

MoneyTalk

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
FOR MEMBERS

A message from your VACU President

Dear Members,

A New Year invites us to reflect and take a look back while looking forward. Doing this, I'm reminded what a privilege it is to serve you, our members.

This past November, about 60 members and employees worked side-by-side at Shalom Farms. On that Saturday, we all got our hands dirty and completed projects to help Shalom Farms have an even bigger impact next year. Volunteering together was a powerful illustration of the cooperative spirit that drives our credit union.

Members often call or write to tell us how we're doing. Sometimes, they thank us for helping them with a loan, a new service, or for showing them a better way to manage their money. Sometimes members relate a story that shows how we could have done something better.

Both messages—the ones that make us proud and the ones that challenge us to learn—deserve our thanks. The feedback you share is vitally important.

The financial services field continues to change rapidly. Every day, new technologies are giving you more power in the palm of your hand. Virginia Credit Union has embraced those technologies because we want you to have all the tools you need to manage your money. But at the same time, we remain committed to something your mobile device can't deliver: Guidance. Counsel. Advice. The sense that we've got your back, and we want you to succeed.

Looking ahead

New Cosner East Branch. A new VACU branch in Spotsylvania County will open in a few weeks. The Cosner East branch is just a short distance from the existing Cosner's Corner branch, which will close once the new one opens. We look forward to providing you with additional services in the new location.



New card controls. I hope you will check out the new features to manage your credit and debit cards in mobile and online banking. Members can turn their cards off or on, set up fraud alerts, submit notices when planning long-distance travel, and find other self-service tools to manage your cards.

VACU Voice ID. If you've not signed up for VACU Voice ID, please call us to get started. This technology uses your own unique voice pattern to help us securely identify you when you call. It can also help protect your account by ensuring that no one else can call with your information pretending to be you.

As you think about the goals you've set for this New Year, I hope you will look to your credit union. Please let us know how we can help you and your family.

Best wishes for a successful 2019.



Chris Shockley
President/CEO

Farm the City with Shalom Farms



VACU employees and members team up for Farm the City.

Saturday, November 3, 2018, Virginia Credit Union employees and members volunteered to support the Westwood Farm at Shalom Farms.

The team completed construction of a greenhouse. In addition, they weeded, mulched, built washing and packing stations, painted garden signs, and harvested more than 300 pounds of produce.



Watch the Farm the City video recap at vacu.org/farmthecity.

Save the date!

VACU's Annual Meeting is
March 23rd

See details inside

Join us at our Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 23, 2019

**Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa
Short Pump**

12042 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23233

Your Board of Directors is pleased to announce plans for the 2019 Annual Meeting. As a member, you're an owner of your credit union, and this meeting is your opportunity to learn more about VACU.

Your Board of Directors will be elected at the meeting. Qualified members attending the business meeting are also eligible for door prizes.

For reservations, call Member Services or visit vacu.org/events.

Registration	5:00 p.m.
Business meeting	5:30 p.m.
Social time	6:30 p.m.
Seated Dinner	7:00 p.m.
Dancing	8:00—10:00 p.m.

Music by "The Janitors" Band

Dinner is \$15 per person. There is no charge to attend the business meeting and social time.

For overnight room reservations, please call the Hilton at (800) 445-8667 and request the Virginia Credit Union 2019 Annual Meeting room block to receive a discounted rate of \$149, plus tax. Hotel reservation deadline is February 28th.

The deadline for Annual Meeting reservations is March 11, 2019.



We are beaming!

Thank you to so many of our members who nominated and then voted for their credit union to be recognized in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* "Best Of."

We won for both "Best Credit Union" and "Best Financial Services Firm."

We believe we serve the best members and are so grateful for your support.

Thank you!



Taxes will be due before we know it.

It's that time of year!

2018 Tax Forms 1099-INT (for dividends earned) and 1098 (for mortgage interest paid) will be mailed to you or made available within Online Banking by February 1, 2019. These show amounts reported to the Internal Revenue Service.

Please be aware that totals on those Forms may differ from your December 31, 2018 periodic statement(s), due to such things as accounts closed during 2018.

Members can save on tax prep.

Visit our Member Discounts page to find out about discounts on tax services and more at vacu.org/discounts.

Meet your Board nominees

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following nominees for two positions on your Virginia Credit Union Board of Directors. These candidates for four-year terms will be presented and voted on by members at the Annual Meeting on March 23, 2019. In order to allow for proper evaluation of candidates, no nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Annual Meeting.

Brian K. Jackson

VACU Member Since: 2018

Credit Union / Related Experience:

Appointed as an Associate Board Member in 2018.

Employment: Partner, Hirschler Fleischer. Former vice president and general counsel for Ukrop's Super Markets, Inc.

Education: B.A. Virginia Commonwealth University; J.D. College of William and Mary Law School.

Melina Davis-Martin

VACU Member Since: 1998

Credit Union Related Experience:

Appointed as an Associate Board Member in 2018. Served on the Asset-Liability Committee as a non-voting member.

Employment: CEO & Executive Vice President, Medical Society of Virginia, 2014 – Present. Consultant, Core Management, 2010 – 2014; Founder and Executive Vice President, Plan G Holdings, 2010 – 2014.

Education: B.A., University of South Carolina; M.B.A., Virginia Commonwealth University.



2019 Youth Advancement Grant

Apply for your organization by March 15, 2019.

Last year, our Financial Education team established a \$15,000 grant to support non-profit organizations that are making a substantial difference in the lives of young people in the City of Richmond.

This competitive opportunity is awarded to a non-profit organization whose work aligns with Virginia Credit Union's focus areas of workforce training and financial education.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Non-profits in the Richmond community
- Organizations must have a 501(c)(3) tax exemption status
- Must be an established organization of at least 5 years

Find out more at vacu.org/youthgrant.



Check out *Growing Together*, our short documentary about the 2018 VACU Youth Advancement Grant winner, Church Hill Activities & Tutoring (CHAT).

▶ Visit vacu.org/youthgrant.

Interested in buying a home in 2019?

Buying a new home can be overwhelming to tackle on your own, so we've partnered with BALANCE to offer you free home ownership coaching.

The Financial Coaches at BALANCE are available to help you make sense of it all, including:

- Guidance through the home-buying process and lending requirements
- Preparing for added expenses
- Reviewing credit reports
- Setting a new household budget

Get started today on your path to home ownership at vacu.org/balance.



\$75,000 in scholarships to be awarded in 2019

VACU's Scholarship application is available now.

Apply by March 1, 2019!

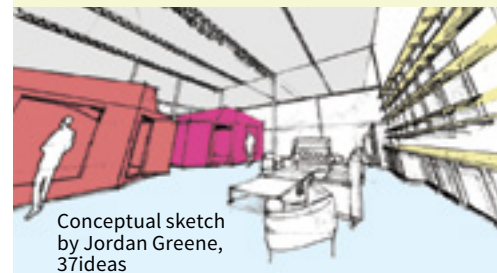
Each year we recognize student members through our scholarship program. Your credit union will award \$2,500 college scholarships to 30 members working toward their first undergraduate degree. There are no age restrictions for applicants.

To apply for the 2019–2020 academic year, a student must have joined VACU by December 1, 2018, and have his or her own credit union account.

For details and to apply online, visit vacu.org/scholarships.

BUSINESS SERVICES SUCCESS STORY:

Orbital Music Park creates space for music-makers.



Conceptual sketch
by Jordan Greene,
37ideas

With a small business loan from Virginia Credit Union and a big idea, Orbital Music Park is taking shape in Richmond near Scott's Addition.

The space includes two soundproof rooms for musicians to rent for practice or jam sessions, and each room is equipped with digital recording technology. The studio park will also include a music library and performance space where musicians can showcase their work and collaborate with other artists.

For other business success stories, visit vacu.org/stories and see how our business services team could help with your business needs.

At what age does a child need a checking account?

Kids are never too young to start learning about money and finances, but our Financial Education team believes that between the ages of 13 and 15 is a great age for young people to have their first checking account.

Here are a few tips on getting started:



Open a joint checking account with your child.

Extra Credit Checking is available to members ages 13-22. The account includes a free VACU debit card, one free box of specialty checks, earns dividends on all balances, with no minimum balance requirement and no monthly fees.

Teach your kids about debit cards and checks.

Kids may see you use debit cards or write checks but may not understand how they work or how to balance their accounts.

Introduce your kids to the tellers.

Take your kids to one of our branches and introduce them to the tellers. Let your child know that our staff is there to help answer questions.

Share the importance of financial security.

Teach them the importance of protecting their debit card and PIN, and not sharing their account information with anyone. Under your roof, you'll be able to monitor their activity and help them along the way.

Youth accounts can't be opened online, but you can bring your teen to a branch to open an account. We're here to help!

Save with discounts & mortgage rebates



Virginia CU Realty, an affiliated business of Virginia Credit Union, makes your path to buying or selling a home easier. Experienced agents work with you and for you.

You could save money too!

Get a 0.5% discount on the listing commission when you sell your home through Virginia CU Realty or a rebate* at closing when you purchase a home. Visit vacu.org/vacurealty for details.



Richmond:
(804) 267-5478
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Virginia CU Realty, LLC is a separate and distinct legal entity from Virginia Credit Union, Inc.

* Certain restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. Rebate void where prohibited.

Free financial education seminars

Take control of your finances in 2019 with free financial seminars.

Home Buyers

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Get answers to your questions and learn about buying and financing a home.

Taking Control of Your Money

Thursday, January 24, 2019

Discover effective strategies for saving money, managing spending and improving your credit. Set personal finance goals to gain peace of mind and greater control.

Financial Conversations for Couples

Thursday, February 7, 2019

There is no "right" way to handle your finances, but the combination of your money management styles may be the perfect solution to a healthy financial life together. In this workshop you'll develop a joint money strategy that incorporates your individual goals and values into one comprehensive plan. Couples are encouraged to attend together!

Each seminar is from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at VACU's Administrative Headquarters, 7500 Boulder View Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225.

For a full list of upcoming seminars and to register visit vacu.org/seminars.

We're here to help!



(804) 323-6800
(800) 285-6609



vacu.org



Visit a branch



Mobile

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY