



**Bill Partin**  
President/CEO

## Sharonview is Expanding

### New branches and ATMs coming soon

2016 has been a very exciting year for Sharonview thus far. We are continuing to grow, and with expansion comes the need for additional branch and ATM locations to make Sharonview more convenient for members. Please see the newest updates below, and check Sharonview.org frequently for additional expansion announcements.

### New Sharonview Financial Services Office, Charlotte, N.C.

Our new SFS office is now open. This new office provides dedicated space to our North Carolina SFS team and is located on the second floor of our Carmel Office building at 7422 Carmel Exec. Park, Suite 218 Charlotte, NC.



### Redstone, Fort Mill S.C.

We are excited to announce that Sharonview is a confirmed tenant in Redstone, the 40-acre development planned area for HWY 160 and HWY 521 in Fort Mill. We will have a 2,597-square-foot branch location, and we are planning to open in summer 2017.

### Stonecrest, Charlotte N.C.

This location in the Stonecrest shopping center in South Charlotte will open late 2016 and will feature the "tech branch" model that opened in Gastonia, N.C. in 2015.

### New ATM Locations

We will have two new ATM locations in August 2016. One will be in Gaston County, N.C. on East Franklin Blvd. and the other will be in Salisbury, N.C. on Jake Alexander Blvd. We are in the process of upgrading our ATMs in New Jersey on the Sanofi campus to offer more functionality including accepting deposits. We are also actively exploring ATM locations in Wilmington, N.C. and Fayetteville, N.C. Stay tuned for more details!

Regards,

*Bill*

**COMING  
SOON**

**Sharonview  
will be getting a  
New Look  
and  
New Website!  
Stay tuned for more details!**



### Like Sharonview? Refer a friend!

For more information on how to join visit  
[www.sharonview.org](http://www.sharonview.org),  
go to your local branch or call us at  
704.969.6700 or 800.462.4421

# Sharonview Awards \$20,000 in Scholarship Funds to Eight Students

On June 17, Sharonview Federal Credit Union awarded \$20,000 in scholarship funds to eight students because of their superior academic and extracurricular achievements. The students were selected by a committee of Sharonview staff and the Executive Leadership Team from applications across the United States.

The Sharonview Cares Paul Paliyenko Scholarship, a scholarship open to all members, and the Sharonview Team Phil Abrams Scholarship, a scholarship for children of employees, provided \$20,000 in funds for the 2016-17 academic year to students pursuing higher education.

The scholarship recipients are:



**Hannah Byars** of Blacksburg, S.C. is a freshman at Spartanburg Community College where she is studying Dentistry and plans to have a career as a Dental Assistant.



**Zachary Sisk** of Charlotte, N.C. will attend Elon University in the fall where he will study Psychology with a minor in Creative Writing. In high school, he was involved with the National Honors Society, Marching Band and the Creative Writing Club.



**Chase Tucker** of Chesnee, S.C. will attend Coastal Carolina University in the fall where he plans to study Marine Biology. In high school, he was involved in the National Honors Society, Palmetto Spartanburg Junior Leadership, and was a Gardner-Webb University Junior Scholar.



**Carson Sisk** of Charlotte, N.C. will attend the College of William and Mary where she will study Anthropology and Archeology. As a high school student, Carson was a member of the National Honors Society, Tri M Music Honor Society and French Club.



**Matthew Heffelfinger** of Shelby, N.C. will attend Appalachian State University. In high school he participated in the National Honors Society, Beta Club and the men's soccer team.



**William Jarret Forrester** of Greer, S.C. will attend Francis Marion University and plans to study Music Engineering / Music Business Management. In high school, he was on the student council in addition to participating in honors drama and honors chorus.



**Kristina Kirksey** of Charlotte, N.C. is a freshman at Central Piedmont Community College where she is studying to be a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. She has participated in the Math Club, National Society of Black Engineers, and received the highest GPA in Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society.



**Taylor Brooke Self** of Fort Lawn, S.C., is a freshman at the University of South Carolina, Lancaster where she is studying Business and Finance. She works part-time at Hobby Lobby and has made the Dean's List.

## Congratulations to All of the 2016 Scholarship Recipients!

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## 6 Misconceptions About Credit Unions Debunked

If you don't belong to a credit union, you may not know what benefits they offer. You may have the misconceptions that, say, there aren't many ATMs, or they don't offer the latest banking services and technology or that only certain people are eligible for membership. Digging into the services offered by credit unions may change your mind.

### 1. What about ATMs?

Let's start with that urban myth about never being able to find a credit union ATM when you need one. Many credit unions belong to a nationwide network of branches and ATMs. With more than 30,000 ATMs and 5,000 shared branches, you're never far from a fee-free ATM, even when you're traveling. If you do get stuck paying a surcharge, some credit unions, like Sharonview Federal Credit Union, have free checking accounts that will automatically refund that fee into your account, up to \$10 per month.

### 2. The latest in financial tech

Recognizing that today's consumers manage their lives by smartphone, credit unions have developed online and mobile banking services to rival any big bank. Mobile banking apps can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or Google Play, and will allow members to check balances and account activity, transfer money, pay bills, locate ATMs and deposit checks. Some credit unions, including Sharonview, also offer fingerprint, and even eye scan, log-in to access the mobile banking app.

### 3. Feeling secure with your money

Security is high on the list of priorities for credit unions. Many also belong to CO-OP Financial Services, which recently rolled out CardNav, a free app designed to let you personalize how your debit card works while boosting your security. The version of the app provided by financial institutions like Sharonview Federal Credit Union allows you to enter your debit cards and then choose which card to turn on or off, where a card can be used, how much can be spent, and more.

### 4. Get rewards with credit cards

Another misconception about credit unions is that the credit cards they issue don't have the rewards programs that the big banks have. Wrong. Most credit unions offer credit cards with low interest rates and high-value rewards programs for merchandise, travel and cash-back. Some

credit cards, like Sharonview's Unlimited Rewards card, earn 1 point for every \$1 spent. Credit unions' cards also tend to come with perks like purchase protection, enhanced security with EMV chip cards, identity theft assistance, travel and concierge services.

### 5. Low rates on loans

When you go to take out a loan for a car, home or personal use, you'll find that credit union rates have lower rates than banks. In fact, the average rate, nationally, for new and used car loans issued by credit unions was more than 2 percentage points below those from banks, according to a 2015 analysis by the National Credit Union Administration.

### 6. How do I join?

The most common misconception about credit unions is that you aren't eligible to become a member. Membership in a credit union is available to people who live, attend school, work or worship in a certain area or who belong to a community group. Your membership can also be shared with members of your immediate family.

Now that you know the facts, maybe it's time to join a credit union.

Ellen Cannon, NerdWallet

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# ARE YOU READY TO RETIRE?

Content developed by LPL Financial  
A MESSAGE FROM

**SHARONVIEW**  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

## Whatever “retirement” means to you, you’ll need to design a financial plan suited to your specific vision of the future.

Retirement used to conjure up images of lazy days spent in a rocking chair. Today’s retirement is very different. You might plan to open a business of your own. Or perhaps you’ll return to school for that degree you never had the chance to complete. So what does this redefined retirement mean to you? There is no one answer. In the coming decades, “retirement” will mean something different to each of us. Regardless of your decision, you’ll need to design a financial plan suited to your specific vision of the future.

### Income Is Key

A good starting point might be to examine your sources of retirement income. If you pay attention to the financial press, you’ve probably come across at least a few commentators who speak in gloom-and-doom terms about the future for American retirees, decrying a lack of savings and warning of the imminent growth of the elderly population. True, there is widespread concern about at least one traditional source of income for retirees -- Social Security. Under current conditions, Social Security funds could fall short of needs by 2033.<sup>1</sup> This shift makes it even more important for individuals to understand their goals and have a well-thought-out financial plan that focuses on the key source of retirement income: personal savings and investments. Given the potential duration and changing nature of retirement, you may want to seek the assistance of a professional financial planner who can help you assess your needs and develop appropriate investment strategies. As you move through the various stages of the new retirement, perhaps working at times and resting at others, your plan may require adjustments along the way. A professional advisor can help you monitor your plan and make changes when necessary. Among the factors you’ll need to consider:

**Time:** You can project periods of retirement, reeducation, and full employment. Then

concentrate on a plan to fund each of the separate periods. The number of years until you retire will influence the types of investments you include in your portfolio. If retirement is a short-term goal, investments that provide liquidity and help preserve your principal may be most suitable. On the other hand, if retirement is many years away, you may be able to include more aggressive investments in your portfolio.

**Inflation:** While lower-risk fixed-income and money market investments may play an important role in your investment portfolio, if used alone they may leave you susceptible to the erosive effects of inflation. To help your portfolio keep pace with inflation, you may need to maintain some growth-oriented investments. Over the long-term, stocks have provided returns superior to other asset classes.<sup>2</sup> But also keep in mind that stocks generally involve greater short-term volatility.

**Taxes:** Even after you retire, taxes will remain an important factor in your overall financial plan. If you return to work or open a business, for example, your tax bracket could change. In addition, should you move from one state to another, state or local taxes could affect your bottom line. Tax-advantaged investments, such as annuities and tax-free mutual funds, may be effective tools for meeting your retirement goals. Tax deferral offered by workplace plans -- such

as 401(k) and 403(b) plans -- and IRAs may also help your retirement savings grow.

### Prepare Today for the Retirement of Tomorrow

To ensure that retirement lives up to your expectations, begin establishing your plan as early as possible and consider consulting with a professional. With proper planning, you may be able to make your retirement whatever you want it to be.

<sup>1</sup>Source: Social Security Administration, The 2014 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, July 2014. <sup>2</sup>Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Stock investing involves risk including loss of principal.

**For more information, or to schedule a FREE, no-obligation consultation, call us at 704.973.2625 or 800.462.4421 x2625, or visit us online at [www.sharonview.org/SFS](http://www.sharonview.org/SFS).**

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