

: Velocity in the Community : Scholarships



Left to right: Ariel Freeman, Thomas Massad, Ricci Bostick, Aaron Sheckler, Cody Ramirez, Victoria Andrews

Congratulations to the winners of the **20th Annual Velocity Credit Union Scholarship Awards**.

The reception was held on June 4 and honored six exceptional graduating seniors (and credit union members) and their achievements.

This year, the recipient of the **Royal G. Wilson Memorial Scholarship** was **Thomas Massad**, a graduate of the Liberal Arts and

Science Academy who will be attending Georgetown University in Washington D.C. this fall. **Ricci Bostick**, who graduated from McNeil High School, received the **Tom Eaton Memorial Scholarship**. Bostick is planning to pursue her education at Hampton University in Virginia. The final recipient was **Aaron Sheckler**, who was presented with the **Limuel Hunter Scholarship**. Sheckler is a graduate of Lehman High School and plans to attend Angelo State University. Each winner received \$2,000 to pursue their college education. To date, Velocity has awarded more than \$125,000.

The **Robert Wilder Memorial Scholarships** are \$750 scholarships given to past winners who are continuing their college education. The recipients were the following students: **Cody Ramirez** from St. Edwards University; **Michael Massad** from Carleton College; **Ariel Frazier** from Lehigh University; **Victoria Andrews** from Texas Tech; **Jasmine Washington** from the University of Texas; **Maria Tovar** from Texas A&M; and **Laura Longnecker** from Texas A&M.

:: Financial Workshops ::

Starting in September, Velocity will launch a Financial Workshop Series.

First up is *Financial Aid 101 : Breaking Down 529 Plans* on Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013.

The series will offer two financial workshops each month ending in March with a Home Buying seminar. The series will take a break for the holidays in November and December and gear up once more in January.

More information will be available on Velocity's website. The series is FREE to the all members and partner employees. You can also email marketing@velocitycu.com for additional information or to request a FREE presentation onsite.



Summer is officially here, but it appears Austin has been feeling the summer heat for months now. Kids are out of school and wondering what great summer plans parents have in store!

Summer in the City

Get out on the town! Experience all the great fun and inventive summer events central Texas has to offer. There is no need to travel 1000 miles for some summer fun, your backyard is filled with options.

Keep cool with a summer film series:

- Get out and relax at Deep Eddy Pool. This summer, relax with Deep Eddy's Splash Movie Series beginning in July. www.deepeddy.org
- Grab a blanket, some pillows, a light snack and head over to the Long Center lawn for Movies at the Park. Do512 and Alamo Drafthouse co-produce the series that pairs outdoor movies with live music. It does not get any more Austin than this. www.do512.com/soundandcinema
- Escape the summer heat and head over to the 38th Annual Paramount Summer Classic Film Series. Experience great classics the way they were meant to be watched — on the big screen! <http://www.austintheatre.org>

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:: Keeping it cool this summer ::

Summer and early fall bring one of the best and worst things about Texas to everyone's mind — the sun. While many of us enjoy not having to cope with snowstorms and are glad for a long, sunny season to do outdoor activities, keeping cool inside can be difficult.

In the summer months, people know their electricity bill is going to go up as things get hotter and hotter outside. Instead of resigning yourself to dealing with this increased cost, you can do a few simple things to increase the energy efficiency of your air:



- **Let the thermostat go up a few degrees.** You may not notice the difference between 72 and 73 degrees in your home, but your AC unit will. The further away you want to be from the temperature outside, the harder your air conditioner has to work — and each degree is harder on your electricity than the previous degree. Changing your home's temperature from 73 degrees to 72 is actually more taxing on your electricity than changing it from 74 to 73. Even though you're just changing the temperature by one degree in both cases, it's harder to maintain the lower temperatures. So watch every single degree.
- **Check your air filters.** This is something people are reminded about constantly, but don't realize that it can make a big difference. If the filter is blocked with months of dust, hair, etc., it's going to let less air through over time. When that happens, your home gets less warm air cycled into cool air, meaning the AC unit has to run more often. While this won't turn your electricity bill around completely, you'll notice difference in your bill and how fast your home gets cooled.
- **Set timers on your thermostat.** When you're not home, the air doesn't need to be as cool. While you don't want to come home to what might feel like an oven, it's smart to let the thermostat's setting go up a few degrees when you know you'll be out. Programmable thermostats allow you to set particular schedules of when to change the temperature — for example, when everyone will be at school or work, the temperature in the house can go up by 5 or 6 degrees easily to save some strain on your AC. If you don't have a programmable thermostat, some power companies offer rebates or free installation to get one in your home — even if you rent!
- **Cut down on sources of heat.** The cumulative effect of lights and open windows can have a major impact on the amount of heat your air conditioning is having to fight against. Bulbs that aren't "energy efficient" eat more electricity, and generate more heat. Additionally, sunlight coming in the windows and heating up the glass panes or any surface the light shines directly on (especially walls and hardwood floors) can also contribute to the problem. To cut down on your electricity bill, keep blinds or curtains drawn on windows facing the sun, and make sure you turn off lights in rooms you're not using.

