



# FELLOW SOCU Members:

Another year is in the books...so welcome to 2024! I hope you had an enjoyable holiday season. We are kicking off our year-long 85th Anniversary celebration this month. SOCU was founded at the Streator Owens-Illinois glass bottling plant in 1939, and operated inside the plant for many years before moving our headquarters across Shabbona Street. Over the years we have branched out to new markets and we continue to grow our membership and service area. Thank you for choosing SOCU to help serve your financial needs. Throughout 2024, keep an eye out for promotions and events at a branch near you!

For those members in the market for a home loan in the new year, things are starting to look up. Mortgage interest rates peaked in the fall and have come down somewhat in recent weeks. And we are currently running a promotion to help cover your closing costs. See one of our Mortgage Loan Officers today to review your options. You can also apply right on our website if you prefer.

If you have not checked out our Savvy Money feature inside online banking, you may want to give it a try. Not only can you check your credit score and credit report at any time to guard against identity theft, but you also get pointers on how to improve your credit score. During the past 12 months, 31% of our Savvy Money users have been able to raise their score by following the suggestions offered! A better score will save you money on loan rates, on required downpayments, and on other financial products such as insurance premiums. A higher credit score can open up all kinds of possibilities for improving your financial health. Please let us know if you ever have questions on your credit score or anything else regarding your finances.

*-Doug* Doug Patterson, CEO

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

*As of November 30, 2023*

**members**

**34,928**

**assets**

**\$351,768,159.36**

**loans**

**\$284,605,837.07**



## Annual Meeting & Election

**Wednesday, January 31, 2024**  
**Streator - Oakley Ave Klub - 6PM**

The following members will be  
seeking board election: Tony Miles,  
Nathan Darrow and Don Luckey

Call 815-673-5577 to RSVP

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**Monday, January 15**  
**Closed**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**Monday, February 19**  
**Closed**  
**Presidents' Day**





**DIRECT DEPOSIT TO OUR ROUTING NUMBER: 271989688**

Have your 2023 income tax return direct deposited into your SOCU account. You can also E-File with Turbo Tax on the web. Visit [www.socu.org](http://www.socu.org) to file online through Turbo Tax. It's Fast & Easy!

\*Reminder\* The federal government requires all federal direct deposit payments to be deposited into an account owned by the rightful payee. If a government payment is made payable to an individual, it can be deposited into an individual account OR into a joint account as long as the payee is named as a joint owner.

## TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR MONEY

We have partnered with Banzai to bring you clear, in-depth lessons that help you dive into the financial topics you care most about.



**LEARN TO BUDGET**



**BUILD CREDIT**



**PLAN FOR AN EMERGENCY**



**START YOUR JOURNEY**

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE NOW!



Up to \$1,000 free money - quick easy application - no essay required. Stop in any branch or go to [www.socu.org/scholarship](http://www.socu.org/scholarship) for your application. Due April 1, 2024

## MEMBER BRUNCH

**Wednesday, April 17th 10AM**

**Oakley Ave Klub - Streator**

**StickleyonSecurity SoS**

Jim Stickley has stolen credit cards, hacked Social Security numbers, robbed banks, and created fake ATMs. He is an identity thief, but he is no criminal. Stickley is a cyber security expert with over 30 years in the industry. His job is to find security flaws before the real criminals find them and warn people and organizations about what they can do to protect themselves.

## CASH IN YOUR SOCU VISA SCORECARD REWARDS!

*Some of your points may be expiring at the end of February.*

**CHECK YOUR REWARD BALANCE & REDEEM THROUGH ONLINE BANKING OR CALL 800.595.2454 TO ASK HOW.**



# Home Owning Simplified.



\*Offer valid for \$1000.00 lender contribution toward closing costs for a first mortgage primary owner-occupied residence or a \$500.00 lender contribution toward closing costs for a second mortgage primary owner-occupied residence. Offer valid on new applications and pre-qualifications submitted between January 1, 2024 and February 29, 2024. All loans must close by April 30, 2024 in order to remain eligible for this offer. This offer is not a commitment to lend. Rates, fees, terms and programs are subject to change without notice. Loans are subject to borrower qualifications, including income, property evaluation, sufficient equity in the home to meet loan to value requirements, and final credit approval. Approvals are subject to underwriting and programs guidelines and are subject to change without notice. Borrower(s) eligibility requires 24 months since funding prior no closing cost mortgage loan promotion Home Equity line of Credit requires if the Credit Union paid bona fide fees on the borrower's behalf, and the borrower closes the line within 24 months from its opening, the borrower agrees to reimburse the credit union for the amount of those bona fide fees paid on their behalf, as permitted by applicable law. Minimum loan amount is \$20,000.00. Please consult your tax advisor regarding any tax implications. Federally insured by the NCUA. NMLS #421974. Limited time offer.

UP  
TO **\$1,000**  
TOWARDS  
**CLOSING COSTS\***

Contact us to see how  
we can help today!



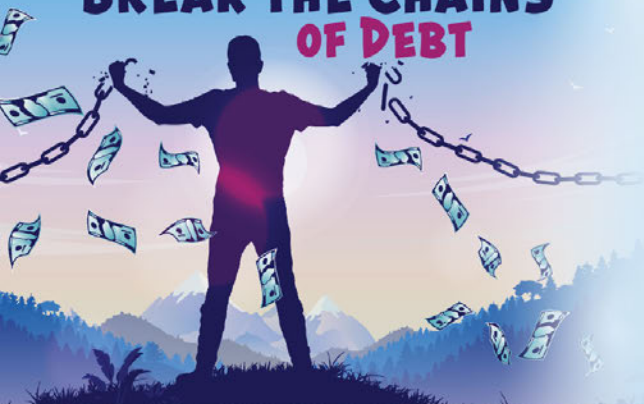
Ashley Tutko  
NMLS# 1143785



Sandy McBride  
NMLS# 442097

**815-673-1679**  
**MORTGAGES@SOCU.ORG**

## BREAK THE CHAINS OF DEBT



### BALANCE TRANSFERS

**1.99%** <sup>APR\*</sup>  
FOR **6** MONTHS

OR

**6.99%** <sup>APR\*</sup>  
FOR **24** MONTHS

+ No Transfer Fees + No Annual Fees

AFTER PROMOTIONAL PERIOD RATE REVERTS TO

**10.90%** <sup>APR\*</sup> to **23.90%** <sup>APR\*</sup>

\*All Visas subject to credit approval. APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Promotional rate of 1.99% APR applies for 6 months after you transfer a balance. Promotional rate of 6.99% APR applies for 24 months after you transfer a balance. Balance transfers may not be used on existing SOCU loans. After the promotional period ends, any unpaid balance will revert to the current purchase APR, between 10.90%-23.90% APR, based upon your creditworthiness. Limited time offer. Federally insured by the NCUA.