

# Commentary



Service Is Our Trademark

## Refer a friend and save together!



**April 1 through June 30, refer a friend to PTO FCU and you'll both receive a certificate worth 10 basis points off your next closed-end loan!\***

Receiving a discount is easy.

1. Tell your friends, family and co-workers about the benefits of a PTO FCU membership.
2. When your friend becomes a member, you will both receive a certificate in the mail worth 10 basis points off your next closed-end loan.
3. Bring your certificate in to PTO FCU when you open your loan and redeem your discount!

Refer as many members as you can – you'll receive a loan discount certificate once the new member opens a primary share account.

Visit [www.ptofcu.org](http://www.ptofcu.org), give us a call at (571) 272-0350 or stop by today for more information.

\*Closed-end loans included signature loans and new, used and refinanced auto loans. Members may only use one certificate per loan.

## New Funds Availability Policy

Effective February 27, 2010, the Federal Reserve reduced the time in which items deposited to your transaction account will be held. Any delay in availability of your funds will generally be until the second business day after the day of your deposit. Under certain circumstances, we may delay the availability of your funds longer, up to the seventh business day after the banking day of deposit. If we decide to delay the availability of your funds we will notify you at the time of your in-person deposit, or as soon as possible for other deposits. If you have questions or would like a copy of our funds availability policy, please contact us at 571-272-0350.



## Hey Kids! Learn Online with Ben's Friends

Ben's Friends is PTO FCU's special savings account for children 12 years of age and younger.

Because it is important for everyone to understand the importance of saving money, PTO FCU added interactive games to our Ben's Friends web site. Learning about financial responsibility is easy and fun with new Ben's Friends online activities. Help your child learn financial responsibility and



visit the Ben's Friends page today. Simply go to [www.ptofcu.org](http://www.ptofcu.org) and click on Children and Teens under the Life Stages tab.

## Annual Meeting Reminder

Join us for our annual meeting! Vote for your Board of Directors (voting will be allowed at the meeting) and learn about PTO FCU's financial standing. Enjoy a light lunch and win prizes!

**Date: April 20, 2010**

Time: 12 noon – 2:00 pm

Location:

Jefferson Building Conference Center  
Room 1D70, 1st Floor  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22134



## Holiday Closings

**Memorial Day** Monday, May 31  
**Independence Day** Monday, July 5

## Early Closings

**June 10 at 12:30** Employee Training

## Time is Running Out to Buy the Perfect Home

With home prices at historic lows, now is the perfect time to become a homeowner. Plus, you can take advantage of the \$8,000 First-time Homebuyer Tax Credit that has recently been extended until April 30, 2010. Closing must occur before June 30, 2010. Keep in mind, this may be the last opportunity to take advantage of this tax credit!



Although finding a home is a lot of work, searching for the perfect mortgage doesn't have to be. Find the mortgage products you need right here at your credit union. Unlike big mortgage lenders, we are locally owned – by you!

**This means we offer flexibility, convenience and some of the lowest rates around.**

Plus, we offer pre-approvals. So if you're curious as to how much home you can afford, visit [www.ptofcu.org](http://www.ptofcu.org) and click on Home Loans to pre-qualify.

Opportunity is knocking, so take advantage of this great time to buy a home and contact us today!

## The Store Credit Card Trap: The Simple Solution

Let's face it – it can be hard to say no to the perky retail clerks trying to coax you into signing up for their store credit cards. After all, "You'll get 10% off right then and there," along with "Valuable coupons in the mail!"

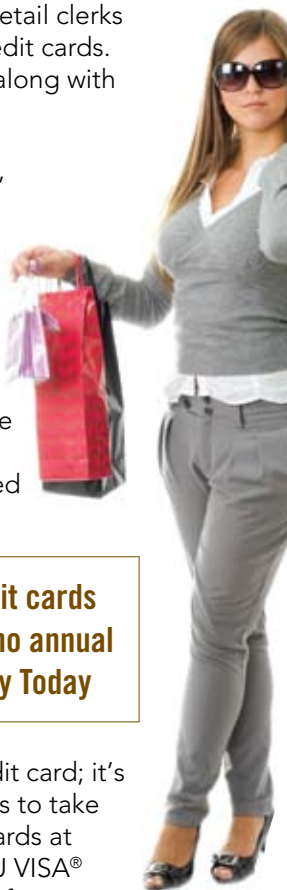
Yes, the deals are enticing. And it's so simple to do, yet the repercussions of having a teetering stack of store credit cards can land you in more financial angst than you bargained for.

While some interest rates may be at all time lows right now, most store credit card interest rates are, frankly, a big rip off – sometimes as high as 28%! It can take years to pay off such cards if you only make minimum payments, and as interest on the unpaid bills mounts daily. Plus, if you miss a payment, added surcharges mean you'll really pay the piper.

As low as **10.9% APR\*** PTO FCU offers low rate credit cards starting at 10.9% APR\* and no annual fees or hidden charges! Apply Today

Don't blame the cashier for suggesting a store credit card; it's part of their job. But your job as a savvy consumer is to take care of your finances – wisely. Instead of opening cards at every store you shop at, use your low-rate PTO FCU VISA® credit card. With a low rate of 10.9% and no annual fees or hidden charges, you can still enjoy shopping at all your favorite stores without paying outlandish interest rates.

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate based on type. Other rates available.



Our Mission: To provide our members with the highest level of quality, convenient and reliable service while maintaining financial strength.

### Savings Rates Effective March 19, 2010

Regular Share & Holiday Accounts	Rate (APR)	Yield (APY)
\$50 – \$2,499	.25%	.25%
\$2,500 +	.35%	.35%
Money Market Accounts*		
\$500.00 – \$2,499.99	.40%	.40%
\$2,500 – \$9,999.99	.50%	.50%
\$10,000 – \$24,999.99	.55%	.55%
\$25,000 +	.65%	.65%

IRA Certificate	Rate (APR)	Yield (APY)
48 Mos, \$500 min.	1.39%	1.40%

### Loan Rates

New & Used Auto Loans	Rate	Term
as low as	4.99%	60 mos
100% Financing • Other rates and terms available.		
1st Mortgage Loans	Market	
Home Equity	Prime (floor rate is 5.00%)	
Signature Loans		
as low as	12.90%	60 mos
Max. amount: \$15,000 • Other rates and terms available.		

APR=Annual Percentage Rate. APY=Annual Percentage Yield.

All share accounts' anticipated dividends are paid based on credit union earnings and are calculated daily on multiple minimum balances, compounded and paid quarterly. Funds must remain in the account until the end of the quarter to earn dividends.

\*A maximum of five withdrawals per month is allowed from a money market account. After the maximum is exceeded, a \$5 fee is charged for each additional withdrawal.

NOTE: All rates are subject to change without notice at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Visit our web site for more rates and terms.

### Did You Know?

**PTOFCU has a satellite office at:**

**Randolph Square**  
2800 S. Randolph Square Street, Room 2A60  
Arlington, VA 22206

**Contact:**  
703-933-0222 (Office) • 703-933-0002 (Fax)

**Hours of operation:**  
Tuesday and Thursdays • 10am – 2pm

**Non-cash operation:**  
24-hour advance notice for some services (Call main office for request at 571-272-0350).  
ATM located in the fourth floor lunch room.

**Stop by today and check out this convenient location!**



[www.ptofcu.org](http://www.ptofcu.org)  
1st Floor, 501 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday – Friday  
Phone: 571-272-0350 • Fax: 571-273-0190

**VISA® Check Card & ATM Important Phone Numbers**  
After hours hotline – 800-754-4128  
Card activation – 800-466-0040  
Falcon in the U.S. – 888-241-2440  
Falcon International – 909-941-1034

Commentary is a quarterly publication of your credit union. Comments should be directed to the editor, Rita Harrell. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.