



**IN THIS EDITION:** Second Mortgage vs. Home Equity Loans, Savings Rates, Staff News, Annual Meeting Reminder, Community Involvement, Upcoming Events

## TAP THE EQUITY IN YOUR HOME

Are you thinking about making some home improvements? A Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) or a Second Mortgage can be a valuable option to help you access the funds you need. One of the biggest advantages of home ownership is the equity you build in your home. The faster you pay your mortgage and build this equity, the better your financial shape. Equity is the difference between the market value of your home (what it could sell for) and any loan amount you still owe on the home. The equity may increase in two ways: when you make payments on the principal portion of your mortgage, and when the value of your property increases in the marketplace. Home owners can also help prevent the decline of their property value with regular maintenance and upgrades.

What is the difference between a HELOC and a Second Mortgage?

**HELOC:** A home equity line of credit is a form of revolving credit in which your home serves as collateral. With a home equity line, you will be approved for a specific amount of credit that represents the maximum amount you can borrow. Payments have a variable interest rate and an interest only payment due each month based on the amount of the credit line you have used. Once approved for the home equity plan, you will be able to borrow up to your credit limit at any time with a minimum draw of \$500. Many people use a HELOC as a source of funding for emergencies, home repairs or to purchase a vehicle; consolidation, vacation, medical bills and more.

**Second Mortgage:** A second mortgage is also a loan that uses your home as collateral, although it operates differently than a home equity line of credit. A second mortgage taps the equity in your home, but the amount of the loan is paid out in one lump sum at the beginning of the loan. The payment amount and the length of the loan are set, so it is more predictable. Many people use a second mortgage as a down payment on the home to avoid Principal Mortgage Insurance, or they may take out a second mortgage to cover home repairs or renovations, or to pay off debt.

1st CCU's Mortgage Experts can assist you in choosing the option that best fits your needs based on your current debt situation, how long you plan to live in the home, and the amount of equity available to you. Contact 1st Community Credit Union by calling 888-706-1228 or stop into 1st Community Credit Union Monday through Friday to speak with Barb, Molli or Michael for full details and a free consultation.

## CHECK OUT 1ST CCU'S CONSTRUCTION LOANS

### READY TO DIG? DREAM BIG!

If you have plans to build your dream home, 1st CCU can help make that dream a reality with fantastic rates, low fees and flexible terms. Contact 1st CCU for more information or apply online at [1stccu.com](http://1stccu.com).

- **GREAT LOW RATE 1.49% (2.216% APR\*)**
- LOW FEES AND FLEXIBLE DOWN PAYMENT OPTIONS
- CONVENIENT 11-MONTH TERM
- FAST APPROVAL AND UP TO 6 EASY DRAWS TO FIT YOUR NEEDS
- NO PRIVATE MORTGAGE INSURANCE NEEDED
- EASILY CONVERTS TO FIXED RATE MORTGAGE



\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate featured above is for loans up to 80% Loan-To-Value; your rate and APR will be higher if your loan is over 80% Loan-To-Value. Rate effective as of February 14, 2019. Rates, terms and conditions are subject to change and may vary based on creditworthiness and qualifications. Minimum credit score for loans up to 80% Loan-To-Value is 630. Minimum credit score for loans over 80% Loan-To-Value is 660. APR shown above is based on a loan amount of \$250,000 and includes an estimated \$815.50 in prepaid finance charges. Additional closing costs may apply. Based on a loan amount of \$250,000 amortized over 11 months, the following repayment schedule would apply: monthly interest payment on the amount of credit outstanding during the construction period, followed by a final payment of \$250,000 plus the remaining interest. There is no prepayment penalty. All loans subject to approval. Some restrictions apply. Membership eligibility required. Contact 1st CCU for full details.

## Notice To Samsung Android Users:

There is a known issue with 1st CCU's Mobile App when operating Android OS Version 9.0. Technicians are working to fix the issue and the estimated resolution date is at the end of March. If you have a Samsung Android mobile device and you want to use the 1st CCU Mobile App, please do not update to OS Version 9.0 until after March 31st. We apologize for the inconvenience.



# GROW WITH US!

Plant the seeds for your financial success. How? By setting goals, making a plan, and taking little steps each day toward your bright future.



- Get control of spending. Like weeds in a garden, opportunities to spend money will pop up on a regular basis. Prune your non-essential spending by remembering your goals. Don't give up what you want most for what you want now.
- Plan for a variety of savings products for optimum results. Keep some funds available for immediate unexpected needs, build up funds for short-term needs in 6 month-1 year certificates, and invest some funds in higher-yield long-term savings options such as Share Certificates. You can open a 1st CCU Share Certificate with as little as \$1,000 (\$500 for minors).
- Use the right tools, such as 1st CCU's online banking, mobile app, bill pay, automatic transfers, and eAlerts to help you manage your funds conveniently. It's also a great way to watch your money grow!

If you want to achieve your financial goals the most important step is to start saving now. Rather than trying to save what's left over at the end of the month, pay yourself first by setting aside money from your paycheck BEFORE you have a chance to spend it. Even a little bit saved from each paycheck helps you establish the savings habit that's so important to your financial well-being. You can always increase the amount you save from each paycheck in the future as your earnings increase.

Ready to get started? Contact 1st CCU to speak with a Member Service Representative, or call 888-706-1228 for more information on our savings options and terms. Your money works harder here!

Share Certificate Terms \$1,000 minimum (\$500 for minors)	Rate Effective 1/22/2019	Annual Percentage Yield
<b>SPECIAL!</b> <b>6 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>1.20%</b>	<b>1.20%</b>
<b>12 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	<b>2.02%</b>
<b>SPECIAL!</b> <b>15 Mo Certificate!**</b>	<b>2.55%</b>	<b>2.58%</b>
<b>18 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>2.20%</b>	<b>2.22%</b>
<b>24 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>2.30%</b>	<b>2.33%</b>
<b>SPECIAL!</b> <b>25 Mo Certificate!**</b>	<b>2.85%</b>	<b>2.89%</b>
<b>30 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>2.40%</b>	<b>2.43%</b>
<b>36 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>2.50%</b>	<b>2.53%</b>
<b>48 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>2.75%</b>	<b>2.79%</b>
<b>60 Mo Regular Certificate</b>	<b>3.15%</b>	<b>3.20%</b>
<b>65 Mo Certificate!**</b>	<b>3.30%</b>	<b>3.36%</b>

\*Rates effective 1/22/2019 and subject to change. Minimum \$1,000 opening deposit. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Rates shown are Share Certificate rates - Contact 1st CCU for all current Savings, Money Market and IRA Rates. Membership eligibility required. Anyone who lives or works in La Crosse, Monroe, Jackson, Trempealeau or Vernon county is eligible to become a 1st Community Credit Union member.

\*\*At the end of the term the 15-Month Certificate will auto-renew as a 12-month Certificate; the 25-Month Certificate will auto-renew as a 24-month Certificate; and the 65-Month Certificate will auto-renew as a 60-month Certificate. Contact 1st CCU for full details. FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA.

## Staff News At 1st CCU

### Caitlin Wade



We are pleased to announce that Caitlin Wade has been hired to the position of Loan Processor II.

Caitlin lives in Tomah with her family and she is working in the Sparta office.

### Zachary Hutzler



Please give a warm welcome to Zachary Hutzler, our new Full-time Teller in West Salem.

Zachary has a degree in Economics from the University of Dallas. He grew up in La Crosse and he is glad to be back in the area.

### Tya Muehlenkamp



We are pleased to introduce you to our new Part-time Teller, Tya Muehlenkamp. Tya works in our Sparta office.

Tya is a native of Sparta and she has previous experience working in retail.

## Come To The Annual Meeting!

**Date: Monday, March 25, 2019**

**Time: 6:00 pm - Registration & Social, 6:30 pm - Business Meeting**

**Location: Jake's Northwoods, 1132 Angelo Rd, Sparta**

**RSVP by March 18th: Call 888-706-1228 or email [marketing@1stccu.com](mailto:marketing@1stccu.com)**

This is your chance to hear how the Credit Union did in 2018.

Reports will be presented by your Credit Union Board Chairman and Treasurer. Brett Thompson, Wisconsin Credit Union League President, will be guest speaker. Member/Owners will vote\* two individuals to seats on the Board of Directors.



*All 1st Community Credit Union members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting. To be eligible to vote, you must be the Primary account owner, must be at least 18 years of age, and your account must have been opened at least 90 day prior to the Annual Meeting date.*

## 1st CCU In Our Communities

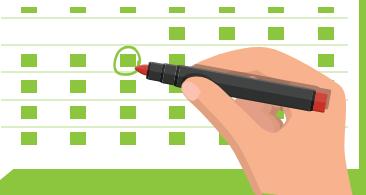
Sparta's Sunshine Committee recently made a \$200 donation to the Sparta Boys and Girls Club!

1st CCU employees pay \$1 each Friday for the opportunity to wear jeans to work. The money in the Jeans Fund is then periodically donated to local charitable organizations.



L-R: Ross Hubbard of 1st CCU; Jennifer Simunich, Executive Director SBGC; Rhonda Deno, Program Director SBGC; Samantha Michaelsen, Mentoring Coordinator SBGC; Kim Butler of 1st CCU.

**Mark Your  
Calendar!**



<b>Monday, March 25:</b>	<b>1st CCU's Annual Meeting</b>
<b>April 2019:</b>	<b>National Credit Union Youth Month</b>
<b>Friday, April 19:</b>	<b>1st CCU closes at 12:30 pm in observance of Good Friday</b>
<b>Saturday, June 1:</b>	<b>Free Shred Event at 1st CCU-Sparta Office, 8:30-11:30 am</b>