

# YOLO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION C-NOTES

## Newsletter Winter 2021

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### 20 IN 2020

What were you doing 20 years ago? Were you watching the Emmy-winning comedy series *Will & Grace*? Or were you playing snake on your old Nokia phone? Well, back in 2000, Yolo Federal was voted Yolo County's #1 Best Credit Union for the first time. And let's just say we hate to break tradition because we've held that title for the LAST 20 YEARS! We are honored to continue being Yolo County's #1 Credit Union.



Yolo Federal looked a little different back then. Since 2000, we've gone through branch remodels, moved branch locations in both West Sacramento and Davis, built the Winters Branch—and that is just physical changes! Our online presence has also come a long way, especially with the launch of our current website in 2017, mobile app in 2018, and scheduling system in 2019.

President/CEO of Yolo Federal, Jenee Rawlings, credits the employees as the reasons for continuing to hold this title. "Over the last 20 years, we have excelled at developing and encouraging a culture of teamwork, accountability, and competency. We have a stronger, more dedicated team of employees than we've ever had in our history." It is a great privilege to continue serving our members and our community, and we genuinely appreciate you voting us as Yolo County's Best in 2020!

### REWARDS CARDS—THE BENEFITS

If you're one of those who tends to use your Debit Card for everyday purchases, have you considered what benefits or perks you're missing out on—especially if you have a rewards card? Adjusting how you use your Credit Card not only helps you build credit, but you can maximize benefits like cash back.

**Earn points and get cash back.** Most rewards cards, like our Visa® Platinum CashBack Plus Credit Card, offer cash back on purchases as well as other options like travel perks, fuel rewards, or merchandise. If you use a Credit Card for everyday purchases and pay off the balance before your bill is due, you benefit from 1% cash back—or 1 point for every \$1 spent—without paying any interest.

**Special offers.** Often rewards cards will have ongoing bonus offers where you could earn higher points on certain purchases. For example, if your rewards card offers bonus points on purchases you would usually make—like groceries or gas—you can snag those extra points and still stay within budget.

**Track your spending and stay on budget.** Purchases made with your Credit Card can be viewed in your account activity. This makes it easy to stay on budget and adjust throughout the month, so you don't end up overspending.

Keep in mind it can be an adjustment to switch to a Credit Card. You'll want to make sure you are using it wisely by:

- Try to pay off the balance each month.
- Don't buy things you can't afford.
- Make and keep to your budget.

To learn more about our Visa Platinum CashBack Plus Credit Card, visit our website at [yolofcu.org/cashbackplus](https://yolofcu.org/cashbackplus) or schedule an appointment at [yolofcu.org/schedule](https://yolofcu.org/schedule) today!

### PLAN B YOUR BACKUP BUCKET

An emergency fund is the backbone of a healthy personal financial plan. To help, we've answered some common questions about emergency funds.

#### What's it for?

Covers life's unexpected expenses.



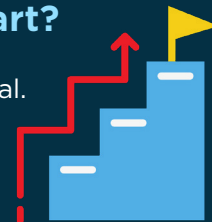
#### How much do I need?

3-6 months of your living expenses



#### Where do I start?

Start small. \$1,000-\$1,500 is a good goal.



#### What's an "emergency"?

Is it unexpected, necessary, or urgent?



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As we enter the New Year, I reflect on a year filled with challenges, hard work, and a test of our patience and adaptability. Although tempting to leave 2020 behind us without a thought, we have many reasons to be proud, reasons to celebrate, and people who deserve recognition.

To put it simply, our Real Estate team has been busy! We were once again voted Yolo County's #1 Best Mortgage Company, and we are very proud of that designation. As a result of the Federal Reserve's aggressive rate reductions, we have the lowest interest rates we have ever seen and the highest number of Home Loan applications in our credit union's history. The folks who handle the Home Loan process have done a fantastic job delivering on our service promises and working hard to ensure that every member has a positive experience in what can so often be an overwhelming and stressful process. And to our partners—the real estate agents, appraisers, and title companies—we appreciate you and all you do to help us make dreams come true!

We have a tremendous team of dedicated, purpose-driven employees, and a strong culture that celebrates diversity, promotes authenticity, and drives accountability. I am so proud of how our staff adapted to ensure that we could continue to operate without closing branches or reducing operating hours. As the situation evolves, we will evolve. As your needs change, we will continue to be here to help you in person, over the phone, or online. Appointments can easily be made on our website at [yolofcu.org/schedule](http://yolofcu.org/schedule).

We were honored to receive the 2020 Business of the Year award from the West Sacramento Chamber. Additionally, our Marketing team was recognized for its creative excellence in producing our Making Dreams Happen video. With our membership's ongoing support, we processed nearly \$126 million in loans and grew to over \$358 million in assets.

It's been a challenging year, but there is always something to be thankful for and many ways to help others. Please continue to support our local businesses and take care of yourself and your family. As always, thank you for your loyalty, thank you for choosing us as your local financial provider, and thank you for voting us 2020's BEST in Yolo County!



# ACHIEVE

## financial success

Yolo Federal is excited to announce our new online financial wellness program: Achieve Financial Success! The Achieve program has enriching tools and resources about various financial topics. While we are faced with making financial decisions every day, this program empowers you to feel confident with your financial choices.

Our Achieve program is full of topic-specific playlists, or you can customize a playlist using the [questionnaire](#) to fit your financial wellness goals! Whether you're buying your first vehicle or just dipping your toes into the financial world, there's a playlist designed for every stage of life. The Achieve program is free to use and an excellent option for our digital learners. Visit [yolofcu.org/achieve](http://yolofcu.org/achieve) to get started!

## NOTICES

### 2021 ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The annual meeting of Yolo Federal Credit Union will be held Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. via Zoom. To register for the annual meeting, please email [annualmeeting@yolofcu.org](mailto:annualmeeting@yolofcu.org). The election will determine three terms of three years each on the Board of Directors. Should there be only one nominee for each opening, no election will be conducted by ballot and no nominations from the floor will be accepted.

Nominations may be made by petition in addition to those nominated by the Nominating Committee. Members may be nominated by petition signed by at least 1% of the total membership (206 members). The petition must be presented with a signed statement from the nominee certifying that he or she is willing to serve if elected and include a brief statement of qualification and biographical data. The completed petition and statements may be delivered to any branch addressed to the Secretary of the Board of Directors no later than February 5, 2021. Official petition packets may be picked up at any branch.

If there are more candidates than open positions, an election will be held at the annual meeting. Each member is eligible to cast one vote at the election. Members may also vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must be requested in writing and received by the credit union at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. The completed ballot must be received by the credit union at least 5 days prior to the annual meeting to be counted. Qualified candidates nominated by the nomination committee or by petition will be posted in each branch 35 days prior to the annual meeting.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR MEMBERS WITH CREDIT LIFE OR DISABILITY INSURANCE ON THEIR LOAN ACCOUNT(S)

This insurance may not cover an advance or charge under your revolving credit line if your disability or death results from a condition for which you have seen a doctor or chiropractor in the six months before the advance was taken. California Insurance Code Section 779.30 requires us to provide this notice on an annual basis.

### IRA YEAR END BALANCES

The IRA year end balances are the fair market value. This fair market value is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

If you, or one of your immediate family members, live, work, worship, or attend school in Yolo County, you are entitled to a membership with Yolo FCU.

For contact information and branch locations, please visit [yolofcu.org/about/contact/](http://yolofcu.org/about/contact/)

Insured by NCUA



**Yolo Federal**  
Credit Union



## CLOSURES

New Years Day—Friday, January 1, 2021  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Monday, January 18, 2021  
Presidents Day—Monday, February 15, 2021