



**blog** articles  
an *inspiring* read

**NAMED TOP CREDIT UNION  
IN WISCONSIN**

**REFRESH YOUR HOME FOR FALL:  
SIMPLE WAYS TO EMBRACE THE SEASON**

**TIME WELL SPENT: 5 RESOURCES FOR  
BUILDING FINANCIAL CAPABILITY**

**WHY CHOOSE WESTCONSIN REALTY?**

## HOLIDAY HOURS

Offices and Service Center  
will be **CLOSED** on:

- Columbus Day** | Monday, October 14
- Indigenous Peoples' Day** | Monday, October 14
- Veteran's Day** | Monday, November 11
- Thanksgiving** | Thursday, November 28
- Christmas Day** | Wednesday, December 25
- New Year's Day** | Wednesday, January 1

### WESTconsin Welcomes New CEO

August 1, Jim Wookey started his new role as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Jim began his career with WESTconsin Credit Union in 1994 and brings much experience, leadership and knowledge with him as CEO. Prior to this advancement, he held the position as Chief Operations Officer. "Having been a part of WESTconsin for thirty years, I have witnessed the strength of our mission of empowering members and communities with the resources to achieve financial wellness, and I am honored to continue that as CEO," said Wookey. Join us as we warmly welcome Jim as CEO!



### 85th Annual Membership Meeting

As a valued member and owner of WESTconsin Credit Union, you are invited to join our 85th Annual Membership Meeting, which will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 6 p.m.

### Candidate Announcement

We are pleased to announce that during the Nominating Committee meeting on September 25, 2024, both Colleen Mensing and Karen Flug, who are up for re-election this year, expressed their interest in continuing to serve. Their requests have been approved by the Board of Directors.

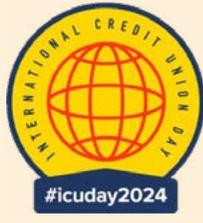
In accordance with the Election by Acclamation process, which was updated in the bylaws and approved by the Board in December 2022, no election will be held at our 85th Annual Meeting.



### Inspiring Better!

WESTconsin Credit Union is honored to be named the top credit union in Wisconsin on Forbes' [2024 America's Best Credit Unions in Each State list](#). This year, WESTconsin is listed as #1 for the first time, moving up three spots from fourth in 2023. 207 credit unions out of the nearly 4,700 across the country made the list, WESTconsin being one of two credit unions recognized in western Wisconsin.

# Celebrate International Credit Union Day “One World Through Cooperative Finance”



Thursday, October 17, marks the 76th anniversary of [International Credit Union Day](#). Join us as we celebrate showing how our movement brings people closer together through democratic, member-owned financial institutions that put people over profit.

Tuesday, October 15 through Saturday, October 19, visit [your local WESTconsin office](#) for prize drawing giveaways!

## Notices and Updates

### World's Finest® Chocolate Fundraiser

World's Finest Chocolate® just got **larger!** Beginning September 30, 2 oz. bars will be available for purchase in all WESTconsin offices for \$2 each. Proceeds will help local kids when they need it the most through the efforts of the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals.



### Fall Shred Events

Have sensitive documents that need shredding? We are hosting free community shred events at the following locations. **Limit ONE cubic sized box/bag.**

New Richmond: Tuesday, October 8 | 8–9 a.m.

Menomonie–East: Tuesday, October 8 | 1–2 p.m.

Rice Lake: Tuesday, October 15 | 10–11 a.m.

Eau Claire: Thursday, October 17 | 10–11 a.m.

### High School Scholarship Program Open for Applications October 1

WESTconsin is offering up to fifteen \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors graduating in 2025 from communities served by WESTconsin offices. Our [online application](#) process allows students to fill out their scholarship application and make recommendation requests all in one place! Applications will be accepted until midnight on March 1, 2025. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May of 2025!

### New Debit Cards

In early 2025, new debit cards will be issued to all members. Watch for upcoming card information coming soon.

## Business Members



### Grow Your Business With Pride

We know running your business is a point of pride. At WESTconsin Credit Union, we are proud to help you grow it by making the business banking process as stress-free and streamlined as possible.

From business accounts and the latest online and mobile banking services to great rates and fast, local decision-making on loans, WESTconsin takes pride in being a part of your journey!

## Kindness Counts at WESTconsin

The spirit and the philosophy of people helping people guides our leaders and encourages our employees and members to get involved in charitable activities and worthwhile causes.

- ✓ On July 26, WESTconsin staff showcased how much we appreciate our members with a baseball-themed Kindness Counts Day! Those that stopped by offices were treated with stress balls, Cracker Jacks, and other fun items.
- ✓ In August, the Scrub-A-Dub Drive raised \$1,966.35 and collected 2,800 hygiene products that were donated to 16 area community partners for distribution to students as they return to classrooms this fall.
- ✓ Community members attended a special open house event on August 21 in celebration of former CEO, Lora Benrud's retirement. We thank Lora for her 40-year career in serving WESTconsin members!

