



**GUTHRIE
COMMUNITY
CREDIT UNION**

104 N. Elmer Ave.
Sayre, PA 18840

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SUMMER/FALL 2024

Connections

A PUBLICATION FOR GUTHRIE CREDIT UNION MEMBERS



Connections Newsletter

Please open and read...

INTERNATIONAL CREDIT UNION DAY

October 17, 2024

International Credit Union Day® celebrates the spirit of the global credit union movement. The day is recognized to reflect upon the credit union movement's history, promote its achievements, acknowledge the hard work, and share member experiences. International Credit Union Day has been celebrated on the third Thursday of October since 1948.

The ultimate goal is to raise awareness about the tremendous work that credit unions and other financial cooperatives are doing around the world and to provide members the opportunity to become more engaged. The day of festivities for credit unions and financial cooperatives worldwide includes fundraisers, open houses, contests, picnics, volunteering, and parades.

GCCU will be celebrating the 76th anniversary of International Credit Union Day with:

- Lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Various prizes and giveaways
- Confidential Shred Truck at the Sayre branch from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (104 N. Elmer Ave., Sayre)



GROWING WITH OUR COMMUNITY – GCCU Introduces Business Lending Program

You asked, we listened!

In a continued effort to support our community and provide holistic financial solutions to our members, we are excited to introduce our business lending program.

Because we've been part of this community since 1979, we recognize that small businesses are the backbone of our local economy.

Whether you are a farmer or a florist, your business provides for our community in a unique way and has equally unique needs. When you succeed, we all succeed.

With all decisions made locally, you will not be left waiting for answers.

Our dedicated support team has been here to help you reach your personal financial goals; now let us help your business reach its full potential with one of our new business lending products:

- **Non-Profit Organizations** – We are happy to assist your non-profit organization in finding the best financing options and equitable deals.
- **Term Loans** – Our term loans provide a substantial capital boost for your business, ideal for financing significant investments like equipment purchases, facility expansion, acquisitions, or debt refinancing. We offer fixed and variable interest rates with terms extending up to 10 years and longer.
- **Lines of Credit** – Maintain and enhance your business's cash flow with our versatile lines of credit – ideal for managing daily operations, covering inventory purchases, or addressing unexpected expenses. You can borrow, repay, and borrow again up to your credit limit, providing you with ongoing access to funds. The interest rate is variable and is tied to the prime lending rate.
- **Commercial Real Estate Loans** – Secure the perfect location for your business with our commercial real estate loans, suitable for various property types including one- to four-family investment properties, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, and retail spaces. Our loans are available with fixed or variable interest rates and terms up to 15 years, with amortization periods extending up to 20 years.
- **Government Guaranteed Loans** – We partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration for additional financing options.

For more information or to apply, visit a Guthrie Community Credit Union branch location or call us at 877-493-6161.

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



Guthrie Community CU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Arthur D. Field	Chairman
Craig S. Wilhelm	Vice-Chairman
Bernard L. Smith	Treasurer
Heather R. Vail	Secretary
John E. Detrick	Board Member
Nicholas P. Cevette	Board Member
John M. Simonds	Board Member
Jennifer L. Everson	Board Member
Kevin J. Raupers	Board Member

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Gary L. Reeves	Chairman
Sharon L. Alamo	
Jennifer L. Everson	

GCCU STAFF

Administration

John Savelli	President & CEO
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Finance Department

Megan Wilbur	V.P. of Finance
Shannon McCarty	Sr. Accountant

Lending Department

Kevin Green	V.P. of Lending
Jamie Houghton	Mortgage Loan Officer
Danielle Ulrich	Loan Officer
Todd Bacon	Loan Officer
Megan Gratkowski	Loss Prevention Specialist

Operations Department

Kathryn Bonning	V.P. of Operations
Elizabeth Saxon	Operations Specialist
Jennifer Heath	New Account Specialist
Naomi Gallagher	E.F.T. Coordinator
Debra Townsend	New Account / Phone MSR
Lacey Wolcott	Card Services Rep. / BSA
Danielle Hitchcock	MSR
Lynn Chappell	MSR
Tammy Tunnicliff	MSR
Lori Kyle	MSR
Susan Huff	MSR
Joel Talladay	IT Support

Troy Branch Office

Halley Allen	Branch Manager
Autumn Smith	Loan Officer
Mary Krise	MSR
Ann Carlsen	MSR
Penny Wheeler	MSR

Scams Are on the Rise Again

You think it'll never happen to you, but when emotions are involved, it's easy to trust the wrong people. Scammers are befriending their victims via text, social media, or dating apps and, once they've made a strong enough emotional connection, the scammer encourages their victim to invest money in virtual currency, including cryptocurrency.

Here's what typically happens:

1. Victims receive a text or social media message from someone claiming that they have the wrong number or that they're an old friend trying to reconnect.
2. Eventually, the scammer starts talking about investment opportunities or offers to teach their victim how to create a cryptocurrency account.
3. The scammer usually doesn't ask for money directly. Instead, they create fake investment websites or request access to the victim's account.
4. Victims often see a false account that purportedly shows their growing investments, and they may even be able to cash out a portion of their account.
5. Scammers will pressure victims to continue investing, and if the victim wants to cash out, they'll first be told they need to pay expensive taxes or fees.
6. By this point, the victim's money is gone.

Please be wary of any unknown person reaching out to you. This scam has affected our members, and we don't want the same to happen to you. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to our team.

President's Message



It has been an eventful past six months, and we are very proud of the strides we are making in our community.

The featured article in this newsletter is an introduction to our new Business Lending Program. We recognize that small businesses are the backbone of our local economy, and when you succeed, we all succeed.

Guthrie CCU also continues to make an investment in the education of our next generation of leaders. For the 2024-2025 school year, Guthrie CCU will continue to offer two \$1,000 scholarships for college-bound students pursuing skilled trades through the Community Foundation of the Twin Tiers. Last year's winners are featured in this newsletter. Congratulations to all our graduating members!

Our continued positive financial results have kept our technology moving forward. For example, contactless cards will be available to all card holders starting in the fourth quarter of this year. Contactless cards are a fast, easy, and secure way to pay for your purchases.

Finally, as your summer holiday travel plans come to fruition, we want to extend our best wishes to you. Everyone here at Guthrie would like to wish you a safe and enjoyable end of summer and fall!

Sincerely,

John Savelli – President & CEO

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 May 2025. Specific dates and times will be announced in the GCCU 2025 Winter Newsletter.

Directors are volunteers who serve three-year terms.

This year's term director positions are: John Simonds, Bernie Smith, and Nicholas Cevette

The 2024 Nominating Committee Members are: Arthur Field, Heather Vail, and John Detrick

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 2, 2025. Names of nominees will be posted in each credit union office on Wednesday, March 5, 2025.

Guthrie Community Credit Union 2025 Scholarship

Guthrie Community Credit Union is deeply committed to supporting the educational goals of local graduating seniors, which is why we established an endowed scholarship fund. For the 2024-25 school year, we're looking for students who are leaders in their communities to apply for the scholarship. Applications are due March 31, 2025, and two scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each.

For eligibility and application details, visit www.twintierscf.org. Click the "Who Receives?" tab and then "Scholarships Available." The Guthrie Community Credit Union Scholarship application is amongst the alphabetical list of scholarships.

GCCU 2024 Holiday Schedule

Labor Day
Monday, September 2

Columbus Day
Monday, October 14

Veterans Day
Monday, November 11

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 28

Day After Thanksgiving – Closing at 3 p.m.
Friday, November 29

Christmas Day
Wednesday, December 25

New Year's Day
Wednesday, January 1, 2025

GCCU Scholarship Winners



MADELINE I. COLE

Graduated from: Troy Junior-Senior High School

Attending: Penn State University

Field of Interest: Agricultural Sciences



MYA R. THOMPSON

Graduated from: Athens High School

Attending: East Stroudsburg University

Field of Interest: Nursing