

## Credit Union Youth Month

Every child dreams about their future. Some of those dreams may require money to come true. How do you help your children achieve their dreams?

One way is to help them learn how to save their money.

Every April credit unions celebrate our youth and this year the theme is "The Science of Saving", showcasing fun, sci-fi-inspired characters. Science has proven that if you start with small goals, saving your money can become a regular habit. This year's Youth Month inspires children to begin saving the money they earn so they can attain their dreams of a happy future.

### Teach Your Children How to Save

To help your children get into the savings habit, start by having them cut out pictures of something they'd like to have someday and post the images where they'll see them often. Then help them open a savings account at EPFCU. You can open an account with as little as \$10.00. Encourage your child to make regular small deposits each week. Tell them their money will earn dividends while it's in their account. If they keep this routine going, they'll quickly see their savings grow.

## THE SCIENCE OF SAVING



### KIRSTEN'S Korner



## Improve Your Savings and Your Credit

Life can take plenty of unexpected turns. Sometimes, those setbacks can negatively affect a person's credit, which can add up to higher loan rates, costly fees, increased insurance rates, and might even affect a person's employment.

If you've experienced a downturn in your credit (600 or below), or if you don't have much credit to begin with, we have the tools to help.

Our Credit Builder program is a free service that includes financial counseling, budget planning, and the chance to build some solid savings. Here's how it works.

- 1. Apply for the program at any branch.** If you're accepted, we'll introduce you to a BALANCE financial counselor who will work with you over the phone and online.
- 2. We'll open a Credit Builder Share Account for you** and deposit up to \$2,500 into it from a Credit Builder loan. This money will be frozen.
- 3. You'll make monthly payments toward that loan** with direct deposit or payroll deductions. You will earn dividends on your Credit Builder Share Account as you progress.
- 4. Once the loan is paid off, you'll have up to \$2,500** plus the dividends you've earned. You can then use the money for outstanding debt, bills, or to build your savings. Best of all, the payments you make on the loan will work toward building your credit.

This is a win-win for our members and the credit union, and I strongly urge anyone who needs help to ask about this amazing program.

At EPFCU, we're proud to be a smart part of your financial life. Whether you're looking to finance a car, save for the future, or build your credit, we're available at any branch, over the phone, or online at epfcu.org.

*Kirsten Williams*

Kirsten Williams | **President**



## Mark Your Calendar 2018 Annual Meeting & Election — April 18, 2018 —

You're invited to join us for the Annual Meeting and Election. This year's event will be held on April 18, at 5:00 p.m. in the Ronald Reagan Building. Please save the date.

### Election of Officials

We will also hold our annual election of officials during the Annual Meeting. This year there will be three vacancies on the Board, each for a three-year term. The Nominating Committee has presented its slate of nominees, which include:

- Gregory E. Boutin\***
- Thomas C. Harris\***
- Gwendolyn W. House\***

No nominations will be accepted from the floor. For nominee biography information please visit epfcu.org.

\*incumbent





## We've Recently Updated Our Website!

Our new website has great information for our members. We have videos, calculators and podcasts to help promote financial literacy. Log on to [epfcu.org](http://epfcu.org) and scroll down to see our Member Resources. If you would like to see something covered, please reach out to us and let us know!

## Take \$500 Off Your Closing Costs

Whether you plan to buy your first home, next home, or refinance the one you already love, you could save \$500 on your closing costs when you choose EPFCU for your mortgage.

### Great Rates

Through our partnership with Credit Union Mortgage Association (CUMA), we may be able to help you find the home loan that best fits your family's needs and budget, including:

- Conventional Loans
- VA and FHA Loans
- First-Time Home Buyer Loans
- Easy Prequalification
- Competitive Fixed or Adjustable rates
- Variety of Terms

### Buying a Home Starts with Planning and Good Credit

The road to home ownership can seem complicated, but with our team of professionals on your side, it's a simple step-by-step process that we'll explain along the way. Additionally, there are plenty of first-time homebuyer resources on our website that can help you plan ahead.

While you're doing your homework, it's also a good idea to check your credit and prepare financially before applying for a home loan. You'll find information about how to check your credit and take a careful look at your finances in the resources section of our website at [epfcu.org](http://epfcu.org).

### Your Mortgage Team is Ready for You

Our team of professionals are here to help, from submitting your application to scheduling your loan closing. Is this your first home? We may be able to finance up to 96.5% of your new home's value to make things a little easier financially. When you're ready, call our mortgage department at 703-667-9281 or 855-913-6216 toll-free.

Contact the credit union for more information.



When you have our free checking account and a debit card, you're just a few steps away from receiving exclusive quarterly offers and some great free services including:

- FREE Bill Pay and e-Statements
- FREE unlimited foreign ATM withdrawals
- FREE shared branch transactions
- FREE Money Orders and Wire Transfers

### How to get Relationship Rewards:

- ADD direct deposit and online banking to your membership
- MAINTAIN a combination of savings and loan balances equal to \$2,500

### Exclusive Relationship Reward – April-June 2018

If you are a Relationship Rewards member, for the months of April, May and June you will receive a \$150 gift card when you open a new home equity loan.



## Did You Know: You Can Reduce Your Monthly Loan Payments with LoanSaver®

If you're paying too much for a loan at another financial institution, we may be able to lower your payments and put some money back into your pocket. LoanSaver is available at [epfcu.org](http://epfcu.org). Simply enter some basic information about your loan(s) and instantly see your possible savings when you bring those loans over to EPFCU.

See how much you could save at [epfcu.org](http://epfcu.org) or stop by any branch.

## Staff Training Days

Due to staff training, our offices will open at 10 a.m. on **April 5, May 10 and June 7.**

## Holiday Closings

**Memorial Day**  
Monday, May 28

**Independence Day**  
Wednesday, July 4



A better environment for your money.®

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