

# CONNECTION

www.luefcu.org

Newsletter of Loyola University Employees Federal Credit Union

Fall 2023

# From The Manager's Desk

In the past, I've used this space to remind you of the importance of fully utilizing all that your Loyola Credit Union membership offers. Reminders of how our products and services help you truly get the most for your money.

Today, I want to emphasize the importance of sharing your credit union membership with your family and coworkers.

As a Loyola Credit Union member, you have access to a myriad of products and services designed to help make your life, and financial security, that much better.

- Low interest rates on loans.
- · Higher interest paid on savings.
- Comprehensive e-banking capabilities.
- And so much more.

Why not share those benefits with your family members and coworkers? They, too, can benefit.

Your family members, from the very young to the very old, can join Loyola Credit Union because *you* are a member. Help them enjoy the many financial benefits you experience.

And your coworkers are eligible for membership, as well. Our membership is open to everyone in the greater Loyola/Trinity family. Perhaps your coworkers are not yet aware of the credit union, or that they are eligible to join.

I encourage you to share your credit union experiences with them. Let them hear firsthand from someone who knows how valuable our service is.

Please introduce your family to ours.

Respectfully,

Harry Tram, Jr. Manager

# **Brighten A Child's Holiday**

Don't forget to buy your entry tickets to our annual Christmas stocking drawing. It's filled with games and toys for kids. The perfect item to bring a smile to kids' faces.

- 7 tickets for just \$5.00! Purchase total can be deducted from your credit union account, to make it even easier!
- Tickets available through December 14th.
- Drawing will be held December 15th, and the winner notified that day.
- Loyola Credit Union will
  - Donate a second stocking to Loyola Children's Hospital.
  - MATCH the total sales figure ALL proceeds will be donated to a worthy local charity.

Buy your drawing tickets today – share the giving spirit of the season.



# **Transfer High-Interest Balances and SAVE!**

When you transfer an existing balance to a Loyola Credit Union VISA® credit card between October 1, 2023 and November 30, 2023.

Balance transfers completed 10/1/2023 through 11/30/2023 will receive 3.99% APR\* for 13 months from date of transfer. After the promotional time frame expires, remaining balances will migrate to the standard APR applicable on your account. Contact the credit union for complete details. \*APR = Annual Percentage Rate.

3.99% #13 months

# **Christmas Club Funds Available November 1st**

Anxious to get started on your holiday shopping? Your Christmas Club Savings funds will be available **Wednesday**, **November 1st**, and *automatically* deposited into Share (Savings) accounts.

Current automatic deposits into your Christmas Club account will continue unless you specify a change.

Don't have a Christmas Club account? You should! It helps ease the burden of holiday shopping.

**Stop in and open a new Christmas Club account for 2024** – not just for you, but all members of your family!

## **Not Sure What Gift To Give?**

Give them a VISA® gift card! They are the perfect gift for any occasion, and you can choose amounts from \$10 to \$500.

Stop by the credit union office to pick up one – or several! They can be used *wherever* VISA® cards are accepted.

They are activated within 24 hours of purchase. The funds are deducted directly from your account. A \$3.50 purchase fee applies to each card.



## **Plan NOW For A Comfortable Retirement**

Regardless of whether retirement is in your short-term future or still decades off, there are a lot of things you should know. And our friends at Infinity Financial Concepts have the answers to your questions about retirement and financial planning.

Free in-person sessions are scheduled for:

• October: Thursday, 12th

• November: Tuesday, 7th and Thursday, 16th

• December: Tuesday, 12th

• January, 2024: Thursday, 11th and Tuesday, 23rd

All sessions are conducted in the credit union's conference room, from noon until 1:00 p.m. Email **renae@infinityfinancialconcepts.com** to reserve a seat or for more information, or call **708-410-0400**.

We also offer Zoom workshops, which are scheduled for:

November 8th: Noon – 12:45 p.m. For Medical Center Employees

Noon – 1:45 p.m. For University Employees

January 17, 2024: Noon – 12:45 p.m. For Medical Center Employees

1:00 – 1:45 p.m. For University Employees

Please visit zoom.us and enter: MEETING ID 3391116900

PASSCODE wTNz9K





# Rates Aren't Moving - You Still Can

Mortgage rates may be holding steady, but that doesn't mean you have to. Kevin Beck can help you find the right mortgage loan, with the best terms, to help you into your next home. Act NOW and lock in a rate for your new home.

Give Kevin a call at **630-697-3231** or email him at **mortgages13@yahoo.com**. He's in the credit union office every Monday and Friday.

# **Save Time With Mobile Check Deposit**

Running late? Crunched for time? Switch to our Mobile Check Deposit Service. It's free, and you can use it to deposit checks to your checking or regular savings accounts from wherever you are.

- Use the camera on your mobile device and our app (free to all Loyola Credit Union members)
- Log into our Mobile Banking App on your iPhone or Android mobile device, and select 'Deposit Check.'

### Make sure the check(s) are properly endorsed.

The back of each check MUST BE endorsed as follows:

- The words: "For Loyola CU Mobile Deposit Only"
- Your signature
- Your Account Number

You can confirm the posting of your mobile deposits by going online to your Check Deposit History by 2:00 p.m.

**Please note:** If the back of the check is not properly endorsed, Loyola Credit Union reserves the right to reject the check.



## Be Alert Against 'Account Takeover'

One of the methods scammers use to defraud people is **financial account takeover.** They use this online method to gain access to your online financial accounts. Not just your bank or credit union accounts, but online accounts of *any* kind: Amazon, Snapchat, retailers, etc. They steal your information (email address and password) via phishing, data breach, or if you use an unsecure public wi-fi.

#### WARNING SIGNS TO WATCH FOR:

- If you are locked out of your financial or social media accounts.
- You receive notification of failed login attempts you didn't initiate.
- Your account looks different.
- Strange messages are sent from your social media accounts.
- Alerts that someone has logged into your account from a different IP address / location.
- Email or phone number associated with your account changed without your permission / initiation.

#### WHAT TO DO IF VICTIMIZED:

- Contact the impacted companies immediately.
- Once your accounts are secure, change your passwords.
- Whenever possible, enable two-factor authentication on your online accounts. This is a special one-time code that is required to log into your accounts, along with your password and username.



## **New Car Models Are Out...**

### and shopping smart is IN!

With the new vehicle models available and winter fast approaching, you may be looking for a new car. When you do go shopping, make sure you're prepared to get the best deal possible. **Talk with us** *before* **you shop.** Then follow these simple steps:

- Get pre-approved before you shop. Confirm your financing so you know exactly how much you can afford.
- Don't let dealers talk you into expensive 'add-ons' you really don't need. They merely increase the price.
- Comparison shop for coverages such as GAP (guaranteed auto protection) insurance. LCU offers these coverages at much less cost. That can save you hundreds of dollars.
- Loyola Credit Union rates are very competitive.
- Did you already purchase a new car and are having 'buyer's remorse' over the financing and monthly payment? Come talk with us to see if we can refinance that loan and make your payments more affordable.

# **GAP Insurance Provides Extra Protection**

Your vehicle is equipped with numerous safety features to keep your family safe: seat belts, airbags, etc. We offer another important option: GAP insurance.\*

In the event your car is totaled in an accident, GAP insurance may reduce or eliminate the gap between what your vehicle insurance will pay and what you still owe on your loan. It effectively protects you from sudden out of pocket expenses, at a time when you can least afford them.

Don't let a wrecked vehicle wreck your family finances – enjoy the peace of mind GAP insurance provides.

Give us a call to learn more.

\* Available for vehicles financed with Loyola Credit Union.

# NO Need To Drop Loyola CU Membership

It's easy to forget that your Loyola Credit Union membership is good for life. But it is – **good for life.** Even if you retire, change jobs, move to another location – your membership



goes with you. And our comprehensive e-banking services make it easy and convenient to conduct your business from anywhere!

Talk with us BEFORE you drop your membership. We'll show you how easy it is to maintain your membership.

# Help Ensure We Have Your CURRENT Contact Information

It's important that we have the most up-to-date contact information for you. That includes your address, phone and cell phone numbers, email address, etc. Without those, you may be missing out on important communications and offers from the credit union.

Please confirm with us that we have your most current contact info:

- Home address and phone number
- · Cell phone number
- Email address
- · Work name and number

Help us keep our records up-to-date. Alert us of ANY changes in your contact information. Thank you!

## **Holiday Closures**

The credit union will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

COLUMBUS DAY – Monday, October 9 CLOSED
VETERAN'S DAY – Friday, November 10 CLOSED AT NOON
<b>THANKSGIVING</b> – Thursday, November 23 <b>CLOSED</b> Friday, November 24 <b>CLOSED</b>
STAFF TRAINING – Wednesday, December 13 CLOSED AT NOON
CHRISTMAS – Monday, December 25 CLOSED
NEW YEAR'S - Monday, January 1 CLOSED

Remember – you can access your Loyola Credit Union accounts 24/7, even when the office is closed. Just sign up for these valuable services:

- LUEFCU Debit Card
- Mobile Banking App
- VISA Card
- Website LUEFCU.org
- STAR and / or AllPoint ATM Networks

## Trifecta Of Convenience

In an age of speed and convenience, your Loyola Credit Union offers a trifecta of products to make your banking even faster and easier. Sign up *NOW* and take advantage of these valuable products.

#### FREE CHECKING ACCOUNTS

- Remote / mobile check deposit
- Automatic transfer of funds to loan / VISA payments
- No minimum balance
- No monthly service charges
- No per-check charges
- AND you can sign up for our Debit Card

#### **DEBIT CARD**

Our debit card eliminates the need to carry cash or checks and is safe and convenient.

#### **COURTESY PAY**

This option is an overdraft service for another measure of protection to your checking account, to cover insufficient funds, up to your approved limit.

We invite you to enhance the value of your credit union membership – and the safety and convenience of your accounts – by signing up for a checking account and debit card. Also seriously consider adding the option of Courtesy Pay overdraft protection.

We're here to help you get the most from your money.

## **Time To Trim The Fat...**

### from your credit cards, that is

If you're paying more than 9.90% APR\* on a credit card, you're carrying a lot of 'interest fat.'

Trim it now and transfer your high interest balances to our LOW INTEREST RATE of 9.90% APR\* Loyola Credit Union VISA Card. You could save HUNDREDS of dollars on interest charges. And our 9.90% is a NO TEASER rate. It stays that low all the time! So you save money on balance transfer amounts as well as on new purchases.

Check out this example of savings YOU could enjoy:

Other Charge Card:	LCU Visa Card:
<b>22%</b> interest 162 months to pay (paying only MINIMUM amount*)	<b>9.90%</b> interest 98 months to pay (paying only MINIMUM amount*)
\$3,871 in INTEREST!	\$967 in Interest.

That's a savings of more than \$2,900!

Don't have a Loyola Credit Union VISA® card?

Apply today!

We recommend you pay as much as possible per month on any loan, charge card balance, etc. that you owe, and not simply the minimum amount due. The more you pay off each month, the quicker you pay off that debt, and the more you save on interest payments.