

Spotlight

COVER WHAT MATTERS MOST

Introducing Estate Planning with Trust & Will

BOOST YOUR GIVEBACK 2 DIFFERENT WAYS!

Check out our Mastercard and Refer a Friend Giveback promotions

IN THIS ISSUE:

LIGHT UP YOUR SEASON

With a Holiday Loan from Empower

ENROLL IN ESTATEMENTS

Go paperless with EStatements today if you are not currently enrolled

Do you recognize our cover photo?
Look under here to see what it is!

Answer: Taughannock Falls

AN EMPOWER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION PUBLICATION

FALL 2022 | NEWSLETTER



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SPOTLIGHT
FALL 2022

Estatements

Are you a member NOT currently utilizing Online Banking or E-Statements?



Go Paperless With eStatements! It's Simple

To register, go to empowerfcu.com and click "New User Registration" in the upper right corner of our home page to register as an Online Banking user.

Once registered for Online Banking, you will see the EDOCS widget on the left side of the screen. Don't see EDOCS? Simply click on "MORE..." to access the EDOCS Widget. Then, be sure to subscribe to receive your E-Statement access.

Are you a member utilizing Online Banking but NOT E-Statements?



Make the Switch to eStatements! Just a Few Steps Away

When you log into your account you will see the "EDOCS" widget on the left side of the screen. Don't see EDOCS? Simply click on "MORE..." to access the EDOCS Widget. Then, be sure to subscribe to receive your E-Statement access.

Upon enrolling/subscribing to Online Banking and EDOCS, you will have up to 2 years of statements available Online.

A Sweet Deal

NEW SHARE CERTIFICATE OPTIONS!
6, 12, 18 MONTHS



Insured by NCUA.

Membership eligibility required. For \$100,000.00 or greater, 6 Month Jumbo Certificate = 2.22% APY, 12 Month Jumbo Certificate = 2.74% APY, 18 Month Jumbo Certificate = 2.99% APY. APY = Annual Percentage Yield. \$500 minimum balance is required. Promotional APY is only applicable to funds not currently deposited with Empower FCU. Additional incentives not available with this promotion. 50 plus club members APY increase does not apply for share certificates. 2.17% APY applies to the 6-month Share Savings Certificate and 6-month Business Share Savings Certificate, and is accurate as of October 1, 2022. 2.69% APY applies to the 12-month Share Savings Certificate and 12-month Business Share Savings Certificate, and is accurate as of October 1, 2022. 2.94% APY applies to the 18-month Share Savings Certificate and 18-month Business Share Savings Certificate, and is accurate as of October 1, 2022. Promotion is based on a limited time offer and is subject to change/cancellation without notice. Fees can reduce earnings on the account. Early withdrawal penalty may apply.

Brenda Carhart, Interim President/CEO's Message to Members

As we enter the fourth quarter of the year, I reflect on the amount of change that has taken place for Empower and our members in 2022. One of those changes we haven't seen in years, we are now in a rising interest rate environment. Many of our younger members have never had to navigate an inflationary cycle. At Empower, we provide many tools for you to use to understand how you can be financially successful during any economic cycle.

This is a terrific time to highlight our Wealth Management Services. We offer a wide range of Investment and Insurances services as well as tax preparation to help you be prepared during changing market conditions.

Currently our skilled and talented Investment Advisors available through our relationship with CUSO Financial Services, LP help more than 2,100 members/clients and their families, providing investment management, retirement solutions, estate planning, and life insurance planning to name just a few of our services. If there is an investment question or concern, I would encourage you to reach out to our Investment Team and have a conversation with them as to how they can help you with your investment goals and objectives.

The advisors at Empower Investments have consistently provided great advice and service to our members and offered them a steady hand in managing their investments through some very volatile markets. Additionally, we now offer online digital access

to your CUSO/CFS® Investment Account statements through your through your Apple® and Android® handheld devices

We also provide preferred pricing to our members on Property and Casualty insurance. With relationships with over 14 insurance carriers, there are very few things Empower Insurance Services are not able to insure. If your homeowners, auto, boat, ATV insurance is up for renewal, it is time to reach out to our Empower Insurance Team, they very well may be able to save you money and make sure you have the right coverage for your individual needs.

As for the Empower Tax Services Team, we continue to provide exceptional tax preparation services for a very reasonable price by our certified and licensed tax team members team. If you have used some of the national tax preparation companies in the past, check us out. We have consistently been a great value for the services provided and are often less expensive than the national chains.

We have made some new enhancements to the digital experience on the Empower FCU website by adding PolicyGenius®, a term life insurance platform affording you the chance to purchase inexpensive term life insurance through a simplified and easy digital experience. We now also offer digital Estate Planning, Trust and Will® which allows you to obtain estate planning legal documents at a discounted rate as an Empower member.

*Non-deposit investment products and services are offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. ("CFS"), a registered broker-dealer (Member FINRA/SIPC) and SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Products offered through CFS: **are not NCUA/NCUSIF or otherwise federally insured, are not guarantees or obligations of the credit union, and may involve investment risk including possible loss of principal.** Investment Representatives are registered through CFS. The Credit Union has contracted with CFS to make non-deposit investment products and services available to credit union members. Empower Investment Services is a marketing name for Empower FCU and is not affiliated with CFS.



Brenda Carhart
Interim President/CEO

In 2023, we will add a new Medicare Insurance Division to assist our members in helping them navigate the complex world of Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, and Prescription Drug programs.

We continue to grow Empower together and provide exceptional products and services to better serve you, our members.

Sincerely,

Brenda Carhart

Interim President/CEO

Did you know our Online and Mobile Banking has slightly changed?

Our Online Banking navigation menu and Mobile App design will be refreshed for an improved member experience. You will see changes to the current design, while maintaining the same functionalities and services.

Hop online to empowerfcu.com to enroll in online banking or to learn more. Hop onto your respective app store to download our mobile app:



Green Loans

Go Green with a Solar or Electric Loan with Empower Federal Credit Union!

Going green helps lower costs and save money. Our competitive loan rates can help you build equity in your home, reduce energy and fuel costs, and get you into the electric vehicle of your dreams.



Solar Panel Loan

- Competitive Rates
- Add value to your home
- Much More!



Electric Vehicle Loan

- Competitive Rates
- Pre-approval program
- Much More!



Electric Bicycle Loan

- Competitive Rates
- Health Benefits
- Much More!

Based on certain underwriting criteria. Rates subject to change. Loan approval based on creditworthiness. All loans subject to approval. Rates, terms, and conditions subject to change. Membership eligibility required.

Welcome



Aboard!

Ebony King

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer

King has over 16 years of experience in the field of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, most recently serving as the Diversity and Inclusion Specialist for Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) at Syracuse University. In this capacity she led and facilitated ODI diversity, equity, and inclusion training and workshops. King implemented the ODI workshop program and served as office liaison to campus departments, offices, committees, and programs. She also conducted Diversity and Inclusion presentations, facilitated dialogue on race and ethnicity and communicated with various programs throughout the University. Prior positions held: Director of Multicultural Engagement and Senior Director of Diversity and Inclusion, for Buena Vista University in Iowa.

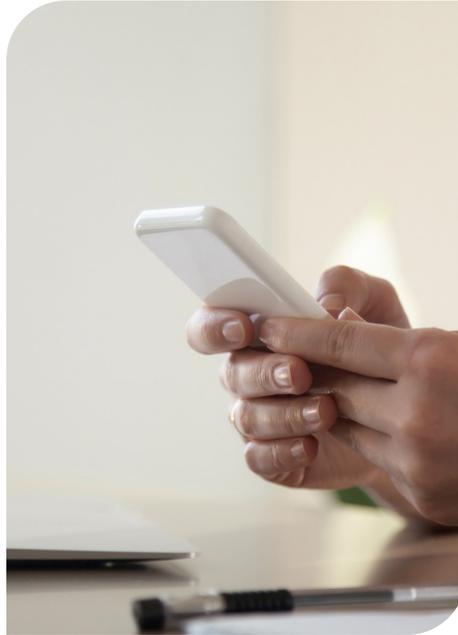
Ebony is from Bronx, New York. She received her bachelor's degree in social work with a minor in psychology and a master's degree in higher education administration, both from Syracuse University. King also received a diversity and inclusion certificate from Cornell University. She currently resides in Liverpool, NY and enjoys movies, dancing, interior design and spending time with her miniature Dachshund, Coco.

Empower Federal Credit Union is a full-service financial institution that provides savings, loan, and transaction services to members. Main offices are located in Central New York. As a credit union, Empower FCU is a financial cooperative and is not-for-profit. For information about this release or credit union membership, contact Mary Wilson: 800.462.5000. Locations and other information can be found at www.empowerfcu.com.

The Rise of Text Fraud: Think Before You Tap

Did you know that you sometimes may get an unexpected text asking you to verify a card transaction to make sure it isn't fraud? But did you also know that fraudsters like to mimic those messages to trick you into giving up information?

If you are in any doubt about ANY Empower-related message that you receive, stop, close the message and call us directly at 800.462.5000. Legitimate messages always come from the short code 86975, so any other number means the unexpected text is definitely a scam.



Term Life Insurance, Simplified with: Policygenius

Empower Federal Credit Union's CFS Wealth Advisors have partnered with Policygenius. This online marketplace is a one-stop solution for Term Life Insurance.

No need to fill out forms on a dozen different sites: With Policygenius, you can compare quotes, get expert advice, and buy the coverage you need, all in one place.

Smart tools. Easily compare personalized quotes from top-rated insurers, side by side.

Human support. The Policygenius team is always available to answer questions, help with paperwork, and discuss your options - no robots here.

Unbiased advice. The fully licensed insurance experts at Policygenius aren't biased toward any specific insurer, so you can trust they'll only recommend the coverage you'll actually need

Apply in about 10 minutes, and eligible applicants can get covered in as little as a week thanks to a policy option that swaps the standard medical exam requirement for a simple phone call.



Holiday Closures

Please note that Empower FCU and Horizons, a Division of Empower FCU will be CLOSED in observance of the following Holidays:

VETERANS' DAY

Closed: November, 11th

THANKSGIVING DAY

Closed: November, 24th

CHRISTMAS DAY

Closed: December, 24th
& December, 26th

NEW YEARS DAY 2023

Closed: December, 31st
& January, 2nd



Financial Wellness: Your Latest Health Kick

Are you looking to improve your current financial situation, new to handling your finances, or trying to establish a budget? No matter what, Credit Union members have access to a variety of financial tools and services that can help you achieve your financial goals - no matter how big or small.

Check out our checking account protection, financial counseling and online resources that are available to assist you in reaching financial wellness. We are committed to helping you!

We have a variety of loan options to potentially assist you with your financial struggles including:

- Household Emergency Loans
- Credit Builder Loans
- Predatory Debt Refinance Loans

Go to empowerfcu.com or call 800.462.5000 to learn more about the financial tools available to you.



Cover What Matters Most: Introducing Estate Planning with Trust & Will

With an Estate Plan, you can:

- Nominate guardians for your minor children and pets
- Select beneficiaries to receive specific assets
- Complete your healthcare documents - including selecting a power of attorney
- Specify your final arrangement wishes
- Minimize future expenses and reduce estate taxes
- More!

As one of the most trusted names in online estate planning, Trust & Will makes estate planning simple, affordable, and completely customizable, allowing you to create a complete Estate Plan in minutes from the comfort of your home.

No one likes to think about what happens after they're gone, but preparing for the unexpected now is the best way to ensure you've covered what matters most. With an Estate Plan, you can nominate guardians for your children and pets, determine how your assets will be distributed, specify your final arrangement wishes, and so much more.

[View More at empowerfcu.com](https://empowerfcu.com)

Boost Your Giveback Two Different Ways!

Visit your branch www.empowerfcu.com 800.462.5000



Refer a Friend and You Both May Reap the Rewards!

When you Refer a Friend to Empower, you both may earn \$25 in Giveback Rewards.* Your friend is only a few steps away from taking advantage of Empower FCU's banking products, financial tools, and programs that can help them to achieve their financial goals. Show your friend the Empower way and boost your Giveback Reward!



Set Your Sights On The Giveback Rewards With Mastercard®

Put an Empower Mastercard in your wallet and you may receive \$25 in Giveback Rewards!* Empower Mastercard members reap the benefits of a valuable rewards program and accumulate points on everyday purchases. Increase your giveback when you're approved for either the Platinum Mastercard or World Mastercard.

Insured by NCUA.

*Membership eligibility required. Reward promotion 10/1/22 – 12/31/22. Promotion may change/cancel without notice. Limit 4 referrals, \$100 maximum. Completed coupon must be provided/uploaded at time of account opening. Member will qualify for reward payout in 2022 if criteria is met by 12/31/22. Reward is paid out one time with end of year giveback. Must be at least 18 years of age to participate. Must be primary member with an open membership share savings account in good standing and meet qualifications. Empower Membership Share Account must be open at time of giveback. Must make a single deposit of \$100 at account opening to be eligible. Business accounts are not eligible for this promotion. Employee eligibility restrictions apply.

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*Reward promotion begins 10/1/22. Membership eligibility required. Promotion may change/cancel without notice. Member must open Empower Mastercard credit card on or before 12/31/22 and complete a one-time purchase transaction with no minimum spend. If criteria is met by 12/31/22, member will qualify for reward payout of \$25 added to their End of Year Giveback reward on 12/31/2022. If one time purchase is posted after 12/31/22 through 1/31/23, \$25 Giveback Reward will be deposited in the member's Share Account by 1/31/23. No payouts will be made after 1/31/23. Must be at least 18 years of age to participate. Must be primary member with an open membership Share Savings Account in good standing and meet qualifications. Empower Mastercard Credit Card Account must be open at time of giveback. Allow at least 7–10 days for receipt of credit card following application approval. Business Accounts/Credit Cards are not eligible for this promotion. First time credit card only, one credit card per member qualifies. The \$25 Giveback Reward will be deposited into the primary member's Share Account. © 2022 Mastercard. All rights reserved. © Mastercard, the Mastercard Brand Mark and Priceless are registered trademarks of Mastercard International Incorporated.



Headquarters
1 Member Way
Syracuse, NY 13212

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 4238
SYRACUSE NY



Federally insured by NCUA.



LIGHT UP *Your Season*

WITH A HOLIDAY LOAN FROM EMPOWER!

Rates as low as 5.49% APR!

Insured by NCUA. Membership eligibility required. Loan approval based on creditworthiness. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Estimated monthly payment of \$85.83 per \$1,000 borrowed, based on 12-month term and 5.49% APR. Your maximum loan amount, APR and monthly payment will be based on creditworthiness and other underwriting factors. Holiday loan program begins October 1, 2022 and ends December 31, 2022.