

INVESTING IN LOCAL YOUTH

Message from Keith Sultemeier, President & CEO, Kinecta Federal Credit Union

An important part of Kinecta's mission is to benefit the communities of which we are a part and in which we serve. What better way to realize that aspect of our mission than to support the youth in those communities?

Imagine the surprise of a few Leuzinger High School students when a Pop-up Prom Primping Station appeared. Kinecta's donation of a limo, flowers and a hair and nail station made prom extra special and fun for these deserving students.

We also invite students at select schools to take a Bite of Reality.* The teens involved learn money management through an engaging real life simulation. Given simulated jobs and salaries, participants are given the freedom to make their own financial decisions.

THERE'S MORE:

- Every summer Kinecta teams up with local police and fire agencies to collect backpacks full of school supplies for less fortunate youth in our neighborhoods.
- Kinecta encourages youth to give back by providing volunteer opportunities at our food drives, Community Celebration & Chili Cook Off and Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum, among others.
- Kinecta awards several \$2,000 scholarships to student members headed off to college. Our recipients are chosen based on academic achievement, community service and their personal statement.

Finally, we don't forget the very important people whose job it is to shape our youth every day: our local teachers. Whether we're providing grants of up to \$1,000 to enhance the classroom experience, or putting on teacher appreciation presentations or barbeques, we want the teachers to know that we value them and the vital job they are doing.



KEEP YOUR EYES ON KINECTA IN THE COMING MONTHS
to see the other great youth oriented initiatives we'll be instituting.

YEAR END FINANCIAL CHECKLIST

Check off the items on this list to make sure that your financial house is in order before the calendar turns over to 2017

- Consult your Tax Advisor** – There is plenty you can do this year to save taxes in April. Will an IRA contribution help? Could you make one extra house payment this year? If so, you'll save interest in the long run, and have more interest to deduct in April. Your Tax Advisor will have many more ideas to keep your tax bill to a minimum.
- Review your insurance policies¹** – Is your coverage adequate for your current situation? Seniors should look at whether they have too much or too little life insurance now that assets may have increased. Make sure your named beneficiaries remain up to date.
- Consolidate your debt** – Transfer balances on high interest rate credit cards to a card with a lower rate. If the low rate expires, try to pay off the balance before it does. Consider a home equity line of credit or refinance your mortgage to reduce monthly payments with low interest rates, tap into equity to consolidate debt. Interest on a HELOC may be tax deductible² as well.
- Home buying consultation** – From tax-deductible mortgage interest, to building equity instead of paying rent, home ownership pays off in so many ways. Talk to a Mortgage Loan Consultant to see if there is a program to help you get into a home that you own!
- Invest²** – Do you have a 401k, IRA or other savings that haven't been checked in a while? Talk to a Financial Consultant to help guide you through your options.
- Look at your 2016 spending** – Reviewing your credit card bills will pretty quickly show you where your money is going (triple half-caf upside down soy lattes anyone?) and where you can cut back. Are your utility bills too high? Are you spending too much on groceries? Analyze your current spending and make a budget to reduce where you can.
- Review your credit report** – If your credit report contains errors, or if there are areas you can work on to improve your credit score, you'll benefit when you need a loan. The higher your score, the lower the interest you'll pay. That's a money saving tip many people overlook.

The end of the year is a busy time, but carving out a little to take stock (pun intended) of your financial situation will pay dividends (again!) in 2017!

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*Check with your tax advisor.

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Insurance and investment products are:

Not NCUA Insured | Not Credit Union Guaranteed | May Lose Value

WE'RE BLUSHING, BUT ONLY A LITTLE

Our members keep saying the nicest things about us and we appreciate it very much.

A member using our AutoPREMIER auto buying service let us know that it was a "...smooth, positive experience" and Jay, the salesperson "provided printouts of the pricing and costs, confirming the great price for the car through Kinecta's auto buying program." She also related she is "...thrilled with my new car and Kinecta!"

A member called in to our Member Contact Center and had this to say, "They go out of their way to find a solution. They're wonderful, knowledgeable, always very helpful, and pretty fast. Courteous too."

Two members recently commented on our online banking system, both using the word "convenient." One member wrote that Kinecta Direct Online Banking is, "very user friendly and I find it fast and convenient. I'm much more of an online person so it's helpful." A second member echoed those sentiments with these comments, "Having the online is very convenient. I can check it anytime. I can avoid any unexpected transactions. I can catch it right away."

THANKS TO OUR TEAM, AND OUR MEMBERS!

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BEYOND BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIPS 2016

The holiday shopping season doesn't start on Black Friday (in fact it seems like it starts in July!) but it certainly crests on that frantic Post-Thanksgiving Friday. And as if your wallet hasn't had enough, Cyber Monday rolls around just three days later – November 28 this year!

Wondering how to keep your sanity at this most wonderful, and craziest, time of year?

STEP ONE – DON'T SPEND TOO MUCH!

Make a list and budget, and stick to them – We know it's easier said than done. But whether you're browsing online or in the aisles, resist the temptation to buy for someone you hadn't planned for. Base your budget on the amount you plan to spend on each person on your list. You may not hit your number exactly, but you should be close.

Avoid high rate credit cards – Whatever amount you can afford to spend on the holidays is fine, but none of us can afford to throw money away on unnecessary high-interest payments. Consider taking advantage of your Kinecta credit card with a low variable APR and dodge using store credit cards.

Get the best deals you can – Here's where Black Friday and Cyber Monday come in. Whether you stand in line or sit with finger poised over your mouse, shop early! The best deals go fast. Some retailers add deals throughout the day, but for the most part, by noon, you're toast. Be sure to check dealnews.com, retailmenot.com and of course Groupon and Living Social for other great deals.

STEP TWO – DON'T GET TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF OR HACKED!

Don't carry cash – It's obvious that if cash is lost or stolen, it's gone. But beyond that, using a card is much smarter because it gives you recourse if something is wrong. For example if your product is defective, you can file a dispute with your credit or debit card issuer and not pay until the dispute is resolved. But with cash you have no leverage.

Hide your PIN – It seems so simple, but turn your body or use your free hand to prevent prying eyes from watching as you enter your PIN.

Use your chip not your strip – The chip in new cards make them inherently more secure. Although you can still swipe, why would you? Kinecta debit cards already feature chip card technology, and very soon so will Kinecta credit cards.

STEP THREE – EXERCISE YOUR CREATIVITY.

Do something nice – Offer to walk your gift recipient's dog for a month, or wash their car. These gifts cost nothing, and are almost certain to be appreciated.

Make something – Do you knit, or crochet? Paint or sculpt? If you put a little thought and effort into your creation, your lucky recipient will appreciate it and have a piece of you forever.

ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS BE SAFE AND BE SANE!



FEELING PRETTY BLESSED TO BE VOTED THE BEST CREDIT UNION - AGAIN!

A big thanks to readers of the Daily Breeze newspaper for voting Kinecta the South Bay's Best Credit Union for the 6th consecutive year! For more than 75 years we've proudly partnered with our member-owners to provide tailored financial solutions.

KINECTA MEMBERS COME ON DOWN!

Would you love to make a difference, but just don't know how? We'll make it easy: www.kinecta.org/community. You'll see all of the ways you can join our dedicated employees as they help during the approaching holiday season.

OCT
23

Skechers Pier-to-Pier Friendship Walk

Join us in helping to enhance the lives of children and young adults with special needs.

OCT
30

CHOC Walk in the Park!

Take a walk with us as we walk around Disneyland Theme Park to raise funds to support the care, services, education and research that Children's Hospital of Orange County provides to the community.

OCT
+NOV

Holiday Food Drive

From Oct. 24 through Nov. 20 we will be collecting donations at all Kinecta and Nix locations.

NOV
+DEC

Holiday Toy Drive

From Nov. 21 - Dec. 9 all Kinecta locations will be collecting new, unwrapped toys to benefit Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Help make the holidays a little brighter for a hospitalized child.

STOP BY FOR THESE TOP NOTCH EDUCATIONAL EVENTS:

Home Buyer Workshops:

October - November 2016

Home Seller Workshop:

November 2016

KFIS Wealth Management Seminars:

October Topic:

Medicare - What you don't know and what it could cost you.

November Topic:

Long Term Care/Senior Assisted Living Planning and Cost

Visit the Events section of www.kinecta.org for locations and more details.

KINECTA IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Community Celebration and Chili Cook Off:

Kinecta raised over \$1,500 for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at its 4th Annual Community Celebration and Chili Cook Off.



Back to School Backpack Drive:

Thank you for helping us make the first day of school a little easier for more than 550 students in under served areas.



Miracle Jeans Campaign:

During the month of September, employees sold paper balloons and wore blue jeans to raise funds in support of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Member Access /Download our App

Member Contact Center

800.854.9846
310.643.5400

Online

www.kinecta.org



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