

# The RESOURCEFUL GUIDE FALL 2024



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF R-G FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

## GET READY TO CELEBRATE **International Credit Union Day is Thursday, October 17, 2024!**

We're excited to once again join credit unions around the world in celebrating **International Credit Union Day on Thursday, October 17, 2024!** This annual event is all about honoring the spirit of the credit union movement: community, cooperation, and a shared commitment to improving lives.

We'll be marking the occasion with special events and celebrations at our branches, and we'd love for you to join

us! Stay tuned for more details on what we have planned by keeping an eye on our website, checking your inbox, and following us on social media.

Let's come together to celebrate our community and the values that make credit unions like R-G so special.

**We look forward to seeing you and sharing in the fun!**

## GET READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS with Affordable Financing from R-G

Don't forget that as the holiday season approaches, we're here to help you manage your seasonal expenses with affordable loan options. Whether you need extra funds for gifts, travel, or special celebrations, we offer personal loans and credit cards with competitive rates to make sure you can enjoy the holidays without breaking the bank.

**Looking for a new car?** The holiday season is the perfect time to make your purchase! With year-end deals and special offers from dealerships, now is a great opportunity to upgrade your vehicle. Plus, with R-G's online Car Buying Center, you can shop for vehicles, compare prices, and

**Make the most of  
the holiday season!**

easily finance your new ride—  
all from the comfort of your home.

**Choose R-G Federal Credit Union for  
your holiday financing needs and enjoy:**

- Competitive rates on personal loans and credit cards
- Convenient vehicle shopping and financing through our online Car Buying Center
- Trusted, member-first service

Let us help you make the most of the holiday season. Visit our website or stop by a branch today to learn more!

All loans are subject to approval based on creditworthiness and other qualifying factors. See credit union for details and current rates.

866.852.6478 | [RGFCU.COM](https://rgfcu.com)





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALL FOR CANDIDATES



The R-G FCU Board of Directors has one position open for election this year. Persons who are interested in becoming candidates for any of the positions are advised to apply to the Nominating Committee. Applications should identify the position being sought and must include a brief statement of qualifications and biographical data (100 words or less) to be provided to the membership at the time ballots are distributed.

**APPLICATIONS FOR CANDIDATES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 27, 2024.**

The Nominating Committee will advise all those members who apply for positions by DECEMBER 3, 2024, as to whether they have been nominated. Nominations may also be made by petition. Persons wishing to use the Petition procedure must file their petitions with the Secretary of the Credit Union by JANUARY 5, 2025. Petitions for nomination must contain signatures of at least 1% of the membership and must be accompanied by a signed certificate from the nominee stating that he or she is agreeable to the nomination and will serve if elected. Petitions MUST also be accompanied by a brief statement of qualification and biographical data (100 words or less). Applicants who are not nominated by the Committee may use the petition procedure through the Secretary, provided they comply with the petition procedure outlined above. **VOTING WILL BE IN PERSON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.** No nominations from the floor will be accepted. The Annual Meeting will take place on MARCH 20, 2025, at a location to later be determined. Applications for the positions on the Board of Directors should be addressed to: R-G Federal Credit Union Attn: Nominating Committee 421 Remington Plaza Court Raymore, MO 64083.

## THE CREDIT MISSION

### How Making On-Time Payments Can Save Your Credit Score by 60+ Points

*Your Quarterly Credit Score Tips Written by Dawn Perkins, Recovery Manager*



**Did you know that if you pay a loan 30 days past the due date, it can take 60+/- points off your credit score?** To make matters worse, when you pay that same loan current, you only gain back 40+/- of those points immediately; it can take up to 24 months to regain the other 20+/- points back.

### The Impact of Payment History on Your Credit Score

Payment history is the most significant factor in calculating your credit score, making up about 35% of the total score.

### Credit Cards Are Different than Loans

Credit cards differ from loans because paying one day late incurs a 30-day late mark on your credit report. Unlike loans, credit card due dates vary, so close monitoring of the due date is essential. A history of late payments on a credit card can lead to a penalty APR, significantly increasing your interest rate and payments. Additionally, paying even one date late can incur a \$25-\$50 late fee depending on the card issuer.

**Log in to Online or Mobile banking to take advantage of our Credit Sense product.** This no-cost program is a great resource to help you build credit and will even send you special offers! Checking your score on Credit Sense often does not hurt your credit score.

### How to Ensure You Never Miss a Payment

**Set Up Automatic Payments:** This ensures that your payments are made on time, every time.

- Set up automatic transfers in online or mobile banking to schedule payments from your R-G checking or savings account to your loans or credit cards each month on the due date.
- Set up automatic payments from another financial institution in online banking by going to "Pay Bills," and then "Transfer Money" to set up and schedule payments.

**Use Payment Reminders:** Try setting up payment reminders on your phone or calendar a few days before the due date.

**Review Statements Regularly:** By checking your statements, you can ensure that all due dates and charges are correct and that you're aware of your upcoming payment obligations.

## NOTICE: HOLIDAY CLUB FUNDS TRANSFER ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

The holiday season is right around the corner, and we want to make things a little easier for you! If you have a Holiday Club Account, your funds will automatically be transferred to your checking account on Friday, November 1—just in time for your holiday preparations.

Looking ahead to next year? Now is the perfect time to plan ahead by opening a Holiday Club Account. It's a simple way to save throughout the year and be ready for next year's holiday shopping. Stop by any branch or give us a call at (866) 852-6478 to learn more and get started today!





# MORTGAGE SCAM AWARENESS

By Jinette Fraser, RGFCU Real Estate Manager

Buying a home is one of our members' most significant investments, but it's important to be aware of mortgage scams that can put your financial security at risk. Here at R-G, we're committed to helping you safeguard your finances by providing essential tips to identify and avoid mortgage scams.

## Common Mortgage Scams to Watch Out For:

**Phishing Scams:** Scammers may pose as your lender or a trusted financial institution, asking for sensitive information such as your Social Security number, bank account details, or passwords. Always verify the identity of the person or organization before sharing any personal information. And never give your password to anyone!

**Foreclosure/Loan Modification Scams:** Fraudsters sometimes target homeowners struggling with mortgage payments, offering assistance to avoid foreclosure. They may ask for upfront fees or even ask you to sign over the title to your home. Legitimate foreclosure help does not require payment before services are provided.

**Fake Government Programs:** Scammers might claim to be affiliated with government programs offering mortgage relief. Always verify through official government websites or directly with your lender.

**Unsolicited Postcards/Mail/Email:** Mortgage liens are recorded in your county recorder's office, and third parties often pay for lists of these records. These lists are used to send out letters/postcards claiming to be

## Protecting Your Home and Finances



"URGENT" in matters regarding your home loan. They also send out unsolicited offers of home warranties or other services. They use these to trick members into providing sensitive information or soliciting business.

### How to Protect Yourself:

**Verify Information:** Always verify any mortgage-related communication with your lender or through official channels. Don't trust unsolicited calls, emails, or texts asking for personal information.

**Avoid Upfront Fees:** Be wary of anyone demanding upfront fees for mortgage assistance. Legitimate lenders and services will not ask for money before providing help.

**Check Credentials:** If you're dealing with a mortgage service, verify they are licensed and registered with the appropriate state and federal agencies.

**Read the Fine Print:** Before signing any documents, carefully review all terms and conditions. If something seems too good to be true, it probably is.

**CALL US!** If you ever have a question about mail or any other communication you have received regarding your mortgage or any other loan at the credit union, don't hesitate to call R-G directly at 816-783-5900. We do not sell or share our members' personal information and are not affiliated with any third-party mortgage services.

If there is an issue with your mortgage or your account, you will hear directly from a member of our team.

# R-G FEDERAL CREDIT UNION COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Celebrating Leadership, Education, and Local Involvement

R-G Federal Credit Union, we take pride in supporting our members and our community in meaningful ways. Over the past few months, we've had the honor of celebrating our team's achievements and actively participating in local events that make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

**Celebrating Leadership Excellence: Jinette Fraser and Michelle Wilson Graduate from CULead Academy**

We are excited to announce that two of our team members, Jinette Fraser (Real Estate Manager) and Michelle Wilson (Accounting Specialist), recently graduated from the prestigious CULead Academy, a nine-month leadership development program specifically tailored for credit union professionals. Both team





# upcoming HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

## All R-G branches will be closed on the following days:

- Monday, October 14 – Internal Credit Union Training Day
- Monday, November 11 – Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 28 – Thanksgiving
- Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas  
*Closing at Noon on Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve*
- Wednesday, January 1 – New Year's Day

To ensure seamless banking, we recommend completing in-branch transactions either prior to these dates or the day after. For uninterrupted access to your account details, fund transfers, and bill payments, consider using our online banking platform or our mobile app available for both iPhone and Android. Your banking convenience remains our priority!

members graduated with distinction from the CULead Academy, demonstrating their commitment to excellence, professional growth, and leadership. Their achievements highlight the dedication and hard work they bring to R-G, and we are excited to see how they continue to make a positive impact on our organization.

### Congratulations to Dawn Perkins: CUNA Management School Graduate

We're also thrilled to celebrate Dawn Perkins, our Recovery Manager, who graduated from the esteemed CUNA Management School in July. This high-level educational program is designed for credit union professionals preparing for executive careers. Dawn's dedication and success are an inspiration to us all, and we are excited for her continued growth in our organization.



**Supporting Local Events:** Giving Back to the Community  
In addition to celebrating leadership, we've had the pleasure of participating in several local events that highlight our commitment to community involvement:

**Belton-Raymore Rotary Club Golf Tournament:** R-G proudly sponsored a hole and a team at the September 9th tournament, joining other community leaders in supporting local causes and enjoying a day of fun and camaraderie.



**Back-to-School Celebrations:** We kicked off the school year by participating in the Belton School District's back-to-school breakfast, welcoming and celebrating the district's hardworking staff. The following day, we had an amazing time at the BTS Block Party in Knob Noster, where we

connected with families, shared in the excitement of the new school year, and enjoyed a day full of fun activities.

**Looking Forward** We are so proud of the strides our team has made and the opportunities we've had to engage with the community.



As we move forward, we remain committed to fostering strong leadership within our organization and continuing our support of the local events that make our community so special.

## FEATURED DIVIDEND RATES

Rates effective as of October 1, 2024

SMART SAVER	Rate	APY*
\$500.00 to \$4,999.99	0.20%	0.20%
\$5,000.00 to \$24,999.99	0.30%	0.30%
\$25,000.00 to \$49,999.99	0.40%	0.40%
\$50,000.00 to \$99,999.99	0.50%	0.50%
\$100,000.00 to \$149,999.99	0.60%	0.60%
\$150,000.00 to \$249,999.99	0.70%	0.70%
TERM SHARE ACCOUNT		
6 Mos. (\$500 - \$250,000)	2.50%	2.52%
12 Mos. (\$500 - \$250,000)	2.25%	2.27%
24 Mos. (\$500 - \$250,000)	2.10%	2.12%
36 Mos. (\$500 - \$250,000)	2.00%	2.02%
48 Mos. (\$500 - \$250,000)	1.90%	1.92%
60 Mos. (\$500 - \$250,000)	1.80%	1.82%
PREMIER TERM SHARE ACCOUNT		
6 Mos. (\$100,000 - \$250,000)	5.00%	5.11%
12 Mos. (\$100,000 - \$250,000)	4.75%	4.85%
24 Mos. (\$100,000 - \$250,000)	4.00%	4.08%
36 Mos. (\$100,000 - \$250,000)	3.50%	3.56%
48 Mos. (\$100,000 - \$250,000)	3.25%	3.30%
60 Mos. (\$100,000 - \$250,000)	3.00%	3.04%

\*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Fees may reduce earnings. Early withdrawal penalties may be imposed. Rates are subject to change at any time. See credit union for details.

## FOR MORE REALLY GOOD NEWS:

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