to be a Team Captain and recruit a team of Walkers, [click here](#).
2. To sign up to join a Walk Team or walk on your own; and then get sponsors to support you, [click here](#).
3. To support someone else's Walk Team, [click here](#).
4. To make a general donation to Eleanor's Walk for Hope and Focus: HOPE, [click here](#).

If you have any questions about how you can help create a Team or other ways to support the walk, just call (313) 494-4750 or email us.

We look forward to seeing you at Focus: HOPE on October 11, 2015 at 11AM.

#### Visit Us:



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## **Lunch Local**

CU Lunch Local was founded in 2012 by Michigan Business Connection as a way to promote all the great things CU's do. In 2014 the event spread to 13 states. PSCU is asking our members and staff to help us support our local businesses by lunching local on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.



## **Holiday Hours**

All branches of PSCU will be closed in observation of the following holidays.

**Columbus Day**  
Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

**Veteran's Day**  
Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

**Thanksgiving**  
Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

## **Auto Insurance Buying Mistakes to Avoid**

### **Having insurance doesn't mean you have to pay through the roof**

Everyone knows that having the right insurance is crucial in the event of the unforeseen, but that doesn't mean all insurance is the same. A few helpful tips can help make sure you don't pay more than you need to.

The first thing you want to do is make sure that you have the proper coverage. Some people sacrifice the proper coverage to save a few dollars, only to find they're not fully covered when they need that coverage most. Simply put, the cheaper policy isn't necessarily the best policy. You also want to make sure that you understand everything your policy covers.

"Make sure you're shopping apples to apples and getting quotes based on the same coverage that you have," says Lori Conarton, a spokeswoman for the Insurance Institute of Michigan.

Not getting the cheapest policy doesn't mean you can't find any discounts. In fact, some insurance companies offer discounts for being accident-free or for having specific features, like auto alarms or vehicle telematics, like OnStar from GM or Blue Link from Hyundai. There are also occasional discounts for being a member of a group like AARP or even AAA. You can always ask what discounts are offered so you can see what you may qualify for.

Kiplinger magazine noted that setting your deductible too low is a big mistake too:

"With low auto and homeowners insurance deductibles, you often pay more in premiums than you can recover in claims. Low deductibles also encourage you to make small claims, which could cost you a claims-free discount or prompt your insurer to drop you."

They added that raising your deductible from \$200 to \$1,000 can lower your premiums by as much as 40 percent. Just be sure to use some of those savings to build a fund in case you ever do need to pay a deductible.

As with any important decision, you always want to do your homework so you can be fully prepared. If you don't know your needs, you may pay too much or, as mentioned before, not have the proper coverage. You also have to be truthful, as lying on your application can lead to a policy cancellation and even a refusal to pay your claims.

Auto insurance, as well as your life, health and other policies, is a crucial piece of your financial well-being. Stop by today to learn more.



## 5 Foods You Didn't Know Contained So Much Sugar

Stay away from these five surprisingly sugar-laden foods

It's no secret that the amount of sugar you consume affects your overall weight and belly size, but why exactly is that? Men's Fitness Magazine reports that people who eat too much sugar usually take in more calories than they are able to exercise away—and it's not just the obvious suspects such as soda and chocolate that cause people to pack on the pounds. There are many foods that people eat every day that contain more sugar than expected.

### Jarred spaghetti sauce

Half a cup of Bertolli Vineyard Marinara sauce contains 12 grams of sugar. For reference, one teaspoon of granulated sugar is equivalent to four grams of sugar, according to WebMD. So that half-cup of marinara consumed with your pasta adds three teaspoons of sugar to your daily intake. By contrast, the World Health Organization advises that your total daily sugar intake should be between six and 12 teaspoons.



### BBQ sauce

Bad news for grill masters who think grilling is the healthiest cooking option: the condiments commonly used on grilled meats are also loaded with sugar. For example, two tablespoons of Sweet Baby Ray's Honey Barbecue sauce contain 15 grams of sugar, while two tablespoons of Bull's Eye Brown Sugar & Hickory contains 14 grams of sugar.

### Bread

According to Cosmopolitan, eating packaged bread from the local supermarket is not as healthy as eating fresh bread from a bakery or that you bake at home. Packaged bread can contain up to three grams of sugar per slice, or six grams of sugar per sandwich. Fresh bread from a bakery, however, or bread that you bake yourself, only needs a smidgen of sugar so that the yeast can be activated.

### Yogurt

Yogurt can be very healthy, but that's only if you're eating the plain kind, suggests Shape.com. Fruit-flavored yogurts, such as Yoplait's Original Flavored Yogurt, contain seven teaspoons of sugar. To enjoy flavored yogurts in a healthier way, WebMD advises creating your own yogurt flavors using plain yogurt and fresh fruit, like berries and bananas.

### Granola bars

Granola bars sound healthy in theory—and they can be if they are made with unrefined sweeteners, like raw unsweetened cocoa or dates. On the other hand, one Quaker Oatmeal To Go Brown Sugar Cinnamon bar contains 19 grams of sugar, and one bar of Nature Valley Oats 'n Honey contains three tablespoons of artificial sugar; both options are much too high in sugar for daily consumption.

The high sugar content of some foods, which many people assume are healthy, illustrates the importance of reading the ingredients lists on food items before serving the foods to your family.

