

SDBANKER



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA BANKERS ASSOCIATION | MAY 2025

**SDBA Announces
Re-election of Board
Members**



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2025 AG CREDIT CONFERENCE

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A1 Development Solutions

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CattleFax

Don Day Jr.
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Ed Elfmann
Agriculture and Rural Banking Policy, ABA

Andrew McCrea
McCrea Farms

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John McGrath, First PREMIER Bank, Sioux Falls

Dusty Petersen, First Interstate Bank, Rapid City

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message from the chair

DYLAN CLARKSON | President/CEO | Pioneer Bank & Trust, Belle Fourche
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Championing Community Banking in the Nation's Capital

Each spring, community bankers from across the country gather in Washington, D.C., for the American Bankers Association's annual Washington Summit, an event that gives our industry the rare and invaluable opportunity to speak directly with lawmakers, regulators, and administration officials about the policies that shape the future of banking. This year's Summit was especially meaningful for the South Dakota Bankers Association. I'm proud to share that we had one of our largest delegations in recent memory, with 19 South Dakota bankers in attendance. This turnout reflects just how important it is for community bankers to have a seat at the table, especially as we face sweeping regulatory changes and shifting political winds in 2025.

As chair of the SDBA, I had the honor of joining our delegation at Capitol Hill, where we met with South Dakota's congressional delegation: Senator John Thune, Senator Mike Rounds, and Representative Dusty Johnson. We are fortunate to have three strong allies who understand the critical role community banks play in South Dakota's economy and who remain receptive to our concerns.

Among the key issues we addressed was the nomination of Federal Reserve Governor Michelle "Miki" Bowman to serve as Vice Chair for Supervision. The SDBA sent letters of support to Senators Thune and Rounds earlier this year, and our delegation reaffirmed our endorsement during the Summit. Governor Bowman has been a consistent advocate for tailored supervision and understands the unique challenges community banks face. Her leadership at the Fed will be essential as policymakers revisit capital requirements and supervisory priorities.

Another top priority was the Access to Credit for Rural Economies Act (ACRE), legislation aimed at helping rural communities by allowing banks to offer agricultural real estate loans without the burden of interest being taxed at the federal level; and for South Dakota Banks, the state franchise tax would be exempt. This bipartisan measure, reintroduced in both chambers of Congress, is supported by Senator Mike Rounds and Representative Dusty Johnson. We also had the opportunity to discuss ACRE with key policy makers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the White House, underscoring its importance in preserving credit access for family farms and rural borrowers.

In addition to these advocacy wins, our delegation

discussed other pressing topics with policymakers, including:

- **Section 1071 rulemaking**, which imposes overly burdensome data collection requirements on small business lenders. We urged Congress to fully repeal Section 1071 and encouraged the CFPB to halt implementation while legislative efforts are underway.
- **The Basel III Endgame proposal**, which risks pushing lending into the shadow banking sector by imposing unnecessarily high capital requirements on traditional banks. We urged regulators to reconsider the proposal to avoid harming community credit access and long-term economic resilience.
- **The Anti-CBDC Surveillance State Act**, which would prohibit the Federal Reserve from issuing a Central Bank Digital Currency. This legislation, supported by the SDBA, aims to preserve financial privacy and the central role of private-sector banks in credit markets.
- **The Financial Integrity and Regulation Management (FIRM) Act**, which would protect banks' ability to serve lawful businesses without undue political interference. We thanked Senator Rounds for co-sponsoring this important legislation.
- **Overdraft protection regulation and medical debt credit reporting rules**, both of which we addressed through letters and follow-up discussions. We thanked our delegation for co-sponsoring the Congressional Review Act resolutions to overturn harmful rules finalized by the CFPB.

We also voiced strong opposition to two misguided proposals: a national 10% cap on credit card interest rates, which would shrink access to credit for consumers with limited credit histories, and the Credit Card Competition Act, which threatens the safety and integrity of our nation's payments infrastructure.

In addition to productive Hill meetings, the Summit featured remarks from several key policymakers and influencers, including Senator Tim Scott, Senator Ruben Gallego, Representative French Hill, and Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent. Their comments reinforced the central role community banks play in economic growth and national financial stability.

What stood out most to me during the Summit was the unity and resolve of community bankers. We don't come to Washington looking for favors; we come with facts, with firsthand experience, and with commitment to the communities we serve. In a time when national policies often seem disconnected from reality, our voices matter more than ever.

Continued on page 8



from the executive office

KARLTON ADAM | President | South Dakota Bankers Association
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Mr. Adam Goes to Washington

Seems like I think this every month: where does the time go? Suddenly, we are on the cusp of May 2025, nearly halfway through the year already. Our springtime has been a busy one, and summertime won't be any different. But it's our commitment to you, our members and friends, to continue serving and advocating on your behalf.

ABA Washington Summit Recap



Perhaps one event I most look forward to every year is the ABA's Washington Summit, held in our Nation's Capital each spring. Thousands of bankers from across the nation met in Washington, D.C., April 7-9. It was a busy few days that provided a promising outlook for the banking industry, something our industry has not experienced in a number of years. In addition to hearing from Senate Banking Committee Chair Tim Scott (SC-R), Congressman French Hill (AR-R), Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee and Secretary of the Treasury Scott Bessent and many others, we had positive meetings with South Dakota's Congressional delegation on many banking topics ranging from the ACRE Act, Dodd-Frank 1071, and the CFPB's final rule on overdrafts to name a few. Each session was insightful and impactful, and it is worth a tip of the hat and kudos to our friends at the ABA for a well-planned event.

Additionally, I was asked to participate in meetings with SDBA Chair Dylan Clarkson and SDBA Vice Chair Nate Franzén at the White House with members of the President's Ag policy team, including members of the Presidents Economic Policy Council regarding the status of the Ag economy in America. During this meeting we offered our insight on S. 838/H.R. 1822, the Access to Credit for our Rural Economy Act (ACRE); stating how this legislation would benefit farmers and ranchers and help sustain and grow rural America by lowering the cost of credit when financing agricultural real estate, rural homes in small communities of 2,500 or less, and aquaculture producers including fisheries. I am pleased to say that the ACRE Act is gaining traction with members of Congress as a result of our ongoing efforts.

The SDBA's delegation proudly consisted of thirty-nine bankers, staff, sponsors, and special guests, who took time away from home and the office to serve and represent our state in Washington. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Ongoing Support Back Home

On March 26th, the SDBA, on behalf of the SDBankersPAC, the state PAC that aims to support banking-friendly candidates and initiatives, invited our member banks to gift financial contributions to help aid in this effort. Big thanks to all who have already generously supported the SDBankersPAC—but candidly, our industry will benefit from additional support. Our fundraising cycle informally concluded on April 30th, but if your bank would still consider a gift to the SDBankersPAC, please contact me to learn more, and we'll be happy to supply you with the form and directions for your generous contribution.

'BIG BANK THEORY' Quad States Convention



Your involvement and participation in SDBA-hosted events is another important way you can advocate for our industry, and we have a fantastic event coming up for you to get involved in! If you are not already registered for

the 2025 'BIG BANK THEORY' Quad States Convention, June 8-10, at The Monument in Rapid City, SD, now is the time to do it! Hal, Laura, and Nat have developed another robust event for all attendees, and we would be thrilled to host you during our biggest event of the year. With weeks still to go, we've already registered nearly 300 attendees—wow! This could be one of the biggest Quad States Conventions we've hosted in a long time.

Join us as our friends, colleagues and partners from across the country, meet to learn, network, and connect. Our speakers include Mike Oster from Rapid City, SD; Lauren Henderson, an economist from Stifel in Chicago, IL; Dr. Melissa Furman from Augusta, GA; and Rob Nichols, President and CEO of the ABA, who is making his way back to South Dakota to give a Washington Update.

Head over to www.sdba.com/convention to review the agenda and complete your registration form. And by the way, the Early Bird Registration rate has been extended to Friday, May 16! For questions, concerns and special requests, email info@sdba.com.

As always, it is our honor and privilege to support, advocate and represent our members and friends, and we cannot thank you enough for your support and friendship in return. I hope we'll see you in June, but if not, I hope our paths cross soon. See you then. 🌈



south dakota bankers insurance & services
MIKE FEIMER | President | South Dakota Bankers Insurance & Services Inc.
605.660.2341 | mfeimer@sdba.com

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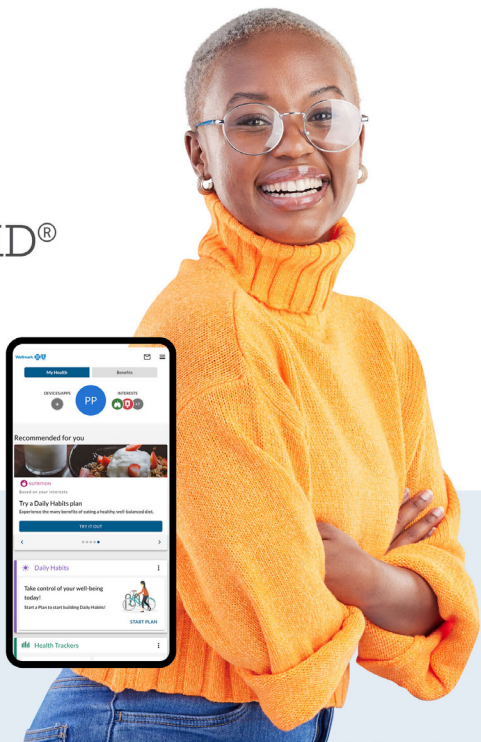
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quad states convention
HALLEY LEE | Administrative Vice President | South Dakota Bankers Association
605.224.1653 | hlee@sdba.com

Get Ready to Accelerate Your Career at The Big Bank Theory Quad States Convention!

This isn't your average banking convention—it's a financial fusion of energy, ideas, and innovation! The Big Bank Theory Quad States Convention is set to explode like a particle collider of professional potential, bringing together the brightest minds in banking from across the region.

Powerhouse Speakers

Prepare to be energized by an all-star lineup of speakers who are redefining the banking universe. From economic futurists to fintech pioneers, they'll share insights that will launch your thinking into a whole new dimension.

Networking That Defies Gravity

Whether you're a rising star or a seasoned pro, you'll make meaningful connections that matter. This is your chance to orbit around fellow professionals, exchange knowledge, and spark collaborations that can change your career trajectory.

Fun-Filled Outings with a Twist

It's not all equations and interest rates—get ready for fun outings that mix play with purpose! Whether it's the annual golf tournament, the "Get Your Nerd On!" exhibit hall party, a tour of the SURF underground lab, or mocktail mixology, you'll make memories that matter.

Business Partner Connections

Think of our business partners as the protons and electrons of your success—essential building blocks for stronger operations. Engage with vendors and providers offering tools and solutions that will add momentum to your bank's strategy.

Why Attend?

Because in the world of banking, staying still is not an option. This convention is where theory meets practice, and ideas gain mass. It's where you turn potential energy into kinetic progress.

So grab your goggles, charge your brain cells, and beam into **The Big Bank Theory Quad States Convention**—where finance meets physics, and the future is now! For details registration, visit: www.sdba.com/convention.

Share your stories with us

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2025 QUAD STATES CONVENTION
THE BIG BANK THEORY
JUNE 8-10 | RAPID CITY
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SDBA Announces Re-election of Board Members

The SDBA held elections for two of the ten seats on its Board of Directors. Elected to serve on the SDBA Board of Directors were:

- John McGrath, Senior Vice President-Chief Credit Officer, First PREMIER Bank, Sioux Falls
- Dusty Petersen, President, First Interstate Bank, Rapid City

This is McGrath and Petersen’s second three-year term on the SDBA Board of Directors, which began on May 1, 2025.

John McGrath



John McGrath, SVP and chief credit officer at First PREMIER Bank, has a commercial economics degree from South Dakota State University and has worked in the banking industry for 47 years. McGrath started his career in 1978 with First National Bank of the Black Hills (now Wells Fargo) in Rapid City and the following year joined Miners & Merchants Bank in Lead. In 1984,

McGrath moved to Norwest (Wells Fargo) and worked in Deadwood, Sioux Falls and Rapid City before joining First PREMIER Bank in Sioux Falls in 1994.

McGrath currently serves on the South Dakota Hall of Fame Board of Directors, is treasurer of the South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame, and has officiated high school football games for 45 years. He has also served on several non-profit boards and on the SDBA Agricultural Credit Committee for a number of years.

McGrath and his wife, Carol, have been married for 42 years. They have four grown children and one granddaughter.

“I’ve enjoyed being a member of the SDBA Board of Directors and advocating for our industry. This is a group of diverse, dedicated bankers who I’m proud to be associated with. I welcome the opportunity to continue to be a part of the team.”

Dusty Peterson



Dusty Petersen has been with First Interstate Bank for 28 years, serving in various capacities across numerous South Dakota locations. Her roles have included mortgage lending, small business lending, corporate coaching, and branch management. Currently, Petersen holds the position of Vice President and Retail Hub Manager, overseeing the Rapid City, Badlands,

and Southern Hills markets. She has a proven talent for creating and restructuring teams to align employees with their individual strengths, resulting in higher productivity, enhanced customer satisfaction, and

increased employee engagement.

“Banking has provided me with the opportunity and platform to grow as a leader, learning all facets of the industry,” Petersen stated. “During my time on the SDBA Board, I’ve gained valuable exposure to regulatory, technological, and economic challenges impacting our industry in South Dakota. Collaborating with bankers and bank leaders across the state has been instrumental in addressing these issues. If re-elected, I will continue advocating for all banks and the broader banking sector in South Dakota. My commitment remains steadfast in supporting the financial services industry through education, training, and advocacy.”

Petersen emphasizes the importance of a diverse group of professionals with varied experiences coming together to tackle challenges within the banking community. She is dedicated to engaging on critical issues and working collaboratively to advance the industry’s interests.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Petersen is actively involved in her community, serving on Monument Health’s Rapid City Hospital Board of Directors and its Corporate Responsibility Committee. She and her husband, Dr. Clint Petersen, own 605 DOT Physicals in Summerset, South Dakota. Together, they have four adult children and enjoy traveling, boating, off-road adventures, and motorcycling.

Championing Community Banking in the Nation’s Capital cont.

The strength of this year’s South Dakota delegation reflects the dedication of our members, and the increasing recognition of how critical community banking is, not just in our state, but across the country. Whether we’re protecting access to credit, fighting burdensome regulations, or promoting fair competition, the SDBA will continue to advocate for our members with clarity and purpose.

As always, I encourage you to stay engaged, share your stories with lawmakers, and watch for updates from the SDBA as many of these important measures continue to move through Congress. Together, we are the voice of community banking—and together, we’re being heard.

Dylan S. Clarkson
President & CEO, Pioneer Bank & Trust
Chair, South Dakota Bankers Association

2025 QUAD STATES CONVENTION

JUNE 8-10, 2025 | RAPID CITY

FEATURED SPEAKERS

DAVE DEFazio

ET: THE EXTRA TRANSACTIONAL - FINTECH'S ROLE IN SEAMLESS FINANCIAL INTERACTIONS

In this session we explore the evolving landscape of fintech and its transformative impact on banking behavior, customer experience and financial advice. Witness the cutting-edge technologies that are reimagining the way consumers engage with their finances.

Dave DeFazio is EVP of Strategy and Solutions at StrategyCorps. He’s armed with a passion for banking strategy, and always exploring the intersection of data, marketing, and technology. He downloads banking apps for fun. On the weekend. And talks about them at dinner with his family.

JACK STAHLMANN

THE INTANGIBLE IT

In this keynote, you will learn about *The Gift* and how to channel your inner-Clooney to make everyone you encounter feel like the most important person in the room.

Having “it” makes a huge difference in the way HR professionals connect with their teams, allowing your attendees to have an even deeper impact beyond the great work they are already doing.

Jack graduated with honors at DePauw University (yes, DePauw with a W) and has been a regular contributor to HuffPost. For the last decade he has been entertaining companies, schools and associations worldwide, while delivering actionable takeaways to make a real difference in the workplace.

Emerging Leader of the Month

Billie Sutton



As part of the SDBA's mission to grow South Dakota's future bank leaders, we feature a monthly emerging leader. For May, we recognize Billie Sutton from First Fidelity Bank in Burke, SD.

First-Ever Job

I worked for my dad on our family ranch all

through high school (you don't get paid for that. Lol).

Emerging Leader Story

I grew up on my family ranch in rural Burke, South Dakota. I fell in love with horses and with rodeo. My childhood dream was to be a world champion rodeo cowboy, and I started working toward that goal. I saw success in 4-H rodeo as well as high school rodeo. My senior year, I finished 2nd in the nation in the saddle bronc riding at the National High School Finals Rodeo. That earned me a full ride to the University of Wyoming on a rodeo scholarship. I went on to be the all-time top points scorer at UW and started rodeoing professionally. Rodeo was my plan for the future.

Little did I know, I would soon face my toughest challenge.

It was October 4, 2007. I was 23 years old, had been rodeoing professionally for a few years now, and was competing at the Badlands Circuit Finals Rodeo in Minot, North Dakota. I got in the chute, but before I could nod my head, the horse I was on flipped over on me, slamming my back against the chute gate. When she stood up, I knew I had broken my back. I was instantly paralyzed from the waist down.

From that day on, everything would change.

When I woke up in a hospital in Minneapolis, I remember thinking about how I had my whole life planned out. Even at 23, I knew how it was going to go. I was going to be a world champion bronc rider and one day return home to run the family ranch. But, instead, I was told that I would never ride bucking horses again. I was told I may never walk again.

That was the most sobering moment of my life. Life as I knew it changed forever in that instant. The injury tried me in ways I couldn't have imagined. The seemingly insurmountable challenges I faced tested my resolve, my perseverance, and my drive to move forward.

I never gave up hope. And neither did my family or community who invested so much in me. I had only been dating the love of my life, Kelsea, for 2 weeks at

the time of the accident, but she stuck by me through everything. She didn't even blink.

My family was there as I recovered at the hospital and treatment centers. When I returned to my hometown of Burke, the entire community came together for me. They helped raise funds to cover the costs of my medical care and the new equipment I would need to do things most people take for granted like driving. Together we got through that really tough time and overcame the new obstacles I would face in life.



In 2010 I had the opportunity to use my degree in finance to work at First Fidelity Bank as a registered investment representative. I still work there today and in 2019, I became the Human Resources Manager and joined the Board of Directors.

In addition to my work life, I remained active in my community following my accident. Instead of riding bucking horses, I now help coordinate the local award-winning Burke Stampede Rodeo that is so important to our town.



In 2010, at just 26, I was elected to the State Senate and went on to become Senate Minority Leader. I served in the State Senate for 8 years. I then went on



to make a very competitive run for Governor of South Dakota in 2018.

In 2019 I, along with Kelsea and our dear friend Suzie Jones Pranger, started the Billie

Sutton Leadership Institute that is dedicated to inspiring and preparing the next generation of leaders to build a strong South Dakota and more vibrant communities and workplaces through service to others. We are now in our 7th year of this journey; only part of what has been written so far!

What Billie Likes Most About His Job

I am the human resources manager, registered investment representative, and a member of the Board of Directors. I love working with people and there are no better people to work with than the folks here at First Fidelity Bank. They are salt of the earth and love what they do. That makes my job fun!

If He Could Have Any Job

I think I would be an actor. I have always been a big movie fan and have loved John Wayne since I was a little

kid. With that said, there is not a much more fun occupation than being a rodeo cowboy. It might sound crazy to some but there is nothing better than traveling across the country getting on bucking horses!

Billie's Life Passions

I am passionate about helping people and solving problems. I love my family and spending time with them. Kelsea and I have three boys, Liam (9), twins Lake and Lou (3). I love watching Liam complete in wrestling, rodeo, football, and any other activity that he can think of doing. I also love watching our twins group up and it is happening way too fast.



How He Unwinds

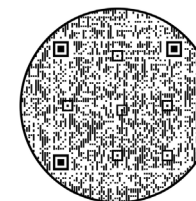
I like to play cards with friends, especially poker and pitch. I am a sucker for a good movie/tv show as well.

Little Known Facts About Billie

I think I got it covered! 🌈

NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR EXPERIENCED AG BANKERS

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SPEARFISH, SOUTH DAKOTA

www.sdba.com/events



sdba news

2025 ABA Washington Summit



The ABA recently held its annual Washington Summit in the nation's capital, offering a valuable platform for bankers to advocate for the policy changes needed to help America's banks better serve their communities. The event also provided an opportunity to strengthen relationships with lawmakers and amplify the voice of our industry on Capitol Hill. Uniting as one voice is essential to helping policymakers understand the vital role banks play in driving economic growth and creating jobs.

This year, the SDBA proudly brought a group of thirty-nine bankers, staff, sponsors, and special guests to represent our state. We were especially excited to include seven emerging leaders in our delegation.

The Summit featured a dynamic lineup of speakers and sessions, including insights from congressional leaders, top banking executives, efficiency experts and motivational speakers. Additionally, the event included specialized programming for Women and Allies, as well

as for Emerging Leaders.

One of the key components of the Summit was the opportunity for attendees to meet directly with their congressional representatives. We were pleased to have meaningful conversations with Senators Rounds and Thune, and with Representative Dusty Johnson and their respective staffs. Topics included timely issues such as banking regulations, ACRE, and more. After our Capitol Hill visits, we joined our colleagues from North Dakota for a reception and dinner generously sponsored by IntraFi Network.

As you plan ahead for 2026, we encourage you to mark your calendars for next year's Washington Summit: March 9-11, 2026. The SDBA offers a \$500 stipend per bank to support attendance. Programming for Emerging Leaders and Women and Allies in Banking will again be featured, making it a fantastic opportunity to learn, grow, connect—and yes, even have a bit of fun. 🌈



Our Mission is to Help You Succeed

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- Loan participation purchases and sales*
- Bank stock financing
- Bank executive and employee financing

*We do not re-participate loans.



Todd Holzwarth
SVP/Correspondent Banking
Business Development Officer
Based out of Sioux Falls, S.D.
Covers: South Dakota, North
Dakota, northwest Iowa and
southwest Minnesota
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scholarship opportunities

Scholarships Offered Through Our Member Banks

In support of the South Dakota Bankers Foundation's re-defined mission statement "Developing South Dakota Banking Industry Professionals," the scholarship programming offered through the Foundation has been redesigned. The Foundation has created a scholarship opportunity that will more directly help to build and sustain South Dakota's banking workforce.

The parameters of this new opportunity are:

1. Scholarships:

- Banks must select a South Dakota college sophomore, junior, senior or grad student or second year South Dakota technical college student seeking employment in a banking/financial services organization. If you need help in finding a student to award a scholarship to, please contact the SDBA at info@sdba.com.
- Once student(s) is/are selected, the bank will notify the Foundation of the recipient's name and school. The Foundation will cut the check to the appropriate educational institution on behalf of the selected student(s). The scholarship request form can be found here.
- Students can be pursuing areas such as finance, business, IT, HR, marketing, etc. as long as their intent is to pursue a career in the banking industry.
- If a bank chooses to award a scholarship to a bank employee or child of an employee, this must first be approved by the Foundation Board.

2. Scholarship recipients will be required to sign a release form allowing the Foundation to use their name/likeness.

3. The \$4,000 may be split and awarded to multiple students.

4. No match is required.

5. If total applications exceed available funds, awards will be prorated to service as many member banks as possible.

Deadline to apply: Friday, June 13, 2025.

Contact Foundation Executive Director Halley Lee for more information: 605-224.1653 | hlee@sdba.com.

2025 SDBA WOMEN OF Impact Award

The SDBA Women of Impact Award has been established to celebrate South Dakota Bankers Association members who have made significant contributions and positive impacts in their organizations, communities, and industry.

Awards will be presented at the 2025 Lead Strong: Women in Banking Conference on September 10 in Sioux Falls, SD.

Nominations must be received by August 1
www.sdba.com/women-in-banking

2024 WOI recipients:
Jill Luque
Plains Commerce Bank
Pennie Lutz
Richland State Bank

bankers in action

■ BankStar Financial Gives Back at Feeding Brookings ■

On March 6, 2025, several employees from BankStar Financial proudly volunteered their time at Feeding Brookings, a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing food insecurity in the local community and part of the broader Feeding South Dakota network (<https://www.feedingsouthdakota.org/>). The team gathered at Ascension Lutheran Church in Brookings, where Feeding Brookings is headquartered, to assist in packing over 400 food boxes for families in need. Some helped pack the food items into boxes while others used wagons to haul the completed boxes outside to where the drive-thru distribution line forms.

Feeding Brookings began in 2010 as a mission of Ascension Lutheran Church. All 30+ weekly helpers are volunteers. Volunteers come from many walks of life and various local organizations and institutions like BankStar's employee group.

All year long, BankStar employees pursue individual and group volunteer activities, and we like to share about this work during Community Banking Month each April. Teams have assisted with serving concessions, picking up trash from ditches, serving food at Harvest



Table, assisting with the Brookings Marathon, participating in Rotary Club, coaching youth basketball, and so much more.

BankStar Financial remains committed lifting up and enhancing our communities through good work, strong partnerships and community involvement. To us, that's what it means to BANK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.™

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bank notes

American Bank & Trust Donates \$57,754 to Local Schools Through Spirit Card Program

(Sioux Falls, South Dakota – April 16, 2025) – American Bank & Trust (AB&T) is proud to strengthen its commitment to local communities through its Spirit Card Program, an initiative designed to foster school pride while providing crucial financial support to school districts.

This year, AB&T is thrilled to donate \$57,754 to 20 participating school districts within its footprint. These funds will directly support a range of vital initiatives, including classroom supplies, athletic equipment, performing arts center enhancements, library furniture, materials for shop classes, field trips, and funding students' unpaid lunch balances. Some funds will also benefit programs such as Best Buddies, which fosters inclusive friendships. Since 2012, AB&T has proudly contributed over \$327,000 to local schools through the Spirit Card Program.

The Spirit Card is more than just a debit card—it's a meaningful way for customers to support their schools while celebrating community pride. Each card features the name, colors, and mascot of the chosen school district and is linked directly to the cardholder's checking account. With every transaction made using a Spirit Card, AB&T donates a portion back to the designated school, turning everyday purchases into tangible support for education.

Currently, AB&T offers Spirit Cards for twenty school districts, including the Huron Tigers, Wessington Springs Spartans, Miller Rustlers, De Smet Bulldogs, Wolsey-Wessington Warbirds, Northwestern Wildcats, Pierre Governors, Stanley County Buffalos, Iroquois-Lake Preston Sharks, Howard Tigers, James Valley Christian Vikings, Corsica-Stickney Jaguars, Watertown Arrows, Worthington Trojans, Aberdeen Golden Eagles, Aberdeen Christian Knights, Aberdeen Roncalli Cavaliers, Lennox Orioles, Lisbon Broncos, and the Tea Area Titans.



Huron Tigers received a check for \$8,137 to be used in the Huron School District Foundation for grants and scholarships.



Pierre Governors received a check for \$6,109 to be used for : Ink and vinyl supplies, adaptive kitchen equipment and supplies, five additional microscopes, a scroll saw and lumber, caps and gowns for kindergarten graduation, STEM bins for playtime and more.

Keith Robbennolt Joins BankWest as Business Development Officer



RAPID CITY- BankWest is proud to announce the hiring of Keith Robbennolt, Business Development Officer, in the Rapid City market. With over 25 years of experience in the financial services industry and 20 years of expertise in commercial lending, Robbennolt brings a depth of knowledge and professional insight to his role.

BankWest Regional President Bryan Lutz recognized Robbennolt's skills in commercial lending. "Keith has a remarkable ability to understand the unique nuances of each commercial loan," said Lutz.

A graduate of Colorado State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing, Robbennolt has built a career around helping business owners realize their dreams. "Commercial lending is an art form," Robbennolt explains. "Each situation is unique, and there's nothing more satisfying than helping an individual fulfill

their dream of business ownership and witnessing the pride that comes with entrepreneurship."

Robbennolt is deeply committed to both his professional and personal community. He previously served on the boards of Black Hills Works Foundation and United Way of the Black Hills.

Robbennolt and his wife Shawna have three sons: Vincent, Isaac, and Dylan. The family, which includes their Mini Golden Doodle Finley, stays active in the community and supports local causes, including volunteering for the Special Olympics.

Robbennolt's office is located at 311 Omaha St in Rapid City.



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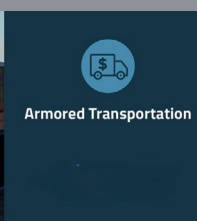
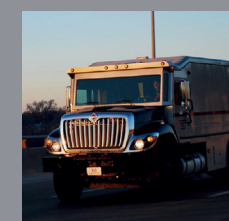
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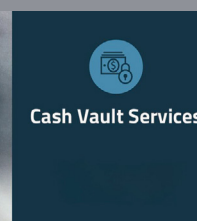
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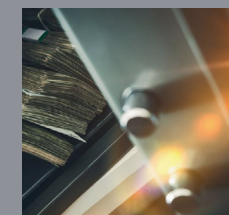
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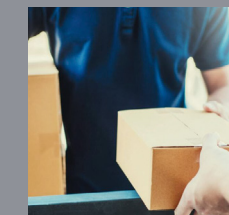
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bank notes

First Dakota National Bank Announces Changes to Board Members
Longtime Chairman Larry Ness to Hand Reins to Sons

SOUTH DAKOTA: First Dakota National Bank today announced changes to its Board of Directors, with Sioux Falls President Michael Ness elected Chairman of the Board and Executive Vice President - Market Manager Aaron Ness elected Vice Chairman. Previous Chairman Larry Ness and Vice Chairman Dave Olson will remain on the Board, serving as directors. Rob Ness, Chief Financial Officer and Director, was reappointed as Board Corporate Secretary, a position he's held for the past several years, and Dennis Everson retired from the Board.

First Dakota would like to express its most sincere gratitude to Larry—who also served as CEO of First Dakota National Bank from 1983 to 2022—for an impressive 29-year tenure as Chairman of the Board. Under Larry's guidance, First Dakota grew from one location and \$42 million in assets to 17 locations in 12 South Dakota cities with more than \$2.9 billion in assets.

"It's been an honor to serve as Chairman for the past 29 years, but what an even greater honor it is to pass the torch to the next generation of leadership," Larry said. "When I came to First Dakota in 1983, I saw an opportunity to accomplish ambitious—some might say outrageously ambitious—goals, and 42 years later, we've exceeded even my own expectations."

With nearly 70 years of combined service to First Dakota already, Michael, Aaron and Rob are excited for the opportunity to continue guiding the vision and direction of the bank toward an even more successful future.

"Having this opportunity to carry on our family legacy at First Dakota is both exciting and humbling," said Mike. "The future is bright for First Dakota, and with our incredible staff, loyal customers and committed leadership, we believe the potential is unlimited."

First Dakota would also like to thank outgoing Board member Dennis Everson for his years of service and commitment to First Dakota's success.

"Denny isn't just a thoughtful and committed leader, he's also a good friend," Larry said. "It's been an honor to serve alongside him for many years, and we wish him the very best in the future."



BankWest Awards Scholarships to Area Students

BankWest Chairman and CEO Charles H. Burke III recently announced the awarding of 24 BankWest Scholarships to students from across South Dakota for the 2025-26 school year. Students will receive a \$2,000 scholarship to pursue post-secondary education at a school of their choice.

"Each scholarship we award at BankWest represents more than financial support—it's our commitment to nurturing the extraordinary talent right here in our communities," Burke said. "These remarkable students combine academic achievement with genuine dedication to service, embodying the values

that make South Dakota strong. By investing in their education today, we're helping build a foundation for innovation and leadership that will benefit our region for generations to come."

BankWest has awarded \$628,500 in academic scholarships during the past 32 years. Burke said 77 students applied for this year's scholarships. The BankWest Scholarship program recognizes outstanding achievement by student account holders at BankWest. Students receiving \$2,000 BankWest Scholarships include:

Rowdy Baldwin, Pierre
Trinity Bietz, Scotland
Brindy Bolander, Winner
Colton Brady, Pierre
Josie Brouwer, Armour
Ava Craven, Winner
Jesse Eldridge, Pierre
Lillyan Fechner, Delmont
Lainee Forst, Mitchell

Reese Hand, Hayes/Fort Pierre
Kellen Hansen, Pierre
Savanah Hendricks, Vivian
Josey Hubner, Glenham
Brylee Kafka, Fort Pierre
Amber Kohlenberg, Mitchell
Spencer Sargent, Pierre
Marlee Shorter, Pierre
Tessa Sieh, Winner

Emerson Smith, Mitchell
Riley Spaans, Armour
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A Legacy of Financial Literacy

Each year, we celebrate Teach Children to Save Day on the fourth Thursday in April—a day dedicated to helping kids in grades K-8 learn valuable lessons about saving money, budgeting and distinguishing wants from needs.

I've been participating in Teach Children to Save Day events since I became CEO at ABA ten years ago, and I always look forward to going out into classrooms and spending time with young people in our community—just as I know so many of you do.

As we commemorate Teach Children to Save Day 2025, I'm reminded of the incredible legacy of the ABA Foundation, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The foundation was launched in 1925 (in conjunction with ABA's 50th anniversary) as the Foundation for Education in Economics Trust Fund. Funded through voluntary contributions, the trust fund sponsored college scholarships and research grants in economics, banking and finance.

In the 1970s, the foundation launched its first consumer education program—the Personal Economics Program—to help volunteer bankers bring financial education presentations to their local schools and communities, and in 1997, Teach Children to Save Day was created.

Education is at the heart of the foundation's mission, and today, the organization empowers bankers with the tools and resources to help build long-term financial capability for Americans of all ages. We do this through our many flagship programs—including Teach Children

to Save; Get Smart About Credit; Safe Banking for Seniors; and Lights, Camera, Save!—as well as through training, consumer resources and campaigns.

I'm incredibly proud of the work the foundation has done throughout its history to support banks as they help build long-term financial security, promote revitalized and resilient communities and advance economic opportunity for all—and the work continues! In fact, the foundation has set an ambitious goal of reaching 5 million people with financial education programs by 2026.

We are already well on our way: so far, more than 1,100 banks have reached 2.2 million customers and counting. If you're not already participating in these programs, I encourage you to explore our offerings and join us in this effort. Thanks to financial support from the foundation's sponsors, we are able to provide our programs and resources for free to every bank in the nation. You can register at any time at aba.com/FinEd.

As bankers know all too well, you're never too old—or too young—to deepen your understanding of personal finance and increase financial literacy.

By volunteering your time and expertise in your community, bankers like you can help Americans of all ages chart their course to a bright financial future.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 QUAD STATES CONVENTION

THE BIG BANK THEORY

JUNE 8-10

RAPID CITY, SD

2025 National School for Experienced Ag Bankers

June 23-26, 2025 | Spearfish

The National School for Experienced Ag Bankers is a seminar for experienced ag bankers who want to further develop their ag lending skills, learn new skills, confirm existing methodology and meet fellow bankers who share the same career path. Taught by a nationally-recognized faculty of bankers, academics and other real-world ag banking practitioners, this program is focused on ag lending opportunities and challenges that are relevant to ag bankers from across the United States.



2025 SDBA Ag Credit Conference

July 22-23, 2025 | Pierre

The 2025 SDBA Agricultural Credit Conference brings together key professionals from the financial and agricultural industries to discuss critical issues related to agricultural financing and credit accessibility. This event provides a forum to examine emerging trends, tackle common challenges, and explore opportunities for collaboration that enhance the resilience and long-term success of the agricultural sector.

Understanding Bank Performance

July 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, Aug 1 | Virtual

Participants will learn how to assess and analyze a bank's financial performance by working with data from real institutions. Using financial statements from one sample financial institution along with statements from their own banks, participants will become familiar with the ins and outs of balance sheets and income statements and learn how to apply key performance metrics to the data presented in these documents.

2025 Fraud Academy

August 12-14, 2025 | Lexington, KY or Virtual

Fraud Academy is a pioneering initiative designed to arm bankers with the skills needed to detect and combat fraud. Our unique program features insights from experts across the DEA, FBI, the Secret Service, law enforcement, AARP, and the financial industry, offering a robust education in fraud prevention from those who know it best.

2025 SDBA Lead Strong: Women in Banking Conference

September 9-10, 2025 | Sioux Falls

2025 Banking Forward: Fall Forum

October 1, 2025 | Sioux Falls

SCENES OF SOUTH DAKOTA 2026 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

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schools

GSB Financial Managers School

September 22-26, 2025 | Madison, WI

As the economic and regulatory environments continue to change, it's vital that financial services CFOs, controllers and other finance and accounting executives have a solid foundation in asset/liability management. The Financial Managers School provides this foundation through this unique, hands-on immersion program designed to provide you with workable strategies to meet your institution's regulatory and financial performance objectives.

The Financial Managers School goes beyond the basics offering a learning environment aimed at giving you the practical tools you can bring back to your institution and implement immediately. You'll learn innovative concepts and terminology of bank finance and asset/liability management as well as test practical implementation tools to help you profitably manage your institution's balance sheet, enhance your strategic planning, and better communicate new strategies to your board and ALCO. Learn more at www.gsb.org.





Financial Managers SCHOOL

September 22 – 26, 2025 • Madison, WI

Presented by:



As the economic and regulatory environments continue to change, it's vital that financial services CFOs, controllers and other finance and accounting executives have a solid foundation in asset/liability management. The Financial Managers School provides this foundation through this unique, hands-on immersion program designed to provide you with workable strategies to meet your institution's regulatory and financial performance objectives.

THIS PROGRAM SELLS OUT YEAR AFTER YEAR, SO ENROLL EARLY TO BENEFIT FROM TOP-NOTCH INSTRUCTORS, ENGAGING CURRICULUM AND EXCEPTIONAL NETWORKING

"I found the school extremely informative and more in-depth than other programs. The information gained is instantly relevant and useful as soon as you get back to your institution plus the relationships and contacts I met have been great for follow up."

"Loved the real world examples to help explain complex topics!"

"The most valuable part for me was putting together the entire puzzle of banking & discovering how all the pieces fit together and affect one another."

"Dave's ability to tie various subjects together helped me determine how things all work together. I would gladly listen to Dave and his ideas anytime."

PROGRAM CONTENT*
The Financial Managers School offers a unique, hands-on learning environment where you will use your own institution's data to enhance learning. The comprehensive agenda will cover, but is not limited to:

- Develop an effective capital planning strategy that adapts to change and uses an A/L model to evaluate risk
- Analyze peer and trend analysis to develop a risk management profile with effective measures and goals
- Examine interest rate risk and the measurement systems of gap, duration, dynamic income at risk, static and dynamic value at risk
- Communicate financial information to management for responsible decisions on investment policy
- Evaluate liquidity risk management strategies and funding options
- Examine effective credit risk management including loan policy, tracking issues, and integration with the ALCO process
- Price loans using benchmark securities
- Install an effective deposit pricing process with decision-making tools for choosing the best retail and wholesale funding options
- Make better decisions by measuring the profitability of the organization/lines of business/product development/ customers

*The above content is based on curriculum covered at the 2024 Financial Managers School and is subject to modification

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
CFOs and others in senior management actively involved in the financial management responsibilities of small- to medium-sized financial institutions. Financial managers who have day-to-day experience with ALM, investments, budgeting and reporting activities will benefit from this in-depth peer and process immersion in ALM.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
A comprehensive program overview, curriculum description and online registration form are available on the GSB website: gsb.org or the FMS website: FMSinc.org/school


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