## CENTRAL CONNECTION



Spring 2023





#### **CEO** Corner

Dear Members,

As we welcome the arrival of spring, I want to remind everyone about the importance of financial wellness. Spring is a time of renewal and growth, and it's the perfect opportunity to take a fresh look at your financial goals

and make any necessary adjustments. So whether you're looking to save for a big purchase, pay off debt, or invest in you and your family's future, Central One is here to help.

At Central One, we believe that financial wellness is more than just managing your money- it's about creating a solid financial foundation that allows you to live your best life. That's why we offer a wide range of products and services designed to help you achieve your goals in a safe and secure manner while building a bright financial future.

So, as we all enjoy the longer days and warmer weather of spring, take some time to reflect on your financial wellness and how we can help you achieve your goals. At Central One, we put you at the center of everything we do. We are always here to support you on your financial journey every step of the way.

Devon Lyon President/CEO Central One Federal Credit Union

#### 2023 Annual Meeting

The 71st Annual Business Meeting of the Central One Federal Credit Union Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 5:00 pm at our Shrewsbury branch located at 714 Main Street. Please refer to the Call for Nominations Announcement in your April account statement for details.

#### Award-winning service

We're honored to have been recognized with the following awards in 2022:

- 2022 Top finalist in Best of Central MA and Metrowest, for credit union and financial services
- Oak Tree Insurance named Top Insurance Agency in Best of Central MA 2022
- Top Credit Union Lender in Massachusetts in 2022 by the Warren Group
- #146 in the United States for Second Mortgages as reported from American Credit Union Mortgage Association, 2022

#### **Our Milford Branch is coming soon!**

Renovations are almost complete on our full-service Milford branch located at 82 Prospect Street, Route 140. Stay tuned for more details!



#### Save now with our limited time Balance Transfer Promo - Ending Soon!

Transfer your high rate credit card balances to Central One with a **low fixed rate of 6.99% APR\* until February 2025**. No balance transfer fee and no annual fee. Act now, promotion ends April 30th!

Visit **centralfcu.com/transferpromo** to start saving now!

# There for you on your journey - every step of the way.

At Central One, we know that your life's priorities and goals are unique to you. That's why we're proud to offer financial guidance and support that goes beyond traditional banking products to help you protect what matters most to you while setting yourself up for financial success in the future.

As a full-service credit union, we're pleased to offer various products and services beyond savings, checking, and lending products. For example, we provide insurance products for life, home, auto, and more - so you can rest assured that the things that matter most to you are protected. We can also help you plan for your future through investment, college, and retirement planning - to ensure you're taken care of now and moving forward.

To learn more or get started with our insurance or retirement and investment services, visit <u>centralfcu.com</u> or call our Member Support Center at **(800) 527-1017**.



#### Member Appreciation Events & Shred Days 2023

We're excited to continue our celebration of you, our members! Throughout the year, we will be showing our appreciation with week-long celebrations at each of our branch locations! These Member Appreciation Weeks will be spread out throughout the year, and will incorporate our Community Shred Days. Stay tuned for further information on **centralfcu.com/member-appreciation**!

Branch	Member Appreciation	Shred Day
Westborough	April 10-15	April 15
Northborough	May 22-26	May 20
Milford	July 3-31	June 17
Worcester	July 31-August 4	No shred day
Auburn	September 25-30	September 30
Shrewsbury	October 23-28	October 28

### **April is Youth Financial Literacy Month!**

In the month of April and always, Central One is dedicated to helping our young members learn about and navigate their finances. We believe that the road to financial well-being starts with financial education, and we're proud to offer products and tools that can help get our young members on the right foot with their finances, such as:

- A variety of **Youth Accounts**, tailored for children up to the age of 17 featuring products and services to help jump-start financial wellness.
- **The Zogo financial education app** is a fun, gamified way for teens and adults to learn over 300 financial concepts and topics.
- Follow us on social media for financial tips and tools!

Interested in learning more? Visit **<u>centralfcu.com/financialeducation</u>** for more information!

#### 2023 scholarships

Applications for our two Scholarship Programs, Central One Federal Credit Union Student Member Academic Scholarship and Central One Federal Credit Union Academic Scholarship are now open! We'll be awarding lucky students with \$10,000 through these scholarship programs.

Applications are open until April 15, 2023. Visit **centralfcu.com/scholarships** to apply.





#### **Student checking promotion**

Open a new Student Checking account in the month of April and get \$25 deposited to your account!\* Our free Student Checking account helps parents guide their children towards adopting excellent money management skills.

- No minimum balance
- No monthly fees
- 55,000 fee free ATMs<sup>1</sup>
- 24/7 online banking<sup>2</sup>
- Instant card replacement if lost or stolen
- Card Control App: monitor & manage your card

#### Did you know?

- We have helpful videos on our Online and Mobile Banking page <u>centralfcu.com/resources/online-</u> <u>and-mobile-banking</u> on Biometric Authentication, Accounts and Transfer, Mobile Check Deposit and our Money Management Budgeting Tool.
- You can open a CD using funds from another account by calling our Member Support Center and providing your account information over the phone.



Insurance costs are on the rise. Did you know that Central One Federal Credit Union has an in-house insurance agency? While most agencies are reactive when you complain that rates have sky-rocketed, we proactively shop your coverage for the best value whenever your premium increases substantially! Why use an independent agent? An independent agent represents numerous insurance companies. We do the shopping for you, saving you time and money! At Oak Tree, we have access to several carriers to best fit your needs. With our knowledge of the markets, we can provide you with a variety of options, so that you don't need to call numerous companies. This not only gives you competitive pricing, but our agents will take the time to

make sure you are adequately insured.

At Oak Tree insurance Agency, we are here to help you through all of your changes in life, whether you are buying your first home, getting your first apartment, adding a teen driver to your policy, or starting a new business. We can meet all of your insurance needs - both personal and business- related!

Central One members are eligible for exclusive group discounts. Call us today at **(508) 841-0515** or email us at **lgriffiths@centralfcu.com** for your no obligation quote!



#### **Fraud Trends**

Despite the declining use of checks in the United States, criminals have been increasingly targeting the U.S. Mail to commit check fraud. Fraudsters can wash checks they have stolen, which involves using chemicals to remove the original ink on a check to replace the payee and often the dollar amount. Fraudsters may also copy and print multiple washed checks for future use or to sell to third-party criminals. You can take steps to protect yourself by keeping a close eye on your accounts to be sure you don't see any unusual debits, and confirm receipt with check payees to verify that only the intended parties are depositing checks you write.

#### Summer vacation plans?

Inform us of your travel plans through our Card Control App. Set up alerts, spending restrictions, and more to provide an extra level of security while on your trip. Download the app today.

#### Apple Store

Google Play



#### I Love My Credit Union Rewards

Members have saved over \$2 billion on discounts from our partners!



Follow us on social media!

#### Upcoming Holiday Closures

Memorial Day - Monday, 5/29 Juneteenth - Monday, 6/19 Independence Day - Tuesday, 7/4 Labor Day - Monday, 9/4



Your savings are federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency. Products and services provided by Central One Retirement & Investment Center and Oak Tree Insurance are not NCUA insured.

\*Primary account holder must be 13 years or older. If under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must be on the account jointly.<sup>1</sup> Free ATM network includes Central One, SUM and AllPoint terminals. Out of network terminal owners may charge a service fee.<sup>2</sup> Please note: Online Bill Pay is not available for this account. New accounts only. Terms and conditions apply.