

West View Savings Bank

“Over 100 Years of Quality Banking”

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NEWSLETTER

March 2014

How to Eliminate, or Reduce, Your PA Income Taxes – Without Going to Jail

A Message from our President, David J. Bursic

Nearly one in five households qualifies for PA Income Tax Forgiveness. Retired persons, individuals that have low income and working families may be eligible for Tax Forgiveness. Depending on your income and family size, you may qualify for a refund or reduction of your Pennsylvania income tax liability using the state's Tax Forgiveness program.

What is Pennsylvania's Tax Forgiveness Program?

Tax Forgiveness is a credit against PA tax that allows eligible taxpayers to reduce all or part of their PA tax liability. To claim this credit it is necessary that a taxpayer file a PA-40 return and complete Schedule SP. It is not an automatic exemption or deduction.

When determining eligibility income for PA Tax Forgiveness, you do not include Social Security benefits, retirement payments, unemployment compensation, or child support in the calculation.

Who is Eligible for Tax Forgiveness?

You, and your spouse if applicable, are eligible if:

1. You are subject to PA Personal Income Tax; and
2. You are not a dependent on another person's federal tax return; and
3. You meet the eligibility requirements.
4. A dependent child may be eligible if he or she is

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Are You At Risk From the Target Data Breach?

Yes. You may be at risk if you shopped at Target from November 27 to December 15, 2013 and paid for your purchase with a debit or credit card.

What Is A Data Breach?

A data breach is an incident in which sensitive, protected or confidential data has intentionally been accessed, viewed, stolen or used by someone who is not authorized to do so. Often, data breaches are committed by criminals trying to steal financial information. However, data breaches can also be unintentional. For example, information may be accidentally exposed or lost due to the negligence of a merchant or vendor.

What If I Used My Card at Target From November 27 to December 15, 2013?

Target has set up a hotline for customers affected by the breach. Contact them at 1-866-852-8680 to find out if you are a victim. Target says it will also notify via e-mail customers whose personal information was taken, provided it has their e-mail address. However, beware of e-mails that claim to come from Target that request personal or account information as they could be phishing e-mails sent from fraudsters taking advantage of this situation.

Will This Affect My Account?

Possibly. While we are constantly monitoring all of our accounts for fraud, the Bank has decided to reissue cards for all of our customers affected by the Target data breach.

Is It Necessary for the Bank To Issue Me A New Card?

Yes. To avoid any fraud attempts, the Bank has decided to reissue cards to all of our customers affected by the Target data breach. Although this may cause an inconvenience to you, we believe it is an important step to prevent future fraud and protect your information.

Does It Take Long To Get A New Card?

No. The Bank has issued over 300 cards as a result of the Target data breach. We are making new cards

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a dependent on the PA Schedule SP of his or her parents, grandparents, or foster parents.

How Do I Claim Tax Forgiveness?

1. Complete your PA-40 (Pennsylvania Income Tax Return) up to and including line 9 (Total PA Taxable Income).
2. Next, complete PA Schedule SP (Special Tax Forgiveness). Complete instructions can be found beginning on page 33 of the PA-40 Instruction Booklet.
3. Now, transfer the information from your completed PA Schedule SP onto lines 19a, 19b, 20, and 21 of your PA Income Tax Return to claim your Tax Forgiveness credit.

Where Can I Get Help if I Have Questions?

1. Your local library. Many libraries have tax forms and volunteers available to help you with your tax return.
2. Your local state senator or representative.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. The telephone number for the Pittsburgh Office is (412) 565-7540.

Examples of People Who May be Eligible for Tax Forgiveness

1. **Senior Citizens.** Many senior citizens can qualify since their Social Security and pension income is not included in taxable, or eligibility, income. A married couple with only Social Security and pension income, and no other sources of Eligibility Income, could earn up to \$13,000 of interest and dividend income without paying any PA income tax. This same married couple could earn up to \$15,250 of Eligibility Income and still receive a 10% rate of forgiveness on their PA Income Tax return. Potential tax savings: \$399.
2. **Single Parents.** A working single mom (or dad) with three dependent children, and no other sources of Eligibility Income, could have up to \$35,000 of taxable income and pay no PA income taxes. This person could also have up to \$37,250 of Eligibility Income and still receive a 10% rate of forgiveness on their PA Income Tax return. Potential tax savings: \$1,075.
3. **Married Couples With Children.** A married couple with three dependent children, and no other sources of eligibility income, could have up to \$41,500 of taxable income and pay no PA income taxes. This married couple could also have up to \$43,750 of Eligibility Income and still receive a 10% rate of forgiveness on their PA Income Tax return. Potential tax savings: \$1,274.

Can I claim Tax Forgiveness if I Have Already Filed My 2013 PA Income Tax Return? What About Prior Years?

You can file an amended PA tax return and request a refund if you have over-reported income or did not claim allowable credits or deductions. You must file an amended PA return within three years of the original due date. Complete instructions can be found beginning on page 38 of the PA-40 Instruction Booklet.

Learn More

There are many other circumstances where an individual or married couple can qualify for the PA Tax Forgiveness program. The Bank or I cannot give you specific tax advice. I do encourage you, however, to learn more about the PA Tax Forgiveness program by carefully reading pages 33-37 of the PA-40 Instruction Booklet or by speaking with a qualified tax professional.



Tips for Seniors Wanting to Help Relatives

Be on guard against phone calls from con artists who target seniors. A common scam involves an imposter pretending to be a relative in trouble. ("My wallet was stolen" or "I'm in jail.") These callers do enough homework to mention the name of the relative or other people the senior citizen knows. And by "crying," it is difficult to recognize the voice. The scammer usually pleads for money to be sent immediately by wire transfer, and to not tell any family members for fear of upsetting them. In one variation, the caller may instead claim to be a lawyer, police officer or someone else trying to "help" your relative.

Many older individuals will immediately jump to the assistance of a relative, without asking questions that would verify the caller's identity. In this situation, always check with another family member about whether your relative actually is in trouble and needs money, and only wire money to people you know. Don't wire any funds to strangers who claim they are helping your family.

For more information about scams targeting the elderly or tips from the FDIC, you can search their website at www.fdic.gov/consumers.



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

Visit us at www.wvsbank.com



Are You At Risk From the Target Data Breach?

available as quickly as possible. Reissuing your card protects you and your account from fraud. Other forms of payment remain available such as cash, checks and online bill payment.

Is It Safer To Use Cash?

No. Most of the debit and credit card transactions made by U.S. consumers are safe. While you may suffer some inconvenience in the event of a data breach, carrying large amounts of cash can be unsafe. If the money is stolen, it's gone for good.

What Can I Do To Protect Myself?

Protecting your account and your information is a partnership between you and the Bank. The most important thing you can do is monitor your account closely. View your account online and check your statement regularly. Alert us immediately if you see any suspicious activity on your account. Also, beware of fraudulent e-mails requesting personal and financial information. We will never request that type of information by e-mail, phone and/or fax.

What Else Can I Do?

- Report any suspected fraud to the Bank immediately.
- Use our free online banking to monitor your financial accounts regularly for fraudulent transactions.
- Beware of phishing scams. Never give out personal financial information in an e-mail or over the phone unless you have initiated the contact.
- Monitor your credit report. Order a free copy of your credit report every four months from one of the three credit reporting agencies at www.annualcreditreport.com.

If You Suspect Your Identity Has Been Stolen

- Call the Bank and credit card issuers immediately so they can start working on closing your accounts and clearing your name.
- File a police report and call the fraud unit of three credit-reporting companies.

The fraud unit numbers are:

TransUnion (800) 680-7289
 Experian (888) 397-3742
 Equifax (800) 525-6285

- Consider placing a victim statement in your credit report.
- Make sure to maintain a log of all the contacts you make with authorities regarding the matter. Write down names, titles, and phone numbers in case you need to re-contact them or refer to them in future correspondence.
- For more advice, contact the FTC's ID Theft Consumer Response Center at 1-877-ID THEFT (1-877-438-4338) or www.ftc.gov/idtheft. Available online at www.aba.com/consumers.



NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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St. Patrick's Day Basket Give Away

This month is our celebration of St. Patrick's Day with a basket drawing. Stop in at any of our branch offices to get your entry form. Every visit you make to our offices in March allows you to enter for the prize. You still have time to open your Christmas Club account, and start saving now. We would be happy to help you.

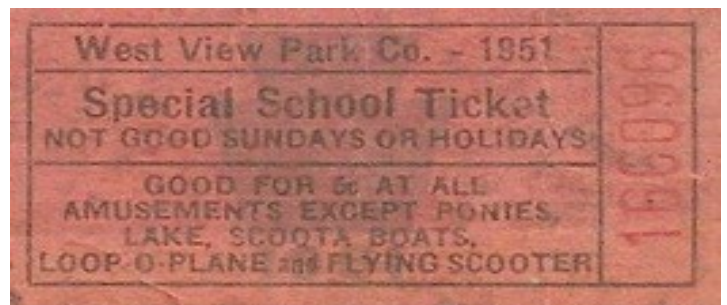
WEST VIEW HISTORY NIGHT MARCH 11, 2014 6 PM SAINT ATHANASIUS GYM



John Schalcosky, president of The Ross Township Historical Society will present the history of West View. He is the author of The History of Ross Township. He is currently working on his next book, The History of West View.

We are looking forward to the presentation. If you have any memorabilia you could share with the audience, please bring it to the History Night.

The West View Community Connection will have memorabilia to purchase throughout the evening.



KID'S KORNER

Plastic Snake/Worm Toy

Welcome spring with this colorful snake or worm depending on which your child would like to make.

Materials Needed:

Plastic Lacing Cord
Newer Style Plastic Easter Eggs with two holes on the top and bottom
Googly Eyes
Red Paper Tongue

Instructions:

- Knot the end of a strand of plastic lacing cord about 30 to 36 inches long.
- Thread the plastic lacing cord through one of the top shell openings. Continue threading the lacing cord through the top shells alternating the left and right holes as you go.
- Knot the end of the lacing cord when you have threaded all the top egg shells.
- Decorate the snake head using the bottom of one of the eggs. Attach googly eyes and a paper red tongue to the snake's face. Then just snap it in place on the last top shell.
- Bend and slither your new recycled Easter Egg Snake



Pretzel Brownie Bars



Layer brownies and pretzels for a sweet & salty fudgy cookie.

- Prep Time 25 min
- Total Time 1 hr 55 min
- Servings 32

Ingredients

Crust

- 1 1/2 cups crushed pretzels
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted

Brownie

- 1 box (1 lb 2.3 oz) Betty Crocker® fudge brownie mix
- 1/4 cup water
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2 eggs

Frosting

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, softened
- 2 squares (1 oz each) unsweetened chocolate, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 to 3 tablespoons milk
- 1/2 cup crushed pretzels

Directions

- Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or nonstick pans). In medium bowl, mix crust ingredients. Press in ungreased 13x9-inch pan. Bake 8 minutes; cool 10 minutes.
- 2 In medium bowl, stir brownie ingredients until blended. Carefully spread batter over cooled crust. Bake 24 to 26 minutes or until toothpick inserted 2 inches from side of pan comes out clean or almost clean. Cool completely on cooling rack, about 1 hour.
- 3 In medium bowl, beat powdered sugar, 2 tablespoons butter, melted chocolate and the vanilla with electric mixer on low speed until combined. Beat in 1 tablespoon milk until blended. Beat in additional milk, 1 tablespoon at a time, until frosting is desired spreading consistency. Frost cooled brownies; sprinkle with crushed pretzels. Cut into 8 rows by 4 rows.