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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2024

SENIOR *Express Club*

Tis the Season to be More Aware of Fraud and Scams.

The holiday season is prime time for scammers and identity thieves who hope to cash out as people become busy with gift-buying, festivities, and travel. Here are the most common scams that members may encounter during the holiday season.

Fake Online Stores or "Lookalike Stores": Watch out for online stores that are fake or mimic legitimate ones. Red flags include unusually low prices, especially on popular items. Avoid clicking on social media ads that may lead to fraudulent sites.

Missed Delivery/Non-Deliver Notification: With more packages arriving at your doorstep during the holidays, beware of fake delivery emails or text messages alerting you about missed deliveries. Do not click on the links provided, as they may lead to sites designed to steal your information.

Gift Card Scams: Scammers may trick you into buying fake gift cards or tricking consumers into using gift cards to pay for fraudulent goods or services. Only buy gift cards from trusted retailers.

Fake Charities: Cybercriminals exploit holiday generosity through fake charities and GoFundMe campaigns. Before donating, research the charity, check the Better Business Bureau, and watch for signs of fraud like misspellings, poor grammar, or missing contact info. These types of scams can be very difficult to decipher.

Phishing Emails or Texts: Scammers use holiday distractions to send phishing emails or texts with suspicious links. Be cautious of messages claiming your account is compromised or offering free giveaways. Avoid clicking links asking to update your info, claim prizes, or confirm reservations - they're often scams to steal your data.

Dustin Bitz, VP of Asset Protection and Certified Credit Union Financial Counselor

Escaping to Warmer Climates for the Winter?

Don't forget to update your mailing address at RCU to ensure important documents reach you.

**Worried about mailing delays?
Switch to eStatement for secure access to your account statements anytime, anywhere!**



MANDAN OFFICE

1006 East Main Street

701-667-9500

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Drive-up 7:30am - 5:30pm

BISMARCK OFFICE

112 South 24th Street

701-222-8736

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Drive-up 7:30am - 5:30pm

Tax Time is Around the Corner - Start Planing Today!

2024 Tax Information

You will find the interest your earned on your deposit accounts, Including IRAs and interest paid on your loans in 2024, disclosed on the last page of your December 2024 statement.

IRS documents such as 1099's or 1098's will be mailed out by January 31, 2025.

If you earned LESS than \$10 in dividends on your share accounts you will not receive a 1099 from the Credit Union as it is not required by the IRS.

If you paid LESS than \$600 in interest for a real estate loan you will not receive a 1098.

2024 IRA Tax Information

The IRS allows members to make 2024 IRA contributions up to the tax filing deadline of April 15th, 2025.

The December 31st, 2024 statement balance is your year-end "FAIR MARKET VALUE".

Call Alisha at 701-557-7133 if you need to know your contribution amount. Should you have any tax related questions, please contact your personal tax advisor.



Our Bismarck office relocation is just around the corner! We're moving to a better neighborhood near Sam's Club and South Walmart in Bismarck, where our modern, full-service facility will better meet your financial needs.

We look forward to opening by year-end, and we'll be sharing details soon about a grand opening celebration. We're proud of this new facility and hope you will be too.

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust. It's because of loyal members like you that we've been able to grow. Here's to many more years of success, together.



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BISMARCK ND
58501

Credit & Debit Card Fraud Prevention Tips:

- **Review accounts regularly:** Check online every few day to catch issues early.
- **Online shopping caution:** Use trusted sites with "https" in the address
- **Card security:** Keep credit and debit cards secure and never leave them exposed.
- **Report suspicious activity:** If something seems off with a purchase, report it immediately to RCU.

**If you have any questions regarding your debit or credit cards,
please call RCU at 701-667-9500**