

Sandy Dail, President

Shawna Allen, Vice President

Employment Security Employees CREDIT UNION

Kansas
Departments of
Labor & Commerce



“Serving employees
and their families
since 1943”

401 S.W. Topeka Boulevard, Topeka, KS 66603-3182 (northwest entrance) • Hours: 9 to 3, Monday - Friday
Phone: (785) 296-5015 • Fax: (785) 296-8046 • E-mail: creditunion@cox.net

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UR Special

Don't let the post-Christmas blues get you down. The Credit Union is still offering the UR Special (Christmas Special)! Use these funds to pay off Christmas bills, take a winter vacation or take advantage of those great after-Christmas bargains. You decide where to use the funds. You can borrow up to \$2,000.00. Call today and ease your worries for tomorrow.

This special will run through March 31, 2012, with up to 12 months to repay. The interest rate on this special loan will be as low as 11%*. Current signature loans cannot be incorporated into this special loan. Any refinance of this special would be at the current qualifying rate at the time of refinancing.

*Rate quotes are subject to credit approval and are subject to change without notice. Rates listed are best qualifying rates. All loan policies, procedures and guidelines will apply.

Directors Declare Dividends

A dividend of .40% APR (.40% APY) for the quarter ending December 31, 2011, was declared by the Board of Directors. All Credit Union share rates are subject to change quarterly with dividends figured daily and paid quarterly. Deposit your savings funds today so it can grow for future needs.

Are You Fiscally Fit?

One of the most common goals of a new year is to get physically fit, lose weight or to become healthier. But have you ever thought about your individual fiscal health?

According to a recent survey, 19% of consumers currently do not monitor their money. Another survey reports that one in five Americans lives paycheck to paycheck and 30% of people have no savings funds. It's time to get fiscally fit.

The following tips can be used in your very own household:

1. Make goals, not resolutions

Your resolution may be to get out of debt, grow your savings or stick to a monthly budget. While these are excellent resolutions, each requires weekly or monthly goals that describe how you will obtain the resolution. Outlining your goals creates an action plan that can help you stay on track and achieve those resolutions.

2. Be realistic

People whose goal is to lose weight don't start off losing 20 pounds the first week. It's unrealistic and unhealthy. Same goes for your budget. Start small. Can you eliminate one lunch out and save \$10 a week? Can you trim \$20 from your grocery bill? Can you sell household items you don't need?

3. Re-invest your money

Now that you are saving \$10 a week, use that \$10 to pay off other debt, save it or start an emergency fund at ESECU.

4. Spend less than you earn

Sounds simple, but it is hard work. If you are trying to lose weight, you are told to burn more calories than you

NCUA

Your savings are federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government agency.

take in. Becoming fiscally fit is the opposite. You want to burn LESS than you bring in. Or in simpler terms, spend less than you earn.

5. Involve your children

Half of high school graduating seniors do not feel confident in money management. Teach them about your own family budget. Not only will you be helping them prepare for their future, but they'll gain a better understanding of where your hard earned money goes.

Remember, becoming fiscally fit is a long term commitment, just as becoming healthier takes time and effort. By making a few changes to your financial plan, you will be well on your way to having a stronger, healthier financial future.

Annual Meeting Time

The annual meeting will be held in April, 2012. Yearly reports will be gone over and the elections of officers will be held. The exact date and details will be in our next newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there!

Don't Wait Until Next Year

It's time to start saving for Christmas next year, or even that vacation you've discussed many times. We can open an account and you can name it whatever you like. These funds are separate from your regular shares to make your accounting easy. This time of year we hear a lot about taxes. You can even open a sub-account and have it titled "taxes". Save throughout the year so when the bill comes it's as easy as a phone call, e-mail or a stop at the Credit Union. It's fast and easy. Give yourself a gift for next year; less stress, more savings and some spending flexibility. For more information, please contact Sandy or Shawna.

When is the Right Time to Buy a Home??

When interest rates are low – At the present time, mortgage rates are still close to record lows. And, while interest rates are predicted to rise eventually, most market analysts are saying that the continued sluggish economy in the U.S. and turmoil in Europe will keep rates low for most or all of 2012.

When it is a buyer's market – In a buyer's market, sales are generally slower, houses may sit unsold and you may have more choices and some bargaining advantage. Overall, the median price of homes nationwide has declined, but some parts of the country are affected much more than others. Home values can vary not only by city, but may vary by zip code. Research the area where you want to buy and talk to professionals who really know the local market to see what sales and home values are doing.

When it is best for you – Even when the rate is at rock bottom and the price is right, it has to be the right time for your personal situation. How easy will it be to sell your existing home? Is it the right time to move a family? Is your personal financial situation in order—good credit history and money saved for a down payment? Will buying a new home fit into your budget taking into consideration the loan payment, taxes, insurance and any improvements that you want to make?

For help in determining if it is the right time for you to buy, contact Andy Homewood at Credit Union Mortgage Services at 785-273-9333 or ahomewood@capcuso.com.

Credit Union Mortgage Services is an Equal Housing Lender and Kansas-licensed mortgage company MC0025091.

Make Your Payroll Changes Now

If you have payroll deduction coming to the Credit Union and would like to make changes, just call, e-mail or simply stop by. We have the forms and can complete them for you. Just your signature is required—we do the rest. If payroll deduction is not an option with your employer and you'd like to deposit funds regularly to your share account, ask your primary financial institution if they'll do an ACH transfer or set up a monthly payment to your account. Most institutions offer this benefit and you'll be amazed at how quickly you can build a little nest for those unexpected emergencies.

Auto Rates Are Low

Take advantage of the great low rates and deferral of your first payment up to 90 days. Whether you're interested in refinancing from another institution, private party or buying new, let us do the finance work for you. Most loan requests are processed the same day. We can even pre-approve you to car shop. Rates as low as 4%*.

*Rate quotes are subject to credit approval and are subject to change without notice. Rates listed are best qualifying rates. All loan policies, procedures and guidelines will apply.

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