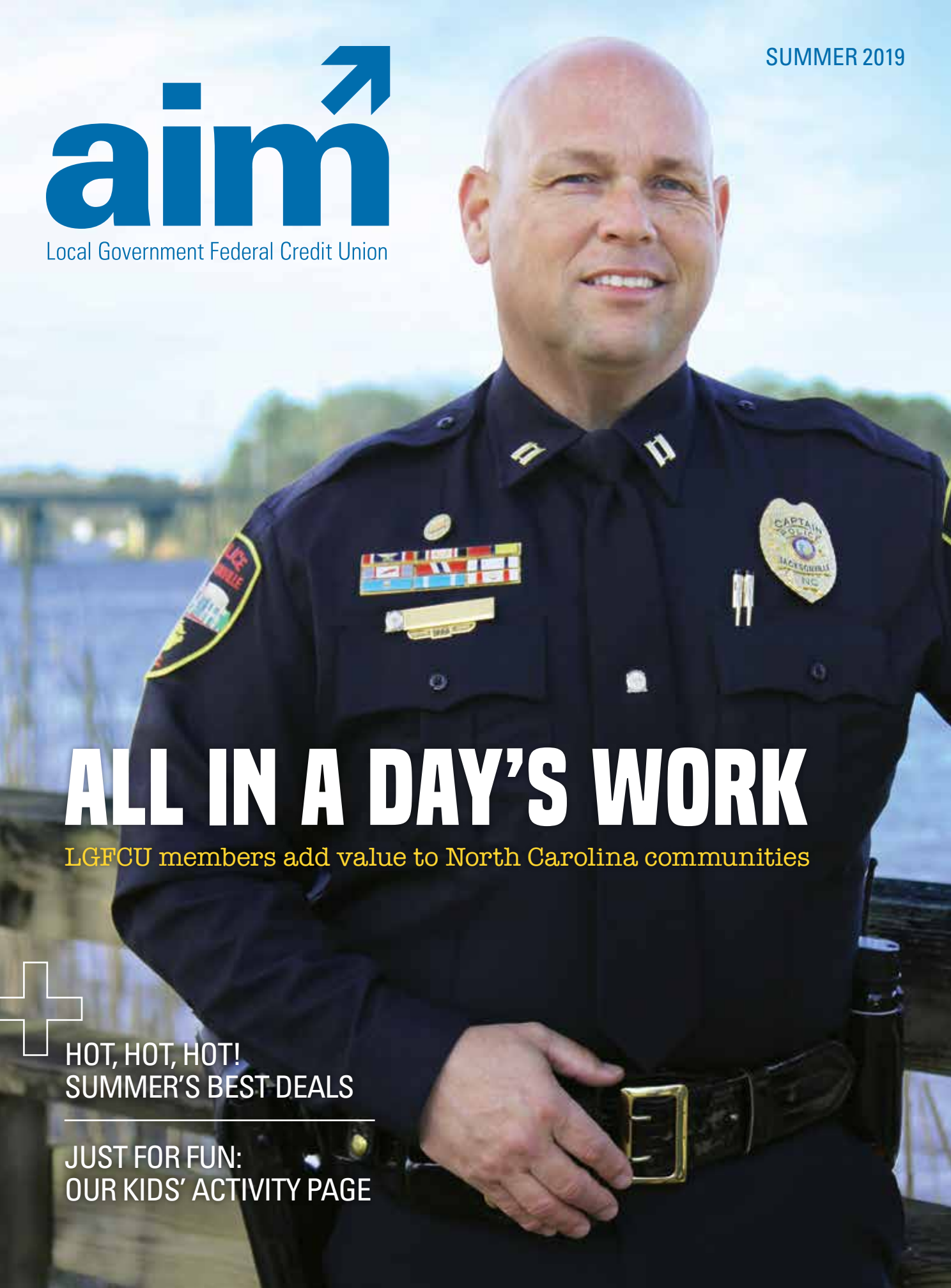




Local Government Federal Credit Union

SUMMER 2019



ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

LGFCU members add value to North Carolina communities



HOT, HOT, HOT!
SUMMER'S BEST DEALS

JUST FOR FUN:
OUR KIDS' ACTIVITY PAGE



THE CAR YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...
COMING TO A DRIVEWAY NEAR YOU!



LGFCU PRESENTS

IT'S A WONDERFUL LOAN

STARRING GREAT RATES • FLEXIBLE TERMS • NEW AND USED AUTO LOANS • NO HIDDEN FEES AND MORE!

FEATURING AFFORDABLE FINANCING • DAZZLING SERVICE

SEE IT ALL AT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OR AT [LGFCU.ORG/AIMAUTO](https://www.lgfcu.org/aimauto) TODAY.

The best kind of merit badge



Maurice R. Smith

Chief Executive Officer
26-year member



I was a Boy Scout during my teenage years. I spent that time learning valuable life skills, like how to tie a half hitch knot from a strand of rope and how to navigate in the forest using a compass. I really liked the overnight camping trips in the woods. You haven't lived until you've slept in a sleeping bag under the stars ... minus the mosquitoes and snakes, of course.

To move up in the Boy Scouts' ranks, I had to earn merit badges. A merit badge signifies that a Scout has achieved a level of competence in a particular activity. It felt good to be recognized for reaching a goal.

Your Credit Union has received distinctions as well. Our merit badges showcase our commitment to making a difference in our communities and helping people live better lives.

One of our badges is receiving the Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) designation from the U.S. Department of the Treasury for our demonstrated support of low-wealth communities. LGFCU is proud to be recognized as a CDFI, since this badge reflects our philosophy of equal treatment for all members.

Similarly, LGFCU has received the honor of being a Low-Income Credit Union, a distinction awarded by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). This badge is given to credit unions whose memberships include a substantial percentage of underserved communities. This is a huge pat on the back for us. We believe all members deserve the dignity of equal access to financial services.

The best merit badges of all are the ones we get from you in your feedback and accolades. It's wonderful to receive your compliments on how your Credit Union has served your needs. Your letters, emails and social media posts make us blush.

You consistently rank LGFCU with high marks, as reflected in the recent recognition from Forbes as being the "Best-In-State Credit Union in North Carolina." This really has us doing cartwheels!

I'm proud to have once been a Boy Scout. I can still tie a few knots. I am, however, even more proud to work for a Credit Union recognized for helping you untie your financial knots.

 lgfcu.org/ceopoint



Aim is a quarterly publication of Local Government Federal Credit Union. As a not-for-profit cooperative we provide financial education for Credit Union members and their families.

Aim is printed with soy-based inks on 10% recycled and 10% post-consumer waste paper.

Credit Union financial services are provided through the branch/ATM network and 24/7 Member Services of State Employees' Credit Union.

Board of Directors:

David Dear, *Chair*; Lin Jones, *Vice Chair*;
Ken Noland, *Treasurer*; Ruth Barnes, *Secretary*;
Dr. Aaron P. Noble Jr.; Jeanne Erwin; Paul Miller

Director Emeritus: Al Richardson

Editor: Brenda Porter-Rockwell

Managing Editor: Nancy Pardue

Designers: Edward Kensicki, Sabine Kowal,
Gioia Hackett, Ashley Snell

Photography and Illustration Credits:

Edward Kensicki, © Getty Images



Mike C.

AOMP Scholarship Recipient



Jackie J.

UNC School of Government Scholarship Recipient



ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

WRITTEN BY NANCY PARDUE | PHOTOGRAPHED BY EDWARD KENSICKI

LGFCU members add value to North Carolina communities

You never know what might launch a career: A childhood dream fueled by uniformed heroes, a willingness to pitch in during troubled times, or even a face-to-face encounter with Mother Nature.

These LGFCU members have found their career callings and prove that the best kind of work is the kind that serves and inspires others.

With a little help from the scholarship programs at LGFCU, they keep getting better at what they're meant to do. And that's good news for all of us.



Amelia G.

LGFCU Scholarship Recipient





When he was a boy in rural Onslow County, watching police dramas on TV, James “Mike” C. dreamed of a life that makes a difference.

“My dad was a reserve officer so I grew up watching him, along with ‘CHiPs’ on TV,” Mike said. “It always drew me. I had no doubt I would get into law enforcement.”

Mike joined the Jacksonville Police Department in 1996, serving a city with a proud heritage as home to thousands of U.S. Marines based at Camp Lejeune.

“I love that this is a patriotic town, full of genuinely good people who want to serve America,” Mike said. “Heroes walk among us.”

**“We do the best we can for people.
If I can leave this place a little better
than I found it, to me that’s a win.”**

Real police work, he’s learned, is more complicated than on TV, complete with technology, science and paperwork.

“You can’t finish a case in just one hour,” Mike said. “And we’ve sent more people to federal prison with well-articulated reports than we have by catching them in action.”

To build on his knowledge and community service, Mike attended the Administrative Officers Management Program (AOMP) offered through N.C. State University’s School of Public & International Affairs. Aided by a \$2,000 AOMP Scholarship from LGFCU, he graduated from the 12-week residential program last November.

“For one person, AOMP is a big cost,” Mike said. “My captain was more willing to entertain the idea knowing I may get a scholarship, and LGFCU is the only [Credit Union] offering that.”

Thanks in part to that training, Mike has since been promoted to the rank of captain in his department’s Criminal Investigations Division. He oversees 43 officers who work crimes from larceny and financial fraud to narcotics and assault.

A police officer’s job is tough but it also has rewarding moments, like when the mother of a murdered child sought out Mike years later to thank him for his help in her darkest hour.

“We do the best we can for people,” Mike said humbly. “If I can leave this place a little better than I found it, to me that’s a win.”



For more than 20 years, Jacksonville Police Capt. Mike C. has served this city built on history and heroism. A round pin on his uniform represents his recent AOMP training, funded in part by an LGFCU scholarship.



© City of Jacksonville



Jacksonville’s police, fire and EMS services are based at the Center for Public Safety. At nearby Lejeune Memorial Gardens, the Eagle, Globe and Anchor symbolizes the city’s Marine heritage.



The same year Mike joined the police force, Jacqueline “Jackie” J. landed a “temporary” office job with the Town of Maxton to administer cleanup efforts following Hurricane Fran. She’s been an asset to citizens ever since.

Jackie now serves as town clerk and zoning officer in Maxton, a dream job for this self-proclaimed “people person.”

“I know everybody, and it’s a good feeling,” Jackie said. “People respect me and count on me to be knowledgeable about the town’s business. The citizens always come first and they’re always right. We do our research and try to help them.

“You’ve got to be compassionate,” she said. “One woman had a past due bill, but she had been in the hospital so I worked with her so that her service was not disconnected. She was in tears, thanking me.”

“The citizens always come first ...
We do our research and try to
help them.”

A member of LGFCU for more than 15 years, Jackie jumped at the chance to apply for the Credit Union’s UNC School of Government Scholarship and was awarded \$1,100 to help pay for training at the Clerks’ Certification Institute. After a year of studies, Jackie became a Certified Municipal Clerk.

“The town didn’t have available funds, but our town manager pushed me to apply,” Jackie said. “I prayed about it, went online and submitted my information. When I got my approval letter I was so excited, to get to pursue a dream. The scholarship was a great help to the town.

“I came away with a better understanding of the legal framework of being a clerk, of parliamentary procedures and open meetings law,” she said. “It all helps me better serve the board of commissioners and our citizens.”

In 2018, Jackie was named the Annie Kohen Regional Clerk of the Year by the Lumber River Council of Governments, in honor of her public service.

“It’s important to demonstrate good leadership,” Jackie said, “so that people realize they can be all they want to be.”



In Maxton, award-winning Town Clerk Jackie J. is known to citizens for two things: her longtime service, and her smile. With the help of an LGFCU scholarship, she earned Certified Municipal Clerk status; town leaders were so impressed with the results of her training that they’re now funding Jackie’s work toward master clerk certification.



The Maxton Historic District, including its town hall, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Inspiration sometimes strikes in unusual places. For Amelia G. of Spring Hope, it happened during a visit to a bird park, where she witnessed nature in action.

“I was only in middle school, but I instantly fell in love with how a bird imprinted on its trainer, and the trust they had,” said Amelia. “That very night I looked up the study of birds — it’s called ornithology — and ever since I’ve wanted to work with birds.”

Amelia, now 19, just completed her first year of college at Appalachian State University in Boone, where she majors in environmental biology. This summer she’s banding birds alongside the university’s resident ornithologist, and plans a career as a zoo staffer or park ranger.

**“I want to take full advantage of everything I can do and learn.
... You never know until you try.”**

Scholarships are part of her strategy when it comes to covering college expenses. Amelia was awarded a \$1,000 LGFCU Scholarship in 2018 and has reapplied for the upcoming school year.

She’s been a member of LGFCU since infancy, when her mom opened a Fat Cat savings account for her.

“My parents taught me how to save my money,” Amelia said. “And when I was filling out the LGFCU Scholarship application, I read the savings tips [offered at lgfcu.org].

“Apply to any and every scholarship. It’s definitely worth it,” she advised. “I applied to at least 10; I’d fill out the applications during my lunch breaks. LGFCU’s process was a lot easier than some, and it was nice being able to fill out the application online.”

Amelia is determined to make her future career count.

“I want to show people what I’m passionate about,” she said. “Birds are important to our ecosystem. Some are pollinators and help produce our food. I want to show this to little kids so, like me, they ask, ‘What is it?’

“I want to take full advantage of everything I can do and learn,” Amelia said. “My mom always says you never know until you try.”



The granddaughter of a bird breeder and a lifelong member of LGFCU, Amelia G. is a determined young woman who knows her way around a biology lab. She majors in science and minors in art at Appalachian State University in Boone, and post-college, plans work that impacts our state ecology, as an ornithologist or park ranger.



LGFCU Scholarships can help you too!

To support our members' service to their communities, each year LGFCU awards more than 200 scholarships to members in good standing, to help cover the costs of college and professional development. Details vary by program; please see the websites noted or call 800.344.4846.

LGFCU Scholarships

For graduating high school seniors and students attending colleges, universities, graduate and trade schools. The next application portal opens in October 2019.

▶ lgfcu.org/scholarships

Administrative Officers Management Program Scholarship (AOMP)

For North Carolina local law enforcement personnel. Application deadlines are April 1, July 1 and December 1.

▶ lgfcu.org/aomp

Law Enforcement Executive Program Scholarship (LEEP)

For North Carolina local law enforcement personnel. Application deadline is September 1.

▶ lgfcu.org/leep

UNC School of Government Scholarship

For local government employees. Application deadlines are March 1, June 1, July 1, September 1 and December 1.

▶ lgfcu.org/sog

LGFCU Fellows Program at UNC School of Government

Financial aid provided by LGFCU is managed by the UNC School of Government, which sets application deadlines. The next cohort begins September 16.

▶ lgfcu.org/lgfcufellows



The bond of service runs deep in Jacksonville, where Capt. Mike C. serves alongside Officer Darrell N., a retired Marine gunnery sergeant and fellow LGFCU member. The setting for their handshake is Freedom Fountain, a gateway to the city which marks the start of a Blue Star Memorial Highway. "I love that this is a patriotic town, full of genuinely good people who want to serve America," Mike said. "Heroes walk among us."

Don't get caught in the net of student loan scams



Scammers, looking for a way to reel you in, know you hate owing tens of thousands of dollars. So they're quick to offer you an easy way to "free yourself" from that debt. Here's what you need to know about these scams and how to avoid getting caught in their net.



Student loan forgiveness scam

A fake student loan debt collections company will reach out to you and offer to completely forgive your student loan for a relatively small fee. They attempt authenticity by sounding like Public Service Loan Forgiveness or the U.S. Department of Education. If you fall for the scam, you'll still need to pay off your loan, plus you'll lose the money you paid the scammers.



Student loan consolidation scam

A company posing as a student loan lender will contact you promising to consolidate your loans and lower your monthly payments, all for a modest fee. While many institutions can refinance student loan debt, the federal government is the only entity with the power to consolidate it. And they won't charge a fee for this service.



Student loan tax scam

A scammer will spoof the IRS' toll-free number and call a college student, claiming the student owes thousands of dollars for a "federal student loan tax." The scammer will demand immediate payment upon threat of arrest or a lawsuit. They'll also claim to only accept specific forms of payment, like a wire transfer or prepaid debit card. Remember, the IRS will never reach out to you by phone without first notifying you via postal mail. Nor will they demand payment over the phone or insist on a specific payment method.



Protect yourself against scammers

If you're targeted by a student loan scam, it's crucial you don't engage with the scammer. Hang up as soon as you recognize a scam. Then immediately bring the scam to the attention of the authorities to help them capture the scammers. Start by alerting the local law enforcement agencies. Next, file a complaint with the FTC at [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov), and report any tax-related scams to the IRS at [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) or by calling their toll-free scam hotline at **800.366.4484**.

Get more tips to help you stay on top of your finances at [lgfcu.org/personalfinance](https://www.lgfcu.org/personalfinance).



Find-a-Word

Try this fun word search game to find everyday terms about money. Look across and down. Circle each word you find. Then cross it off the list below.

W	P	E	U	M	A	G	F	Z	F
I	P	E	N	N	Y	U	P	P	X
D	R	M	E	I	N	Z	R	L	P
O	R	V	P	C	Y	X	W	B	A
L	B	N	Z	K	Y	B	D	Z	R
L	S	G	K	E	G	O	I	C	E
A	A	F	I	L	R	X	M	N	N
R	V	J	D	Y	F	W	E	E	T
S	E	F	A	T	C	A	T	R	X
O	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R	H	U

save
dollars
parent

nickel
Fat Cat
penny

dime
kid
quarter

We hope you enjoy this Find-a-Word game. Your parent can help you learn even more fun money words, like “saving!” You can start saving with a Fat Cat account today! Ask a grown-up in your family to visit lgfcu.org/fatcat to learn how to open an account.



SUMMER SAVINGS TOO HOT TO MISS



The dog days of summer are finally here and with them are hot deals on things you want or want to replace. Also, check out special days when you can get one-time offers that sizzle with savings!

Expect to see huge Father's Day discounts on big-ticket items like tools, grills, mowers and electronics. Don't forget to look for savings on meal deals at local restaurants to treat Dad. Check discount apps for the best sales of the month on Father's Day-only activities near you. Remember, if you're not using Wi-Fi with your mobile device, data charges may apply. Check with your service provider.

See it cheap: Chill out with entertainment. Check your local community website or newsletter for free events in your downtown. Also take advantage of discounted movies on the big screen at your area theater.

Leading up to the Fourth of July, stores will roll out all things Stars and Stripes. If you can wait until just before the actual holiday, you'll likely find prices slashed considerably on everything from party supplies to clothing deals.

Jewelry is also a hot item to buy this month. With Valentine's Day in the rear-view mirror, retailers want to turn up the heat on sales.

Cheap eats: July 21 is National Ice Cream Day. Look for free or discounted cool treats at your local shop.



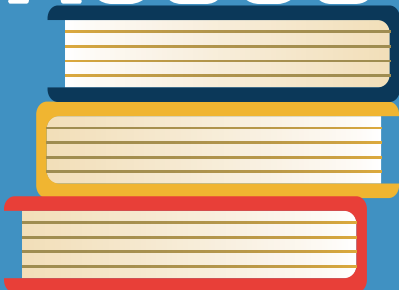
Back to school sales on clothes, shoes, school supplies and anything else you need to send your child back to class are plentiful this month. Typically, buyers have also seen a 10 percent discount on laptops this time of year.

The weather and the deals are still warm enough to send you outdoors. August is a good time to find discounts on hiking, camping and fishing gear, as well as items like patio furniture, making it a good time to replace (or buy new) outdoor essentials for your family getaway no matter where you travel.

Food deals: Look for hot and cold offers on root beer and waffles in your area in honor of National Root Beer Float Day on August 6 and National Waffle Day on August 24.

Follow us on Facebook ([facebook.com/LGFCU](https://www.facebook.com/LGFCU)) and Twitter (twitter.com/LGFCU) for more money-saving tips.

AUGUST



Calendar of events

SATURDAY
JULY 13

Kids' Catfish Tournament

8 to 11 a.m.

Dallas Park

1303 Dallas-Cherryville
Highway, Dallas

Hosted by Gaston County Parks and Recreation
gastongov.com

SATURDAY
JULY 20

38th Annual China Grove Farmers Day

9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Downtown China Grove
333 N. Main St., China Grove

Hosted by the Town of China Grove
chinagrovec.gov

TUESDAY
AUGUST 6

National Night Out

6 to 9 p.m.

South Granville High School
701 N. Crescent Drive, Creedmoor

Hosted by Creedmoor Police Department

cityofcreedmoor.org

Many other N.C. towns host
National Night Out too!

SHRED EVENTS

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for
more shred events near you.



Shredding is the fastest way to dispose
of confidential and personal documents.
Check out this free LGFCU paper shredding
event happening this summer!

Saturday, June 15

City of Conover

9 a.m. to noon

109 1st St., Conover | conovernc.gov



Meet 3 of the first LGFCU members

When you reminisce about years gone by, you probably
remember your firsts: graduation, a car, a "real" job, marriage,
the birth of your children.

Meet three LGFCU members who have been members since
our beginning in 1983. They also serve on our Advisory Council,
and spread the word among their families, workplaces and
communities about the first North Carolina credit union focused
on local government employees.

See them share their recollections on our mutual growth.
Watch and listen at lgfcu.org/2018annualreport.



▶ Regina Alexander
Southport



▶ Katherine Felton
Elizabeth City



▶ David Reid
Lake Toxaway



Summertime is fun time!

Get discounted tickets to some of North Carolina's most popular theme parks.

Discounted tickets are one of the many benefits of being an LGFCU member. Buy tickets at your local branch through **September 30, 2019**.

Visit lgfcu.org/themepark for more information.



888.732.8562



lgfcu.org/locations



Calls may be recorded for quality assurance.

For additional information or for dates and hours of operations, visit the official theme park websites. Please note that neither LGFCU nor SECU are responsible for lost tickets. No ticket refunds or exchanges allowed. All applicable sales tax is included.

LOVE THE NEW AIM?

Let us know, at facebook.com/LGFCU



Aim now offers advertising opportunities through Henry House Media. For more information, call **847.809.6931** or email jim@henryhousemedia.com.

YOUR RATES

Federally insured by NCUA



Loan Rates As of May 1, 2019

Adjustable Rate Mortgages*	Rate	APR	Margin	Floor Rate
5-year ARM 80% or less LTV	3.875%	4.017%	1.50%	3.25%
5-year ARM 80.1–90% LTV	4.375%	4.517%	2.00%	3.75%
5-year ARM 90.1–100% LTV	4.875%	5.018%	2.50%	4.25%
5-year ARM (First-Time Homebuyer) [†] 100% LTV	4.875%	5.018%	2.50%	4.25%
5-year ARM [‡] 100.1–110% LTV	5.875%	6.021%	3.50%	5.25%

Variable Rate Loans	PayD Rate ^o	Direct Pay
Home Equity (1st mortgage with LGFCU) ^Δ Up to 90% LTV	4.75%	5.25%
Home Equity (1st mortgage with other lender) ^Δ Up to 90% LTV	5.50%	6.00%
Signature Personal Open/Closed-end, Unsecured	10.75%	11.25%
Salary Advance (cash account <\$500) Open-end, \$500 maximum	14.25%	—
Salary Advance (cash account ≥\$500) Open-end, \$500 maximum	7.75%	—
Visa [®] Credit Card Grace period	—	12.00%

Fixed-Rate Loans	PayD Rate ^o	Direct Pay
New Vehicle ^o Up to 36 months	3.75%	4.25%
New Vehicle ^o 37–60 months	4.25%	4.75%
New Vehicle ^o 61–72 months	4.75%	5.25%
New Vehicle ^o 73–96 months	5.75%	6.25%
Used Vehicle Up to 72 months	5.50%	6.00%

Deposit Rates As of May 1, 2019

Products	Min. deposit [∞]	Rate	APY
Regular Shares	\$25.00	0.50%	0.50%
Fat Cat Shares	\$5.00	0.75%	0.75%
Zard Shares	\$25.00	0.75%	0.75%
Holiday Cash Club	\$0.00	0.75%	0.75%
IRAs	\$25.00	2.50%	2.53%
Health Savings Account	\$0.00	2.50%	2.53%
Checking [∞]	—	0.15%	0.15%
Money Market Shares	\$250.00	1.50%	1.51%
6-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	1.85%	1.85%
12-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	2.00%	2.00%
18-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	2.10%	2.10%
24-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	2.20%	2.20%
30-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	2.35%	2.35%
36-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	2.60%	2.60%
48-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	2.80%	2.80%
60-month Share Term Certificate [§]	\$250.00	3.00%	3.00%

For current rates, see lgfcu.org/rates.

All rates, terms and conditions can vary and are subject to change.

For additional information on any Credit Union accounts please visit lgfcu.org, call your local branch or call us at 888.732.8562.

Calls may be recorded for quality assurance.

APR : Annual Percentage Rate

APY : Annual Percentage Yield

ARM : Adjustable Rate Mortgage

PayD : Payroll Deduction

LTV : Loan To Value

* These rates are for new first mortgage loans and are subject to change daily. The rates for existing adjustable-rate mortgage loans are subject to change at predetermined intervals and may be different from the rates for new mortgages.

Future rates and payments determined based on adding a margin to the index (5-Year Constant Maturity Treasury Yield rounded up to the next highest one-eighth of one percentage point).

[†] Special financing for first-time homebuyers (5-year ARM).

[‡] Interest paid on the loan portion that is greater than fair market value is not tax deductible for federal income tax purpose. Consult a tax advisor for further information regarding the tax deductibility of interest and charges.

^Δ Appraisal may be required. Fees may range from \$0 to \$1,600. Future rates and payments are determined quarterly based on adding a margin of 2.25% to the index for payroll deduction/funds transfer (margin of 2.75% to index for direct pay). The index is the 26-week Treasury bill rate set on or after the 15th of the second month of the previous calendar quarter adjusted up to the nearest 0.25%. Recent index is 1.785%. The minimum adjusted index rate for this product is 0.50%. The maximum quarterly rate adjustment is 0.50%. For first mortgage with LGFCU or no first mortgage, the minimum interest rate is 2.75% APR for payroll deduction and funds transfer (3.25% APR for direct pay). For first mortgage with other lender, the minimum interest rate is 3.50% APR for payroll deduction and funds transfer (4.00% APR for direct pay). The maximum interest rate will be the beginning rate plus 5.00% or 12.75% APR, whichever is higher, but never more than 18.00% APR.

^o Payroll Deduction payments provide substantial savings in processing costs for the Credit Union.

Example: For a \$25,000 new auto loan, your monthly payment will be \$394 for 72 months at 4.25% APR when your payment method is payroll deduction/funds transfer (\$400 for 72 months at 4.75% APR with direct payments).

Example: For a \$15,000 used auto loan, your monthly payment will be \$244 for 72 months at 5.25% APR when your payment method is payroll deduction/funds transfer (\$247 for 72 months at 5.75% APR with direct payments).

^o New vehicle is defined as current, prior or upcoming year model with 10,000 miles or less.

[∞] Minimum deposit to open each account. Initial checking deposit must cover first box of checks and first \$1 monthly service fee. The minimum balance to earn dividends in your Share/IRA/SEP/CESA accounts is \$25; for Share Term Certificates and for Money Market Share accounts, \$250.

[§] Share Term Certificates are Fixed Rate accounts. Dividends are automatically paid monthly by transfer from the STC to another deposit account. If the term is six or 12 months, you may request that your dividends be paid when the STC matures. The early withdrawal penalty for all certificates is 90 days dividends or the actual dividends earned, whichever is less.

Fees and/or other conditions may reduce the earnings on an account.

Quoted rates, dividends and annual percentage yields (APY) are subject to change daily at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Your home can
 help finance your
 big life plans.**



If you're thinking about a home renovation, funding a college education or checking off a bucket list item, consider a Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC)* from your Local Government Federal Credit Union.

A HELOC* lets you borrow from your home's equity, which is the amount your home is worth, minus your outstanding mortgage.

* HELOCs are subject to approval and are only available in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia.

Learn more at lgfcu.org/HELOC.



Federally insured by NCUA

