

Now is the time!



It is very important to start saving as early as you can for your retirement. You may think that your retirement is so far away that you don't have to start thinking about it today, but you're wrong. The earlier you can start saving, the better off you'll be when your retirement approaches.

One of the best vehicles for saving for your retirement is with an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). An Individual Retirement

Account or IRA is an account that provides tax benefits when used to save for retirement. Of course, these accounts do have restrictions, such as how much can be contributed in a calendar year, when distributions may be taken and when distributions are required.

The two most common types of IRAs are Traditional and Roth. Traditional IRAs offer an up-front tax deduction. Taxes are paid when funds are distributed in retirement. Roth IRAs are funded with after tax money, so funds may be used tax-free in retirement.

There's a lot to consider when choosing an IRA. Our Specialists can help make doing that easier. Call or stop by any office to discuss your retirement savings options.

* Contributions made by April 15th may qualify as a deduction on your 2014 tax form (contact your accountant or tax advisor for details.)

Milford Business After Hours Event Hosted by The Milford Bank



Kathy Alagno, Executive Director of the Milford Chamber of Commerce and Bob Macklin, President & CEO of The Milford Bank.

Photo by Steve M. Cooper Photography

Members of the Milford Chamber of Commerce attended a Business After Hours networking event on Wednesday, December 10th. 165 local business owners, community leaders and employees of The Milford Bank gathered in the lobby of the Bank's Main Office, which was decorated with poinsettias, a decorated Christmas tree and other holiday greenery.

Business After Hours events are held monthly by the Milford Chamber of Commerce. They are an opportunity for people to network with representatives of other local businesses. Said Jorge Santiago, Senior Vice President of The Milford Bank, "We're proud to sponsor this event each year. It is a great fundraiser for the Milford Chamber of Commerce and provides the business community an opportunity to meet their peers in a relaxed setting. The December Business After Hours is always attended by the most people."

We'll be closed on Monday, February 16th in observance of Presidents' Day.

(Access to your funds free of charge is still available at any Allpoint ATM location. For specifics, go to allpointnetwork.com.)




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Some offbeat holidays you can celebrate in February

February 6th: Lame Duck Day

Without a Presidential election preceding it, this is kind of a lame duck holiday. Though the holiday was created to celebrate the introduction of the 20th amendment in 1933, the amendment was actually ratified in January of that year. Lame duck day is more of a way to honor those who just left office after being rendered totally ineffective for a few months. In other words, it is appropriately lame.

February 9th: National Read in the Bath Tub Day

Today is the day to treat yourself to a warm bath and a good book. Unless you don't mind severe pruning, this might not be the day to finally finish Infinite Jest.



February 14th: Ferris Wheel Day

The seats on a Ferris Wheel may be made

for two, but they fit one quite comfortably. Ferris Wheel Day is a whimsical alternative to its more famous peer, Valentine's Day – but it may give you the same stomach ache consuming a box of chocolates would.

February 22nd: National Margarita Day

It should come as a surprise to no one that Jimmy Buffett is behind this one. If you are looking to put off Lent for one day more, celebrate February 22nd by appreciating as many Margaritas as you deem fit. If you happen to live near a Margaritaville drinking establishment, they will be providing specials all day.

February 28th: National Pancake Day & National Public Sleeping Day

These two holidays go hand in glove if you do it right. Every year, the International House of Pancakes sponsors the one holiday you won't want to miss. On the 28th, swing by an IHOP and receive a free short stack of Butter-milk pancakes. Continue the celebration all day by eating only pancakes, perhaps even host a pancake crawl with friends.

And when the food coma kicks in, simply lie down wherever you are. As long as it's in public.

As we hope you've noticed—very often we feature coupons from various local businesses in our newsletters.

Ever wonder why we do this?

It's because we think everyone benefits when we spend our money locally so we work with our business customers to make special offers available to the rest of our customers.

We started this program several years ago with coupons accessible on our ATMs. While we can no longer offer them

at our ATMs (the software which enabled us to add coupon screens is no longer available) our customers can still find these valuable offers on our website, in our eNewsletter and in the customer newsletters mailed with their monthly paper statements.

Every quarter, working in conjunction with our business customers, we offer different coupons supporting local businesses—anything from restaurants to boutiques to flower shops and everything in between. We're always looking for

ways to help our customers save money. Our local coupon program is just one extension of that philosophy. Plus, it helps our business customers too.

Who doesn't like to save money? We know we do. By making use of our local coupon program, it is our hope that our customers will help support local businesses without feeling like they are breaking the bank.

Own a business and interested in participating in this program? Contact lviesti@milfordbank.com for details!



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