

## St. Lucia Teachers' Co-operative Credit Union Ltd. Wain Branch Tel: (758) 453-2538 "An Educated Choice" Views Fort Branch Tel: (758) 454-7802

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Jan - Mar 2020 Edition

Welcome to the newest issue of our newsletter. This issue seeks to guide you on how best to manage your finances as well as to keep you abreast through a pictorial view of the happenings of the Society.

We have opened our new branch in Vieux Fort and will be hosting our very first activity there in the form of a Membership Drive & Health Fair. I encourage you to come out and support. Each one bring one!

Thank you for the continued Support.

#### **Upcoming Activities**

#### **February**

 $\Rightarrow$  29<sup>th</sup> - Share the Love

#### March

⇒ 6<sup>th</sup>—International Women's Day Conference

**Finance Administrative Center** 

⇒ 28<sup>th</sup>—Membership Drive & **Health Fair Vieux-Fort** 

**Vieux Fort Square** 

#### Just 4 Laughs

Q1: When does it rain money?

Q2 How is the moon like a dollar?

(Turn over to get the answer)

#### **MANAGING YOUR**

#### **FINANCES**

ersonal financial management is a subject though not taught in many schools, is something that everyone has to manage at one time or another. Taking the time and effort to manage your money better can really pay off. It can help you to stay on top of your bills and save hundreds of dollars each year. The extra savings can be used to pay off any debts you might have, put them towards your pension or spend them on your next cruise, overseas vacation or your child's university educa-

Here are seven essential steps to help you manage your money the right way and help you save.

Record your expenses:

start saving money is to figure out how much you spend. Keep track of all expenses. Once you have the data organize the numbers by categories, such as gas, groceries, gage, etc

Create a budget: Once you have an idea of what you spend in a month, you can begin to organize your recorded expenses into a workable budget. Your budget should outline how your expenses measure up to your income so you can plan your spending and limit overspending. Be sure to factor in expenses that occur regularly, but not every month such as car maintenance.

Find ways to cut your spending: If your expenses are so high that you cannot save as much as you would like, this might be time to back. Identify essentials that you can spend less on such as entertainment and dining out. Look for ways to cut on your fixed monthly expenses like electricity and cell phone bill.

Set saving goals: One of the best ways to save money is to set a goal. Start by thinking of what you may want to save for- perhaps you are planning to to go to university, planning a vacation or saving for retirement. Then figure out how much money you need and how long it might take you to save.

Establish your priorities: your expenses and income your goals are likely to have the biggest impact on how you allocate your savings. Be sure to remember long term goals - it is

> important that planning for retirement does not take a back seat to shorter-term needs.

Make saving automatic: Almost all financial institutions including credit unions offer different savings accounts and en-

courage their customers to save. You can choose when, the amount and the type of saving account to choose. Ensure that you use a savings account that earns high rates of interest.

Watch your savings grow: Review your budget and check your progress every month. Not only will this help you stick to your personal saving plans, but it also helps you to identify and fix problems quickly. Understanding how to save money may even inspire you to find more ways to save and hit your goals faster.



You can



#### **Annual Retreats**

At the end of 2019 Officers and Staff of the Society partook in its annual retreat whereby they engaged in professional development activities under the theme "Working Together to Make a Difference". Participants were encouraged to exercise their fiduciary responsibilities and also to make a plan regarding the way forward for the SLTCCU.





The **Board of Directors** also met to make pertinent decisions for the Society in the year 2020. The strategic plan was one of great focus at this retreat.



#### Christmas Loan Promotion Hamper Winners

**Thecla Son** 



Calixta Constantin



Ashelle Hipployte



Collis Simon-Jn Baptiste



**Murtle Robert-Prospere** 



Marcella Seale-Alexander



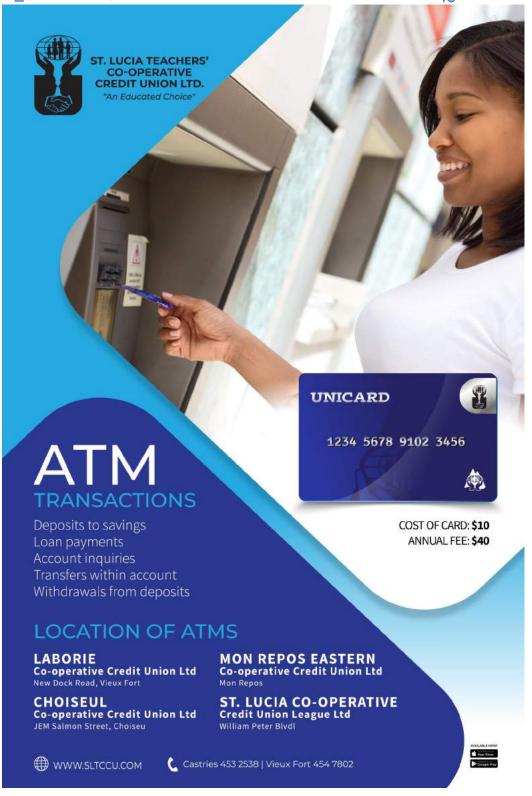
# Sign Up for your AM Gard Today!!!

### Benefits of having an ATM Card:

- ♦ Easy access to cash
  ANY TIME
- ♦ No long lines
- Loan amounts can be put on your account for easy access and management
- Mini statement of accounts
- Convenient location of machines island wide

#### **Protect yourself:**

- Keep cash and cards separate.
- If you lose or misplace your ATM card, immediately notify your Credit Union.
- Never share your PIN with anyone and do not write it down. Just memorize it.
- Keep receipts of all transactions done through your ATM debit card for your records and future reference.
- Periodically you should check your statements and if you find any discrepancy then take up with your bank



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