

Vermillion

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

105 East Cherry Street • Vermillion, SD 57069

www.vermillionfcu.com

605-677-5214 • office@vermillionfcu.com



Annual Meeting Announcement



Credit unions started in the 1850s in Germany as a way for a group of people with a common bond to loan money to each other with the philosophy of People Helping People. Your credit union was founded on and continues that philosophy. On April 29, 1959, Credit Union charter #12983 was granted to SUSD (State University of South Dakota) and your credit union was open for business. It has changed names a couple of times and continued to grow for the past 64 years.

Vermillion Federal Credit Union's annual meeting will be held at the Main Street Center, 320 W Main St., Vermillion, SD on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 4 p.m. As always, there will be a vote for the Vermillion FCU Board of Directors to continue their role in the event the merger is not approved, or until the merger becomes legal. The candidates running for another term are: Paula McMahan, David Moen and Cathi Powell. Vermillion FCU will be closing the office at 3 pm on April 19, 2023, to allow all employees the opportunity to attend the annual meeting.

Welcome!

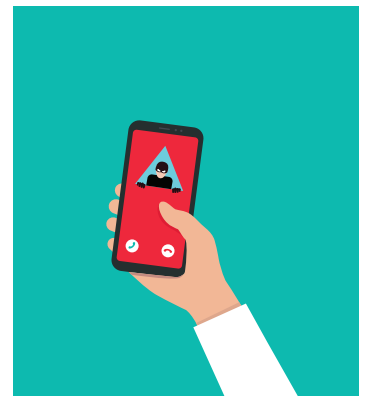
Welcome to Isaac. Isaac is a recent graduate of USD. Please welcome him next time you are in.



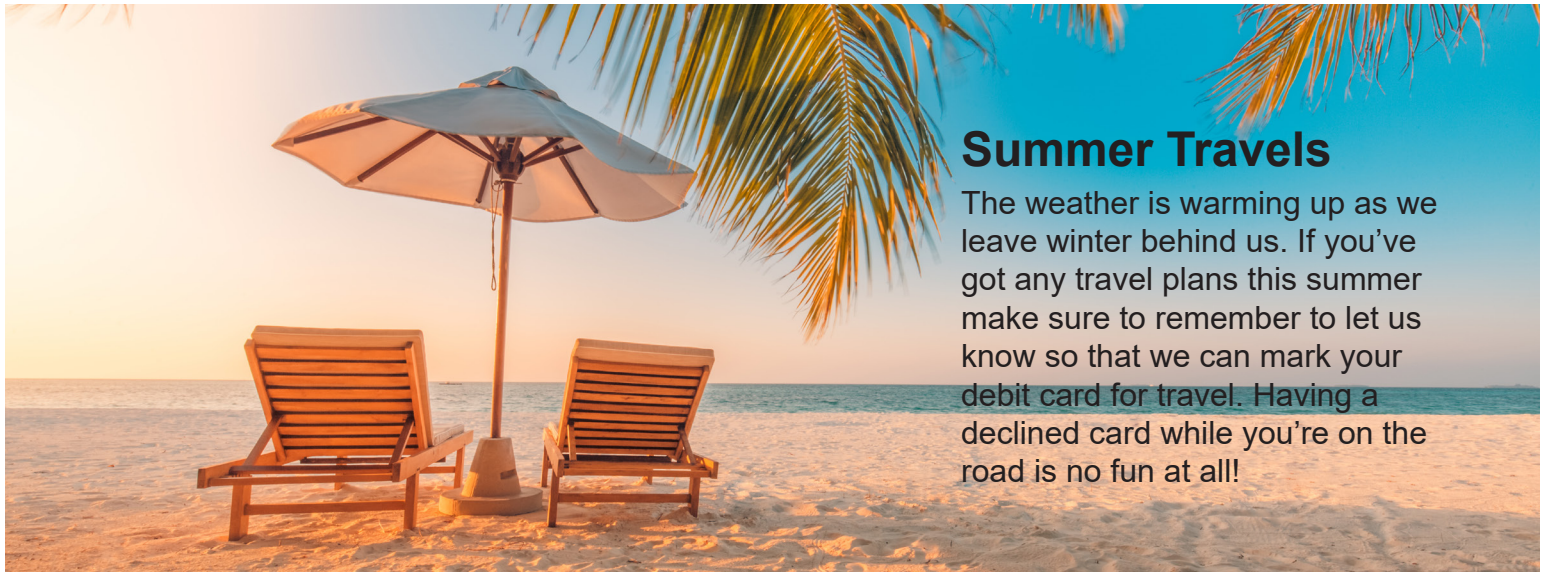
*VFCU Staff - Back row: Isaac, Julie, Carolyn, Erin
Front row: Kathy, Kylee, Janet, Corey*

Tax Season Reminder

Tax season is nearly behind us, and here is your regular reminder that the IRS will never call you without first trying to reach you by mail. They also will not call you and demand immediate payment or threaten to have the local police apprehend you.



Phone scammers rely on fear to get what they want from you. Always be cautious when you get an unexpected phone call and don't give out personal information if you are uncomfortable.



Summer Travels

The weather is warming up as we leave winter behind us. If you've got any travel plans this summer make sure to remember to let us know so that we can mark your debit card for travel. Having a declined card while you're on the road is no fun at all!

Merger Information



Timeline

2 Years Ago

Janet Mount announced to the Board and her coworkers that she would be retiring in 2024. When that was announced, a study

was conducted regarding the future of your credit union. Consultants were brought in to evaluate the different options Vermillion FCU had going forward. Lists were compiled and each scenario was reviewed showing the best and worst outcomes. A very difficult decision was made that a merger was in the best interest of our members. After interviewing and evaluating several credit unions to determine which the Board felt was the best fit, the decision was made to merge with Voyage Federal Credit Union based in Sioux Falls.

Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 4 p.m.

Vermillion Federal Credit Union's annual meeting will be held at the Main Street Center, 320 W Main St., Vermillion, SD on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 4 p.m. A vote will be taken on the merger.

May 1, 2023

If the vote to merge is approved by the membership, Vermillion FCU will legally be Voyage Federal Credit Union on or around May 1.

July 2023

We would continue on our current software through July 2023. At the end of July, a statement will be printed for

EVERY account that we have and it will be mailed to you. Regardless of what your current choice is for your statement now, you will receive a printed statement of your July activity. Please look for it in your mailbox.

Why a Merger?

Vermillion FCU continues to be financially strong and this merger has nothing in any way, shape or form to do with the financial condition. Your money, as always, is safe. You have probably noticed that today's banking environment has changed. There are now fantastic options available to you as you look at your banking needs. However, the products and services that members want and need have become much more expensive and complex. The costs to administer those products along with the cost of employees, the cost of having a physical presence and the cost of providing that technology continues to increase. Unfortunately, losses due to fraud continue to climb and don't seem to be slowing down. Your credit union is not alone facing this type of decision. For example, in the year 2004, there were 57 credit unions in the State of South Dakota, and in 2022, there were 35 remaining. Nationally, in the year 2000, there were 10,316 federally insured credit unions. Today there are 4,813. The projection is that in 5 years there will be fewer than 4,000 nationwide.

There are products and services that we would like to provide but we simply can't make the math work with the rising costs. Merging with another credit union makes the most sense for our members. The number of services will be immediately increased and will be available to all members upon the completion of the data

Merger Information (continued)

conversion after the merger. A partial list was included in the **NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF VERMILLION FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** letter that you should have received recently. Additionally, if the merger is approved there are a variety of new options that you will have through the app or through online banking. Examples include: If you have an account at another financial institution (FI), you will be able transfer to or from your credit union account quickly and easily; There are multiple ways to move money (payments or deposits) from another FI using plastic or via account to account; Online account opening or adding another account will be available; and you will be able to update your address and phone number at your convenience no matter what time of the day or night it is. These are just a few new features available. Don't forget that there will be nationwide fee free ATM access. Concerns can be answered through our frequently asked questions website. Look for the link <https://voyagefcu.org/merger/> on our website.

We are excited about the many new products and services this merger would provide, giving you more options to do the things you want to do with your banking, such as more ATM options and moving money more conveniently through online banking.

Voting

The **NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF VERMILLION FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** letter you received recently was 4 pages long. In addition to the list of expanded services, it provides your options for voting including a QR code on page 1. You can vote online or if you choose to vote by mail you can do so with the ballot on the final page. It can be mailed back in the enclosed prepaid envelope provided or sent to: **CUBALLOT – Election Processing, E Space Communications Inc., PO BOX 3156, Dublin, OH 43016-9842**. It must reach them by 10:00 am CST, April 19, 2023. You can only vote once and will not be allowed to change your vote regardless of which method of voting you choose. You will need your account number (found on the paper letter that was sent to you) and the last four of your tax identification number (i.e.: Social Security). Each tax identification is only allowed one vote. The member must be at least 18 to be eligible to vote. You may also cast your vote electronically online or in-person at the meeting. All electronic voting will close at 4:30 pm on April 19, 2023. We will have the results within a few minutes of the close. Vermillion staff and volunteers

along with Voyage's CEO and other personnel will be at the meeting site early on the 19th to answer any questions.

Employees / Board / Offices

Employees of Vermillion have visited Voyage a few times now to become familiar with what they are doing, how their system works and just getting to know their team. If the vote to merge is approved, all current staff will remain in Vermillion and we are anxious to be able to share many new benefits with you. It will be business as usual in the same place and with the same faces. Voyage is excited to have the opportunity to have a physical presence in Vermillion and is planning to hire another person to put in this office.

Janet has delayed her retirement to ensure a smooth transition. Your current Board President, Cathi Powell, will take a seat on the Voyage Board of Directors and will continue to represent you with her position there. Be sure to check out Voyage FCU to find out about them. Their website is voyagefcu.org.

Backoffice things such as balancing and reports will be done by a team in Sioux Falls, leaving more time for us to help our members here.

Important Information About Your Account

Your access to statements will go away at end of day on July 31, 2023. Please make sure you have printed or downloaded all of your statements before that time or there will be a charge to retrieve them beginning August 1, 2023.

Your current account number will remain the same and any deposits or withdrawals you have set up will not be affected. For the majority, the only difference you will see is your statement in a different format. Debit and credit card numbers will change which will involve some resetting of any automatic payments if you have something on those cards. There will be some resets for those who use bill pay too, but we will help with any reset that needs to be done. We are not saying that it will be completely seamless, but everything that can be done is being done.

We will put any news on the merger on our vermillionfcu.com website as the process continues. Check it often for updates.

Insurance For All Your Needs

Insurance rates are on the rise!! With the large number of weather related claims in the last few years, insurance companies are having to increase insurance rates. Now is the best time to look at your coverages and look at other carriers to help keep your costs down. With DFS Insurance being an independent insurance agency, we have the ability to offer different carriers to fit everyone's needs. Please give me a call for your free, no obligation quote today and let me do the shopping for you and show you what we can do for you! Just another service offered by your Credit Union.

Jon Brooks

Email: jon@dfsins.com **Phone:** 605-291-5201

Attention Online Banking Users

We have found that many members who use online banking or the app and do not have a statement mailed to them tend to forget to update their account when something changes. You may have seen reminders already about the importance of making sure your phone number and your address are correct, but because it is so vital, consider this another one. It is of the utmost importance that you really double and triple check what we have for you, because if/when the merger happens your card will not work if it is not correct. That is the last thing that we want to see happen.

Address Change Emails

If you receive an email regarding an address change and you didn't change anything, that may have been us. There are some boxes behind the scenes that need to be checked to ensure phone numbers transmit correctly to card services. So along with verifying phone numbers and addresses when people call in, we are working on going through accounts and making sure those boxes are checked.

Office Is Closed

- **For Annual Meeting** - Wednesday, April 19 at 3 p.m.
- **Memorial Day** - Monday, May 29
- **Juneteenth** - Monday, June 19
- **Independence Day** - Tuesday, July 4

Thank you for being a member of your Federal Credit Union. You are the reason we exist, and we will strive to continue to provide you with the products and services you need regardless of what name we have.

Hours of Operation

Lobby:

Monday through Friday 9-5

Saturday 9-12

Drive up:

Monday through Thursday 8-5

Friday 8-5:30

Saturday 9-12

Contact Us

Address:

105 East Cherry St.

Vermillion, SD 57069

Phone: 605-677-5214

Email: office@vermillionfcu.com

Website: www.vermillionfcu.com

Mission Statement:

The mission of Vermillion Federal Credit Union, through member ownership and involvement, is to provide financial services in a professional and responsive manner, reflecting the credit union philosophy, "People Helping People."

Lost/Stolen Cards

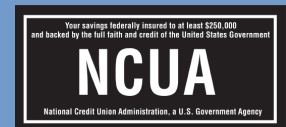
800-528-2273

Fraudulent Activity

800-889-5280

After Hours Credit/Debit Card

866-664-9364



DAKOTA
CREDIT UNION
ASSOCIATION