

This Issue

Official Name Change May 1

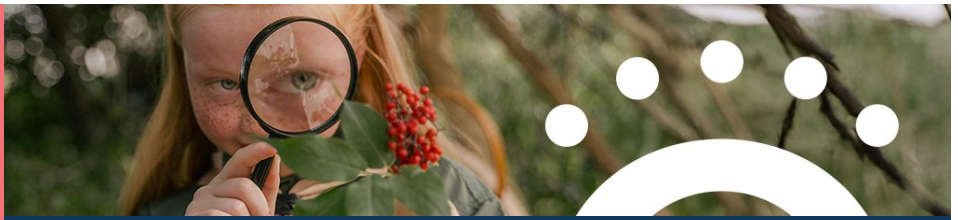
April is Youth Month

File Taxes Fast for \$50

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THEORY FCU

SPRING 2025

Theory

The Future Is Calling: On May 1, We Answer as “Theory”

Building Tomorrow with You: Our New Identity Marks a New Beginning

The time has finally come. On May 1, 2025, we turn the page to a new chapter in our story. After 70 years proudly serving the local education community, Lake County Educational Federal Credit Union will officially become **Theory Federal Credit Union**.

FAQ



This rebrand marks an exciting evolution, but let us be clear—while our name will change, our relentless commitment to you will not. Your accounts, your relationships with us, and your daily banking will remain uninterrupted. We have prepared a comprehensive **FAQ** at lakecountyedufcu.org/theory to answer any questions you may have.

For over seven decades, you have been more than our members—you have been our purpose, our inspiration, and the reason we exist. From the quiet strength of teachers shaping young minds to the steady leadership guiding schools and families alike, your trust has been the foundation on which we have built more than just a financial institution—it has been the cornerstone of a community dedicated to empowerment and progress.

Each dollar saved, each dream financed, every lesson that traveled from the heart of a teacher to the future of a student—we have been there, standing beside you. Together, we have woven a tapestry of hope, resilience, and ambition. What we’ve created together is not simply about

banking, but about building futures, enabling possibilities, and uplifting lives.

Seventy years ago, you entrusted us with more than deposits—you believed in us. Today, we reaffirm our promise: to protect, to serve, and to help you and your family thrive.

Through economic storms and seasons of abundance, through uncertainty and achievement, we have remained by your side—not just as stewards of your finances, but as champions of your dreams.

We have stood together as a fortress of financial empowerment, ensuring that the aspirations of today become the realities of tomorrow.

This transformation to Theory FCU is not an ending—it is the continuation of a journey we have walked together, hand in hand. It reflects our readiness to embrace the future, to welcome new members into our fold, and to secure a sustainable path forward while honoring the legacy we have forged with you.

In alignment with this exciting evolution, we are also proud to introduce our newly named

newsletter: **Theorem**. Much like a theorem in science or mathematics—an idea supported by logic and evidence—our newsletter will continue to offer you insights, updates, and opportunities grounded in the values and vision we share.

Theorem represents not just information, but the lasting truths that have guided us for generations: community, empowerment, and progress.

The next seventy years call to us—not as a distant possibility, but as a vibrant opportunity to further the mission we share. Your dreams will continue to be the compass that directs us, your hopes the fuel that propels us forward.

As we march ahead, know that we do so not as members and institution, but as one united force—stronger, braver, and more inspired than ever before. Together, we will write the next extraordinary chapter in a story that will resonate for generations to come.



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Hooray for Youth Month! The financial choices we make early in life shape our future in ways we don't always realize. This April, we're celebrating young credit union members and encouraging them to take charge of their financial journey.

All through April, kids 18 and under who make a deposit will be entered into a drawing to win \$100 cash—one small step with big lessons attached. Children 13 and under who make a deposit will also receive a prize.

Launch Pad Match: For each new youth account (18 and under) opened in April, we'll match the opening deposit, up to \$25. This boost gives young savers extra motivation to start their financial journey on the right foot.

Parents and grandparents, now is the time to give your young loved ones a head start. Opening a youth account isn't just about saving money—it's about teaching independence, responsibility, and the value of financial security outside the reach of corporate banks. The habits they build today will guide them for a lifetime. Let's help them take those first steps with confidence.

LAUNCH PAD Match

Why Scams Work: The Hidden Forces Behind Fraud

Have you ever clicked a suspicious link or answered an unexpected call, only to later wonder, "How did I fall for that?"

You're not alone. In a world of constant distractions, scammers exploit human nature, preying on stress, urgency, and trust. When we're overwhelmed or rushed, our ability to recognize deception weakens. Fraudsters take advantage of this, crafting messages that demand immediate action, impersonating trusted institutions, and creating high-pressure situations to force quick decisions.

In 2024 alone, the Federal Trade Commission received over 2.6 million fraud reports, with losses exceeding \$12.5 billion. Nearly 90% of Americans were targeted by a scam attempt in the past year. These attacks succeed because scammers know how we think. Stress and fatigue make us more likely to skim messages and comply without question. A false sense of urgency—such as claims of a locked account

FRAUD WATCH



or a looming penalty—can override rational thinking. Distraction adds another layer of vulnerability, as a moment of divided attention can lead to costly mistakes.

The best defense is awareness. Slowing down, verifying information through trusted sources, and trusting your instincts can prevent fraud before it happens. If something feels urgent, take a moment to pause. If a request seems suspicious, confirm it directly with your credit union or service provider. Scammers rely on fear and haste, but you have the power to stay ahead. At Theory FCU, we're committed to helping you recognize and stop fraud before it affects you. Stay vigilant, stay informed, and always think twice.



*File Fast
for Fifty*

TaxLogic
by Theory

Tax season doesn't have to be a nightmare anymore. We're excited to introduce **TaxLogic**, our revolutionary new tax filing service designed to make your life easier and your wallet happier. Imagine filing your taxes with just a few taps, directly from our mobile app or online banking platform. No more complicated software, no overpriced tax shops.

Switching from TurboTax, H&R Block, TaxAct, or Cash App? Just used a 1040 form? We've made the transition seamless. With just one tap, you can import your previous year's tax information, cutting your filing time in half. At **just \$50**, **TaxLogic** offers professional-grade tax filing at a fraction of the cost of traditional tax preparation services. It's convenience and affordability rolled into one smart solution.

We know you want your tax refund quickly, and **TaxLogic** delivers. Get your refund faster with direct deposit straight to your Theory FCU account. No waiting, no extra steps—just money in your pocket when you need it most. Rest easy knowing your taxes are filed with full IRS compliance and bank-level security.

At Theory, we're not just about managing your money—we're about helping you keep more of it. **TaxLogic** is another way we're committed to your financial wellness. We're more than just a credit union; we're your financial partner, working hard to simplify your financial life.

**AVAILABLE
NOW IN
MOBILE
& DESKTOP
BANKING**

Ready to transform your tax filing experience? **TaxLogic** is **available now** through our mobile app and online banking platform. It's quick, easy, and designed with you in mind. Don't let tax season stress you out—let **TaxLogic** do the heavy lifting.

File where you bank. With the people you trust.

Holiday Closings

May 26: Memorial Day
June 19: Juneteenth



college

scholarships available



**deadlines
apr 14 & 21**



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