## NUMBERS OF

### abileneteachersfcu.org

MEMBER INFORMATION CENTER 325-677-2274 800-677-6770

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 5706 Abilene, Texas 79608

**MAIN OFFICE:** 3849 Antilley Road

### **BRANCH OFFICES:**

2801 N. 6th Street 2555 Buffalo Gap Road 1181 E. N. 10th Street 349 N. Mockingbird drive thru only

### HOURS OF OPERATION:

Antilley & N. 6th Street Lobbies -9 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday Buffalo Gap Rd & E.N. 10th Street Lobbies -10 am to 6 pm, Monday-Friday All Drive-Thru Teller Facilities -7:30 am to 6:00 pm, Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday

### **INFO-LINE TELEPHONE BANKING:**

676-4636 or 888-351-4636

### E-MAIL (ANSWERED DURING **BUSINESS HOURS):**

atfcu@abileneteachersfcu.org

#### **ATFCU ROUTING NUMBER:** 311376533

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING CREDIT INSURANCE:**

For members insured with Credit Insurance, coverage terminates on the last day of the month during which you reach the Termination Age of 70 for Credit Life and for Credit Disability



Ne do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

SAVINGS RATES			
		RATES	APY**
Share Accounts/Savings	\$25 - 100	.06%	.06%
	\$101 - 1,000	.07%	.07%
	\$1,001 - up	.10%	.10%
Share Draft/ Checking	\$1,000 - 1,999	.07%	.07%
	\$2,000 - 9,999	.10%	.10%
	\$10,000 - up	.13%	.13%
Individual Retirement Account	\$100 - up	.15%	.15%
Certificates - \$500 - \$99,999	3 Mo.	.16%	.16%
	6 Mo.	.16%	.16%
	12 Mo.	.30%	.30%
	18 Mo.	.35%	.35%
	24 Mo.	.50%	.50%
Jumbo Certificates - \$100,000 & Up	3 Mo.	.36%	.36%
	6 Mo.	.36%	.36%
	12 Mo.	.50%	.50%
	18 Mo.	.55%	.55%

All rates are subject to change. These rates were effective 7-1-2022.

\*\*Annual Percentage Yield

Your savings at the credit union are federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government.

24 Mo.

### LOAN RATES

TYPE OF LOAN	TERM	RATES
New Auto & Light Trucks	1-84 Mo.	2.75% to 15.50%
Used Auto & Light Trucks	1-84* Mo.	2.80% to 16.60%
Older Used Auto (Model Years 2003-2011)	1-36 Mo.	5.50% to 17.75%
New & Used Boats	1-72 Mo.	7.00% to 17.95%
New & Used RV's	1-72 Mo.	5.00% to 17.95%
New RV's (over \$50,000)	73-120 Mo.	5.50% to 19.95%
Motorcycle, ATV, Watercraft, Trailer - new only	1-60 Mo.	6.25% to 17.95%
Appliance, Furniture, Musical Instruments	1-36 Mo.	10.25% to 17.95%
Signature/Personal Loan	1-36 Mo.	10.25% to 17.95%
Share Secured	1-72 Mo.	2.00% to 4.00%
Personal Line of Credit	1-36 Mo.	7.75% to 16.75%
Credit Builder Loans	12 or 18 Mo.	3.5% to 4.0%
MasterCard or Visa Credit Cards		9.90%
Home Equity	10 to 20 Yrs.	5.85% to 7.85%
Home Improvement	10 to 20 Yrs.	6.10% to 8.10%
First Mortgage Loans	15 to 30 Yrs.	Please give us a call

Lowest rates shown reflect multiple discounts. See our website or contact your Loan Officer for details.

Loan rates dependent upon credit score and value of collateral \*loan term dependent upon model vear All rates are subject to change. These rates were effective 7-1-2022.

All rates are annual percentage rates (APR).

.70%

.70%

## **ITEMS OF** NTEREST

## THE EQUITY IN YOUR HOME IS VALUABLE. **PUTITO** WORK!

The recent housing boom has significantly increased the value of most homes in the Abilene area. Since home prices have soared to all-time highs, homeowners now have access to higher levels of home equity. That equity can be used to finance home improvements, a college education or just about any special dream – as long as it's legal, of course!

Perhaps you'd like to add an outdoor kitchen to your backyard? You could fund the project by using a personal loan, a personal line of credit, credit cards or a home equity loan. You'll find our current loan rates on the ATFCU website and posted in the lobbies.

A home equity loan is secured by your home's worth. You borrow against its current market value, minus the amount you still owe on your mortgage. Your interest rate is fixed and you will know ahead of time exactly how much the monthly payments will be for the entire life of the loan. As an added benefit the interest paid on a home equity loan is often 100% tax deductible (consult your tax advisor for details).

Making a dream come true is exciting. That said, there are important considerations to evaluate before choosing a home equity loan.

Using your home as collateral means risking foreclosure and home loss if you default

• If your home value declines over the loan term, you may end up owing more than it is worth

a home loan officer. They can be reached at 677-2274 or 800-677-6770.

### **JULY 2022**





- You'll find more details on the home equity page of our website. View your options there; then make an appointment with

### **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

At the Abilene Teachers FCU Annual Meeting on April 28, it was announced that Keith Dowell, Emily Meador and Rob Tucker had been re-elected for 3-year Board terms and that Karen Muñoz had been elected for her first Board term. The nine-member volunteer Board is the governing body of the credit union and meets monthly to determine strategic direction for Abilene Teachers FCU.

The credit union is hiring **Tellers**, **ITM** Tellers and Call Center staff members. Applications can be completed online at the Careers page of our website or in person at our lobby locations. Full and part-time positions are available. Applicants need a high school diploma or recent GED. Background and credit checks are conducted as part of the hiring process.

Tired of long lines everywhere in the post-COVID world? So are we. That's why we've made changes in our drive thru lanes. On June 1 we began conducting the following transactions exclusively in our lobbies:

-Money Orders -Cashier's Checks -Gift Cards -Account Print Outs -Temporary Checks -IRA and HSA contributions -Check and Statement Copies

We're adding additional teller stations inside the North 6th Street branch and there's always plenty of room at the Antilley Road location. Your kids are welcome and we're bringing back the lollipops!

The 2022 tax free weekend for back to school purchases is August 5 to 7. Visit https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/ publications/98-490/ to view the list of qualified items.

# **Cryptocurrency-The Basics**

### **Kathy Mayer**

I recently noticed a new addition at a local convenience store - a kiosk for buying and selling cryptocurrency. It turns out there are 27 (and counting) similar machines within Abilene. Obviously, there's a solid demand for this little-understood product. My research revealed plenty of online advice – some factual, some misleading, and some completely inaccurate.

Members considering an investment in crypto should do extensive study before risking hard-earned cash. Here are some basic facts:

- Cryptocurrencies exist independently of financial institutions. This characteristic allows anonymity, lack of censorship and cheaper, faster fund transfers. For these reasons, crypto earned a well-deserved reputation for illegality. In recent years, crypto has become increasingly mainstream.
- Cryptocurrency is an investment; not a get-rich-quick-scheme. Like stocks, its value fluctuates on a minute to minute basis. Individuals should not risk money they cannot afford to lose. Early crypto investors made huge fortunes; latecomers not so much. The same can be said for most stocks.
- Crypto is only loosely regulated in the United States. There are no buyer protections. Unwary investors are subject to significant security risks.
- Cryptocurrency is stored in an individual's crypto wallet. Should the user lose the private key to this wallet, he/she will not be able to recover the funds.
- Crypto is not convenient in the everyday world. It can't be used to buy lunch, pay most bills, purchase a movie ticket, etc. A few major retailers – Starbucks, Home Depot, Whole Foods – now accept crypto but the transactions remain complicated.

Major celebrities like Matt Damon, Reese Witherspoon and Tom Brady have promoted cryptocurrency. These folks are not financial experts and are paid well for their endorsements. We urge members to protect their financial wellbeing by getting informed prior to making financial decisions.



As I sit here writing this quarter's Community Connections it is a cool 105 degrees outside and does not look to be getting much cooler anytime soon. Summer has hit in full force! I hope you are staying cool or getting to relax by the pool or even better, on the beach.

We presented our Economic Reality Fair to about 500 Abilene High School students on April 20. It was a long day that required many volunteers and was a huge success! Many thanks to Board members Terry Bull, Royce Curtis and Emily Meador who helped us out. I look forward to partnering with AISD for the 2022-2023 school year and hope to include Cooper and ATEMS high schools.

As the pandemic fades, new schools have requested financial education presentations. During the spring semester I spoke to students at Kenley School, Trent Elementary, Merkel Middle and Hamlin High schools. I was also privileged to mentor a high school junior at Wylie High School. We met weekly and I think it's possible that she taught me more than I taught her. Fresh perspectives and viewpoints are valuable as I plan educational options for various organizations.

**325 Day** on March 25 far exceeded our expectations. We invited community participation but didn't know exactly what to expect. Happily, more than 65 local merchants/vendors participated in one way or another. The live music downtown at Vera Hall Mentor Park was amazing and the weather was perfect. I want to thank **Basic Truth**, Brent Fox, and Christy Patton for their great performances. We are already excited about next year's 325 Day which will be on a Saturday. We've been approached by some new organizations that plan to offer family friendly activities in the downtown area. Hope we'll see you there!

As always, if you would like to get in touch with me about financial education or community related events please email me at egray@abileneteachersfcu.org or call our main line at 325.677.2274 and ask for me.

### **Refinance Now -**Gas & GAP are On Us!

If you're thinking about refinancing your auto loan, we have a deal for you! Bring your existing loan to Abilene Teachers FCU and we'll provide GAP coverage at no charge and hand you \$250 cash for gasoline or whatever you choose

GAP is Guaranteed Asset Protection - coverage that protects your 4-wheeled investment. If your vehicle is stolen or totaled in an accident, GAP helps fill the difference between what your primary insurance will pay and what you owe on the loan. It's a valuable product and it's free during this promotion.

You'll save even more because there are no application fees or refinance fees to worry about. This is a limited time offer, so apply today in person, over the phone, online or in the app. or online.

All loans are subject to credit union approval. Loan rate is determined by credit-worthiness. Minimum loan value is \$15,000. Other restrictions apply. Detailed information is available on our website.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS & Announcements

### -ommunity -onnection with Elizabeth Gray

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