

Northland Educators Federal Credit Union  
 1404 12th Avenue North  
 P.O. Box 5565  
 Fargo, ND 58105-5565

# Northland News



"You Belong Here!"

Monthly Publication of Northland Educators Federal Credit Union

January 2008

## Upcoming Events

CU Lobby & Drive-up Closed—  
 Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
 Monday, January 21

CU Lobby & Drive-up Closed—  
 President's Day  
 February 18

Staff Training—  
 February 21, 7:30-9 a.m.  
 Lobby & drive-up open at 9 a.m.

Northland Educators FCU  
 Annual Meeting—  
 Saturday, February 23  
 Holiday Inn, Fargo  
 10 a.m. - Noon  
 CU Closed

## 2008 Marks Northland Educators Federal Credit Union's 70th Year of Service to Our Members!

Since 2008 marks Northland Educators Federal Credit Union's 70th anniversary, we will be sharing some of your Credit Union's history with you each month.

Our Credit Union was chartered on April 18, 1938, to serve the employees of North Dakota Agricultural College (now NDSU). By the end of the year, 53 members had joined the Credit Union.

## Preparation is Key to Surviving Tax Season

As we begin a new year, April seems a long way off. However, tax time is upon us, and the preparation we do now can make tax filing easier. Here are some ways to get through this tax season unscathed and what you can do now to make next year's return even easier.



a folder or large envelope, as soon as they arrive. Watch for standard tax documents such as W-2s and 1099s, as well as year-end statements from financial institutions or charitable organizations. Be sure to check your e-mail for paperless records, and back-up or print out all important data.

Most crucial tax documentation is mailed in January. Keep all these items in one place, such as

Keeping track of receipts for expenses can help avoid headaches at tax time. A small

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## Celebrate Our 70th Anniversary with a "7-7-7 Loan!"

Northland Educators Federal Credit Union will be 70 years old in 2008, and we want you to join the party!

From *January 1 through December 31, 2008*, we are offering . . .

**\$700 Unsecured  
 Loans for 7 months  
 at 7.00% APR.**

Normal credit criteria apply. Apply online at [www.northlandcu.org](http://www.northlandcu.org) or contact us at (701) 293-6132 or 1404 12th Avenue North, Fargo. You belong here!

[www.northlandcu.org](http://www.northlandcu.org)

## CREDIT UNION RATES

### SCHEDULE OF LOAN RATES

Secured Loans 75% and less Loan to Value .....	4.75% - 13.25% APR
Secured Loans 76% and greater Loan to Value .....	5.25% - 13.75% APR
Unsecured Loans.....	9.00% - 17.50% APR
Share Draft Checking Lines of Credit .....	9.00% - 17.50% APR
Share or Share Certificate Secured Loans.....	2.00% above share or share certificate rate
Home Equity Lines of Credit .....	Variable Rate indexed to the Prime Rate
Fixed Rate Home Improvement Loans .....	8.00% APR
First Mortgage Loans .....	Rates change daily

*Applications available through First Class Mortgage. Please call credit union.*

*APR: Annual Percentage Rate*

### SHARE SAVINGS, SHARE DRAFT CHECKING AND SHARE CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT RATES

4th quarter share savings dividend.....	1.16% APY
<i>Share Draft Checking Interest .....</i>	<i>0.42%APY (Paid monthly on accounts with an average daily balance of \$500.00 or more.)</i>
<i>Share Certificates of Deposit</i>	
90 days - 179 days maturity .....	1.30% - 4.36% APY
180 days - 364 days maturity .....	1.55% - 4.80% APY
12 months - 23 months maturity .....	1.70% - 4.90% APY
24 months - 35 months maturity .....	2.00% - 4.70% APY
36 months maturity .....	2.40% - 4.80% APY

*Share Certificate Rates are subject to change daily. Actual rate depends on amount invested. Please contact the credit union for current rates.*

*APY: Annual Percentage Yield*

## Monthly Prize Drawing

Every month we give away prizes and publish the names of the winners in the newsletter. This month's lucky adult winner of a "Credit Unions Care" cookbook is Larry Chaput. Congratulations!

Check out the Credit Union's great rates!



continued from page 1: Preparation is Key to Surviving Tax Season

accordion file or some envelopes are all you need to keep receipts together and grouped into categories. You may want to keep one envelope in your purse or car to tuck receipts into until you get home.

### How to File

You can choose to file your taxes by yourself, either on paper or using tax preparation software, or you can hire a tax preparer to help you. You need to decide what is best for your situation. If you choose a paper claim, make certain to use the correct forms and schedules, and type or print clearly. You can get forms or find answers to tax questions at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). If using tax software, check the features to make sure it meets your needs. For example, if you own a business you may need a professional version of the program. If you have a very complex situation or have had major changes in the past year, you may want to see a tax professional for help. Arrive at your appointment prepared with your tax records and receipts. Whichever method you choose, e-filing and direct deposit can help you receive a refund more quickly if you're owed one.

### File Early

Set aside time to prepare your taxes early in the season. It's much easier to schedule time with a tax preparer if you contact them

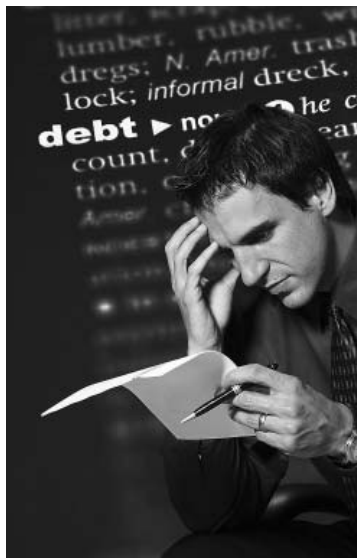
now than if you wait until April. Also, if you end up owing taxes it's helpful to know the amount owed in advance of the filing deadline. And if you expect a refund, the sooner you file, the sooner you will receive it.



### Avoid Common Errors

Double-check all your tax forms and schedules for common errors. These can be as simple as making sure names and social security numbers are correct and that forms are signed and dated, or as complex as reporting domestic workers and knowing whether to file for the Earned Income Credit. Include all required schedules for the forms you use. Only deduct expenses if you have receipts for them. Make sure to report all of your income. When choosing your filing status, remember that you must use your status as of December 31. If in doubt about anything on your return, ask a tax professional or check the IRS website for help. Mistakes can cause delays, penalties, or an audit, so it's best to check your return carefully before sending it.

There are lots of resources to help you with your taxes. Take advantage of free information offered by the IRS and many tax preparation companies. Start early, plan ahead, and don't be afraid to ask for help. Taxes may be a necessity, but they don't have to cause headaches if you're prepared.



## Annual Purchase Limit for Savings Bonds Changes

Effective January 1, 2008, the annual limitation on purchases of United States savings bonds has changed to \$5,000 per Social Security number. This limit applies separately to Series EE and Series I savings bonds, and separately to bonds issued in paper or electronic form. Under the new rules, an individual may buy a maximum of \$5,000 worth of paper and electronic bonds of each series in a single calendar year in single ownership form. If the bonds are issued in co-ownership form, the limit applies to the first-named co-owner. All limits are based upon the issue price of the bonds. For more information, visit the Treasury Department website at [www.treasurydirect.gov](http://www.treasurydirect.gov).

## CREDIT UNION MARKETPLACE

### FOR SALE:

**1994 Toyota Celica**—burgundy/black, 150,000 miles, good condition, \$3,650. Call Burton at (701) 793-9681.

**1996 Lexus 330**—Blue/camel, 123,000 miles, very good condition, \$6,250. Call Burton at (701) 793-9681.

**2004 Toyota Solara V6**—Silver, premium sound, new tires, auto start, 49k, \$12,000/OBO. Call Adam anytime at (701) 306-0154.

**1995 Honda Accord EX 2-door**—White, 5-speed manual w/154k, \$3,200. Call KC at (612) 386-0217 or (701) 540-5895 between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.

**Kenmore 4-Gal Cool Mist Humidifier**—In original box, 4 years old but used only 3 weeks, \$25. Call Elna at (218) 287-3800 between 5 and 9 p.m.

**1999 Chrysler Town & Country LX**—7-passenger, 4 bucket seats, 121,000 miles, \$6,200/OBO. Call Julie at (701) 866-7674.



### Attention Students: Scholarship Money Available



Mid-America Credit Union Association is currently accepting applications for the Dakotas' Credit Unions' scholarship. To be eligible, applicants must be graduating high school seniors in North or South Dakota and must have been credit union members for at least one year. Ten \$500 scholarships will be awarded, five to North Dakota seniors and five to South Dakota seniors. For complete eligibility requirements and to pick up an application, stop by the Credit Union. All applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 28, 2008.

### Your Credit Union Needs You

Northland Educators Federal Credit Union is seeking individuals willing to serve as volunteers on its Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee. If you are interested in serving your fellow members and having a voice in the governance of your cooperative credit union, please contact one of the following individuals:

Michaella Vliem—[mmvliem@cablone.net](mailto:mmvliem@cablone.net)

Marietta Wahl—[northland@linkup.net](mailto:northland@linkup.net)

Mark Meister—[mark.meister@nds.edu](mailto:mark.meister@nds.edu)

### CU To Celebrate 70th Anniversary at Annual Meeting

Northland Educators Federal Credit Union is turning 70 in 2008, and we would like our members to join us as we kick-off the celebration at our annual meeting. The meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, February 23 from 10 a.m. to noon** at the **Holiday Inn in Fargo**. We'll have breakfast together, elect our new board members, give out door prizes, and play games. We look forward to this time to celebrate 70 years of service to our members. Sign-up will begin soon, so mark your calendars and plan to join us for this time of food and fun!

### Credit Union Products, Services & Benefits

- Share Accounts
- Share Draft Accounts
- Share Certificates
- Holiday Club Accounts
- IRAs
- Home Financial Services
- US Savings Bonds
- Travelers Checks
- Money Orders
- Instant Cash & Check Cards
- Visa Credit Card
- Direct Deposit
- Payroll Deduction
- Automatic Transfers
- Loans/Mortgages
- Student Loans/Consolidation
- Pee Wee Penguin Club
- Tomorrow's Leaders Today
- Credit Life/Disability Insurance
- Term Life Insurance
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Group Plan
- Financial Counseling
- Vehicle Book
- Deposit Drop Box
- Drive-Up
- Ground Floor Lobby
- Spacious Parking Lot
- Notary Public Service
- Newsletter
- E-mail/Website

Learn some handy tips on how to make tax season a little easier this year and for years to come.

The annual limitation on purchases of US savings bonds has changed to \$5,000.