



■ FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ■

# in the KNOW

SUMMER 2023

## Nurturing Healthy Finances The Intersection of Money and Relationships

Money plays a central role in our lives, affecting various aspects including our well-being, aspirations, and even relationships. In the context of personal finance, it's crucial to recognize that financial matters often intertwine with our closest bonds. Whether it's with a spouse, family member, or friend, understanding the dynamics of money within relationships is essential for fostering financial harmony and achieving shared goals. The foundation of any successful relationship, including a financial one, is built on trust and open communication. Discussing money matters, such as income, expenses, debt, and financial goals, can initially feel uncomfortable. However, embracing these conversations early on will help establish trust and ensure both partners are on the same page.



Cultivating a shared vision for the future is vital to maintaining financial harmony in relationships. Discussing and aligning long-term goals, such as saving for a home, funding education, or planning for retirement, can foster a sense of unity and purpose. By working together towards common aspirations, couples can develop a roadmap and make joint financial decisions that support their collective ambitions.

While financial unity is important, it's equally essential to respect each partner's individual financial identity. Recognize that individuals may have different spending habits, risk tolerances, or approaches to managing money. Supporting each other's autonomy and providing space for personal financial decisions within agreed-upon boundaries can help maintain a healthy balance between joint finances and individual financial independence.

Sometimes, seeking the guidance of a financial professional can be immensely beneficial for couples navigating complex financial situations or major life events. Here at GHS, we can provide objective advice, tailored strategies, and tools to help couples make informed decisions together.

Money can be a catalyst for growth, unity, and shared aspirations within relationships, but it can also be a source of stress and conflict. By prioritizing trust and open communication, couples can build a strong foundation for financial harmony. Remember, fostering a healthy financial relationship is an ongoing journey that requires effort, understanding, and a commitment to shared goals. To get more out of your money plan, make an appointment on the following link with our Financial Counselor, Lisa Young today! [www.ghsfcu.com/financial-literacy](http://www.ghsfcu.com/financial-literacy)

## MESSAGE FROM THE **GHS PRESIDENT/CEO**

I wanted to take a moment to share some exciting news about the growth we've experienced at GHS Federal Credit Union over the past six months. We have witnessed remarkable progress in our membership, with increasing account balances and loan volumes. It brings us great joy to see our members succeeding and finding financial prosperity with us.

Notably, these positive trends are not isolated within our credit union; we also observe them in the broader economy. This promising indication bodes well for both our members and the credit union as we look ahead to the rest of the year.

As part of our ongoing commitment to delivering exceptional financial wellness, we recently conducted a member survey in June. Your feedback is invaluable to us, as it allows us to understand how we are performing in terms of meeting your expectations and providing the best products and services. The insights shared by our members help us identify areas of excellence and areas where we can improve, all with the aim of enhancing your member experience. We genuinely appreciate your participation in the survey, and we are excited to take your feedback into account.

At GHS, we strive to provide "The Relationship of a Lifetime." It is this promise that drives us to continuously improve and deliver exceptional service to our valued members like you.

Finally, as the summer holidays unfold and travel plans come to fruition, we want to extend our warmest wishes to you. May this season be filled with joy and exploration as you savor the delights of the southern tier of New York.

*Thank you for being a member of GHS Federal Credit Union.*

**Shawn Wolbert, President/CEO**



Shawn Wolbert, CIA, GHS President/CEO

### UPCOMING GHS HOLIDAYS

All branches will be closed during the following days:

- Monday, September 5 - **Labor Day**

## GHS MURAL

GHS Federal Credit Union unveiled a new mural painted by Chenango Valley High School art students on Friday, May 19th, 2023. The new work of art is painted on the entryway walls of GHS's 910 Front Street, Binghamton branch, and features notable symbols of our community. The mural is a way for the credit union to celebrate our roots and history in our founding city of Binghamton, NY, while offering local students a unique opportunity to use their talents and skills.

Many schools in the area submitted artwork for the project, and while all amazing, the GHS team chose the design created by Chenango Valley students Savannah Greenmun (lead student), Maddi Trisket, Aubrey Staub, Jessica Matson, Sophia Ashman, Erin Wales, and Kenna Wales, accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Matthew Wilson.

The group began working on the mural after hours at the branch beginning in early March 2023. Supplies, including paint and brushes, were generously donated by Golden Artist Colors of Norwich, located at 65 Hale Street, Norwich, NY. The project took close to 8 weeks to complete, and the students, Mr. Wilson and the GHS team are excited to unveil the mural to the public.

GHS presented the Chenango Valley High School art department with a \$2,500 check, and each student was also given a cash gift as a 'thank you' for their hard work. GHS is excited to welcome existing and new members to the branch with the beautiful mural, and we thank the talented students and dedicated faculty of Chenango Valley Central School District for their hard work and beautiful design.



### CONGRATULATIONS GHSFCU SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT!

GHS had the honor of rewarding a local student and GHS member from Chenango Valley High School with a \$2,000 scholarship! Shawn Wolbert, President of GHS, awarded the student during a scholarship ceremony at Chenango Valley High School on June 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM. Congratulations to all of our graduating members! We can't wait to see what you accomplish.

# MEMBER BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Soccer Shots

Website: [www.soccershots.com/binghamton](http://www.soccershots.com/binghamton)  
 Phone: (607) 684.5532  
 Email: [Binghamton@soccershots.com](mailto:Binghamton@soccershots.com)

Soccer Shots - Binghamton serves Broome, Chenango, Chemung, Cortland, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties, providing our community's youth with the opportunity to grow with the game of soccer through dedicated, expert coaching and a fun atmosphere.

Local owner, Kyle Sanders, says, "We are committed to providing a positive growth experience for your child using expert-approved curriculum to teach new character words and skills each week while having fun!"

Visit their website at [www.soccershots.com/binghamton](http://www.soccershots.com/binghamton) to learn more and to sign your child up for a great program to learn teamwork, confidence and character along side great coaches and other local children.



**EARN**  
**4.50% APY\***  
 on our 9 month Share Certificate  
 (min. \$500 deposit. Special rate for a limited time)



\*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates subject to change. Special share certificate rate for a limited time. Certificates are federally insured by the NCUA (National Credit Union Administration) up to \$250,000.

## Ready to move your business banking to GHS FCU? *Let's get started!*

GHS Federal Credit Union has your business covered with convenient checking, savings, and lending options, plus payment processing solutions for any business size.

Your business and GHS Federal Credit Union share the common goal of investing in our great community - that is why we believe we are the best fit for your business banking needs. For over 80 years - and counting, GHS Federal Credit Union has played a key role in keeping our local economy vibrant and thriving.

As an SBA participating lender, we work with all business sizes to provide you with the tools you need to succeed. Learn about the perks and products GHS has to offer your business and contact your local business partner to get started today!

### Meet your GHS business partner, Maire!



Maire Lowery  
 Business Development  
 Manager  
[mlowery@ghsfcu.com](mailto:mlowery@ghsfcu.com)  
 607-472-2899

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

### READ THE LATEST ANNUAL REPORT

→ Scan the QR code or visit:  
[www.ghsfcu.com/about-us/#annual-report](http://www.ghsfcu.com/about-us/#annual-report)



### 2022 was a busy year for GHS!

From branch updates to the merger, we are proud of the growth we have fostered and achieved in the year. As part owners of the credit union, we invite our membership to read our annual report to learn more about the goals we met throughout the year. During our annual meeting on June 10th at noon, members attended and voted approval of the report, as well as the direction in which the credit union is headed. We look forward to finishing out 2023 with continued growth and prosperity, and thank our membership for helping us to achieve our mission of providing our three counties and over 19,000 members we serve with the relationship of a lifetime for over 80 years - and counting!

### Dollars & Cents Crosstalk's Podcast

Have your morning brew with Shawn Wolbert and Lisa Young as they chat about the path to financial freedom.



## LISTEN UP!

### Dollars & Cents Crosstalk

Catch up on the latest GHS podcast, "Dollars & Cents Crosstalk"! Stream on Spotify and tune in to the latest financial topics to help you grow your knowledge and build a clearer path to financial freedom and wellness. New episode every week covering topics from saving money to safe banking habits - AND MORE!

SCAN TO LISTEN



## Q3 SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

**Doreen H. - 12 Years**

Loan Assistant

**Sauna R. - 11 Years**

Loan Officer

**Talisha P. - 2 Years**

Member Services Representative

**Sarah C. - 6 Years**

Norwich Branch Manager

**Monica C. - 27 Years**

Controller

**Alaina F. - 18 Years**

Support Services Specialist

**Jaime P. - 18 Years**

Support Services Supervisor

**James W. - 8 Years**

VP of Operation

**Maria W. - 12 Years**

Accounting Assisant

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Check out what GHS has been up to this quarter!



Our spring shred event on May 20 at our Front Street branch was a huge success! With the help of our community members who came to shred, their donations on GHS's contributions raised \$2,225 for the United Way of Broome County's 'Full Plate Project'. This vital project uses 100% of the proceeds to feed those in need around the county. Thank you to all of our members and community participants for shredding with us and joining the fight against hunger!



GHS hosted our annual meeting on June 10 at noon in our Front Street branch lobby. Board of Director, Jason Aurelio, and Treasurer, Brandon Sunderlin, spoke about the tremendous growth within the credit union. We thank our membership of attending this important event to discuss the future of the credit union.



Shawn Wolbert, CEO of GHS, walked the catwalk at this year's Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network's Guys and Gals Annual Fashion Gala. This fun community event raises important dollars for the organization that provides assistance to families in our area by providing important resources to mothers and children before, during and after birth.

## WELCOME Q3 NEW GHS STAFF

**Kiana B.**

Member Services Representative

**Tiana H.**

Member Services Representative

## STAY UP TO DATE

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok to keep up with GHS and to learn about the events we have coming up, including FREE financial seminars hosted by our Financial Wellness Coordinator, Lisa Young, CCUFC!



[www.facebook.com/GHSFCU](https://www.facebook.com/GHSFCU)



[www.instagram.com/ghsfcu](https://www.instagram.com/ghsfcu)



[www.tiktok.com/ghsfederalcreditunion](https://www.tiktok.com/ghsfederalcreditunion)

## Board of DIRECTORS

Jason Aurelio, Chairperson  
 Leonard Lindenmuth, DHA, Vice-Chairperson  
 Brandon Sunderlin, CPA, Treasurer  
 Nathan VanWhy, Esq., Secretary  
 Scott Cohen, MD  
 Ben Giordano  
 Julie Chambers  
 William Craine

## Supervisory COMMITTEE

Nicholas Spencer, Chairperson  
 B. Ethan Cook, Co-Chairperson  
 Christopher Lake  
 Jared Cornell  
 Brandon Sunderlin, CPA, Board / Supervisory Committee Liaison

## Executive MANAGEMENT

Shawn Wolbert - President/CEO  
 Paris Aranguiz - VP / Finance  
 James Warneck - VP/ Operations

## Senior MANAGEMENT

Amanda Sopris - Human Resources Manager  
 Marissa Sweeney - Director of Marketing  
 Maire Lowery - Business Development Manager

## in the KNOW

A quarterly publication produced by the Marketing department of the GHS Federal Credit Union.

### For more information, questions or concerns, contact:

GHS FCU Marketing Department  
[marketing@ghsfcu.com](mailto:marketing@ghsfcu.com)