# Mark Your Calendar... Our 2015 Annual Meeting will be held on May 2nd at 9:30 a.m. at the Fargo Holiday Inn

In the next year, we will be offering Safe Deposit boxes to our members. We have had a lot of interest in the Safe Deposit boxes so we are allowing our members to reserve their box in advance.

We will be offering two different sizes:

3x10 \$30/annually 5x10 \$40/annually

Boxes can be reserved on a first come first serve basis. If you'd like to reserve a box, please call one of our offices to have your name placed on the list.

> Main Office 701-235-2832 Amber Valley Office 701-356-0073 Dilworth Office 701-356-1360



You can make contributions to your Traditional IRA for the 2014 tax year until April 15, 2015. If you are in need of an IRA, either Roth or Traditional, we can help! Speak to Cinder at the Main Office to get started today!





Thank you to everyone who attended our Open House and helped us raise \$3,300 for the Great Plains Food Bank! Congratulations to the winners of the Food Bank drawing, the Open House drawings and this year's Turkey drawings! We appreciate your business and look forward to making 2015 a great year!

Did the holidays leave you with empty pockets? There is still time to skip your January loan payment! For more information, call:

> Cinder (Main Office) Laura (Dilworth Office) Caroline (AV Office)

Kyle (Main Office) 701-356-1371 701-356-1373 701-356-1367 701-356-1394

You can download the form on our website, www.unitedsavingscu.org, or stop into one of our offices to pick up a form.

\*\*restrictions may apply\*\*\*

Work on our new building is progressing and we are anticipating being on schedule to open in mid-April 2015!



### To avoid scammers, be wary of the phone...

While scams keep changing, the targets stay the same. Seniors continue to be the marks of a variety of low-risk crimes that prey on their sense of duty and exploit their fear of cognitive loss.

The Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Consumer Protection logged 1.1 million consumer fraud complaints in 2013; 47% of the victims were age 50 or older, with a median payout of \$400 a complaint.

Retirees make ripe targets because they have access to cash via retirement savings and equity in their homes.

Here's are some tips to avoid being targeted:

- Ditch the landline. The most common way scammers make contact is by phone, which accounts for 40% of all fraud contacts, up from 30% two years ago. One reason seniors are targeted is because they still use landlines--so they're easy to find through commercially sold phone lists--and they often answer their phones.
- Sign up for AARP's Fraud Watch Network alerts
  (<a href="http://wwwl.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/fraud-watch-network/">http://wwwl.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/fraud-watch-network/</a>)
  and check its online map. This will help you keep up to date on the scams happening where you live, as scammers frequently change the areas they are targeting.
- Call the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging Fraud Hotline. If you suspect someone is a victim of fraud, call the hotline (855-303-9470) where fraud investigators can offer advice about how to proceed.
- Hang up. Whether it's a purported relative imploring you to send money right away or a sweepstakes requiring you to pay taxes in advance--two common scams--say you'll call back. Then research the situation. If the caller is putting pressure on you to pay immediately, it's a scam.

### Take a hard look at Extended Warranties

When you're itching to drive away in that new car, it may be hard to resist dealership arguments to just wrap that extended warranty cost into your monthly payments. Since many automakers give automatic new-car warranties longer than the traditional three years or 36,000 miles, an extended warranty might not be necessary.

However, if you're among those that find the reassurance of an extended warranty worth the price, here's some advice on getting the best possible deal:

- You don't have to buy right away. Review your current warranty. If you still have a manufacturer's warranty, you would be wasting your money by paying for double coverage. You can always buy an extended warranty just before your original one expires.
- See who is behind the contract. Wherever you buy it, see what financial company backs your extended warranty.
- Know what is NOT covered in your contract. Like regular new-car warranties, most extended service contracts exclude recurring maintenance items such as brake parts, windshield, headlights, light bulbs, and oil and air filters. additionally, some potentially expensive repairs like power windows and seats are sometimes excluded.
- Check the deductible. A deductible of \$100 before coverage starts will often be required. This seems reasonable because you are trying to protect yourself against big bills.
- Make sure you can transfer the contract. If you want to sell your vehicle later as a used car, an extended warranty that goes with it will enhance its value.
- Find out how repairs are paid for. Some warranty companies pay directly to the repair shops. With others, you pay up front and then collect from the service contract company--often a slow process.

For all your questions on USCU extended warranties, talk to Kyle, Laura, Caroline or Cinder today!

### **Board of Directors**

Charles Burman-Chairman
David Dahl-Vice Chairman
Maynard Schmidt-Secretary
Pete Shaw
Tim Krieg
Doreen Klomstad
Gary Zahalka

# **Supervisory Committee**

Marvin Boser-Chairman Steve Sibley David Duval Marc Halvorson Roxann Depee

# **Membership Officer**

Durran "Hank" Unger

# **Security Officer**

Rick Majerus

\*\*\*Thank you Volunteers for all that you do!\*\*\*

#### **Staff**

### **Main Office**

Jan-Mortgage Lending
NMLS # 415780

Kyle-Consumer Lending
Cinder-Consumer Lending
Bobbie-Teller
Brittany-Teller
Melissa-Teller

## **Amber Valley Office**

Nicholaus Woodard-President/CEO NMLS # 536979 Caroline-Branch Manager NMLS # 536961 Elizabeth-Compliance Officer Chantay-Teller Heidi-Teller

### **Dilworth Office**

Bonnie Mohr-Vice President Laura-Consumer Lending NMLS # 415940 Cheri-Teller/VISA Korianne-Teller



This credit union is federally insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration

NMLS # 414694