

BRUNING STATE BANK

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“Men Of Stature” . . .

With apologies to the company that uses this phrase to sell clothes to the big and tall...

One positive thing that could come out of all the chaos and uncertainty we have could be a new set of heroes, or “Men and Women of Stature.” History tells us that in times of crisis over the years, positive things can happen. Look at the Civil War, two World Wars and the Depression.

Changes were made, and some of those changes were progress. It seems that way now with agricultural prices; as one old-timer told me, “Frank, it has to get down to zero before we can turn these prices around!” It is my opinion that our representatives in Congress have failed us. One of their ways of managing environmental issues has been to allow certain organizations to beat down and harass animal agriculture producers. They have offended many overseas customers who buy our products with embargoes and made those friends of agriculture into our enemies. It is my opinion that our grain and livestock markets can look for a long period of recovery.

Change is just for the people who would like to do better. It is quite evident that if we want good changes, we have to look further than just to our President. You and I need to get people into office that are not self-serving. This has to start in small communities like ours and go all the way up the line. The excesses of the last two or three generations of those serving us need to be compensated for. Our next heroes and people of stature will not be the “grand” generation, because my generation expects too much from the government. These new heroes will tire of all the misdeeds; they’ll become fed up and will demand change. Roy Ferguson wrote in an article in his newsletter in July that the generation that will demand change is made up of those born during the time period from twenty years ago to now, and including those just now being born.

It is our generation’s duty to teach these young people to remember that a government large enough to give you everything you want is also big enough to take it away from you. Let’s quit complaining and start building a generation of heroes and people of stature. We need to keep “playing the record” of accountability and responsibility for all to hear, so we all start demanding it!

*“Banker Frank” – Frank L. Bruning
Chairman of the Board*

Philosophy Of Life. . .

I visited the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in early July and saw how the campus has improved the facilities because a donor’s father had worked there. His father was a janitor at the college and had health issues. The college was the only one that would hire him at the time. His son became successful and now has donated back to the college to improve dormitories, an activity center and city offices. On the wall, this plaque was placed with the father’s philosophy of life as follows:

Never Criticize Anyone –We cannot walk in their shoes.

To me this means that we are not to make any negative statements regarding any actions. Rather we are only to offer suggestions to better meet the end goal and be responsible to make the new suggestion work.

If there are hurt feelings, Go Apologize – Irrespective of who was in the wrong.

I interpret this to mean that when we are aware of a fellow citizen who is personally hurt by a statement or action, we need to be the first to apologize to them. It is never in anyone’s best interest to break bridges and we need to take responsibility to let those upset know we are truly sorry for any hurt they experience.

If someone says something false about you, Do Not Defend Yourself.

Just do what is right and all will be healed in the end. I understand this is hard to follow. However, I believe this means that it is up to those representing others to protect and defend those supporting us in our everyday lives.

Always Think of Others First.

As we select those among us that think first of the interest of the whole, we need to then think of promoting their interests. I believe this means that we should never miss an opportunity to thank them, encourage them, show appreciation and protect them.
George Garlick – Curtis

Need we say more. If I could only follow these suggestions, I would be a better person. If the government, Congress and Society would follow, life would be better. We can still learn from other’s qualities that make us better people. I will try harder.

Fred Bruning – President

*“People will forget what you have said, people will forget what you have done, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”
Anonymous*

Fraud - A National Epidemic. . .

Jerry and I recently attended a Management Conference in Kansas City hosted by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka. Speaker Frank Abagnale, fraud consultant and author stated check fraud and identity theft are some of the most serious financial crimes in America. Listed below are some of the most unbelievable statistics:

- \$994 billion/yr is lost in the U.S. from white collar crime, excluding robberies, etc..
- When the criminals were asked why they did it,
 - o 18% said it was for personal gain
 - o 14% said it was to increase their standard of living
 - o 14% said it was to reduce their debt
 - o 14% said the temptation was too great
 - o 13% said it was greed
 - o 9% said it was to fund their vice which includes gambling, drugs, and/or alcohol problems
- Since most of these crimes are committed by employees, Mr. Abagnale believes the best theft deterrent employers can implement is to inform their employees they will receive a Form 1099 stating the value of stolen goods received and mailed to the IRS. The thief will be responsible for paying state and federal income taxes on the stolen amount. The employer can then claim the theft loss as an eligible business expense since a Form 1099 was filed. In addition, the IRS usually pays the employer a finder's fee. A business owner needs to make sure the bookkeeper doesn't prepare and sign checks, and also reconcile bank statements. Doing so allows too much temptation to steal from the business for personal gain.
- If the thief doesn't pay the IRS, the IRS will seize the thief's personal assets to recapture taxes.
- Threat of filing a Form 1099 is a greater deterrent than threatening to file a lawsuit or police report since the District Attorney's office requires a theft loss of \$5,000 or more to hear a case. Otherwise, they concentrate on robberies, murderers, rapists, terrorist threats, etc.
- In 2007, check fraud by counterfeit, forgery, or alteration was \$20.3 billion, up from \$5 billion in 1993. This compares to banks collecting \$12 billion in non-sufficient fund (NSF) fees in 2007.
- Less than 7% of court ordered restitution for check fraud is collected. Once you lose money, you may never get it back.
- 1 out of 99.1 adults were in jail on 1-1-08 which is why prison costs have increased 6 times the cost of higher education.
- The U.S. Chamber of Commerce estimates every man, woman, and child pays an additional \$500 annually for their purchases due to white collar crime.
- Among teens that rank at the top of their class, 80% have either cheated, copied, or plagiarized while in school and believe it is OK to do the same in the workplace and in life.
- Who's Who asks the same questions annually to 16,000 students who maintain a 4.0 GPA during their 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. 48% of them said it was OK to "hack" into someone else's computer.
- 56% of business graduates pursuing a Masters Business Administration (MBA) degree have admitted to cheating.

Based on these statistics, it is no wonder check fraud and identity theft is rising rapidly. Each of us needs to suggest to those people around us, both young and old, the need to develop and implement strong moral principals and values which we hope will keep them from committing any type of crime.

Consider these recommendations to reduce your potential risk of Identity Theft:

1. Guard your Social Security number vigilantly. It is the key to your credit report and is the criminal's prime target.
2. Do not print your SSN on your checks.
3. Order your Social Security Earnings and Benefits Statement once a year and look for employers you didn't work for. Someone may be using your identity for a job.
4. Monitor your credit report. It contains your SSN, present and past employers, a listing of all account numbers, including those that have been closed and your credit score. After applying for a loan, credit card, rental, or anything else that requires a credit report, request that your SSN on the application be truncated or completely obliterated, and your original credit report be shredded once a decision has been made. (A lender or rental manager needs to retain only your name and credit score to justify his /her decision.)
5. Make sure your computer is protected with Internet security software that is updated regularly.
6. Do not download anything from the Internet that you did not solicit. Activate the pop-up blocker on your computer.
7. Shop only on secure websites. The web address should begin with https://. It must have the "s" or it is not a secure site. You can also look for a padlock or key in the bottom right corner of your screen.
8. Avoid using a debit card when shopping online. Credit cards have a maximum liability of \$50 for fraudulent charges; debit cards can go up to \$500 or more.
9. Use a strong password. While it is easier for you to have one that is simple, it is also easier for crooks.
10. When possible, choose to have a second level password on an account. Choose a password that is more difficult.
11. Never leave your laptop anywhere you wouldn't leave your baby...in the car, in a gym bag, or at a restaurant. According to Amitron.org, stolen laptops and computers account for nearly 40% of security breaches.
12. Before donating your computer to a recycling center, completely wipe out all confidential information. This requires special software, and more than just reformatting.
13. Shred old Bank and credit card statements, "junk mail" credit card offers and old tax returns. Use a crosscut shredder.
14. Never give your credit card number or personal information over the phone unless you initiated the call and trust that company.
15. When you are shopping or dining, be aware of how salespeople or the waiter handles your card. Make sure they do not have a chance to copy your card.
16. Examine the charges on your credit card when your statement arrives. Also, keep track of the billing cycles of your cards. If a statement doesn't arrive when it should, it could mean that a thief has changed the mailing address on your account.
17. Minimize the number of credit cards you own to reduce the opportunity for a criminal to steal a card.
18. Carry extra credit cards or other identity documents only when needed.
19. Shred the card on unused credit card accounts. If you close the account, it may lower your credit score because of reduced credit availability.
20. Put a fraud alert tag on your credit report, which will limit a thief's ability to open accounts in your name.

*Craig Pope –
Hebron Branch President*

Thoughts On Buying Land . . .

As a banker in rural Nebraska I have had many conversations with customers, helping them decide whether or not to buy land. It is a big step for most farmers and should be well thought out.

Many factors go into the decision leading to many questions: Will the operation cash flow the land purchase? Is the land market going to move up or down in the next three to five years? Is this the property to buy now, or should I wait for something bigger, smaller, closer to my home, has more tillable acres on it or more pasture? Do I have the manpower and equipment in place to farm the additional land? Am I too old to be taking on more land? Should I have my children buy the land for estate purposes? There are many other questions that are asked as well.

Since everyone's situation is different, here are some thoughts about buying land. Most people who have purchased land over the years will tell you the purchase never looked like a good investment. The successful operators will go on to say later on it proved to be a good buy and they were glad they purchased the land when they did. They can say this for several reasons. Over time, land values go up and they had enough equity in their operation for the first five to ten years to use income off their existing operation to help pay for the purchase.

Land will never pay for itself. The owner either has to put enough money down to get the debt down to a level the rent or net farm income will make the payment, or they have to have three to four acres paid for to purchase and pay for one acre, if they borrow the full purchase price of the land.

Owning a large land base which is mostly paid for is a very great advantage for a farmer. This allows him to keep the fixed cost down which in turn means more net profit. One mistake often made is thinking the large land base is so important for efficiency purposes that the borrower leverages themselves into owning more land. With the higher commodity prices we have enjoyed the past several years, this strategy may be working; however, when the commodity prices go back down, the results can be devastating.

If you are a beginning farmer, it can be a long and difficult climb to owning a sustainable operation. If you are fortunate enough to have family that is already involved in farming and has a good land base, it makes it easier, as you have a source of income to use to help pay for land purchases. If you don't have family to help you, then you must face the reality of working full time, farming after work, and on weekends. You are also likely to have to start out renting land for a few years and building your equity and working capital, before you can consider buying any land.

Renting land is not a bad option to expand your operation, if you can find the land to rent. If a reasonable rent can be negotiated with the owner, it is a way to build your farming operation without the high capital outlay of a land purchase.

For most people, purchasing farm real estate and expanding the farming operation is a long term process. It may take several generations to build a large operation. Many of the farmers I work with are farming some of the same land their father and grandfather farmed.

Land can be a good investment if a thoughtful, realistic game plan is made when purchasing land. At the Bruning State Bank, we are committed to helping our customers expand their operations. We have competitive interest rates and terms on farm real estate

loans. Come see us if you have plans to purchase land. We will be happy to talk to you about how we can help.

*Darrell Raum –
Senior Vice President
Credit Supervisor*

Computer Talkin' . . .

Dear Computer,

I am rather disgusted with you. When I check my e-mail, someone has sent me all kinds of information on items that I don't want or need, people trying to loan me money, gadgets I have never heard of, pictures I don't need to see, etc. They are always from different people with the same information! What are all these people doing together? It makes my mind wonder about them. By the time they have borrowed the money to go to the online pharmacies to get all those drugs to use, who knows what kind of gadgets they might order? Now mind you, there are many legitimate sites to do business with, but it is mind boggling all the sites you think I should be visiting. Not only do I have to wash my hands constantly to keep from getting the H1N1 virus, you can get sick too. In fact, I've heard you could even die on me. What would I do without you? How would I check my online banking; how would I pay my bills without online bill payment, or even ever hear from my kids? You know I can't understand that text mumbo jumbo they all use nowadays. I can barely remember how to use my cell phone. Just checking my voicemail can be a challenge.

You know, I used to enjoy going fishing with my kids. Now they tell me I need to be on the lookout for phishing (pronounced fishing)- online identity theft using e-mail and fraudulent websites designed to look trustworthy and asking for personal information such as credit card numbers, passwords, and bank account information.

While I'm talking to you, what about this spam I hear about? I used to love that stuff. It's that canned luncheon meat that's kinda pink and sold in most grocery stores. I mean, Hormel had a hit on its hands! Now, if I get one message, I get a dozen. That's what you're talking about, isn't it? Guess one can never be too careful these days. Why, just the other day, the newspaper was reporting about a scam where an internet finance service-HAMILTON LENDING GROUP-was offering loans and the address given was fictitious. They didn't have an office at the address given! The Better Business Bureau was warning about a company called BAY VALLEY FINANCIAL. The nerve of some people! Well, I better get back to work. I'll get back to you later.

Your frustrated user!

Just trying to be humorous, but the fact of the matter is, those things are really happening. We would not send you an e-mail asking you to verify any personal or bank account information and we are really at all three locations-Bruning, Hebron and Broken Bow. Do not open any e-mails from anyone you do not know, as you never know what might be attached to it and give your computer a virus.

We hope you are having a good summer and remember, if you have any questions about your account(s), be sure and give us a call. We'll be glad to help.

*Janice Fintel, Pam Lemke
and Carm Hinrichs –
Bookkeeping Department*

The Trip Home . . .

It has been quite some time since Jill, Cecelia and I have taken a family vacation together for longer than two or three days and out of state. In our estimation it has been eight or nine years.

We combined a family vacation with some business and meetings and enjoyed the time we had away. We especially enjoyed the hospitality of family members, Bank customers and friends as we traveled from Nebraska to California and Nevada. We had not flown together since 9/11, so all the security and crowded flights made us all a little squeamish to fly, yet it allowed us to cover a lot of our great country in a short amount of time.

Our trip was to have an extra traveler with us; the night before our departure from Omaha she was injured in an auto accident. It was disappointing to say the least that she was unable to make the trip, yet our disappointment turned to joy and thanksgiving that the injuries were minor for all involved. After learning the full extent of the damages to the vehicles it was a miracle that everyone will be OK. That put perspective into the trip and appreciation for the simpler things in life.

We were most appreciative of our time together; we saw many sites and had the opportunity to visit and discuss current issues with a great family in California and enjoyed them making us feel at home. We learned how diverse the farm economy of California is; we saw growing onions, peppers, almonds, walnuts, strawberries, grapes, corn, watermelon, sweet corn and tomatoes just to mention a few. Everything was irrigated; the crops looked great. It appears, from the national news, that the State of California is experiencing a budget deficit and we did see many "for sale" and "for lease" homes and office buildings.

As great as the trip and fellowship were, on July 3, 2009, after a week on the road and in the air, we were ready to come home. As we readied for the departure from the Sacramento airport, we realized how special a place California and Nevada are to the people that live and have roots there. We have the same feeling for Nebraska. Yet the last leg of the trip home from Denver to Omaha put everything about Nebraska, Nevada and California (the whole country) in focus.

We were fortunate and lucky enough to ride that last hour and a half with an 18 year old United States Of America Marine on his way home to Kearney, Nebraska. He was to be home for only four days of the 4th of July holiday. This Marine was not a huge man, yet he was a machine gunner and carried a 128 pound weapon in the blazing heat and seemed to be in great shape. I'm not sure he outweighed the weapon by very much.

For the Bruning State Bank Chief Financial Officer and his family to be sitting next to a real Marine "machine gunner" named Jose Vasquez made us all grateful for what he and all our local service men and women are sacrificing to defend us and allow us to take great family vacations. Marine Vasquez told us how proud he was of his family and that his Dad works for a concrete construction company and his Mom works at the Ramada Inn in Kearney. He told us how he missed his little brother.

Prior to joining the Marines, he had wanted to get out of Kearney and Nebraska and now, with his experience in the Marines, he has changed his mind. He expressed how much he appreciates and cherishes his family, Kearney and Nebraska. He has dreams and goals to accomplish while in the Marines and then goals for

his life after the Marines.

To all the current and past service members "Thanks" and for those of us that have wondered about the current generation, make sure on [The Trip Home](#) to remember the young Marine and the leadership he has already provided, his appreciation for our great country and how we can serve our country, our communities and our neighbors.

Jerry Catlett –
C F O

From the Trust Department. . .

As we wrote in the last issue, there are many types of trusts available. They may be classified by how they are created, by purpose, whether revocable or irrevocable, by the types of property they contain or by their duration. Generally speaking, trusts have no specific duration, but each does have a certain time frame. Some states require that a trust continue no longer than 21 years after the death of a person living when the trust was made.

We covered Living and Testamentary Trusts a bit in the last article. Let's look at Insurance Trusts, Charitable Trusts and Charitable Remainder Trusts now.

Insurance Trusts – These may be business insurance trusts (which can protect the proprietors or partners of a business) or personal insurance trusts (which do not have any business interests), and are usually meant to help manage insurance proceeds and avoid estate taxes. A form of insurance trust is a Life Insurance Trust, which is designed to receive the life insurance indemnity and normally be excluded from the decedent's estate. It may be also used to provide a means for managing and distributing the proceeds for the beneficiaries who may be minors or need help managing their funds. To realize the tax avoidance, this type of trust must be irrevocable, and the insured must not have interest in the policy. To be certain your trust will accomplish your intentions, please consult a professional in the preparation of the document, such as the attorney of your choice.

Charitable Trusts – Also called a "public trust", this type gifts members of the general public, can offer tax advantages to the trustor, and can be designed to last indefinitely.

Charitable Remainder Trust – This is a form of charitable trust in which the trustor gives future interest in an asset to charity, while keeping the income stream under their control for a finite time period, either for themselves or a beneficiary.

The use of a trust may help you achieve certain goals, including "governing from the grave", as it were and reduction of taxes. However, laws change. As such, one should consult with one's accountant and attorney to ensure that the trust will meet your needs. In the process of information gathering, please feel free to visit with the Bruning location staff (Frank, Fred, Renee, Janet, and Darlene) or in Broken Bow (Dan and Kim).

Trust Department

A View From DC . . .

In June, I had the opportunity to travel to Washington DC as part of the Nebraska Bankers' Association (NBA) Leadership Program. I need to first thank our Bank for sending me and next the NBA for setting up the trip. Our group was there at a very interesting time in our country's history. While we were there, Healthcare Reform, Financial Reform and a proposal for a new Financial Services Regulatory Agency were all introduced to the public. So, as you can see, we had plenty to talk about.

We had the opportunity to meet with the American Bankers' Association, the FDIC, the Federal Reserve and all of our State's legislators. Everyone seemed very positive about our country and even to the point where an economist from the ABA said, "The Recession will be over during the third quarter of this year, but that doesn't mean that the economy will start growing by then; it will just mean that the slowing will have slowed." They talked about the resiliency of the American citizen and our ability to adapt to almost any situation. They also, on several occasions, apologized to us as bankers and said that we have been unfairly lumped together with banks of all shapes and sizes and from different geographic regions that don't have the same conservative values and standards that we do here in Nebraska.

The flip side is that everyone that we talked to is very frustrated right now. They are frustrated with each other: the bankers are frustrated with the regulators, the Federal Reserve is frustrated with the Treasury Department, the House is frustrated with the Senate and, believe it or not, the Republicans and the Democrats can't get along right now either. The general consensus is that we are doing too much too late and that everything that is being bantered over doesn't solve the problems at hand. They just try to fix leaks in the system that started getting us into this mess 5-10 years ago.

It was an amazing trip and I recommend that if you have the opportunity to go to DC as part of a group (Soybean Board, Cattleman's, etc.) that will meet with our representatives, you should take the opportunity to go. We are represented by well respected individuals that are often seen as open and level headed about most issues. Their staff is available and wants input on all topics from us as constituents, so get involved because now is probably as important a time as any to voice our opinions, even if it doesn't quite match up with theirs.

*Chris Tonniges –
Assistant Vice President*

P.S. Feel free to give me a call or stop in if you want to hear more as there is far more to talk about than I can fit into a single article.

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*May lose value *Not FDIC insured *No Bank guarantee

Husker Harvest Days

Husker Harvest Days in Grand Island will be September 15-17. We will again this year, with joint effort between Bruning State Bank and the Nebraska Bankers Association, be offering tickets at no cost. It will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Please let a Loan Officer know if you are interested in attending!

The Next Round Of Reminders. . .

WHEAT:

- Be sure your wheat yields have been reported to your agent. If you had a CRC or RA policy, you may have a loss due to the lower Board of Trade prices. Remember, losses must be reported immediately!
- Wheat premiums were due July 1st and need to be paid by August 1st to avoid interest charges.
- 2010 Wheat Crop Insurance – Sales closing date is Sept 30, 2009. Coverage is continuous, so any changes in coverage must be done by that date.

ROW-CROP:

- Be sure to review the Schedule of Insurance for your 2009 row crop acres. All the information needs to match what was reported to the FSA office to avoid any reduction or penalties at loss time.
- The crop insurance premium for row crops will be billed and due on October 1st and interest will be added if payment is not received by November 1st.
- Be sure to contact us right away if you think you have a loss on your crops.
- As fall harvest approaches, remember to keep your production separated by section – and also keep the irrigated and non-irrigated acres separated.

We would like to thank everyone for all their cooperation in providing us with their yields and acres for their crop insurance! We appreciate your business and hope you have a bountiful harvest this fall!

Please be sure to contact us with any questions! Remember, we can help you with your multi-peril crop insurance, hail insurance, livestock, and pasture-range-forage coverages!

*Jeff Hammer, Kathy Roberts,
Craig Pope, Shari Fischer, Fred Kobza,
Ryne Philippi & Janet Germer –
Crop Insurance Agents**

*Not FDIC Insured *Not a Guarantee of the Bank *May Go Down in Value *Not Insured by any Federal Government Agency *Not a Deposit of the Bank



The clock is ticking...

*do you know where
your money is?*

Sometimes it's easy to lose track of time, especially when it comes to keeping an eye on all of your investments...It's extremely important to be sure your financial portfolio is still on track with your investment goals.

Talk with a qualified financial consultant to make sure you're on the right track. Call us TODAY to schedule a no-obligation portfolio review!

Securities offered through Securities America, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC and Advisory Services offered through Securities America Advisors, Inc.
May lose value • Not FDIC Insured • No bank guarantee

College Bound. . .

Time continues to fly by and soon it will be time to send your children off to college. College students leave home with an expensive array of personal possessions, including cell phones, IPODs, laptop computers, DVD players, TVs, refrigerators...and the list goes on. Many students bring thousands of dollars worth of personal possessions with them to college, so it is critical to have adequate insurance protection on these possessions.

Will your homeowner's policy provide coverage for your student while they are at college? In some cases, the parent's policy will extend a limit of 10% of the total personal property coverage on the home insurance policy and any claim would be subject to the policy deductible. Expensive computer, electronic equipment, and items such as jewelry may be subject to coverage limits under a standard homeowner's policy.

Each student's situation is different, so check with your agent to see what your policy covers and make sure your student has the coverage they need. It may be necessary to purchase additional coverage on certain items or purchase a separate policy for your student.

For students going off to college, we recommend the following:

- Leave valuables at home if possible...while it may be necessary to take a computer or sports equipment etc., other expensive items such as jewelry, luxury watches, and costly electronics should be left behind or kept in a safety deposit box.
- Create a "dorm" inventory...Make a detailed inventory of all the items being taken to college. If there is a theft or disaster, an inventory will help identify all items and will speed up the claim process.
- Engrave electronics...Engrave your name or other identifying information into items such as computers, televisions, IPOD's, and cell phones etc. This information can help police identify stolen articles.
- Always lock your dorm room door and keep your keys with you at all times, even if you leave briefly. Be sure your roommate does the same! Thefts happen both at night and during the day!
- Keep your purse, bag, cell phone, laptop etc. with you while you're on campus. Thefts can occur while in class, in the library, in the dining hall, or any other public area.
- Buy a laptop security cable to possibly deter a thief.
- Keep your vehicle locked at all times. Do not leave valuables or other items, including CDs, in your vehicle.

College is expensive enough without having to replace items lost due to theft, fire, or other disaster. So, add...CHECK INSURANCE COVERAGE...to your college to-do list.

*Fred Kobza, Kathy Roberts,
& Kristen Monteforte –
Insurance Department**

*Not FDIC Insured *Not a Guarantee of the Bank *May Go Down in Value *Not Insured by any Federal Government Agency *Not a Deposit of the Bank

On The Road To College?

Don't forget all of the conveniences we have to offer you as you begin a new journey in your life. One thing you don't have to worry about is leaving your friendly hometown Bank. Here are some of the things we have to offer:

VISA Check Cards • Online Banking • Mail-In Deposits

We are just a toll free number away from you no matter where you go! You won't feel like you are just a number with a large bank.

You can depend on your hometown Country Bank!

Customer Service

Travel Update...

**September 25-October 1, 2009
Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, & The Black Hills**

This 7-day motorcoach tour will surely thrill you with beautiful fall foliage opportunities. Pick up points will be offered along Interstate 80 to include York, Grand Island, Kearney, and Lexington.

Please contact your local branch to secure your traveling spot. Prices for this tour are \$1,299.00 per person double occupancy and \$1,666.00 single occupancy. If you are wanting to take a last minute vacation this would be a great opportunity. We hope you will join us on this breathtaking scenery tour!

The key to your dream is just a phone call away!



 Purchase	 Home Equity
 Refinance	 HeLOC's
 Investment Property	 Home Improvement

FDIC 

Let us help you unlock your dreams!

How To Get The Most Bang From Your Bank Account. . .

With everyone looking for ways to save money, we would like to point you to ways to effectively utilize our services. We hope that you will take advantage of our nontraditional services that can save you time and money. Many of our customers do not realize all of the cost-saving services that our Bank provides from direct deposit to online bill pay.

Some of the services that we have to offer:

- Direct Deposit

Save paper and avoid the time and hassle associated with traveling to the Bank to cash your payroll check and have your employer deposit funds directly into your bank account. Start an emergency fund by having a portion of your paycheck automatically deposited into a savings account.

- Online Banking

Customers can transfer funds between accounts, and view account activity and statements without going to the Bank. Reviewing your bank account regularly allows you to check for fraudulent charges and to track your account balance.

- Online Bill Pay

One late fee a month over the course of a year plus the cost of postage stamps can add up to a very large amount by the end of the year. Automatic bill pay allows you to set up automatic payments from your checking account and avoid paying late fees or penalties. Pay your bills this way and avoid one of the most common reasons bills are paid late: forgetfulness.

The key to successful financial management is keeping your finances organized. With our online services, it's now easier than ever to do. For more information on our services, stop by one of your local branches, Bruning, Hebron or Broken Bow or visit www.aba.com/abaef.

*Shari Fischer –
Hebron Branch
Assistant Branch Manager*

Binders Still Available. . .

We want to remind all of our customers that three-ring binders are still available for your important Bank papers and statements. Please ask for one at the teller station the next time you are in a branch of Bruning State Bank – Bruning, Hebron and Broken Bow.

More Positives Than Negatives. . .

Every day you open up the newspaper or turn on the TV, radio, or computer, it seems all you hear is the negative news going on in our nation. The daily news can really give you a negative attitude.

If you sit back, though, and look at our area, I believe there are a lot more positives than negatives, and I would like to share some of those positives that are happening in our area.

1) Unemployment rate for Custer County is around 3%. U.S. unemployment rate is nearing 10%.

2) Custer County received seven proposals from seven different developers on a wind site in eastern Custer County. If a proposal is accepted, the wind energy site will be built and completed in 2010. NPPD is involved in this process; that, in my mind, puts credibility behind this project.

3) New \$12 million addition to the Melham Medical Center.

4) New baseball/softball complex in Broken Bow.

5) New Scenic Byways Interpretive Center on the east edge of Broken Bow.

6) Ord ethanol plant was purchased by another company and is currently producing ethanol.

7) Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte is looking to increase their extended campus presence in the Broken Bow community by possibly adding a larger site that will allow them to provide additional classes as well as class space.

8) Extensive remodeling to the existing movie theater that involved addition of a 2nd movie theatre with new digital 3-D picture and sound.

If there is an issue that we are seeing in our area, it is apartment rentals and business buildings. With the low unemployment rate, we are seeing that our apartment/housing availability is minimal and is an issue for people wanting to rent in Broken Bow. Broken Bow also needs additional business rental space or buildings to purchase. As stated earlier, Mid Plains Community College is looking to possibly expand their services in Broken Bow and the current problem is trying to find a large enough building that they can lease or possibly purchase. We just don't have a lot of vacant buildings in the Broken Bow community, which can also be looked at as a good problem.

Agriculture still remains to be the backbone for our area and it has been good to the area in the past few years. We continue to hope that agriculture remains profitable because that is what drives our communities.

*Jim Scott –
Bank of Broken Bow
Vice President - Lending*

BRUNING STATE BANK

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Bruning, Nebraska 68322

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YOUR COUNTRY BANK



BRUNING STATE BANK

Charter No. 618

"Since 1891"

Statement of Condition at Close of Business June 30, 2009

ASSETS	LIABILITIES
CASH.....\$4,082,000.00 (Cash in our vault, plus cash due on demand from other banks where funds are deposited.)	DEPOSITS.....\$133,395,000.00 (Amount of money on deposit by customers of the Bank, in the form of checking accounts, savings accounts and certificates of deposit.)
U. S. BONDS.....\$21,661,000.00 (This is the amount of government bonds owned by the Bank, most of which are due in less than three years.)	BORROWED FUNDS - FHLB AND OTHERS.....\$11,697,000.00
MUNICIPAL BONDS.....\$11,116,000.00 (Investments in high-grade bonds issued by cities, school districts and other municipal government.)	OTHER LIABILITIES.....\$667,000.00 (Accrued interest payable on all interest bearing checking accounts, savings accounts and certificates of deposit, payable at a future date, and income taxes payable during the fiscal year.)
FEDERAL FUNDS SOLD.....\$4,360,000.00 (Funds loaned to other banks for daily cash needs, payable on demand.)	TOTAL LIABILITIES.....\$145,759,000.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS.....\$41,219,000.00 (Total of liquid investments that could be quickly converted to cash or other immediately available funds.)	EQUITY CAPITAL
LOANS AND DISCOUNTS.....\$115,622,000.00 (Amount of money loaned to customers for all types of loans, such as real estate, agriculture, commercial and consumer.)	CAPITAL STOCK.....\$600,000.00 (Par value of 6,000 shares of common stock of the Bank, paid by the people who own the stock.)
BANKING HOUSE, FURNITURE AND FIXTURES.....\$1,304,000.00 (The depreciated value of the Bank, all furniture and equipment.)	SURPLUS.....\$13,800,000.00 (Amount taken from the profits of the Bank to further strengthen the position of the Bank.)
OTHER ASSETS.....\$7,816,000.00 (Accrued interest earned but not collected and other receivables.)	UNDIVIDED PROFITS AND RESERVES.....\$5,802,000.00 (Amount that has accumulated from earnings of the Bank for reserves.)
TOTAL ASSETS.....\$165,961,000.00	TOTAL EQUITY CAPITAL.....\$20,202,000.00
	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY CAPITAL.....\$165,961,000.00