

# SD BANKER



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA BANKERS ASSOCIATION | APRIL 2026

SDBA and Member  
Bankers Attend 2026  
ABA Washington  
Summit



**SDBANKERS**  
ASSOCIATION

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Registration Materials available April 1

# 2026 NDBA/SDBA Annual Convention

June 15-17, 2026 ★ Radisson Hotel, Bismarck ND

## ★ ★ ★ STRONGER Together ★ ★ ★ Featured Speakers



Analyst | Investor | Speaker

**THOMAS LANDSTREET**

Global Policy: Risks & Opportunities



ABA Policy Analyst | Strategist | Educator

**RYAN MILLER**

Banking Technology/Stablecoin Session



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## message from the chair

Pete Mehlhaff | President/CEO | Great Plains Bank, Aberdeen  
605.725.9400 | petem@greatplainsbank.com

# A South Dakota Perspective on Digital Payments and Community Lending

Over the past several decades, the way Americans move money has evolved from checks to cards to online and mobile banking. Innovation has consistently improved speed and convenience. Throughout these changes, community banks in South Dakota have remained focused on a core function that has not changed: transforming local savings into local lending that supports families, farms, and small businesses.

Today, certain digital payment products risk blurring important lines. Stablecoins, digital instruments designed to track the U.S. dollar, can be useful for facilitating payments. Policy concerns arise when these products move beyond transactions and begin to pull money away from the community banks that use those funds for local lending.

That question is no longer hypothetical, and it is shaping conversations about a specific set of digital payments tools called stablecoins. At a basic level, a stablecoin is a digital payment instrument designed to maintain a steady value, usually equal to one U.S. dollar. The appeal is speed. These tokens can move quickly through apps and online platforms, making them useful for certain types of payments when used as intended. The concern arises when these payment tools begin to function less like transactions and more like places to hold money.

Some platforms now promote rewards for holding stablecoin balances. To the average consumer, earning a return on stored funds can feel indistinguishable from interest on a bank deposit, and that perception is probably intentional. By mimicking the attributes of banks, these platforms benefit from the public confidence banks have earned over decades of regulation and oversight. However, stablecoins are not bank deposits. They are not FDIC insured, not subject to routine federal and state examinations, and not backed by the stringent capital and liquidity requirements designed to protect consumers and the broader financial system. This distinction is often overlooked until high-profile failures such as FTX and BlockFi expose the fraud, mismanagement, and operational risks that can exist in non-traditional financial platforms operating without regulatory guardrails or time-tested business models.

These risks extend beyond individual consumers to the communities in which they live. Attempts by these

platforms to operate “like banks” carry real economic consequences. Deposits held at community banks do not sit idle. They finance first homes, vehicle purchases, operating lines for farmers, and the loans small businesses rely on to operate on Main Street. Banking is a long-standing partnership between financial institutions and the communities they serve, allowing both to grow and thrive together. Digital platforms, by contrast, are not relational. Dollars held by them are removed from local communities, resulting in fewer resources available for lending; particularly in rural states where community banks remain the primary source of credit for agriculture, housing, and small business development.

None of this is an argument against innovation. Community banks have consistently adopted technology that helps customers manage and move their money securely and conveniently, from mobile banking to faster payment systems and enhanced fraud protections. Progress works best when products are clear about their purpose and consumers understand how different options fit into the broader financial system.

Banks play a distinct role in the economy. We are examined regularly, required to hold capital and liquidity, and backed by deposit insurance that protects families’ savings. When interest is paid on deposits, it reflects lending activity that supports jobs, farms, and small businesses in nearby communities. Digital payment platforms may offer convenience, but they are not designed to provide the same function. Clarity about those differences helps consumers make informed decisions.

Lawmakers in both parties have approached these issues with care, working to promote innovation and preserve financial stability. As Congress continues to consider legislation on digital assets like stablecoins, it must protect consumers, community banks and local lending by preventing platforms from offering rewards for holding stablecoins.

Digital payment tools will continue to evolve, and stablecoins may play a role in how money moves in the future. If those tools remain focused on payments, while community banks continue serving as the foundation for local lending, South Dakota can benefit from innovation without weakening the model that has long supported our communities. That kind of steady progress, grounded in clarity and experience, is how our state moves forward. 🌈



## from the executive office

KARLTON ADAM | President | South Dakota Bankers Association  
605.224.1653 | kadam@sdba.com

# Grounded in Advocacy, Focused on the Future

As we close the chapter on the 101st Session of the South Dakota Legislature, one thing is clear: success in advocacy is rarely accidental. This year delivered meaningful wins for our industry—but not without effort. It required strategy, responsiveness, and strong coordination among SDBA members and partners across the state.

While the pace was demanding, the outcome reinforces what we know to be true: when we engage early, stay informed, and work together, we can make a real impact. With that in mind, I'd like to once again thank the legislators who supported our industry. Your willingness to listen to our members, your constituents, on our bills of interest never goes unnoticed or unappreciated.

One of the most notable achievements this session was the passage of House Bill 1238. This important legislation strengthens protections against the financial exploitation of seniors, vulnerable adults and consenting adults, by empowering financial institutions to take action when suspicious activity arises. Just as importantly, the bill provides liability protections for banks and employees acting in good faith to prevent potential harm.

Governor Larry Rhoden signed HB 1238 into law on March 12, with an effective date of July 1. As implementation approaches, the SDBA is actively developing guidance and training resources to support our members in applying this new law efficiently and confidently. More details will be shared in the coming months.

Even as we reflect on a successful legislative session, we are reminded that advocacy is not bound by a calendar. With the state session behind us, our attention turns to a number of important federal issues that will shape the future of our industry. Topics such as stablecoin regulation, ("close the loophole"), indexing thresholds, interchange, interest rate caps, and Section 1071 remain front and center. Each presents its own complexities and potential impacts, reinforcing the need for continued engagement at every level.

Advocacy is not a one-time effort—it is an ongoing commitment. And as the landscape evolves, so must our approach.

That spirit of engagement carries into our spring outreach efforts. We look forward to connecting with many of you in person at our upcoming "This is How We Roll" stop in Sioux Falls on April 22. These gatherings

provide an opportunity to share updates, hear directly from our members, and continue strengthening the relationships that drive our work forward.

To ensure we're making the most of everyone's time and participation, we have consolidated our previously scheduled Rapid City, Pierre, and Aberdeen meetings into a single virtual "This is How We Roll" session on Thursday, April 16. While we always value the chance to meet face-to-face, this adjustment allows us to bring members together more effectively and continue the conversation in a meaningful way. Registration details are available at [www.sdba.com](http://www.sdba.com).

As always, thank you for your continued involvement, your advocacy, and your commitment to serving your communities. The progress we make—whether in Pierre or in Washington—is a direct reflection of your engagement. And while the work is never truly done, neither is our resolve to move it forward. 📊

**40 AND 50 YEAR  
BANKER  
AWARDS**

The SDBA will honor and recognize bankers with 40 or 50 years of service in banking during its Annual Business Meeting during the 2026 NDBA/SDBA Convention in Bismarck, ND.

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**SUBMIT BY MAY 22, 2026**



## south dakota bankers insurance & services

MIKE FEIMER | President | South Dakota Bankers Insurance & Services Inc.  
605.660.2341 | mfeimer@sdba.com

*To all our members,*

*In utilizing the best health care policy in the state, you may want to visit the BCBS resources that come with our Plan. There are many helpful tools and they provide great insight into utilizing all the tools to make life just a little easier.*

*We review these resources once a year and we want to make sure they get to the end user. If you have questions, please contact Michelle Guthmiller or myself. - Mike Feimer*

# Getting the most from your health plan

Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield members have access to free tools and resources. They're all designed to help you manage your health care costs and live a healthier life.



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myWellmark is your resource for understanding and seeing how your health plan works. Not only can you access your benefits and see how your plan covered your medical and pharmacy needs, you can also find:

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### Blue365® Program

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### Blue<sup>SM</sup>

Each issue of Blue features health and wellness articles, consumer tips and health plan news. It provides resources on living a fulfilling and healthy life. Find it online at [Wellmark.com/Blue](https://Wellmark.com/Blue).



# SDBA Seeking Candidates for 2026 Board Elections

Elections for the SDBA's Board of Directors are scheduled for April 2026. Three seats are up for election: Group IV, Mid-Size Community Bank Category, and Community Bank Category.

- **Group IV:** This seat is currently held by Terry Fitzke, BankWest, who is eligible to run for a second three-year term. Terry will be running for the Group IV seat.
- **Community Bank Category:** This seat is currently held by Cameron Becker, Rivers Edge Bank, who is eligible to run for a second three-year term. Cameron will be running for the Community Bank Category seat.
- **Mid-Size Community Bank Category:** This seat is currently held by Todd Christoffer, First National Bank, who is eligible to run for a second three-year term. Todd will be running for the Community Bank Category seat.

If you are interested in running for one of the board seats, please contact a member of the nominating committee listed below by **April 10, 2026**. In addition, please submit a short bio and headshot photo for the voting ballot to Laura Norton at [Lnorton@sdba.com](mailto:Lnorton@sdba.com). Newly elected SDBA Board members will take office on May 1, 2026, and serve a three-year term expiring April 30, 2029.

## Group IV Nominating Committee

*Banks in Butte, Campbell, Corson, Dewey, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, Harding, Hughes, Hyde, McPherson, Perkins, Potter, Sully, Walworth and Ziebach counties.*

### Steve Hageman

Plains Commerce Bank, Hoven  
605-886-6966  
shageman@plainscommerce.com

### Mike Owens

Sunrise Bank Dakota, Onida  
605-258-2641  
mike@mysunrisebank.com

## Mid-Size Community Bank Nominating Committee

*Banks with deposits between \$200 million and \$750 million.*

### Mike Frei

Commercial State Bank, Wagner  
605-384-3646  
mlfrei@commercialstate.com

### Kevin Moe

FNBO, Yankton  
605-679-1750  
kmoe@fnbo.com

## Community Bank Nominating Committee

*Banks with deposits between \$75 million and \$200 million.*

### Paul Domke

Heartland State Bank, Redfield  
605-475-5500  
pdomke@hsbsd.com

### Kevin Wientjes

Campbell County Bank, Herreid  
605-437-2294  
ktw@campbellcountybank.com

## Election Timetable

### April 10

Deadline to contact nominating committee to get name on ballot.

### April 15

One mail ballot sent to each bank in respective groups.

### April 24

Voting complete in respective groups.

### May 1

New directors begin terms.

# 2026 SDBA WOMEN OF Impact Award



## NOMINATIONS DUE AUGUST 3

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.



[www.sdba.com/women-in-banking](http://www.sdba.com/women-in-banking)

# SDBA Staff and Member Bankers Attend ABA Washington Summit

**B**ankers from across the country gathered in Washington, D.C., March 9–11 for the American Bankers Association’s 2026 Washington Summit. The event provided a valuable platform for bankers to advocate for policies that help America’s banks better serve their communities while strengthening relationships with lawmakers and amplifying the voice of our industry on Capitol Hill.

The South Dakota Bankers Association was proud to bring a delegation of twenty-three bankers, staff, and special guests to represent our state. We were especially excited to include several emerging leaders in this year’s group, providing them with an opportunity to engage in advocacy and experience the importance of industry representation firsthand.

The Summit featured a dynamic lineup of speakers and sessions, with insights from congressional leaders, top banking executives, policy experts, and motivational speakers. Specialized programming was offered for Women and Allies in Banking and for Emerging Leaders, creating additional opportunities for leadership development, networking, and discussion around key industry issues.

A highlight of the Summit was the opportunity for attendees to meet directly with members of our congressional delegation. The South Dakota group had meaningful conversations with Senators John Thune and his staff, Senator Mike Rounds and his staff as well as members of Congressman Dusty Johnson’s staff. Discussions focused on several timely issues affecting our industry, including banking regulations, ACRE, stablecoin, fraud and other policy priorities important to South Dakota banks and the communities they serve.

Following our Capitol Hill visits, our delegation joined colleagues from North Dakota bankers for a reception and dinner – an enjoyable opportunity to connect, share perspectives, and continue the conversations held throughout the day.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped represent South Dakota’s banking industry so well in Washington. The Washington Summit continues to be one of the most impactful opportunities for bankers to share their stories and advocate for policies that support our industry and the communities we serve.

As you plan ahead for 2027, we encourage you to mark your calendars for next year’s Washington Summit: March 7-10, 2027. 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 even have a bit of fun. 🍷





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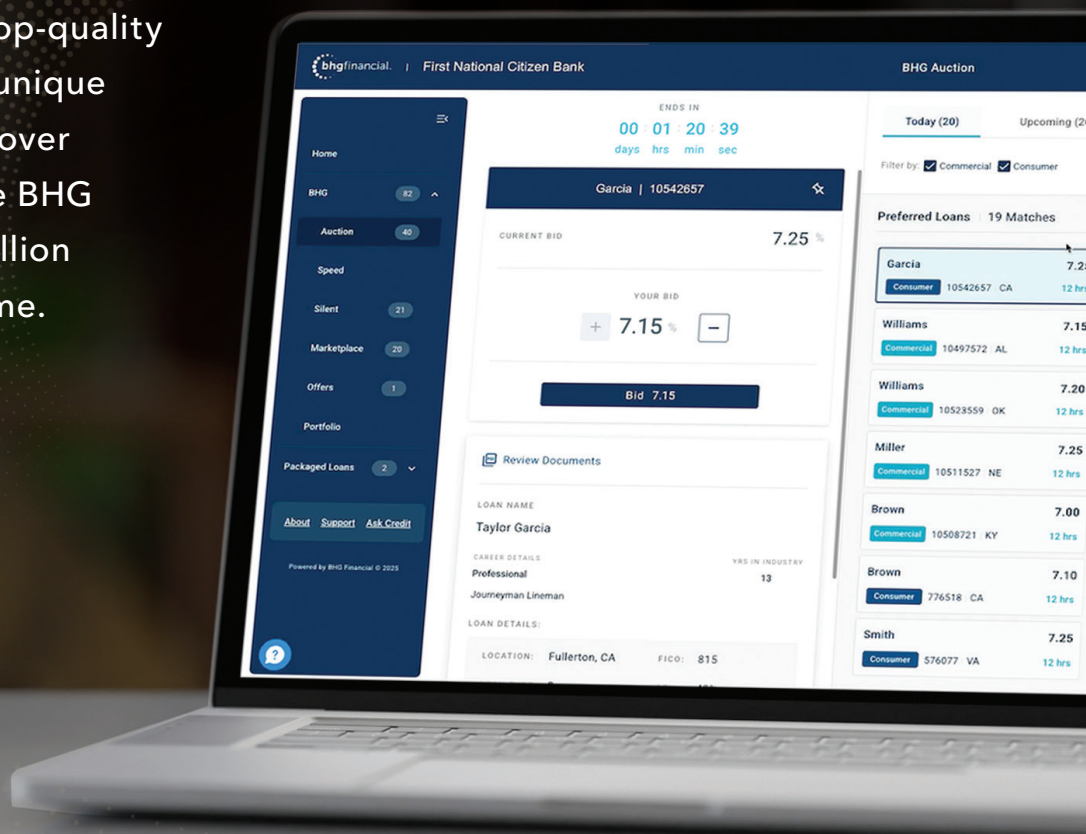


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Contact your representative

Keith Gruebele  
954.263.6399  
KGruebele@bhg-inc.com

OR



Scan to learn more  
about The BHG Loan Hub  
at [BHGLoanHub.com](http://BHGLoanHub.com)

## bankers in action

# Celebrating National FFA Week and the Future of Agriculture

For Rivers Edge Bank, supporting agriculture is not just part of the business—it's part of the bank's identity. As a locally-owned community bank rooted in agriculture, the organization works closely with farmers, ag businesses, and rural communities every day. That's why National FFA Week provides a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the students who represent the future of the industry.

This year, Rivers Edge Bank marked National FFA Week with several activities recognizing local FFA members and their contributions to their schools and communities.

One of the highlights was a simple but heartfelt gesture: delivering FFA-themed cookie cakes to area schools to thank students for their hard work and leadership.



Bank staff visited FFA chapters at Howard, Marion, Parker, Bridgewater-Emery, and West Sioux (Hawarden, IA) schools, sharing the treats and offering encouragement to the students who are actively learning about agriculture, leadership, and community service through their involvement in FFA.

"FFA students represent the future of agriculture and rural leadership," said Derek Nolan, Vice President - Marketing of Rivers Edge Bank. "It's inspiring to see the dedication these students have to their education and their communities. As a bank that works closely with agricultural producers and businesses, supporting organizations like FFA is one way we can help invest in the future of the communities we serve."

In addition to the school visits, the bank celebrated National FFA Week

through social media posts encouraging customers and community members to recognize the



work of local FFA chapters. Staff members also participated in National Wear Blue Day, proudly wearing the organization's signature color to show their support.

The celebration also sparked a bit of nostalgia within



the bank. Many staff members who were once FFA students themselves brought in their old blue jackets and memorabilia to display in bank lobbies—reminders of how deeply connected agriculture and community banking often are.

Organizations like FFA play an important role in shaping the next generation of agricultural leaders. Through hands-on learning, leadership development, and community involvement, students gain valuable skills that will serve them throughout their lives and careers.

For Rivers Edge Bank, celebrating National FFA Week is about recognizing that connection—and about encouraging the young leaders who will continue to move agriculture and rural communities forward.



# Emerging Leader of the Month

## Maggie Jennings



As part of SDBA's ongoing commitment to growing South Dakota's next generation of bank leaders, we shine a spotlight on one emerging leader each month. In April, we're excited to feature Maggie Jennings of First Dakota National Bank in Sioux Falls, SD.

### Very First Job

My first job was raising calves on my parents' acreage. My brother and I ran a joint operation from a young age, opening our first checking accounts, and learning true partnership while balancing responsibility, managing a schedule, and budgeting.

My first official job was working as a cashier at a retail store. I often say everyone should work in the retail or food service industry at least once, as they teach invaluable interpersonal skills in problem-solving, clear communication, and patience. Thanks to countless shifts of helping customers, handling returns, stocking shelves, and a bit of shenanigans, I developed many great friendships that have stayed with me into adulthood.

### Emerging Leader Story

While earning my degree in Agri-business Management at South Dakota State University I worked for a local seed company, where I gained hand-on experience in inventory, logistics, operations, and accounting. I was drawn to the business side of agriculture and valued seeing how each function connects. As my college career came to a close, I began exploring opportunities beyond the ag industry and was encouraged by my academic advisor to apply for a Risk Management position with First Dakota National Bank. I initially saw it as a one-year opportunity before returning to agriculture, but nine years later, I'm still here and grateful for an engaging career.

I began my banking career largely completing credit reviews, securing a strong foundation in credit assessment, administration, and compliance. That role allowed me to gain a comprehensive view of the lending process and the collaborative efforts of loan operations, lending assistants, credit analysts, and bankers.



Today, I am the Senior Fraud Prevention Officer – while my role has shifted towards focusing on fraud and protecting our customers, our employees, and the bank on the deposit side – I still enjoy a credit review here and there.

I was fortunate enough to help build our fraud prevention department from the ground up and have been able to see our hard work pay-off firsthand. First Dakota launched a formal fraud prevention department shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, and with the fraud landscape changing rapidly during that period, our team had a steep learning curve! Our team worked to gain a footing on existing practices, streamline efforts, and develop new processes and procedures. Today, we can see the impact of our work persistence not only in measurable results, but also in a stronger culture of awareness and knowledge across the organization.



### On the Job

Risk management and fraud prevention are ever-changing environments, which is what I love about my position today. I am a lifelong learner, and with constant new trends and emerging risks, my position never ceases to provide challenges and opportunities for critical thinking, creativity, and meaningful change. Fraud certainly doesn't take a day off.

Each day brings variety and opportunities for collaboration. My work may span from completing a credit review and working closely with Ag or Business bankers and lending staff, to supporting front-line employees through fraud cases, or collaborating with management to best position the bank against increasing risks. The blend of teamwork, problem-solving, and real-world impact is what keeps me invested and motivated.

### Giving Back

Supporting the communities we serve is central to First Dakota's mission. The bank invests not only financially, but by encouraging employee volunteerism. Bank-sponsored efforts such as Rake the Town, the Ave-ra Race Against Cancer, and Feeding South Dakota are all near and dear to my heart and allow us to give back in

meaningful, hands-on ways.

One of my favorite opportunities to support our communities is by providing educational sessions on fraud and identity theft. Our fraud prevention team visits each of our market areas to share insights into emerging trends, provide guidance, and answer questions. It's rewarding to help put a friendly face on an otherwise frightening topic.



### Another Path

I would love to own a floral shop. I plant a small flower plot each year and enjoy each stage of the process - from thoughtfully planning out my plot, to tending to the plants, and creating arrangements.



### Downtime

In my spare time, you can usually find me unwinding with a good book and a cup of coffee. I'm always on the lookout for new, local coffee shops - send your recommendations my way!

As a part of that, I am passionate about and volunteer with a local non-profit, Reach Literacy, to mentor and support youth literacy. Reach partners with schools to provide one-on-one reading experiences, with the goal to increase confidence in children's reading abilities.

I also enjoy baking and am grateful to have coworkers who are willing taste-testers for new recipes. More

recently, I've found the fun in cooking. I am very meticulous, but also adventurous, so I am embracing that baking is a science and cooking is an art. I enjoy planting a garden each summer and look forward to new ways to incorporate that into baking, cooking, or canning.

My husband and I are avid basketball fans and in the winter months our schedules often revolve around SDSU basketball. Go Jacks! 🏀



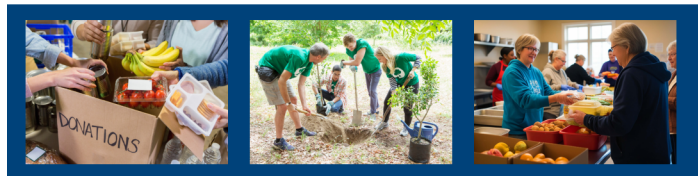
## BANKERS IN ACTION



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[LNorton@sdba.com](mailto:LNorton@sdba.com)

## THIS IS HOW WE Roll

SIoux FALLS  
APRIL 22

VIRTUAL

RAPID CITY, PIERRE, ABERDEEN  
APRIL 16

REGISTER NOW



[www.sdba.com/events](http://www.sdba.com/events)

Due to lower-than-anticipated registrations, we are **PIVOTING** from our original plan and will be consolidating the Rapid City, Pierre, and Aberdeen sessions into **one virtual 'Roll' event on April 16 at 10 am CDT/9am MDT.**

While this format is changing, the goal remains the same—bringing bankers together to connect, learn, and better understand how SDBA supports you and your organization. We're confident this virtual option will make it easier for more of your team to participate.

**Good news—our Sioux Falls event is still happening in person on April 22 at 9am CDT!**

If you haven't registered yet, there's still time to join us for the live experience, connect with fellow bankers, and be part of the conversation. **To ensure accurate meal counts, please register by April 8.**



# 2026 Nacha Rule Changes: What Community Banks Should Know



By Rick Vela, MBA, CRCM

In 2025, Nacha issued several updates to the ACH Operating Rules addressing changes in payment behavior and fraud risk that will be effective soon. These updates affect all participants in the ACH network, including community banks. While the changes introduce new expectations, they reinforce sound practices many community banks already follow. This article outlines key changes and tries to explain why they matter, along with practical considerations for community banks.

The rules were updated as ACH payments continue to grow in volume and importance, for instance, supporting payroll, vendor payments, bill payments, and online transactions. At the same time, fraud patterns have shifted and banks have suffered from an increasing number of losses from deceiving customers into sending payments directly rather than stealing customer information.

Some examples of these fraud schemes include vendor impersonation, payroll diversion, and email credentials compromise. These situations often involve authorized transactions initiated based on false information. As such, the rule changes aim to:

- Improve clarity and consistency of ACH transactions,
- Accelerate funds availability while maintaining risk awareness, and
- Strengthen fraud prevention across the ACH network.

For community banks, the balance lies in implementing reasonable fraud controls, clear documentation guidelines and generating staff awareness.

One of the key changes in the rules is the expansion of fraud monitoring requirements. Under the updated rules, ACH participants must maintain risk-based processes designed to identify potentially fraudulent ACH transactions. It is important to mention that the rules do not mandate any specific software, models, or thresholds. Instead, they focus on whether ACH participants, such as community banks, have reasonable monitoring practices relative to their size, volume of transactions, and number of customers. The rule changes become effective in two phases:

- March 20, 2026: For large and high-volume ACH participants (over 6 million ACH entries originated, or over 10 million credit entries received)
- June 19, 2026: All remaining participants, including most community banks

While most community banks already perform some level of ACH review, one of the key expectations is that these practices are formalized and documented.

Some examples include documentation on the following activities:

- Review activity from new or infrequent originators.
- Identify sudden increases in transaction volumes or dollar amounts.
- Assess ACH-related customer complaints.
- Review unusual ACH origination activity.

It is important to highlight that the expectation is not to eliminate all fraud through these tasks but to demonstrate intentional and consistent oversight and management of ACH risk.

The new rules also update fraud-related definitions to reflect current risks. One change is the recognition of fraud occurring under false pretenses, where a payment is authorized but based on deception. Some examples include:

- An employee changing payroll instructions due to impersonation,
- A consumer authorizing a payment after suffering a fraud, and
- A business sending ACH credit after receiving a fraudulent vendor email.

These cases were difficult to classify because the transactions were authorized. However, the new rule acknowledges this type of fraud is common and requires attention. For community banks, this new focus translates into the need to educate staff to recognize these patterns, establish clear escalation procedures, and educate and work with customers to establish awareness at all levels.

Another relevant change affects the way in which some ACH transactions are labeled. The rules now require standardized Company Entry Descriptions for some type of transactions such as:

- "PAYROLL" for payroll related ACH credits or
- "PURCHASE" for online consumer debit transactions.

These descriptions aim to replace inconsistent or unclear labels that were used previously. As such, community banks should confirm whether their systems can support the required descriptions and communicate requirements especially to commercial customers. Clear entry descriptions will help customers recognize transactions and help banks identify unusual activity more effectively and efficiently.

One more change concerns the timing of funds availability. Effective September 18, 2026, all non-same-day ACH credit entries must be made available to customers by 9:00 a.m. local time on the settlement date, regardless of when the file was received the prior day. To meet this new standard, community banks should

review their funds availability policies and disclosures, end-of-day processing timelines, and the system implications of these changes. While faster availability enhances customer experience, it also increases the importance of proactive monitoring and customer communication.

This is why documentation plays a vital role in aiding community banks to achieve compliance with the rule changes. Banks should be able to demonstrate:

- Written ACH fraud monitoring procedures and processes, with emphasis on what steps will be taken when fraud is detected,
- Evidence that established procedures are followed,
- Clear assignments of roles and responsibilities, and
- Periodic reviews and updates.

Effective documentation does not need to be complex or lengthy but needs to reflect the day-to-day practices in place that allow the bank to operate consistently.

Another cornerstone to facilitate success is early preparation, as it allows banks to address gaps and adjust processes before the changes take effect. Community banks can prepare by doing the following:

- Review existing ACH monitoring activities.
- Document and/or enhance current practices related to fraud prevention and control.
- Educate staff on emerging fraud risks.

- Communicate expectations to bank customers.
- Coordinate with ACH vendors and processors as required.

The 2025 Nacha rule changes aim to reflect the challenges of the current environment. They do not require community banks to adopt complex systems or make substantial changes to the way they operate. Instead, they reinforce the relevance of generating awareness, consistency and clarity through well thought processes and documentation. We believe that community banks are well positioned to meet these expectations due to their close customer relationships and existing practices. By following these updated rules, community banks can continue to support ACH payments safely and efficiently within an ever-changing risk landscape.

United Bankers' Bank is here to help with your compliance issues. Visit [Compliance Services - United Bankers' Bank](#) to learn about UBB's Compliance Services Consulting.

## KNOW AN EMERGING LEADER?

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UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA



## Central Bank Begins New Leadership Chapter Focused on Community Growth and Customer Success

SIOUX FALLS, SD – March 3, 2026 – Central Bank officially begins its next chapter under new executive leadership, reinforcing its long-standing commitment to serving customers and strengthening communities across Iowa and South Dakota.

Nick Brown now serves as Chief Executive Officer, alongside Kevin Brown as Commercial Banking President and Brett Smith as Community Banking President. Together, the leadership team will focus on local relationships, strengthening customer experience, and continuing the bank's investment in the communities in which it serves.

"Our purpose remains clear," said Nick Brown, CEO of Central Bank. "We are here to support individuals, families, and businesses in achieving their goals. This leadership transition strengthens our ability to serve our communities with commitment, integrity, and local decision-making."

Central Bank has built its reputation on relationship-based banking, offering personalized service backed by strong local leadership. Under the new structure, the bank will continue prioritizing:

- Local decisions made by leaders who understand their communities
- Strong partnerships with small businesses and agricultural customers
- Active engagement with nonprofit and civic organizations

While leadership roles have evolved, Central Bank's foundation remains unchanged. Originally chartered in 1877 and owned by the Brown family since 1990, the bank has grown steadily while maintaining its commitment to community-focused banking.

As part of the transition, Tim Brown, John Brown, and Jeff Lapke move into advisory roles on the Executive Board, remaining actively involved in the bank's long-term strategy and governance.

"Our communities are growing and evolving," Brown added. "We are committed to growing alongside them – investing locally, strengthening relationships, and ensuring that our presence reflects the trust our customers place in us every day."

With 22 locations and more than 300 team members, Central Bank continues to operate under its guiding principle: helping customers move forward with confidence.



## Palmer Joins Cornerstone Bank



Cornerstone Bank welcomes Deb Palmer as Director of Deposit Development. With over 27 years in banking, Palmer brings deep expertise in business, consumer, middle market, and commercial banking. Having started her career in lending and relationship management, she has dedicated much of her professional journey to process improvement, employee

engagement, customer experience, and data-driven growth.

"Deb brings tremendous value to our team," Chief Banking Officer Dan Staller said. "She will be instrumental in supporting our team and advancing our commitment to delivering excellent experiences for those we serve."

Palmer has been recognized with two national banking awards for her leadership and service. She attended Fresno Pacific University in California, where she earned bachelor's degrees in social work and business, along with a master's degree in leadership and organizational studies. She is also a graduate of Leadership Sioux Falls and Leadership Bakersfield.

"With 27 years in banking, I've seen how strong deposit relationships form the foundation of a healthy financial institution," noted Palmer. "I'm thrilled to bring that experience to a customer-centric and community-focused bank where strategy, service, and local decision-making truly matter."

Currently serving on the University of Sioux Falls Board, Palmer has been an active volunteer with Junior Achievement, Habitat for Humanity, Fresno Women's Chamber of Commerce, Fresno County Office of Education, Hands on Central California, and Central California Food Bank. She was named the 2010 Central California Community Champion for her community involvement and was recognized by the City of Fresno for mobilizing more than 1,500 employees to contribute over 15,000 volunteer hours in a two-year period. Palmer also previously served as Minnehaha County Treasurer.

Palmer and her husband, Gregg, have four children and seven grandchildren. They are also devoted dog owners. Outside of work, you'll find her baking, cooking, gardening, traveling, going to concerts, and being grandma.



CORNERSTONE BANK

# First State Bank of Roscoe partners with Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines to award \$262,500 to organizations in Roscoe, Bowdle and Eureka through the Member Impact Fund

First State Bank of Roscoe, in partnership with Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLB Des Moines), is pleased to announce that the Edmunds Central School District, Bowdle Healthcare Foundation and Eureka Community Health Services were awarded a check for \$87,500 each. This was made possible by a grant from the FHLB Des Moines matching grant program called the Member Impact Fund.

When the First State Bank of Roscoe was first told about the matching grant program, they knew right away they wanted to participate. First State Bank of Roscoe's mission has always been to serve the community and what better opportunity than through this matching grant program.



Edmunds Central School District

Edmunds Central School District will apply their \$87,500 towards the building project underway to expand the school.

Bowdle Healthcare Foundation plans to use the \$87,500 towards the purchase of a Chemistry Lab Analyzer for the Bowdle Hospital and Eureka Community Health Services plan to renovate and make room for a pharmacy within the hospital and purchase a Lucas machine.

FHLB Des Moines provides funding solutions to more than 1200 members. The Member Impact Fund provides FHLB Des Moines members matching grant



Bowdle Health Care Foundation

donations to strengthen the ability of not-for-profits or government entities to support the needs of their communities.

This matching grant program will result in FHLB Des Moines awarding over \$12.9 million in funding to support affordable housing and community development in Alaska, South Dakota, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.



Eureka Community Health Services

"The Member Impact Fund is designed to help our members, like the First State Bank of Roscoe, champion the organizations that make a real difference in their communities," said Kris Williams, president and CEO of FHLB Des Moines. "By partnering with the First State Bank of Roscoe, we're able to multiply resources and support their vital work as they continue to strengthen opportunities for the people they serve."

Recipient organizations were selected based on the needs for grant funding to support capacity-building or working capital necessary to strengthen their ability to serve community development needs.

This member matching grant program is part of FHLB Des Moines' ongoing mission to offer a variety of funding options through its members.

Since its launch in 2023, the Member Impact Fund has provided more than \$83 million in grants from FHLB Des Moines, generating over \$113 million in combined support for community development and affordable housing. Notably every eligible application submitted to the program has received funding - reflecting the organization's strong commitment to partnership and impact.

The First State Bank of Roscoe is proud to partner with FHLB Des Moines in awarding a total of \$262,500 to these organizations.

  
First State Bank of Roscoe  
Roscoe ~ Bowdle ~ Eureka



## bank notes

# First National Bank Breaks Ground on Branch in Chamberlain



Todd Van Den Bosch

Chamberlain, SD: The First National Bank in Sioux Falls recently broke ground on its newest branch in Chamberlain, SD, which will open later this year.

"We have had an agricultural banker serving the Chamberlain market for several years," said President and CEO Chris Ekstrum, "and this expansion is a

natural step as we build on those relationships."

The future 2,800-square-foot branch is being built at 106 Paul Gust Road, and First National Bank expects to open its doors in the summer. They will staff the location with a branch manager, teller, and universal banker.

Todd Van Den Bosch has provided agricultural banking services in the area for nearly 20 years. He joined the bank in 2020, and he will also have an office in the branch.

"My family and I have lived in Chamberlain since 2006, and I take great pride in serving this community," Van Den Bosch said. "I know the people will continue to



respond well to the bank's culture and the way we do business."

As a family-owned organization with an unwavering dedication to the ag industry, First National Bank is committed to investing in rural areas.

"Building this branch is our way of making that clear," Van Den Bosch said.

In addition to its agricultural banking services, First National Bank installed an ATM near Al's Oasis in the Chamberlain-Oacoma area in 2024.

"As our bank continues to grow, we've been looking for opportunities to expand our service area," said Chief Banking Officer Jeff Russell. "This is the first branch we've opened in a new community since Harrisburg in 2004. We feel our style of community banking is a perfect fit for the tight-knit Chamberlain area."

First National Bank proudly serves Baltic, Brandon, Dell Rapids, Flandreau, and Harrisburg with a deep understanding of the needs of smaller towns.

"We look forward to strengthening our presence, welcoming new customers, and becoming an even more active partner in the Chamberlain community and surrounding area," Ekstrum said.



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## SCENES OF SOUTH DAKOTA PHOTO CONTEST

**SUBMIT BY JULY 31**

[SDBA.COM/CALENDAR](http://SDBA.COM/CALENDAR)

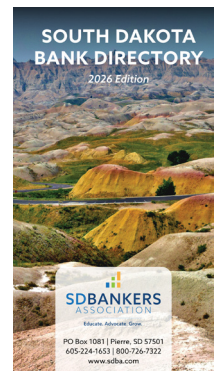
**SDBANKERS  
ASSOCIATION**

## Order Your 2026 South Dakota Bank Directory

The South Dakota Bank Directory provides detailed information on all South Dakota banks including addresses, telephone numbers, important contact names and additional pertinent information. The directory also contains information on the SDBA, banking associations, regulatory agencies, endorsed vendors, associate members and South Dakota officials.

SDBA member banks, branches and associate members each receive one complimentary copy of the annual bank directory. Additional copies may be purchased while supplies last.

Place your directory order: [www.sdba.com/south-dakota-bank-directory](http://www.sdba.com/south-dakota-bank-directory) or scan this QR code.





# 2026 AG CREDIT CONFERENCE

July 15-16, 2026

Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center  
Pierre, SD

[WWW.SDBA.COM/EVENTS](http://WWW.SDBA.COM/EVENTS)



## APRIL IS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH



Your bank can participate in **Financial Literacy Month** by registering for one (or more!) of the ABA Foundation's free financial education programs, including [Teach Children to Save](#), [Get Smart About Credit](#), and [Safe Banking for Seniors](#).

The first program of 2026 is **Teach Children to Save Day coming up on April 23** -- a perfect opportunity to reach out to schools and help their students develop youth financial skills that will last a lifetime.

Each of these three programs feature the tools and resources your bank needs to help your communities navigate financial challenges and work toward their goals. Log onto [www.aba.com](http://www.aba.com) for more information.



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## schools & scholarships

# Scholarships Offered Through our Member Banks

In support of the South Dakota Bankers Foundation's mission to "Develop South Dakota Banking Industry Professionals," the Foundation continues to offer scholarship opportunities designed to strengthen and sustain South Dakota's banking workforce. These programs help support the development of current and future banking professionals by investing in education, leadership, and career growth within the industry.

### Parameters

#### 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](mailto: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.
- Students who have previously been awarded a scholarship funded by the SD Bankers Foundation, i.e. a member bank scholarship OR a Named Scholarship, are ineligible to receive this scholarship again.

**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: June 30, 2026

For more information on South Dakota Bankers Foundation scholarships, contact Foundation Executive Director Halley Lee 605-224.1653 | [hlee@sdba.com](mailto:hlee@sdba.com).



# How Can YOU Be Involved in the SDBA?

**T**he SDBA is seeking bankers to serve on four standing committees and four work groups for 2026-2027.

Committee and work group terms are for one year, beginning May 1, 2026.

**Agricultural Credit Committee:** Provides timely information to SDBA agricultural lenders and keeps them informed of developments, regulations and legislation in agricultural lending. Also helps plan the annual Ag Credit Conference. *[1 in-person meeting/yr]*

**Credit Card Committee:** Represents the credit card industry in South Dakota. *[e-meetings as needed]*

**Legislative Committee:** Represents the interests of the banking industry in South Dakota. The committee sponsors legislation and also reviews existing law and proposed legislation that may be detrimental to the industry. *[2 in-person meetings/yr]*

**Trust Committee:** Keeps members abreast of any legislative changes in South Dakota as well as proposes legislation necessary to assure an efficient and effective fiduciary responsibility to its clients and member banks. *[e-meetings as needed]*

**Education Work Group:** Helps to determine the SDBA's educational platform, offerings, and methodologies. *[e-meetings as needed]*

**Emerging Leaders Work Group:** Helps to grow South Dakota's future bank leaders. *[e-meetings as needed]*

**Technology Work Group:** Assists in planning and implementing the technology-related events. *[e-meetings as needed]*

**Women in Banking Work Group:** Encourages, supports and inspires women to succeed in the workplace. *[e-meetings as needed]*

If you are interested in serving on a committee or work group, please complete the Committee/Work Group Appointment Form at:

[www.sdba.com/committees](http://www.sdba.com/committees) by **April 30, 2026**.

Contact the SDBA with any questions: 605.224.1653 or email SDBA Member Services Coordinator, Natalie Likness: [nlikness@sdba.com](mailto:nlikness@sdba.com).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 2026 SDBA "This is How We Roll"

April 16 - Virtual

April 22 - Sioux Falls (in-person)

REGISTER BY APRIL 8



## 2026 SDBA New Accounts Seminar

April 21, 2026 | Sioux Falls

This full-day program is one of the country's most comprehensive seminars on opening deposit accounts. The session answers many of the complicated questions customers and employees ask.

## 2026 Tri-State Trust Conference

April 27-29, 2026 | Fargo, ND

Keynote Speaker: Dallin Cooper | "They Might Not be Crazy: Working with People You Disagree With (And Might Not Even Like)"

## UMACHA's 2026 South Dakota Fraud Forum

May 14, 2026 | Sioux Falls

Fraud continues to evolve — and staying ahead requires collaboration, insight, and shared experience. This in-person information-sharing event brings together local law enforcement, guest speakers, and your industry peers for an interactive discussion focused on fraud awareness, prevention, and response.

## 2026 FDIC Directors College

May 28, 2026 | Sioux Falls

Designed especially for outside directors—but valuable for all board members—this one-day seminar delivers timely insight into the emerging issues shaping today's banking environment.

## Dakota School of Banking

May 31-June 5, 2026 | Jamestown, ND

Through the use of highly-qualified instructors and a challenging curriculum, Dakota School of Banking provides a multi-dimensional educational experience in banking. By completing two one-week summer sessions and intersession projects, students develop a range of skills to enhance current performance and qualify for advancement. Learn more at [www.ndba.com](http://www.ndba.com).

## 2026 NDBA/SDBA Convention

June 15-17, 2026 | Bismarck, ND



## 2026 National School for Beginning Ag Bankers

June 22-25, 2026 | Spearfish

Join us on at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD for an immersive, hands-on school designed specifically for beginning ag bankers. Sponsored by the SDBA, this intensive program covers all aspects of ag lending—including credit analysis, scoring and risk rating, managing problem loans, and collaborative case studies.

**\*This year's school is full, with 72 registrants. Waitlist is available and will be filled on a first come, first served basis.**

## SDBA's Intro to HSA's

July 14, 2026 | Virtual

## 2026 SDBA Ag Credit Conference

July 15-16, 2026 | Pierre

## 2026 Fraud Academy

August 18-20, 2026 | Lexington, KY | Virtual

Fraud Academy is a "first of its kind" school designed to equip bankers at all levels with the tools to detect, prevent, and mitigate fraud. Led by experts from the U.S. Secret Service, law enforcement, and fraud prevention specialist, this intensive, banker centric program covers 18+ fraud risk areas, including check fraud, elder fraud, cybercrime, and prevention strategies.

Learn more and register  
for SDBA EVENTS  
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## classifieds

### Modular Bank for Sale | Security Bank | Lennox, SD

Used 14x40 Modular Financial Institution:

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[johnbaumiller@sbmidwest.bank](mailto:johnbaumiller@sbmidwest.bank)

### Call Center Banker | Sunrise Banks | Sioux Falls

At Sunrise Banks we are committed to a culture of trust and transparency that welcomes all.

We believe banking can be a powerful force for good—and it starts with people like you. As a Retail Banking Phone Banker, you'll be a warm, trusted voice for our customers, helping them navigate everyday banking and build financial confidence. Every conversation is a chance to listen with empathy, solve problems thoughtfully, and make a positive impact.

In office position so will only consider local applicants in Sioux Falls, SD area.

Annual salary DOQ: \$38,205 - \$54,579

Eligible Benefits: Medical, Dental, Vision, Pet and Life insurances; AD&D, STD and LTD, FSA, PPL, 401k w/ match, PTO, Paid Volunteer Time Off and more.

Visit [www.sunrisebanks.com/careers](http://www.sunrisebanks.com/careers) for more details and to apply.



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## Strengthening our capabilities and while we expanding our services.

Brady Martz is expanding its financial institutions services with the addition of **Banker's Compliance Consulting** effective March 1.

Since 1993, Banker's Compliance Consulting has built a reputation for taking complicated regulations and turning them into plain English. Their team provides comprehensive on- and off-site compliance reviews, consultation, and a vast library of resources.



Ryan Bakke, CPA  
FI Industry Leader, Principal

*"This acquisition aligns closely with Brady Martz's priorities by deepening our expertise, enhancing the client experience, and fueling the Firm's long-term growth. We are excited about the expertise and diversification the Banker's Compliance Consulting team brings to our firm and to our clients. Their commitment to breaking down the complexities of industry regulations fits seamlessly with our culture and reinforces our shared focus on practical, client-centered service."*



Connect with Ryan today to discuss your journey to a brighter financial future.  
[ryan.bakke@bradymartz.com](mailto:ryan.bakke@bradymartz.com)  
701-852-0196



Make Every Day Count | [www.bradymartz.com](http://www.bradymartz.com)

# NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR BEGINNING AG BANKERS

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## JUNE 22-25, 2026



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