

# SMOKE SIGNALS NEWSLETTER

06504-NEW-0321

## 6 Money-Smart Ways to Spend Your Stimulus Check

If you don't have to use your third stimulus check for basic necessities, consider putting the money to other good uses. You'll thank yourself later.

Here are 6 ways you can make your third stimulus check work for you or help your community:

### Save for Retirement

The maximum contribution for a 2020 IRA is \$6,000-\$7,000 if you're 50 or older—so you can stash your entire stimulus check there if you don't need it for anything else.

### Pay off High-Interest Debt

You can free up a lot of cash by paying off those credit cards—and paying down debt gives you “a rate of return you can't find anywhere else,” says Benjamin C. Simiskey, a CFP in Katy, Texas.

### Donate to a Local Charity

You can deduct a portion of your donation on your 2020 or 2021 tax return even if—like most taxpayers—you claim the standard deduction.

### Build Your Emergency Fund

Ideally, you should have at least 3–6 months' worth of living expenses in a savings account. If you're not there yet, your second stimulus check is a good start.

### Invest in a 529 College Savings Plan

Contributions to a 529 college savings plan grow tax-free, and withdrawals aren't taxed if you use them for qualified expenses, such as college tuition and room and board.

### Support Local Businesses

Buy a gift card for a local restaurant or other small business that has been forced to close or scale back operations because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Let your money work for you!



## LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU'VE GOT THEIR BACK!

Refer a friend to us and earn up to  
**\$50** for you and **\$25** for your friend!\*

**PAY IT  
FORWARD**

\*To earn \$50 incentive, current members must submit an online referral form with valid name and contact information for their referral. Referrals must open a membership share account with minimum \$25 deposit within 60 days of member referral. Referred members must also maintain membership for 30 days to qualify for \$25 incentive. Bonuses will be paid by share deposit in the month following the 30-day qualification for both current member and referred member. See credit union for details.

## ANNUAL MEETING IN REVIEW

We were thrilled to have our 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting! This year's meeting was held virtually. The evening was a wonderful celebration of our accomplishments from the past year. Full of energy and enthusiasm, it was a high-value investment to network and meet other members.



## MEET OUR WINNER Alexandra Chew

Alexandra is our 2021 CVFCU Scholarship winner! Alexandra has plans to attend Clovis Community College in the fall.



# HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

**Memorial Day**  
Monday, May 31

**Independence Day**  
Monday, July 5

**Labor Day**  
Monday, September 6

## NEW CAR WETDOWN!

**Finance your car with us and receive a full-service car wash.\***

**NEW | USED | REFINANCE**

**APPLY TODAY**

\*Must be financed between 03.01–05.31.2021 to qualify. Current CVFCU loans not eligible. Not all members may qualify. Minimum \$5,000 vehicle finance amount for offer. Gift received will be a Red Carpet Car Wash gift certificate with each qualifying loan. Red Carpet Car Wash is not associated with or endorsed by CVFCU. CVFCU is not responsible for any damage, accidental or otherwise, from use of gift certificate or Red Carpet Car Wash services. See credit union for details.



**\$1,000 OFF FOR HEROES!**

## Finance Your Home With Us and Save:

**\$500 Off 30-Year Fixed-Rate Loans\***

**or**

**\$1,000 Off ARM and 15-Year Fixed-Rate Loans\***

\*See credit union for full details.

**START TODAY**

CUNA MUTUAL GROUP HEREBY PROVIDES YOU WITH NOTICE REGARDING THE PREEXISTING EXCLUSION PROVISION ON OPEN-END CREDIT LIFE AND/OR CREDIT DISABILITY ACCOUNTS AS REQUIRED ANNUALLY BY THE CALIFORNIA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

### CALIFORNIA NOTICE

THIS INSURANCE MAY NOT COVER AN ADVANCE OR CHARGE UNDER YOUR CREDIT LINE IF YOUR DISABILITY OR DEATH RESULTS FROM A CONDITION FOR WHICH YOU HAVE SEEN A DOCTOR OR CHIROPRACTOR IN THE SIX MONTHS BEFORE THE ADVANCE OR CHARGE.



### LOCATION

5300 N. Fresno St.  
Fresno, CA 93710

### OFFICE INFORMATION

559.228.1997 phone  
559.228.0350 fax  
cvfirecu.org

### OFFICE HOURS:

M–F 8:30am to 5:00pm

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Escobedo, Chairman  
Justin Hill, Vice Chair  
Rhonda Myers, Treasurer  
Jim Nicolaisen, Secretary  
Josh Sellers, Director

### SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Josh Gonzalez  
R. Scott Griffith  
Don Ockey

### STAFF

Emily Morton, CEO  
Anna Stanhill, Loan Officer  
Katherine Garcia, Accountant  
Amy Waughtal, MSR  
Michelle Del Toro, MSR

Central Valley Firefighters Credit Union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration and is an Equal Housing Lender.