



THE CORNERSTONE
WINTER EDITION



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Abound
is for LIVING.

AboundCU.com

You complete our circle.



“... is going to save me \$10,000 by the time my RV is paid off!”

I had overdue home repairs that I couldn't keep putting off, but I also didn't have the extra cash to make it happen. I went straight to Abound to see what they advised. Who would've thought that my RV Loan could help with my home repairs? Leitchfield Branch refinanced my current RV Loan from another lender, cutting my interest rate in half and taking 14 months off my loan. With the money I'm saving on loan payments, I'm able to free up the cash I need. This is going to save me \$10,000 by the time my RV is paid off!

— **Leitchfield Member**

“... saved me almost \$300 in monthly payments.”

I knew I had too many credit cards, the payments were unmanageable – with interest rates ranging 20-32%. Grabbing control of these cards was out of my reach, or so I thought. Through Abound, I was approved for a Personal Loan to consolidate all of my credit cards. This saved me almost \$300 in monthly payments. I finally have an end date for this debt and I'm so grateful!

— **Ft. Knox Member**



“... saving me \$800 a month!”

I knew I needed to consolidate my debt, I just didn't know where to start. I would've never thought about equity within my Home Loan as being an option. By opening a Home Equity Line of Credit, I consolidated more than \$28,000 in credit card debt from other lenders. This is saving me \$800 a month! I've stopped in to thank the branch many times since. I cannot believe how easy this process was.

— **Bardstown Member**



President's Message

Abound is for LIVING.

We're for Improving Your Financial Health

We're here to help our Members live healthier and better lives. This work hasn't gone unnoticed. Abound recently took top honors nationally as the #1 Credit Union for Youth Financial Education in our asset category. We take great pride in our team's work and appreciate the Credit Union National Association's recognition of our ongoing efforts.

Saving more money and getting healthier are two of the most common resolutions we hear from Members this time of year. Financial wellness and physical health are connected. That's why we're committed to providing free Financial Education resources for Kentuckians of all ages.

We're for Supporting Local Schools

Our in-school Financial Education programs reach thousands of students, from elementary school through college, and adults of all ages benefit from our online modules and in-person events like Veterans 2 Entrepreneurs. Abound's financial strength, and the active participation of Members like you, also means that we can actively support our local schools. With our new School Spirit Debit Cards, our Members can help fund Hardin County Schools as they do their normal spending, with a portion of all transactions donated to the school district. Know someone who doesn't have an Abound Checking account but wants to support HCS? Send them our way!

We're for Helping You Achieve Your Goals

Financial wellness is a lifelong journey and the small steps you take now can make a big difference over time. Paying off debt, saving to buy or renovate a home and investing for the future are all common financial goals Abound Members share. Not sure where to start? Talk to an Abound representative about your financial goals or check out the online learning center at AboundCU.com. And be sure to participate in our 52-week Savings Challenge detailed on page 4!

No matter what your financial goals are, Abound is for helping you achieve them. That's why we offer affordable loans, higher-rates on savings, and money-saving products like Free Checking Accounts with the ability to get paid up to 2 days early with Direct Deposit*. Thank you for your Membership.

We're for a happier and healthier 2024!

Sincerely,

RAYMOND H. SPRINGSTEEN
PRESIDENT / CEO



*Get Paid Early - Must have active Abound Credit Union account with active Direct Deposit. Get Paid Early is subject to when we receive pay information from the Federal Reserve.



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All of our Cornerstone newsletter issues are available online, too!

SCAN TO VIEW ALL OF OUR DIGITAL VERSIONS





Scan to review our
Home Loans options!
*Apply online or
contact us today!*

Home Loan options can be simple.

Yes, you can still make home happen with Abound by your side! Even with recent changes in interest rates, Abound offers affordable options to help you navigate the housing market. Let's break down two of the most popular ...



WHAT'S AN ARM?

An Adjustable-Rate Mortgage (ARM for short) isn't as complicated as it sounds. Typically, these loans offer an initial interest rate that is lower than a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage. As the name indicates, that interest rate is adjusted after a period of time. For example, a "5/1 ARM" will be fixed for the first five years and then its rate will adjust annually. Talk to an Abound lender to learn how Abound limits how much the rate may change in a single year. In a higher-rate environment, ARMs may allow you to afford more now and could even benefit you if rates fall in the future.







WHAT'S A HELOC?

A Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) allows current homeowners to access the equity they've built in their home without impacting their 1st mortgage or refinancing. If you're looking to renovate, a HELOC could be a cost-effective option. The line of credit structure provides flexibility, allowing you to borrow only what you need and take funds from your HELOC multiple times during the draw period.

Talk to an Abound Team Member today to learn more or apply online at AboundCU.com.

Start the New Year STRONG!

We're for getting organized. Take time this month to tidy up your finances with these reminders.

- 
Update Beneficiaries
 Did you open financial accounts or insurance policies many years ago? If so, your beneficiary information may be out of date. Now is a great time to check!
- 
Talk to a Financial Planner
 Abound offers a free consultation with a financial planner as a benefit of your Membership. Take advantage of this valuable resource.
- 
Set Goals for the New Year
 Set yourself up for success in 2024! Take time to write down your goals and consider how long-term Certificates and other tools could help you get there.
- 
Protect Your Loved Ones
 Do you have adequate insurance coverage? Now is a great time to evaluate AD&D and life insurance options. It's also a good idea to shop around for auto and homeowners' insurance to ensure you're getting the best payments. You may be surprised by how much you could save.



REMINDER!



52
 weeks of
SAVING
CHALLENGE

It's simple. Deposit \$1 the first week, \$2 the second week, \$3 the third week, and so on. By the end of the year, you'll have \$1,378 in your Abound Savings Account!

Want to make it even simpler? Automate the challenge by saving \$26.50 each week for a year. You'll still end up with \$1,378 and you can choose to keep the momentum going after the year ends.

Get started today with an automatic payroll deduction or contact our friendly team for assistance!





Don't Fall for Tricky Tactics

BE WARY OF SLICK MARKETING IN YOUR MAILBOX.

TELL-TALE SIGNS THAT IT'S NOT FROM YOUR LENDER:

- **Is the return address clear?** Who actually sent this? You may have to really search the piece for this information. That's a tell-tale sign it's not from your lender.
- **Is there a disclosure or "opt-out" box?** Unsolicited marketing should include a disclaimer, although you may have to search for this too as it could be on the back, letting you know that the company is not affiliated with your lender and how you can opt out of future solicitations.
- **What is the offer, really?** At first glance, it might seem like urgent action is needed to avoid losing something but if you take a closer look these messages may not be what they seem.

If you've purchased a new home or opened a new loan recently, you may have already experienced a direct mail deluge of seemingly personalized offers relating to said new purchase or finance.

These offers may even include details like your home's address, vehicle make and model or lender name in bold to make it feel like the message is coming from someone you know. These offers may also create a false sense of urgency warning that your car's warranty is about to expire.

Companies continue to get more sophisticated when trying to engage with you about their products and services and some might use tricky methods to get your attention, even at times trying to make it look like their messaging is coming from a trusted source, like your Credit Union.

Be cautious when reviewing messages and look for the tell-tale signs that let you know it is NOT from your lender and does NOT require a response from you.

When in doubt, contact Abound to find out if it's something we sent you or discuss the offer with a trusted family member.

2024 Board of Directors Nominees



TIM GOBLIRSCH

I have been an Abound volunteer for 10 years, serving as Supervisory Committee member and Chairperson, and Associate and Voting Member of the Board of Directors. My background includes active duty and reserve service for 30 years as an Army Judge Advocate, teaching Personal Finance at ECTC and WKU, and advising Fort Knox as legal counsel for 30 years in my civilian career. I support the best loan and deposit rates, financial education for all ages, technology that is current with the latest financial services products, and expanding the Credit Union's reach to new communities across Central Kentucky.



WANDA PARKER

I am a retired Finance Director with the Nelson County School System and currently have the privilege of volunteering/serving as one of your Board Members. I have served on several Credit Union committees as chair, secretary and Member. With successfully completing the required Credit Union's Volunteer/Leadership educational modules for this position, attending Credit Union educational conferences for yearly updates and currently serving as Board Vice-Chair, I feel I am qualified to continue the efforts to keep our Credit Union prospering and enhance the Credit Union's belief that together we can be more.



STAN ROUT

I am a Hardin County native and 40-year Credit Union member. I am well versed in our community being engaged in numerous volunteer efforts, business experiences, church activities, and my military career. I am a retired Army Colonel who has also worked in leadership roles across several industries to include banking, automotive, finance, wholesale, and technology. I currently manage a veteran owned technology company serving all federal and DoD agencies. I also help with the family farm in Sonora. I have been married 41 years to Gayla, a retired Hardin County teacher. I am prepared to serve our Credit Union family.



HENRY "BUTCH" WHEATLEY

It has been an honor and privilege for me to be one of your non-paid volunteers on your Board of Directors for over 46 years. Also served 15 years of voluntary service to the KY State League Board, and the honor of three prestigious national awards – CUES Director of the Year for 2004, CUES Director Hall of Fame in 2009, and Defense Credit Union Council's Hall of Honor in 2017. I truly believe in the Credit Union Motto of "People Helping People" and feel that I can act in the best interest of all Credit Union Members and the organization.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY & INSTRUCTIONS: Eligible voting members are asked to vote for up to three (3) of the four (4) nominated candidates for the Board of Directors. All candidates have met eligibility requirements and were nominated by the Nominating Committees in accordance with Credit Union Bylaws.

Eligible voting members must be 18 years of age or older at the time the vote is cast. Members voting by paper ballot are required to provide their unique Election ID and signature to verify eligibility to vote. Members voting electronically are required to provide their unique Election ID or Account Number and the last four digits of their social security number to verify eligibility to vote. All requested member information must be included for the ballot to be counted and all member information will be kept in strictest confidence. Only members who are listed as the 'primary' account holder, as prescribed by the NCUA, are provided official ballots.

Completed ballots, which must include selection of no more than three (3) candidates and all requested member information, must be postmarked in the envelope provided or completed through the secure electronic voting portal at aboundcu.cuballot.com by March 1, 2024 to be counted. Ballots will not be accepted at branches.

ROUSH SCHOLARSHIP

WE CAN
HELP YOUR
STUDENT
PAY FOR
COLLEGE!

\$25,000 in College Scholarships in 2024

APPLY
JANUARY 1
THROUGH
MARCH 31,
2024



IN 2024, WE'RE PAYING OUT A TOTAL OF \$25,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO TEN DESERVING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS IN ABOUND'S SERVICE AREA.

The scholarships, designated the Howard Roush Memorial Scholarship, symbolize our learning-driven culture and emphasis on continual growth and development.

Do you know a learning-driven student looking to save for life's big step?

Answer our simple scholarship question and let's see what's possible: *"What does Financial Independence mean to you?"*

Apply January 1 through March 31, 2024 at:
AboundCU.com/Roush-Scholarship

By submitting any content, you grant the Abound Credit Union the right to repurpose your content in any and all of our affiliate websites, including social media channels, print, video and other media; we can include your likeness (your profile photograph/picture) without payment or any other consideration. The following persons are NOT eligible to enter the Howard Roush Memorial Scholarship Program: Abound Federal Credit Union employees, affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising/promotional agencies, volunteers and immediate family members (spouse, parents, siblings and children) of volunteers and staff. Student applicant must have an established primary membership with Abound Credit Union prior to December 31, 2023.

Board of Directors

Richard L. Ardisson, Chairman

Wanda Parker, Vice Chairman

George Pennington, Treasurer

Robert H. Roush, Secretary

Henry Wheatley

J. Marvin Hawk

Jo Exler

Cathy (Pierce) Groner

Timothy Goblirsch

Howard Williams, Director Emeritus

Rosemary Deaton, Director Emeritus

Reba Watson, Director Emeritus

Leadership Team

Raymond H. Springsteen, President / CEO

Jake Darabos, Chief Finance & Admin. Officer

Chuck Eads, Chief Lending Officer

Jill Krimm, Chief People Officer

Susan Mandarin, Chief Marketing Officer

Shelley Mitchell, Chief Strategy Officer

Marc Prasch, Chief Operating Officer

