



REFINANCE  
**YOUR**  
AUTO LOAN  
TODAY!

get up to  
**\$400\***  
at closing

\*Eligible members will receive a 2% rebate up to \$400 maximum. Rebate proceeds will be due payable if loan is satisfied before a period of 18 months. Members must sign the Auto Loan Rebate Addendum in order to receive the rebate. This offer is subject to change at any time. New money only. Members may contact an employee for information about fees & terms.



Scan this with your phone's camera to  
stay afloat on all current promotions.

## Need an ATM?

**You have access to over 30,000  
surcharge-free ATMs across the US!**

Visit [sum-atm.com](http://sum-atm.com) -or- TEXT a Zip Code to 91989  
to find nearby ATM & shared branch locations.



Let's Get You There!



**HUDSON  
HERITAGE**  
CREDIT UNION

## Do You Want to Build Your Credit?

Set Yourself Up Right Financially in 2020

See page 7.



HUDSON  
**HERITAGE**  
CREDIT UNION

*Let's Get You There!*

ASK US ABOUT OUR  
**DEBT**  
CONSOLIDATION  
LOAN PROMOTION!

# Do You Want to Build Your Credit?

Set Yourself Up Right  
Financially in 2020

See page 7.

Winter 2020





#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson  
Paul Zalanowski

Vice-Chairperson  
Thomas Houston

Secretary  
Kenneth Affeldt

Treasurer  
William Wiseman Jr.

Directors  
Gerard Amoroso  
Sandra Gerow  
Nicholas Giglio

#### SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairperson  
Carolyn Evans

Recording Secretary  
Sonia Rodriguez

Members  
John Boyle  
John Naumchik

#### BRANCH HOURS

MON-WED 8:30AM - 5:00PM  
THURS-FRI 8:30AM - 6:00PM  
SAT 9:00AM - 2:00PM

#### BRANCH LOCATIONS

**CENTRAL VALLEY**  
273 Rt. 32 (24hr ATM)

**GOSHEN**  
117 Grand Street (24hr ATM)

**MATAMORAS, PA**  
111 Hulst Drive (24hr ATM)

**MIDDLETOWN**  
25 Rykowski Lane (24hr ATMs)  
161-5 Dolson Avenue (24hr Drive-Up ATM)

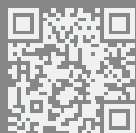
**MONTGOMERY**  
17 Walnut Street (24hr Drive-Up ATM)

**NEWBURGH**  
2 Corwin Court (24hr Drive-Up ATM)  
211 S Plank Road (24hr Drive-Up ATM)

**PINE BUSH**  
36 Boniface Drive (24hr ATM)

**WASHINGTONVILLE**  
131 East Main Street (24hr ATM)

**NEW PALTZ**  
234 Main Street, Suite 6B (24hr ATM)  
SUNY New Paltz Campus—Lower Level of Haggerty  
**MON-FRI 10AM-3PM**  
Closed Saturday & Sunday  
ATM Located in Student Union  
Bldg, during open building hrs



Need directions to  
a branch?  
Scan this with your  
phone's camera.

#### Want to talk to a Specialist?

Call our Member Solution Center at 845.561.5607

**HOURS:**  
MON-WED 8:30AM - 5:00PM  
THURS-FRI 8:30AM - 6:00PM  
SAT 9:00AM - 2:00PM

## President's Message

As we enter into the New Year, I would like to reflect on our past year accomplishments, and share with you exciting news as we chart our course for 2020.

#### Year in Review | 2019

2019 was a great year for our organization; we were recognized as the Times Herald Record Readers' Choice Best of the Best Credit Union for the second year in a row. In addition, we were approved for a state charter conversion that will take place in 2020. We would like to thank our members for voting and showing support for these initiatives as we continue on our journey. See below for updates on our latest developments and a look into the exciting news and updates ahead:



**Digital Wallet** – In 2019, we rolled out Apple Pay, Samsung Pay, and Google Pay for Hudson Heritage cardholders. The digital wallet is the latest development in credit and debit card safety, and is the most secure way to pay at checkout. When you use a digital wallet application the merchant receives a one-time code instead of your credit card details, lessening exposure to potential theft. Enrolled members have made over 2,500 secure transactions using digital wallet; learn how to get started at [HHFCU.org/wallet](http://HHFCU.org/wallet).

**MyHeritage Rewards** – One of our most exciting rollouts was the launch of MyHeritage Rewards. Since we first launched our rewards program in the second quarter of last year, enrolled members have earned over 650,000 points on purchases made using their Hudson Heritage debit and credit cards. These bonus points can be redeemed for gift cards or charitable donations. If you have not yet enrolled, be sure to add that to your resolution list to ensure you are getting the most out of your membership with us.

#### Looking Ahead | 2020

**80th Anniversary** – This year we will be celebrating our 80th anniversary serving the community – a feat that would not be possible without the outstanding support from you – our members. We appreciate all the contributions made by members to help improve our organization. Every time you choose Hudson Heritage as your primary financial institution, you are supporting the credit union movement.

**State Charter Conversion** – There are many exciting developments to share as we begin the conversion to a state chartered credit union. The proposition was voted in by members, and will have many positive benefits for our membership as we realign our regulatory standards to improve our growth and development as a NYS chartered credit union. This is an exciting time for our members; please keep an eye out for important updates in the months ahead.

**Online Account Opening** – We are thrilled to announce that online account opening will be launching by the end of the year. This online account opening feature will allow you to apply for membership, open a new checking or savings account, or apply for a loan without waiting in line or leaving the comfort of your home. This will make it quicker and easier to bank with Hudson Heritage. While we always look forward to assisting you in-person, we hope this update will save you valuable time when you are unable to make it into one of our branch locations.

Now is a great time of year to review your financial position, and we invite you to visit your local branch for a free credit review or join us at an upcoming financial planning event introducing our two new Heritage Investment and Retirement Services representatives. To stay up-to-date on all the exciting news and community events ahead you can follow us on social media including Facebook, and LinkedIn. We are proud of the growth we have achieved with our members over the past 80 years, and are looking forward to the enhancements that 2020 will bring.

We wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Michael J. Ciriello  
President/CEO, Hudson Heritage Credit Union

# State Charter Conversion

We are excited to announce that Hudson Heritage has officially become a State Chartered Credit Union as of January 1, 2020. Our membership (through a vote) and all regulatory parties have approved the charter conversion. Effective January 1, 2020, the Credit Union started operating under the name 'Hudson Heritage Credit Union'.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our members for participating in the voting process and providing us with your questions, comments, feedback, and support as we embarked on this special journey. Please see the FAQs on our website for additional information related to this conversion - [hhfcu.org/charter](http://hhfcu.org/charter)

## Annual Board of Elections

The nominating committee reports to the Secretary of the Board of Directors that two individuals are up for re-election to the Board of Directors, including Paul Zalanowski and Thomas Houston. Both are for a three-year term.

In addition to the candidates nominated, a member age 18 or older may petition for a position on the 2020 election ballot. If you would like to be nominated for the Board of Directors, please submit to the Secretary of the Board a petition (including a statement of qualification and biographical data) signed by at least 1% of the total membership on or before February 28th, 2020. No nominations will be permitted from the floor at the Annual Meeting. Additionally, when the number of nominees equals the number of positions to be filled, the election will not be conducted by ballot.

If petitions are received, elections will be determined by a plurality vote by printed ballot, and will take place on April 24th through the 26th between 9:00AM and 5:00PM at the credit union offices located at 2 Corwin Court in Newburgh and 25 Rykowski Lane in Middletown. Members may also vote at the Annual Meeting. If no petitions are received, the secretary will cast one vote for Paul Zalanowski and Thomas Houston for three-year terms.

## Our Mortgage Team Can Help Make the Right Choice

Whether you're looking to purchase a home for the first time or make upgrades to your current home, our team has you covered! Talk with one of our talented Mortgage Loan Officers to help guide you through the process. We feel the truest value we can offer you is the time our team takes to learn about you and your goals. We strive to find the perfect solution for your needs so we can offer you the best, most personal options available. Reach out to one of our trusted Mortgage Advisors TODAY!



John Herman  
NMLS ID# 589500  
845-522-0020 (cell)

[john.herman@contacthh.org](mailto:john.herman@contacthh.org)



Erika Rodriguez  
NMLS ID# 754583  
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[erika.rodriguez@contacthh.org](mailto:erika.rodriguez@contacthh.org)



Shawn Simmons  
NMLS ID# 19601  
845-764-6076 (cell)

[shawn.simmons@contacthh.org](mailto:shawn.simmons@contacthh.org)



Samantha Primo  
NMLS ID# 1235728  
845-394-7972 (cell)

[samantha.primo@contacthh.org](mailto:samantha.primo@contacthh.org)



# Veteran Food Drive Results

Local Service. Global Reach.

Thank you for helping us support our vets!

**3 Full truck-loads  
of food were brought  
to Castle Point  
VA Healthsystem  
November 8, 2019.**

We brought all of the food donated during our Veterans Food Drive to Castle Point VA Hospital, just in time for Veterans Day!

Thanks to our generous members and dedicated staff, we were able to donate over 1 ton of food, totalling approximately 1,900 items of food! This is a great cause and we are ecstatic that our members helped us make such a big difference in the lives of the Veterans at Castle Point VA Hospital. We're looking forward to participating in the food drive again next year!

**400 ITEMS**  
**Total number of  
items we matched from  
what you donated.**  
**That's 800 total items  
collected in 1 day!**



**1 TON**  
**Total weight of  
food that  
was accumulated.**



*my*  
**HERITAGE**  
**REWARDS**

Sign up for myHeritage Rewards and start earning points on every purchase made through your debit or credit card! For more information visit **hhfcu.org/rewards** or ask one of our representatives TODAY!



We are now offering myHeritage Rewards on both our HHFCU VISA® Debit and Credit cards. Earn points every day simply by using your card for any transaction.

VISA® Debit Card  
1 point for \$4 spent

**Earn Double Points**  
on Preferred Local Businesses

VISA® Credit Card  
1 point for \$1 spent

To find out more: [hhfcu.org/rewards](https://hhfcu.org/rewards)

**Earn points for every purchase**



Skip your  
loan payment.  
**On us!**

Members may contact an employee for information about fees & terms.

\$15 online or

**\$30**  
in person

Free up some extra cash for  
shopping, traveling & more.



Scan for  
more info.

# Living on a Fixed Income

Be in the Know to Protect  
Yourself from Possible Threats

Living on a low or fixed income means every cost you incur needs to be deliberate and well thought. A budget helps you to plan financially and ensures you stay out of debt. Through a priority list, you can balance your income to your expenses.

Not only do you get to live according to your means, but a budget also helps you prepare for emergencies and forecast for future expenses. This can be tough if your income is fixed or on the low side but not impossible. Here are a few new year financial resolutions to help you get by.

## 1. List your Expenses

Create a list of every cost you incur every day. Leave nothing to detail from the least cost to the highest cost. Remember those miscellaneous expenses you hardly ever think about and put them down. Your loans are also an expense to ensure that they are on the list too.

## 2. Do your Math

The next step is to understand every one of your bills. Analyze why they are amounting to those figures. Find out if there is a way you could minimize the cost of the bill or a way you could remove some of your expenses from the list. For example, you could use your bicycle on the weekends to save on fuel, turn the lights off during the day to save on electricity.

## 3. Refinance your High-Interest Debt

That mortgage could be taking a toll on your income. Consider refinancing it to a friendlier interest rate.

Refinancing helps you to save money with its low monthly payments while it allows you to pay the mortgage faster. Auto loans could also be proving to be a drag for your finances. Refinance your auto loan to a more manageable interest rate.

## 4. Monitor your Spending

At this point, every dollar matters. Living on a low income or a fixed income means you need to be financially aware of the cash that flows out of your pocket. Avoid impulse buying and try to stick to your budget. Before buying something, you need to ask yourself if you need it first.

## 5. Save As Much As You Can

With limited finance, you need to spend less and save more. Saving is a habit and a lifestyle. Find ways to save each dollar because it matters. You could opt to cook instead of dining out, use coupons when doing grocery shopping, carry food to work instead of buying food, use the bus instead of a cab.

As you approach this new year, make a financial resolution to live according to your means. Whatever your income level is, the objective is to make the most out of it.



## Meet Our New Financial Advisors

Sometimes it's hard to decide who to invest your money with. At Heritage Investment & Retirement Services, we want to offer you the right financial products and services. Let us introduce our new Heritage Investment and Retirement Services Partners! Albert Moras (Left) and Robert Falk (Right) are financial advisors that can help you plan for various life events that involve your finances.

**Personalization** - Our financial advisor will meet with you to build a customized financial plan that is tailor-made to suit your needs

**Dependability & Transparency** - We will always look out for your best interests and make sure you're comfortable with your financial plan every step of the way.

**Goal Focused** - Our financial advisor will review your personal financial goals and offer strategies to meet your needs.

**Availability** - Based in the Hudson Valley, our services are easily accessible. In addition, you will also have access to an over-the-phone client investment center.

From college savings to retirement, Albert and Robert both have experience in building a detailed, custom financial plan that is based on your needs in life. Contact us today for a no-obligation, no cost consultation!



Securities sold, advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor CBSI is under contract with the financial institution to make securities available to members. Not NCUA/NCUSIF/FDIC insured, May Lose Value, No Financial Institution Guarantee. Not a deposit of any financial institution.



# Wintertizing Tips

Busted Pipes are  
Now a Thing of the Past!

For you to enjoy a white Christmas with your family without the winter hassles, you need to be prepared. In a country where 31% of households have trouble paying their energy bills, every dollar saved matters.

Winterization makes it possible for you to have a warm winter while saving up on the heating and energy bill. The process may vary from major repairs to minor repairs, but your aim is to be as cost-efficient as possible. Here are four ways you can winterize your home and save up for the holidays.

## 1. Lower your Thermostat

A cost-free way of winterization would be lowering your thermostat during winter. You may be a victim of setting 72°F as the comfortable room temperature. During the winter, that is never the case. Setting it at 68°F is as comfortable as 72°F, and lower to about 58°F to 62°F when people are asleep or away. Remember, every degree reduced is equivalent to saving 3% on energy bills.

Reverse your ceiling fan by switching it from cooling to warm. With the help of a reversed fan, you may get to lower your thermostat degree.

## 2. Put your Blinders and Curtains Up

To prevent warm air from escaping, invest in heavy blinders for your home. They act as a good substitute if you can't insulate your windows. Combined, the two will ensure that all warm air remains in the room. This method is both cost-efficient and reliable during all winter season.

## 3. Insulate your Pipes

Frozen pipes are the worst kind of winter problems. To prevent this, insulate your pipes before the winter begins. To do this, wrap your pipes with foam insulation tubes. The foam comes with a slit on one

side. You can easily slide the foam into the sewers. For additional insulation, you can opt to add an extra foam on top of the first one.

## 4. Update your Home

The expenses of winterization can be costly, especially if you are updating some structures in your house. Replacing the fireplace and chimneys, insulating the attic, and installing a new furnace will cost a fortune. If you want to make that investment to your home, you don't have to run your finance dry. A home equity loan is an easy source of money that is simple secured debt.

Winterization is meant to protect you from the winter tragedies. It may seem like a costly affair, but it's a good investment for your home and your family through this festive season.



## Fraud Alert

We want to inform you of a notable scam that has been affecting bank and credit union consumers alike. Specifically, scammers are using text messages and phone calls to lure consumers to provide personal and banking information. This information is then used to make fraudulent purchases or other attempts of identity theft. The below are specific details on the scam from the Better Business Bureau:

### How the Scam Works:

You receive a text message or phone call from a bank, alerting you to a hold or fraudulent activity on your account. You may or may not have an account at that bank. The scammer may even know your account number.

The scammers use a variety of messages and techniques, but the desired outcome is the same. Scammers will use the opportunity to obtain your banking information. For example, a website may prompt you enter your ATM card number and PIN under the guise of "reactivating your ATM card." Other times, the link may download malicious software that gives scammers access to anything on the phone. A scammer on the phone may demand your personal information such as your social security number.

**Please contact us immediately if you feel you have been a victim of a scam.**

## Fee Schedule

Occasionally, some of our fees change due to increasing costs. Effective March 1, 2020, the changes to the fee schedule are listed below.

### NOTABLE CHANGES

Updated Account Courtesy Pay Fees

Amount of Transaction	Fee
\$0.01 - \$1.00	No Charge
\$1.01 - \$10.00	\$20.00
\$10.01 - \$20.00	\$25.00
>\$20.00	\$35.00

If you have any questions regarding this update, please call our Member Solution Center at 845-561-5607.

# Do You Want to Build Your Credit?

Free Credit Review  
At Any of Our 12 Branches

Life is less forgiving in your mid-40s or 60s. At this age, you have tried your hand at various things in life, and you either succeeded or failed. Be it divorce, bankruptcy or financial mistakes that result in a bad credit score, you have to pick up the bill and get back on your feet. With a bad credit score, usually below 619 on the FICO score, many doors will be closed for you. That means no access to loans, higher insurance premiums and sometimes unemployment because some employers take credit reports seriously.

All hope is not lost. You can still rebuild your credit or improve your score with the following easy steps.

## 1. Check your Credit Report

This will let you know your financial position. It will help you establish what you need to work on, whether it's late payments or high debt utilization. Plus, you never know, it could be filled with errors and fraudulent accounts.

## 2. Plan to Catch Up on Payments and Pay Up On Time

Being behind your payments is not good for your credit status. Work out a payment plan with your creditors to help update your accounts. Plan to pay all your bills on time going forward. You don't want reports of missing payments or late payment on your credit status. A reliable payment pattern is essential for rebuilding your credit.

## 3. Don't Close Your Credit Card Account Yet

The longer your credit history, the better so, try not to close your credit card account. But, if you haven't paid in a while, you might be forced to close it with some payment plans.

## 4. Pay Your Debts

This is one of the most critical factors in your credit score. Try to maintain your credit utilization at 30% or less. Credit utilization is a fraction of the available credit you are using. It is better to plan on paying your debt faster. Checking your expenses and using the money you save up can help you reduce the debt.

## 5. Adopt Good Financial Habits

Try to adopt good financial habits like living within your means, saving, and having an emergency fund. These habits will help you rebuild your credit and maintain it in the future.

Rebuilding your credit should not be complicated if you have a solid plan and patience. With the steps above, you will be on your way to achieving an excellent credit score.

**Visit any one of our 12 branch locations to have a free credit score review!**

