

Dakota Prairie Bank News

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2011

Board of Directors:

Steve Hayes
- Chairman
Steve Kost
LeRoy Louder
Margery Hayes
Chris Anderson
Mike Newton

Executive Officers:

Steve Hayes
- President/CEO
LeRoy Louder
- Executive VP
Steve Kost
- Senior VP

Ft. Pierre Staff:

Amy Brady
Jenny Schwarting
Jessi Speck
Lurene Denke
Trista Stenson

Presho Staff:

Carolyn Halgrimson
Erica Sundall
Justin Lester
Marilyn Walling
Meggan Brodrecht
Sara Griffith
Sue Lillebo

Draper Staff:

Chelsee Rankin
Donna Kinsley
Karen Miller

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Update your Records 1

Web site & Internet Banking 1

Protect your Debit Card 1

Understanding Credit Reports & Scores 2

Improving Credit Scores 2

Update your Records

When was the last time you checked whether your account records are up to date? The first of the year is a good time to check your records. Check with a teller or banker the next time you stop in any of the branch locations.

Some recommended items to check are your name, address, phone number and drivers license information. It's also a good idea to review your beneficiary information regularly.

ATM Locations:

Draper
Farmers Union

Presho
Hutch's Café

Ft. Pierre
Dakota Prairie Bank
Drive Up

Web site & Internet Banking Available

You have been asking for it and now it's here. Dakota Prairie Bank's new web site, www.dakotaprairiebank.com. The web site answers many of your banking questions and features everything from Internet banking to products and services and branch locations to employee contacts.

Internet banking allows you to perform many of your banking needs from the comfort of your own home or office. Some features of Internet banking include making loan payments, transferring

funds, viewing statements and monitoring account balances.

Sign up for Internet banking is quick and easy. Go to the bank web site and click on the "Internet banking" tab. Then click on "personal enrollment" for personal account or "commercial enrollment" for business accounts.

Protect your Debit Card

Tips for protecting debit cards from cracking or magnetic strip damage:

- Keep it in a protective sleeve. They're available at the bank.
- Don't expose it to extreme temperatures. Cold temps make it brittle, while heat makes it bend and break.
- Don't place it on a microwave, audio speaker, TV or anything with a strong magnetic field which demagnetizes the card.

Steve Hayes' schedule:

Monday & Tuesday
Draper

Wednesday, Thursday
& Saturday
Ft. Pierre

Friday
Presho

Dakota Prairie Bank offers four \$250 scholarships to seniors at Stanley, Lyman and Jones County Schools. Four scholarships will be awarded at all three schools.

Application deadline:
April 1 - Stanley Co.
April 8 - Lyman & Jones Co.

Dakota Prairie Bank
PO Box 790
Ft. Pierre, SD 57532
(605) 223-2337
1-877-200-0079
Fax: (605) 223-2304

PO Box 190
Presho, SD 57568
(605) 895-2595
1-800-590-2265
Fax: (605) 895-2228

PO Box 158
Draper, SD 57531
(605) 669-2401
1-800-593-2265
Fax: (605) 669-2770

Understanding Credit Reports & Scores

An online resource from the Federal Reserve provides answers to questions about credit reports, credit scores and the importance of protecting personal credit histories. The *Consumer's Guide to Credit Reports and Credit Scores* describes the content of a credit report, explains how a credit score is used, the role of credit bureaus in collecting and disseminating this information.

Mortgage lenders, banks, insurers, utilities, employ-

ers and other businesses may obtain credit reports from credit bureaus to assess how an individual manages their financial responsibilities. Consumers need to know what's in their in their credit report and understand how negative information, such as late payments or a bankruptcy filing might affect a lender's decision to grant credit. The guide answers questions ranging from "What is a credit score?" to "How can I get a free copy of my

credit report?" to "How long does negative information stay on my credit report?" It contains tips to help consumers improve their credit scores and provides step-by-step instructions for correcting an error in a credit report.

The *Consumer's Guide to Credit Reports and Credit Scores* can be found online at www.federalreserve.gov/creditreports.

Reprinted from a Federal Reserve press release.

Improving Credit Scores

Five tips to improve a credit score:

1. *Get a copy of your credit report - make sure the information is correct.* Go to www.annualcreditreport.com. This is the only authorized online source for free credit reports. You can get a free report from each of the three national credit reporting companies every 12 months.
2. *Pay your bills on time.* One of the most important things you can do to improve a credit score is pay your bills by the due date.
3. *Understand how a credit score is determined.* Credit scores are usually based on

the answers to these questions:

- Do you pay your bills on time?
 - What's your outstanding debt?
 - How long is your credit history?
 - Have you applied for new credit recently?
 - How many and what types of credit accounts do you have?
4. *Learn the legal steps to take to improve your credit report.*
 5. *Beware of credit-repair scams.* Sometimes doing it yourself is the best way to repair your credit.

Door Prize Winners:

Kennebec Business Appreciation

Adults: \$25 gift certificate
Gloria Bowar
Gay Moore
Joan Hills
Jim Gilman

Kids: movie certificates
Allison Schelske

Presho Farm Home Show

Adult:
Ty Uthe

Kids:
Max Schindler

