



Our newsletter that connects you with relevant information

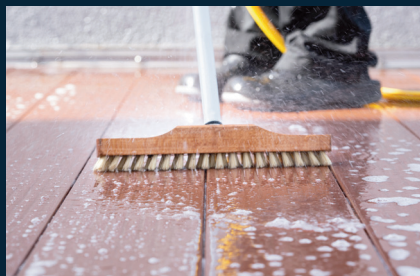
A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM HERITAGE FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION | SPRING 2023

THE HERITAGE CONNECTION



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2023 Virtual Annual Meeting

We will be hosting our 83rd Annual Meeting virtually on May 24th,* 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Similar to last year's virtual Annual Meeting, this allows our organization to provide you with an overview of the financial state of the credit union from the comfort of your own home on your mobile device or computer. In order to attend, you must register at [heritagefcu.com/annual-meeting-2023](https://www.heritagefcu.com/annual-meeting-2023) by 5:00 p.m. on May 12th, 2023.

Registration is required to attend, and limited virtual spots are available. Those who are registered will receive an email on May 18th, 2023, from Heritage Financial Credit Union with instructions and details about attending the meeting.

**Corrected date from the Winter 2023 Newsletter.*

A photograph of a man and a woman embracing in front of a two-story house. The man is wearing a blue denim shirt, and the woman is wearing a red and white plaid shirt. The house has light-colored siding and a dark roof.

THIS
IS
WHAT
**LESS
FEES**
CAN
LOOK
LIKE.

RECEIVE UP TO
\$1,000*
TOWARDS YOUR APPRAISAL FEE

 **HERITAGE**
Financial Credit Union

Federally Insured By NCUA | Equal Housing Opportunity

*Upon approval of your loan, the amount up to \$1,000 will be granted in the form of a credit on your final closing disclosure. Rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. All loans are subject to credit approval. This is a limited-time offer that may be withdrawn at any time. New money only.

HFCU Volunteer Information

As a member-owned financial cooperative, Heritage Financial Credit Union relies on the talents of volunteers from our membership to serve on our Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee.

Heritage Financial volunteers come together to represent the best interests of fellow Heritage Financial members in the following capacities:

Supervisory Committee: Appointed by Heritage Financial Credit Union Board of Directors. This Committee typically meets six to eight times per year to oversee and verify credit union records, monitor financial controls and work with HFCU's internal auditing staff and external audit firms.

Associate Board Member: Appointed by Heritage Financial Credit Union Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meets at least 12 times per year. A member may be selected to a non-voting position to learn the duties, responsibilities and functions of the Board in its role of overseeing HFCU.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and a current member in good standing* of Heritage Financial Credit Union for one year or more.

To apply, complete one of the three options below:

1. Please send a letter of interest and resume to:
Attn: Governance Committee
Heritage Financial Credit Union, 25 Rykowski Lane,
Middletown, NY 10941
2. Please email a letter of interest and resume to:
search@contacthf.com
3. Please complete the online application by visiting:
heritagefcu.com/hfcu-call-for-volunteers



Please scan the QR code with the camera on your smartphone to be taken directly to the application.

*A member in good standing is a member who maintains at least the minimum share set forth in Article III, Section 1 of these bylaws; who is not delinquent on any credit union loan; who has not had any account with this credit union closed due to abuse or negligent behavior; who has not been belligerent or abusive to any duly elected or appointed official or employee when that official or employee is carrying out their duties as set in the Act, the rules and regulations, the charter, and bylaws of this credit union; and who has not caused a financial loss to this credit union.



Put Your Financial Plan **in Focus**

Whether you've been saving for retirement from day one of your first job or you've always found reasons to put it off, now is the time to really focus on your goals and future. Take these considerations into account as you develop your financial plan.

Determine what you want. Be as detailed as possible about what you want the next phase of your life to look like. This way, you can work backwards to plan how to get there.

Save as much as possible. When you reach age 50, the contribution limits for 401(k) plans and IRAs increase. No matter what retirement vehicle you use, now is the time to save as much as possible for your future – especially if you've been putting it off. You are likely in your peak earning years now, so put that extra money toward your retirement, and you'll thank yourself later.

Review your investment portfolio. As you near retirement, your risk tolerance and when you plan to start taking distributions become more important. While anything could happen, you should have some idea of how many years away you are from needing to tap into your retirement funds. Let this help guide your investment decisions now.

Get rid of expensive debt. Now is the time to get serious about paying off credit card and other debt. Some debt is acceptable – if you are still paying on your home, for example – but credit card debt is expensive and shows you are living beyond your means. Rein in your spending, pay off debt and save for the future you want.



Need more guidance? Stop by your local branch to speak with a team member or visit us at [heritagefcu.com/hirs](https://www.heritagefcu.com/hirs) for more information.

DEBT CONSOLIDATION LOAN WITH HFCU?

IT JUST MAKES CENTS

rates starting as low as

7.99%^{APR*}

**\$500 MINIMUM
LOAN & TERMS UP
TO 60 MONTHS**

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A pink piggy bank is shown from the side, wearing a pair of gold-rimmed glasses. The lenses of the glasses are shaped like dollar signs (\$). The piggy bank is standing on a pink surface.

*APR is Annual Percentage Rate. Rates as low as 7.99% APR. Minimum loan amount of \$500. For applicants who intend to refinance an existing Heritage Financial Credit Union (HFCU) loan, an additional \$1,500 must be financed beyond that of the current principal balance of refinanced HFCU loan. Max loan amount of \$30,000 with 60-month term. As an example: A 60-month loan with a fixed rate of 7.99% APR would result in a payment of \$20.28 per month for each \$1,000 financed. Actual rate may vary based on creditworthiness. All rates quoted include a 0.50% reduction for members who authorize payment of their HFCU loan through an automatic electronic funds transfer, debited from any account for the life of the loan. All extensions of credit are subject to credit approval. Rate shown is the lowest offered for the loan products advertised. Applicants who are not approved for these loan rates or terms may be offered credit at a higher rate and/or with different terms. All rates are subject to change without notice. This limited-time offer may be withdrawn at any time.



7 Spring Home Maintenance Projects

There's no doubt about it – the long, grueling winter months can be hard on our homes and lawns. To keep your property in tip-top shape

and prepare for the warmer seasons ahead, complete the task list below:

1. Inspect your roof. Once the snow has melted and your roof is visible once again, it's a good idea to look it over. (View your roof with binoculars from the ground if you don't feel safe climbing up a ladder.) If you spot any cracked or loose shingles, have them repaired right away. The last thing you want is for the hot summer sun to take its toll and cause further damage.

2. Clear gutters and downspouts. Without sufficient drainage, your home may take on water in the lower level. Prevent this from happening by clearing out gutters and ensuring they're securely affixed to the house. If debris is clogging up a downspout, shoot a stream of water through it with a hose to clear the blockage.

3. Ensure windows are properly sealed. If the caulking around your windows is in poor condition, you may experience air and water leakage (which isn't ideal when facing spring rains and summer heat). Re-caulk windows if necessary, and – if you noticed condensation over the winter – consider replacing the windows entirely.

4. Clean your air conditioner. Over time, dust and debris can collect on your air conditioning unit and negatively impact its performance. Now is a great time to vacuum up dust particles and replace the filter. Even better, have a professional look over your AC unit and clean the coils to keep it running efficiently.

5. Rake the lawn and clean the deck. Think raking is just a fall activity? Think again! If you notice any leftover leaves and branches in your yard from the autumn season, rake them up now before they ruin the grass. You should also give your deck a thorough sweep and replace any damaged boards.

6. Prep outdoor furniture. Wash off your outdoor furniture items (or, at the very least, rinse them with a hose) to remove dust, insects, etc. If you have metal furniture, be on the lookout for rust or eroded paint. Repair any problem areas with a layer of spray enamel. This will protect your furniture from becoming increasingly harmed by humidity, rain, etc.

7. Maintain lawn equipment. Before you know it, you'll be outside under the warm summer sun mowing the lawn once again. But before that happens, clean your equipment and make sure your blades are sharp. If you're in need of a new piece of equipment, start researching different models now and keep your eyes open for sales.

Sources:

bobvila.com/articles/2355-spring-home-maintenance-checklist/

hgvt.com/design/decorating/clean-and-organize/10-home-maintenance-tips-for-spring-pictures

HOME PROJECTS BIGGER THAN YOU CAN CHEW?

APPLY FOR A **HELOC** WITH HFCU.

3.49%

APR* For 6 Months
Rate will adjust to a variable rate after 6 months*

OR
5.49%

APR* For 18 Months
Rate will adjust to a variable rate after 18 months*



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*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. HELOC promotional rate of 3.49% APR is fixed for the first 6 months and promotional rate of 5.49% APR is fixed for the first 18 months. After the promotional period, the rate will vary based on The Wall Street Journal "Prime" rate plus a margin, if applicable. Rates shown are lowest offered for the loan products advertised, and all extensions of credit are subject to credit approval. Actual rate may vary based on creditworthiness and down payment, if applicable. Applicants that are not approved for these loan rates or terms may be offered credit at a higher rate and/or with different terms. There are certain draw-down and balance requirements and loan-to-value restrictions which may apply. Minimum loan amount and new money requirement of \$25,000 required to qualify for these rates and terms. Appraisals required for all LTVs. Full appraisals required for 80% LTV or higher. All appraisal costs are paid by the borrower and will be reimbursed when the loan is funded. All rates quoted include a 0.50% reduction for members who authorize payment of their HFCU loan through an automatic electronic funds transfer, debited from any account. HELOCs closed out prior to their four-year anniversary date will be subject to the addition of all waived closing costs to the payoff balance. For variable-rate loans, the APR may increase after consummation. Subject to a 3.00% floor rate. The maximum APR that may be imposed is 25.00%. Other terms and conditions may apply. All rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Offer may be withdrawn at any time without notice.

Go Green!

It's a no-brainer investment!

You've probably spent plenty of time thinking about how to invest your money, but how often have you considered investing in the environment?

Global warming is a pressing issue, especially in the U.S. Although our country makes up only 4.5% of the world's population, we account for over 20% of the planet's carbon emissions! The good news is every individual has the power to drastically reduce their carbon footprint. By making small lifestyle changes today, we ultimately invest in a greener tomorrow. So treat the earth like the asset it is and start taking action!

At home:

- Install a programmable thermostat so you can set the temperature to automatically lower the heat at night and while you are away.
- Replace outdated appliances with energy-efficient models; look for appliances with an Energy Star label.
- Use the microwave instead of the oven or stove – it uses much less energy.
- Use cold water when washing your laundry. While you're at it, let your clothes air dry.
- Cut down on paper mail by signing up for e-statements.
- Ditch the paper and plastic, and shop with reusable cloth bags instead.
- Change the air filters in your heating and cooling systems regularly.

With your car:

- Carpool, rideshare or utilize public transportation.
- Bike or walk to nearby places.
- Invest in a hybrid and use 75% less gas than a traditional vehicle.
- Accelerate and drive slower to reduce fuel consumption and cost.
- Keep your vehicle well serviced to maintain an efficient engine.

At work:

- Recycle ink cartridges, computers and other office appliances.
- Print documents double-sided and recycle all paper waste.
- Bring a bag lunch and store your food in reusable containers.
- Turn off and unplug your computer every night.

If a single person can make a difference, think of the impact we all can make! Tell your family and friends about all the ways they can invest in a different kind of green.





5 Apps for Getting Organized

When it comes to getting organized, a little technology can go a long way. There are a variety of free and low-cost apps available to help you get your life in order. Check out some of our favorites:

1. Trello

With Trello, you can organize your to-do items by category, priority, date and more. Tag people who need updates or reminders, so the whole family can stay organized together.

2. Shoeboxed

This handy app stores and organizes photos of your receipts. The photos are accepted by the IRS for taxes, making Shoeboxed a lifesaver if you need to track expenses or itemize deductions.

3. Mint

Mint helps you keep track of all your bank accounts, credit cards, investments, bills and loans. With all your info in one place, it's easier to see where your money is going, create budgets and set financial goals.

4. TeuxDeux

Another to-do app, TeuxDeux's appeal is in its simplicity and beautiful design. Just list your items for the day. If you don't get something done, it automatically rolls over into the next day.

5. Heritage Mobile by HFCU

Of course, our mobile banking app is an all-time favorite! Transfer funds between accounts, pay bills, deposit checks remotely, set up account alerts and much more.

BRANCH HOURS

MON – THURS: 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

FRI: 8:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

SAT: 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

CENTRAL VALLEY

273 Route 32 (24hr ATM)

GOSHEN

117 Grand Street (24hr ATM)

MATAMORAS, PA

111 Hulst Drive (24hr ATM)

MIDDLETOWN

25 Rykowski Lane (24hr ATM)

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 South Plank Road (24hr Drive-Up ATM)

NEW PALTZ

234 Main Street, Suite 6B (24hr ATM)

SUNY New Paltz Campus – Lower Level of Haggerty

MON, WED, FRI only, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Closed TUES, THURS, SAT & SUN

(ATM in Student Union Building, available during building hours)

PINE BUSH

36 Boniface Drive (24hr ATM)

POUGHKEEPSIE

Financial Development Center, An Extension of Heritage Financial Credit Union

29 North Hamilton Street, First Floor, Suite 110 (ATM on premises)

MON – FRI, 9:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Closed daily 12:30 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

WASHINGTONVILLE

131 East Main Street (24hr ATM)




Need an ATM?

You have access to over 30,000 surcharge-free ATMs across the U.S.! **Visit sum-atm.com or TEXT a ZIP code to 91989 to find nearby ATM and shared branch locations.**



*Member must have an open checking account and activated debit card for 30 days after account opening. No minimum balance required. Minimum 0.00% APY (Annual Percentage Yield). Rates vary based on account balance. Once confirmed, member and referrer will receive \$50.00 in the form of a deposit into their HFCU savings account which will be reported as taxable income. Contact an HFCU representative for details. Business accounts are not eligible for this offer. Offer is non-transferable. Offer may change or be discontinued at any time without notice. Promo Code: 50 heritagefcu.com/refer

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