

# Advanced Financial Today



Celebrating  
50 Years

## GETTING TO KNOW ADVANCED FINANCIAL



### Pierre Abdou

I have been with Advanced Financial since October 2013. Most of the members recognize me, since I move around all five branches of the Credit Union. Working in all five branches has shown me how all the employees here work as a unified team to help our valuable members. Outside of working at the Credit Union, I study music at Rutgers and teach piano in the evenings.

With my very busy schedule, I always need an automatic way to pay my bills. I use Advanced Financial's Bill Pay to pay all my bills, including rent, phone, credit cards, car loan and more. Now I don't have to worry about missing any payments. With Bill Pay, I don't need to give my account number to any vendor. I also have more control over my account. Bill Pay has even more features you may enjoy – check it out today!

### Holiday Closings

Good Friday (Newark and Wall only),  
March 25, 2016

Memorial Day, May 30, 2016

## The Best Time to Buy a Home Is NOW!

Mortgage interest rates are still at historic lows – but they won't be for long. If you've been thinking about buying a home, now is the time to start getting serious about it. Securing a low mortgage rate now will help bring down the final cost of your home. For example, if you bought a home for \$500,000 with a 30-year term and a 6% interest rate, you'd pay \$2,998 per month; with a 3% interest rate, you'd only pay \$2,108 per month – a savings of \$10,680 every year! Since saving money is on everyone's mind these days, this is a very compelling reason to go out and do some house hunting.



We all know how much this market can fluctuate from year to year – or even quarter to quarter – so it would be wise to look into a purchase this year, while mortgage rates are low. Another smart move to consider is getting a fixed rate, so you know your rate will stay the same even if market rates rise.

If you're thinking about refinancing your current home, take advantage of AFFCU's streamlined mortgage refinance program before rates go up! You may be eligible to refinance without closing costs.

See Jeff Parella or call him today at 646-232-0627.



### Exciting News for Advanced Financial

It is with great pleasure that we announce that we will be welcoming approximately 2,000 new members to Advanced Financial. We have received approval from the NCUA to merge with United Financial Services FCU, located in Scotch Plains. Advanced Financial will be the continuing Credit Union; however, the philosophies and member service of both credit unions are very similar. Their office, located at 320 Park Avenue, will remain open, and our current members will be able to use it if more convenient.

This merger allows us to take advantage of economies of scale and will have a positive effect on our financial position.

Alan Feigenbaum, CEO

### Earn Rewards for Your Purchases with UChoose Rewards®

If you have a debit and/or credit card with Advanced Financial, you can accumulate points every time you swipe your card and select "credit." Every dollar you spend earns you at least one point, with some stores offering up to six points per dollar!



6 points per \$1



1 point per \$1

Then, redeem your points for awesome rewards like gift cards, travel, brand-name merchandise and more. Sign up at [www.uchooserewards.com](http://www.uchooserewards.com) and start accumulating points every time you shop.

**START EARNING REWARDS!**

## A Message from Liberty Mutual

As a member of Advanced Financial Federal Credit Union, you receive a 10% discount on your auto and home insurance through TruStage® Insurance and Liberty Mutual. I am happy to review your current policies to make sure that we are providing you with the best options and most discounts to keep your assets covered in 2016 and beyond. I am available by phone and email and in person during the week and on weekends. Please allow me to help you live a safer, more secure life while saving money at the same time.

**Richard Sfass**  
**Personal Insurance Consultant**  
**Licensed in NJ, NY and PA**  
**Liberty Mutual Insurance**  
 890 Mountain Avenue, First Floor  
 New Providence, NJ 07974

**Phone:** 908-516-0798  
**Email:** Richard.Sfass@LibertyMutual.com  
**Website:** www.LibertyMutual.com/  
 Richard-Sfass



## GET RATES AS LOW AS 2.50% APR! AND, WE'LL GIVE YOU KELLEY BLUE BOOK® TRADE-IN VALUE FOR YOUR VEHICLE.<sup>2</sup>

Upon used vehicle purchase from Enterprise Car Sales.

February 1 – March 31, 2016

Call 908-771-0300 x2118, 2148, 2181 to get pre-approved by your credit union today!

Call 866-227-7253 for the nearest Enterprise Car Sales location

or preview our great selection of quality used vehicles at [enterprisecarsales.com/cuautorates](http://enterprisecarsales.com/cuautorates)



**Consumer disclosures:** 1: APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates as low as 2.50% APR for 36 months. 100% Financing available including Tax, Title and Registration. Financing for qualified Advanced Financial Federal Credit Union members. Not all buyers will qualify. Actual rate may vary based on credit worthiness. Offer valid only on Enterprise Car Sales vehicles purchased from 2/1/16 – 3/31/16. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. 2: Kelley Blue Book Trade-In Values used by Enterprise are obtained from © 2016 Kelley Blue Book Co.'s website KBB.com. Kelley Blue Book Trade-In Value is based on accurate condition rating and mileage of vehicle. Accurately appraising the condition of the vehicle is an important aspect of determining its Kelley Blue Book Trade-In Value. Kelley Blue Book valuation adjustments for vehicle mileage disproportionate to the age of the vehicle may be capped by Enterprise Car Sales at 20% of the vehicle's base value. If a Kelley Blue Book Trade-In value is not available for customer's vehicle Enterprise will provide a fair and competitive value for customer's vehicle. Customer is responsible to any extent vehicle pay-off exceeds Enterprise offer. Customer must provide required proof of ownership/registration and all other necessary paperwork to transfer title. Offer only valid on one trade-in for each Enterprise vehicle purchase. Restrictions apply. For details, see an Enterprise Car Sales Manager. Offer void where prohibited. Used vehicles are previously part of Enterprise short-term rental and lease fleet or purchased by Enterprise from other sources including auto auctions, with previous use possibly short-term rental, lease or other.

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## Tips to Consider When Filing Your Tax Returns

It's never too early to make plans to save on taxes – whether you're getting ready to prepare this year's or next year's returns. Follow these tax-saving tips:

**Give to charities:** Consider making donations to charities of your choice. Remember, donations of property in good or better condition and your charitable mileage may also be deductible. Receiving proper documentation that acknowledges your contributions is important to ensure you obtain the full deduction.

**Fund tax-deferred retirement accounts:** An easy way to reduce your taxable income is to fully fund retirement accounts that have tax-deferred status. The most common accounts are 401(k), 403(b) and various IRAs (Traditional, SEP and SIMPLE).

**Energy-efficient home improvements:** Installation of energy-efficient improvements such as insulation, new windows and water heaters in your main home can provide tax savings.

**Educator expenses:** If you are a kindergarten through grade 12 teacher, instructor, counselor, principal or aide who meets the time requirements, you may be able to deduct up to \$250 for qualified expenses paid.

**A reminder:** You should always save receipts and records related to your taxes. Good recordkeeping is a must, because you need records to prepare your tax return and it will help you file it quickly and accurately.

You should always consider seeking the advice of a professional who knows your individual situation and is in a position to advise you on your taxes.

Luckily for Advanced Financial members, Swift & Associates, LLC is offering their Income Tax Preparation Services. To get more tax tips, go to [www.swiftandassociates.com](http://www.swiftandassociates.com) and read their monthly newsletter, which will keep you up to date on some of the latest tax and accounting news. If you would like to receive a monthly newsletter, just go to their website and sign up. If you have tax questions or concerns and would like to speak with a tax preparer, all you need to do is call 973-543-6088.

## Check Prices Have Dropped

While everyone else is increasing their product prices, Advanced Financial is working hard to save you money. We were able to reduce members' check ordering costs by almost 25%! Call Customer Service to see how much you could save on your next check order.



### Main Office

785 Central Avenue  
 New Providence, NJ 07974  
 908-771-0300  
 Fax: 908-771-9349  
 Monday – Wednesday  
 8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
 Thursday & Friday  
 8:00 am – 6:00 pm  
 Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

### Branch Locations

2 South Avenue West  
 Cranford, NJ 07016  
 Monday – Friday  
 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

3 Penn Plaza East  
 Newark, NJ 07105  
 Monday – Friday  
 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

575 Raritan Road  
 Roselle, NJ 07203  
 Monday – Friday  
 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
 Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

1427 Wyckoff Road  
 Wall, NJ 07727  
 Monday – Friday  
 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Federally Insured  
 by the NCUA**



800-237-5626  
[www.advfinfcu.com](http://www.advfinfcu.com)



## In Loving Memory of

**Doreen M. Scouras, 1959-2016**

Advanced Financial Federal Credit Union lost Board Secretary Doreen Scouras on Sunday, January 24, 2016. Doreen served as a volunteer for more than 25 years.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the Scouras family. Doreen will be truly missed by our Advanced Financial family.