Refer a friend to TCCU and make some cash!

Looking to boost the bottom line of your account? Refer family, friends and your co-workers to Town & Country Credit Union.

For each qualifying member you refer that opens an account you could earn $25!

Our Financial Service Officers ask each new member if they were referred, so don’t miss out on this opportunity to earn extra cash!

73rd Annual Meeting was a Success!

The 73rd annual meetings in Fargo and Minot were well attended and filled with positive information and big cash prizes!

The meeting was opened by Board Chairman, Ray Kopp. Ray introduced the Board Members in attendance and thanked them for volunteering their time throughout the year in support of the Credit Union. He also touched on the successful growth experienced by TCCU throughout the year.

In 2011, total assets increased to over $296 million with a net worth approaching $31 million which is a ratio of 10.4%. The TCCU loan portfolio now totals over $230 million and member savings increased approximately $45 million to almost $265 million. Ray credited these successes to the leadership of President/CEO Darrell Olson and all of the staff at Town and Country Credit Union and Town and Country Insurance Agency.

The President’s report was then given by Darrell Olson. Darrell began by reminding attendees the difference between credit unions and banks. He highlighted that credit unions are not for profit and are equally owned by its members and are overseen by a volunteer board of directors.

Banks are for-profit and are privately owned, governed by stockholders who elect their board members. He also took the time to explain the low interest rates that are currently being experienced. Interest rates are impacted by the supply and demand of the economy as well as by the Federal Reserve. He commented that the interest rates are not benefiting the savers as much as they are the borrowers.

Darrell closed by thanking the staff for their dedication to TCCU and the Board for their time and service. He also made a special thank you to the members of TCCU stating that without them the Credit Union, staff and board would not be here.

Two board members were up for re-election at this year’s meeting, Randy Arneson of Minot and Jerry Hatlestad of Fargo. Voting was conducted prior to the meeting online, by telephone, or by mailing in a paper ballot. Randy and Jerry ran uncontested and were reinstated as board members for a term of three years. Ray thanked the 2011 nominating committee which included Marlow Nash of Fargo, Kathy Holte of Minot and Gaylin Schmidt of Minot. There was no old business or new business to report. After the meeting was adjourned, cash door prizes were given away to a few lucky attendees.

If you missed this year’s meeting, be sure to attend next year for a great dinner, socializing, entertainment and current information on your credit union!
Patty Pretzer joined Town & Country Credit Union in 1986. She started as a teller but admittedly that wasn’t quite for her, so after only three weeks she switched gears and became a Member Services Representative. Patty thrived at maintaining member relationships and opening new accounts. In 1988, she moved to the Marketing Department and would later become the head of Marketing. While in this position Patty has coordinated advertising, promotions, community relations, special events and member services for Town & Country Credit Union.

Patty has a passion for community involvement which shows in the projects she helped launch and organize at the Credit Union. Fill the Bus, Horn of Plenty and Western Week / Tough Enough to Wear Pink are just a few of the events Patty coordinated. Within the credit union Patty helped TCCU expand into Fargo, she even pushed a cash cart around Merit Care hospital opening accounts for new and potential members. Having started in member services, Patty always put our members first. She organized Club 55 and their travels, managed the PeeWee Club, launched $mrtz, and hosted many fantastic annual meetings.

When asked if she’s ready to retire Patty responds, with an enthusiastic “Yes!” She also comments “No, she won’t be moving south.” She says she’s looking forward to spending more time in her garden this summer, and of course, she’ll be busy visiting her seven month old granddaughter named Willow. Regardless of where she goes or what she does, Patty will be missed by the staff at Town and Country Credit Union as well as the thousands of members who have grown to love and appreciate her.

Town & Country VISA, the only one you need!

We believe in providing the best products and services to our members. If you’re tired of the fees and restrictions of your current credit card, you need to consider switching to a Town & Country VISA.

Our Platinum VISA features rates as low as 9.90% APR* as well as Rewards! points for travel and gifts. Business is all done locally, meaning your VISA credit limit is established right at the credit union and monthly VISA payments are also made at the credit union.

Our VISA also provides you with free travel and emergency assistance, free Auto Rental Insurance, Purchase Assurance, Extended Warranty with Platinum VISA and Cell Phone Protection. There is also no charge for transferring the balance of an existing credit card to your new Town & Country VISA. You can get approved for your Town & Country VISA card by visiting https://www.townandcountry.org/loans/visa or by calling Lisa Lysne at 701-420-6715.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate, Terms and conditions subject to change.
Flood Insurance 101


Is your property at risk for flood? It’s probably a question you haven’t thought too much about until recently. Every property has some flood risk, even if it is miles from a body of water.

An unfortunate reality is your homeowner’s insurance policy does not provide coverage for flood damage. Flood damage to your home can be insured only with a flood insurance policy -- no other insurance will cover flood damage.

Flood insurance is made available by the National Flood Insurance Program. “Flood” is defined as a rising and overflowing of a body of water on to normally dry land. For insurance purposes, the word “rising” in this definition is the key to distinguishing flood damage from water damage. Also important to note is that flooding must be general and temporary, and it must affect more than just one property.

Generally, damage caused by water that has been on the ground at some point before damaging your home is considered to be flood damage. Examples of flood damage may include:

• A nearby river overflows its banks and washes into your home.
• Heavy rain or flash flood causes the hill behind your house to collapse into a mud slide that oozes into your home.

National Flood Insurance covers structural elements, essential equipment and other basic items normally located in a basement, such as:

• Unfinished drywall for walls and ceilings, including nonflammable insulation
• Electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes, and required utility connections
• Central air-conditioning units
• Furnaces, hot water heaters, fuel tanks and the fuel inside them, and heat pumps

However, National Flood Insurance doesn't cover basement improvements such as finished walls, floors or ceilings, or personal belongings that may be kept in a basement, such as furniture and other contents. Contents coverage for the main floor insures most of your personal property and belongings.

A standard 30-day waiting period applies to flood policies and it must be in effect before a flood is declared. Please call Town & Country Insurance at 701-420-6650 if you would like to discuss your flood insurance needs.

Move your Business Banking to TCCU!

Think about using your local financial institution for your business needs! Our Business Lending Team is committed to the success of your business. We make decisions on a local level; we know and understand our community and your business.

We also feature low fees, competitive rates; deposits insured up to $250,000, business credit cards, merchant services, business money market account, remote deposit, TCCU Online account access and bill pay. We offer real estate loans, operating lines of credit, construction loans and start up loans.

We also participate in loan programs with Small Business Administration (SBA), Bank of North Dakota and Certified Development Programs.

In the Minot, Kenmare, Ryder area, call Michelle Peterson, VP Commercial Lending at 701-420-6730. In the Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo area, contact Kevin Kragnes, Commercial Loan Officer at 701-356-1764.

Quicken and QuickBooks download now available! A Quicken and QuickBooks download is the latest feature on TCCU Online. Visit www.townandcountry.org for information and easy to follow instructions.
Travel with TCCU for Christmas in the Smokies

We are heading to Nashville, Tennessee November 27 through December 2, 2012! Join us for this beautiful seasonal tour.

DAY 1: Fly in to Nashville. Travel to Pigeon Forge and check into the Music Road Hotel.
DAY 3: Tour the beautiful Biltmore Estate.
DAY 4: Travel to Nashville and see the Country Music Hall of Fame. Tour the RCA Studio B, enjoy dinner at the Backstage Grill and go to the Grand Ole Opry.
DAY 5: Tour Nashville, have lunch at the Wildhorse Saloon and see the famous Rockettes at the Radio City Rockettes Evening Show.
DAY 6: Attend the Treasurers for the Holidays craft show and see 1.5 million pounds of ice sculptures called ICE!

Serving the members of Town & Country Credit Union!

Jake Lauritsen, of Lauritsen Financial, is a financial advisor specializing in investments and retirement planning. Whether retirement is now, 5 years away or 25 years away, Jake will help you define your goals, determine your income needs and put a plan in place to help you move forward with confidence.

If you are a Sanford employee with a MeritCare pension, or have recently changed jobs and still have a retirement plan with your old employer, contact Jake to discuss ideas for your retirement accounts. He can help you consolidate your accounts into your own personal IRA, giving you more control over your account with a variety of options.

Currently Jake’s hours at the following locations are:
815 25th St. South, Fargo – Monday - 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1501 32nd Ave. South, Fargo - Monday – 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
925 14th Ave. East, West Fargo Tuesday – 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

You can set up an appointment with Jake by calling 1-877-754-9208, 701-235-0585 or by sending an email to jake@lauritsenfinancial.com You can also call one of the Town and Country Credit Union locations nearest you and a staff member will set up an appointment.

Products and Services Include:

✓ IRAs ✓ Mutual Funds ✓ Variable Annuities
✓ Fixed Annuities
✓ Employer-sponsored Retirement Plans
✓ Personal Financial Planning ✓ Life Insurance
✓ Long-Term Care Insurance ✓ Stocks

Investment products: Not NCUA insured. May lose value. Not deposits of or guaranteed by the Credit Union or any government agency. Securities and Advisory Services offered through Geneos Wealth Management, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC. Lauritsen Financial is not affiliated with Town & Country Credit Union.

Our offices will be closed in observance of:
Memorial Day, Monday, May 28
and Independence Day, Wednesday, July 4