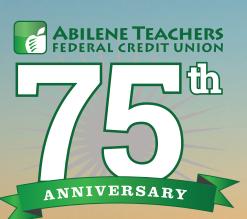
#### APRIL 2025

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# ITEMS OF NTEREST



## 75TH ANNUAL MEETING IS THURSDAY, APRIL 10

All members are invited to attend the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Abilene Teachers Federal Credit Union. This year's business meeting and celebration is scheduled for Thursday, April 10 in the Exhibit Hall at the Abilene Convention Center. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and the Abilene Youth Orchestra will play as guests find seats prior to the 7 pm Call to Order.

Employees will be stationed outside to direct you to the registration tables. At registration, you'll check in and receive a door prize ticket and a 75th Anniversary gift\*. There is no charge for this event and members of all ages are welcome. Individual snack boxes will be served at each table and coffee, iced tea and water will be available. To mark our milestone anniversary, \$7,500 in cash door prizes will be awarded that evening. The meeting is expected to conclude by 8 pm.

Board Chair Royce Curtis and President/CEO James Boyd will review highlights from the 2024 Annual Report and discuss upcoming plans. The results from the Board of Directors election will be confirmed. The ATFCU Board is comprised of 9 elected volunteers who serve three year terms. Board election procedures specify that the Nominating Committee propose at least one name for each board seat subject to election in a given year. This year, three incumbent Board members – **Keith Dowell, Emily Meador** and **Karen Munoz** – chose to run for re-election. As there were no additional nominations made through the petition progress, we are pleased to announce the re-election of Mr. Dowell, Ms. Meador and Dr. Munoz.

\*It is necessary to be a primary member of ATFCU in order to receive a gift and be eligible for door prizes.

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## PIGGY BANKS ARE IMPORTANT

In today's world, teaching children about money management is more crucial than ever. Let's explore how to equip the young people in our lives with the tools they need for a secure financial future.

#### **Deciding on an Allowance**

To learn how to manage money, children need some money to manage. Typically, this money comes from an allowance or from doing small jobs for friends and neighbors. As a first step, you'll have to decide how much the allowance should be and whether or not it should be linked to required chores.

It's important to note that discussions about allowances and chores can vary greatly among families. Consider researching different approaches and choosing what aligns with your values. Similarly, decide if you expect an older child to use some of the allowance for necessities, like clothing and school supplies. If so, you may decide they need a larger amount than if you'll be covering those costs yourself. Whatever you decide, though, remember that the overall goal is to use the allowance as a way of teaching how to create a spending plan and live by it.

One popular suggestion, especially for younger children, is to illustrate the concept of budgeting by using three clear jars that represent current expenses, short-term savings, and long-term savings. Separating cash into jars makes it easy to compare the results of spending and saving. If you'd like to encourage charitable giving, use a fourth jar, set a fixed percentage of the total, such as 10%, and encourage putting money in that jar as well. Once your child understands the concept, you may choose to open a youth savings account at ATFCU. We find this works well for multi-child families where piggy banks are subject to 'raiding'.

#### Spending, Saving, and Investing

To help children decide how much should be allotted for savings and how much for spending, help them figure out what they'll need for regular weekly expenses, such as lunch money. We recommend keeping careful track of a week's worth of spending before choosing a starting point. Part of your discussion should focus on the fact that budgeting always involves making adjustments. The goal isn't to get it right the first time, but to come up with a workable plan.

Next, talk about money for short-term savings goals. Children's goals vary substantially, based on their age and concept of time, but might include toys, sports equipment, electronic devices, special clothes, or other big-ticket items. You may want to suggest saving for one item at a time and help them figure out how much they'll need to save each week to reach their goal in a realistic amount of

> time. But you'll probably want to let them discover for themselves that not all goals are worth the time and effort it takes to reach them.

Finally, be sure to encourage them to set aside a regular percentage for some long-term goal, however vaguely defined. For some children, saving for college is important. For others, the goal may be more tangible, like a car. 10% of the total is a reasonable percentage to save. Explain to them that money saved now can grow over time through the power of compound interest. As an incentive to build long-term savings, you might consider a matching contribution by adding 50 cents or a dollar for every dollar your child devotes to long term savings.

#### **Opening Accounts for Children**

When you're ready to open accounts for your children, discuss your options with one of our Member Service Representatives. You can view details on the **Youth Savings** page of the ATFCU website. Youth accounts earn interest at our regular rates and there is no monthly service charge.

Another fun, interactive way to teach your child about the importance of saving is playing the life simulation games found in the **Banzai!** Financial Education platform of the website. Find it in the **Tools and Advice** section.

## **BANKING HOLIDAYS:** DON'T GET CAUGHT OFF GUARD!

Ever wondered why your paycheck didn't hit your account on a Monday after a long weekend? Or why that bill payment got delayed? Chances are, it's because of a federal banking holiday. We know; they can be tricky! That's why we're here to break it down.

#### What's the Deal with Federal Banking Holidays?

Basically, it's when banks and credit unions (like us!) close up shop. Even if other businesses are open, the Federal Reserve takes a break. This means money movement between financial institutions grinds to a halt.

#### What Does This Mean for Your Wallet?

- **Deposit Delays:** That mobile check deposit? Your paycheck? Another type of regularly scheduled deposit? Any deposit made on a banking holiday won't show up until the next business day.
- **Monday Mayhem:** Did you make a mobile check deposit after our 2 pm closing on the Saturday preceding a Monday banking holiday? It won't process until we return to the office Tuesday.
- Bill Payment Blunders: Schedule a payment for a holiday? Oops! It'll be delayed, possibly leading to late fees.

We get it—life happens! We're here to help you stay ahead of the game. Stay informed, and you'll be a banking holiday pro in no time!

**PRO TIP:** Check our app or website for a list of upcoming holidays. Plus, there's always a quarterly list in this newsletter. Planning ahead helps avoid those frustrating surprises. And remember, while holidays may delay some transactions, our digital tools are available 24/7 for account access and balance checks.



Abilene Teachers FCU Board Chair Royce Curtis cuts the 75th Anniversary Red Ribbon on March 3, 2025. ATFCU was originally chartered on March 3, 1950. The fledgling credit union was organized by a small group of AISD teachers and housed in the Shop Department of the original Abilene High School.

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, May 26 Memorial Day

Thursday, June 19 Juneteenth

Friday, July 4 Independence Day



## NUMBERS OF

#### abileneteachersfcu.org

#### MEMBER CONTACT CENTER

8:30 to 6 Monday – Fri 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 Drive-Throughs at Antilley, Mockingbird & EN 10th Street 7 am to 6 pm, Monday-Friday 9 am to 2 pm on Saturday Drive-Through Lanes at Buffalo Gap Road 7:30 am to 6 pm Monday-Friday 9 am to 2 pm on Saturday

### 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.



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

SAVINGS RATES		RATE	APY**
Savings Account	\$5 - \$99.99	.15%	.15%
	\$100 - \$999.99	.25%	.25%
	\$1,000 - up	.35%	.35%
Checking Account	\$1,000 - \$1,999.99	.35%	.35%
	\$2,000 - \$9,999.99	.45%	.45%
	\$10,000 - up	.55%	.55%
Money Market Savings Account	\$2,500 - \$9,999.99	1.90%	1.92%
	\$10,000 - \$24,999.99	2.00%	2.02%
	\$25,000 - \$49,999.99	2.10%	2.12%
	\$50,000 – 74,999.99	2.30%	2.32%
	\$75,0000 - \$99,999.99	2.45%	2.48%
	\$100,000 – up	2.75%	2.78%
Certificates & IRA Certificates \$500 - \$99,999	3 Month	3.85%	3.92%
	6 Month	3.80%	3.87%
	12 Month	3.20%	3.25%
	18 Month	3.15%	3.20%
	24 Month	3.10%	3.14%
Jumbo Certificates & IRA Certificates \$100,000 and Up	3 Month	4.05%	4.13%
	6 Month	4.00%	4.07%
	12 Month	3.40%	3.45%
	18 Month	3.35%	3.40%
	24 Month	3.30%	3.35%
Individual Retirement Account	\$0 to \$4.99	.20%	.20%
	\$5 - \$99.99	.50%	.50%
	\$100 – \$999.99	.60%	.60%
	\$1,000 - \$9,999.99	1.00%	1.00%
	\$10,000 – up	1.25%	1.26%

All rates are subject to change without notice. These rates were effective 4-1-2025. 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. \*\*Annual Percentage Yield

LOAN RATES	TERM	APR*
New Auto & Light Trucks	1-84 Mo.	4.25% to 15.50%
Used Auto & Light Trucks	1-84 Mo.	4.25% to 16.45%
Older Used Auto (Model Years 2005-2013)	1-36 Mo.	6.95% to 17.99%
New & Used Boats	1-72 Mo.	9.75% to 17.99%
New & Used RV's	1-84 Mo.	7.50% to 17.99%
New RV's (over \$50,000)	73-120 Mo.	8.50% to 17.99%
Motorcycle, ATV, Watercraft, Trailer - new only	1-60 Mo.	7.20% to 17.99%
Computer, Appliance, Furniture, Antique Auto	1-36 Mo.	10.25% to 17.95%
Signature/Personal Loan	1-36 Mo.	9.75% to 17.95%
Savings Secured	1-72 Mo.	2.35% to 4.35%
Personal Line of Credit	1-36 Mo.	7.75% to 16.75%
Credit Builder Loans	12 or 18 Mo.	4.35%
Mastercard Credit Cards		Please contact us
Home Equity	10 to 20 Yrs.	Please contact us
Home Improvement	10 to 20 Yrs.	Please contact us
First Mortgage Loans	15 to 30 Yrs.	Please contact us

All rates are annual percentage rates (APR). These rates were effective 4-1-2025. Loan rates are subject to change without notice. Lowest rates shown reflect multiple discounts. Loan rates dependent upon credit score and value of collateral. See our website or contact your Loan Officer for details.