



# Choice News

FIRST CHOICE CREDIT UNION'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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JUNE 30, 2022

## BRIGHT BEGINNINGS:

Hey Kids! Now that school is out and summer is here, it is the perfect time to bring in your report cards and get rewarded for all the hard work you did last semester. First Choice Credit Union will pay you \$0.50 for every A, B, or Satisfactory grade you earned, up to \$5.00. This is our way of saying thank you for saving with us. You must have a Bright Beginnings account to participate. If you are not signed up for Bright Beginnings, ask one of our friendly Member Service Reps for details. We want to make saving money and coming to the credit union fun for kids of all ages.

## CHRISTMAS CLUB

As we all know, Christmas can be a hard time financially for a lot of people. We have a great solution for you. By opening a Christmas Club account, with small deposits each time you get paid, you will have the money you need to make it a Merry Christmas. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Let us know you want to open a Christmas Club
2. Make your affordable weekly or bi-weekly deposits
3. We will disburse your money to checking or savings the first week of November.

Call us today to get the ball rolling.  
You'll be happy you did.

## UNITED WAY

### SUPPLIES 4 SUCCESS CAMPAIGN

First Choice Credit Union will once again be supporting the Marshfield Area United Way's "Supplies 4 Success" campaign. We will be collecting school supplies from our staff, volunteers, and our members from July 25th through August 7th, 2022. For more information and a list of requested school supplies, visit [marshfieldareaunitedway.org](http://marshfieldareaunitedway.org), go to "Events", then "Supplies 4 Success". All items collected will be donated and distributed to children of area schools.

We appreciate your support and are happy to support this project.



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

This quarter, our Employee Spotlight is on Connie Langfoss. Connie has been with First Choice Credit Union as a Part time Member Service Representative. She worked through the Youth Apprenticeship Program through Marshfield High School since August 2020.



### What is your favorite part of your job?

The favorite part of my job is everyone that I work with. That includes the members and my coworkers. I love to be able to put a smile on everyone's face and be able to help when I can. The environment is friendly and welcoming and I always enjoy what the day brings.

**What are your plans for the future?** My plans for the future are to attend UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield this upcoming fall, and then the main campus the remaining years. I am not 100% sure what I plan on majoring in, but I plan on something in the medical field.

**What is your favorite pastime?** My favorite pastime is hard to pinpoint. A few of my favorites are swimming, hiking, biking, going for drives, hanging with friends, and listening to music.

**Please share a little background about yourself:** I just graduated from High School and finished a long dance career of 15 years at Main Street Conservatory of Dance. I'm a very outgoing, bubbly person who works hard to always strive to do my best.

## First Choice Credit Union will be closed in observance of:

Independence Day - Monday, July 4, 2022 • Labor Day - Monday, September 5, 2022

Please plan your financial needs in advance to avoid any inconvenience.  
And remember, you can access your accounts anytime online at  
[www.firstchoicecreditunion.com](http://www.firstchoicecreditunion.com)



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

First Choice Credit Union is pleased to announce the winners of our two Scholarships given out annually. First we had 13 applications submitted this year, which is a substantial increase from our normal 4 or 5 applications. The winner of the Loraine Ross Scholarship is Emily Sternitzky, from Marshfield High School. Congratulations to Emily on the \$600 scholarship which is spread over 2 years. The winner of the James Zahradka Memorial Scholarship is Lauryn Wiesman from Stratford High School. Congratulations to Lauryn. This \$500 scholarship is also divided up over a 2 year payout. We wish these 2 young ladies, and all graduates good luck and much success in the future.

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## PROBLEM GAMBLING ON THE RISE

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG) reports that gambling addiction is on the rise. They provide a 24-Hour Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5, Text for Help: 1-850-888-HOPE, and a Chat line at [www.wi-problemgamblers.org](http://www.wi-problemgamblers.org) that provides information and referrals for gamblers. The Helpline also extends help to family members, concerned friends or employers. The WCPG has a database of qualified treatment providers, Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon chapters to which callers can be referred. Information packets of literature can also be mailed to callers.

If you, or someone you love, has a gambling problem, we encourage you to get help by contacting one or more of the sources above.

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## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Here we are, the mid-point of 2022. I am always amazed at how quickly each quarter goes by. We just completed a major project at First Choice Credit Union, as we removed the old blacktop parking lot and put down new asphalt and had the parking lot stripes added. Our old lot was from the original building construction, so we were fortunate to get 24 years of wear and tear out of the lot. I did not want to spend the money to do this, but it had to be done. It was getting to be a safety concern and it did not look good. We are happy this project is off our "to do list" and we hope for 24 years out of this one, as well.

I also want to make a comment about being careful with your account information, and to be aware of Scams. I know, I mention this every quarter, yet, we have members getting scammed virtually every month. This past quarter, a member was scammed into buying gift cards as part of a secret shopper scam. If anyone asks you to buy and send over gift cards through the mail, or take photos of the front and back of the cards and send the photos to them, DO NOT DO IT. We had another member give out their account number and other personal information as part of what we suspect is a Romance Scam. You can go online and google it and it will spell everything out. We do not like seeing our members hurting financially or emotionally, so I ask that you be careful.

Finally, we know that gas prices are soaring to unprecedented highs. If you are looking to buy a vehicle that get's better gas mileage, or maybe switch to a hybrid or electric car, our lenders are here to help. Our rates are still very competitive and we want to help you, our loyal members. Give us a call or apply online today.

Rob Schulz

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