

EXPERIENCE FINANCIAL FREEDOM



# AmeriNews

Financial News and Information

Winter 2010

## Saving for Your Retirement Is Easy With an IRA!



With an IRA at AmeriCU, you can enjoy a variety of investment options to meet long, medium or short-term needs. Make an informed decision about your retirement with complete descriptions of Traditional and Roth IRAs, and Coverdell ESAs (Education Savings Accounts).

Visit our easy-to-use IRA Service Center at [www.americu.org/savings.cfm](http://www.americu.org/savings.cfm) and click on the IRA Service Center link to:

- Learn About IRAs
- Plan Your Retirement
- Open an IRA
- Service an Existing IRA

1.800.388.2000 • [americu.org](http://americu.org)

Now is the time to start your Holiday and Vacation Club Accounts for 2010.

*Open and fund your account online at [www.americu.org](http://www.americu.org).*



## Cash for College - Apply Now!

AmeriCU will award up to ten \$1,000 scholarships to members who are either high school seniors or continuing college students. AmeriCU scholarships are open to all primary members\* who will attend an accredited college, university or other institution of higher learning on a full-

time basis during the 2009 – 2010 academic school year. Applications are available online at [www.americu.org/scholarship.cfm](http://www.americu.org/scholarship.cfm) and in all branch offices. The deadline to apply is February 1, 2010.

As an AmeriCU member, you can also apply for a scholarship from the **Credit Union Association of New York**. This is a separate scholarship program and requires a separate application to qualify for a scholarship of \$1,000 or \$500. The deadline for completed applications for this scholarship is January 22, 2010.

To find out more or download an application for either scholarship program, visit [www.americu.org/scholarship.cfm](http://www.americu.org/scholarship.cfm).

At AmeriCU, we believe it pays to invest in education. Don't miss out on your chance to get *"cash for college"*!

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\*Excluding employees, directors, committee members, volunteers and their immediate families.

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## The Secret is Out... Our Platinum VISA® is Simply Better

Take a closer look at the **Platinum VISA Card** with rewards, from AmeriCU. It's the perfect fit for your budget and your lifestyle. With our Platinum VISA Card you can enjoy:

- A low rate of only **7.90%APR\*** on purchases and balance transfers
- No annual fee, transfer balance fee or cash advance fee
- Secure, free online access, 24/7
- Rewards with no fee.



Our Platinum VISA Card lets you earn one CUREwards™ point for each dollar in purchases or balance transfers!

Our Platinum VISA is simply better. Visit [http://www.americu.org/pdf/cc\\_app.pdf](http://www.americu.org/pdf/cc_app.pdf) for an application to apply today!

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\*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) current as of 1/1/10 and is subject to change without notice. Credit card approval is subject to review. All normal underwriting guidelines will be followed.

ezTaxReturn.com

## E-Z Tax Filing!

Using simple yes-no questions, **ezTaxReturn.com** walks you step-by-step through 5 sections including personal information, income, expenses, taxes/credits and finally, e-file. It takes about 30 minutes, and you can

receive your refund in as early as ten business days if you choose **direct deposit** to your AmeriCU account. The AmeriCU routing number is: **221375802**. Filing your 2009 Tax Returns is **just \$24.95**.

To take advantage of this special price, just visit us online at [americu.org](http://americu.org) and click on the **ezTaxReturn.com** web link or at [www.ezTaxReturn.com/americu](http://www.ezTaxReturn.com/americu).

Step through an online demonstration illustrating the typical screens you'll encounter and the simple questions asked. There's no software to download, no forms and no math! What's the best feature? New users can try it for free and pay when you decide to print or e-file.

## Online Defense Driving Classes Available!



AmeriCU is pleased to introduce Online Defensive Driving Classes providing another e-service to our members.

Save on your auto insurance and reduce points (if you have them) from your drivers license. Simply log onto <http://www.safetycourses.com> and enter **Code BZX** to receive a **\$10 discount** off the \$49.95 cost of the class.

## Federal Reserve Bank Makes Check Processing Changes

The check-processing operations of the head office of the **Federal Reserve Bank (FRB)** of Philadelphia were reassigned to the head office of the FRB of Cleveland on **December 12, 2009**. Checks which had been considered "non-local" may now be considered local and subject to a shorter hold period.

If you are unsure of the "hold time" for a check you are depositing, please check our funds availability schedule by referencing the "bank routing number", which are the first group of numbers (second group if a business check) on the bottom of a check. The following numbers now have a two day hold, per Federal Reserve restructuring:

0220; 0223; 0410; 0412; 0420; 0421; 0422;  
0423; 0430; 0432; 0433; 0434; 0440; 0441;  
0442; 0515; 0519; 0710; 0711; 0712; 0719;  
0720; 0724; 0730; 0739; 0740; 0749; 0750;  
0759; 0813; 0830; 0839; 0863; 0910; 0911;  
0912; 0913; 0914; 0915; 0918; 0919; 0920;  
0921; 0929; 0960; 1010; 1011; 1012; 1019;  
1020; 1021; 1022; 1023; 1030; 1031; 1039;  
1040; 1041; 1049; 1070; 1110; 1111; 1113;

1119; 1120; 1122; 1123; 1130; 1131; 1140;  
1149; 1163; 1210; 1211; 1212; 1213; 1220;  
1221; 1222; 1223; 1224; 1230; 1231; 1232;  
1233; 1240; 1241; 1242; 1243; 1250; 1251;  
1252; 2220; 2223; 2410; 2412; 2420; 2421;  
2422; 2423; 2430; 2432; 2433; 2434; 2440;  
2441; 2442; 2515; 2519; 2710; 2711; 2712;  
2719; 2720; 2724; 2730; 2739; 2740; 2749;  
2750; 2759; 2813; 2830; 2839; 2863; 2910;

2911; 2912; 2913; 2914; 2915; 2918; 2919;  
2920; 2921; 2929; 2960; 3010; 3011; 3012;  
3019; 3020; 3021; 3022; 3023; 3030; 3031;  
3039; 3040; 3041; 3049; 3070; 3110; 3111;  
3113; 3119; 3120; 3122; 3123; 3130; 3131;  
3140; 3149; 3163; 3210; 3211; 3212; 3213;  
3220; 3221; 3222; 3223; 3224; 3230; 3231;  
3232; 3233; 3240; 3241; 3242; 3243; 3250;  
3251; 3252.

