

FALL 2022

Member Connection



Dear Member,

Your credit union is closing out its hundredth year with clarity of purpose and a highly engaged team. We continue to receive positive feedback on the new online/mobile banking application, and if you are not already using online banking, I would encourage you to sign up and give it a try. Recently, we launched a new consumer lending application that is focused on making your lending experience both efficient and convenient. We also have had great success with our Centennial Celebration, with a focus on the community and our environment. Although economic uncertainty is expected to continue into 2023, our investments over the past two years in our people, products, and technology will make us more agile to respond and adapt in any environment.

As we move into the headwinds of a challenging economy, your credit union is well positioned to manage through the uncertainty. You have a Board of Directors that prioritizes providing members with products that they can afford, an experienced team that has managed through these cycles, and a strong balance sheet built on prudent lending.

Despite any economic downturn, your credit union is stable and safe. By taking the long-term perspective that the economy is cyclical by nature, and by staying true to our philosophy and mission, we will come out on the other side even stronger. People's Credit Union has a 100-year history of understanding what it takes to weather any storm. We have your best interest at heart, and we are here for you.



Sean Daly, *President & CEO*

Locations

Bristol

50 Gooding Avenue
401.253.6500

Middletown

858 West Main Road
401.846.8930

Newport

43 Memorial Boulevard
401.846.1965

North Kingstown

7490 Post Road
401.885.9660

Portsmouth

2537 East Main Road
401.683.3166

Wakefield

150 Old Tower Hill Road
401.789.5551

You belong here

Education Center

Fraud

Mailing Voucher Scam: People's Credit Union is aware of a current mail warranty scam that is being sent with payment vouchers. This is not a legitimate offer. If you receive this or anything like it, please verify before taking any action by calling People's at 401.846.8930.

Text Message Update: As a security measure, if your People's Credit Union Debit Card has been suspected of fraud you will receive a text message asking you to verify your purchase. The verbiage of the text message is changing, and we wanted to make you aware of the update. The current and updated messaging is below. If you receive these texts, they are from People's Credit Union, and you should take the appropriate action requested.

Existing Verbiage: FreeMSG- People's Credit Union 000-555-0000: \$15.49 on card 0000 at Any Coffee House. If valid reply YES, fraud NO. To Opt Out, STOP.

Updated Verbiage: FreeMSG- People's Credit Union 000-555-0000: Reply YES or NO if you used debit card ending 0000, Any Coffee House in NJ, \$15.49. STOP to opt out.



Tips to Remember

As we move towards the holiday season, we want to bring this fraud prevention and information your way. Remember the following as you make your purchases:

- When buying online through Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and other online channels, confirm that the company you are purchasing through is reputable. Reading reviews can give you great insight into a company.
- When purchasing from an unverified seller or third-party app, use a prepaid debit card with a limited amount of funds.
- Ensure your computer has current anti-virus and security software protection.
- Never send money to someone you have not met in person, do not know well, does not live locally, or are in a war zone.

Four Signs of a Scam

1. Scammers PRETEND to be from an organization you know.

Scammers often pretend to be contacting you on behalf of the government. They might use a real name, like the Social Security Administration, the IRS, or Medicare, or make up a name that sounds official. Many pretend to be from a business you know, like a utility company, a tech company, or even a charity asking for donations.

They use technology to change the phone number that appears on your caller ID, so the name and number you see might not be real.

2. Scammers say there is a PROBLEM or a PRIZE.

Scammers might say you are in trouble with the government, or that you owe money. They may say someone in your family had an emergency, or that there is a virus on your computer.

Some scammers say there is a problem with one of your accounts and that you need to verify some information.

► For more information or to report a scam, please visit [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov).

Others will lie and say you won money in a lottery or sweepstakes but must pay a fee to get it.

3. Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately.

Scammers want you to act before you have time to think. If you are on the phone, they might tell you not to hang up so you can't check out their story.

They might threaten to arrest you, sue you, take away your driver's or business license, or deport you. They may also say your computer is about to be corrupted.

4. Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way.

Scammers often insist that you pay by sending money through a money transfer company or by putting money on a gift card and then giving them the number on the back.

Scammers will send you a check (that will later turn out to be fake), tell you to deposit it, and then send them the money.

Fraud and Student Loan Forgiveness

The Student Loan Forgiveness application is live, Studentaid.gov. The form is free and should only be completed through the official government website. Be on the lookout for companies that are charging an "application fee." These companies are not legitimate and are stealing identities with the information provided to them.

Visit these links for more information from the Federal Trade Commission:

Just the Basics → [Consumer.gov](https://www.consumer.gov)

Consumer Advice → [Consumer.ftc.gov](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov)

Stay Safe Online → [Ftc.gov/OnlineSecurity](https://www.ftc.gov/OnlineSecurity)

Business Guidance → [Business.ftc.gov](https://www.business.ftc.gov) **or** [Ftc.gov/SmallBusiness](https://www.ftc.gov/SmallBusiness)

Resources for Parents & Teachers → [Ftc.gov/KidsOnline](https://www.ftc.gov/KidsOnline)

Advice for Older Adults → [Ftc.gov/PassItOn](https://www.ftc.gov/PassItOn)



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Growing.

Earn higher returns on higher balances with our Personal Money Market.



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Partnership with URI Women's Athletics Recently Highlighted on WPRI's *The Rhode Show*

People's Credit Union is very proud to be the Official Credit Union Sponsor of The University of Rhode Island's Women's Athletics. Recently, our Marketing Manager, Courtney Hunter, and URI Women's Basketball Head Coach, Tammi Reiss, appeared on *The Rhode Show* to talk about empowering young girls through sports, connecting student-athletes and coaches to the community, and URI's Annual "Day of Giving," where a record was broken for the most money raised!

We have also been working with senior-year softball student-athlete Rachel Z., as she has put together the "PCU Go Rhody Minute" which spotlights a female student-athlete each week and what that means to them, their sport, and their teammates.

► [Check out her videos here.](#)



URI Women's Basketball Head Coach Tammi Reiss, Marketing Manager, Courtney Hunter, with WPRI's Michaela Johnson



Official Credit Union of URI Women's Athletics

Community Events



A Day of Teaching *with Diane Crosby*

As a key area of focus, providing financial literacy in the community is extremely important to People's Credit Union. Recently, our Mortgage Loan Officer, Diane Crosby, visited freshmen students at Bryant University to give a hands-on presentation on preparing to be a future homebuyer, the steps for pre-approval, how the mortgage process works, and the importance of having a healthy credit score. Diane was available for questions and advice on how doing research on the right products and services will benefit the students in the long run.

First-Time Home Buyers Prepare for Homeownership

On Wednesday, October 26th, Mortgage Loan Officers, Diane Crosby, Kari Reardon, and Don Nessing, hosted a First-Time Homebuyer presentation. Attendees were educated on the application process, the different products available, and information on how each product works. Attendees were able to ask questions about the market, borrowing rates, and what challenges the future may bring. People's Credit Union also offers a First-Time Homebuyer



product, our *Step into Your First Home Mortgage*, where a borrower receives a discounted interest rate for the first three years of the mortgage. More information on the product can be found at peoplescu.com/first-mortgage.

This First-Time Homebuyer's seminar is the first in a series of events to come. Please check peoplescu.com for future events and information or call to speak with a Mortgage Loan Officer at 401.846.8930.



TRIVIA NIGHT!



On Wednesday, October 19th, employees from People's met at Ragged Island Brewing Co. for the Annual Trivia Night. Thirteen teams took on one another and battled for the championship and a few prizes as they competed about music, history, local attractions, public figures, and more! Trivia Night has been an employee fan favorite for many years! Thank you to everyone who participated. Congratulations to our winning team, well done. Thank you to Becky's BBQ for the food and our memebrr Ragged Island for their beautiful venue.



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Studio 10

People's Credit Union Teams up with Studio 10



Diane Crosby, Mortgage Loan Officer, was on Studio 10, WJAR, to talk about being a first-time home buyer in today's market, and how People's Credit Union can help you with the process.
▶ *To learn more watch her interview here.*



Erine Lewis, Risk Manager, was also on Studio 10 and discussed different types of fraud, including financial elder exploitation, and how to protect yourself from it.
▶ *To learn more watch her interview here.*



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Centennial Year Programs



Centennial Fall Coat Drive

October 31st – November 21st

People's Credit Union is accepting donations of new and gently used clean coats and winter accessories for adults and children to benefit the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Centennial Time Capsule + Essay & Drawing Contest

As part of our year-long Centennial Celebration, People's Credit Union is creating a Centennial Time Capsule to commemorate this milestone. The time capsule will be sealed in January of 2023.

We are inviting members to be a part of this history by contributing items to the Capsule. We will be collecting items through December 31, 2022. Objects donated should represent a snapshot of what you love about either People's Credit Union or the community you live in for future generations to discover. Suggested items could include: photos, promotional items, invitations, local menus, newspaper clippings, advertisements, coins, recipes, or even

personal messages. Length, width, and height limitations for contents will be considered, but items should not be wider than twelve inches and should not include hair, rubber, wool, food items, plants, or other living things.

Please note that items submitted will not be returned. Once the item is donated, the Centennial Committee will decide which items collectively represent the best variety to be included in the time capsule. To submit an item, please fill out this form and drop it off along with the item at: People's Credit Union, 858 West Main Rd., Middletown, RI 02842
Attention: Marketing Department

Essay & Drawing Contest

We are also looking to highlight the talent of our youth. Students in grades K-8 are invited to participate in an Essay & Drawing Contest. Winners will receive the honor of their essay or artwork placed into the Centennial Time Capsule!

Students may choose to write or create a drawing on the following topics:

1. What do you think your hometown will look like one hundred years from now?
2. Write a letter/create a drawing for somebody in the future describing what is like to be a young person in 2022.

Essay & Drawing Contest Entries

- Essays and drawings must include the participant's and parent's name, phone number, email address, and the selected topic written on the front or back of the submission.

- Essays can be up to one hundred words and can be hand-written or typed.
- The medium of art is drawing (use of paint is allowed).
- The maximum size limit for artwork is 12 x 12. Anything larger can not be accepted, as it may not fit in the time capsule.

Judging

Entries will be judged by employees of People's Credit Union. Winners will be selected based upon grade-appropriate skills, creativity, content, and presentation of their chosen topic.

Please note: essay and artwork submissions will not be returned. All submissions may be displayed in our branches.

All entries must be received by Friday, December 16, 2022. Essay entries may be submitted by email to communications@peoplescu.com. Both essays and artwork may be submitted in person at: People's Credit Union, 858 West Main Rd., Middletown, RI 02842 *Attention: Marketing Department*

MEMBER VIDEO

As we continue to celebrate People's

Credit Union's 100th year of service to its members and the community, we are reaching out to our loyal members to help us put together a video to commemorate these years!

We are looking for members to use their cell phones to record a 15-30 second video with a good memory or story about People's Credit Union or if you would like to wish us a happy 100 years. The video can be about a branch you visit, an event where People's Credit Union supported the

community, or a time when People's was able to go above and beyond with service. We will then hope to piece the clips together to share these memorable moments and personal sentiments.

If you and your family would like to help us, bring this project to life, please feel free to film your video clip and send it to communications@peoplescu.com by Friday, November 18th.



VIDEO REQUIREMENTS
Content (story/memory)
Vertical format
15 to 30 seconds

#PAINTITFORWARD *with Centennial Shells*



Kee an eye out, you never know when you might spot one of our Centennial Shells. People's Credit Union partnered with local senior centers to create the People's Credit Union Centennial Shell Program as part of its 100th-anniversary celebration. The program provided seniors with the opportunity to tap into their artistic talents by individually hand-painting the outside of seashells that have been placed around the Credit Union's six branch markets on Aquidneck Island and in the East/West Bay regions. On the inside of the shells is a gratitude message of, "Keep It, Gift It, or Hide Again," providing the lucky discoverer with three options to: "Keep It" and redeem the shell for a \$10 Shop Greater Newport Gift Card; "Gift It" and give the shell to someone else to redeem, or "Hide Again" simply directing the discoverer to place the treasure shell somewhere else for the next lucky person to find. Should the discoverer choose



to "Keep It" or "Gift It," the shell can then be redeemed at any People's Credit Union branch for a Shop Greater Newport Gift Card (details on the Shop Greater Newport program and participating merchants can be found at <https://shopgreaternewport.com/>).

The shell painting activities were held over the summer at Newport's Edward King House, the Benjamin Church Senior Center in Bristol, and North Kingstown's Senior Center. The program's overall objective was to engage everyone involved—seniors, local merchants, and volunteers—in an expression of gratitude by paying it forward in some way for another's benefit. Follow along on social media for hints on locations and for photos as shells are found! #Peoples100th #paintitforward

Shred-it Brings Safety to the People's Community

On Saturday, October 29th, People's Credit Union partnered with Shred-it® at the Middletown Branch to help keep our community safe from fraud and scams by shredding loose paperwork. Locals came by with old bank and credit card statements, financial information, mail, documents, and more. The free half-day event was an opportunity to destroy unneeded paperwork containing confidential or sensitive information. People's Credit Union also had information available on how to protect yourself from financial frauds and scams. Shred-it® is the leading document destruction service. Shred-it® uses cross-cutting shredding technology to destroy your confidential information. Securely shredding documents can play an important role in safeguarding against identity theft.



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