

CAMP PHILLYNEWS

Council for Advancement of Muslim Professionals PHILADELPHIA Chapter

Serving Philadelphia, Greater PA Suburbs, Central and South NJ, and DE

Habitat for Humanity Day

Mission:

Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia builds and rehabilitates houses and neighborhoods by providing simple, decent, affordable homes in partnership with families in need. Reaching out from Christian roots across denominational, faith, economic and racial lines, Habitat works in partnership with prospective and existing homeowners, volunteers, donors, community organizations and all those who can help reach these goals. When you create a newsletter, first determine the audience. This could be anyone who might benefit from it, such as those interested in a product.

What They Do:

Habitat Philadelphia is an independently chartered affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International,

As interest rates rise, CDs stage a comeback

By Sharon Epperson, CNBC

With the Federal Reserve busy nudging interest rates higher, savvy savers are taking a fresh look at certificates of deposits.

These once-stodgy savings tools, which had fallen out of favor when interest rates hit rock bottom, are getting investors psyched again about stashing away their cash. Today, the amount of money invested in traditional CDs now exceeds \$1 trillion — an 18 percent increase over last year and a 27

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Habitat for Humanity Day	1
As interest rates rise, CDs stage a comeback	1
Member Spotlight	2
Quotes of the Month	2
Welcome New Board Members	3
Upcoming Events	4
What MORE to look forward to	4

which developed our model of partnership housing. We don't build houses for needy families, we build houses with them. They put in 350 hours of work on the construction site alongside thousands of volunteers. Volunteers are one part of what makes the houses we build affordable. The other part is a zero-interest mortgage that allows homeowners to pay back the cost of their house through monthly payments that they can afford.

CAMP-Philadelphia has donated time to help this organization. We plan on hosting another event in the near future. Be sure to keep both eyes out for it.

percent gain since the Fed started to raise rates nearly two years ago.

"The interest rates are better than you're getting in a savings account or stocks that you don't trust," said Janet Rigoletto.

As the Fed raises short-term interest rates, banks can deliver a higher return on the money you put into your CD. Higher term rates may be bad if

Please see CDs comeback on page 3

Member Spotlight

Imtiaz Fazal, President and Owner

aRwise Technology Services

Imtiaz Fazal is an engineer, technologist, and business owner who believes in helping business and organizations make wise decision on their Information System and technological needs. Imtiaz is a graduate of New Jersey Institute of Technology Computer Science Masters Program and received his Bachelor's of Science in Information Systems from Ramapo College of New Jersey. He brings over 10 years experience serving the NY/NJ startups, financial sector, technology firms, manufacturing and pharmaceutical firms, to name a few.

As a business owner, Imtiaz has worked to develop and expand his company, with repeat business trending at 68% of total sales. He believes that this is due to his personal experience and some of the founding principles of his business: excellent customer service, reliable solutions and affordable cost.

The Firm aRwise Technology Services LLC,

Check out next month's newsletter to see who we will feature next in our Member Spotlight Section



established in 2003, provides IT solutions to small-mid size companies and organizations. We provide customers with hardware sale, network setup and design that installs configures and supports the IT network from router and firewall configuration, to multiple location connectivity over networks, network monitoring systems, voice, data and wireless solutions, to data backup and data recovery strategy. We also specialize in web design and development.

The company has a unique referral program whereby the referee gets 10% each time from our service once the referral becomes a client of aRwise.

**For Information, logon to
www.arwise.com
or email us at info@arwise.com**

Quotes of the Month:

"Success is the good fortune that comes from aspiration, desperation, perspiration, and inspiration"
– Evan Esar

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy"
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CDs comeback from page 1

you're shopping for a mortgage, but they're great for savers.

"In rising interest rate environments, (savers) tend to ladder out in three, six and 12-month increments," said Jeremy Hoover, a financial consultant at Charles Schwab. "As the Federal Reserve raises rates, they're able to get higher yields when those CD's mature."

The average yield on a one-year CD is over 3.5 percent. That's the highest since August 2001, and about two percentage points higher than June 2004, when the Fed started raising rates.

"To be able to lock in those kinds of returns — without risk — is attractive to investors at a time when bond investments are lucky to be break even," said Greg McBride, an analyst with Bankrate.com, which tracks CDs and other consumer interest rates.

The increased excitement about CDs these days has banks battling each other to offer more

"The average yield on a one year CD is over 3.5 percent. That's the highest since August 2001, and about two percentage points higher than June 2004, when the Fed started raising rates."

attractive yields. Though the average yield on a one-year CD is over 3.5 percent, some banks have one-year CDs yielding 5 percent.

"That difference of roughly 1.5 percentage points is enough to generate \$150 in interest income that you'd otherwise leave on the table with a \$10,000 investment," said McBride.

But even with 5 percent yields on one-year CDs, some folks still aren't sold.

"If you told me I could get 15 percent investing in CDs then I would probably do so," said Josh Mathews.

Some investors want to stay aggressive.

Keep in mind you don't need to tie up your money for long. Bankrate.com lists several banks offering three month CDs yielding over 4.5 percent.

Welcome New Board Members!

CAMP Philadelphia would like to welcome a few new faces to our board. To learn more about them, visit our website. <http://www.campnet.net/philadelphia>

[Khurram Taji](#) – Co-Vice President

[Saadia Malik](#) – Financial Strategy Manager

[Mavish Aqil](#) – Events Coordinator (Professional Development)

[Fatima Abdulla](#) – Marketing PR Coordinator

[Mona Abdella](#) – Social Events Coordinator

[Benish Aqil](#) – Event Community Outreach

[Imtiaz Fazal](#) – Web Media Coordinator

Upcoming Events

April ::

- April 1-2 NAML-NMLSA 2006 Conference, Washington, D.C.
Location: George Washington University Law School
- April 8th CAIR Philly Hunger Walk
- April 8th - 9th IMANA Educational & Social Event for Students and Residents
12pm – 5pm with dinner banquet to follow @ Hilton Garden Inn,
500 Promenade Blvd., Bridgewater, NJ. 08807 ph. 732.271.9030
- April 8th Playgrounds For Palestine Annual Fundraising Dinner & Party
Live Entertainment, Arab Music & Dancing
6pm – SAMBA (714 W Girard)
- April 22nd CAMP Philly ~ **April Social Night** ~ – Bowling & Dinner
- April 29th National Arab American Professionals - Philadelphia Chapter hosts ...
5th Annual Palestine Children's Relief Fund Banquet
- April 30th Chai Talks - Philadelphia

May ::

- May 7th Dinar Standard & CAMP Philadelphia Strategy Forum
"Where are the Global Brands from the Muslim World?"
University of Pennsylvania campus

- May 13th The United Muslim Masjid presents ...
8th Annual Sister's Recognition Luncheon & Fashion Show
11am – 4pm, Hilton Philadelphia Hotel

Looking back...

- March 18th WHY Islam – Speakers: Sh. Abdalla Idris Ali - Sh. Hamza Yusuf - Dr. Jamal Badawi - Imam
Siraj Wahhaj - Imam Zaid Shakir. The event raised approx. ½ million dollars.
- March 25th Dave & Busters – "Come out and Play" night – 30+ in attendance. Successful and fun night
of meeting new people over dinner and games!

What **MORE** to look forward to...

June - July

CAMP Philly celebrates its 1 Year Anniversary - TBA
Join us for our Annual Dinner Gala

August

Professional Development Series
Emotional Intelligence – "What's your EQ?"

September

ISNA Conference, Chicago
CAMP International Conference & Annual Dinner

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.campnet.net/philadelphia

E-Mail:

info@philadelphia.campnet.net