

RELATIONSHIPS beyond BANKING

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014 | ISSUE #21

WE DID IT AGAIN! #1 in Mortgage Lending!*



Great Rates • Flexible Terms • Personal Service

Our mortgage specialists are waiting to help you.
Call us today or visit us online to get started on
your application or pre-approval.

CharterOak.org • 860-446-8085 • 800-962-3237

*Source: The Warren Group, Boston, MA. 2013 data for New London, Windham counties combined.
Includes all residential mortgages with a value between \$1 and \$2,000,000.

Our new Headquarters and Branch will open this June!

In addition to celebrating our 75th year in business, we will proudly
open our new headquarters and 14th branch in Waterford this June.

Visit CharterOak.org or our Facebook page to track our construction
progress. Grand opening information will be coming soon!



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Free Shred Day

Do Your Own Taxes

You Can with TurboTax®!

This year, accomplish something you never thought possible – do your own taxes. With TurboTax®, you can be confident they'll be done right. Plus, Charter Oak Federal Credit Union members can save up to \$15 on TurboTax federal products. Start now and get your guaranteed maximum refund!¹



¹ Maximum (Biggest) Refund Guaranteed or Your Money Back: If you get a larger refund or smaller tax due from another tax preparation method, we'll refund the applicable TurboTax or SnapTax federal and/or state purchase price paid. TurboTax Online Federal Free Edition customers are entitled to payment of \$14.99 and a refund of your state purchase price paid. Claims must be submitted within sixty (60) days of your TurboTax or SnapTax filing date and no later than 6/15/14. E-file, Audit Defense, Ask a Tax Expert, Refund Transfer and technical support fees are excluded. This guarantee cannot be combined with the TurboTax Satisfaction (Easy) Guarantee.

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Rejuvenate your filing cabinets!*

Shred Day is Saturday, April 12th!

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Locations:

Norwich Branch

One Connecticut Avenue
Norwich, CT

Dayville Branch

589 Hartford Pike
Dayville, CT



Our annual free Shred Day is a safe and environmentally friendly way to destroy documents containing your personal information. Helping to protect against identity theft, all members are invited to dispose of sensitive paper materials. In addition to offering free shredding services, Charter Oak will be collecting non-perishable food items for local food pantries.

*To accommodate as many individuals as possible, a three-box limit will be enforced.

Go Paperless

Review your statements sooner! Sign up for eStatement®!

With eStatement, you can view your statement up to 10 days sooner. You can also view up to 18 months of statements at any time and access information such as interactive accounts reconciliation, regulatory disclosures, and frequently asked questions. Log onto *Online Banking* and click the Additional Services tab for eStatement Enrollment.



Ways to help prevent home theft

Burglars will not find your home an “easy mark” if they are forced to work in the light, if they have to take a lot of time breaking in, or if they cannot break in without making a lot of noise.

Research shows that if it takes more than four or five minutes to break into a home, the burglar will go elsewhere. Most insurance companies provide 2 percent to 15 percent discounts for devices that make a home safer—dead-bolt locks, window grates, bars and smoke/fire/burglar alarms.

However, when improving the security of your home, do not exchange security for personal safety. Do not make your home such a fortress that you are unable to escape in case of a fire or other emergency. Here are some ways to help keep your home secure:

Check your home for weaknesses and correct them

- ◆ Take the time to “case” your house or apartment, just as a burglar would. Where is the easiest entry? How can you make it more burglar-resistant?
- ◆ Trim trees and shrubs near doors and windows, and think carefully before installing a high, wooden fence around your back yard. High fences and shrubbery can add to your privacy, but can also be an asset to a burglar. Consider trading a little extra privacy for a bit of added security.
- ◆ Force any would-be burglar to confront a real enemy—light. Exterior lights and motion detectors, mounted out of easy reach, can reduce the darkness a burglar finds comforting.
- ◆ Simple security devices—nails, screws, padlocks, door and window locks, grates, bars and bolts—can increase the amount of time it takes to break into your home.
- ◆ Invest in a burglar alarm. The most effective ones also ring at an outside service.

Are any of your valuables—paintings, a silver collection or a computer—easy to see from outside the house? Rearranging your furnishings might be advisable if it makes your home less inviting to criminals.

Home security habits

- ◆ Establish a routine to make certain that doors and windows are locked and alarm systems are turned on.
- ◆ Avoid giving information to unidentified telephone callers and announcing your personal plans in want ads or public notices (such as giving your address when advertising items for sale).
- ◆ Notify the police if you see suspicious strangers in your area.
- ◆ Do not carry house keys on a key ring bearing your home address or leave house keys with your car in a commercial parking lot or with an attendant.
- ◆ Do not hide your keys in “secret” places outside your home—burglars usually know where to look.

We hope you have found these safety tips from Travelers and Charter Oak – The Insurance Professionals helpful. To learn more about ways to stay safe, visit www.Travelers.com/Prepare-Prevent. To find out how much you could save with the Travelers Auto and Home Insurance Program available to Charter Oak Federal Credit Union members, call **860-572-8477**.



Holiday Hours:

Memorial Day
Saturday, May 24, 2014
Regular Saturday Business Hours
Monday, May 26, 2014
All Branches & Call Center Closed

Independence Day
Friday, July 4, 2014
All Branches & Call Center Closed
Saturday, July 5, 2014
Regular Saturday Business Hours

The Top 10 Retirement Planning Excuses

Ten common “reasons” why someone does not plan for retirement.

Provided by Charter Oak Retirement and Investment Services.

#10 >> “I’m too busy”

Stop procrastinating. How does the saying go? The best time to plant a tree is 30 years ago. The second best time is ... TODAY.

#9 >> “It’s too soon”

It’s NEVER too soon. The sooner you start planning, the better chance you stand of having the kind of retirement you want.

#8: >> “It’s too late”

Think again. Even if you’ve already retired, it’s important to consider how you’re receiving income and how long it will last.

#7: >> “I don’t need to”

This one baffles us. If you’re simply giving monthly to a savings account and hoping for the best, you may be in for an unpleasant surprise someday.

#6: >> “I don’t have enough money to get started”

Starting small is better than not starting at all, and if you plan well, you’ll eventually have more to work with.

#5: >> “My finances are a mess”

Consider speaking with a Financial Professional who can look at your complete financial picture and help you to develop a plan to make your “mess” work for you.

#4: >> “The Government will take care of me”

If you’re planning to retire on Social Security alone, we would advise you to create a back-up plan at the very least.

#3: >> “Between my savings and my 401(k), I’ll be fine”

Saving for retirement without an income distribution plan could be a mistake. Have you considered inflation? Taxes? If you live to 100, will the money last?

#2: >> “I don’t want to think about it”

If you bite the bullet now and put a firm plan in motion, you may not have to think about it again for quite some time.

#1: >> “I don’t know how”

If you knew everything there was to know about financial planning, you’d probably be a financial advisor yourself. If you’re putting off retirement planning because you don’t know how to begin, consider speaking to a professional who does.



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CHARTER OAK
RETIREMENT AND
INVESTMENT SERVICES



Annual Meeting Reminder

Please join us for our 75th Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 24th at the Groton Inn & Suites. Join us at 5:30 p.m. for a buffet of hors d’oeuvres. The business meeting and election of officers will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at all branch locations and are \$10/per person. Don’t forget, there will be great prizes too!



Federally Insured by NCUA

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Dayville • Groton • Montville • Niantic • Norwich • Pawcatuck • Putnam • Waterford • Willimantic

