

1ST EDITION

The Quarterly Newsletter for 1st Gateway Credit Union Members

► Summer 2019

Upcoming Holiday Hours

Independence Day - Thursday, July 4th - Closed
 Labor Day - Monday, September 2nd - Closed

Community Investments

Sawmill Museum
 L'Arche Clinton
 The Salvation Army
 DeWitt Intermediate School
 Prophetstown Police Fishing Derby
 Victory Center
 Illinois Sheriffs Association
 Timberlake Playhouse
 Camanche Police Department
 Happy Tails Humane Society
 Morrison Youth Baseball/Softball
 Big Brothers/Big Sisters
 Early American Crafters- Fulton
 Clinton County Fair
 White Oaks Therapeutic Equestrian Center
 Winning Wheels

Night at the Ballpark Check out the Lumberkings on us!



We still have tickets for the upcoming Community Nights with the Clinton Lumberkings. Stop by our branches for tickets to these upcoming games:

Camanche: Wednesday, July 24th
 6:30 PM - vs. Kane County
 Clinton: Saturday, August 3rd
 6:30 PM- vs. Beloit
 Fulton/Morrison: Sunday, August 4th
 2:00 PM - vs. Beloit
 Sterling/Rock Falls: Sunday, July 14th
 2:00 PM vs. Fort Wayne

Rate Highlights

Current as of 6/03 /19

Savings	APY*
\$100 Average Daily Balance	0.30%
Share Draft Checking	APY*
\$500 Average Daily Balance	0.20%
Term Shares of Deposit	APY*
6 month	1.00%
12 month	1.30%
18 month	1.60%
24 month	1.80%
36 month	2.50%
48 month	2.85%
IRA	APY*
IRA Term Share	
12 month-\$1,000 Minimum	1.30%
IRA Share	
\$20 Minimum to Open	0.30%
Loans	APR**
New Vehicles	
36 months	3.59%
60 months	4.09%
Used Vehicles	
36-60 months	4.64%
72 months	4.94%

* Annual Percentage Yield. Rates subject to change. Visit website for details.
 ** Annual Percentage Rate. APR is based on credit worthiness criteria.
 Rates, terms and conditions subject to change.

New Branch Managers and Enhanced Mortgage Team 1st Gateway Grows Team



Kayla Martens
 DeWitt Branch Manager



Brandon Belt
 Sterling Branch Manager



Gerry Hardison
 Mortgage Loan Officer

1st Gateway recently appointed Kayla Martens and Brandon Belt as Branch Managers at our DeWitt, IA and Sterling, IL locations, respectively. Additionally, the 1st Gateway mortgage team has expanded with the addition of Gerry Hardison as a Mortgage Loan Officer.

In her new role, Martens is leading our team in the DeWitt office by growing its existing membership and expanding its footprint across the area. In addition to her responsibilities as Branch Manager, she is also serving as the location's loan officer, offering a variety of consumer lending products including auto and recreational loans, secured and unsecured personal loans, and lines of credit. With an emphasis in bringing superior member service, Kayla brings years of experience in the DeWitt market. She most recently served as a Mortgage Lending Assistant and Customer Service Representative at First Central State Bank.

As Belt undertakes his new role in 1st Gateway's Sterling location, he is working with the team to manage and grow new and current member relationships in the Sterling/Rock Falls region as well as providing personalized customer service. Brandon is also serving as the location's loan officer, specializing in consumer lending. Brandon comes to 1st Gateway after serving as a Personal Banker at Fifth Third Bank in Sterling.

Hardison joined the 1st Gateway team as a Mortgage Loan Officer. Gerry is based out of our Camanche office but will be servicing all seven locations and brings a wealth of knowledge to the team with 20 plus years of mortgage lending experience. Gerry's focus as a loan officer is on 1st Gateway's newest loan product, fixed rate mortgage loans with terms of 10, 15, 20, and 30 years. Gerry comes to 1st Gateway after most recently serving as a Mortgage Loan Consultant for First Trust and Savings Bank in Albany.

Summer Fun 1GCU Crew in the Community

With the warm weather comes a very busy time of year for the 1st Gateway Crew out in the community. Between parades, festivals, community improvement projects and golf outing sponsorships you are sure to run into us out and about this summer.

Our busy parade season kicked off this year with the Fulton Dutch Days parade. Be sure to keep a look out for us in the DeWitt 4th of July parade and Camanche Days parade in August among others.

Our community improvement projects had the 1GCU crew busy out digging in the dirt late this spring helping to beautify the communities we live in, including a flower bed on the Clinton River Front and one close to our Morrison branch. Thanks to those who pitched in to help make both projects a success!



Six Flags & Adventureland We have your ticket to summer fun!



Looking for some family fun this summer? We still have tickets available to Adventureland in Altoona, IA, and Six Flags in Gurnee, IL, at well below the price you would pay at the park! Avoid the lines and buy your tickets in advance! Tickets are available at all seven of our branches!

CardValet

5 Reasons It's The Best App EVER

A long time ago, in a decade far, far away...there were the 1990's. It was a simpler time when phones had cords, we played Oregon Trail, and there was not yet "an app for that."

Times have definitely changed! It's hard to imagine life without PayPal or the 1st Gateway Mobile app. We can manage our money so easily! Which brings us to today's topic- a handy little app called CardValet.

It is separate from the 1st Gateway Mobile app, free, and totally worth the download. Why? It puts you in complete control of your debit card!

1. TURN YOUR DEBIT CARD ON AND OFF

If you've ever misplaced your debit card, or had it stolen, you know the panic that ensues! It's tied to your checking account. Your paycheck goes in there! And you have bills to pay. And if you're like me, you're really not fond of losing all that hard earned money. With CardValet, you can turn your debit card on and off. So, if you ever find yourself in a sticky situation, all it takes is one swipe off to keep your card and money safe. Ready to turn your card back on? No problem! Just swipe again. It's really that simple!

2. LIMIT WHERE YOUR CARD CAN BE USED

This is a great feature that will help protect you against fraud - or your college student's spontaneous spring break road trip. CardValet uses your phone's GPS to limit the range where your debit card can be used. Don't want your card to be used outside of Eastern Iowa? No problem!

3. ESTABLISH SPENDING LIMITS

If you share an account with your family or business, CardValet is a great way to keep your budget on track. Lunch for \$10 - that's no big deal. However, spending \$100 on a pair of shoes, that's a different story.

4. SET SHOPPING RESTRICTIONS

Don't want your debit card used at certain merchants? CardValet can take care of that too! It allows you to limit the types of stores where you card can be used. Transactions can be reported or denied based on your settings.

5. RECEIVE ALERTS

Get instant alerts sent straight to your cell phone! You can sign up to receive notifications about pending purchases, denials, and other types of transactions. With CardValet, you'll stay "in the know" about where and how your debit card is being used.

READY TO DOWNLOAD?

You deserve to be the boss when it comes to your debit card! CardValet is currently available for download in the Google Play and App Store. If you have any trouble downloading it, just give us a call. We're here to help!



**Show Fraud
Who's Boss.**
CardValet

Quarterly Statistics

	May 2019	May 2018
Total Assets	\$158,153,945	\$135,918,559
Total Loans	\$125,657,815	\$117,709,625
Total Deposits	\$124,599,635	\$109,847,464
Total Reserves	\$17,539,514	\$16,406,731

Q&A

When should you buy a home?

Q: What is the best time of year to buy a home?

A: Buying a home is a big decision with many factors weighing in on it. While location is probably one of the more important factors in your selection, timing may play a bigger role than you think in the overall cost of your home.

So, when is the best time to buy a home? According to RealtyTrac, the best month to buy a home is October. After reviewing over 32 million home and condo purchases over the last 15 years, the research further showed that buyers received a 2.6% discount to the current fair market value of a home.

Of course, if you have a family, buying a home in October may not be all that feasible - especially if you have school-aged children. After October, the best months to buy are February, July, December and January (in that order). Why these months? Because there are usually fewer buyers, which means less competition to purchase the home of your dreams, and you can maximize your savings through potential market discounts.

The same research also found that the worst month to buy in is April - most purchases are 1.2% over the market value. And, usually, discounts are not offered because of the saturation of buyers in the market.

Besides the timing of your purchase, it is important that you look at the rates available to you with your credit score. If you need to wait a little longer to improve your credit, it may be worth the wait - especially if you are not in a hurry to purchase due to a job or family change. Getting a lower rate will make a big difference over the life of your loan.

How 1st Gateway can help

Chat with our Mortgage Team - They have years of experience and are happy to help with any questions you might have. Just give them a call at (563)243-4121 or (563)243-0524.

Visit our Mortgage Loan Page - Learn what types of mortgages are available to you and compare our rates. Visit www.1stgateway.org/loans.html

Building a Budget

It's Easier Than You Think

We can hear the groans already. But as the great Dave Ramsey says: "A budget is telling your money where to go, instead of wondering where it went." And really it is easier than you think. Follow these 5 easy steps:

1. Start with your income. How much money do you have coming in? How much are you earning on your paycheck? Do you have any side hustles that help you bring in a little extra money?

2. What are your fixed expenses? We all deal with things that cost the same amount each month - mortgage, rent, car payments. etc.

3. Add in your variable expenses. These are items like gas, groceries or utilities. They may not cost the same amount every time, but you spend on them regularly.

4. Don't forget about your periodic stuff. Christmas, back to school, yearly medical exams - these things happen every year, but somehow we still seem to get surprised by them. Add them to the budget, so you can save in small chunks, and things won't get so overwhelming.

5. Pay yourself first and make it automatic. Do you have money left over? Great! Pick an amount, commit to it, and put it in your savings account. Start small if you need to. Your money will grow over time. AND, make the deposit as soon as you get paid! The longer you wait, the more likely you are to spend. Make things easy on yourself! Sign up for direct deposit or auto transfer. Then, you won't have to do a thing.

Whatever money you have left over is yours to spend or save as you wish! Don't forget to keep telling that money where to go!



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Camanche
563-243-4121

DeWitt
563-659-5963

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815-772-2200

Clinton
563-243-0524

Fulton
815-589-9053

Prophetstown
815-537-2620

Sterling
815-564-0367

www.1stgateway.org

Federally Insured by NCUA

