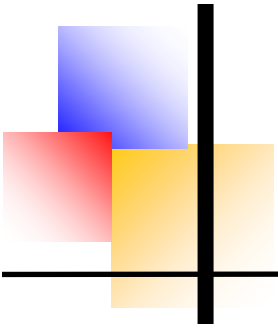




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Summer, 2014

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Credit Union Members

Manager's Memo

Rick Krehbiel

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Jan Pankratz has been named Branch Manager for our office in Buhler. Jan has been working for us for the past 17 years as a member service representative. Her new duties will include underwriting and processing consumer loans. Also new in the Buhler branch is member service representative Sharon Stucky. Sharon grew up in the Buhler community but has been working in the medical service field for the past 20 plus years. Sharon started part-time for us in January but became full-time in May. Stop in at Buhler and thank the ladies for accepting these new positions.

The consumer loan risk based lending program I discussed in the last newsletter will be in place by the time you are reading this article. We understand that this is a big change from the way we have been doing things since we started in 1947, but we are in a different business environment and need to make this change to stay competitive and be fair to all members. Because level of risk to the credit union varies, members will not all pay the same interest rate. Please give us an opportunity to give you a quote if you are in the market for a loan. You might be surprised at what we can do!

When traveling abroad, using debit and credit cards can be challenging. While we will do everything we can to make your cards work, there are situations that are beyond our control. On our website you will find some important information that should be considered when using plastic for foreign travel. Please let us know if you have any questions.

We continue to waive early withdrawal fees on all member share certificates other than market index certificates. If you need access to money that is tied up in a share certificate, we will allow you to withdraw the money without penalty. Just bring in your certificate and we will cash it in for you.

Have a safe summer!!

For Your Information:

Our ACH's are processed at 7:45 am Monday thru Friday, excluding Federal Holidays. After hours, if you have a deposit that you would like to post to your account more quickly, please make the deposit through the ATM. Night drop deposits do not post as quickly as the ATM deposits do.

Share Drafts are processed at 3:00 pm Monday thru Friday, excluding Federal Holidays. The only way to guarantee clearance for an electronic purchase or share draft is to keep your account in good standing. Writing a check in anticipation of funds being deposited and cleared later is not a defense to an over-draft charge or criminal bad-check charge.

Mid Kansas Credit Union is here to help with your financial needs. Please help us to serve you best by maintaining and monitoring your accounts.

Mid-Kansas Credit Union Mission Statement

Mid-Kansas Credit Union is a member owned, democratically controlled financial institution, dedicated to providing quality member services at a fair price and being responsive to the needs of our members, while maintaining our long-term stability.





Ag Notes

Keith Tucker

Office in Moundridge
104 S. Ave. B—P.O. Box 608
620.345.2980 or 888.345.2980
620.345.2996 Fax
Lobby: M-F 8-5, Sat 8-12
Drive Up: M-F 7:30-5, Sat. 8-12

Office in Buhler
200 W. 2nd Ave.—P.O. Box 569
620.543.2662
620.543.2464 Fax
Lobby: M-F 9-4:30
Drive Up: M-F 8:30-5, Sat. 9-12

MOUNDRIAGE STAFF
Rick Krehbiel, Managing Director
Larry Schmidt, Loan Manager
Cameron Voth, Loan Officer
Keith Tucker, Fieldman/Ag Loan Officer

Anthony Jasso, Collections & IT
Susan Johnson, Loan Clerk
Becky Setser Clark, Member Service Rep Supervisor

Member Service Reps

Naomi Poloniecki
Jan Graber
Cindy Unruh
Stephanie Pfeiff
Skyler Freeman
& Liz Johnson,
Dollars & Sense Editor

BUHLER STAFF

Member Service Reps
Jan Pankratz - Branch Manager
Linda Plett
Sharon Stucky

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This winter and spring have been very interesting to say the least. Cattle prices have been at record highs and have not slacked off very much at this time. The winter was not only harsh, but long in duration. As has been the case in several of the past years, we have seemingly skipped spring and went to summer type temperatures. The growth of this year's wheat crop has been severely hampered by the lack of moisture through this past fall and winter. Many reports have this as the driest period on record since the 1930's. All of these factors have made for some very interesting conversations during my first six months on the job.

From visiting with members concerning the upcoming wheat harvest, I've heard a wide range of yield predictions. However it sounds like 25-30 bushels per acre might be a good estimate for the average wheat yield in our area. Some members are anticipating some 40-50 bushel wheat, while admitting that there will be some 15 to 25 bushel yields sprinkled in also. As always there are those comments, that it looks better from the road than it does when one walks through a field. Late May has brought some very beneficial rain along with moderate temperatures which has really helped the yield prospects by allowing the wheat to fill and also provided a great start for fall crops. The weather conditions the last couple of weeks prior to the start of harvest, as always will be crucial in how the crop materializes.

Cattle prices have remained strong, however it appears that cow/calf, heifer pairs and bred fall cows and heifers have softened a bit lately. This seems to be a result of pastures "greening" up late due the extended cool temperatures and the lack of moisture until just recently. We must remind ourselves that there is a lot of summer to go, and that we are "not saved yet". The long term outlook for cattle in particular remains strong. This can also be said for pork; however their numbers can fluctuate quickly, thus causing prices to be more volatile. Concerning either beef or pork there has to be a "happy meeting" place due to the housewife resistance factor, as there is just so much in their monthly portion of their budget for meat.

I have enjoyed working with the members of Mid Kansas Credit Union. I believe that the new financial workups we've been completing have been mutually beneficial for our members and MKCU. I will be helping a farmer in my home area of Lyons during harvest. My intention is to be available during the mornings at the office, while being gone during the afternoons during the duration of harvest.

6 Ways to Teach Kids About Money

Instilling good money habits in your children is arguably one of life's most important lessons. Fortunately, with today's technology, there are many ways to make learning about money fun for kids of all ages. With the right approach, your child will learn valuable financial habits.

1. **USE CASH**—Showing kids purchases with a credit card won't do much good. "Don't buy items on credit cards or with checks, because that's completely abstract," says Eillen Gallow, coauthor of *The Financially Intelligent Parent*. "Let your kids hold the money and see the money leaving their hands." For example, when your children are young, let them deposit coins in a parking meter.
2. **GIVE THEM A MONDERN PIGGY BANK**—A traditional one-slit piggy bank does not teach kids much about money management, says Susan Beacham, Chief executive and cofounder of Money Savvy Generation in Lake Bluff, Ill. So Beacham developed the Money Savvy Pig, a see-through piggy bank with four slots: Save, Spend, Donate, and Invest. With the Money Savvy Pig, kids learn that money isn't just for buying things.
3. **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE WEB**—The Internet is full of age-specific money games for kids. PNC Bank and Sesame Street teamed up to create fun videos and games that teach kids about money. Many children will find it easy and exciting to learn about money from Elmo and his friends. T. Rowe Price also offers The Great Piggy Bank Adventure, which uses a talking piggy bank to guide children through various financial lessons.
4. **LET THEM PLAY GAMES**—Games make the topic of money fun for kids. "Games become something you can use to open the discussion, so it's not always you preaching about money," Beacham says.
5. **SHOW THEM HOW TO MANAGE THEIR OWN MONEY**—Let your child play an active role in how money is used by offering them an allowance. But consistency is important: Many parents promise an allowance to their kids but don't deliver. If parents forget to pay the allowance, children learn that money promises can be broken.
6. **ENCOURAGE THEM TO GIVE BACK**—In addition to having your child donate money (to a charity of their choice), make philanthropy more enjoyable by getting the whole family involved. Volunteer together at the local soup kitchen or participate in a fundraiser at the neighborhood park.

<http://money.usnews.com/money/personal-finance/slideshows/6-fun-ways-to-teach-kids-about-money>

-Larry Schmidt - Loan Manager
-Cameron Voth - Loan Officer

Member Services

- ACH
- Agricultural Loans
- ATM Cards
- Auto Loans
- Cashier's Checks
- Direct Deposit/Direct Payment
- Drive-up ATM
- Drive-up Window
- Fax Machine Service
- Free Checking Accounts
- Foreign Currency & Foreign
- Item Collection
- Free Notary Service
- Home Improvement Loans
- IRA Accounts
- Life Protection Insurance
- Life Savings Insurance
- Market Index Certificates
- MK Net
- MK Pay
- Money Market Share Accounts
- Money Orders
- Night Depository
- Overdraft Privilege
- Overdraft Protection
- Payroll Deductions
- Personal Loans
- Real Estate Loans
- Safe Deposit Boxes
- Share Certificates
- Touch-Tone Teller
- VISA Credit Cards
- VISA Debit Cards
- VISA Cash Advance
- VISA Gift Cards
- Wire Transfers

What Effects Credit Scores?

Credit bureaus use their own unique mathematical algorithms to compute someone's individual credit score number, but there are 5 simple categories that have a direct impact on a credit score. We can have a positive affect on our credit score by knowing these five categories and taking some SIMPLE steps. The 5 categories are:

- PAYMENT HISTORY (35%)**
- CAPACITY (30%)**
- LENGTH OF CREDIT HISTORY (15%)**
- NEW CREDIT (10%)**
- TYPES OF CREDIT (10%)**

*The corresponding percentage gives an idea of how much weight each category has on a credit score.

Payment History has the most impact. This basically pertains to whether or not you make your payments on time. Every time you make a payment on time it will positively affect your report and score. The more times you have payments that are 30, 60, 90 or 180 days late the more payment history will negatively affect your credit report and credit score.

Capacity refers to how much of the credit available to you is being used. For instance, if you have a credit card with a limit of \$1000, then \$1000 is the amount of credit available to you. The more of that available credit you use, the less this specific category will help your score. You do not want to use the whole \$1000 every month because then you are not leaving any credit available. If you use \$500, or 50%, of the available credit or less this would show there is still 50% of the credit available which will in turn help your credit score.

Length of credit history does not have as much of an impact as the first two but can still help or hurt. The longer a credit account is on your credit report, or a credit account is open, the more it can help your credit. This category is the reason people say to freeze a credit card in a block of ice as opposed to closing the account because it will hurt your credit, mainly because you are losing capacity. Not closing the account helps because the longer the time frame the more it shows stability. Of course, if payments are not being made on time the length of history will not offset the negative affect payment history will be having on your score.

New credit is also important. Opening several new accounts in a short period of time will hurt your credit. Opening new credit accounts over a longer period of time will help. For example, do not get three new credit cards within a few months of each other. Get one, show to yourself and creditors you can make all the payments on time for a year then look at other opportunities for credit.

Types of credit typically falls under three different categories; revolving, installment and mortgage. Revolving is unsecured debt such as credit card debt. Installment is usually student loans or a type of secured loan such as an auto loan. Mortgage is a loan secured by real estate. Having some revolving and some installment usually helps the most, but if you do not need the debt or more importantly cannot afford it do not try to acquire the different types just to help your credit score because in the end it will not.

The disclaimer on all of this information is if you cannot afford the payments and cannot service those debts/loans you are only going to hurt your credit score. These are ways to improve credit if you can handle them, so you really need to know yourself. If a credit card makes it too easy to overspend do not get one or if you already have one close the account. Getting new debt or credit in order to improve your score only makes sense if you can make the payments and make them on time. Closing an account or not having all the different types of credit will not cause near the damage as if you keep accounts open or open new accounts but do not take care of them properly.

Some think that their credit is so far gone they cannot repair it and anything they do at this point will not make much difference because the damage has already been done. This could not be further from the truth. Granted it will take a little time and effort to repair credit but these categories are most affected by the most recent 12-18 months. Make a change and remain faithful for a year or a little more and the change in your credit will begin to become evident.

Written by: Cameron Voth

HOLIDAY CLOSING

MID-KANSAS CREDIT UNION

will be closed on

Friday, July 4

in observance of Independence Day
and on

Monday, Sept. 1

In observance of Labor Day

And on

Thursday, Nov. 27

In observance of Thanksgiving



Worlds of Fun & Oceans of Fun
All parks, Age 3 and up
\$41.00



Due to price increases at Silver Dollar City, we will not be offering Silver Dollar City Tickets for sale this year.

Sorry for any inconvenience.



Seven days a week you can access your accounts by calling . . . 620.345.2980 or 620.345.3300

Contest Winners to the GOING ON A CRUISE WORD SEARCH

Congratulations to our First prize winner–Kathryn Vogts; 2nd prize–Pamela Jo Darling; 3rd prize–Charlene Clark

ANIMAL WORD SEARCH

Find and circle all of the Animal words that are hidden in the grid. Words may be found left, right, up, down or diagonally and backwards. Bring or mail your entry to Mid-Kansas Credit Union, 104 S. Ave. B, P.O. Box 608, Moundridge, KS 67107 by Mon. Sept. 1, 2014. Credit Union Staff, officials, and spouses are ineligible. Winners will be determined by drawing and prizes will be credited to your share account. (One entry per family or newsletter). Please remember to write your name and address on the entry. 1st Prize: \$25; 2nd: \$15; 3rd: \$10.

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| APE | HIPPO | |
| ARMADILLO | HORSE | |
| BABOON | HYENA | |
| BEAR | JAGUAR | SEA LION |
| BEAVER | KANGAROO | SEA TURTLE |
| BUFFALO | KOALA | SHEEP |
| CAMEL | LEMUR | SKUNK |
| CAT | LION | SQUIRREL |
| CHEETAH | LLAMA | SUGAR GLIDER |
| CHICKEN | LYNX | SWAN |
| CHIMPANZEE | MALLARD | TIGER |
| CHINCHILLA | MARMOSET | TOAD |
| CHIPMUNK | MEERKAT | WALLABY |
| COUGAR | MONGOOSE | WARTHOG |
| DEER | MONKEY | WATER BUFFALO |
| DOG | MOOSE | WHALE |
| DONKEY | MOUSE | WOLF |
| EAGLE | OPOSSUM | WOODCHUCK |
| ELEPHANT | PANDA | ZEBRA |
| ELK | PARROT | ZEBU CATTLE |
| FERRET | PEACOCK | |
| FLAMINGO | PENGUIN | |
| FOX | PIG | |
| GAZELLE | PLATYPUS | |
| GIRAFFE | PORCUPINE | |
| GOAT | RABBIT | |
| GORILLA | RHINO | |
| HEDGEHOG | SEAL | |

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