

COMMUNITY BANKER UPDATE



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Annual Convention

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2026 EVENT DATES

Board Meetings:

April 22, September 22 and November 17

ICBA Convention:

March 6-9, San Diego

Young Bankers of Iowa Conference:

April 2-3, AC Hotel, East Village, Des Moines

ICBA Capital Summit:

May 4-7, Washington D.C.

CBI / ICBA Day at the Ballpark:

May 20, Des Moines

FDIC Director's Conference:

June 2, Sheraton Hotel, West Des Moines

Banking Technology Virtual Conference:

June 11, Virtual

55th Annual Convention:

July 15-17, Arnolds Park

Fall Golf:

September 14, Hyperion Field Club, Johnston

Fall Management Conference:

October 15-16, Hyatt, Iowa City

Fall Pheasant Hunt:

October 22, Doc's Hunt Club, Adel

Midwest Ag Conference:

November 19, Virtual

Member Appreciation Party:

December 3, Des Moines Golf and Country Club



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A PRACTICAL NEW RESOURCE TO HELP BANKS ADDRESS FINANCIAL FRAUD

— Michael Gathman, CEO of Community Bankers of Iowa

Financial fraud continues to change quickly, and no single bank can track every new scheme on its own. Staying informed requires timely information and practical insight from others facing similar challenges.

CBI is introducing a new member resource designed to support that effort: the Financial Fraud Advisory Forum. This forum is offered in partnership with the Missouri Independent Community Bankers and includes participation from community banking associations in several other states.

The forum is a recurring conference call that brings together community bankers and industry experts to discuss current and emerging fraud issues. Because fraud trends often appear in one region before spreading, hearing directly from bankers in other states helps identify risks earlier and raises awareness of potential vulnerabilities.

Participation is simple. Bankers can dial in from any location, join the discussion, and gather information they can immediately apply at their bank.

The Financial Fraud Advisory Forum will help strengthen your bank's fraud strategy by:

- Identifying new fraud schemes and areas of risk
- Discussing effective response strategies
- Sharing investigation and recovery practices
- Reviewing fraud related policies and offering feedback
- Encouraging information sharing among community banks

Fraud prevention is more effective when banks collaborate and learn from one another. This forum provides a structured way to do that while staying focused on real world challenges and solutions.

The next forum is taking place April 16 at 10:00AM. Visit **members.cbiowa.bank/calendar** for more information and to register. Also watch your inbox for additional details.

"CBI is introducing a new member resource designed to support that effort: the Financial Fraud Advisory Forum."

— Michael Gathman



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Flourish

LEANING INTO COMMUNITY BANKING

— Rebeca Romero Rainey, CEO, ICBA



As financial services continue to shift, community banks are well positioned to be the anchors for the industry, supporting our customers and communities with a resiliency that transcends the environment. By continuing to lean into the personal relationships we create, we are differentiating ourselves and adding immense value to those we serve.

Doubling down on our relationship-based model means that we're supporting our customers with the deployment of new and efficient technology. We're speeding up processes, enhancing our customers' experiences, and growing our connections with them, retaining the attributes that are at the core of who we are and what we do.

We simply need to fast-forward the tenets that already exist to address growing demands. Individually, community banks may need to have hard conversations to determine which solutions warrant their time and attention and which may not best serve their customers. The beauty of community banking is that it's not one-size-fits-all, and each community bank will have the opportunity to identify the new technologies and solutions that support them most.

A NEW, INDIVIDUALIZED PERSPECTIVE

For instance, as we think about customer retention and acquisition, and by extension bank marketing, the needs of the individualized communities we serve are paramount in today's environment. Agricultural banks have established different services to support their farm-based communities than banks that are more attuned to catering to the construction industry. Each of these segments has unique needs, and community banks shine by addressing them. It's about identifying the personal needs of the collective, which is what we have always done.

But now, with the pace of change, community banks must scale their services to maximize potential sooner than later. Maybe you are launching a new solution that speaks to a particular niche you serve, or a new process that simplifies engaging with customers.

Perhaps you are utilizing an existing technology more or in new ways. With any new opportunity, it's about leaning into strengths and taking them to the next level for your customers.

So, as you read this month's issue, I encourage you to identify incremental actions you can take to expand your prospects. Look at what your peers are doing and use it for inspiration. Post a question to ICBA Community. Seek out colleagues at ICBA LIVE. Engage with ICBA Preferred Service Providers, Corporate Members, and ThinkTECH Accelerator participants. Whatever direction you choose, take steps to lean into community banking and this community, because without a doubt, we will shape the future of financial services, one relationship-based solution at a time.

"We're speeding up processes, enhancing our customers' experiences, and growing our connections with them, retaining the attributes that are at the core of who we are and what we do."

— Rebeca Romero Rainey

WHERE I'LL BE THIS MONTH

I'll be attending ICBA LIVE in San Diego at the beginning of the month and then taking a little spring break with my family.



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From the Top

YOUR WORK TO SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY BANKING

— Jack Hopkins, ICBA Chairman, President & CEO, CorTrust Bank, Sioux Falls, SD



Over the past year, I have been honored to serve as ICBA chairman and have gained so much from the experience. From new advocacy opportunities to the passion I've seen from community bankers around the country, it has been an inspiring time to be part of leadership at ICBA.

And what a year it's been! We have successfully achieved some big wins on the advocacy front. For instance, we've seen the rollback of oversized regulations, like an exemption from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's 1071 proposed rule for the vast majority of community banks, and a complete overturning of the bureau's overdraft rule. We've witnessed new forms of tax relief, including a 25% ACRE Act exclusion on agricultural and rural lending. And regulators have put forth proposals to lower the Community Bank Leverage Ratio, revise the supervisory appeals process, and rescind the 2023 Community Reinvestment Act rule.

We have been able to successfully advocate for these adjustments because of you and your role as community leaders, industry experts, and valued constituents. These shifts happen at the local level, and it has taken you, standing up for what you believe and ensuring policymakers understand the community bank difference, to drive the change.

Your voice delivers results, and I've seen just what we can do when we are all actively engaged. I hope these successes stick with you, but even more, I hope that you stay committed to championing community banks.

A RALLYING CRY FOR COMMUNITY BANKS

After all, our work is far from complete. We have continued this work in 2026, recognizing there are many issues that still need resolution. We need to remain steadfast with the same level of tenacity and engagement we have had over the past year, precisely because there's more to come.

My goal as chairman was to leave ICBA in a stronger position than when I came into the role, and on some level, I think we've done that, but there are always ways to improve. So, while I might be handing over the baton as chairman, I plan to keep fighting. Because it's up to this community of community bankers to direct legislators and regulators to achieve a level playing field. That mission sits at the heart of ICBA, and as one member of this community, I plan to remain a part of the solution. I hope you're inspired to do the same.

"I hope these successes stick with you, but even more, I hope that you stay committed to championing community banks."

— Jack Hopkins

MY TOP THREE

Experiences as ICBA Chairman:

1. Getting to know more bankers around the country
2. Working closely with the dedicated ICBA team
3. Getting to travel and see the impact community banks have nationwide

Young Bankers of Iowa **SPRING CONFERENCE**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026 AT 10 A.M.
TO FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026 AT 12 P.M.**

AC Hotel East Village in Des Moines

Over two days, we'll take a closer look at the forces influencing our industry today from fraud and security risks facing your bank, to legislative and regulatory updates that directly affect how you serve your community. You'll step inside the Iowa Capitol, see advocacy in action, and better understand how your voice shapes policy.

Day two shifts to strategy, with conversations around ALCO and balance sheet management, regulatory insights, and the evolving payments and government affairs landscape.

Register today!





THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

10:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Welcome + Registration, AC Hotel

10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Dan Kramer

EVP, Government and Community Affairs, SHAZAM

11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Lunch

12:30 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Jeff Boeyink

Partner, LS2 Group. CBI Chief Lobbyist

1:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Walk to Capitol

2:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Brittany Lumley

Managing Director of Government Affairs, LS2 Group

2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Tour of Capitol Building

3:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Meeting with State Senator Ken Rozenboom

4:00 P.M. – 4:45 P.M.

CBI Office Visit

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Reception – Republic on Grand

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026

8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.

Breakfast, AC Hotel

9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Zach Hingst

Legal Counsel, Iowa Division of Banking

10:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Braden Renaud, Baker Group

10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Quentin McConkey

CFE, Fraud & Security Officer, BTC Bank

11:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Wrap Up. *Thank you for attending!*

POLICY POSSIBILITIES

The Fed's roster and biases are undergoing changes in 2026.

— Jim Reber, CEO, ICBA Securities



It's spring, and as long-term readers of this column may have noticed, I'm a baseball fan. As the days lengthen, I naturally start thinking about green grass, base running and curveballs. In doing so, I keep finding parallels to our national pastime and community banking. It's not just that they're both ingrained in our uniquely American fabric. I'm convinced they are inseparable from our high standard of living.

I've taken notice (at least for 2025-26) that there is a bigger-than-normal turnover in the makeup of the Federal Open Market Committee. The FOMC is the 12-member subset of the full Federal Reserve Board that determines monetary policy at the eight regularly scheduled annual meetings. There have been years in which the FOMC went through its calendar with nary a change to policy, the most visible of which to community banks is the setting of "fed funds," or the rate that financial institutions charge each other for overnight borrowings.

CHANGES AFOOT

Here's where a comparison to baseball takes root. Before the days of free agency (now more than half a century ago), year-over-year changes to the teams' makeup were greatly limited. Players could retire, management could "cut" players, they could be demoted to or promoted from minor leagues, or teams could trade players to other teams. Other than that, the 25-man roster was mostly static. One example: the Los Angeles Dodgers had the same four-man infield for more than eight years. Cey, Russell, Lopes and Garvey lined up around the horn pretty much every day from 1973 to 1981.

The FOMC has, by statute, a rotation of four regional bank presidents each calendar year. What's different is there was an unscheduled change in the seven-person board of governors last year and a guaranteed change of chairman this year. Add to that the leanings of the four new regional presidents, who at this point have little track record regarding their voting biases, and Fed

watchers have commented that this lineup is a bit of a wild card. It's beginning to look like a reshuffled major league team of the 21st century.

WHAT 2025 GAVE US

It's no secret that Fed chairman Jay Powell has been, let's say, scrutinized by the current administration. There's no real evidence that pressure has changed any opinions of those that were on the FOMC for the entirety of last year. However, the unforecasted roster change was Fed governor Adriana Kugler's resignation in August. That precipitated the installation of Stephen Miran as her successor.

Miran is now the most doveish FOMC member. He dissented from the motions made at the September, October and December 2025 meetings, as well as in January. At each, he argued for larger rate cuts. It's also accepted as fact that the "dot plot's" lowest individual projections throughout the time frames displayed, which now extend beyond 2028, belong to Miran.

2026 AND AHEAD

Up to bat on the committee this year are:

- Beth Hammack, Cleveland
- Neel Kashkari, Minneapolis
- Lorie Logan, Dallas
- Anna Paulson, Philadelphia

This is Paulson's first time to be a voter, as she took office last July. Collectively, these voters are considered hawkish and perhaps less inclined to cut rates than the rest of the committee. However, they replaced a group that had nearly the identical preference for moving slower rather than faster, so perhaps the 12-person team has not changed its bias from last year.

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Of course, the big change will occur in May, when the new chair will take over. Fed watchers everywhere expect the next player up to be broadly in favor of strong stimulus, a.k.a. lower rates, and soon.

YEAR-END EXPECTATIONS

As of this writing, there is mostly consensus about the path of interest rates in 2026. The latest guidance from the Fed and “market-based indications” (the futures markets) both are projecting two rate cuts, which would leave overnight rates around 3.25% by December.

Just as importantly for community banks is what intermediate- and long-term rates will do this year. Remember that a positively sloped yield curve predicts higher rates in the future; the steepening in the second half of 2025 was attributed to institutional buyers’ growing unease with the twin threats of inflation and debt supply. It’s within reason that the 65-basis point (0.65%) slope gets to 100 basis points if two rate cuts are engineered while core inflation and deficit spending proceed at their current levels.

While I’ve made much of the changing makeup of the 2026 FOMC, it’s worth noting that the 2025 World Series champions, which were again the Dodgers, had only three

everyday starters in the same positions from their 2023 edition. Which is to say that although the names and jersey numbers may rotate, organizations can continue apace with a different group of capable contributors. Such are the expectations of the financial markets, which are forecasting the same modestly lower year-end rates that the Fed itself is projecting. So, here’s to the rites of spring and to credibility in our monetary policy-setting team.

“Fed watchers have commented that this lineup [of the FOMC] is a bit of a wild card. It’s beginning to look like a reshuffled major league team of the 21st century.”

— **Jim Reber**

Jim Reber (jreber@icbasecurities.com) is president and CEO of ICBA Securities, ICBA’s institutional, fixed-income broker-dealer for community banks.

THE POWER OF LOCAL LEADERSHIP

Most people remember where they were when the floodwaters rose in Northwest Iowa in the summer of 2024. They remember the streets under water, the sandbags lining neighborhoods, and the long days that followed.

What many may not have fully seen is what happened next.

In moments like these, leadership does not wait for permission. It begins at the local level. As families and businesses began navigating insurance claims and federal assistance, the recovery process officially moved forward. FEMA's process is thorough and structured for large-scale disasters, but it takes time. And in the middle of uncertainty, waiting can feel long.

Communities needed momentum before federal dollars could move. Across Spencer and Rock Valley, independent community banks stepped forward as they always have, not with fanfare, but with focus. While larger systems worked through required steps, local community bankers relied on something they already had: trusted relationships and a deep understanding of their communities.

WHEN IT BECAME REAL

For many bankers, the reality of the flood hit suddenly.

Mike Bryan of Farmers Trust and Savings Bank remembers walking along the river that Saturday morning and seeing the water rise. Hours later, he returned to the bank.

"I was sitting in my office, and saw the water was two feet deep on my outside wall and flowing into the lobby," Bryan said. "Looking out the window, there was water everywhere. That's when it became real to me."

"I was sitting in my office, and saw the water was two feet deep on my outside wall and flowing into the lobby. Looking out the window, there was water everywhere. That's when it became real to me."

— Mike Bryan



Ryan Johnson of State Bank had a similar moment. “When I saw water in the streets on the west side of town, we knew this was going to be bad,” he said. “The bank got completely surrounded, and it didn’t take very long.”

Jason Warren of Northwest Bank noticed something wasn’t right even before he reached his office. “There was water in streets that I’d never seen water in before,” Warren said. “That was my first red flag.”

In Rock Valley, the flood surpassed even historic expectations. Wade Gort of Premier Bank described the scale:

“This one turned out to be another five feet higher than the 2014 flood,” Gort said. “Nobody thought that was possible.”

Within hours, evacuations began. Homes filled. Families were displaced.

Like their customers, these bankers were managing personal loss even as they prepared to serve their communities.

RELATIONSHIPS ALREADY IN PLACE

In Spencer, three CBI member banks—State Bank, Farmers Trust and Savings Bank, and Northwest Bank—were serving customers facing enormous uncertainty. Leaders including Ryan Johnson of State Bank, Mike Bryan of Farmers Trust and Savings Bank, and Jason Warren of Northwest Bank were in constant communication. From the outside, banks may appear competitive. Inside their communities, collaboration is the norm.

“We’re all collaborators,” Johnson said. “We care about each other, and we’ve always worked together on things like this. We will always work together to make Spencer a better place.”

In the days following the flood, the banks shared information and monitored for fraud risks.

“Anytime there’s a disaster like this, you’ve got to watch for fraud,” Bryan explained. “We wanted to make sure we were all working together, trying to protect the community.”

The community banks also compared approaches to loan extensions, and walked alongside families navigating insurance claims and federal assistance.

“I think we were all kind of in community mode,” Warren said. “Nothing was ever really said that this is what we need to do. It was just: what customers need help? What do we need to do?”

When leadership is local, collaboration is not a strategy. It is a given.



INVESTING IN WHAT MATTERS MOST

One of the clearest examples of collective leadership in Spencer came when flood damage severely impacted Spencer’s schools. Delays were not an option. Students needed classrooms, families needed stability, and the community needed a clear signal that progress was possible.

Together, Spencer’s community banks stepped forward to jointly purchase the \$5 million bond issue needed to fund school repairs, ensuring work could begin without delay.

“There was no hesitation,” said Johnson.

Warren added, “We all talked within the first day and said, let’s do this.”

“A solution was needed while the community waited for FEMA,” Bryan said. “And this was it.”

Students returned to classrooms, teachers resumed familiar routines, and lights came back on in hallways that only weeks before had been filled with water.



That is what local investment looks like.

LEADERSHIP IN ROCK VALLEY

The same pattern unfolded in Rock Valley, where the flooding was even more severe on a per capita basis. More than 500 homes were affected. Recovery required more than cleanup. It required coordination, financial guidance, and long-term commitment.

Wade Gort and Greg Westra of Premier Bank worked alongside city leaders and organizations such as Friends of Rock Valley to help raise and distribute millions of dollars in relief funds. Decisions about how those funds were allocated were made locally, by people who understood the needs behind each application and the families behind each form.

“You don’t have time to wait for somebody that’s not in your hometown to make decisions,” Gort said. “We can make a decision, and we’re going to do it.”

Bank employees stepped in as neighbors first helping with cleanup, volunteering their time, and supporting relief efforts while continuing to serve customers with smaller operational teams.

“We told employees, if you’re not affected, go help somebody else,” Westra said. “Help your neighbor. Help your co-worker. Help the church. Whatever needs to be done, go do it.”

Premier Bank also offered flexible lending solutions to support rebuilding, helping families navigate temporary housing, existing mortgages, and uncertain timelines.

Recovery in Rock Valley has not simply been about replacing what was lost. New homes are being built on higher ground. Facilities are being improved. The community is rebuilding with resilience.

A REFLECTION OF THE COMMUNITY

What stands out most is not only what community banks did, but how communities responded.

High school students showed up to clean buildings. Neighbors asked strangers, “What do you need?” Families made the choice to rebuild rather than relocate.

In Spencer, community banks feared an overwhelming wave of foreclosures.

“We were nervous about that,” Johnson said. “You were hearing rumors that keys were being dropped off everywhere.”

But that never happened.

“We did not get a single house back,” Warren said. “That’s a testament to the people here.”

In Rock Valley, Gort reflected on how the community responded to unprecedented loss.

“We said early on the flood wouldn’t define us, it would refine us,” he said.

New homes are now being built on higher ground. Businesses have upgraded and expanded. Communities are rebuilding with resilience.

Independent community banks did not create that spirit. They reflected it, and reinforced it.

As Johnson put it, “The reason these banks are successful is because of the community. They’ve made us successful too. So it’s our duty to help out and provide what the community needs.”

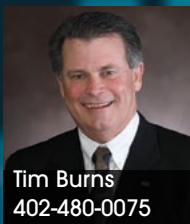
Strong communities and strong community banks depend on one another. One does not thrive without the other.

In Northwest Iowa, that partnership was not theoretical. It was visible in every sandbag placed, every phone call made, every loan extended, and every classroom light turned back on.

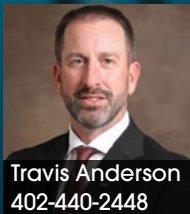
And it is a reminder of what local leadership truly means.



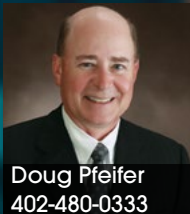
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STOREY KENWORTHY:

A Shared Commitment to Community Service and Innovation

"We believe that every company has a culture by design or by default"

— John Kenworthy

Throughout the last 90 years, Storey Kenworthy has grown from a small office supply shop in downtown Des Moines into Iowa's largest independent provider of business products and workplace solutions. At its core, the company's evolution mirrors that of the community banks it proudly serves: built on people-first relationships, driven by innovation, and grounded in a deep commitment to Iowa communities.

A SHARED FOUNDATION

Like Iowa's community banks, Storey Kenworthy is built on local leadership, long-standing relationships, and personal service. Now in its fourth generation of family ownership, the company's longevity is no accident.

"We believe that every company has a culture by design or by default," John Kenworthy, CEO explained. "Because we've remained family-owned, each generation builds on the

last. That consistency gives our team the confidence to stay focused on serving others and contributing to something bigger than themselves."

For community bankers, this sounds familiar. The power of generational trust, a long view of success, and investing in people (not just products) are all hallmarks of the industry.

EVOLVING TO MEET NEW NEEDS

Like community banks, Storey Kenworthy has faced significant change over the decades. The rise of hybrid work environments, shifting procurement needs, and evolving customer expectations could have been seen as threats. Instead, the company leaned into transformation.

Today, Storey Kenworthy offers far more than office supplies. They provide workspace furniture and planning, branded



apparel, promotional products, secure printing services, and customized inventory management especially helpful for multi-branch banks that need efficiency without sacrificing service.

“We’ve evolved because our customers have evolved,” Kenworthy said. “Much of what we’ve added has come from listening to banks and businesses and asking: how can we help you operate more smoothly and stay focused on what you do best?”

SUPPORTING THE INSTITUTIONS THAT SUPPORT IOWA

Storey Kenworthy is more than a vendor to the banking industry. They’re a longtime endorsed member of the Community Bankers of Iowa, and proud of it.

“Our relationship with CBI goes back decades,” Kenworthy shared. “It’s allowed us to build real, personal connections with bankers across the state. Being an endorsed member means we understand the pressures they face and can offer thoughtful solutions and not just products.”

From delivering and storing essential forms and supplies to managing branded items that keep each branch aligned and visible in its community, Storey Kenworthy tailors its services to the realities of community banking. They know staff time is limited, storage space is tight, and every branch has unique needs. That’s why flexibility, white-glove delivery, and custom solutions are baked into their approach.

As one banker told them: “I didn’t know you could do all that.” And that’s part of what keeps Storey Kenworthy showing up and ready to serve in new ways.

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY, JUST LIKE YOU

If there’s one value that links Storey Kenworthy to Iowa’s community banks, it’s the belief that business should serve people, not the other way around. Whether it’s through their Community Equity Collective, ongoing charitable partnerships, or employee volunteerism, the company walks the talk of giving back.

“Community isn’t just where we work. It’s who we are,” they said. “When we give back, we’re honoring our customers and staying true to our values.”

It’s a vision community banks and Storey Kenworthy proudly share.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2021, Storey Kenworthy underwent a thoughtful rebrand, modernizing its look while holding tight to its mission: to empower and inspire people to work and live better.

Today, their vision is to be the trusted, statewide leader in innovative business solutions. More importantly, they aim to be a partner who understands the pace and pressure of running a community bank and brings solutions that remove friction rather than add to it.

Iowa’s banks continue navigating change, competition, and complexity. Storey Kenworthy offers a quiet reminder: support those who support the industry.

They’re not just a vendor. They’re part of the same ecosystem that’s keeping Iowa’s communities strong.

“Nobody, absolutely nobody, will work harder to meet and exceed a community bank’s expectations than we will.”

Learn more about how Storey Kenworthy supports community banks at storeykenworthy.com.



INDUSTRY NEWS & UPDATES

Community bankers are a part of the backbone of Iowa's local economies, going beyond banking to make a real impact. No matter if it's donating to local organizations or causes, hosting or sponsoring events that give back, or serving as a community hub, they create positive opportunities that ripple far and wide. At CBI, we're honored to work alongside you—providing the advocacy, education, and connections your bank needs to keep thriving.

We're here for Iowa's community banks. And we're here for good.

ADRIAN STATE BANK ACQUIRED BY PREMIER BANK OF ROCK VALLEY

Premier Bank of Rock Valley, Iowa, officially acquired Adrian State Bank in Minnesota on January 20, 2026, expanding its footprint into a third state. Premier Bank has five branches across Iowa and South Dakota, and now Minnesota. The acquired location now operates as "Adrian Bank, a division of Premier Bank," bringing the combined entity to over \$750 million in total assets. The merger will result in expanded resources, enhanced technology, and will deliver greater value to customers in Adrian and the surrounding communities.

RYAN MILLIGAN, CBI BOARD MEMBER, NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Ryan served as 2025 Carroll Chamber of Commerce Board President, providing strong leadership, meaningful collaboration, and forward momentum. During his presidency, he played a critical role in working with the City to advance new Highway Banners and downtown wayfinding signage—projects identified in the Downtown Assessment that are helping shape Carroll's future.

Ryan's dedication to this community runs deep. He has given his time and leadership to countless organizations, including helping start the Kick It Up Soccer Tournament, serving on the Carroll Area Day Care Board, Family Resource Center Board, Carroll Rec Center Board, and the St. Anthony Foundation Board. He has coached soccer at Kuemper Catholic School, volunteered as a youth soccer coach, served on the Kuemper Booster Club Board, and contributed his expertise through the Community Bankers of Iowa and the Iowa Bankers Association Advocacy Board.

Ryan's roots in Carroll run deep. A 1996 graduate of Kuemper, he later earned his degree from Saint John's University. After beginning his career in banking and financial services, including time in Kansas City, Des Moines, and with the Federal Reserve Bank, he chose to return home, becoming a 4th generation banker at Commercial Savings Bank.

Ryan is married to his high school sweetheart, Kathi Kluver, and is the proud father of four daughters, Megan, Mia, Mallory, and Emmie.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO JOINED US FOR THE LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION ON FEBRUARY 24!

Iowa lawmakers heard firsthand what's happening inside our community banks and the towns you serve. Those conversations matter. When you share your perspective, you help shape decisions that impact our industry and our communities.



ICBA-CBI DAY AT THE BALLPARK

CBI | COMMUNITY BANKERS
OF IOWA

**May 20, 2026
at 12:00PM
Principal Park**

Iowa Cubs vs Memphis Redbirds

Register at CBIowa.Bank

THE BAKER GROUP NAMED EXCLUSIVE ENDORSED BROKER-DEALER PROVIDER FOR ICBA SECURITIES

The Baker Group, a leading independently owned broker-dealer specializing in investment portfolio and interest rate risk management for community banks, has been named the exclusive broker-dealer provider for ICBA Securities, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA). Under this multi-year partnership, The Baker Group will provide industry leading investment products, services, and education to ICBA's members across the United States.

"We are thrilled to announce this strategic partnership with ICBA," said Carl Huxley, CEO at The Baker Group. "This collaboration represents an exciting opportunity to unite around our shared mission of empowering and supporting community banks. By combining the long-standing strengths and expertise of both organizations, we look forward to delivering even greater value to ICBA member banks and the communities they serve."

"This partnership reflects a strong alignment with what community banks need from trusted providers," said ICBA Securities Chairman Thomas Bates, Jr., who also serves as president and CEO of Legends Bank of Clarksville, Tennessee. "The Baker Group brings decades of experience working with community banks, a deep understanding of the challenges we face, and a commitment to education that helps bank leaders make informed, strategic decisions. This relationship will provide our peers with access to proven tools and insights that strengthen balance sheet management and support long-term stability."

This exclusive endorsement builds on The Baker Group's long history of dedicated service to community banks, offering tailored solutions in asset/liability management, fixed-income investments, education, regulatory compliance, and strategic balance sheet consulting.

"Community banks are the lifeblood of America. For more than four decades, The Baker Group has been dedicated to serving and supporting community banks and the associations that advocate for them," said Ryan Hayhurst, President of The Baker Group. "This partnership strengthens that mission and will enable us to reach even more banks nationwide and deliver them the education, tools, and strategies needed to thrive in today's dynamic environment."

ICBA represents thousands of community banks that provide essential financial services to individuals, families, and businesses in communities large and small. Through this endorsement, ICBA members gain priority access to The Baker Group's specialized services designed specifically for the unique needs of community banks. This partnership underscores a shared commitment to supporting community banking and fostering local economic growth. For more information about The Baker Group's products and services, visit www.gobaker.com. To learn more about ICBA and its resources for community banks, visit www.icba.org.



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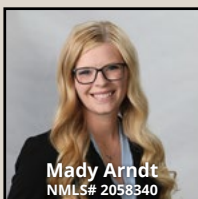
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VOLUME 1

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