

Newsletter • Winter 2023

READY FOR A 52-WEEK SAVINGS CHALLENGE?

Are you ready to commit to saving this year? Making a habit out of saving money is important to building a cash reserve that can cover you in an emergency and for achieving future financial goals, however finding the money to stash can be tricky.

The 52-week money challenge is a fun and easy way to save. You begin by saving just \$1 in week one and increasing what you save by \$1 each week, saving \$2 in week two and \$3 in week three, all the way up to \$52 in week 52. If you complete the challenge each week, you'll end the year with \$1,378 in your savings.

Don't put off saving any longer. Start your 52-Week Challenge now and make 2023 your best savings year yet!

Want to browse our different savings account options? Get started here.





www.gaheritagefcu.org

Open a Christmas Club Account!

Did you overspend during this last holiday season? We have a way you can prevent overspending next time! Open a Christmas club account today and save a little at a time, all year long through auto transfer.

Then, by the time the next holiday shopping season rolls around, you'll have the allocated funds you need to get through the season without racking up debt!

Learn more and open your account today!







USE YOUR HARD-EARNED EQUITY HOWEVER YOU CHOOSE

Home renovation, debt consolidation, destination wedding, family vacation....you can borrow against the equity you've built up in your home and use for just about any purpose.

Home Equity Line of Credit*

- Tap into available funds
- Personalized local service
- Simple application process
- Competitive low interest rates
- Affordable payment plans, to get out what you've put in.

Request information about a HELOC today.

*Rates and terms vary depending on loan-to-value ratio, credit evaluation and underwriting requirements. This is a variable rate loan product. The interest rate you are charged may increase after the loan is closed. All Credit Union loan programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to credit approval and may change at any time without notice. NMLS #446248.

WHICH BUDGET IS BEST FOR ME?

The dawn of a new year coupled with continued inflation may have you searching for a new budgeting method. Consider the following tried and true strategies that can help you achieve your financial goals.

- 1. Envelope Budget Figure out how much you want to spend in discretionary categories like groceries, dining out, clothing, and miscellaneous purchases, and then put the cash into separate envelopes that are designed for the different types of spending. Once the monthly cash for each category is gone, it's gone.
- 2. Zero-Based Budget Calculate your total earnings in one column and total expenses in another. Whatever is left is then allocated toward goals such as debt repayment, savings, or investments down to \$0.
- 3. 50/30/20 Budget 50% of your total income goes to needs (housing, utilities, insurance); 30% goes to wants (dining out, entertainment) and 20% goes to savings to include investments or debt repayment.
- 4. Debt Repayment Budget Decipher your income and compare to your expenses and minimum amounts due on loans. You pay all bills you need to pay and then allocate the extra toward paying off debts focusing heavily on those with the highest interest rate, or lowest balance, first.

No matter which budget method you choose, creating one can help you to better manage your spending and further your progress toward your long-term financial goals. Good luck!





It's Annual Meeting Time!

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 6:00 p.m. Carey Hilliard's Banquet Hall 11111 Abercorn Street Savannah, GA 31419

Join us for a meal as we inform you, our member owners, about the progress made in the past year and plans for our future. Due to limited seating, a reservation is required. Since this is a business meeting, everyone in attendance must be a member. To reserve your seat today, please call (912) 236-4400.

Letter from the Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee submits the following names for consideration:

- Donna Trapani
- Sheila Donaldson

Respectfully submitted,

Nominating Committee:

Mike Lamb Donna Katula Lisa Winter

Nominations also may be made by petitions submitted by members. Members who desire to name a nominee or nominees for a vacancy should prepare and submit a petition in accordance with the following procedures:

- 1. Petition must be signed by 134 primary members of Georgia Heritage Federal Credit Union.
- 2. Petition must be accompanied by a completed Volunteer Application indicating that the person is agreeable to nomination and will serve if elected to office. Each nominee will undergo a credit check and background check to determine bondability. The nominee must state his/her willingness to attend Board meetings and devote such time as needed to fulfill this 3-year obligation.
- 3. Petition must be filed with the Board Secretary of Georgia Heritage FCU by February 16, 2023. Petitions may be left at the Credit Union and will be forwarded to the Secretary.
- 4. Only members 18 years of age or older can be nominated for the Board and are eligible to vote.

For more information about becoming a credit union volunteer on our Board of Directors or Supervisory Committee, please contact us at <u>volunteer@gaheritagefcu.org</u>

We're accepting scholarship applications!

GHFCU is now accepting applications for our 2023 Scholarship. Scholarships are available to GHFCU members in good standing. Anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Chatham, Effingham and Bryan counties are eligible to open an account at Georgia Heritage. If you do not have an account, open a Georgia Heritage Federal Credit Union account today!

This year, GHFCU will award two college scholarships a \$2,000 first-place prize and a \$1,500 second-place prize. The online application process will open to high school seniors January 11 and will close April 11. As part of the submission process, applicants will be required to submit a video that showcases their creativity and commitment to the community.

Criteria:

- A. For scholarship purposes, the term child is defined as: a natural or adopted child, stepchild, or ward who is a dependent of a Georgia Heritage Federal Credit Union member. The parent (guardian) must be a Credit Union member in good standing prior to the application deadline.
- B. Must enter an accredited college or technical school as a full-time student within six months after completion of high school.
- C. If an applicant or their immediate family has caused a loss to Georgia Heritage Federal Credit Union in the past, the applicant is ineligible for the scholarship program.
- D: High School student must graduate with or before their class.

Learn more and apply @ www.gaheritagefcu.org!







Get more from your credit union membership at **LoveMyCreditUnion.org**





Career Day

GHFCU participated in the South Effingham Elementary School Career day on October 28th. Victoria Harden, Pooler Branch Manager, and Alyssamarie Quartararo, Marketing Specialist, spoke with over 300 elementary students about a career in a financial institution.

Health Fair

Thanks to International Paper for inviting us to participate in their recent Health Fair. Credit Union representatives Corrine Reedy, Lathrop Branch Manager, and Alyssamarie, Marketing Specialist, were able to speak with Mill employees about how GHFCU can help them and improve their financial wellness.





Salvation Army's Angel Tree Project

GHFCU employees participated in Salvation Army's annual Angel Tree Project, adopting 16 children to give gifts for the holidays!

International Credit Union Day

On October 20th, GHFCU celebrated International Credit Union Day by offering hospitality tables inside each branch stocked with snacks, drinks, and giveaways for members.



Financial Wellness

Credit Union Representatives Victoria Harden and Alyssamarie Quartararo visited Beach High School during their Financial Literacy Month. The team visited on November 15th and 29th, where they spoke with students about the different services that credit unions offer, and how they can improve their financial health.



Locations:

1085 W. Lathrop Ave. Savannah, GA 31415

102 Park Ave. Pooler, GA 31322

200 Stephenson Ave., Suite 100 Savannah, GA 31405

5745 Hwy. 21 South Rincon, GA 31326



912.236.4400

www.gaheritagefcu.org



Smartline

912.233.6491 • 1.800.408.6466

Holidays - Branches closed:

New Year's Day - Observed: Monday, January 2, 2023

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: Monday, January 16, 2023

President's Day: Monday, February 20, 2023





