A Letter to Our Members

The KCT Difference

Dear Members,

It occurred to me the other day that many of you might not be aware of the things your credit union, KCT, is doing in our community. This edition of The KCT Difference is going to focus on how we serve our community and ultimately you.

Revenue Sharing with Local School Districts
With the cutbacks in Illinois, many of our schools are looking for new ways to support student functions like band, sports, arts, etc. Read how KCT is partnering with Aurora West School District 129 to create a fundraiser.

ATM Convenience
Have you ever gone to a high school event and wished you had some cash for entrance into the event or to buy a concession? KCT is working with local school districts and other Kane County organizations to make getting cash easy at no cost if you are a KCT member.

Free Tax Service
KCT has partnered with Judson University and The Center for Economic Progress to bring free tax service for many individuals in our community.

Helping Students
KCT supports our local schools and universities to help students fulfill their dreams. From donating our time in the classroom educating students on financial matters to serving on foundation boards, KCT is involved in supporting our future and the next generation.

Awards
Not only is KCT making a difference in our community, but it is being recognized at the state level. See the awards KCT won serving our members and community.

Without your support and devotion to KCT, we could not accomplish the things we are doing, but working together we are fulfilling our mission statement!
In 2017, West Aurora School District will be rolling out an affinity program backed by KCT to help fund programs across its 15 schools. All new debit and credit cards with West Aurora School District branding and colors will be available for staff, parents and students. These cards will help fund school programs including sports teams, band and after school activities. KCT will also be installing ATMs at the West Aurora high school to support the affinity program.

Affinity card programs are commonly associated with colleges and universities; usually marketed to alumni and tugging on the heartstrings of school pride. Affinity cards are a way to raise money to support school programs. KCT is leading the way to introducing affinity programs to our local school districts to help in a time of a budget crisis within our school systems.

The West Aurora Pride cards will be offered to anyone associated with District 129. Staff and parents can take advantage of all 3 cards we will be offering and students can show their school spirit with the West Aurora Pride debit card that will be available with KCT checking accounts. The 2 credit cards that are being offered to staff and parents are similar to KCT’s Platinum and Platinum Rewards cards. The way the program will work is with each transaction made with one of the 3 cards, a portion of the transaction amount will go directly to the school district. Additionally, West Aurora Pride Rewards cardholders will have the option to donate their reward points to the school district. The revenue generated from the cards will be used to help fund a variety of programs in District 129 including band uniforms, sports uniforms and other after school activities.

Learn how KCT’s affinity program can help your local school district or community-focused business. Email us at marketing@kctcu.org

Get Out of Debt Loan!

Up to $10,000 for 36 months

Rates as low as 4.99% APR*

**Receive a 0.25% discount on an approved Get Out of Debt loan when you setup an automatic deposit into your KCT Checking account of at least $500.00 per month. Automatic loan payment required to receive loan discount. Offer valid January 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2017.

*Annual Percentage Rate (APR). Advertised rate is based on excellent credit history. Membership and other qualifications apply. The interest rate you receive is based on your creditworthiness. Payment example: a $1,000 loan with a 36-month term at 4.99% would have 35 payments at $30.03 and a final payment of $29.60. Payment may vary from example if electing KCT Protection. Rates subject to change. All loans subject to approval. Offer valid January 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2017.
ATM Convenience

In 2016, KCT worked with our local school districts to install ATMs at high schools. Since the start of the school year, we have placed 4 ATMs in District U-46 and District 300. Staff, students and parents who are members at KCT can use these ATMs to withdraw cash and avoid a surcharge fee. Teachers and students can use these ATMs during regular school hours and parents can take advantage of the ATMs during school activities.

KCT has also planted ATMs within the Kane County Government buildings. Most recently, an ATM was installed at the Kane County Circuit Clerk, located conveniently inside the main entrance. This was the 4th ATM to be installed within the Kane County Government. An ATM has also been installed at the St. Charles Police Department.

You can find a KCT ATM at the following locations:

- District 300 Admin Building
- Gail Borden Public Library
- Kane County Government Center
- Jacobs High School
- Larkin High School
- District U-46 Admin Building
- District U-46 Transportation Center
- Kane County Judicial Center
- Kane County Sheriff’s Office
- Hampshire High School
- Kane County Circuit Clerk building
- Bartlett High School
- Streamwood High School
- Elgin High School
- St. Charles Police Department

Schedule your Debt Checkup

Call today for your free, no obligation Debt Checkup and find out how you can reduce your debt burden.

847.741.3344
Free Tax Service

From January 21 through April 17, 2017, families with less than $55,000 annual income and individuals with less than $30,000 annual income can have their taxes prepared for free at Judson University and Waubonsee Community College by IRS-certified volunteers from the Center of Economic Progress (CEP). KCT will also have volunteers assisting families and individuals financially at Judson University.

Last year, KCT volunteered 4 representatives to work with each family and individual participating in the event at Judson University. While waiting for their tax returns to be filed, KCT helped open savings and checking accounts. They also learned about our products and services we offer, including the Debt Checkup and Get Out of Debt Loan.

Locations and Hours:

**Judson University – Linder Tower**
500 W River Rd
Elgin, IL 60123

Days open: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday
Weekday Hours: 5:30 pm – 8 pm
Saturday Hours: 10 am – 1 pm
Last Day of Service Apr. 17

**Waubonsee Community College**
18 S River St
Aurora, IL 60506

Days open: Wednesday and Saturday
Weekday Hours: 5:30 pm – 8 pm
Saturday Hours: 10 am – 1 pm
Last Day of Service Apr. 15

What to bring:

- All W-2s and 1099s (if any)
- Social Security Cards or Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITIN) for all family members
- Valid photo ID
- Copy of last year’s tax return, if available
- Checking and savings account and routing numbers to direct deposit your refund
- Property tax bill
- Amount spent on college expenses

Make paying your bills easier

Enroll in free Bill Pay on KCT Online to schedule payments automatically.

Learn more at [kctcu.org](http://kctcu.org)
Helping Students

Throughout the year, KCT’s Business Development team participates and hosts events throughout the Fox Valley. Some of our most rewarding events include interacting with young adults and youth in our communities, hosting events for students and Elgin Community College and teaching students financial literacy.

The Game of Life
This year, KCT hosted a Game of Life event at ECC for students. Similar to the popular board game, students would play the game based on their major. They would receive an expected income and expenses based on how they wanted to live. As the students progressed through the game, they learned what to expect in the future, including buying a car, starting a family and planning for retirement. They even were thrown a what if situation in which they weren’t planning. The purpose of the exercise was to educate the students about their financial futures and the importance of preparing for it, even the unexpected things. Many of the students enjoyed the game so much they went back and played it again, being more considerate of their expenses and planning for the unexpected.

Superintendent Scholarship
School District U-46 Superintendent Scholarship is awarded to students who are the 1st generation in their immediate family to attend college. This year, KCT helped 2 students start their college journey by donating $2,000 to the Superintendent Scholarship. In 2016, 15 students were awarded the scholarship.

Financial Literacy
KCT has the opportunity to teach financial literacy at our local schools. As a part of their curriculum, D300 and U-46 invites KCT to speak with their students about budgeting and educates them on credit cards and how to responsibly handle them. KCT also speaks with current and incoming college students at ECC’s Smart College Fair. The fair is designed to educate students on class selections and how to be prepared financially for college.

Project Backpack
KCT contributes to Project Backpack that is designed to benefit students in need. Families are able to come to Elgin Community College and pick out a backpack for their child that has all of the supplies they need for the school year. KCT donated $2,000 to help fill the backpacks with notebooks, folders, pencils and other supplies that students use throughout the school year.
Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award

The Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award is given to a credit union or chapter/multiple credit union group for its social responsibility projects within the community. The award is given for external activities.

In partnership with Judson University and the Center for Economic Progress (CEP), KCT assisted members of Elgin and its surrounding communities prepare for tax season. KCT spoke with families and individuals on the importance of planning and saving for their future. KCT also worked with them to open up savings and checking accounts so they could deposit and access their tax refunds.

Louise Herring Philosophy-in-Action Member Service Award

The award is given to a credit union for its practical application of credit union philosophy within the actual operation of the credit union. It is awarded for internal programs and services that benefit membership.

KCT’s Get Out of Debt Loan (GOOD) is designed to help our members reduce their debt burden by refinancing high interest debt from credit cards, student loans, payday loans and other high interest rate loans. We promoted the GOOD Loan with an as low as 4.99% rate. The Get Out of Debt Loan has helped our members refinance over $2.7 million in debt.

Desjardins Financial Education Award

CUNA created the Desjardins award to recognize leadership within the credit union movement on behalf of financial literacy of all ages. The recognition program considers all activities supporting the personal finance education of members and non-members, including, but not limited to, face-to-face teaching using proprietary materials and curricula, such as NEFE High School Financial Planning Program® (HSFPP), as well as financial literacy leadership efforts.

KCT’s Business Development worked with students at ECC to educate them on how to plan financially for their future. Student’s played a hybrid version of ‘The Game of Life’ that was specific to each student’s major. During the game, they learned what their expected income and expenses would be based on their majors, and were also given a ‘what if’ scenario for which they did not plan. At the end of the game, Business Development spoke with each student and gave them feedback and guidance on how they could plan and achieve their life goals based on financial decisions made during the game.
KCT in the News

KCT’s My Story
Tell us how KCT has helped you achieve your financial goals. Post your My Story at kctcu.org.

Need a new car this winter?
Get started with a KCT Auto Loan

rates as low as 1.99% APR*

** Get an extra .25% off
See details below

*Annual Percentage Rate (APR). Advertised rate is based on excellent credit history. 1.99% APR applies on vehicles model year 2016 and newer for a 60-month term or shorter. Offer valid thru January 31, 2017. Other terms and conditions may apply.
**Payment example: a $20,000 loan with a 60-month term at 1.99% APR would have 59 payments at $350.74 and a final payment of $350.41. Payment may vary from example if electing GAP coverage, Mechanical Repair coverage, or KCT Protection. Rates subject to change without notice. All loans subject to approval.
**New and existing KCT Visa Platinum and Platinum Rewards cardholders will receive a 0.25% discount on an approved auto loan. Members must open or have a current (non-delinquent) KCT Visa Platinum or Visa Platinum Rewards credit card to qualify.

Thank you Members!

You helped raise $2,461 which was matched by CO-OP Financial Services, resulting in a total of $4,922 donated to the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago.

It’s never too early
Open a Christmas Club Account with KCT and start saving for next year’s holiday season.

CO-OP Miracle Match™

American Share Insurance
Your deposits are insured up to $250,000 per account. This institution is not federally insured.

www.kctcu.org | 847.741.3344