

MemberMATTERS

A Quarterly publication for Members of kstate CREDIT UNION

2021

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, January 18
Martin Luther King Jr Day
All branches are closed

Friday, January 29
Kansas Day

Friday, February 14
Valentine's Day

Monday, February 15
Presidents' Day
All branches are closed

Sunday, March 14
Daylight Savings

Wednesday, March 17
St. Patrick's Day

Saturday, March 20
First Day of Spring

2020 TAXES

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

If you earned \$10 or more in interest from us throughout 2020, you would have earned a 1099-INT Tax Form. You will find this at the bottom of your December 2020 statement, whether you receive e-statements or paper statements.

- If you have a mortgage with us, your mortgage interest or 1098 form will be sent separately.
- We would be happy to print a copy of your tax statement at any of our branches for a \$2 fee.

Campus Location Closing



The time has come to communicate some updates that have been decided regarding our leased campus office, located at 1455 Anderson Avenue. With three years of operations research, along with an upcoming branch lease expiration, it has been decided by our membership Board of Directors along with credit union management, that effective immediately, our Campus Office will not be reopening.

With the closing of this branch for Spring Break last year, and then the extended closure due to the COVID-19 outbreak many of you have turned to online banking, mobile apps and usage of our other two branches located at 601 McCall Road and 2600 Anderson Avenue.

While we've missed seeing you in person, we're excited to see so many of you

utilizing online banking and the features of the mobile app to save time and conduct your banking anytime, anywhere. As you continue to utilize the financial technology, we've worked hard to provide for you, please know that you can visit us during normal business hours at our two other branches.

Change is never easy. Please understand that we have evaluated all of the options and this is the right decision for our membership and the Credit Union operations at this time.

Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to continuing to serve you at our McCall or Anderson Avenue locations.



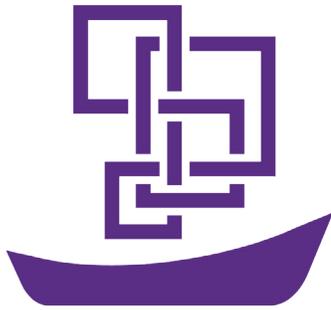
or click this icon  on our website

REASONS TO TEXT

- General service & support
- Questions about products
- Check loan status

Available only during our regular phone hours.

Mon. /Tues./Thurs./ Fri.
9AM - 5PM.
Wed.
10AM - 5PM
Sat.
9AM - 12PM



Your Credit Union: A Safe Harbor

It's unsettling to see major swings in the stock market, or to observe heated exchanges among political leaders about the best financial course for the country. Turmoil in the economy has many consumers feeling lost at sea. It's understandable that you might be concerned or worried.

You can be reassured on one point, and that's the security and stability of your credit union and your accounts here. Your kstate CREDIT UNION savings are always insured to at least \$250,000, backed by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). Federal insurance protects your money in credit union share savings, share draft/checking, money market, share certificate, trust, and retirement accounts.

In addition, our strong capital position—a safety net of undivided earnings and other reserves—helps us weather setbacks. And we keep an allowance for loan losses that provides an additional buffer in case a few members can't repay their loans. Further, strengthening the credit union, federal and/or state regulators routinely examine our business practices to make sure we're observing safe and sound operations.

If you're concerned about your personal finances, a kstate CREDIT UNION professional can help, too. Whether you'd like to review current loans to see about refinancing at better terms or find out about savings plans that will help you attain your goals, we're here to help.

Credit unions provide financial benefits to members through lower loan rates, higher savings rates, and fewer fees than banking institutions.

Our credit union—your credit union—is strong when our members are strong. Together, we can make port safely even when the economy is in rough seas.

LEAVE YOUR BAGGAGE IN 2020.

Transfer your card balances to our
Visa® Credit Card!

NO Annual Fees

NO Balance Transfer Fees

NO Cash Advance Fees

Everyday Low Rate of 11.9%^{APR}



Apply Now!

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Approval and credit limit is based on creditworthiness. See credit union for details.

How to Report Identity Theft

Identity Theft does not discriminate. Anyone can become susceptible to it. We can try to prevent identity theft, but what happens when we fall victim?

1. Stop and file a fraud alert is the first thing to do.
2. Call Experian, Equifax, or TransUnion to file.
3. Next, you want to make sure you place a security freeze and alert with Chex Systems — an agency that monitors new bank account inquiries.
4. Also file a report with the Federal Trade Commission.
5. Lastly, contact your financial institution(s) and notify them that you have been a victim of a scam or identity theft.

For more tips on how to report identity theft and prevent it, head over to the blog page on our website at kstatecu.com/blog.

Paying for Your Child's Higher Education

Most parents assume their children will complete high school and attend a 2- or 4-year college. As higher education costs continue rising, it becomes even more important to plan ahead and determine how your family will pay for it. Ideally, you should start saving as soon as a child is born.

Begin by saving small amounts each month. "Even if it's \$25 or \$50, it's the act of saving consistently that counts," says Joseph Orsolini, president of College Aid Planners Inc., Glen Ellyn, Ill. "You'll be surprised how it builds over time."

WAYS TO SAVE

Every state offers tax-advantaged 529 plans, which families can use to save for future higher-education costs. Plan managers invest the funds you contribute and, when you withdraw the money to pay for educational expenses, the earnings aren't subject to federal taxes. Many states exempt the funds from state taxes, too, and many have minimum monthly contributions as low as \$15.

FINDING FUNDS

Seek financial aid if you need additional funding. The first step is completing the Free Application for

Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at the beginning of your child's senior year of high school.

Colleges you apply to will put together financial aid packages and send you award letters. They may include federal need-based grants, called Pell grants, or low-cost, need-based federal Perkins loans. They also may include federal Stafford loans, which have slightly higher interest rates. Schools may also offer need- or merit-based grants.

In addition to your savings, look for scholarships and grants. The guidance counselling office at your local high school can provide information about them. If that's not enough, use federal loans, which you and your child don't need to repay until after graduation.

Another option is a Sallie Mae student loan. You can find out more about the different types of loans available on our website at kstatecu.com/Borrow/Student-Loans.

If you're still short of funds, apply for private signature loans. kstate CREDIT UNION offers affordable rates on private loans and can help you figure if this is the best option for you. Contact us today to learn more at kstatecu.com.



Student loans for all types of students

Get the money you need for school

We've partnered with Sallie Mae® to offer loans created specifically for the needs of undergraduate and graduate students, and their parents. When scholarships, grants, and federal student loans aren't enough, these loans can help you get the money you need.



Apply today
kstatecu.com/borrow/student-loans

in partnership with



For degree-granting institutions

Safe Deposit Box

REMINDER: All rental fees on safe deposit boxes will automatically deduct from accounts on January 31.

The Latte Factor: One way to get your finances on track in 2021

How often do you find yourself saying, "I can't afford that?" Whether it's about an unplanned expense or something that you want to buy. David Bach, author of *The Latte Factor*, says that's usually just a lie we tell ourselves.

In his book, *The Latte Factor*, Bach lays out several key points that can be summed up thusly: Small amounts of money spent on a regular basis cost us far more than we can imagine.

The *Latte Factor* came about after a class Bach taught some years ago. One of his students said she couldn't afford to save, but she was drinking a latte at the time (and most every day in his class.)

He ran the numbers and showed her that, if she skipped the latte, she would save \$5 a day. What does \$5 a day mean to you? Let's do the math. \$5 a day is \$150 per month. Would you like to save an extra \$150 per month? What's the value of \$150 per month 10 years from now? At 10%, you will have an extra \$30,000 from the *Latte Factor* alone. Over 25 years, five dollars a day will net you over \$185,000. It's amazing how such a small difference each day can make a huge impact over time.

Head over to our blog on our website to continue reading at kstatecu.com/blog.

Holiday Fun at the Credit Union

Adopt-A-Family Wrapping Party



Each year the Junior League of the Flint Hills hosts the Adopt-A-Family program in Manhattan. kstate CREDIT UNION employees donated gifts to a local family of four based on their list of needs and wants. Pictured here are the participants of the wrapping party to get those gifts ready for the family.

COMMUNITY, CARE & YOU

truly community

Aside from providing financial products and services to our members, kstate CREDIT UNION also participates in various community activities throughout the year. The various ways that we contribute include our employees donating their time, the credit union sponsoring an event or making a donation to an organization's fundraising efforts. Unfortunately, in 2020 many community events were cancelled or participation was limited. Below is a snap shot of what kstate CREDIT UNION contributed to our community in 2020.



Ugly Sweater Contest



\$30,959

INVESTED IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



ASSISTED

+30

CHARITIES & ORGANIZATIONS



36

HOURS OF VOLUNTEERING