



# The Savings Scoop

Michigan Schools & Government Credit Union



## GO GET IT!

### How to save for what you want

Join us for the friendliest day of the year!

October 17

You are a valued member of MSGCU and we want to say thank you! Ask your parents or guardians if you can visit your MSGCU branch on Thursday, October 17. It's officially **Member Appreciation Day** and our friendliest day of the year with special treats and gifts\* for you.

\*While supplies last.

### Love Thanksgiving? Thank a teacher!

Born on a New Hampshire farm in 1788, Sarah Hale was a teacher, writer, mother and the woman responsible for Thanksgiving being declared a national holiday. Hale wrote to several different U.S. Presidents over a 36-year period asking them to make Thanksgiving a national celebration. Her persistence finally paid off in 1863 when our 16th President Abraham Lincoln agreed "a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise" should be celebrated nationwide.

- Thank you, Sarah!

Building an amazing savings plan isn't complicated. Start by asking yourself these simple questions ...

#### What would I like to buy?

A new LEGO set, a Razor scooter, a cool Barbie, a smart watch, or an American Girl Doll.

#### Who would I like to help?

An animal shelter, a friend in need, those less fortunate, park rangers, or teachers at your school.

#### What are some ways I can earn money?

Cleaning the garage, organizing toys, doing extra chores, helping at Grandma's house, or recycling.

Answering these questions will help you determine your goals. Then, get saving!

#### The "three-jar" method is a great place to start.

One idea is to create three separate savings jars to help you organize your savings plan and reach your goals. Make one a "Spend" jar, a "Save-A-Lot Squad" savings jar, and a "Share" jar. Ask a grown-up to help you find the jars. Then, label or even decorate them to help you stay motivated.

#### Three jars, unlimited potential.

Once you have your jars made, you can start making better savings decisions. Here's what to keep in mind:

**Spend Jar** – This is where you save money for smaller things, such as a frozen yogurt after school or a new pencil at your school store.

**Save-A-Lot Squad Jar** – This is where you save money to deposit in your MSGCU Save-A-Lot Squad account. It's for

bigger things, such as a new doll, action figure or even your education. The more you save, the bigger your Save-A-Lot Squad account will grow.

**Share Jar** – this is where you save money to help others. You could donate to a local soup kitchen or help children that are in the hospital. Ask a grown up to help you identify a worthy cause.

#### Having a savings plan makes a difference!

Now when you get money for special occasions such as your birthday or for doing chores, you can choose how you'll save it.

Of course, the more you save, the faster you'll reach your goals. Deciding to put less in the Spend jar will help your Save-A-Lot Squad account grow faster. Also, finding new and creative ways to earn money will help your jars fill up faster.

Just remember, your savings will grow as long as you keep contributing. Slow and steady wins the savings game.



So silly!

What is a witch's favorite subject?  
Spelling

What is a scarecrow's favorite fruit?  
Straw-berries

What did one leaf say to another?  
I'm falling for you.

# "BEST SUMMER EVER" WINNERS!

Congratulations to the winners of last issue's "best summer ever" contest! Alexander, Ava, Brooklyn, Denver, Emma, Gabriella, Leanna and Richard each received a \$25 deposit in their Save-A-Lot Squad accounts.



Alexander, age 8



Ava, age 6



Denver, age 7



Emma, age 5



Brooklyn, age 6



Gabriella, age 8



Leanna, age 12



Richard, age 9

## Pumpkin power!

Did you know.... Pumpkins are usually orange but can also be yellow, white, green or red. They grow on every continent except Antarctica. Pumpkins are also considered a fruit because they have seeds. Pumpkin pie is America's second favorite to apple pie and Pumpkin Spice Latte is the most popular seasonal drink at Starbucks. The largest pumpkin ever recorded in U.S. history — a whopping 2,528 pounds — was grown by New Hampshire resident Steve Geddes in September 2018.

Source: Time.com

## DRAWING CONTEST

### Do you have a savings goal? Share it!

What are you saving for? A new toy, a special night out, or maybe a trip to the zoo? Show us your savings goal and tell us why it's important to you. Use crayons, markers, paint or craft supplies.

We'll choose the most creative submissions and winners will each receive a **\$25 deposit\*** in their Save-A-Lot Squad account.

Drop off your savings goal entry at any of our branches or scan a copy and send your design to [contest@msgcu.org](mailto:contest@msgcu.org).

**Deadline for entry is November 22, 2019.**

\*Contest limited to members ages 12 and under. No substitution for prizes. Winners must be a Save-A-Lot Squad member of MSGCU at the time of selection. No purchase necessary. Only one entry per member. The winners will be contacted by phone during the month of December 2019. By submitting this entry, you consent to the reproduction and/or authorize the use of your images, words and likeness for promotional and educational purposes by MSGCU. Relatives of MSGCU employees and Official Family members are not eligible to win.

## Mark Your Calendars

### Columbus Day (Closed)

Monday,  
October 14

### Thanksgiving (Closed)

Thursday,  
November 28

### Contest Deadline

Friday,  
November 22

### Christmas (Closed)

Tuesday & Wednesday  
December 24 - 25

### New Year's (Closed)

Tuesday, Dec. 31 &  
Wednesday, Jan. 1

### Visit a branch

Find your nearest branch at [msgcu.org/locations](http://msgcu.org/locations)

Mon–Wed: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Thu–Fri: 9 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sat: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

### Find us online

It's easy to stay in touch. Visit [msgcu.org/contact-us](http://msgcu.org/contact-us)

Live Chat: [msgcu.org/chat](http://msgcu.org/chat)  
Mon–Fri: 8 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sat: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

### Give us a call

Phone: 586.263.8800  
Toll Free: 866.674.2848

Mon–Wed: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Thu: 8 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Fri: 8 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Sat: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.