

Office Hours and Locations

Winslow Office
(815) 367-5011

Warren Office
(815) 745-9011

Mon. - Wed.	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Mon. - Fri.	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fri.	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Fri. Drive Up	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sat.	8:00 a.m. - Noon	Sat.	8:00 a.m. - Noon
Thurs.	Closed		

Orangeville Office
(815) 789-4212

Lena Office
(815) 369-9000

Mon. - Fri.	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Mon. - Fri.	8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fri. Drive Up	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Sat.	8:30 a.m. - Noon
Sat.	8:00 a.m. - Noon		

CB Community Bank
PO Box 188
Winslow, IL 61089

New Employees

Cortney Kaiser – Lena
Natalie Thompson – Warren
Joanna Thompson – Warren
Sheila Keene – Lena

Customer “Thanks” giving Days

On November 20-21, Community Bank held our Customer Appreciation Days to thank our loyal customers. Desserts and refreshments were available at all of our branches, and we made a monetary donation to each branch's local food pantry in honor of you, our customers.

Employee Anniversaries



Valerie Dunlavey is celebrating her 20th year as an employee of Community Bank.

Val graduated from River Ridge High School and got her associates degree from Blackhawk Technical College. Her career began at our Winslow branch on March 16, 1992, and moved to the Lena branch in 2006. She was promoted to Assistant Vice President/Loan Officer in 2011.

“It doesn't seem possible that I have been at the bank for 20 years!” Val says. “I have really enjoyed the many customer relationships I've developed over the years. It has been fun to experience and be a part of the bank's growth and to see its continued financial strength.”

Val and her husband, Kevin, have two boys. Val serves as treasurer for the Lena-Winslow School District and is President of the Stephenson County Bankers Federation.



Mike Woodworth has been with Community Bank for 15 years.

Mike joined Community Bank in 1997. Mike is a member of the management team that has made Community Bank one of the strongest banks in Jo Daviess County and the Stateline area. He is an alumnus of Shullsburg High School and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Mike has lived in southwestern Wisconsin and northwestern Illinois his entire

life. He currently resides at his family's farm in rural Shullsburg/Apple River with his wife Tammy and children, Zach and Ella. As an active participant in the Warren community, Mike serves as treasurer for the Warren Fire Department and the Warren Lions Club along with participating in other organizations in the area.

CB Community Bank

Winter 2012

Letter from the President

The close of fall harvests and the approaching holidays bring a flurry of activities, but also a time to reflect on the accomplishments of the year.

Community Bank has continued to support our communities in a myriad of ways throughout this past year, from the Dairy Roundtable in February to the Tiny Tim gift program in December. Early in the year, we introduced e-statements with an “Are You Green?” campaign. Customers have found our upgraded and revamped Internet banking site much easier to use and navigate, especially with added features like bill-pay and check images. Our parade float highlighted the ‘go green’ theme, earning rave reviews everywhere.

Many of our good works are visible in your daily life. When you see the Salvation Army, the Veterans Day fireworks in Lena, the Lena Food Pantry, the backstop at Lions' Park, the Warren Chamber of Commerce, the library and the Women's Club, Pumpkin Fest, the Jo Daviess County Fair, The Bob, the street banners in Winslow, and Stewart-Schneider American Legion and Auxiliary, to name but a few, you are seeing the commitment of Community Bank to the people here. All of our area schools benefited from our generosity. Community is not just a word to us; it is who we are at heart. Contributing to and participating in local charities and activities demonstrates our ongoing commitment to the communities we serve.

Although this area of the country has not seen much change in the economic picture, our deposit rates continue to lead, along with the other competitive products and services we offer. In response to the relatively unchanging interest rate spread, we now offer two longer-term certificates of deposit that provide better interest rates than those with shorter terms.

Community Bank has established its reputation as a safe and secure place to do business. Our capital position has kept pace with the growth we have experienced in both deposits and assets, and we remain a leader in financial strength in the state line area.

The holiday season is a time to be grateful for all the blessings we've received throughout the year. We are especially thankful to have served each and every one of our customers. As we enter the New Year, our optimism continues to grow. We promise to continue to serve our customers and communities, as we have since 1915.

Wishing you a Happy New Year with continued prosperity in 2013.

Sincerely,
Bob Lyvers
President

Letter from the President –
Highlights 2012

New Products & Services –
Notify Me Alerts

In Memoriam – Remembering
Norman James

Financial Updates – Access
to Credit Cards for Stay-at-
Home Parents

Building Wealth – Is a Roth
IRA Right for You?

Timely Opportunities –
End-of-Year Tax Tips

Ag News – Total Weather Insurance

Upcoming Bank Holidays

Community Corner – Customer
Appreciation Days

Member FDIC

Notify Me Alerts Feature

Did you know that our Internet Banking customers can receive alerts for any of the following transactions?

A message is sent to your online inbox or phone for:

- Account overdrawn
- Balance is above and/or below a designated dollar amount
- Check(s) number(s) paid
- Deposit made
- Transaction above a designated amount

This feature provides you with up-to-the-minute account information to your external email account or by text message and will alert you to transactions that you deem as “out of the ordinary.” Studies show that this type of monitoring of your financial account can help minimize ID fraud and ID theft.

To set up your Notify Me alerts, click on the “User Services” tab, select the link to “Notify Me” under the “User Preferences” section and designate which transactions should activate alerts via email.

Community Bank is dedicated to making your financial life easier and safer.

Community Corner

Community Bank participated in several area parades this year with our “The Lorax” themed float. Everyone had a blast dressing up and riding in the parade!



Timely Tax Opportunities for the End of 2012

The tax deadline may not be on your horizon, but preparing for next year can start right away. Being organized and planning ahead can save you time, money and the stress associated with scurrying to get organized at the last minute. The following seven tips offered by the IRS will get you going with your 2013 planning efforts:

- **Adjust Your Withholding**—Why wait another year for a big refund? Now is a good time to review your withholding and make adjustments for next year, especially if you'd prefer more money in each paycheck this year. If you owed at tax time, perhaps you'd like next year's tax payment to be smaller.
- **Store Your Tax Return in a Secure Location**—Put your current tax return and supporting documents somewhere secure so you'll know exactly where to find them should you receive an IRS notice. This will also allow you to easily access your return and use it as a helpful guide for next year.
- **Organize Recordkeeping**—Establish a central location where everyone in your household can put tax-related records all year long. Be consistent to avoid a scramble for misplaced mileage logs or charity receipts come tax time.
- **Review Your Paychecks**—Make sure your employer is properly withholding and reporting retirement account contributions, health insurance payments, charitable payroll deductions and other items. These payroll adjustments can make a big difference on your bottom line. Fixing an error on your paycheck now helps you avoid hassles later.
- **Prepare to Itemize Deductions**—If your expenses typically fall just below the amount to make itemizing advantageous, a bit of planning to bundle deductions into 2012 may pay off. For example, an early or extra mortgage payment, pre-deadline property tax payments, or planned donations could equal some extra tax savings.
- **Strategize Tuition Payments**—The American Opportunity Tax Credit, which offsets higher education expenses, is set to expire after 2012. It may be beneficial to pay 2013 tuition in 2012 to take full advantage of this tax credit, up to \$2,500, before it expires.
- **Stay Apprised of Changes**—Find out about tax law changes, helpful tips and IRS announcements during the year by subscribing to IRS Tax Tips through www.irs.gov or IRS2Go (the IRS's mobile app). The IRS issues tips regularly during summer and tax season. Special Edition tips are sent periodically for other timely updates.

Source: about.com

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness the Community Bank family bid Norman James farewell in June. Norm was originally employed by State Bank of Winslow, which later became Community Bank. He served the bank for 54 years and was a director.

Norm will be remembered most for his kind-heartedness, dedication to the bank and sense of humor.

We would like to extend our love, comfort and full support of every person within the organization to his family. Thanks for allowing him to be part of our family too.

Access to Credit Cards for Stay-at-Home Parents

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) recently proposed updates to the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility Disclosure Act (CARD Act) that would make it easier for stay-at-home spouses to qualify for credit cards.

The revision would allow credit card applicants who are 21 or older to rely on third-party income to which they have a reasonable expectation of access, such as stay-at-home spouses or partners who have access to a working spouse's or partner's income.

The initial rule was enacted to protect college students from unfair exploitation. Now, the Act will be modified to ensure stay-at-home parents are not also excluded from access to a credit card.

Source: advisorone.com

Is a Roth IRA for You?

More and more Americans are choosing to put money into Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). There are two basic types of IRAs:

- Traditional IRAs, which offer tax-deferred growth, a tax deduction potential and a variety of investment options; and
- Roth IRAs, which allow for tax-free distributions at retirement, a variety of investment options and features that enable investors to leave a legacy for their heirs.

Most experts agree that a Roth IRA is the better option, but unlike a traditional IRA, there are certain requirements one must meet to contribute to a Roth IRA. To invest in a Roth IRA, you must have a modified gross income under \$160,000 (married couples) or \$110,000 (singles).

Roth IRA contributions are not tax-deductible, but the earnings grow tax-free if you don't take any distributions until you reach age 59½ or older and you have owned the account for a minimum of five years.

When you retire, you have the option of withdrawing all of your funds at once, or leaving them in place for your children and grandchildren. No matter what, when funds are withdrawn, no income tax will be owed.

To decide for sure if a Roth IRA is for you, give us a call.

Upcoming Bank Holidays

Christmas Eve Day – December 24 Closing at noon
Christmas Day – December 25 Closed
New Year's Eve – December 31 Closing at noon
New Year's Day – Closed

Should You Get Total Weather Insurance?

Total Weather Insurance (TWI) provides precise insurance coverage based on field location, soil type and crop, with payments automatically generated when bad weather happens. TWI concentrates on major crops such as corn, soybeans, winter wheat and sorghum, although growers can build custom policies for specialty crops.

The Climate Corporation, which runs TWI, reported it had made payouts on 80% of all TWI corn policies for this year – including 98% of the TWI corn policies in Illinois receiving a payout. Is TWI a good option for you?

By indexing weather risks, TWI eliminates the paperwork and keeps overhead costs to a minimum. The insurance triggers on those pre-defined weather events and not actual yield losses, so there are no arguments with crop adjusters and no audits by insurance companies when claims exceed \$200,000. Crop insurance agents see TWI as a good fit for shallow losses not covered by federal crop insurance deductibles, but not as a complete substitute for revenue policies.

Many Illinois farms benefitted from TWI in 2012 after the effects of extreme weather conditions damaged crops. Looking ahead to 2013, the Climate Corporation has made upgrades in order to better track crop development, adjust coverage periods and improve protection for growers.

- **Growth Phase Tracker**—Calculates coverage dates for key weather perils by tracking the weather-driving progression of the crop in-season. TWI coverage will adapt to a broader range of weather scenarios, such as unusually early or late planting.
- **Soil Moisture Tracker**—Introduced last year, the tracker gives daily moisture conditions on a 2½ by 2½-mile grid. The tracker is improved by setting an initial soil moisture condition in the spring and an improved method for calculating daily changes that include actual temperatures in the area and moisture lost through evapotranspiration.
- **Weather measurements**—More precise with temperature measurements made on a 2½ by 2½-mile grid using thousands of on-the-ground weather stations for daily temperature readings.

Consult with your insurance agent today to determine if TWI is right for you!

For information purposes only. Consult with your insurance agent.
Sources: farministrynews.com
climate.com

E-Newsletter

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter electronically instead of in the mail? If so, please email your request to jmontgomery@cbcommunitybank.com.