

Blaze Bulletin

A Quarterly Publication for the Members of **Blaze Credit Union** | Spring 2025

CELEBRATING A SUCCESSFUL START

Blaze Credit Union celebrated its Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day on February 22 at Grace Church in Eden Prairie. Over 3,000 Blazers gathered for educational seminars, the Blaze Expo, to meet mascots, and everyone received \$25 cash upon leaving. Attendees also donated 1,600 pounds of food to benefit Neighborhood House.

The event began with a Salute to America by Vietnam veteran Sergeant Jerry Kyser and the National Anthem sung by John deCausmeaker, the official anthem singer for the Minnesota Wild.

Blaze CEO/President, Dan Stoltz, welcomed attendees to this one-of-a-kind event and reflected on Blaze's award-winning first year. After highlighting the multiple accolades received by Blaze since the last Annual Meeting, Stoltz introduced videos featuring all of Blaze's Proud Partners, including a special celebratory message from Team USA Speed Skater Greta Myers.

Following the videos, multiple employees shared interactions with members, highlighting their dedication to our Core Value of being Thoughtfully Compassionate. Stoltz spoke about how Blaze will continue to be high touch and high tech by investing in both technology and branch locations. Blaze's Core Purpose of Better Lives was reinforced by reading comments received from members.

The Chair of the Board of Directors for Blaze, Tom Heinzen, conducted the business meeting. He emphasized the board's confidence in the merger being a triple win – a win for our members, our communities, and our employees. "Blaze is positioned to maintain the same personalized service from the people you've come to know and trust, while providing increased convenience through our 28 branches, reduced fees, larger dividends, and an enhanced member experience."

The day's celebration concluded with an inspiring keynote from renowned one-handed Major League Baseball pitcher and Olympic gold medalist, Jim Abbott.





THAT NEW HOME SMELL

is right around the corner with a **Blaze Mortgage or Home Equity loan**

Find out more at blazecu.com/mortgage

HOME BUYING SEMINARS

April 19 - Home Buying Seminar at the Woodbury West branch

April 24 - Virtual Home Buying Seminar

April 26 - Home Buying Seminar at the Sunset Grille, Spring Lake Park

Learn more & register at blazecu.com/events



Blaze Credit Union has been recognized as one of **America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions 2025** by Newsweek and Plant-A Insights Group.

Over 9,000 regional banks and credit unions across the United States were examined. Only institutions operating in fewer than 30 states were included in their analysis.

They evaluated each institution's profitability, financial relevance, risk exposure to financial uncertainties, and their general health and stability. The analysis was supported by an extensive independent survey of over 71,000 U.S. banking customers, over 845,000 reviews of regional banks and credit unions, 1.9 million social media reviews, and 129 million app store reviews from Apple and Google Play. From this data, the top 500 regional banks and top 500 credit unions were determined.

Protect Yourself from Cryptocurrency Scams

Cryptocurrency scams have become increasingly prevalent, with digital currencies like Bitcoin, Dogecoin, Tether, and Binance Coin being common examples. While cryptocurrencies offer a range of benefits, including facilitating payments, reducing transaction fees, and serving as potential investment opportunities, they also present significant risks.



Due to the complexity of cryptocurrency, it can be difficult to recognize when you're being targeted by a scam. Here are some warning signs to help you identify potential fraud:

Red Flags of Cryptocurrency Scams:

- Scammers may insist on payment exclusively in cryptocurrency.
- Promises of unusually high returns on investment with little or no risk.
- Impersonation of celebrities, investment managers, or even romantic interests to manipulate you into investing.
- Fraudsters may also pose as well-known companies, government agencies, or law enforcement officials.

Important Reminder: Legitimate businesses, financial institutions, and government entities will never request payments in cryptocurrency.

Additionally, it's important to note that cryptocurrency transactions are not protected by the same regulatory safeguards as traditional payment methods. If you send funds via cryptocurrency and encounter an issue, you have no legal recourse to recover your money.

Stay Vigilant and Protect Your Assets!

For more information about cryptocurrency scams and how to protect yourself, visit consumer.ftc.gov



Financial Literacy Month

April is Financial Literacy Month! Be sure to check out our social media channels throughout the month as we highlight financial topics in our new Blaze Financial Trail Guide. For more information visit blazecu.com/community/financial-wellness/financial-trail-guide

Blaze Proud Partner Greta Myers Shines on the Ice

2025 is off to a golden start for US Speed Skater and Blaze Proud Partner, Greta Myers. Greta earned her first World Cup Gold Medal by winning the Women's Mass Start at the ISU World Cup in Calgary, Canada at the end of January. In addition to her World Cup win, Myers earned three additional World Cup bronze medals in the Team Pursuit, as well as setting a new US National record with her teammates.

"It's a big stepping stone to achieving bigger things in the future," Myers said, reflecting on her recent wins. With her determination and skill, she is quickly becoming a standout athlete in the speed skating world.

Originally from Lino Lakes, Minnesota, Greta's love for skating developed at a young age. Growing up as a hockey player, she later discovered that her speed and strengths aligned with the demands of a sport that was brand new to her – speedskating. After juggling both hockey and speedskating for two years, she committed to speedskating and quickly rose to become the top female junior in the United States. She joined the U.S. Long Track National Team in 2023.

Next up for Greta are the World Championships in Norway. Blaze is honored to support Greta as she continues her journey on the ice. We look forward to cheering her on as she skates toward her goal of representing the United States in the Olympics next year in Milan.



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The Star Tribune Readers' Choice Award program awards one gold, silver, and bronze winner per category decided by popular online vote. Published August 2024. Visit <https://www.minnesotasbest.com/about-minnesotas-best.html> for more information.

Saints Ticket Offer for Blaze Members

Get your **Outfield Reserved Tickets** for **\$8** (over 50% off the ticket price) for select early season games in March & April. Plus, only **\$16** for an **Outfield Reserved Ticket and Saints Hat** (\$32 value) May–September games.



The listed prices of \$11.72 and \$21.28 include standard ticket fees.

New this year! Receive a **15% discount** at the **Saints Team Store** at CHS Field when you show your Blaze Saints Debit card—valid IN-STORE only.

Purchase tickets at blazecu.com/member-services#Perks

SPRING SHRED DAY



Saturday, May 10

9 a.m.–12 p.m.

**Blaine | Maple Grove
Mora | Roseville South**

*3-bag limit | Free for Blaze members

BLAZE LOCATIONS

Blaine

10 Northtown Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55434

Coon Rapids

3380 Northdale Boulevard NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Eagan

1251 Town Centre Drive
Eagan, MN 55123

Eden Prairie

8577 Columbine Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Elk River

17035 Yale Court NW
Elk River, MN 55330

Golden Valley

6450 Wayzata Boulevard
Golden Valley, MN 55426

Isle

390 Isle Street W
Isle, MN 56342

Keewatin

112 East 3rd Avenue
Keewatin, MN 55753

Maple Grove

9580 Blackoaks Lane N
Maple Grove, MN 55311

Milaca

400 3rd Avenue SW
Milaca, MN 56353

Minneapolis North

3117 University Avenue SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Minneapolis South

5025 E 54th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Mora

112 South Lake Street
Mora, MN 55051

Ogilvie

200 West Highway 23
Ogilvie, MN 56358

Pine City

900 Main Street S
Pine City, MN 55063

Plymouth

10000 Rockford Road
Plymouth, MN 55442

Princeton

NEW LOCATION!
602 Tiger Boulevard
Princeton, MN 55371

Roseville North

2465 Fairview Avenue N
Roseville, MN 55113

Roseville South

1880 Perimeter Drive
Roseville, MN 55113

St. Cloud

3951 Division Street
St. Cloud, MN 56301

St. Michael Cub

900 Central Avenue E
St. Michael, MN 55376

St. Paul

111 Empire Drive
St. Paul, MN 55103

St. Paul West

2700 W Territorial Road
St. Paul, MN 55114
Only available for HBI employees.

Stillwater Cub

1801 Market Drive
Stillwater, MN 55082

Vadnais Heights

940 Co Road E East
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Waseca

105 15th Ave NE
Waseca, MN 56093

Woodbury East

195 Radio Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125

Woodbury West

1570 Woodlane Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125

Find more branch-specific information at blazecu.com/locations

All Blaze locations will be closed **Monday, May 26** (Memorial Day); **Thursday, June 19** (Juneteenth); and **Friday, July 4** (Independence Day).

blazecu.com
651.215.3500
888.347.7473

Please direct all correspondence and loan payments to:
P.O. Box 130670
Roseville, MN 55113



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