



# Fort Randall Federal Credit Union

## ***MEMBERS NEWS LETTER***

Summer 2022

[www.ftrandallfcu.com](http://www.ftrandallfcu.com)

Proudly Serving our Members since 1951

### Office Hours:

#### Wagner

Monday-Friday 8:30 to 5:00

#### Platte

Monday-Friday 8:30 to 5:00

### Holiday Hours:

Closed:

September 5th

Labor Day

October 10th

Columbus– Native  
American Day

### ATM:

24 hour

Drive-up convenience

#### ATM Locations

Wagner, Platte  
Pickstown, Lake Andes

### Offices:

Wagner, SD 57380

PO Box 297- 231 NW Lake St.  
605-384-5332

Platte, SD 57369

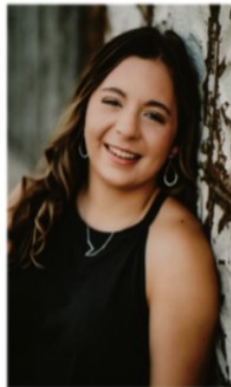
PO Box 927- 100 W 7th Ave  
605-337-9502



**FORT RANDALL**  
FEDERAL  
**CREDIT UNION**

## *Congratulations to our 2022 Scholarship Recipients!*

FRFCU awards four \$500 Scholarships every year to a high school senior or enrolled college student.



*Taylor Larson*

Platte-Geddes High School



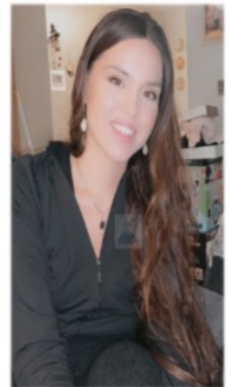
*Abigail Spawn*

University of Sioux Falls



*Carly Jo Reiser*

South Dakota State University



*Leonna Flying Hawk*

Ihankowan Community College



## KEEP CALM AND CAMP ON IN YOUR NEW CAMPER

**3.49%** FOR 60  
MONTHS

**3.99%** FOR 72  
MONTHS

SOME RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY

# 5 Things to Do Now to Protect Your Money During High Inflation

## Step 1: Make a budget

Having a budget is always the best way to keep costs under control, and in recent years inflation has caused many Americans to take up the practice. According to a survey by debt.com, 80% budgeted their expenses in 2021, compared with only 68% in 2019.

## Step 2: Pay off existing variable debt

Many put paying off debt towards the bottom of their financial priority list, doing so with whatever money they have left over at the end of the month. Paying down debt—especially variable debt, like credit cards, lines of credit, personal loans, and variable rate mortgages—should now come second to living expenses, and well ahead of investing, says author, financial advisor, and founder of Live, Learn, Plan, Jay Zigmont.

“While there are a lot of things you can do to invest, if you got something like 16% or 18% interest on a credit card, you’re not going to beat that with any investment,” he says.

## Step 3: Maintain a rainy day fund

As prices soar it can be tempting to seek out investments that will keep pace with inflation. Before you consider where to invest, however, the experts recommend setting aside enough cash to overcome any immediate financial challenges. Simple as it may sound, less than half of Americans have enough in savings to cover a \$1,000 emergency expense.

“If you have debt, pay it off first, but second is putting it in an emergency fund,” says Zigmont, adding that those funds will only accumulate a fraction of a percentage point in interest. “An emergency fund will stay in a high yield savings account, and frankly you’ll effectively lose money because of inflation, but it has a job—to be there in case of emergency—so you don’t want to risk that.”

## Step 4: Explore the bond market

Those who are debt-free and have 3- to 6-months worth of living expenses squirreled away should then explore investment opportunities that are both safe and guaranteed to keep pace with inflation.

The first such product that both Bell and Zigmont suggest exploring is I-Bonds, which are backed by the U.S. Treasury and tied to the Consumer Price Index. That’s because its interest rate is adjusted every six months—in May and November—based on the rate of inflation, and can be cashed out after a year.

“If you think inflation will continue to move higher over the next six months, it’s not a bad place to be, but you can only put \$10,000 into it every year, so it does limit your investment,” says Bell.

The next government-backed investment to consider is called a Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities, or TIPS. “Dipping your toes into the bond market with TIPS, if you don’t need that money for two-plus years, is a more beneficial place to be,” adds Bell.

Bonds can be purchased through your bank, broker, or on the TreasuryDirect website.

## Step 5: Invest in your home

Home prices have been skyrocketing lately, which is great news for existing homeowners, and not so great for those who are looking to get into the market. Rising interest rates might cool the market somewhat, but Bell says renters should probably hang on a little longer before purchasing their first home.

Despite the increasing cost of building supplies and labor, she also advises homeowners to invest in their current properties before purchasing a new home.

By: Jared Lindzon April 19, 2022



*Our Mission: To provide our membership competitive financial and related services in a professional and friendly atmosphere, while pursuing growth and a positive community image.*