

Views from Katahdin

Summer 2025

A Quarterly Publication for Members of the Katahdin Federal Credit Union

From the President

In May, KFCU celebrated its 70th annual meeting with over 90 members in attendance. The Social Responsibility Committee prepared the delicious homemade meal of Chicken Pot Pie as a fundraiser for the Ending Hunger Campaign. Funds normally paid to a caterer were donated to the campaign. The celebration included door prizes, gifts, and a presentation of Ending Hunger funds to local organizations. Thank you to all who attended and thank you to the staff who made the event extra special.

For members in the Island Falls area, we will be holding our Member Appreciation Day to kick off Summerfest on July 25 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm. We will have refreshments and door prizes. We hope to see many of you there!

During the Annual Meeting, we spoke about the ever-increasing fraud attempts. Please remain vigilant. Most recently there was a nationwide scam that impersonated the DMV. Please remember, do not click on links in unsolicited texts or emails. Also, we have heard of instances where scammers are impersonating “fraud” departments of Maine financial institutions using spoofed phone numbers. Remember, a financial institution would never ask for credit/debit card details, including PINS and security codes. If a call seems suspicious, hang up and call your credit union directly.

Since the last newsletter, we are pleased to announce that KFCU either sponsored or contributed to the following:

- Mt. Katahdin Basketball Camp
- Legacy Medical Foundation-Battle for a Cure
- Molunkus Sno Drifters Rubber Duck Race
- Boreal Theater—Puppet Show Sponsor
- Maine Credit Unions’ Campaign for Ending Hunger (Good Shepherd Food Bank)
- Special Olympics Fundraiser
- Project Graduation for Southern Aroostook Community School
- The Summit Project
- IAM-Flower Barrels
- Millinocket Little League
- Stearns High School Baseball Warm Up Jackets
- Ending Hunger Golf Tournaments
- MML Summer Reading Program
- East Millinocket Summerfest
- MML Celebration Sponsorship

Have a great summer, and if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Tina Jamo
President/CEO



James M. Gratto Award presentation at the Maine Credit Union League’s Annual Convention

James M. Gratto Award

Katahdin Federal Credit Union’s CEO, Tina Jamo, was presented the James M. Gratto Award for Outstanding Credit Union CEO at the 2025 Maine Credit Union League’s Annual Convention. This award honors individuals for dedication and contributions to the credit union industry in Maine.

Annual Meeting Update

On May 20, 2025, Katahdin Federal Credit Union held its Annual Meeting in Millinocket. **Bernadette Friel**, **Sandra Willard** and **Nancy Theriault** were elected to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors. At a special meeting of the Board of Directors, the following Directors were elected as officers: **Rodney Daigle**, Chairperson; **Bernadette Friel**, Vice Chairperson; **Joe Clark**, Secretary; and **Dorothy Howard**, Treasurer.



Mission Statement: “Going the extra mile to exceed members’ expectations — a tradition on the move”

The Bottom Line

Couples who have opposite philosophies regarding saving and spending often have trouble finding common ground, and money arguments frequently erupt. But you can learn to work with—and even appreciate—your financial differences. Money habits run deep. If you're a saver, you prioritize having money in the bank and investing in your future. You probably hate credit card debt and spend money cautiously. Your spender spouse may seem impulsive, prompting you to think, "Don't you care about our future?" But you may come across as controlling or miserly to your spouse who thinks, "Just for once, can't you loosen up? We need some things!" Such different outlooks can lead to mistrust and resentment. But are your characterizations fair? Money habits run deep, and have a lot to do with how you were raised and your personal experience. Instead of assigning blame, focus on finding out how each partner's financial outlook evolved. Saving and spending actually go hand in hand. Whether you're saving for a vacation, a car, college, or retirement, your money will eventually be spent on something. You just need to decide together how and when to spend it. Talk through your differences. Sometimes couples avoid talking about money because they are afraid to argue. But scheduling regular money meetings could give you more insight into your finances and provide a forum for handling disagreements, helping you avoid future conflicts. You might not have an equal understanding of your finances, so start with the basics. How much money is coming in and how much is going out? Next, work on discovering what's important to each of you. To help ensure a productive discussion, establish some ground rules. For example, you might set a time limit, insist that both of you come prepared, and take a break if the discussion becomes too heated. Communication and compromise are key. Don't just assume you know what your spouse is thinking—ask, and keep an open mind.

Here are some questions to get started.

- What does money represent to you? Security? Freedom? The opportunity to help others?
- What are your short-term and long-term savings goals? Why are these important to you?
- How comfortable are you with debt? This could include mortgage debt, credit card debt, and loans.
- Who should you spend money on? Do you agree on how much to give to your children or spend on gifts to family members, friends, or charities?
- What rules would you like to apply to purchases? For example,

you might set a limit on how much one spouse can spend without consulting the other.

- Would you like to set aside some discretionary money for each of you?

That could help you feel freer to save or spend those dollars without having to justify your decision. Agree on a plan. Once you've explored what's important to you, create a concrete budget or spending plan that will help keep you on the same page. For example, to account for both perspectives, you could make savings an "expense" and also include a "just for fun" category. If a formal budget doesn't work for you, find other ways to blend your styles, such as automating your savings or bill paying, prioritizing an emergency account, or agreeing to put specific percentages of your income toward wants, needs, and savings. And track your progress. Scheduling money dates to go over your finances will give you a chance to celebrate your successes or identify what needs to improve. Be willing to make adjustments if necessary. It's hard to break out of patterns, but with consistent effort and good communication, you'll have a strong chance of finding the middle ground.

Single Source



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Summer Reading Fun

Once again, KFCU is sponsoring the Millinocket Memorial Library's Youth Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is Level Up at Your Library! It begins on June 20, but participants may sign up throughout June and July. Summer is a great time to pass on the joy of reading to our young community members. For more information or to register, visit the library during their open hours, call them at 207-723-7020, or visit millinocketmemoriallibrary.org.



KFCU Distributes Ending Hunger Funds

Katahdin FCU has been raising funds to help end hunger insecurity in the greater Katahdin region for a number of years. In 2024, Katahdin Federal Credit Union raised over \$23,000 for the Maine Credit Unions Campaign for Ending Hunger. Recently, funds raised were presented during the annual meeting to area food pantries and service organizations. Those organizations receiving over \$3,800 each included Christ the Divine Mercy Parish, I Care Ministries, Agape Food Pantry, Chester Baptist Food Pantry, Tri Town Baptist Church, and the Eastern Area Agency on Aging.

Maine credit unions contributed \$1,303,706.40 to end hunger in 2024 and supported 274 organizations across Maine, including local food pantries, meal sites, and schools. Since 1990, Maine's credit unions raised \$14.9 million in both food and cash contributions.



Annual Meeting Presentation of Ending Hunger Funds—Social Responsibility Committee and Food Pantry Representatives

Notice of Change in Terms

Effective July 1 2025, Katahdin Federal Credit Union revised its Funds Availability Policy to expedite the availability of funds subject to certain deposit check holds. For the following hold policies, the amounts have been increased as shown below.

Reservation of Right to Hold & Credit Union ATMs

Current: The first \$225 of your deposit will be available on the second (2nd) business day after the day of your deposit. Amount is increased to \$275.

Longer Delays May Apply

Current: You deposit checks totaling more than \$5,525 on any one day. Amount is increased to \$6,725.

Special Rules for New Accounts

Current: Funds from deposits of wire transfers, and the first \$5,525 of a day's total deposits of cashier's, certified, teller's, traveler's, and federal, state, and local government checks, will be available on the first (1st) business day after the day of the deposit if the deposit meets certain criteria (for example, the check must be payable to you). The excess over \$5,525 may not be available until the seventh (7th) business day after the day of your deposit. Amount is increased to \$6,725.

Membership guides are available upon request.

2025 Scholarship Recipients

KFCU is pleased to announce our 2025 KFCU scholarship recipients. Scholarships totaling \$9,500 were awarded to area high school seniors.

Schenck High School

Kaleb Lee, Justice Lyons, and Cameron McLaughlin

Stearns High School

Lydia Archibald, Brady Brooker, Finnegan Currier, Robert Cyr, Olivia Hallett, Lucas McDonald, David McGreevy, Bradley Nice, Andrea Stevens, and Skylar Wilson

Mattanawcook Academy

Grace Pelkey

Katahdin High School

Kain McNally and Chandler Smith

Southern Aroostook

Community School

Rylee Webb and Ethan Collier

At Large Scholarship

Brinn George, Bangor Christian HS

Don't Fall Victim to Pop-Up Scams

Pop-up scams typically masquerade as fake error messages or security alerts that suddenly appear—or “pop up”—on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. These pop-ups often claim to be from your device manufacturer or a software provider, warning you of serious issues such as malware infections, system vulnerabilities, or illegal activity detected on your device. The goal of these scams is to create a sense of urgency and fear, prompting you to call a fake tech support number, download malware disguised as security software, and provide personal or financial information. These pop-ups may look legitimate, often using logos and branding.

Red Flags to Watch For:

- **Urgent Warnings:** Messages claiming your computer is at immediate risk are often a scare tactic. Acting in urgency is a warning sign of a scam. Scammers want you to act quickly and make payments without taking the time to think the situation through.
- **Unsolicited Contact:** Legitimate companies will not display pop-ups urging you to call a number.
- **Spelling and Grammar Errors:** Many fake pop-ups contain noticeable errors, so look closely.
- **They're Using Fear Tactics:** If a pop-up threatens to arrest you, sue you, or subject you to any other consequences if you don't pay them, it's likely a scam. Scammers know that fear can lead to poor judgement.
- **Spoofed URLs or Email Addresses:** To appear legitimate, many scammers try to direct you to an email address or website that looks like it's coming from a genuine company or provider. For example, instead of Amazon, the link may contain the word, “Amaz0n.” While they look familiar at a quick glance, a “zero” is replacing the “o” in the second example.

By recognizing the warning signs and setting up security features, you can protect yourself from falling victim to these scams. Remember, legitimate companies will never pressure you through pop-ups to take immediate action.

Services

Savings

Share Accounts
Club Accounts
Share Drafts
Share Certificates
IRA Accounts
Roth IRA Accounts
Coverdell Education Savings Acct.
IRA Certificates
Roth IRA Certificates
Money TrekSM Youth Savings Program
Health Savings Accounts

Loans

New & Used Auto & RV Loans
Cottage Loans (including on leased land)
Land Loans
Computer Loans
Real Estate
Home Equity Loans and Lines of Credit
Share Secured-Certificate Secured Streamline (Line of Credit)
Unsecured Loans
Visa[®] Classic[®] Cards
Visa[®] Gold Cards

Other Services

CU24SM Visa[®] Check Card
Direct Deposit/Payroll Deduction
Money Orders
Wire Transfers
Night Deposit
Safe Deposit Boxes
24-Hour ATM
Notary Services
Single Source Financial Centre
Visa[®] Prepaid Gift Cards
Katahdin Connection
Home Banking Solution
Bill Pay
Mobile Banking
Remote Deposit Capture

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800-451-9145
Fax 207-723-8426
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Island Falls, ME 04747
207-463-3661
www.katahdinfcu.org
NMLS # 784803

Hours

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Drive Up
9:00 am – 5:00 pm Lobby



Fun at Granite Street School

KFCU had the honor of joining the Granite Street School Field Day and staffing the popular popsicle stand. We were fortunate that this event occurred during one of the few sunny days we have had thus far! Mary McCleary and Betty Averill handed out the cool snacks during the event.



James Mitchell and Records Management getting ready for Shred Day!

Shred Event

In May, KFCU sponsored a Shred Event at the main office. Many members took advantage of this opportunity to eliminate sensitive documents safely and securely. KFCU plans to make this an annual event for our members. Thank you to all who participated and especially thank you to James Mitchell, a Stearns High School Senior, who volunteered to help out during the event!

Certified Teller Graduates



We are pleased to announce that **Skyla Nelson**, teller at the Island Falls Office, has completed the Maine Credit Union League's Certified Teller Program. This program consisted of workshops spanning several months. The training covered teller operations, credit union principles, regulations, cash handling and member service. Congratulations Skyla!

Stearns High School Career Fair

In May, KFCU staff had the pleasure of participating in the Stearns High School Career Fair. This event was a great opportunity to engage with high school students who are excited to explore various career paths and gain insights into the professional world. Five area schools participated in the event.



Molly and Madysen—Career Day at Stearns High School

Win \$50

What is one red flag of a pop-up scam?

Answer: _____

If you know the answer, please fill out this coupon and submit your entry by August 15, 2025.

A winner will be drawn at random. Last quarter's question was "What is Home Title Theft?". The answer was: Home title theft, also known as deed theft, occurs when someone illegally steals your identity to forge a deed to steal your home and put it into their name.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____