LOCAL PRESENTING CO-SPONSOR



# SHARELINES

YOUR ALLEGACY NEWSLETTER

2nd Quarter - 2013



Be mortgage free sooner

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Complimentary financial planning

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Smart credit card options

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## A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

If there's one phrase we hear all the time, it's, "I didn't know Allegacy did that!" You may have been surprised to learn all we offer while reading Sharelines, talking with a Member Service Representative or catching one of our TV, billboard or lobby ads.

While there are always new and exciting things to discover about Allegacy, this reaction also comes from the fact that Allegacy is just downright different — in a good way. It's hard enough to understand what a credit union is, much less how a credit union can offer everything that banks do (plus a whole lot more), all while doing it at higher yields, lower interest rates and with better customer service.

You don't have to understand how we do what we do. Just know that Allegacy offers everything you need from a financial partner, and we do it all with your best interests in mind. For example, unlike most banks, Allegacy offers qualified applicants up to 100% of their available equity, helping you take full advantage of money that's already yours.

What does this mean for you? Well, if you need to borrow money for any

number of reasons, Allegacy can help you maximize your borrowing power. We have a range of options, too, including fixed rate home equity loans and interest-only equity lines of credit, that enable you to turn the equity in your home into a smart source of financing that can help you achieve your goals.

You could use an equity loan to consolidate and pay down high-interest debt or to finance large, one-time expenses, like home improvement projects or weddings. An equity line of credit is a perfect way to pay for large, recurring expenses, like college tuition or medical bills. Or you could just keep an equity line of credit open as an emergency source of financing.

No matter the financial obstacle you're facing, we can help you choose the right equity product to fit your needs. 🖗

Visit AllegacyFCU.org to learn how you can turn your home into a source of low-interest financing with an equity loan or line of credit.



Auto rates as low as 1.99% APR

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#### **AUTO LOAN RATES**

now as low as



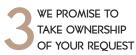
Allegacy helps you save more with a great, low rate on a new, used or refinanced auto loan.

 $\sim$  SEE page five for more details  $\sim$ 





WE PROMISE TO TREAT YOU WITH THE RESPECT DESERVING OF AN OWNER WE PROMISE TO FIND WAYS TO OFFER SIMPLICITY AND CONVENIENCE



MORTGAGE REFINANCING

## Life without a mortgage? Now, that's different.

Living mortgage-free is a concept that many of us can hardly fathom. Yet for others, it's among the top priorities in life. Paying off your mortgage can be a lot easier than you realize, thanks to Allegacy.

As part of our unique approach to helping members achieve their dreams in life, we've created a convenient refinancing product — fittingly named "The Mortgage Eliminator Loan" — that is designed to help you save more money on your mortgage right away and realize your goal of living mortgage-free even faster.

If you have a balance of \$750,000 or less on your primary or vacation residence and are

looking to pay off

Benita Howell

Loan Interviewer, Westbrook Financial Center your mortgage sooner or reduce your monthly payments, then the Mortgage Eliminator Loan could be perfect for you.

When you refinance to the Mortgage Eliminator Loan, you'll lock in a fixed interest rate that's as low as 2.99% APR\* for the life of the loan, which can be terms of up to 7, 8, 9 or 10 years. There are little to no closing costs, and the application process is quick and easy. You can even apply online. Not only do you avoid the hassle and expense that are typically associated with mortgage refinancing, but you could also secure a much lower interest rate than other financial institutions are offering. Our low rate may help reduce your monthly payments, in addition to lowering the total amount of interest you pay over the life of the loan.  $\[mathbb{N}\]$ 

### .....AT A GLANCE: MORTGAGE ELIMINATOR LOAN......

What makes this loan different from all the other refinancing options on the market? It's designed to save you money and time.

- Interest rates as low as 2.99% APR
- Little to no closing costs
- Easy online application process

To learn what a difference the Mortgage Eliminator Loan could make in your life, call 336.774.3400 / 800.782.4670

### The mission of Allegacy Federal Credit Union is to help you make smart financial choices.

For Member Services, call **336.774.3400** (Local) / **800.782.4670** (Toll-Free) To receive this newsletter online, visit **AllegacyFCU.org/Sharelines** For news & tips, follow us on Facebook/**Allegacy** and Twitter **@Allegacy** Allegacy is federally insured by NCUA. © 2013 Allegacy Federal Credit Union WE PROMISE TO RECOGNIZE YOUR NEEDS AND RECOMMEND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS THAT WILL HELP YOU MAKE SMART FINANCIAL CHOICES 5 WE PROMISE TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF YOUR FINANCIAL INFORMATION WE PROMISE TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOU

Austion? Email it to AskAllegacy@AllegacyFCU.org

I've heard you can get a great deal on houses that are listed as short sales, but I don't really know what the buying process involves for these kinds of listings. Is this something that any real estate agent can help me with?

There's a common misconception that short sales are like foreclosures. While both situations can be very advantageous to buyers, they are, in fact, very different.

A foreclosure occurs when a bank takes possession of a property after the owner fails to make payments. A short sale, however, is when an owner sells their home at a price that is lower than the balance he or she owes on the property.

Short sales tend to be much more complex transactions, which is why we recommend that you partner with a real estate broker who is certified in short sales. And that's not just our opinion. The NC Real Estate Commission strongly suggests that agents earn a short sale certification designation because of the complexity involved with these listings.

As a member of Allegacy, you don't have to look far to find the perfect broker to help. Terry Hedrick, Managing Director and Broker-in-Charge for Allegacy Realty, is Short Sale Certified for both sellers and buyers. In addition to this and having more than 15 years of experience in the real estate industry, Terry carries the Accredited Buyer Representative and Short Sale and Foreclosure Resource designations.

To contact Terry or browse our current listing of homes in the Triad, visit AllegacyRealty.com. 🔨



# The best resource you aren't using.

It's no secret that Allegacy has its very own financial planning group dedicated to helping individual members and businesses develop strategies to build their wealth and create plans to preserve and protect that wealth for years to come. What does remain a secret is: why aren't you using it?

Through CUSO Financial Services (CFS), L.P.<sup>†</sup>, Allegacy Investment Group can provide comprehensive financial planning as well as insurance and investment solutions. Our financial advisors, available through CFS, can serve your whole range of needs, both now and into the future — from college planning and 401(k) rollovers to long-term care insurance and estate planning. Plus, they are available at your convenience to provide a complimentary financial planning session by phone or in person at any of our Financial Centers.

Our advisors have more than 200 years of combined experience, and many carry the Certified Financial Planner<sup>®</sup> designation, which means they have met additional rigorous educational and experience requirements. All our advisors are held to the highest ethical and professional standards in our industry.

So what are you waiting for? Start taking advantage of all that the Allegacy Investment Group has to offer. Visit AllegacyInvestmentGroup.org to watch helpful videos, read newsletters, learn more about our advisors and access helpful tools. You can also find a complete list of our services for individuals, businesses and retailers on our website.

To schedule your free, no-obligation financial planning session, call 336.774.3400 / 800.782.4670

<sup>\*</sup>Subject to credit qualifications. Available in CA, CT, DE, District of Columbia, GA, IL, IN, NJ, NC and PA. Taxes & insurance extra. Terms, conditions & restrictions apply. As of 03/01/2013, a \$95,000.00 loan amount financed at 3.75% APR for a term of 120 months would result in an approximate monthly principal and interest payment of \$950.64. Your rate may vary. Rates, loan products & fees subject to change without notice. †Non-deposit investment products and services are offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. ("CFS"), a registered broker-dealer (Member FINRA/SIPC) and SEC Registered Investment Advisor, Products offered through CFS: **are not NCUA/NCUSIF or otherwise federally insured, are not guarantees or obligations of the credit union and may involve investment risk, including possible loss of principal.** Investment Representatives are registered through CFS. Allegacy Federal Credit Union has contracted with CFS to make nondeposit investment products and services available to credit union members.

### Allegacy's Annual Meeting



APRIL 18, 2013 at 5:30 PM Allegacy's Westbrook Plaza Financial Center in the Community Room



Credit cards get a bad reputation for enticing people to overspend and end up with massive amounts of debt. Sure, anyone can abuse these pocket-sized plastic wonders. But Allegacy takes a different approach to what credit cards can do. In partnership with Visa<sup>®</sup>, we are offering our members three unique options that can actually help you reach your financial goals faster by using credit cards wisely.

If you love earning points on everyday purchases, the Allegacy Visa Platinum Rewards Credit Card is for you. You'll earn one point for every \$1 you spend — and there's no limit to the amount of points you can earn. Redeem your points online for merchandise, gift cards, travel, cash and other experiences.

If you want to avoid being saddled with high-interest debt, the Allegacy Visa Platinum Credit Card is ideal for you. It comes with a low, prime-based interest rate in case you need to carry a balance, but want to save the most money when doing so. However, you're never restricted in your ability to spend. Qualified applicants could receive a credit limit of up to \$25,000.

If you're starting to build credit or need to reestablish good credit, the Allegacy Visa Platinum Secured Credit Card is a great option. It offers the convenience of paying with credit and the worldwide acceptance of Visa. Plus, your credit score can improve over time as you make on-time payments.

Because we're always looking out for your best interests, Allegacy's credit cards come with lower rates, no penalty pricing, no over-limit fees and no balance transfer fees. Combine this with the benefits offered by Visa USA, including absolute fraud protection and zero liability for unauthorized transactions, and you have a powerful tool for helping you achieve your financial goals.

To compare cards and apply online, visit AllegacyFCU.org



## **Educational**Opportunities

		M	lay 20	13		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

WOMEN AND FINANCE hosted by Allegacy Investment Group<sup>†</sup> May 14 at 6:30 pm

HOME BUYING WORKSHOP May 16 at 6:00 pm

	June 2013							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	(11)	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30								

SOCIAL SECURITY hosted by Allegacy Investment Group<sup>†</sup> June 11 at 6:30 pm

#### FOR BUSINESSES

-	April 2013					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

GROWING YOUR BUSINESS hosted by Allegacy Investment Group<sup>†</sup> and Allegacy Business Solutions April 9 at 6:30 pm

Reserve your spot today at AllegacyFCU.org/workshops

## **Holiday**Closings

MEMORIAL DAY May 27

# S H A R E L I N E S



For the thirteenth year, Allegacy will again be a local presenting co-sponsor for the Susan G. Komen NC Triad Race for the Cure<sup>®</sup>. The race will be **Saturday, May 4, 2013** on the grounds of Salem Academy & College. Last year, over 100 employees, friends and family participated on behalf of Allegacy and raised over \$5,500 in addition to our corporate sponsorship.

To register to walk with Team Allegacy or to donate, please visit AllegacyFCU.org and click on the Komen icon

No matter where you want to go this year, Allegacy can help you save money when you get there with special **members-only discounts** at attractions near and far, including Carowinds, Tweetsie Railroad, Busch Gardens and Water Country USA, Kings Dominion, Wet'n Wild Emerald Pointe Water Park, Biltmore Estate, Chimney Rock, Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede, Great Wolf Lodge and the Bronx Zoo and NY Aquarium.

For complete details and a list of discounts, visit AllegacyFCU.org and click on "Connect," then "Discounts & Special Offers"

Speaking of getting away, are you dreaming of a summer vacation but aren't sure of the smartest way to pay for it? Consider opening an **Allegacy Vacation Club** account with as little as \$10 today. Keep adding to it over the next few weeks or months; then, we'll deposit all the money you save into your primary account in time for you to take off or hit the road.

Open a Vacation Club account online at AllegacyFCU.org

Reminder: To be sure you are receiving the most up-to-date information from Allegacy, including **giveaways and special offers**, please be sure to update your member communication preferences.

Call 336.774.3400 or visit the nearest Financial Center to update your member communication preferences

# Auto loan rates now as low as

# A different take on auto loans.

When most people think of auto loans, they think there's just one kind: your standard-issue, high-interestrate loan for a new or used vehicle.

But that's not the case at Allegacy. We not only offer a lower interest rate than most other lenders, but also better options on auto loans, including the option of refinancing your current loan. That's right. Not everyone is in cahoots to sell you a new car.

As a trusted financial partner who is looking out for the best interests of our members, we know that buying a new or used car is not always the smartest choice. Sometimes, locking in a lower rate on your existing loan is all you need to get the most enjoyment out of your car or truck while saving more money on your monthly payment and over the life of the loan.

Right now, Allegacy is offering interest rates as low as 1.99% APR on new and used vehicle loans as well as on our auto refinancing option. This new rate could be much lower than what you're currently paying on your auto loan.

Consider a different approach to auto loans, like refinancing your existing loan with Allegacy. It could be the smarter financial choice for you.

Learn more about our auto loan options or apply for one online at AllegacyFCU.org. 🔦

#### **BUSINESS INSERT**

#### 2nd Quarter 2013 FINANCIAL SERVICES & PLANNING | PAYROLL | INSURANCE

Milegacy BUSINESS



You don't need to win the lottery before you break out of that cubicle and start a business of your own. You can turn your business dreams into reality today with a little help from Allegacy and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

A Small Business Administration (SBA) loan could provide the extra capital you need to start a new business or expand an existing one. You can also use an SBA loan to purchase equipment or to build, renovate or purchase commercial real estate. The possibilities are almost endless. So what's the catch?

There is no catch. It's just that, in the same way that Allegacy is different from other financial institutions, SBA loans are different from other business loans in that they:

- Provide up to \$5.0 million in available financing
- Offer longer terms and lower monthly payments
- Are guaranteed in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration

Just because an SBA loan is backed by a government agency doesn't mean the government is a part owner or has controlling interest in your business. It means the loan is guaranteed by the U.S. government, which is a good thing. The government truly wants your business to succeed, and as such, it is willing to offer lower interest rates and more flexible terms than most banks.

The U.S. Small Business Administration must approve any SBA loan application before financing can go through. So, while the application process for an SBA loan may take slightly longer than a traditional business loan, it's still a smart option for financing your business ideas.

Contact the Business Lending experts at Allegacy today to find out if you qualify for a Small Business Administration loan. 🖗

#### **Application Checklist**

When you're ready to apply for an SBA loan from Allegacy, you'll need to bring certain documents along with your completed SBA loan application. These include:

- Personal Background and Financial Statement
- Business Profit and Loss Statements and Projected Financial Statements
- Ownership and Affiliations
- Business Certificate or License
- Loan Application History
- Personal and Business Federal Income Tax Returns for past 3 years
- Resumes for Each Principal
- Business Overview and History
- Copies of Business Leases

If you are purchasing an existing business, there are several other pieces of information the U.S. Small Business Administration will need, including the proposed bill of sale.

For the complete checklist and to download all the necessary forms, go to sba.gov/ content/sba-loan-application-checklist.

For questions, contact Allegacy Business Solutions at 336.774.4131

## Ready for Health Care Reform?

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was created to give consumers new and more affordable options for health insurance coverage, greater protection from unfair practices and better tools to make informed decisions about their health.

The ACA could fundamentally change the way Americans access health care and purchase health insurance. Because many Americans rely on their workplace for access to health insurance, it is critical that small and mid-size employers also understand how the law will impact employer-sponsored health insurance coverage.

If you are a business owner bracing for the impact of ACA, some of the questions you may be asking yourself include:

- How are employers penalized under the ACA for not providing coverage? Are there different penalties for not offering coverage versus offering unaffordable coverage?
- How are full-time, variable-hour and seasonal employees defined under the ACA? How do I measure my employees' work hours to comply with safe-harbor rules to avoid employer penalties?
- How is a large employer defined under the ACA? How does the ACA apply to common ownership of multiple small businesses? How are my employees counted?
- What is a health insurance exchange? What might a North Carolina Health Insurance Exchange look like? What types of health plans may be offered?
- What are the advantages and risks of moving employees to an Exchange-only benefit model? How do I determine whether I want to continue to offer coverage or send my employees to the Exchange?

The benefits specialists at Allegacy Business Solutions offer free webinars for business owners that can help you answer all these questions and more. While many of the federal and state regulations are still being developed, these webinars provide exclusive insight on how North Carolina is implementing the new law. We can also help you develop business strategies and employee communications this year in preparation for the majority of ACA changes that become effective in 2014. <sup>(C)</sup>

### FREE ACA WEBINARS FOR BUSINESSES

HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE MARKETPLACE BASICS April 4 DEFINING LARGE EMPLOYERS & PENALTIES BASICS May 2 DEFINING FULL-TIME, VARIABLE-HOUR & SEASONAL EMPLOYEE BASICS May 16 EMPLOYER NOTIFICATIONS & REPORTING BASICS June 13

For more details, call 336.765.2101 / 877.765.2101 or, to register for a webinar, visit AllegacyFCU.org/workshops

# Another option for affordable care.

If your company offers a highdeductible health plan, you could help your employees manage health care costs with the option of a health savings account (HSA). This is a medical savings account that is funded by the employee with pre-tax dollars. Unlike a flexible spending account, HSA funds roll over and accumulate from year to year.

HSAs can be ideal for employees who are generally healthy, have adequate resources to pay for routine out-of-pocket health care expenses and may want to prepare for retirement by saving money toward future health care expenses not covered by Medicare. Of course, there are other situations in which an HSA may not be ideal.

Allegacy Business Solutions has a team of knowledgeable benefits experts who are experienced with helping business owners and their employees decide which health care option is the smart choice for their individual needs. Let us help you weigh the pros and cons of HSAs — and other cost-cutting coverage options — to find the right fit for your company and the people you count on to help it succeed.

To schedule a benefits consultation, call 336.765.2101 / 877.765.2101

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