

GREAT LAKES TIMES

APRIL 2023 VOLUME 4



Great Lakes Credit Union Annual Meeting

Great Lakes Credit Union will be hosting its annual meeting on Tuesday, April 11 at 5:00 pm. This will be a live virtual event where we will update you on our annual report from 2022. To join us, please click here on April 11.

Money Manager is better than ever!

Say goodbye to scattered finances, our Money Manager tool has been updated to help you have the fullest view of your financial picture! Money Manager now allows you to see more third-party accounts all in one place. Let Money Manager be your one-stop for monitoring all your finances and reaching your financial goals!





Great Waves Serves 700+ Hours in Communities in 2023



GLCU's Great Wave volunteers have been busy in 2023! GLCU employees have already volunteered over 700 hours in the communities they serve in 2023. We pride ourselves on our community outreach and giveback and cannot wait to see what the rest of the year brings. So far, GLCU has volunteered with United Way Lake County, COOL Ministries Food Distribution, Antioch Traveling Closet, and many more local organizations. Keep an eye out for our volunteers, as the "Great Wave" has big plans for their impact in 2023.

GLCU Now Accepting Applications for Annual Scholarship

Applications are currently being accepted for GLCU's annual scholarship until April 30. This year, GLCU will be awarding a \$2,500 scholarship to six GLCU members to help them pay for educational expenses at an accredited technical school, trade school, or a four-year college or university.



LEARN MORE



Need an updated space to relax, check out GLCU's HELOC/Home **Equity Loans**

Interest rates are rising. If you're looking to create your dream home within your current space, consolidate debt, or make home improvements, don't wait. Our home equity products are tailored to fit your needs.

With a home equity line of credit (HELOC) or home equity loan from Great Lakes Credit Union, you can:

-Get approved quickly

-Access funds to create your dream home, whether it's a kitchen renovation, a new bathroom, or a backyard oasis

-Consolidate high-interest debt into one manageable monthly payment -Enjoy flexible terms and competitive rates



Up to $$10,000^{1}$ in Down Payment Assistance + $$1,250^{2}$ in Closing Cost Credit when Preapproved through GLCU!

Are you dreaming of owning your own home, but struggling to save for a down payment to cover the closing costs? Great Lakes Credit Union is here to help make your dream a reality with our incredible homebuyer down payment assistance program! We're excited to offer up to \$10,000¹ in down payment assistance and

\$1,250² in closing costs credits to qualified homebuyers when preapproved before their purchase. With our help, the home you've always wanted is within reach. To talk with a mortgage lending professional, please contact (833) 275-4528.

1 Subject to income and purchase limits. Down Payment Assistance program may be subject to deferral, forgiveness or repayment.

2 Promotion valid for first mortgage loans applied for between 2/6/2023 and 6/30/2023. Loans subject to GLCU's customary due diligence, underwriting, credit approval and documentation. Valid only on first mortgages. Offer is subject to change. Other terms and conditions may apply. Broker first mortgages and home equity loans are excluded from this promotion.





Youth Savings Month

April is Youth Savings Month: Head to a nearby GLCU branch to celebrate! Throughout the month, children can enter our coloring contest raffle by turning in a completed Money Mammals coloring sheet at any GLCU branch. 5 Winners will be chosen from each branch to receive \$25 towards their Youth Savings Account. 3 more grand prize winners will be chosen out of all branches to win \$200 or \$75 to their Youth Savings Accounts!

This month you can meet Joe the Monkey! Enjoy a light breakfast, meet Joe, and pick up a giveaway! From 10am to 12pm, head to our North Chicago Branch on April 15th, or our Zion Branch on April 29th to join in on the fun!

For more updates on Youth Savings Month Events, follow Great Lakes Credit Union on Facebook, and on Instagram @GreatLakesCreditUnion.

LEARN MORE

FINANCIAL FITNESS

Financial Management - Learn Basic Money Management Skills: Presented by Great Lakes Credit Union on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST at the Institute of Cultural Affairs, 4750 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60640.

Topics covered include;

- -How to create SMART goals
- -How to create a savings plan
- -Basic money management tips

REGISTER HERE

FRAUD TIP

Fraudsters are always coming up with new ways to use technology to their advantage. Using AI, fraudsters have started targeting parents and grandparents with audio sounding like their loved ones. To learn more about the latest scam, please click this <u>link</u> and see the article from the Federal Trade Commission.

BLOG RECOMMENDATION

BOOK RECOMMENDATION



Should I Use a Home Equity Loan for Remodeling?

By Case Design

About 50 percent of home equity loans are used to make home improvements, according to the US Census Bureau's Housing Survey. While home equity seems to be made for home improvements, it can be better for some projects than others. There are a few factors to consider when using your home's equity to pay for a remodeling project, including how long you plan to stay in the home, the estimated return on your investment, tax benefits, and alternative loan options.



Home Equity Loans vs. Interest Rates: Can You Afford to Tap into Your Home?

by Joshua King

Home equity loans have been the saving grace for many Americans over the past 20 years. You can withdraw cash and have your home equity grow back.

This book addresses the rising interest rate environment and whether home equity loans are still a viable option with rising interest rates.

The short answer is "Yes, in most cases, they are."



READ MORE

Qualification required for membership, loans, financing, and select products & services. GLCU is federally insured by NCUA. NMLS #: 528665.

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