



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS
Avanti Federal Credit Union will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

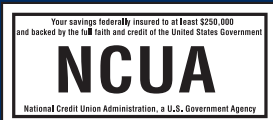
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 16

Presidents' Day
Monday, February 20

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."
~ C.S. Lewis

Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government



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- Annual Meeting Info
 - 4 Ways to Improve Home Network Security
 - When 0% Interest Isn't Your Best Auto Loan

Plan Now to Attend the 70th Annual Meeting

Friday, February 10, 2023

Watertown Event Center ~ 1901 9th Ave. SW ~ Watertown, SD 57201

Learn more about your credit union and get to know our staff and volunteers.

Social/Registration begins at 6:00 p.m.
Buffet Meal at 6:30 p.m. with a short business meeting to follow.

In honor of Avanti Federal Credit Union's 70th Anniversary, every member attending the annual meeting will receive a FREE meal. Members will still need to register and pick up a ticket at the credit union office to be eligible for cash drawings.

There will be individual gifts for everyone and several cash drawings. Elections will be held for two Board Members. You may direct your nominations to Kara Matteson at 605-237-1985.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 3RD AND QUALIFY FOR ONE OF TWO \$50 CASH DOOR PRIZES!

Members registering after February 3rd will have to pay \$10 toward the cost of their meal.

4 Ways to Improve Home Network Security

Following some simple yet effective techniques can significantly reduce cyber attacks on your home network - that is, the network that connects your devices - such as routers, computers, smartphones and Wi-Fi-enabled devices, to each other and to the internet in your home.

- 1. Update your software regularly.**
Regular software updates are one of the most effective ways to improve the overall cybersecurity of your home network. Not only do updates add new features and functions, but also include critical patches and security fixes for newly discovered threats and vulnerabilities.
- 2. Remove unnecessary services and software.** Disable all unnecessary

services to reduce the ways in which your network and devices could be attacked. Unused or unwanted services and software can create security holes on a device's system.

- 3. Adjust factory-default configurations on software and hardware.** Many software and hardware products come "out of the box" with overly permissive factory-default settings intended to make them user-friendly and reduce troubleshooting time. Unfortunately these defaults are not geared toward security.
- 4. Change default log-in passwords and usernames.** Most network devices are pre-configured with default passwords to simplify setup; however, these credentials are not secure.

When 0% Interest Isn't Your Best Auto Loan

When it comes to auto loans, a 0% interest rate is a head-turner, but it's not always the best deal.

Car dealerships generally advertise 0% offers when they're looking to make room in the showroom for newer models. The offers come from the financing arms of the large auto manufacturers, which unlike traditional lenders profit directly off the sale of the car and don't necessarily need the interest revenue.

But like any great deal, there's a catch. According to The New York Times, only about 10% of consumers actually qualify for 0% interest loans, which require pristine credit - usually a credit score of 720 or higher. Those loans typically are reserved for a limited number of models and are not available if you're shopping for a used car, which cost less than newer models.

These 0% loans often are paired with shorter-term loans, which cost you less overall but mean a higher monthly payment. So before you head to the dealership chasing a 0% loan, keep these points in mind:

- **Look at all available deals.** Check for other offers, such as cash back. If you can get a rebate - which lowers the overall price of the car - paired with a low-interest loan, it may save you more than the 0% financing. Be sure to crunch the numbers with an online calculator.
- **Negotiate the price.** Before you get to the interest rate, finalize a sale price and stick to it. Don't feel pressured to accept expensive add-ons. Once the sale price is established, then talk about financing; and
- **Get preapproved for a loan at your credit union.** Heading to the dealership with a firm offer in hand will give you a point of comparison and puts you in a stronger negotiating position. Credit unions, as not-for-profit financial cooperatives, offer competitive rates.



**Explore a
great auto
loan rate**

at Avanti Federal Credit Union!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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ONLINE BANKING:

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afcu@avantifcu.net

HOURS OF OPERATION:

LOBBY:

Monday - Friday

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

DRIVE-UP WINDOW:

7:30 AM – 5:30 PM

24 Hour ATM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Todd West, Chairman

Al Raeder, Vice Chairman

Brent Schamens, Secretary

Liz Dunn

Kathy Busch

STAFF:

Judy Wolff,
President/Manager

Rachael Johnson,
Senior Loan Officer

Tanya Eischens,
Loan Officer

Seth Skoglund,
Member Service Rep.

Jennica Weiss
LATC Intern

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE:

Joan Van Meter,
Chairperson

Kerry Stager

Linda Hopkins

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