

# MEMBER NOTES

News for Members of Michigan Educational Credit Union

DECEMBER 2016



## A GOOD INVESTMENT STRATEGY IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

Our financial consultants can help you select a suitable investment plan to address your individual goals and objectives.

- Retirement Planning
- Financial Planning
- Rollovers
- IRAs
- 401(k) & 403(b)

*For a no-obligation, complimentary consultation and a free review of investment programs, contact MECU Financial*

Located at Michigan Educational Credit Union

(734) 416-5025  
OR  
(734) 416-5029

Serving All MECU Locations



Tom Pilch, MBA Financial Consultant  
Bill Knudsen Wealth Advisor



Securities offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC. Insurance products offered through LPL Financial or its licensed affiliates. Michigan Educational Credit Union and MECU Financial are not registered broker/dealers and are not affiliated with LPL Financial.

Not NCUA Insured.  
Not Credit Union Guaranteed.  
May Lose Value.

## Need A Little Help For The Holidays?



The holidays can take a toll on your wallet. Fortunately, MECU can help lighten your load with our 6.95% APR\* Holiday Helper Loan.

This affordable signature loan allows you to borrow up to \$10,000 for up to 60 months at a low 6.95% APR. Use it to purchase gifts, finance holiday travel, finish a few projects around the house, and more.

This special offer ends December 31, 2016, so make your loan request today! Contact the Loan Department at any MECU office or go to [www.michedcu.org](http://www.michedcu.org) to apply online.

\* Annual Percentage Rate effective November 1 through December 31, 2016. Holiday Helper Loan not available for refinancing existing MECU loans. Qualification for unsecured credit required.

## New Ways To Pay With MECU Credit Cards!

We are pleased to announce new mobile payment options for all MECU credit cards, including our Visa Classic, MasterCard, Visa Gold and Visa Platinum. You can now use your MECU credit cards with Apple Pay™, Android Pay™ and Samsung Pay™. Once you're enrolled in your chosen mobile payment platform, you can make purchases and check out with the simple touch of a finger.

These mobile payment options are easy to use and work with the devices that you use every day. Because your credit card information isn't shared with the merchant, it is the safer, more private way to pay. Mobile payments are accepted at many retail stores, restaurants, hotels and other places you frequent.

Although this feature is currently limited to MECU credit cards, we will be adding this option to the MECU Debit Card very soon! For the latest information, go to [www.michedcu.org](http://www.michedcu.org).

\* Apple Pay™ is a trademark of Apple, Inc. Android Pay™ is a trademark of Google, Inc. Samsung Pay™ is a trademark of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.

## Opening New MECU Accounts Is About To Get A Lot Easier!

Soon MECU will introduce an exciting new way to open accounts and apply for loans online 24 hours-a-day.

This simple new process

will allow you to open new share savings accounts, club accounts, share certificates and draft/checking accounts without visiting a branch. At

the same time, our online loan application will be streamlined to provide faster approvals.

Watch for details in the coming weeks at [www.michedcu.org](http://www.michedcu.org)!

## Tom Pilch To Retire After 22 Years At MECU

The man who has helped so many of our members plan for retirement is announcing his own official retirement as of December 31, 2016.

Tom Pilch has worked as a personal financial planner helping individuals reach their financial goals since 1983. He earned his MBA in 1984 and completed his education in the industry by obtaining the CFP designation through the College for Financial Planning in 1992. Tom began offering his professional services at Michigan Educational Credit Union in 1994. Ten years later, his wife Linda came on board as his assistant at the Credit Union after retiring from her position at Ameritech.

Although Tom and Linda will be greatly missed, you can rest assured that MECU will continue to provide financial management and investment services to our members through our relationship with MECU Financial.

We all extend our best wishes to Tom and Linda as they start an exciting new chapter of their lives.



## How To Give Wisely

If you're going to give, it makes sense to do it intelligently and for the right reasons. Here are four steps to making sure your hard-earned money goes to a cause that reflects your values and will have the most impact.

**Step 1: Research the organization asking you for money.** Have you heard of the website Charity Navigator? This site rates charities based on many criteria, like CEO salary, percent of money directly benefiting those in need, and dollars raised per year. Taking these into consideration, Charity Navigator assigns a grade to different organizations.

**Step 2: Think about why you're donating.** The only reason you should donate to any organization is because you believe in its mission. If you're doing it because you feel pressured by your employer to give, or because you've been receiving a lot of sales pitches from the organization, it's okay to opt out, especially if you simply don't believe in the mission. That money can be put to use in a better way for an organization you actually do support.

**Step 3: Consider donating your time instead.** Organizations do need money to function; that's just a given. But they also need volunteers. It's so important to know the difference between charity and philanthropy. Donating your time can be very rewarding, as you meet new people and actually get to see the fruits of your labor. If you simply can't afford a donation, donate your time.

**Step 4: Give from the heart.** If you decide you're ready to donate your money, be proud of your decision. Know that you've made it through a clutter of companies fighting for your money with marketing campaigns, guilt tactics, and tax benefits. If it doesn't feel right, it isn't. Giving from your heart will make the most impact for everyone.

It's easy to feel cynical when someone asks you for money. But giving should feel good and be based on your own personal beliefs, not on what someone else thinks is right for you.

## Safe Deposit Box Fees Reminder

If you have a safe deposit box with MECU that was opened prior to January 31, 2011, please be advised that annual rental fees will be due in January. These non-refundable fees will transfer automatically from your Share Savings account on January 31, 2017. Watch your mail for more information.

If you opened a safe deposit box after January 31, 2011 (when our System Upgrade was complete), your annual rental fees will be automatically deducted from your account on the anniversary date each year.

MECU still has safe deposit boxes available to rent at our Livonia office. The annual rental fees range from \$25 to \$85, depending on the size of the box. If you are interested in obtaining a box, please contact Member Services at our Livonia office at **(734) 261-1050**.

## Support Toys For Tots

MECU is accepting toy donations on behalf of the U.S. Marine Corps and their annual Toys for Tots program. Their goal is to distribute toys to millions of economically disadvantaged children across the United States this holiday season. To make a contribution, please drop off your new, unwrapped toy donations (preferably not stuffed toys) at any MECU office by December 15.

## Holiday Closings

### Christmas

Monday, December 26, 2016

### New Year's

Monday, January 2, 2017

**Happy Holidays from the  
Official Family, Management & Staff of  
Michigan Educational Credit Union!**



**Website:** [www.michedcu.org](http://www.michedcu.org)  
**E-Mail:** [general@michedcu.org](mailto:general@michedcu.org)

**Toll-Free Phone:**  
(888) 261-3355  
(Outside Metro Detroit area)

**Office Hours:**  
9:30-5:30 Monday-Friday

**Phone Service:**  
9:15-5:30 Monday-Friday

**Plymouth Office:**  
9200 Haggerty Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
Phone: (734) 455-9200

**Livonia Office:**  
14921 Middlebelt Road  
Livonia, MI 48154  
Phone: (734) 261-1050

**Ann Arbor Office:**  
4141 Jackson Boulevard  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
Phone: (734) 761-7505

**Brighton Office:**  
123 Brighton Lake Road,  
Suite 102 (in Pinehollow Place)  
Brighton, MI 48116  
Phone: (810) 494-6000

**Royal Oak Office:**  
1903 Rochester Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48073  
Phone: (248) 399-7473

**Macomb Office:**  
47230 Hayes Road  
Macomb, MI 48044  
Phone: (586) 566-5599

**CO-OP Shared Branch &  
Surcharge-Free ATM Locations**  
Toll-free locator: (888) SITE-CO-OP  
[www.allco-op.org](http://www.allco-op.org)

**Mortgages:**  
Plymouth: (734) 416-5076  
Livonia: (734) 261-6550  
Ann Arbor: (734) 761-7505

**Financial Services:**  
Plymouth: (734) 416-5025  
Livonia: (734) 261-1050  
Ann Arbor: (734) 761-7505  
Brighton: (810) 494-6000  
Royal Oak: (248) 399-7473  
Macomb: (586) 566-5599



## Auto Loan Rates As Low As...

2017s/2016s/2015s/2014s/2013s

**1.75% APR\*** 12 Months\*\*   **1.75% APR\*** 48 Months\*\*   **2.75% APR\*** 72 Months\*\*

**1.75% APR\*** 24 Months\*\*   **1.75% APR\*** 60 Months\*\*   **3.25% APR\*** 84 Months\*\*  
(Min. \$25,000 loan for 84 month term)

**1.75% APR\***  
36 Months\*\*

2012s/2011s/2010s

**2.75% APR\***  
Up to 60 Months\*\*

2009s & OLDER

**5.75% APR\***  
Up to 48 Months\*\*



**Call the Loan Department for details!**  
Plymouth 734-455-9200 • Livonia 734-261-1050  
Ann Arbor 734-761-7505 • Brighton 810-494-6000  
Royal Oak 248-399-7473 • Macomb 586-566-5599

### WEBSITE

Make your loan request or use our loan calculator at [www.michedcu.org](http://www.michedcu.org).

### PRE-APPROVAL

Get pre-approved to put you in a better position to negotiate at the dealership.

### COLLEGE GRAD DISCOUNT

2015 and 2016 graduates can save .25% off MECU's current 2017s/2016s auto loan rates. Ask for details.

\* Annual Percentage Rates effective as of December 1, 2016, and are subject to change. Rates based on approved credit and credit union relationship. Rates not available on existing MECU loans.

\*\* Repayment Term

## Deposit Account Rates

All percentages expressed as Annual Percentage Yields (APYs)

SHARE SAVINGS ACCOUNT  
**.15% APY**

DRAFT/CHECKING ACCOUNT  
**.05% APY**  
Share Savings and Draft/Checking Accounts earn interest with a \$5 minimum balance.

INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT  
**.30% APY**

MECU reviews and may adjust deposit account rates monthly. Annual percentage yields shown above are for December 2016. Call the Credit Union for current rates on our Share Certificates.