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Welcome Our New Financial Advisor



The credit union is pleased to introduce you to Bill Terry. Bill is a Financial Advisor with over 20 years' experience and the past 6 years he has been with Money Concepts. Bill is passionate about working with individuals to improve their financial well-being. He gives advice through simple, understandable concepts.

Bill is looking forward to working with our members and will be happy to set up a consultation appointment with you for no charge. He can help with a variety of needs that you may have ranging from introduction to investments, types of accounts that would help you meet your goals to a specific need/life event, for instance retirement, divorce, marriage, inheritance, college planning, etc.

Money Concepts is an independent broker dealer founded in 1979. To set up a meeting with Bill you can contact him at 971-204-7163 and let him know you are an IBEW & United Workers credit union member.

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Refi Your Vehicle and SAVE

How does it sound to have a lower interest rate, lower payment and more cash in your pocket? That can happen when you reach out to one of our Relationship Officers and talk to them about refinancing your vehicle loan that you have financed elsewhere. From now until March 31, 2020 you will receive up to .50% OFF published auto rates!

We asked our Senior Relationship Office, Susan, how the promotion has been going and if she had any success stories to share. Susan said, "Over this past week we have helped three members with an auto refinance with an averages interest rate savings of 11%! Two members brought their auto loan over and combined it into a debt consolidation loan, saving at least 15% interest and shaving years off the debt repayment period!! We make the process as easy as possible; our members just need to reach out to us and they will see how we can help them."

The rate may vary depending on each individuals' credit history, year of the vehicle and underwriting factors. All Credit Union loan programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change at any time without notice. Promotion is from January 1 – March 31, 2020

Holiday Closures

Presidents Day	February 17
Memorial Day	May 25
Independence Day	July 3 (Observed)

Easy, Reliable Ways to Make Extra Money on the Side

Side hustles you can use to pad your income

You've likely heard the term side hustle quite a bit of late. Having an additional gig or two outside of your regular 9-to-5 job is becoming more common, and it's never been easier than it is in 2020. Whether you want to help make ends meet or boost your savings potential, there is no shortage of ways for you to make a bit of extra cash on the side.

Sell your stuff

If you've already thought ahead to spring cleaning, you may be staring down the potential to make some good money. Selling your stuff is incredibly easy to do, whether it's castoffs from your wardrobe, video games you don't play anymore or decor you've replaced.

Entrepreneur contributor R.L. Adams recommends turning to stalwarts like eBay and Craigslist to sell any manner of items big and small. If you have old smartphones lying around, Adams recommends Gazelle, and NerdWallet suggests sites like Swappa and NextWorth. The latter two are also great for unloading electronics, or you could opt to sell on Amazon Marketplace to get the price you want for your goods. If you want to sell your clothes, Poshmark is a thriving market where people will pay top dollar for your gently used outfits.



Leverage your property

Depending on where you live, you may be able to build a regular stream of secondary income by using your property to your advantage. If you have a spare bedroom that's not being used, NerdWallet recommends becoming an Airbnb host to put that space to work. Citing data from Earnest, NerdWallet suggests that you could earn an average of over \$900 a month just by regularly renting your guest bedroom.

Not comfortable with the idea of letting people into your home? NerdWallet also suggests taking to Craigslist or similar services to rent out your driveway or parking spot. If you live in a highly trafficked area where parking comes at a premium, you may be able to help someone save the headache of finding regular parking while making a healthy amount of cash for yourself.

The drive to make extra money

Driving on the side is a widely popular choice for folks looking to make money in the gig economy. If you have a clean driving record and a newer vehicle, you can easily become a driver for Uber or Lyft. As Adams notes, you can easily set your on- and off-hours so that you can make money on your terms and your time.

Delivery services are a booming part of online shopping, and you can get in on the action by driving for a service like PostMates, UberEats, Amazon Flex or DoorDash. Through these services, you'll have the chance to earn regular income as well as tips just for delivering packages and food.

Take the old-fashioned route

Back before the internet, people made money by babysitting, housesitting and walking and caring for dogs on the side. These practices are not only very much alive today, but it's easier to find opportunities thanks to the World Wide Web. NerdWallet recommends Care.com and Sittercity for babysitting, HouseSitter.com for housesitting and Wag! And Rover for watching and walking dogs.

Tutoring is another great means for making money on the side if you have a skill that's in demand. Care.com is a great resource for finding interested students, as are websites like Tutor.com and Cambly. In many cases, you'll be able to tutor online via Skype, which makes it easier to pack several students into a day and cuts down on expenses.

If one of your goals in 2020 is to save more and make better use of your time, you'll have no problem finding a lucrative side gig to fulfill both goals. By selling your stuff, renting out your home or vehicle or offering your services, you may find yourself heading into 2021 with enough savings to take that well-earned vacation you've always wanted.

Choosing Between Low- and High-Deductible Health Plans

How to choose between high- and low-deductible health plans

When it comes to your health, you shouldn't have to limit your choices or forego treatment due to your budget. Unfortunately, for most people, money is what dictates the health plan they choose, and sometimes the picked plan doesn't put health concerns first. Look beyond the premiums and deductibles associated with high- and low-deductible health plans to figure out which option will serve your physical, mental and financial health best.

High-deductible plan

Choosing a high-deductible health plan will allow you to take home more of your paycheck. In exchange, you'll have a hefty deductible to meet before your insurance benefits kick in.

"According to IRS rules, an HDHP is a health insurance plan with a deductible of at least \$1,350 if you have an individual plan (that rises to \$1,400 in 2020) — or a deductible of at least \$2,700 (\$2,800 in 2020) if you have a family plan," reports Investopedia writer Amy Fontinelle. "The plan's out-of-pocket maximum must be no higher than \$6,750 (\$6,900 in 2020) for an individual plan or \$13,300 (\$13,800 in 2020) for a family plan."

Since you'll be responsible for doctor's fees, prescription costs and other health-related expenses until you reach your high deductible, an HDHP offers the option of a health savings account. This savings tool allows you to funnel pre-tax dollars into the account, and your HSA may also benefit from employer contributions, according to NerdWallet writer Lacie Glover.

An HDHP is a good option, according to Glover, if your medical expenses are typically low, you're in good health, are able to pay out-of-pocket expenses with little disruption to your financial responsibilities, and can grow your HSA with regular, significant contributions.

An HDHP is not a good option, warns Fontinelle, if you think the high out-of-pocket expenses will deter you from seeking help from a medical professional.

Low-deductible plan

With a low-deductible plan, you'll pay more in monthly premiums than with an HDHP, and you might still have a deductible to meet. However, your deductible will be significantly less than one typically associated with an HDHP. Plus, depending on your traditional health plan's rules, copayments may be required at each doctor's visit, according to The Balance writer Miriam Caldwell.

"In general, low-deductible plans make health expenses easier to predict — and despite the fact that they tend to have higher premiums, they are still better for many consumers in the long run," according to Glover.

Since your deductible will be lower, you should have less trouble meeting it, making subsequent doctor's visits and medical expenses covered by your plan a quicker goal to attain (minus the copayments, if necessary), notes Caldwell. In order to keep expenses more in line with your budget, she recommends patronizing in-network doctors, hospitals, labs and other health-related services.

If you are the parent of small kids, starting a family or thinking about starting a family, have a health condition that requires regular doctor consultations, are on a costly prescription regimen, need reparative surgery or your kids are at risk of getting injured on their sports teams, Glover recommends reviewing the benefits of a low-deductible plan.

Premiums and deductibles are just the beginning factors for you to use when deciding on a plan; be sure to take a comprehensive look at your health needs to find a plan that will allow you to best take care of yourself and your family.



Get Ready for Spring Break with These 3 Travel Tips

Enjoy your days under the sun

If you've decided to take a vacation over spring break this year, a lot can be done both before and during your escape to ensure you have a worthwhile experience. Follow these travel tips to make the most of your spring break trip.

Plan ahead

Since spring break is a popular time of the year to travel, it's important to book your flight and hotel early. When choosing a flight, avoid selecting ones that fly direct, because these tend to be more expensive. You should opt to collect miles and points so that you can earn a free flight in the future. It's also a good idea to create a packing list long before you arrive at the airport; this will help you remember your daily clothing items, phone chargers, boarding passes and other essentials. Leave extra room in your suitcase for souvenirs you might purchase during your vacation.

Before making your final hotel selection, be sure to occasionally view rates in advance; you'll have a better chance of reserving a room when the rates are lower. If you've already made a hotel reservation, you can rebook when the rates drop as long as the reservation is refundable. Attempt to pick a hotel room that has a microwave and fridge, so you can make your own meals if needed.

Stay safe

While you may not want to dwell on all that could go wrong during your vacation, you still need to take safety precautions throughout your spring break. Each time you leave your hotel room, you should place valuable items in a safe or another secure location. You should also consider traveling with an extra credit card and a copy of your passport in case either item gets stolen.

When packing your suitcase, be sure to bring a first-aid kit, so you can prepare for small cuts and blisters you or your loved ones may get during the trip. Wearing high-quality shoes that you'll be comfortable walking in can also help prevent sore or blistered feet. Sunscreen is another key item to have, even if you don't intend to head to the beach.

Select a variety of activities

To have a fantastic spring break trip, you should attempt to have a nice balance of planned and spontaneous activities. Pre-book any major attractions you want to do, so you can avoid long lines and potentially save money. If you schedule a day filled with activities, ensure you have plenty of time to make it to each destination on time.

While it's fun to see impressive sites and keep busy on your vacation, it's also delightful to leave days open with nothing set in stone. You can spend your free time exploring a city, heading to less touristy areas and finding some hidden gems. You can also ask the hotel staff about different restaurants and locations to check out.

Whether you're planning a beach vacation with your friends or looking forward to going on an adventure with your family, these aforementioned tips can help you enjoy each day during your spring break trip.



4 Ways to Get Kids Interested in Reading

How to get your kid to love reading

Instilling a love of reading in children can fuel their imaginations, fill their hearts and expand their knowledge now and throughout their lives. If you want to encourage your child to read more and help them become a lifelong book lover, implement the following tips.

The choice is not yours

Even if you are desperate to share your favorite childhood books with your kid or have cultivated a list of highly recommended titles that he has to read, it's best to leave the book choice up to your child at first. Encourage your child to peruse the library book shelves and pick out books that capture their attention or complement their interests. Do they love to play soccer? There are plenty of books, nonfiction and fiction, about the challenging sport. Maybe they're a maker and how-to books would engage their mind and creativity. Perhaps they just want to be transported on an adventure in a faraway land. There are plenty of classic and modern tales that delve into fantastical worlds of good guys battling evil foes. If your child loves superheroes, there are graphic novels appropriate for a range of ages.



Reading is a family affair

Children are more apt to follow your example than listen to your words. An easy way to get your child to read is to read yourself. Let your child see you curling up with a good book, and when you're ready to turn pages, encourage your child to do the same. If your child isn't reading on their own yet, read stories out loud to them at bedtime, naptime or any time the mood strikes. Even if your child is an accomplished reader and may think they're too old for a story, it's still OK (and highly beneficial) to read together. Take turns, by page or chapter, reading aloud to each other.

Reading reaps rewards

Celebrate your child's reading accomplishments, both in your words of praise and with a tangible prize. Work with your child to set up a reading goal. Depending on your child's age, you could focus on minutes spent reading or number of books finished. After your child has reached the agreed upon goal, congratulate them on a job well done and give them a small prize. It could be a small toy, a sweet treat, a sticker on a reading chart or something less tangible, but equally coveted — an extended bedtime. The best reward for reading, though, is a new book. Make a plan to visit the library or the local bookstore for you and your child to pick up a new read.

Reading can be more than words on a page

If your kid can't keep their eyes focused on the page, why not focus on their ears? Chances are you spend a lot of time in the car together. Take advantage of this time on the road by sharing an audiobook. A captivating story told in an engaging way will make the ride more enjoyable and strengthen your child's listening and reading skills.

Inspire your kid to be an active bookworm with these reading tips.

