HOLIDAY CLOSINGS
Independence Day
Thursday, July 4, 2019

BRANCH DIRECTORY
San Jose  – Silver Creek
5890 Silver Creek Valley Road
San Jose  – Cambrian
3075 Union Avenue
Milpitas  – Milpitas Town Center
537 E. Calaveras Boulevard
Morgan Hill  – Tennant Station
460 Tennant Station
Morgan Hill  – Cochrane Commons
1041 Cochrane Road

BRANCH HOURS
Monday through Thursday
9:00am to 5:00pm
Friday  – 9:00am to 6:00pm
Saturday  – 9:00am to 2:00pm at
Cambrian, Morgan Hill Tennant and
Milpitas only
Member Service Representatives
Monday through Thursday
9:00am to 5:00pm
Friday  – 9:00am to 6:00pm
(800) 564-1588

THEME PARK DISCOUNTS
Save money all summer long with
our discounted ticket deals to all
your favorite destinations!
Some of our discounted destinations include:
• LEGOLAND
• Roaring Railroads
• San Diego Zoo
• Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk
• Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
• And many more!
Visit wealthcu.org/discount-programs
to see the full list and purchase your
discounted tickets.

COMMUNITY CORNER
Now - 08/30 Morgan Hill’s Friday Night Music Series
Morgan Hill’s free summer concert series is back! Come check out the
fun every Friday night at the Morgan Hill Downtown Amphitheater
and look for our team members handing out CommonWealth swag!
8/03 - 8/04 Milpitas Adobe Festival
Come enjoy live music, watch the Adobe Cooking Contest, and stop
by our booth to win some great give away items!
For more information about upcoming events, visit
wealthcu.org/community-corner.

COMMON CONNECTION
A quarterly communication for our CommonWealth Community  ● Summer 2019

LEARN MORE THIS SUMMER.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT & FRAUD
With all the traveling that goes on during the summer, we want
to make sure you are protected every step of the way. Identity
theft and consumer fraud can happen in an instant so it’s
important to protect yourself. There are a few precautions that
you can take to protect yourself from the fraudsters.

1. NEVER SHARE YOUR PERSONAL/FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Scammers often pretend to be someone you trust, like a
government official, a family member, a charity or your financial
institution. CommonWealth will never call you and ask you
for your credit card number, expiration date, or CVV number as
part of any verification process. If you’re ever unsure of any
communications you’ve received, or if you have any questions
or concerns, please call us at (800) 564-1588.

2. KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR ACCOUNTS
Rather than checking your monthly statement for any
anomalies, you should check your accounts online at least
once a week and ensure there are no unusual transactions.
Even small charges on your account may be an indicator that
someone is trying to use your account for fraudulent activity.

3. NEVER LET YOUR CARD GO OUT OF YOUR SIGHT
When you are giving your card for payment, ensure that it is
still in sight. Do not give your PIN to anyone; rather, insist on
typing your PIN yourself on the Point of Sale (POS) machine.
If you think anything unusual is happening, you can always
take your card back.

4. CHECK YOUR CREDIT REPORT REGULARLY
There are many ways that you can check your credit
report on a regular basis, through the credit bureaus or at
annualcreditreport.com. Review your credit report to make
sure there are no errors and to detect signs of identity theft.
To protect yourself further, you can initiate a fraud alert
with a credit bureau, so that the banks or creditors are
informed every time there is a credit request in your name.

5. ADD TRAVEL ALERTS TO YOUR ACCOUNTS
Planning to use your debit or credit card while traveling?
Adding a Travel Alert will help prevent your card from
being flagged for suspicious activity while you travel this
summer. Travel Alerts can also help the credit union
determine if your transactions are legitimate or not.

MORE RESOURCES FOR YOU
Our Identity Protection Course on WealthMatters can
help you learn more simple tips and tools to reduce your
risk of identity theft and protect your sensitive information.
Visit wealthcu.org/wealthmatters to take the course.
There are a lot of decisions to make when it comes to buying a car. Our partners at BALANCE have some helpful information for you to consider while going through this process.

Buy new, buy used, or lease? There are a few of the many decisions you’ll need to make before happily driving away with a vehicle. While shopping for a car or truck is exciting, it is also no simple matter. You can avoid buyer’s remorse by making important financial and practical decisions before signing on the dotted line. To make the process efficient and improve your chances of driving away happy, you will need to consider:

**YOUR NEEDS** — Think about your transportation requirements. Does your car need to be large enough for a family of five, or small enough to fit in tight city parking spaces, tough enough to haul firewood, or chic enough to drive clients around?

**YOUR WANTS** — Your desires certainly play a part in the car buying decision. Make, color, accessories, and style are all important to being happy with your final choice.

**YOUR SPENDING PLAN** — It is easy to get carried away and end up with a car that is out of your price range and a monthly payment beyond your capacity. Your spending plan, not a salesperson’s opinion, should dictate your decision. Review your income and expenses to see what you have available each month for auto expenses.

**SAVE FOR A DOWN PAYMENT OR TOTAL CAR COST**
While it is possible to buy a car with no money down, you will end up paying a lot more for it if you do so. The more you borrow, the more the car will ultimately cost. To decrease the amount you finance, it is wise to make a significant down payment. With enough savings, you may be able to purchase a car outright (typically an option when buying a used car, rather than a new one).

Effective saving begins with first determining how much you want to save, then setting a reasonable date to achieve your goal. Using an automatic deduction can make the process easy. You can set up a recurring automatic transfer to have a set sum deducted from your checking account and automatically deposited into savings.

While leasing a car may enable you to get “more car” for less money each month than what you might be able to purchase, it is important to remember that leasing means renting. When the term of the lease is up, you return the car. At that time, you have the option of paying any outstanding fees for mileage or damage, or purchasing the car outright. Often, you will pay more over time by leasing and then purchasing than you would have had you simply bought the car in the first place.

**CREDIT REPORTS AND CREDIT HISTORY**
Your credit history will have a serious impact on the interest rate you will be offered. The better your credit score, the better rate you will be eligible for. Other factors, such as length of employment, income, and expenses may also be considered when determining the type of financing you may qualify for.

If your credit report isn’t perfect, you may consider having someone with good credit co-sign the loan for you. Be cautious about using this option though, as the co-signer assumes equal responsibility for the repayment of the loan. Any late or missed payments will appear on each of your credit reports.

To start getting on track to make an educated auto loan purchase or to see other financial education topics covered visit wealthcu.org/BALANCE today.

**ENTERPRISE CAR SALES — GET A 1% LOAN RATE DISCOUNT**
Finance an Enterprise vehicle with CommonWealth and receive a 1% rate discount on your auto loan. Their conveniently located dealership in San Jose on Stevens Creek Blvd and their experienced representatives make looking for your new car easier than ever. Also, with every car purchase from their large vehicle inventory, Enterprise offers a free CARFAX report, vehicle certification, and much more!

**SUCCESSTIPS**

**Step 1:** On your Dashboard, click “Add” under navigation above your current accounts.

**Step 2:** Select your account from the available institutions OR use the search feature to find your account.

**Step 3:** Complete the required account information, and select “Connect.” Once you get some accounts synced into CommonView, you’ll start to see how you have unique and helpful insights at your fingertips, wherever and whenever you want it. Visit wealthcu.org/CommonView to get started today!