

# **OUR CORNER**

**APRIL 2022** 

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# HIGH HOME PRICES HAVE YOU STUCK? CCF CAN HELP

It's no secret that home prices are sky high right now. A combination of factors has driven real estate averages up, complicating home buying so much that potential buyers are having to stay in their current home longer than anticipated. What can you do when you really need more space, but can't find a home? The mortgage and loan experts at CCF weigh in.

#### **OPTION #1 REFINANCE YOUR MORTGAGE ASAP**

Refinancing your mortgage can potentially lower your interest rate and monthly payment. A lower interest rate can save you thousands of dollars over the life of your mortgage loan. Those dollars can be used to beef up your down payment savings for a new home, giving you more bargaining power. Plus, when you refinance with CCF, you could receive a \$1,000 closing cost credit on any conventional loan with a term of 15 to 30 years.

#### **OPTION #2 TAKE OUT A HOME EQUITY LOAN**

A home equity loan can help you stay in your home for a while longer by adding that extra bathroom, finishing the basement or creating an outdoor space for Summer fun - whatever you need to make your home work for you. Your home's value has likely risen, so using some of that equity to make improvements and updates will make things more comfortable until you can purchase a new home. These improvements will also make your home more valuable to potential buyers when you do decide to move.

#### **OPTION #3 OPEN A HELOC**

Whatever you do, don't put home improvements on a standard high-rate credit card! *HELOC* stands for *Home Equity Line of Credit*. With this variable rate revolving line of credit, you can draw funds for a specified period of time. Use the cash only when you need it, and pay interest only on what you use. With a CCF HELOC Visa® card, you're in control of your home updates.

- → Use funds for any purpose
- → Reuse as needed without reapplying
- → Draw funds for specified period of time
- → Enjoy a ten-year repayment period

1: Rates are based on credit score, term of loan and collateral. Subject to change at any time. Discount will be applied at the time of closing on the appropriate closing documents. FHA, VA and other mortgage programs not eligible. Existing CCF MFM Mortgages not eligible for promotion. All loans subject to credit approval.



### DREAM BIG! APRIL IS NATIONAL CREDIT UNION YOUTH MONTH

Dreaming big doesn't mean you need to start with big actions. The first small step is usually the hardest, but once it's taken, you can use momentum to propel you forward.

This year's theme for National Credit Union Youth Month is "Save Small. Dream Big. at your credit union." We want to tell young members that their dreams are attainable, no matter how big.

Cornerstone has tools to help fulfill these dreams. With a CORE Youth Saving account, young members can deposit small amounts on a regular basis and watch their savings grow "like magic." Learning this good financial habit at a young age will set them up on the path of successful financial well-being.

Empower your kids to save for their future. National Credit Union Youth Month is a great opportunity to start!



# WIN A \$500 VISIT TO GREAT WOLF LODGE



Did you know putting your dreams and goals on paper where you can see them every day actually helps you achieve them? Studies show writing down your goals on a regular basis makes you 42% more likely to achieve them than if you don't record them.

So, let's see those savings goals! CCF is giving away two \$500 gift cards to The Great Wolf Lodge - enter to win by sending us a drawing of what you're saving for. Scan the QR code to download the printable entry sheet. Draw your savings goal then e-mail it to Marketing@CCFinancial.com or drop it off at your local CCF branch.



Make sure your drawing is submitted by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to be included. Need more info? Visit **CCFinancial.com/youthmonth** 

\*Giveaway runs from April 1 - April 30, 2022. Chances of winning depend on number of entries received. No purchase necessary to win. To participate without opening an account, you may send a 3x5 card, with your full name and phone number, by mail to Marketing Department at 2955 University Dr., Auburn Hills, MI 48326 to qualify. Two winners will receive one (1) \$500 gift card to Great Wolf Lodge as their prize. Parent/Guardian will be notified along with winning minor. Value of prize is \$500 and is not redeemable for cash. Winners will be chosen at random from the entries received and will be notified via phone by May 13, 2022. Prize must be claimed by winner by May 20, 2022 or a new winner will be chosen. Photographs of the winner may be posted on CCF's social media profiles with permission from the parent or quardian.

# CCF COMMUNITY CHAMPION SCHOLARSHIP

The CCF Community Champion Scholarship Program provides financial support to student members with demonstrated financial need who achieve academic excellence and contribute to their communities.



CCF awards one \$2,500 scholarship, one \$1,500 scholarship and one \$1,000 scholarship every school year to qualified applicants. Apply online anytime at CCFinancial.com/scholarship.

## KASSAB'S CORNER



It's been a long winter, to say the least! Between the extreme cold and the pandemic, I've never more excited for warmer weather to arrive. Spring is here, and there are exciting things happening at Cornerstone.

April is Credit Union Youth Month! If your child doesn't have a savings account, open one today and we will deposit \$25 into their account. Our CORE Youth Accounts are a great way to teach your child or teen about finances. Plus, CORE makes it fun with quarterly giveaways, birthday gifts, and free coin machine use.

Speaking of the coin machine - did you know every CCF branch has a coin machine that is free to members? The machine counts, sorts and deposits all U.S. coins directly into your CCF account in seconds - no need to roll your coins. It's an especially fun way to show kids how small amounts of savings can add up.



We are excited to be expanding in Ohio with our soon-to-be-open Toledo branch! Located at 4400 Heatherdowns Blvd., this new branch is a great addition to the credit union. Stay tuned to CCF's social media pages for updates and watch your e-mail for an invite to a grand opening celebration.

We recently celebrated team member Laura's 30<sup>th</sup> work anniversary with CCF. For three decades, Laura has been serving the members as a teller, call center rep and now in the loan department. We are so glad she's a part of our team!

# Heidi Kassab President & CEO

# **CORE YOUTH ACCOUNT \$25 BONUS**

Give your kids a head start with a CORE Youth Account! From birthday surprises to quarterly gifts, CORE Youth Accounts give kids and teens a great financial foundation. Plus, receive a \$25 bonus when you open a new CORE Youth Account!



#### **QUARTERLY \$100 CASH PRIZES**

Kids and teens can earn entries for good financial habits. Two winners are drawn each quarter to win \$100 cash.



#### **BIRTHDAY GIFT**

Every year, CORE Youth Account holders receive a special gift during their birthday month.



#### **COIN MACHINE**

Youth members can bring their loose change into any branch and deposit it directly into their account, fee-free.



#### **SAVINGS PUNCH CARD**

Each deposit earns a punch in their CORE punch card. Every 10<sup>th</sup> punch earns a reward, up to 3x per year.

# RECEIVE A \$25 BONUS\* WHEN YOU OPEN A CORE YOUTH ACCOUNT!

At Cornerstone, we believe good financial habits start at an early age. From saving their allowance to buying their first car, CCF is in their corner every step of the way.

Receive a \$25 bonus when you open a new CORE Youth Account for your child or teen.

\*The \$25 bonus will be deposited into the CORE Youth Account within 30 days of account opening. Account must be in good standing with no negative balance to receive bonus. One account per SSN \$10 deposit required for membership.

#### **BRANCH LOCATIONS**

Auburn Hills Branch Headquarters 2955 University Dr. Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Center Line Branch 7291 Bernice Rd. Center Line, MI 48015

**Perrysburg Branch** 28543 Oregon Rd. Perrysburg, OH 43551

**Royal Oak Branch** 30606 Woodward Ave. Royal Oak, MI 48073

Sterling Heights Branch 44911 Mound Rd. Sterling Heights, MI 48314

COMING SOON! Toledo Branch 4400 Heatherdowns Blvd Toledo, OH 43614

**Troy Branch** 1785 Rochester Rd. Troy, MI 48083

#### **CONNECT WITH US**

(800) 777-6728 CCFinancial.com







#### **UPCOMING HOLIDAY**

Easter Sunday Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>



the credit union in your corner





# NEW CCF BRANCH COMING TO TOLEDO

CCF is growing! We are pleased to announce that CCF will be adding a new branch in Toledo, Ohio in 2022 at 4400 Heatherdowns Blvd.

This new location will enable our Ohio team to connect with even more members and help them reach their financial goals.

CCF has already expanded our charter to include more counties in Ohio and we look forward to increasing our service area with this new location.

We're making amazing progress updating the branch to serve our Ohio membership. Stay tuned to CCF's newsletters and social media for more details and a grand opening date in the early summer months.



# **COMING SOON!**

CCF's Toledo Branch 4400 Heatherdowns Blvd Toledo, Ohio 43614

# ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE



CCF will hold its 2022 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. A determination will be made shortly as to whether this meeting will be hosted in person or online. We will continue to follow CDC guidelines for group gatherings.

Please visit **CCFinancial.com/annualmeeting** for changes, as all updates will be posted on our site.

# PROTECTING YOUR AUTO: GAP & ADR

If your vehicle is in an accident, lost or stolen, your primary insurance settlement can be significantly less than the outstanding loan balance. This creates a deficiency balance or "gap" that you will be responsible for paying. GAP protection is designed to cover the remainder of the loan balance not paid by insurance.

#### **GAP BENEFITS:**

- → Low-cost protection with a 60-day free look
- → Eliminates out-of-pocket expense for your remaining loan balance
- → Prevents financial hardships and protects credit ratings

#### **AUTO DEDUCTIBLE REIMBURSEMENT (ADR)**

ADR is an additional benefit that reimburses your auto deductible up to \$500, if you pay one, due to vehicle damage. ADR is available to you for up to three years on any four-wheel passenger vehicle you own and insure.