

# TCCU

## times

SPRING 2023

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Recent events in the banking industry have led many to wonder if their money is safe. Rest assured, your money is safe with TCCU. Unlike the bank failures that have recently been in the news, TCCU is well capitalized and is in a strong liquidity position. As of 12/31/22, your credit union had almost \$7.3 million in capital. Of our \$82.6 million in assets, we have loans of \$54.4 million to our members. We have very few delinquent loans when compared to our peer group. In fact, we are in the top 16% of credit unions our size when comparing delinquent loans to total loans.

TCCU's growth ratios are also very impressive. Our net worth grew 12.58% last year. This ranked us in the 87th percentile of credit unions our size. We also saw membership growth of 2.46%, ranking in the 76th percentile. So not only is your credit union growing in membership, but it's also continuing to grow its net worth.

Members' deposits are federally insured by NCUA. NCUA insures your deposits up to \$250,000. However, it is possible to have more than \$250,000 in insurance coverage in your accounts at TCCU. You may qualify for more than \$250,000 in coverage if you have accounts in different ownership categories. The most common ownership categories for members are single owner accounts, joint accounts, and trust accounts. Please contact us if you have questions about how NCUA insurance works. We are here to help.

TCCU is here for our members. We are conservatively run to ensure the safety of our member deposits. Your credit union is operated by people you know and trust. TCCU began serving our members in 1956. This credit union, like all credit unions, was founded on the principle of 'people helping people.' We take this very seriously. Thank you for being a member of TCCU.

Sincerely,  
Will Perkins, President

### Spring Is Time For Renewal

## 'RENEW' YOUR WHEELS WITH A TCCU CAR LOAN!

Our vehicle loans are customized to fit your needs and budget.

- Rates as low as **5.44% APR\***
- Payback periods as long as **84 months.**
- **AND** the security of working with friends in the neighborhood – TCCU!



\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Regular credit rules apply. Not all members will qualify, based on individual creditworthiness. The 5.44% APR is for a 60 month term and applies to new 2023-2024 models. Payments are \$19.11 per \$1,000 borrowed.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**9th Annual 'Freedom Tree' Food Drive**  
**Monday, June 5 – Friday, July 14th**  
(see article in this issue for additional details)

**KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR FUTURE EVENTS...**

**Member Appreciation Days –**  
to be highlighted on our website: [www.TCCU.org](http://www.TCCU.org).

## YOU HAVE A NEED? WE HAVE THE 'GREEN'

Regardless of the season or the reason, we have personal loans to help make things possible. Whether you need a loan for home repairs or vacation, a wedding or new appliances, we have the funds – up to \$30,000! — to help you.

Our **flexible rates and payback periods** make them even *more* attractive.

Come talk with us about how we can help you cover whatever event or need arises.  
Or apply online – it's that easy.



# FREEDOM TREE DONATIONS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

We all are aware of the rising costs of food. We also know that some goods are still in short supply. And the demands on food pantries traditionally soar during the summer months.

But did you know that a major federal program is cutting back on its assistance? As of March 1, federal COVID emergency allotments to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) were cut. This drop in SNAP benefits will result in even greater demand for support.

## That's where the Freedom Tree – our annual community food drive – and you come in.

For eight years, TCCU members and the general public have been generous in donating boxed and canned food items – as well as cash – to benefit our local food pantries. This year, we need your help even more.

Local food pantries help ensure that families needing help get the nutritious food they need to stay healthy, function at work and do well in school.

We encourage you to again donate generously. Boxed and canned food items, as well as personal hygiene goods, are needed. Cash donations are encouraged. **ALL donations go to local food pantries, to assist those in need in our communities.**

## HELP US HELP THOSE MOST IN NEED.

From **Monday, June 5th through Friday, July 14th**, you can drop off your donations at any of TCCU's four locations: 422 W. Main Cross St., Taylorville; 138 E. Wood St., Hillsboro; 801 W. Union Ave., Litchfield, and 101 E. Fifth St., Pana.



FREEDOM TREE



HELPING PEOPLE ACHIEVE FREEDOM FROM NEED



## TIME TO PLAN THAT SUMMER VACAY

... and the **FIRST** thing to pack is a **TCCU VISA Card**.

Our always-low-interest VISA card is a great way to prepare for your travels (as well as everyday shopping sprees or expenses!).

A little reminder for if / when you do travel: please alert us of your plans. **Some U.S. states have instituted automatic blocks on cards because of fraud and identity theft.**

A simple call or visit to us **BEFORE** you travel will help us ensure that your cards are not blocked, and that they are available for use, regardless of where the road may take you.



## ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS SUCCESSFUL 2022

Committee and management reports for 2022 show that last year was yet another successful one for TCCU and its almost 7,000 members.

"We ended 2022 with total assets of \$82.6 million, and total memberships of 6,968," Perkins says. "All four TCCU locations continue to see strong growth and demand for our services."

Each year, one of the meeting highlights is the election of our Board of Directors. These individuals all are members of TCCU, and serve as volunteer Directors. Collectively, they are responsible for setting TCCU's policies and procedures, and for ensuring the credit union's operations meet or exceed all state and federal guidelines.

### TCCU's Board Directors for 2023:

- Vance Fraley, Chairman
- Kim Sparks, Vice Chairman
- Tom Bellegante, Secretary
- Will Perkins, Treasurer

### Credit Committee members:

- Tom Bellegante
- Duane Stock
- James Harrison, Chairman

### Supervisory Committee members:

- Jim Dowdy
- Paul Schmitz
- Doug Ruddock, Chairman

## CHECK OUT OUR GENEROUS CD RATES

Rather than putting your savings under the mattress or in the cookie jar, let them earn interest in a TCCU CD. Our interest rates are among the most generous, so your money *makes* money for you. We offer variable rates and time periods to fit your need.



AND -- our CDs are a lot safer than cash under the mattress.



# LOCAL BUSINESSES STEP UP FOR SCHOLARSHIP

For the ninth consecutive year, our local business communities 'stepped up' in their support of our annual scholarship program. Eighty (80!) locally owned businesses participated this year, and we owe them all a huge **"Thank You!"** for their support.

We often talk about the importance of *'think global, shop local,'* because it really is what happens locally that has the greatest impact on our lives. The more we do to support each other, the stronger our communities become.

TCCU members – and the general public – came out in force to shop and vote in this year's scholarship program. Tens of thousands of votes were cast for the many students who registered for the 2022-23 school year. So – thank you to everyone who shopped and voted!

**AND THE WINNERS ARE ...  
to be announced later this Spring.**

Winners' names and photos will be featured in news releases, in the Summer issue of this newsletter, and on the TCCU website ([www.TCCU.org](http://www.TCCU.org)). Eight students will each receive a \$1,000 award towards their continuing education.

## Think Global, Shop Local

### TAYLORVILLE BUSINESSES

Amenities on Main  
Anderson Jewelers  
Angelo's  
Audrey's Boutique & Luxuries  
Battery Specialists  
**Bundles & Bliss**  
Country Kitchen  
Florinda's Pizza  
Glik's  
Hair Studio  
Happy Baked Goods  
JMA Pawn Jewelry & Loan  
Karma  
Kompliments Salon  
Little Luxuries  
Lock Up Gym  
Nesty's Burger Joint  
Powderkeg Outfitters  
Rebecca's Antiques  
Rose's Furniture  
Salon Madison Jane  
Shadow Box  
Shoe Sensation  
Sydney Lynn's Little  
Book Shop & Vinyl  
Taylorville Monogram  
(The) Upper Cut  
**Uprooted by Willow & Birch**  
Vintage Dresser

(The) Wooden Flower  
Wright Furniture  
Zone Nutrition

### HILLSBORO BUSINESSES

Cozy Café  
EVI Salon  
**Frida's Tacos**  
Gianni's Pizza  
(The) Hair Zone  
Hillers Sheet Metal  
(The) Holiday Shop  
Moose Lodge 1377  
Resale Station  
Sage on Sage  
Salvation Army Thrift Store  
Shopping Cart, Inc. /  
Scrub Store in Hillsboro  
Sullivan's Drugs  
Tan Lines Hair Designs  
Tee Shirts Ink

### LITCHFIELD BUSINESSES

Briar Rose  
Creative Expressions  
Gianni's Pizza  
Glik's  
K9 & Cat Salons  
My Formals  
My Formals Boutique  
Perry Estelle  
Petal Pushers  
**Pizza Man**  
**Shaggy Dog Pet Spa**  
Snap Fitness Litchfield  
Sullivan's Drugs  
WAM Computers  
Wernsing's Appliance

### PANA BUSINESSES

A-1 Furniture Wholesale  
Anarchy  
**Brewin' Hope**  
Countryside Campers  
**Curly Girls**  
Cutz 'n Curlz  
Eleven 11  
Hair Razors  
Holthaus Appliances  
Locked & Loaded  
Nohren's Hardware  
Outdoor Power Source  
Pana Bowl  
Pana Save A Lot  
Pizza Man  
Rack Attack Archery  
**Scoop'd**  
Spring Garden Restaurant  
Station 502 Pub / Pizza

## SHARE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

TCCU membership is a valuable gift you can give your family. Because you're a member, your immediate family can join too.

Get them signed up and help them enjoy the many benefits of TCCU membership!



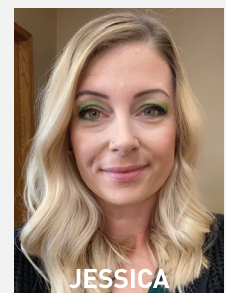
## PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

TCCU recently welcomed two new staff members to our 'family.' Jessica Neuhaus and Bridgette Snapp are both new full-time Tellers in the Litchfield and Taylorville locations, respectively.

Their responsibilities include day-to-day member account service, including deposits, withdrawals, etc., at both the teller window and drive-thru.

Jessica previously worked with a local bank and was the full-time secretary at a church. She is a Litchfield native.

Bridgette was an Assistant Manager with Casey's in Morrisonville prior to coming to TCCU. She is a Taylorville native.



JESSICA



BRIDGETTE





# MOST COMMON FINANCIAL FRAUDS

*Second in a series*

## ADVANCE FEE

This scheme is when you're contacted by an unsolicited party who asks that you send funds as an advance fee for services or products that will better your life. This could be a promise of a better rate on a loan or reverse mortgage, to increase your credit score.

Of course, you must agree to pay them a 'finders fee' for finding this more beneficial service ... and the contract requires that you send the fee in advance.

### The warning signs to watch for:

- Requires that you send payment in advance
- Operating from a P.O. Box
- You can't reach them directly; leave a message and they will return your call
- Asking you to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA)
- It is a business that can't be found on the Better Business Bureau (BBB) website



### What you should do:

- Report this activity to the FTC
- If you DO fall victim – you can't get your money back

## CASHIER'S CHECK / FAKE CHECK

These two scams are very similar in nature. And the loser is you.

In the case of the fake cashier's check, scammers send a fake cashier's check (with fake information) for you to deposit in your account. It takes weeks for a cashier's check to be verified. The scammers request that you withdraw that same amount (perhaps leaving a little for you as 'payment' for your help) and send it to a third party as a wire transfer.

By the time the fraud is discovered, the scammers are gone ... and so are the wire transfer funds. A transfer that you can't reverse.

It's much the same for a fraudulent check. You are asked to deposit a (fake) check in your account. They tell you to keep 'some' of the money for yourself and send the rest to them. The check you were given bounces, and you're out the money.

### To protect yourself against such fraud, look for these signs:

- A seller (of goods) who ONLY accepts cashier's checks
- Someone who offers you more money than you're asking for a product
- Someone asks you to deposit a check for them in your account and then to send them a wire transfer of that amount (less a 'fee' for your 'trouble').

# E-BANKING MAKES THE MOST OF YOUR TIME

'Time' is one of our most limited resources. TCCU helps you make the most of yours, with a number of e-banking products and services.

- **Online Banking.** Easily manage your accounts, make transfers, access e-statements, and view account balance and history.
- **Mobile App.** FREE to TCCU members, it allows you to conduct account business (transfers, balance confirmations, etc.) via your phone ... any time, any place.
- **Bill Pay.** Make loan payments, schedule payments in advance, and make either one-time or recurring bill payments.
- **Debit Card.** Provides easy, safe access to your Checking Account – without writing a check! Use it whenever and wherever you need it. Features an ID protection chip for added security.
- **Direct Deposit.** Your paycheck, pension and / or Social Security check is deposited directly and automatically into your TCCU account(s) per your instructions. And you enjoy added safety, security and convenience.
- **Payroll Deduction.** The easiest way to make automatic loan payments, or have specified amounts credited to your checking, savings or Club account(s).

Visit [www.TCCU.org](http://www.TCCU.org) to learn more about how our e-banking services can benefit you. Sign up today.

## Holiday Closures

All TCCU locations will be closed in observance of the upcoming holidays:

Monday, May 29 | Memorial Day  
Monday, June 19 | Juneteenth  
Tuesday, July 4 | Independence Day

You have 24 / 7 access to your TCCU accounts even when the offices are closed (holidays, nights, weekends, etc.). Just use these handy and time-saving services:  
TCCU VISA Card, ATM or Debit Card,  
or online at [www.TCCU.org](http://www.TCCU.org).  
Just follow the prompts.

### TAYLORVILLE

422 W. MAIN CROSS ST.  
217-824-9658

### HILLSBORO

138 E. WOOD ST.  
217-532-5300

### LITCHFIELD

801 W. UNION AVE.  
217-324-7496

### PANA

101 E. FIFTH ST.  
217-562-2516

TCCU Times is a publication of  
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422 W. Main Cross Street, Taylorville, IL 62568. 217-824-9658

NCUA accounts federally insured to \$250,000.  
NCUA is an agency of the U.S. government.

[www.TCCU.org](http://www.TCCU.org)



**TCCU** TAYLORVILLE COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION