



Fall 2018

NOTES OF INTEREST

Emergency Fund—Start Small, Think Big

Many people wonder how they can build an emergency fund when they're trying to pay off debt. It isn't as hard as you might think. The strategy is to start small, change a few habits, and change your mind-set.

If you're starting from scratch with your emergency fund, start with the goal of saving one month's worth of living expenses while paying the minimum on your credit cards. It may take a while but keep at it! When you have that "month

of living expenses" emergency fund saved, turn your focus to your credit card debt and pay more than the monthly minimum. Once the credit card debt is paid off, go back to building your emergency fund.

If your credit card debt is very high and can't be

paid in full within a couple of months, then alternate the extra money every other month: The first month, add to your emergency fund and pay the minimum on your credit cards. The next month, pay more on your credit cards and skip the deposit to your emergency fund, etc.

Here are five ways to boost your emergency fund and change savings habits for life:

- **Treat savings as a bill.** Figure out what you can afford to save each month and stash away \$75, \$50, \$25, or even \$5 a month. No matter the amount, it adds up and can become habit-forming. As your financial situation improves, increase the amount.

- **Live one raise behind.** When you get a raise, don't begin spending more. Instead, apply the extra amount to your emergency fund.

- **Automate it.** Set up an automatic transfer to your emergency fund account. When the credit union receives your direct-deposited pay check, you can have a portion of it put directly into your savings or emergency account. Out of sight, out of mind, but you know it's there if you really need it.

- **Give savings a garage-sale boost.** Go from room to room in your home and purge stuff you no longer want and need. Then schedule a garage sale. Both your house and your savings will look better.

- **Think of it as a life jacket.** If you can't find that initial spark to get started, ask yourself how you'd pay your bills if you lost your job tomorrow. Having an emergency fund will help you keep "your head above water."

Remember: The professionals at Fond du Lac Credit Union are ready to help with all your savings needs. Call us at 921-1123 to set up short-term and long-term savings vehicles that fit your needs.

Upcoming FDLCU Board Member Election for 2019

If you'd like to be more involved with your Credit Union and have a strong desire to help FDLCU continue to succeed and grow, we encourage you to apply for a position on the Board of Directors. You can learn more about it by calling us. You can pick up an application at the Credit Union office or print the information from our web site under the Forms tab. Be sure to have your application to the Credit Union by December 1, 2018 for our Nominating Committee to review.

A voting ballot will be included in the next quarterly newsletter - January 2019. If you have questions about the nomination process or election, please contact Credit Union President, Scott Roesch at (920) 921-1123.



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FDLCU - Supporting the Community We Serve

If you've stopped in our office or visited our website you've seen our employees wearing "jeans for a reason" on Fridays. Our employees donate money or items that different charities are in need of.

Our employees also volunteer their time to help support local organizations. We are happy to have contributed in some way to the following in the past year:

- Fond du Lac Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Fond du Lac Concert Association
- Sabish School - Sabish Elves Project
- Fond du Lac Charity Club
- Children's Miracle Network & Children's Hospital
- Fond du Lac Softball Hall of Fame
- Help for Homeless
- Fondy Food Pantry
- Fond du Lac Relay for Life
- Fond du Lac Boys & Girls Club
- Fond du Lac YPF
- Solutions Center
- Reality Day at Fondy High School
- Fond du Lac County Money Smart Week
- Home Builders Association of Fond du Lac & Dodge Counties, Inc.
- Whisper Hills Clydesdales

We're proud to be part of the Fond du Lac community!

We will be closed the following days so our employees may enjoy the holidays with family and friends:

Thursday, Nov. 22- Thanksgiving Day

Monday, Dec. 24 at Noon and

Tuesday Dec. 25 - for Christmas

Tuesday, January 1 - New Year's Day

Remember, Online Banking, the Mobile App and Debit Cards are great alternatives when our office is closed!



If you have a Christmas Club Savings Account, your funds were automatically transferred to your regular Share account at the end of September. The 2019 Christmas Club dividend rate is .30% APY.

Happy Holiday Shopping!

FICO Falcon Fraud Manager Coming Soon!

Think of us as your fraud protection bodyguard.

Fraud strikes people of all ages.* But we've got the muscle to keep your accounts safe. Fond du Lac Credit Union is helping you fight fraud with FICO® Falcon® Fraud Manager.

Fifty-four percent of data breaches are related to identity theft**, and it takes an average of 170 days to detect a cyber-attack!*** That's why Fond du Lac Credit Union is fighting fraud one transaction at a time. Each time you use your debit card, we're monitoring the transaction with Falcon, keeping you and your money secure.

Our fraud detection services keep your accounts safer.

With each swipe of your card, a neural network, also known as artificial intelligence, is building a case for you. Neural networks create a memory of information based on cardholder habits such as where and when you shop, how much you typically spend, types of purchases, fraud rates in the area and more. Each purchase strengthens the memory and in turn, makes decisions on which transactions are likely to be fraudulent.

What if fraud is detected on my account?

If a suspicious transaction is detected on your debit card, a SHAZAM fraud specialist will call you on our behalf from 866-508-2693. They won't ask for any personal information.

If you confirm the transaction is fraudulent, Falcon's real-time response capabilities allow us to quickly respond to suspicious transactions and avoid additional losses.

There's nothing to sign up for. Simply make sure the Credit Union has your current contact information and notify us if it changes.

Falcon is just one fraud-fighting mechanism Fond du Lac Credit Union has in place. Ask us how you can join the fight against fraud.

*Source: Nasdaq.com ** Source: fico.com

*From all of us at
Fond du Lac Credit Union,
Happy Thanksgiving.
We're thankful for your business.*

