

"Bonus Checking"

Charlotte, N. C. — North Carolina National Bank said Monday it will begin offering "Bonus Checking" — paying maximum interest on checking accounts — on December 31.

The new type of account, called a NOW account in the banking industry (for Negotiable Order of Withdrawal), will permit a bank customer to earn 5¼ percent interest on all money held in demand (checking) accounts if the customer signs up for the service.

Francis B. Kemp, NCNB executive vice president in charge of North Carolina banking offices, said NCNB will offer Bonus Checking to its customers under several options:

"We are recommending as the best option — for those who qualify — our NCNB Deluxe Banking account, which has been available for several years. Now, it will have the additional benefit of paying interest on checking deposits, along with the traditional advantages of freedom from monthly checking charges, free custom checks, a free safe deposit box, a Visa Checkmate card without service charge, and a preferential rate on loans. As always, a customer can qualify for Deluxe Banking — now with the Bonus Checking feature — by agreeing to maintain an average of \$2,500 in a savings account," Kemp said.

"We believe this has been the best checking account deal in North Carolina, and now it will be even better."

Kemp said many other NCNB customers are expected to take the Bonus Checking option of agreeing to maintain a minimum balance of \$500 in a savings account.

"With this option, they can obtain interest on all funds in their checking account and avoid monthly service charges on checking. Since we will also pay interest on their savings deposits, we will be paying these customers interest on every cent they have in the bank."

Other options for obtaining Bonus Checking are (1) to agree to maintain a minimum balance of \$1,000 in the Bonus Checking account or (2) to agree to maintain an average balance in checking of at least \$2,500.

NCNB will pay 5¼ percent interest, the maximum allowed by law, compounded daily and

credited monthly.

Kemp said NCNB branches will begin accepting Bonus Checking requests from customers in mid-November, well before the end of the year when this service can become available under the regulations. Detailed information will be mailed to NCNB individual checking account customers beginning Nov. 15.

NOW accounts have been authorized by federal law effective Dec. 31, 1980. Heretofore, banks have not been permitted to pay interest directly on checking account balances.

Garden Clinic

N. C. State University Answers Timely Gardening Questions

Q. Is fall a good time to add organic matter to my garden soil? What materials do you recommend? (J. C., Fayetteville)

A. Yes, fall is the best time to improve the organic matter content in your soil. Large amounts of peat moss, compost, grass clippings, barnyard fertilizer, shredded bark, leaves and even newspapers can be mixed into the soil to improve drainage and aeration. Organic matter also allows better root development for next year's vegetable crops. (Larry Bass, extension horticultural specialist)

Q. I have wooded posts treated with copper arsenate supporting my grape vines and blackberries. Are they harmful to the fruit? (G. B., Buies Creek)

A. No. Many posts are pressure-treated commercially with copper-chrome-arsenate preservatives. This reacts with the wood and does not wash out in service. Thus there is no danger of the chemicals harming the fruit. I would not recommend do-it-yourself treatment with copper arsenate. (Mike Levi, extension forest resources)

Q. Are there any varieties of apples and pears which are resistant to fire blight? (R. C., Lexington)

A. None are immune, but many varieties have some resistance. The Red Delicious Apple is generally less affected by fire blight than other varieties. The more susceptible apple varieties are Jonathan, Golden Delicious, Lodi, Yellow Transparent and Stayman. Magness and Moonglow pears are relatively resistant to fire blight. Kieffer.

Orient, Starks Delicious and Dawn have some resistance. Bartlett and Clapp's Favorite are highly susceptible. (D.F. Ritchie, extension plant pathologist)

Q. What is the recommended wood to use in building a deck? (J. F., Lumberton)

A. I would suggest southern yellow pine that has been pressure treated with waterborne salts. This pressure-treated lumber is odorless, paint and stain receptive, non-leaching, and cheaper than redwood. It is available all across North Carolina. Cypress, redwood and western red cedar heartwood are the most naturally durable woods for the South. However, these woods are much more expensive than Southern yellow pine. (Kim Powell, extension landscape horticulturist)

Veterans Questions

I served in the Air National Guard from Feb. 1, 1955, until March 1, 1958. I was on active duty for training several times during this period for a total of 285 days. Am I eligible for a VA home loan guarantee?

A. No. To be eligible for VA

home loan benefits a veteran must have served at least 90 days on active duty wartime service or more than 180 days of active duty during peacetime. For purposes of eligibility for home loans, active duty for training is not qualifying service.

Q. I am presently an incarcerated veteran. I am pursuing a program of education while in prison. Am I eligible to receive educational benefits?

A. Yes. Incarcerated veterans may be paid educational assistance allowance in the same manner as any eligible veteran while pursuing an approved program of education.

Q. Can I make arrangements in advance for the burial of my wife and children in the event one or more of them dies before I do?

A. No. Application for burial in a national cemetery must be made at the time of death of an eligible veteran or his eligible dependent. The selected mortuary, VA cemetery or any VA office will provide information and assistance in matters pertaining to burial and allowances.

Barbershop Bonanza!



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It's that close harmony and those marvelous old songs, sung by Spartanburg Palmetto Statesmen Chorus, 30 men strong, and including top-flight quartets — Upper Echelon, Red Barons and V.I.P.s. Show is Saturday, Oct. 25, 8:15 p.m. in the Tryon Fine Arts Center.

Tickets now at Bookshelf, Blue Ridge Weavers, NCNB, Northwestern Bank and Tryon Fine Arts Center office, \$4.

This attraction, proved popular with young and old and those with all kinds of musical tastes, is the lead off of a sparkling season of special events, benefit of the Arts Center.