



THE  
**STEPHENSON**  
National Bank & Trust

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: April 5, 2013

## **SNBT Celebrates Community Banking Month**

April is Community Banking Month! This nationally recognized celebration highlights the critical role community banks serve in improving our local economy. The Stephenson National Bank & Trust (SNBT) is celebrating Community Banking Month along with states, local governments, and other community banks across the country.

Sponsored by the Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA), Community Banking Month shines a spotlight on community banks as an integral part of our nation's financial system – by driving local economies, funding small businesses, creating local jobs, and being active in community affairs through charitable giving and volunteer time.

The more than 7,000 community banks in the U.S., serve as financial first responders to the communities they serve because they operate locally, which puts local deposits back to work through loans to local residents and small businesses. Unlike many larger banks that may take deposits in one state and lend in others, community banks channel their loans to the neighborhoods where their depositors live and work, helping to keep them vibrant and growing.

“Community banks, like SNBT, proudly embody the American spirit of a strong community by financing small business owners, helping area families achieve financial stability, and enabling our local economy to thrive,” said Daniel Peterson, SNBT Executive Vice President.

Small business lending has always been a mainstay of community banking. “You may not have realized it, but community banks are small businesses ourselves – we operate in the same community as our customers. This close-knit relationship allows SNBT to understand customer needs and the challenges they face in order to continue our community's economic growth and prosperity,” continued Peterson.

Throughout the month, SNBT employees will be wearing shirts that read “I Love My Community Bank” as a reminder of the campaign and how banking locally can



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make a real difference in the local neighborhoods. Community bank customers can help celebrate by sharing their experiences online using the “I Luv My Community Bank” portal at [www.snbt.com](http://www.snbt.com). Here, they are encouraged to share their personal stories by posting comments, uploading photos, and delivering video testimonials. The top five winners will receive a \$500 gift card, courtesy of ICBA. Submissions will be accepted through April 12.

The Stephenson National Bank & Trust is a 138-year old independent community bank with \$750 million in Bank, Mortgage, and Trust & Investment assets under management. Offices are located in Marinette and Oconto, Wis. and Menominee, Mich. with a Trust & Investment Office in Marquette, Mich. For more information about The Stephenson National Bank & Trust visit [www.snbt.com](http://www.snbt.com).

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