

WINTER 2024

member*matters*

Supporting Our Vision and Dream

**Scholarship
Deadline is Fast
Approaching**

Deadline to apply is
Monday, March 4

**Save the Date for
2024 Annual
Meeting**

Meeting returns to an
in-person format

 **DuPont Community**
CREDIT UNION



It's Important to Prioritize Your Financial Health

A message from DCCU's President/CEO, Steve F. Elkins

The beginning of a new year is a time when many choose to reflect on the past while making commitments for the future. Finances tend to be a common focus area, whether it's establishing a budget, improving your credit score, or building an emergency fund. Because so much of the current economic landscape is outside of our control, particularly inflation and rising interest rates, it's important to focus on what can be controlled in your personal finances. Here are a few practices you can put in place to help improve your financial resilience:

Establishing a Budget

Budgeting is one of the most important financial routines you can adopt to manage your spending habits and track your expenses. It shows you where your money is going and helps you avoid spending money that you don't have. The best part – setting up a budget doesn't have to be complicated. Simply writing down what you have coming in (income) and subtracting what you have going out (expenses) is all you need to get started. There are also a variety of online applications that can do the tracking for you. Whether you choose the basic route or take a more tech-savvy approach, the main point is that you start tracking your spending.

Improving Your Credit Score

Another important component of your financial health is your credit score. The 3-digit number that typically ranges from 300-850 is used to determine your credit behavior, including how likely you are to pay your bills on time. This is one factor that creditors and lenders use when deciding to approve you for a new account or loan. Your credit score is based on payment history, credit utilization, length of credit history, credit mix, and credit inquiries. Always making your payments on time and keeping your

outstanding credit low are two ways you can help improve your credit score.

Building an Emergency Fund

Research shows that many consumers are unable to cover an unexpected expense. Things like a car repair, broken appliance, or medical bill can cause a setback in your monthly budget if you aren't prepared. This makes building an emergency fund more important than ever. To get started, determine a savings goal and then set money aside consistently. In our Online Banking platform, you can even set up automatic transfers to move money from checking into your emergency fund savings account. These are small adjustments you can make to help create a habit of saving.

Now more than ever it's important to prioritize your financial health. These foundational practices can help put you in a better position to weather economic uncertainty in 2024 and beyond. If you ever need assistance, whether it's a simple question or a more complex situation, do not hesitate to reach out to us. In addition to our dedicated employees, DCCU also has a partnership with GreenPath Financial Wellness, a non-profit organization that has been helping people improve their financial resilience for over 60 years. They have a wide variety of tools and resources to help improve your overall financial health.

DCCU remains committed to providing our members with the products, services, and guidance you need to make financial decisions that will help you reach your goals. Thank you for being a valued member of our cooperative. Your continued support allows us to serve our members and the community in relevant and timely ways.

By the Numbers

November 30, 2022

Assets	\$1,803,392,744
Savings	\$1,657,145,688
Loans	\$1,108,162,457
Members	115,674

November 30, 2023

Assets	\$1,784,608,509
Savings	\$1,627,754,723
Loans	\$1,147,053,863
Members	117,370

Member Matters is a publication of DuPont Community Credit Union.



Supporting Our Vision and Dream

In 2018, Pam Taylor and her partner, Chester Riley, embarked on a new business venture, East View Farms & Venue, a wedding and event venue located in Waynesboro, Virginia. “We recognized the need for a more affordable wedding site in this area,” said Pam. “What started as an idea to build something special for our son’s wedding and help set us up for retirement, grew into something even greater that can benefit so many families in our community.”

They decided the best move was to sell their individual properties and build the venue on a new property together. The search began to find a financial partner to help their dream become a reality. Pam and Chester were already familiar with DCCU. Pam, who also owns J & P Quality Cleaning, has trusted DCCU with her business banking needs for 30 years. “My father, John Hodge, and I started the commercial cleaning business together, and when he passed away in 2009, I was able to keep the business going,” Pam said. “From vehicle loans to direct deposit for my employees, DCCU makes it easy to do business with them.” Chester has also had positive experiences with DCCU, particularly for his mortgage needs.

For this larger endeavor, however, Pam questioned whether DCCU was the right fit. “Initially, I thought a bigger bank would provide better support for our business venture, but they turned us down. So, we reached out to DCCU to see if they could help,” said Pam. “Not only did DCCU approve the loan for the property, they also set up a line of credit at the same time. This allowed us to build out East View in one year,” Chester added.

Pam and Chester envisioned a breathtaking wedding venue that would highlight the scenic mountain views and rolling hills that make the Shenandoah Valley special. Their 45-acre farm and rustic, yet elegant barn provides the landscape and amenities that make every event held there unique. Beyond the beauty of the farm, Pam and Chester believe that service is what sets them apart from other venues. “We take great pride in what we do here,” said Chester. “We strive to create personal relationships with our clients so that we can help make the most important day of their lives special. Our goal is to take care of all the details so that they can relax and enjoy the moment.” Their service philosophy for East View Farms & Venue closely aligns with DCCU’s approach to service.

“I’ve always enjoyed banking with DCCU for my cleaning business, even though I didn’t need to come into the branch much because I managed most of my transactions through Online Banking and the ATM,” said Pam. “But once we started East View, I visited the credit union more frequently. I couldn’t believe the personal atmosphere at DCCU. When I walk into a branch, they know my name. Not only do they ask how business is doing, but they also ask about my family. That means a lot to me.”

Excited about the future, Pam and Chester know that they have a supportive partner in DCCU. “DCCU believed in our vision and supported our dream,” Pam said. “We are grateful for the relationship, and I know they will be there for us to support any needs we have in the future.”

Board of Directors Updates

Each year, the Governance Committee is tasked with preparing a slate for the upcoming election. In October, the Governance Committee presented a slate of two candidates for two open positions to the membership:



Marvin G. Copeland, Jr.



Christopher D. Terry

The “Nomination by Petition” period ended on October 31, 2023, however no petitions were received and the slate stands as presented. Since there are two candidates for two openings, no ballot is required. The candidates will begin their new three-year service terms following DCCU’s Annual Meeting.

The Board approved a recommendation from the Governance Committee for three new member volunteers:

- S. Mischelle Duprey, Associate Director
- William “Bill” D. Russell, Associate Director
- Pamela B. Adams, Associate Supervisory Committee Member

All positions are for one-year terms and each will begin their onboarding in January 2024, with terms beginning April 1, 2024.

SAVE THE DATE

2024 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 – 5:30 p.m. at the Waynesboro Best Western

DCCU’s Annual Meeting will return to an in-person format for the first time since 2019. We are excited to see our members as we share credit union updates. Please make plans to attend, and if you are unable to join us in person, a recording of the event will be made available shortly after the meeting. More details will be shared as the date approaches.

GreenPath Financial Wellness

DCCU has partnered with GreenPath to provide you with valuable financial tools to help you manage your finances and reach your goals. Services include: debt management plans, free financial counseling, online tools and education, and so much more. Take control of your financial health and contact GreenPath today!

Learn more at mydccu.com/greenpath



Free Workshop: The Basics of Retirement Planning

DuPont Community Credit Union invites you to attend a free workshop by Member Investment Services on the basics of retirement planning.

January 23 | 6 – 7 p.m.
Virtual Event

January 25 | 12 – 1 p.m.
Downtown Staunton Office
Lucy Lane Office, Waynesboro
Woodstock Office

January 25 | 6 – 7 p.m.
Kaylor Office, Harrisonburg
Windward Pointe Office, Fishersville

This workshop is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. To learn more or register, visit mydccu.com, email MISdccu@lpl.com, or call 540.946.3200.

Your Credit Union ("Financial Institution") provides referrals to financial professionals of LPL Financial LLC ("LPL") pursuant to an agreement that allows LPL to pay the Financial Institution for these referrals. This creates an incentive for the Financial Institution to make these referrals, resulting in a conflict of interest. The Financial Institution is not a current client of LPL for brokerage or advisory services.

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Not Insured by NCUA
or Any Other
Government Agency

Not Credit Union
Guaranteed

Not Credit Union
Deposits or Obligations

May Lose Value



2024 Scholarship Deadline is Fast Approaching

DCCU is committed to helping students achieve their higher education goals and will offer thirty-two \$1,000 scholarships in a variety of categories. Applicants will research how employees relate purpose to the work they do and write a 500-750 word essay in response to the following question:

Please share any personal insights or research you have about an experience where DCCU has made a positive impact on someone's financial well-being. How might this experience inspire you to pursue a career opportunity with an organization that is focused on the well-being of others to support its mission?

Visit mydccu.com/learn/scholarships to learn more and apply.

The scholarship deadline is Monday, March 4, 2024.

DCCU employees, management, volunteers, and their immediate families are ineligible.





Holiday Closings
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Saturday, 1/13 & Monday, 1/15
Washington's Birthday – Saturday, 2/17 & Monday, 2/19

Board of Directors

Angela M. Simonetti, Chair
Everett J. Campbell, Jr., Vice Chair
Drew Ellen Gogian, Secretary
Michael P. Blinn, Treasurer
Marvin G. Copeland, Jr., Director
David A. Kirby, Director
Janet P. Mangun, Director
Christopher D. Terry, Associate Director
Steve F. Elkins, President/CEO

Supervisory Committee

Bruce F. Hamrick, Chair
Eugene F. Walker, Secretary
Wesley B. Wampler, Member
Robin W. Ruleman, Member
Marissa S. Helmick, Member
Pamela B. Adams, Associate Member

Governance Committee

Marvin G. Copeland, Jr., Committee Chair
Drew Ellen Gogian, Board Director
Everett J. Campbell, Jr., Board Director
Mary Louise Yates, Member
David A. Passmore, Member

Insured by NCUA. Membership required.



Employee Spotlight

September 1 – November 30, 2023

Years of Service

40 Years – Marsha Pennington
25 Years – Barbara Cash
25 Years – Michelle Wilcher
20 Years – Karla Rankin
15 Years – Katie Bosserman
15 Years – Fabrice Finel
10 Years – Rebecca Armstrong
10 Years – Kimberly Fairchild
10 Years – Lisa Gilliam
10 Years – Brittney Jarrell
5 Years – Tyler Britt
5 Years – Savannah Fitzgerald
5 Years – Amanda Mowbray
5 Years – Courtney Painter

Promotions

Vince Adamson
Database Developer II
Gerald Casey
Retail Branch Manager
Bobby Davies
Analytical Engineer
Tony DiMarchi
Assistant Branch Manager
April Fitzgerald
Senior Member Advisor
Amber Holladay
Business Intelligence Analyst
Aaron LeVeck
Safety & Security Officer

Christie Nygaard
Senior Business Intelligence Analyst
Jon Stepp
Retail Branch Manager
Bouphan Thanousin
Senior Member Representative
Matt Walton
Senior SQL Database Administrator
Ellie Wood
Assistant Branch Manager

2023 Retirements

18 Years - Alan Christopher
10 Years - Debbie Schultz

Contact Us

P.O. Box 1365
Waynesboro, VA 22980

540.946.3200 | 800.245.8085

dccu@mydccu.com
mydccu.com

ART – Audio Response Teller

540.946.3200 x1 | 800.245.8085 x1

Lost or Stolen Debit/Credit Cards

Debit 844.231.2220
Credit 844.231.2221

Hours

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. – Noon (drive up only)

Call Center

Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. – Noon

The Supervisory Committee is your member advocate.
Contact the Committee at P.O. Box 712, Waynesboro, VA 22980