

Sandy Dail, President

Shawna Allen, Vice President

Employment Security Employees CREDIT UNION

Kansas
Departments of
Labor & Commerce



“Serving employees
and their families
since 1943”

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January 2013

Save The Date

The annual meeting will be held April 16, 2013. Yearly reports will be reviewed and the elections of officers will be held. Look for more details in our next newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there!

Directors Declare Dividends

A dividend of .25% APR (.25% APY) for the quarter ending December 31, 2012, was declared by the Board of Directors. We stay competitive so you can earn the most for your money. It's never too late to become a Credit Union member. Tell your family members to join today. All Credit Union share rates are subject to change quarterly with dividends figured daily and paid quarterly.

What Should You Save By 35, 45 and 55?

According to Fidelity Investments, at 35 you should have saved an amount equal to your annual salary. At 45 you should have saved three times your annual salary. At 55 you should have saved five times your salary.

The benchmarks above are based on these assumptions:

- You begin saving in a workplace retirement plan, such as a 401 (k), at age 25. You save continuously and without interruption until age 67.
- You start by making an annual salary contribution equal to 6% of pay, and raise the figure by one percentage point each year until you are saving 12% of pay.
- Your employer matches you at 50 cents on the dollar up to 6% of pay and your portfolio grows 5.5% a year.
- Your income grows 1.5 percentage points faster than inflation each year.

If you are behind in your savings, a good rule of thumb is to start now and save 10% of your annual salary.

Cyber Protect Yourself – Passwords and Scams

Been a victim of a cyber crime? You are not alone...73 percent of Americans report being a victim of a cyber crime.

The majority (75 percent) of people use the same password for their accounts. The most common passwords are Password, Abc123, 123456. Other common passwords include qwerty, 111111, welcome and password1. The more letters, numbers and symbols used in a password, the harder it is for a hacker to guess. The time it takes for a hacker's computer to randomly guess:

- Six-letter password with lowercase letters – only 10 minutes to crack.
- Seven-digit password with upper and lowercase letters – 3 years to crack.
- Eight-digit password with upper and lower case letters, symbols and numbers – 463 years to crack.

Pssst...UR Special

To us, you are special! You're the breath of the Credit Union. Breathe a sigh of relief by taking advantage of the UR Special (Christmas Special). You can add to your existing loan or advance on a new one! Use these funds to pay off credit bills, home projects or start your Christmas shopping now! You decide where to use the funds. Call us today and ease any worries for tomorrow.

You can borrow up to \$2,000.00 through March 31, 2013, 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.*

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.

Best Things To Buy In January, February and March

A bit of planning can save you a ton of money when it comes to buying . . . well, just about anything.

JANUARY

Bicycles/Sporting Goods: The dead of winter isn't when most people are buying their summer gear, so you're likely to get some good deals.

Furniture: Most furniture companies release new products twice a year – in February and August. That means they'll be giving some sweet deals in January to make room for the new products next month.

Linens and Bedding: Ever since John Wannamaker started the first "white sale" in 1878, January has been the best month to get bedding and other linens.

FEBRUARY

Digital Cameras: After the big trade shows like CES come around in mid-January, older model cameras drop in price to prepare for the newly-announced ones.

Video Games: Most new video games come out in late fall for the holiday season, and they'll go on sale after the holidays are over.

MARCH

Gardening Tools: It may not be time to break them out yet, but if you shop for those gardening tools ahead of time, you can usually get a sweet price in late winter/early spring.

Luggage: It's in between vacation seasons, so shops are dropping prices. Grab any extra bags you might need for the summer in March.

If you didn't have time to save or an emergency has come up, call the Credit Union for a loan that will assist in your needs.

Christmas Club and Other Accounts

Did you know you can open a Christmas Club or other sub-savings account at anytime? Now is the time to start saving for Christmas next year or even that vacation you've always dreamed of. Many of our members even have a tax savings account to access when their taxes are due. For more information, please contact Sandy or Shawna.



Turbo Charge Your Retirement Savings

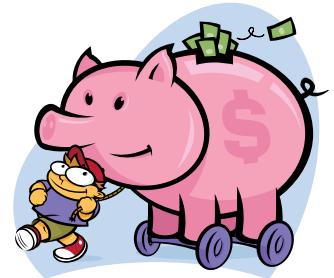
Reign in spending sharply. The lower your monthly expenses, the more free cash flow you will have available to invest. Most solutions to your problem start with this one step.

1. Pay down consumer debt and credit card debt. Every dollar you pay down in credit card debt sooner or later nets you a return on investment equal to the interest rate on the card with no risk, and no taxes due.

2. Make sure you are making the most of your tax-advantaged retirement savings opportunities. Working for someone else? Increase your 401(k) contributions and maximize your IRA or Roth IRA contributions if you are eligible.
3. Own your own business? Form and contribute to a SEP IRA, or simplified employee pension plan, which allows you to contribute up to 25 percent of your income from the business or up to \$49,000 per year, tax deductible. Consult a qualified financial advisor with experience in retirement planning to find out which alternative is most appropriate for you.

Every Little Bit Can Make a BIG Bit

Did you know if you saved \$25.00 a month for one year you'd have \$300.00 plus the interest you earned? If you saved \$25.00 biweekly for a year, you'd have \$650.00 plus the earned interest. If you saved \$25.00 weekly for a year, you'd have \$1300.00 plus the earned interest. What a great gift for you, your child, grandchildren, nieces or nephews. Opening an account is simple and quick. We have payroll deduction for most members. You choose the amount for your account. Make savings for you happen this year!



Have You Heard The News?

Financial institutions are reporting record low interest rates across the nation. What does that spell to you?

S - A - V - I - N - G - S! Cha Ching!

You'll save money due to the low interest rates.

Lower rate = lower payments = less interest you pay for the money you borrowed = **the affordable car you need or want!**

- No more car repairs. Replace it now.
- Budget concerns? Call us and we'll help you work the car payment in.
- Payroll deduction, no check writing, no hassle. We'll "remember" your payment for you.
- Chances are pretty high you'll get a good deal. Dealers want to sell cars – we want to finance your cars.
- It's never too late. Let us see what we can do for you. After all, it's what we do!

STAFF

Sandy Dail, President • Shawna Allen, Vice President

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