

# PROGRESS 2008

## Customer Service — Bank Iowa's Priority

■ Bank Iowa hopes to know customers on a first-name basis

Bank Iowa puts customer service at the top of their priorities. "As a community bank we feel that you should be treated as family. Our goal is to know our customers on a first-name basis and to be able to sit down with you to discuss any questions you might have concerning financial services or needs," states Vicki Jones, Marketing Director. Bank Iowa's teller line is eager to greet you with friendly smiles. They invite you to come into their warm lobby to enjoy their fresh baked cookies/cupcakes and hot coffee. Drive-up is a great alternative, if you are pressed for time, along with a 24 hour ATM.

Bank Iowa knows that hiring excellent staff is a vital element in providing exceptional service. The newest member of the Bank Iowa family is Mark De Jong. De Jong will be working primarily with Ag and Commercial loans. He has over 20 years banking experience largely within the Southeast Iowa area. Bank Iowa is very excited to have Mark W. De Jong join their team and feel his experience in lending and community leadership



**Bank Iowa**  
Your Success. Our Priority.

will be a great asset to the future growth of Bank Iowa.

Great lenders make great service. At Bank Iowa their ag lenders are well experienced in the specialized credit needs of ag customers, including farm operation, livestock, machinery purchases and farm real estate. Bank Iowa invites you to come in today to visit with Brian Hawk or Mark De Jong in Oskaloosa and Mark O'Rourke in Fremont for all of your agricultural needs. Nothing is better than owning your own home. In today's world, Bank Iowa knows that every home loan is unique. Dan Adams, mortgage lender with Bank Iowa, states "We want to help you achieve home ownership. Whether you are buying, refinancing or building your home, we will help you find the loan that is right for you." Bank Iowa intends to offer the best value in town. This includes same day loan approvals and a first time home buyer program.

Bank Iowa was the first bank in Oskaloosa to offer "Reward Checking," a

free checking account with CD rates and free ATM usage. This account comes with a free debit card, free internet banking, free online bill pay and unlimited check writing. Their customers are enjoying "Reward Checking" and feel it is the best new product to hit the financial world. Stop in today to visit with Bev Gosselink, Susan Wilson or Vicki Jones in Oskaloosa and Judy Elder in Fremont about Reward Checking. Want to "switch" your checking account to Bank Iowa? Make your move and they'll do all the work! They will make the phone calls and write the letters to make switching your account as painless as possible! Check out the Bank Iowa Switch Kit at [www.bankoskaloosa.com](http://www.bankoskaloosa.com).

Daryl Petty, President states "Bank Iowa's promise to you is that we will work very hard to help you achieve financial success. Whether that involves helping you find the right mortgage, open a line-of-credit, or select the best checking account. At Bank Iowa your success is our priority!"

## Brown's Shoe Fit has your style of shoe

Brown's Shoe Fit is providing Oskaloosa with athletic and casual shoes, along with a selection of dress and stylish shoes.

Rhonda Swanson, manager and owner of Brown's Shoe Fit, came to Oskaloosa to run the store two years ago.

"The last two years have been a great experience and I've enjoyed Oskaloosa," Swanson said.

Brown's Shoe Fit is still geared toward athletic shoes, with footwear for basketball, baseball, wrestling, soccer, track and volleyball. This spring, the store will also offer more shoes for tennis.

Brown's Shoe Fit is also committed to doing special orders for shoes not in stock.

"If we don't have it, we try to get it," Swanson

said.

Swanson said that while some Internet companies charge extra for shipping, Brown's Shoe Fit does not charge for freight.

The innovative MBT shoes are available at Brown's Shoe Fit. MBT, which stands for Masai Barefoot Technology, has created shoes designed to recreate the effect of walking on sand, resulting in better posture and muscle toning after frequent use.

The Web site for the shoe also claims the shoes can help with back, hip, leg and foot problems and joint, muscle, ligament and tendon injuries.

The shoes were based on research into the African Masai tribesman who walk barefoot. The research claims that by

simulating the effects of walking barefoot over uneven surfaces, joint and other problems can be relieved.

Spring styles are in full force with many name brands at Brown's Shoe Fit, including Privo, Clarks, Skechers and Merrell footwear.

New brands at Brown's Shoe Fit include El Naturara Lista, Ground Hogs and Helle Comfort.

El Naturara Lista, with headquarters in Spain, is an ecologically-friendly shoe that is also trendy.

Ground Hogs are a trendy shoe and Helle Comfort shoes are designed to be dressier and stylish, but still comfortable.

Within the last couple years, the store has also built on Keen products that include outdoor footwear and sandals.

## Blessed Byways Christian Tours is on the move

Burdell Hensley, a.k.a. The Ancient Sportsman, was born to travel. Being the first child of a tenant farming family coming out of the Depression, money was scarce. At birth the doctor wrapped him up and laid him in a suitcase which served well as a crib. Therefore the desire to travel came naturally.

Charlotte Hensley, a.k.a. as the Ancient-ess, also grew up in a poor farm family and there was no money to travel. After their marriage travel became a way of life and she fell in love with it.

Burdell's retirement following a career in teaching offered more travel opportunities. Involvement in bank travel expanded their horizons and opened up more possibilities.

In 2005, the couple decided to kick off a new travel adventure. Blessed Byways Christian Tours came into existence with the purpose of providing a wide variety of Christian travel opportunities. Tours

the past three years have included gospel music concerts with groups such as the Gaithers, Legacy Five and Journey Bound and Gospel sings such as The Midwest Singing Convention in Sioux Falls S.D., Cedar Falls Gospel Sing, Gospel Music USA in Jefferson City, Mo., and the National Quartet Convention in Louisville, Ky.

Christian drama at Circa 21 Dinner Theater and Derby Dinner Theater have been popular as well as evening performances with Christian comedians Mark Lowry and Chonda Pierce. Longer trips have been to Branson, Colorado Springs where Focus on the Family, Navigator's headquarters, Glen Eyrie Castle, Flying W Ranch, Olympic Training Center, Garden of the Gods and the Royal Gorge Dinner Train were visited, and northern Indiana and southern Michigan with a sunset supper on the shores of Lake Michigan, the

Studebaker Museum, Shipshewana, Ind., and the Blue Gate Restaurant, the Gaither headquarters and Hardy's Reindeer Ranch were visited.

Blessed Byways Tours are unique and filled with surprises and creative activities. Travelers experience worry free travel and are given red carpet treatment.

Events for 2008 include Circa 21 Dinner Theater, Branson, The Creation Museum in Petersburg, Ky., Gaither headquarters, Shipshewana, Ind., and the Blue Gate Restaurant, Lake Michigan area, The Fall Gospel Music Festival in Meremac Caverns, Midwest Singing Convention in Sioux Falls, Journey Bound Christmas Concert and Gospel Music USA in Jefferson City, Mo.

For answers to your questions and tour information, call (641) 672-2428 or e-mail the Hensleys at [hensley@Mahaska.org](mailto:hensley@Mahaska.org).

**Go to [Oskaloosa.com](http://Oskaloosa.com) and link on [Legacy.com](http://Legacy.com) to view full obits and express condolences and share remembrance of loved ones.**



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Back row l-r: Lisa Stodghill, RDH; Jennifer Grove, Business Mgr.; Eric De Boef, DDS; Melissa Falb, RDH  
Front row l-r: Tammy Appleget, CDA; Lynne Veldhuizen, CDA; Sue Boyer, Front Office Mgr.

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