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NEWSLETTER

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Monica Bertsch
Karla Glass
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Special Patronage Dividends Distributed



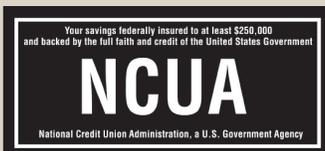
For the 4th consecutive year, Hometown Credit Union is pleased to announce that the credit union members have received a special patronage dividend! The dividend is based on the average monthly balance of member's deposits and loans during 2017. A total of \$1,110,500 has been given back to the members the past four years. This year \$380,500 was distributed to members. Please review your statement to see the amount deposited to your regular share savings account. All special patronage dividends that calculated at less than \$1.00 were not paid. It was not feasible for Hometown Credit Union to post these small credits because administrative costs exceeded the value of the dividend. No special patronage dividends were paid on accounts that were closed during 2017 and the first quarter of this year. The special dividend will not affect your 2017 taxes, but will be included on your 2018 1099-INT form.

Meet Charles Steinberger



Charles Steinberger joined Hometown Credit Union on March 19 as an agricultural loan officer for the Hazleton branch office. He recently graduated from NDSU with a degree in agribusiness. Charles is originally from Kenmare, ND where his family operates a 5,000-acre farm near Tolley. In high school, he was involved in the FFA which imparted him with a love for agriculture. He served as state president and remains somewhat active in the FFA organization. Charles describes himself as a "typical guy from rural North Dakota who loves to hunt and fish." Recently he acquired a Lab mix puppy that he has been training to retrieve ducks and geese.

Charles accepted a position at the credit union, rather than a bank, because he believes in the credit union system — being member-owned and operated for the benefit of its members. He is looking forward to meeting the members of Hometown Credit Union and hopes to make a difference in helping them with their financial needs.



Federally insured by NCUA

Saving Practices Made Easy

It's easy to postpone starting to save for a later day, but a solid plan is key to success. By following some basic guidelines, you're more likely to achieve financial security.

Pay yourself first.

Use automated transfers to get in the habit of saving. Money will be transferred from your account without you seeing it, which makes you less likely to miss it. Hometown Credit Union can set up automatic transfers between accounts. Just contact us to set this up.

Save 10% of your paycheck.

The general rule of thumb is to save about 10% of each paycheck. If that seems too high, try 5% and work your way up to saving 10% of your earnings. Add 1% every year you get a raise until you reach 10%.

Know yourself.

Examine your goals to determine which savings plan will work best for you. For example, don't invest all your money in an aggressive stock or mutual fund if you're conservative with your money. If you're saving for retirement, select a plan that will fit your financial needs down the road.

Realize that age matters.

Always take into consideration how much time you have to save for your goal. If you are a recent college graduate, you have several decades to ride out the highs and lows of the market and can take advantage of more high-risk investments. If you're only a few years from retirement, less risky investments are a better option.



See the benefit of compound interest.

The simplest way you can invest your money is to leave it alone and let it compound over time. You earn interest not only on what you save, but also on the dividends generated. The earlier and more you save, the more your money will grow.

Use dollar-cost averaging.

This is the process of routinely investing a set amount of money over time, rather than all in one lump sum. It's a convenient savings method, particularly for beginning investors. For example, each month transfer \$25 or \$50 from your share draft account directly into an investment vehicle such as a traditional or Roth IRA. You reduce your overall risk from market fluctuations because your money buys more shares when the price of a share is down, and your money buys fewer shares when the price of a share is up. Bottom line: You've reduced your investment risk.

Use the Rule of 72.

To figure out how long it will take for your investment to double with compound interest, use this rule: Divide 72 by the interest rate you expect to receive on an investment. For example, if your investment earns 4% interest, your money will double in 18 years (72 divided by 4 is 18).

Holiday Closings

Memorial Day

Monday, May 28th

MISSION STATEMENT

Hometown Credit Union is a financial cooperative, which is owned and operated for its members. We seek to promote thrift and economic development of our trade area. We strive to provide the best possible financial service to meet members' needs.

Hometown Credit Union seeks to grow while maintaining its long-term financial stability.