

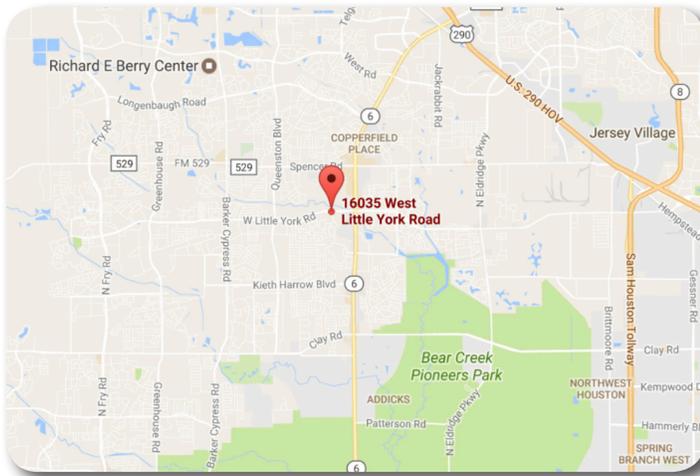
# Star News

5253 Hollister  
Houston, TX 77040

Spring 2017  
A Publication of

SOUTHERN STAR  CREDIT UNION

## Credit Union Relocation - Finally Here!



As many of you know, the credit union planned to relocate by the end of 2016. Due to many delays with Harris County the move was postponed.

The new building is scheduled to be completed at the end of March 2017. We plan to move the weekend of April 22nd & 23rd, closing on Monday, April 24th and opening for business on Tuesday, April 25th, 2017 at the new location:

**16035 West Little York Rd  
Houston, TX 77084**

The current location of 5253 Hollister, Houston, TX 77040 will no longer be available for members to transact business after Friday, April 21st, 2017.

### Board of Directors

**Bill Conrad  
Dennis Howard  
Andy Hernandez  
Omar Misleh  
Porter Stubblefield  
John Armas**

## 2017 Annual Meeting



Saturday, March 25, 2017

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.  
Meeting: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.



If you're **MOVING**  
please update your  
information with us



# CREDIT UNION NEWS

## *You're Invited - 2017 Annual Meeting*

As a valued Southern Star Credit Union member, you are also an owner, and your voice is important. You have the power to express your concerns and exercise your right to vote at the Annual Meeting and Election. It is also an opportunity to get updated on the state of the credit union and get connected with credit union management and leadership, as well as with other member-owners.

At the 2017 meeting, members will learn about the credit union's current financial status, products and services, accomplishments and innovations over the past year, as well as goals for the future. You will be able to ask questions, take part in the election of incoming credit union officers, and meet other members of the credit union community.

Please join us for this worthwhile and informative meeting on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at the Southern Star Credit Union office (5253 Hollister, Houston, TX.). Doors will open at 9:00 am for refreshments and the meeting will start at 9:30 am.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 63rd Annual Meeting of Southern Star Credit Union.

## *Try Checking the Credit Union Way*

Chances are if you're still checking somewhere else, you're not getting the best deal you can on your account. That's because share drafts - credit union checking accounts - almost always cost less. According to the financial website Bankrate.com 2016 Credit Union Checking Survey: "If free checking is a priority for you, it's clearer than ever the place you're most likely to find that is credit unions, not banks." The Bankrate survey also found lower fees for overdrafts and ATM use. So if you're "fee-ed" up, it's worth your while to try checking the credit union way. We think you'll find a checking account that best meets your needs and we'll make the transition as easy as possible. So check out our website for more information and then call on us to help you make the switch. You'll be glad you made the effort.

## *Put High Payments in the Rear View Mirror*



### **Real Deals for Wheels At Your Credit Union**

Whether you need new wheels or are still cruising along in your current vehicle, be sure you see the credit union about financing. With a loan from the credit union, you can put high payments in the rear view mirror.

If you're in the market for a vehicle - whether it's new or just new to you - stop by the credit union for a pre-approved loan. A pre-approved loan will put you in the catbird seat when it comes to shopping for the wheels that best fit your needs because you can shop like a cash buyer. The special rate financing at the dealer may seem as though it can't be beat. But remember those low rates usually apply only to certain makes and models - often the slow-moving versions on the lot.

If you already have a vehicle loan from elsewhere, we think you deserve a second chance. Contact the credit union and tell us about your current rate and terms. If we can give you a better deal, we will.

## Make the Switch to e-Statements

Being a credit union member, you have likely experienced superior service and convenience when it comes to your financial management. Perhaps you're looking for a way to make your banking even faster and more secure. Your credit union can help with e-Statements.

By making the switch from traditional paper to paperless statements you will protect your identity by reducing the paper trail of regular mail and in turn the risk of ID theft, while also helping to improve the environment by decreasing the need for natural resources to create paper. In addition, e-Statements will:

- Reduce paper clutter in your home
- Become available sooner than paper statements
- Provide email notifications when a statement is viewable
- Offer convenience with online access to account history, anytime from anywhere

### **Fast, easy, and secure**

- make the switch to e-Statements today.

Find out how by calling or visiting our credit union office.



## No Time Like The Present For IRA Contribution

Procrastinators rejoice: it's another lucky year for you. Usually, the tax return filing deadline is April 15. However, in 2017, April 15 falls on a Saturday and the Washington D.C. Emancipation Day holiday will be observed on April 17 instead of April 16, 2017. Thus, Tax Day for your 2016 return is on the following Tuesday: April 18, 2017. That means you have a few extra days to file your taxes as well as to open or contribute to an Individual Retirement Account for the 2016 tax year.

**IRA DEADLINE IS  
Tuesday, April 18, 2017**

But the sooner you do so, the better, so your tax-advantaged savings have longer to grow. Your total contribution to a Traditional IRA for the 2016 tax year is \$5,500 (\$6,500 if you are 50 or older), or your taxable compensation for the year, if your compensation was less than this dollar limit. IRS Publication 590-A has details; find it at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

financial solutions, and valuable financial education. Our members stand behind the idea of a democratically governed, not-for-profit financial cooperative, and believe in the motto of "People Helping People."

Please accept our deepest gratitude for your continued support. We look forward to providing you and your families with quality financial products, services, and superior member service in 2017 and beyond.

## Get A Fresh Financial Start with a Debt Consolidation Loan

What better time to simplify your finances than the beginning of a new year?

Make 2017 the year that you build your credit, rid yourself of debt, and actually reach your financial goals with an affordable Debt Consolidation Loan from the credit union.

If you're looking for a way to lower monthly payments from things like high-interest credit card payments, post-holiday bills, vehicle loans, and the like, then this low-rate financing could be the solution. You'll be able to keep more of your cash on-hand for expenses while better managing your money. With a Debt Consolidation Loan, you can look forward to:

- Lower interest rates and payments
- A fixed payment
- More time each month with just one bill to pay
- Just one due date to remember
- An end to high-interest debt
- An improved credit score
- A clearer picture of what you owe and when it will be paid off

Don't let another year go by - take control of your finances now.

### APPLY TODAY

Visit our website, call, or stop by the credit union office and kick 2017 off with a fresh start!

## "Thank You" To Our Members

For Southern Star Credit Union and every credit union around the world, members are our lifeline. Their loyalty is crucial to our success and existence, so we want to say 'thank you' to the members of the Southern Star Credit Union family. Member-owned and operated, Southern Star Credit Union has and continues to offer exceptional service, affordable

**SOUTHERN STAR  CREDIT UNION**

Phone 713-934-1460 | 1-800-600-3228  
 Fax 713-934-1470 | Alt 713-934-1472  
 www.southernstarcu.org

**5253 Hollister | Houston, TX 77040-6205**  
 NEW ADDRESS as of April 21st, 2017:  
**16035 W Little York Rd | Houston, TX 77084**

**DRIVE THRU HOURS**  
 MON-THURS: 8:00AM-4:30PM  
 FRIDAY: 8:00AM-5:30PM

**LOBBY HOURS**  
 MON-FRI: 9:00AM-4:30PM

**TELEPHONE HOURS**  
 MON-FRI: 8:00AM-4:30PM

**Southern Star Contact Info.**

Debbie Callihan, *President*  
 713-934-1463  
 debbie@southernstarcu.org

Patricia Young  
*Vice President*  
 713-934-1462  
 patricia@southernstarcu.org

Denise Meeks  
*Loan Dept. Supervisor*  
 713-934-1466  
 denise@southernstarcu.org

Melinda Watkins, *Loan Officer*  
 713-934-1465  
 melinda@southernstarcu.org

Michel Gil-Leon  
*Mbr. Service Supervisor*  
 713-934-1464  
 michel@southernstarcu.org

Gina Parker, *Mbr. Service Rep*  
 713-934-1475  
 gina@southernstarcu.org

Barbara Gonzales,  
*Mbr. Service Rep*  
 713-934-1474  
 barbara@southernstarcu.org

Charlotte Free  
*Mbr. Service/Loan Clerk*  
 713-934-1468  
 charlotte@southernstarcu.org

Victoria Sayago,  
*Mbr. Service/Loan Clerk*  
 713-934-1473  
 victoria@southernstarcu.org



The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has proposed new rules to put a net around loan sharks who prey on consumers in the guise of payday lenders and auto title loan shops. The proposed protections also would cover deposit advance products and certain high-cost installment and open-end loans. According to the CFPB, the rules would require lenders to take steps to make sure consumers have the ability to repay their loans. The proposed rule would also cut off repeated debt attempts that rack up

fees. The final rule won't be in effect for some time, but there's already a place you can find protection: At the credit union.

At the credit union, we're here to help, not drown you in debt. We'll work with you to try to find a way to manage your resources. That's the reason credit unions were created. We do our best to follow the "people-helping-people" philosophy.

*SSCU Financial Comparison*

	12/31/2015	12/31/2016
<b>ASSETS:</b>		
Net Loans:	12,258,486	10,934,804
Investments:	7,925,356	9,032,567
Cash/Other Assets:	2,666,264	3,260,890
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>		
Accruals/Accts Payable:	205,539	87,184
Shares and Deposits:	18,917,801	19,572,959
Reserves and Und Earnings:	3,726,766	3,568,118
<b>TOTAL ASSETS/LIABILITIES:</b>	<b>22,850,106</b>	<b>23,228,261</b>
Loan Income:	891,326	791,386
Investment Income:	154,918	81,999
Other Income:	189,725	193,089
Non-Operating Income	0	0
Total Income:	1,235,969	1,066,474
Less: Total Operating Expense:	(1,146,635)	(1,157,661)
Dividends to Members:	(62,925)	(67,461)
Non-Operating Losses	0	0
<b>NET INCOME:</b>	<b>26,409</b>	<b>(158,648)</b>
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	<b>3,415</b>	<b>3,299</b>

**the LAST Word**

*"Never stop doing little things for others. Sometimes those little things occupy the biggest part of their hearts."*

*On The Move? Keep Us Posted*

No matter if your family is growing and you need more space or your nest is empty and you are ready to downsize, be sure to keep the credit union in the loop. We need your physical mailing address, even if most of your transactions are electronic. That way you won't miss important tax forms, any re-issues of plastic cards, or other information. Contact the credit union for a change-of-address form. The U.S. Postal Service also offers an online form that allows you to update your address information. Go to usps.com and click on "quick tools" and select "change of address" from the drop-down menu. You can use the online form for both temporary and permanent moves. To verify your identity, a major credit card associated with your address will be charged \$1.05.

Also, please keep us informed of your travel plans to avoid having transactions on your debit or credit card denied. Identifying transactions outside of your typical spending patterns is one of the precautions in place to help determine if your card has been stolen.

**COMPLAINT NOTICE**

If you have a problem with the services provided by this credit union, please contact us at:

*Until April 21st, 2017*

Southern Star Credit Union  
 5253 Hollister, Houston, TX 77040-6205  
 713-934-1460 or 800-600-3228  
 management@southernstarcu.org

*After April 21st, 2017*

Southern Star Credit Union  
 16035 West Little York Rd, Houston, TX 77084  
 713-934-1460 or 800-600-3228  
 management@southernstarcu.org

The credit union is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas and under state law is subject to regulatory oversight by the Texas Credit Union Department. If any dispute is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may also file a complaint against the credit union by contacting the Texas Credit Union Department at 914 East Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78752-1699, Telephone Number: 512-837-9236, Website: www.cud.texas.gov.

