

West View Savings Bank

“Over 100 Years of Quality Banking”

Volume 9, Issue 7

NEWSLETTER

July 2016

Should You Consider a Power of Attorney?

A Message from our President, David J. Bursic

A Power of Attorney (POA) is a legal document that authorizes another person or persons to handle your financial, legal, and in some cases, your health matters. This can be a very helpful document if you are unavailable - for example if you are traveling abroad and have a loan closing to attend. A POA can be critically important if you become disabled and need someone to act on your behalf - for example manage your finances, pay taxes or authorize medical treatments.

A POA usually has two parties – a “Principal” and an “Attorney in Fact” or “Agent”. The person granting their authority is the “Principal”. The person or persons assuming that authority is the “Attorney in Fact” or “Agent” and does not have to be an actual licensed attorney. In order for the POA to be “legally binding” (can be accepted or acted upon) it must be signed by the Principal who must be mentally competent at the time they sign the POA. Most people give their power of attorney to a spouse, other adult relative or close friend. The Principal will want to name an Agent that knows them well and will act according to their wishes and best interest when and if necessary. The Principal also may name a substitute agent when making a Power of Attorney in the event that the named “Agent” is unable to act.

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NHCO Helping Millvale Fire Victims

On Mother's Day, eight families in Millvale watched as fire ripped through their homes, roofs caving, walls collapsing, mementoes going up in smoke or crumbling to ashes. Brave firefighters and emergency personnel responded quickly, but the fire burned hot through several row houses. Mercifully, no one was hurt, and the firefighters stopped the fire from destroying more homes. But 17 people lost all possessions and the places they called home. Only one family had renter's insurance.

As we have for nearly 30 years, North Hills Community Outreach reached out to the families. They could need a first month's rent on another apartment. They could need to purchase beds, furniture or a washer and dryer. Surely, they will need to purchase clothing, food and other household items or necessities. They will need direction, support and other resources.

When such a crisis occurs, people rally together. Seeing a mother stand in shock while her home goes up in flames, or family members hold each other, in tears, simply grateful to be alive, makes us all take pause. We become keenly aware of our fortune, and we want to help. But how? In addition to emotional support, the immediate need, almost always, is financial...crisis survivors, who are sometimes already living paycheck to paycheck, need money to get on their feet again.

NHCO is the donation site for cash, checks and gift cards for the fire survivors' financial needs. NHCO is working directly with the Borough of Millvale, the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and numerous other organizations to ensure that the families get the assistance they need.

Last year, NHCO helped 4,099 families in crisis, hardship and poverty with things like emergency rent, food, utility help, transportation, education assistance, employment assistance, and much more. The only way we can do this is with financial and volunteer support from people just like you...generous people who care about the families in the communities we serve. We never know when or in what community the next crisis will strike, but with your help, we can be ready.

To donate, please visit <http://nhco.org/donate/financial-donations/> or **mail checks made payable to NHCO**, to NHCO, 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101. Please encourage others to help by sharing this newsletter. Thank you!

Should you have any questions, please call our Millvale office at 412-408-3830, or our Allison Park office at 412-487-6316 opt 1. With most sincere appreciation, thank you for being part of People Helping People and helping your neighbors in this great time of need.

North Hills Community Outreach was founded 29 years ago in the aftermath of flooding, another community crisis. Since then NHCO, our donors and our volunteers have responded to the needs of thousands upon thousands of people facing hardship and similar crises, such as fire, flood, deaths, job loss, and more.

Fourteen Red Flags for Elder Financial Abuse



There are generally two types of POAs – a General Power of Attorney, and a “Special” or Limited Power of Attorney. A General POA is just that - it gives the Agent very broad power and authority to do almost anything that the Principal can do for themselves. A person giving a POA needs to be very comfortable with anyone named as an Agent because the Principal will likely be bound by whatever actions are taken on their behalf. A Special or Limited Power of Attorney is different from a General POA because it limits the authority of the Agent only to carry out certain prescribed powers that the Principal grants. A Limited POA can restrict the authority of the Agent to act only on certain matters - for example financial, medical, or real estate issues.

The key to spotting financial abuse is a change in a person’s established financial patterns. Watch out for these red flags:

Another important concept when considering a Power of Attorney is if the Principal wants the POA to remain in force if the Principal become mentally incompetent because of an accident or illness. These are called “Durable”. A General POA or a Limited POA can be “Durable” and they remain effective or can be triggered into effect after a doctor certifies that the “Principal” is mentally incapacitated. A POA that becomes effective only upon the mental incapacity of the Principal is also called a “Springing” POA.

1. Unusual activity in an older person’s bank accounts, including large, frequent or unexplained withdrawals
2. Changing from a basic account to one that offers more complicated services the customer does not fully understand or need
3. Withdrawals from bank accounts or transfers between accounts the customer cannot explain
4. A new “best friend” accompanying an older person to the bank
5. Sudden non-sufficient fund activity or unpaid bills
6. Closing CDs or accounts without regard to penalties
7. Uncharacteristic attempts to wire large sums of money
8. Suspicious signatures on checks, or outright forgery
9. Confusion, fear or lack of awareness on the part of an older customer
10. Checks written as “loans” or “gifts”
11. Bank statements that no longer go to the customer’s home
12. New powers of attorney the older person does not understand
13. A caretaker, relative or friend who suddenly begins conducting financial transactions on behalf of an older person without proper documentation
14. Altered wills and trusts

The Principal may terminate a POA at any time that they are competent to manage their own legal affairs. To terminate a POA the Principal should notify any named Agent that they have terminated the POA. The Principal should also collect and destroy the original and any copies of the POA, and notify any bank or third party that may have been relying upon the POA to allow the Agent to conduct business on behalf of the Principal that the POA has been revoked.

A POA also terminates upon the death of the Principal. In other words, when the Principal dies so does the POA and any authority of the Agent is revoked. The Agent is no longer authorized to act on behalf of what would now be the estate of the Principal.

It’s important to check with an attorney familiar with the state specific Power of Attorney rules where you reside. For example, in some states a POA is only as good as someone’s willingness to accept or honor it. Any third party presented with the Power of Attorney in those states has the right to tell the Agent they will not accept or honor the POA.

West View Savings Bank (Bank) offers a free Durable Limited Power of Attorney for Banking Transactions document for our customer’s convenience. This form only applies to transactions on accounts maintained at the Bank. Please feel free to contact any of our branch managers, or our Vice President – Administration, Mr. Bernard P. Lefke, if you would like to learn more about the Bank’s Durable Limited POA.



West View Office	412-931-2171
McCandless Office	412-364-1911
Cranberry Office	724-776-3480
Sherwood Oaks Office	724-776-4870
Franklin Park Office	724-935-7100
Lending Division	724-935-7400
Bellevue Office	412-761-5595



*****WEST VIEW SAVINGS BANK
WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY, JULY 4, 2016*****

The Grandparent Scam

According to the Federal Trade Commission, between 2012 and 2014, consumers reported more than \$42 million in losses from scams involving the impersonation of family members and friends. This scam, commonly known as the “grandparent scam,” is a form of financial abuse that deliberately targets older Americans.

To commit this crime, fraudsters call claiming to be a family member in serious trouble and in need of money immediately. The scammer might say he’s stranded or has been mugged, and call in the middle of the night to add to the urgency and confusion. Once the money is wired, the victim later finds out that it wasn’t their grandchild they were helping, it was a criminal.

- Confirm the caller. Fraudsters are using social networking sites to gain the personal information of friends and relatives to carry out their crimes. Verify the caller by calling them back on a known number or consult a trusted family member before acting on any request.
- Don’t be afraid to ask questions. Fraudsters want to execute their crimes quickly. In this type of scam, they count on fear and your concern for your loved one to make you act before you think. The more questions you ask the more inclined they will be to ditch the scam if they suspect you’re on to them.
- Never give personal information to anyone over the phone unless you initiated the call and the other party is trusted.
- Never rush into a financial decision and trust your instincts. Don’t be fooled – if something doesn’t feel right, it may not be right. Feel free to say no and get more information before you send money to someone.



Watermelon Eating Contest



Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 30, 2016. You are invited to Marshall Township’s Community Day to be held at Knob Hill Park, 415 Knob Road, Wexford, Pa. The program includes Pony Rides, Climbing Wall, Inflatables, Arts & Crafts, Music, Zambelli Fireworks and much more...

West View Savings Bank sponsors a Watermelon Eating Contest at the event. The festivities begin at 5:00 PM until the fireworks at dark. Additional information is available at Marshall Township (724) 935-3090 or website www.twp.marshall.pa.us.

5 Ways to Spot a Lottery Scam



According to the FBI, in 2014 consumers lost more than \$8 million to solicitation scams. These scams, commonly referred to as “advance fee,” “lottery” or “sweepstake” scam, often begin with fraudsters telling the victim they’ve won a lottery or sweepstakes raffle. The consumer is issued a check worth more than the amount owed and instructed to pay taxes and fees before receiving a lump sum payment. Unfortunately, the check-in addition to the raffle-is bogus.

1. Don’t be fooled by the appearance of the check. Scam artists are using sophisticated technology to create legitimate looking counterfeit checks. Some are counterfeit money orders, some are phony cashier’s checks and others look like they are from legitimate business accounts. The company name may be real, but someone has forged the checks without their knowledge.
2. Never “pay to play.” There is no legitimate reason for someone who is giving you money to ask you to wire money back or send you more than the exact amount—that’s a red flag that it’s a scam. If a stranger wants to pay you for something, insist on a cashier’s check for the exact amount, preferably from a local bank or one with a local branch.
3. Verify the requestor before you wire or issue a check. It is important to know who you are sending money to before you send it. Just because someone contacted you doesn’t mean they are a trusted source.
4. Ensure a check has “cleared” to be most safe. Under federal law, banks must make deposited funds available quickly, but just because you can withdraw the money doesn’t mean the check is good, even if it’s a cashier’s check or money order. Be sure to ask if the check has cleared, not merely if the funds are available before you decide to spend the money.
5. Report any suspected fraud to your bank immediately. Bank staff are experts in spotting fraudulent checks. If you think someone is trying to pull a fake check scam, don’t deposit it-report it. Contact your local bank or the National Consumers League’s Fraud Center, fraud.org.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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And
Robin Bemis**

KID'S KORNER

Thirteen Colonies Word Jumble

Unscramble the letters to find the state names of the original thirteen colonies.

1. AAHESUSCSMSTT _____
2. EORGGAI _____
3. UOCICNETTN _____
4. LRONOTAUHSCAI _____
5. RVINIGAI _____
6. RRNANOACTLHOI _____
7. LRDSIEADNOH _____
8. AENYNVANLPSI _____
9. ERNYJESW _____
10. RKOYWNE _____
11. HAMINEHWPSER _____
12. LDAMARYN _____
13. RDEELAAW _____

Virginia (5)	New York (10)	Maryland (12)
South Carolina (4)	New Jersey (9)	Georgia (2)
Rhode Island (7)	New Hampshire (11)	Delaware (13)
Pennsylvania (8)	Massachusetts (1)	Connecticut (3)
North Carolina (6)		



Baseball Trivia

1. True or False? Roberto Clemente is the first and only major league baseball player to be inducted into the hall of fame without having to wait the required five years.
2. Clemente finished his Hall of Fame career how many base hits?
 - A. 2500
 - B. 2750
 - C. 3000
 - D. 3500
3. Roberto's life was cut short in a plane crash on what date?
 - A. December 31, 1970
 - B. December 31, 1971
 - C. December 31, 1972
 - D. December 31, 1973
4. To what South American country was Clemente delivering relief supplies due to an earthquake when the plane crashed?
 - A. Nicaragua
 - B. Brazil
 - C. Argentina
 - D. Chile
5. True or False? Roberto Clemente played his entire career with the Pirates Organization?

1. True	4. A
2. C	5. False
3. C	

Black Bean Salsa



- 2 CLOVES GARLIC MINCED
- 16 OZ. CAN BLACK BEANS, RINSED AND DRAINED
- 7 OZ. CAN SHOE PEG CORN, DRAINED
- ½ CUP ITALIAN DRESSING
- 3 TABLESPOONS FINELY CHOPPED CILANTRO (OPTIONAL)
- ½ TEASPOON TABASCO SAUCE
- ¾ TEASPOON CHILI POWDER
- 1 MEDIUM TOMATO
- ½ GREEN PEPPER
- ½ RED ONION

COMBINE FIRST 7 INGREDIENTS. TOSS WELL. REFRIDGERATE FOR 5 HOURS OR OVERNIGHT. JUST BEFORE SERVING ADD LAST 3 INGREDIENTS. TOSS WELL.

Broccoli and Grape Pasta Salad



Bow tie pasta, fresh broccoli, sweet grapes and salty bacon come together in a light mayonnaise based sauce for a wonderful combination of flavors.

Ingredients

- 1- 12 ounce box of bow-tie pasta
- 2 lbs. fresh broccoli florets
- 4 cups seedless, red grapes, halved
- 3/4 roasted, salted and shelled sunflower seeds
- 12 slices of bacon, crispy cooked and crumbled
- 1/3 cup finely diced red onion
- 2 cups reduced fat mayonnaise
- 2/3 cup red wine vinegar or apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. fresh ground black pepper

Instructions

Cook pasta according to package in well salted water to al dente, drain and rinse with cold water. In VERY LARGE bowl, whisk the mayonnaise, vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper. Add in the cooked and rinsed pasta, broccoli, grapes, sunflower seeds, bacon and red onions. Mix well to coat in dressing.

Cover and refrigerate for several hours or overnight to allow flavors to combine and pasta to get cold.