



# expressions

FIRST QUARTER 2021

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## Your Cure for After-Holiday Debt Discomfort

The presents have been opened, and the holiday magic is officially a memory. Now comes the challenging part – paying off your mounting debt.

Save yourself both money and stress by transferring your high-interest credit card balances to an LVECU Platinum or Prestige Visa® credit card.

**You'll save even more with an LVECU card.**

You'll pay:

- NO Balance Transfer Fees
- NO Transaction Fee
- NO Minimum Finance Charge



### Experience the Savings

Example of potential savings for Visa Prestige

Current Balance	Interest Rate (APR)*	Monthly payment	# of payments	Total Interest Paid
\$5,000	15%	\$150	44	\$1,188
\$5,000	2.49% (first 12 months) 6.25% (remaining months)	\$150	36	\$321



**YOU SAVE:**  
**\$867**  
and pay off your card  
**8 months faster!**

This special offer expires March 31, 2021.

**Apply online or pick up a balance transfer form in one of our branches.**

**For more information, go to [lvecu.org](http://lvecu.org) or call 610.820.0145, ext. 503.**

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate subject to change without notice. Not available on current LVECU credit card balances, and not all applicants will qualify. 2.49% APR promotional rate valid on balance transfers received between 1/1/2021 and 3/31/2021. Rate reverts to regular balance transfer rate of 6.25% APR, subject to change, on any unpaid balance transfers beginning April 2022. 🏠

## Important Information About Your IRA

**April 15, 2021**, is the last day to make Traditional or Roth IRA deposits for the 2020 tax year. Your contribution to a Traditional IRA could reduce your taxable income by the amount of the contribution and reduce the amount you owe in taxes. If you owe money on your tax return, check to see if opening an IRA or contributing to your existing IRA will reduce that burden. *Why not pay yourself before you pay the government?*

When mailing IRA deposits, always indicate the tax year for which you would like the deposit contributed. Statements for IRA balances will be mailed by May 31, 2021. 🏠

3720 Hamilton Boulevard  
Allentown, PA 18103-4503  
Phone: 610-820-0145  
Toll Free: 1-800-800-2311  
Fax: 610-435-5250



Federally Insured by NCUA

# Contact Us

## Main Office

3720 Hamilton Boulevard  
Allentown, PA 18103-4503  
610-820-0145  
Toll Free: 1-800-800-2311  
Fax: 610-435-5250

## Schnecksville Branch

4031 Independence Drive  
Schnecksville, PA 18078-0399  
610-820-0145  
Fax: 610-799-2109

## Temporary Hours

Monday 9:00 am-5:00 pm  
Tuesday 9:00 am-5:00 pm  
Wednesday 9:00 am-5:00 pm  
Thursday 9:00 am-6:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm  
Saturday *Closed during COVID-19*

ART (Audio Response Teller): 610-820-0292  
Toll Free: 1-888-278-3100

## Visa Credit Card

**Account Information:**  
1-800-433-0505 or [www.EZCardinfo.com](http://www.EZCardinfo.com)

**Report Lost/Stolen Card:**  
During regular LVECU business hours –  
610-820-0145, ext. 503  
Toll Free: 1-800-433-0505  
(M-F 8:00 am-10:00 pm)

After regular business hours –  
1-833-311-0082

## Visa Check Card/ATM Card

**Report Lost/Stolen Card:**  
During regular LVECU business hours –  
610-820-0145, Toll Free: 1-800-800-2311

After regular business hours –  
ART: 610-820-0292  
1-800-554-8969

## Website

[www.lvecu.org](http://www.lvecu.org)

## Board Members

William Ayers, *President*  
Gary Fedorcha, *Vice President*  
Eugenia Emert, *Secretary/Treasurer*  
Daniel Y. Joseph      Gary E. Phillips  
Sherri Molitoris      Ryan VanNorman  
Dennis Nemes      Daniel Weaver

## Annual Meeting

The LVECU Annual Meeting takes place in March. A virtual meeting will be held, and the details for the meeting will be available on our website and emailed to all members who have an email address on file. 📧

## Kirby Kangaroo and CYY

Congratulations to our \$100 CYY Third Quarter Drawing winner, Kaisyn Carswell. All you need to do is enter whenever you visit the credit union, and you could be our next \$100 winner! 📧

## Inclement Weather

Due to inclement weather, the credit union may adjust its hours of operation during the winter months.

Before heading out on the road, please call the credit union office, check the website or Facebook page, or log on to the WFMZ website for the most up-to-date closing information. 📧

## Giving Back

Thank you to everyone who helped us decorate our Christmas trees with hats, scarves, gloves, etc.

Your generously donated items will benefit homeless families of the Lehigh Valley this winter season. 📧



## Real Estate and Investment Scams

Investment scams lure you in with promises of teaching you how to make a lot of money quickly, easily, and with low risk — usually by investing in the financial or real estate markets.

Sometimes starting with a free seminar, the scammers later will charge you a hefty fee for their “proven” investment tricks. But the real tricks are the lies they tell you.



**Use the link below to get information on:**

- Real Estate Investment Seminar Scams
- Precious Metals and Coins Investment Scams
- How to Avoid Investment Scams
- How to Research Investment Opportunities
- Where to Report Investment Scams

Visit: [www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/real-estate-and-investment-scams](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/real-estate-and-investment-scams) 📧

# How to Avoid a Scam

Recognizing these common signs of a scam could help you avoid falling for one. Here are four signs someone is trying to scam you:

## 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. Some 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's a **PROBLEM** or a **PRIZE**.

They might say you're in trouble with the government. Or you owe money. Or someone in your family had an emergency. Or that there's a virus on your computer.

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

Others will lie and say you won money in a lottery or sweepstakes but have to 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're 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 might say your computer is about to be corrupted.

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

They 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.

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

Source: [www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-avoid-scam#signs](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-avoid-scam#signs) 📄



Security Summit Partners Warn Taxpayers of

## New COVID-Related Text Scam

IR 2020 249, November 4, 2020

WASHINGTON The Internal Revenue Service, state tax agencies, and the tax industry have warned of a new text scam created by thieves that trick people into disclosing bank account information under the guise of receiving an Economic Impact Payment.

The IRS, states, and industry, working together as the Security Summit, remind taxpayers that neither the IRS nor state agencies will ever text taxpayers asking for bank account information so that an EIP deposit may be made.

"Criminals are relentlessly using COVID 19 and Economic Impact Payments as cover to try to trick taxpayers out of their money or identities," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "This scam is a new twist on those we've been seeing much of this year. We urge people to remain alert to these types of scams."

An upcoming series of press releases will emphasize the illegal schemes and techniques businesses and individuals use to avoid paying their lawful tax liability.

Source: [www.irs.gov/newsroom/security-summit-partners-warn-taxpayers-of-new-covid-related-text-scam](http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/security-summit-partners-warn-taxpayers-of-new-covid-related-text-scam) 📄







## Holiday Closings

LVECU will be closed during the following holidays:

**Monday, January 18** – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Monday, February 15** – Presidents Day

Remember that e-Tran Online Banking, Bill Pay, Mobile Banking, and ART are available when the credit union offices are closed.

## 2021 UPCOMING EVENTS

- **APRIL** – National Credit Union Youth Month
- **SATURDAY, MAY 22** – Shred Day

## ASD HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH ITEM OF THE MONTH

Please bring donations to either office.

**January:** Hair Care – Hairbrushes, Hair Ties, Combs, Barrettes, etc.

**February:** Dental Care – Toothpaste, Dental Floss, Mouthwash, etc.

**March:** First Aid – Band-Aids®, Small First Aid Kits, Antiseptic, etc.



3720 Hamilton Boulevard  
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# 2021 Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted!

LVECU will once again be offering ten \$1,000 scholarships! Applicants must be a member in good standing for at least 12 months (custodial accounts and joint owners do not qualify) and be enrolled full-time for the upcoming semester as a student of an undergraduate program or a minimum two-year course of study at a community college, trade school, or technical school. The winners will receive their scholarship funds following the fall 2021 semester, provided they meet the scholarship guidelines. Please visit our website for complete details. Applications will be accepted through January 31, 2021. 

