



**GUTHRIE
COMMUNITY
CREDIT UNION**

104 N. Elmer Ave.
Sayre, PA 18840

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CONNECTIONS

SUMMER 2021



Connections

A PUBLICATION FOR
GUTHRIE COMMUNITY CREDIT
UNION MEMBERS

Please open and read

Board of Directors Election

The Nominating Committee of Guthrie Community Credit Union's Board of Directors has announced the following nominees for board elections to be held at next year's Annual Meeting in March 2022. Specific dates and times will be announced in the GCCU 2022 Winter Newsletter.

Directors are volunteers who serve three-year terms.

This year's term director positions are: John Simonds, Roberta Sabitus Place & Bernie Smith.

The 2021 Nominating Committee Members are: Heather Vail, John Detrick & Arthur Field.

The Nomination Procedures: Credit union election procedures require any potential candidate or nominee to meet with the Nominating Committee to review his or her possible candidacy. At this meeting, the duties, liabilities, and responsibilities of the GCCU Board of Directors will be discussed. Arrangements for such meetings may be made by writing the Nominating Committee at: Guthrie Community Credit Union; 104 N. Elmer Ave.; Sayre, PA 18840.

The nominee must certify in writing, on a form prescribed by the National Credit Union Administration and the Board of Directors that he or she has agreed to abide by the legal responsibilities of a board member, is agreeable to nomination and will serve if elected to office. If the member refuses to sign

any of the documents, he or she shall be deemed to have refused consideration for the nomination. Once the certification is complete, petition forms will be available from the Board Secretary.

The members must then obtain at least 75 valid, verified signatures of members, age 18 and above, who are in good standing. The petition must be submitted and reviewed before the nomination will be effective.

Completed petitions must be returned to the GCCU Board Secretary no later than 4:30 PM, January 3, 2022. Names of nominees will be posted in each credit union office on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.



A Place YOU Belong

Sayre Office
104 N. Elmer Ave.
Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 888-7135
Fax: (570) 882-9564

Troy Office
454 Canton St.
Troy, PA 16947
(570) 297-2440
Fax: (570) 297-0589

T.E.D.
(570) 888-7135
Toll-Free: 1-877-493-6161

www.GuthrieFCU.org

Upcoming Events:

**International
Credit Union Day
& Shred Truck:**
October 21, 2021



President's Message

Welcome to Guthrie Community Credit Union!

I am happy to report that our membership base continues to grow, and the credit union continues to operate in a safe and secure manner as evidenced by our "Well Capitalized" rating as defined by the National Credit Union Administration guidelines. The safety and soundness of GCCU continues to be steadfast, fortified by a strong capital position and best business practices.

The credit union's financial position continued to improve as assets have grown from \$95.2 million as of December of 2020 to \$100.4 million as of June 30, 2021. Loans have increased by \$1.2 million since June of 2020. Deposits have reached \$90.2 million as we now serve over 7,446 members who rely on our credit union for safety and soundness.

This newsletter features an article which discusses the upcoming merger with Solutions Federal Credit Union. Solutions FCU was originally chartered in 1952 to serve the employees of Remington Rand. Since that time, they have grown and expanded to a community credit union with assets of \$36 million. We are truly excited to work with the Solutions FCU Board and Management teams to continue to serve their 3,731 members to enhance their service offerings.

As we move forward, we remain committed to serving you. GCCU is a financial cooperative. We thus operate by the philosophy of "people helping people". We work hard to get to know our members, to understand their needs and provide solutions to make their lives and community a better place. Our profits are reinvested to our members in the form of new technology, equipment, products & services, and of course competitive deposit and loan rates.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable summer!

Sincerely,
John Savelli – President & CEO



Guthrie CCU

Board of Directors

John M. Simonds	Chairman
Kevin Raupers	Vice-Chairman
Bernard L. Smith	Treasurer
Heather Vail	Secretary
John Detrick	Board Member
Roberta Sabitus-Place	Board Member
Arthur Field	Board Member
Jennifer Wittie	Board Member
Craig Wilhelm	Board Member

Supervisory Committee

Gary Reeves	Chairman
Sharon Alamo	
Jennifer Wittie	

GCCU Staff

Administration

John Savelli	President & CEO
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Finance Department

Shannon McCarty	Sr. Accountant
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Lending Department

Timothy Hickey	Vice-President of Lending
Jamie Houghton	Mortgage Loan Officer
Danielle Ulrich	Loan Officer
Shelby Sullivan	Loan Officer
Megan Gratkowski	Loss Prevention Specialist

Operations Department

Kathryn Bonning	Vice-President of Operations
Elizabeth Saxon	Operations Specialist
Lynn Chappell	BSA Officer / Ft. Desk
Jennifer Heath	New Account Specialist
Martha Schultz	E.F.T. Coordinator
Debra Townsend	New Acct/Phone MSR
Ashley Hovan	Card Services Rep.
Crystal Quinn	MSR
Tammy Tunnickliff	MSR
Janeen Dorman	MSR
Lacey Wolcott	MSR

Troy Branch Office

Bonnie Parsell	Loan Officer
Halley Allen	Mortgage Loan Officer
Todd Bacon	Operations Clerk
Mary Krise	MSR
Megan Derstine	PT - MSR

2021 Guthrie Community Credit Union Scholarship Winners

Guthrie CCU would like to congratulate Catherine Brown and Carmya Martell, who were selected by the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers as the recipients of the \$1,000.00 GCCU Scholarship Awards. This program complements Guthrie Community Credit Union's values and our commitment to the community. Congratulations, Catherine and Carmya!



Catherine Brown

- Will be attending the University of Pittsburg and studying nursing
- Ran cross country and track and played basketball
- Was a member of FBLA, Leo Club, National Honors Society, Student Council, Scholarship Challenge, the Class of 2021 President
- Was the 2021 Bradford and Sullivan Counties Outstanding Young Woman



Carmya Martell

- Associates Degree from Lackawanna College in Professional Studies (Graduated May 2021)
- Athletic and Academic Lettermen
- President and member of National Honors Society
- 4 year letterman in Volleyball, team captain, and member of 4 district championship teams
- 2018 NTL Volleyball 'All Rookie Team'
- 2019 and 2020 volleyball 1st team NTL selections, 1st team all-region, and 1st team all-district 4
- 2 year varsity softball letterman
- Miss Canton representative at 2021 State Laurel Festival
- Science Club, Giving Tree Club, i3 Youth Group, Building 103 Church Member

4 Common Pandemic Scams And How To Avoid Them

Scammers and con artists capitalize on events like pandemics to take advantage of vulnerable people— particularly those that are alone and fearful. Pandemic scams come in many forms, but scammers will generally either ask you directly for money or steal your personal information to access your money themselves. Read on for four common pandemic scams to avoid:

WEBSITE SCAMS

Fraudulent websites take many forms, but two types stand out:

1. Websites that claim to help you work remotely.

Company websites often publish employee contact information, and scammers make use of it. Scammers often pose as the IT help desk or HR department and send emails that ask you to download software, click external links, or share personal information. These tactics place malware on your computer that allows the scammer to access your personal information. Always verify an email is from a trusted source before downloading software or providing personal information. When in doubt, call the source directly to verify the communication. If the email is fraudulent, the source can immediately notify potential targets and take action to eliminate the threat for you and others. It's also helpful to make sure your computer's software is up to date, multi-factor authentication is enabled, and you are connected to a reputable virtual private network when browsing the Internet.

2. Websites that claim to track the disease's advance or ask you to help those affected by the pandemic.

Universities, corporations, and nonprofits publish detailed information about the pandemic and how people are being affected worldwide. Scammers have taken this information and built coronavirus dashboards and websites that require users to download and install software to access the information. When users do so, the software (known as malware) steals their personal information. Fraudulent donation websites also exist to take advantage of the generous-minded. These sites may take money without ever donating it or collect your credit card information for later use. Always research organizations and websites before donating. A quick Google search can usually tell you if an organization is legitimate or fraudulent. Can't find detailed information about the group's board of directors, mission, or how your money is being spent? It's likely a scam.

HEALTH PRODUCT SCAMS

Enterprising businesses tend to crop up around pandemics, claiming to sell medications that prevent the disease, offer resistance against it, or even cure it altogether. Scam artists may call you pretending to be a CDC employee and ask for your credit card information to reserve a vaccine dose in your name. You might receive emails peddling fraudulent products that link to phishing websites designed to steal your financial details. To avoid these scams, understand that if your doctors do not have a cure, it is unlikely that a website on the Internet does. Always consult with a medical professional before buying a health product online, and take time to research the company and its products beforehand. While alternative medicine can benefit your health, reputable holistic companies will disclose all product ingredients (even when not required by law) and whether or not their claims are backed by peer-reviewed research or the FDA.

INVESTMENT SCAMS

The economic uncertainties brought on by pandemics can send the stock market plunging, causing many to worry about the value of their investments. Scammers may take advantage of the situation by promising secret, innovative investments that are somehow safe from market fluctuations. It's important to remember that only money secured in an insured bank account can be guaranteed safe. Scammers may even misrepresent themselves and claim to be FDIC employees to calm your suspicions, but the FDIC will never ask you to make specific investments or share personal financial information. Always research the companies you invest with, especially if they aren't from a large financial institution that you recognize.

STIMULUS CHECK SCAMS

When the government announces economic relief for those affected by a pandemic, scammers pretending to be government officials have been known to call or email people asking for credit card or other personal information to process stimulus and other benefit checks. Do not provide your information or follow instructions from these unsolicited phone calls or emails.

FINAL THOUGHTS

When you fear for your health or investments, or when you're navigating the unfamiliar territory of remote work, it can be hard to think clearly. It's a situation that scammers exploit, but simply being aware that scammers tend to be active in uncertain times can help you stay alert and safe.

For more information on scams, read our full article online at guthriefcu.org

Proposed Merger

On Behalf of the Board of Directors and Management Team, I am excited to announce our plans to merge with Solutions Federal Credit Union. The Solutions FCU Board and Management team has approached Guthrie Community Credit Union (GCCU) to merge with them.

The merger is pending a successful Solutions FCU member vote and with the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) approval, the full integration of systems is scheduled for the 3rd quarter of 2022. Since GCCU is the surviving entity, its members are not required to vote.

Solutions FCU is located in Elmira NY. Their seven employees currently serve 3,737 members with \$36 million in assets as of March 31, 2021.

This merger will give GCCU a presence in the Elmira, NY Region. It also represents a partnership between two credit unions that share similar values, with both having a strong commitment to the members and the communities they serve.

As the merger process continues, we will keep members informed of progress, including sharing important notices, dates, and events.