

Summer 2024

NEWS from AMERICAN TRUST & SAVINGS BANK



e-Statements Have Arrived – Sign Up Now!

We are pleased to announce that e-Statements have arrived! Please contact us if you would be interested in signing up to receive your monthly statements via e-mail.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

- 1. What is an e-Statement?** An e-Statement is an electronic version of your checking/savings account statements. You will receive an e-mail when your statement is ready for viewing.
- 2. Do I have to have Online Banking?** Yes. For you to take advantage of this feature, Online Banking is necessary. Let us know if you need help registering.
- 3. If I sign up for e-Statements, will I still receive my paper statements?** We discontinue your paper statements when you switch to e-Statements. You can view, save, and print your e-Statements at any time.
- 4. Do I have to switch to e-Statements?** If e-Statements aren't for you, there is no need to worry. Paper statements will continue unless you tell us you don't want them.
- 5. How will I know when a new e-Statement is available?** You will receive an e-mail at the close of each statement cycle to let you know your statement is available.
- 6. How do I sign up?** You can send us an e-mail (info@atsb-lowden.com), call us at 563-941-5391, or send us a secure message through your Online Banking account (click "Secure Message").



A Look Back in Time

Ninety-nine years ago, in September 1925, the bank reported in its quarterly statement of condition that it had nearly \$589,000 in loans. Customer deposits were \$630,000. The bank building and furnishings amounted to a whopping \$10,572. The bank was only twelve years old at the time.



Protect and Manage Your Debit Card With Brella



Debit cardholders have access to enhanced banking and debit card services with the Brella® mobile app.

Brella helps you protect your debit card by sending you alerts when your card is used so you can quickly detect unauthorized or fraudulent activity on your account. Users have the option to receive text or email alerts. You can also check your account balance anytime, turn your card off and on, send money to other users and find nearby ATMs.

To download a free Brella app, simply search for "Brella – Card Manager" in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Digital Banking: Mobile Banking, Online Banking, Bill Pay

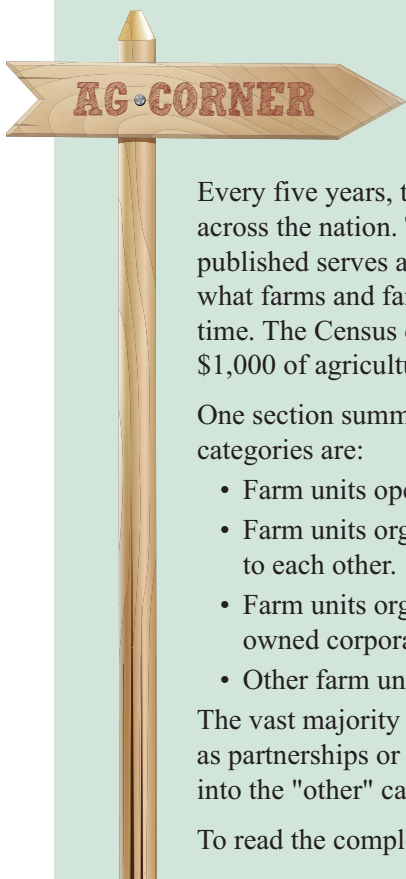


American Trust & Savings Bank offers digital banking technology for the convenience of our consumer and business customers. Mobile Banking, Online Banking, and Bill Pay provide 24/7 access to your funds and other bank-related services.

Whether you choose to bank using your smartphone, laptop, or desktop computer, you'll be amazed at the array of features and functions available.

Digital banking is also great for businesses of any size. An important aspect of operating any business is the way you choose for managing your money. In an age where the Internet is available at our fingertips – and from multiple devices – online banking is a great option for businesses of all types and sizes.

So, enroll now to see how easy it is to deposit checks, transfer funds, check account balances, set up account alerts, or pay bills – all at your fingertips. Visit <https://atsb-lowden.com/online-banking/> for more details.



New Census shows Iowa agriculture is still dominated by family farms

Every five years, the US Department of Agriculture carries out a complete survey of farms and farmers across the nation. The most recent one was conducted in 2022. The information that is collected and published serves a wide variety of purposes. One of the more important ones is to provide a snapshot of what farms and farmers at the national, state and county level look like and how they are changing over time. The Census of Agriculture definition for a farm is any operation that produced or could have produced \$1,000 of agricultural products, so many very small businesses are included.

One section summarizes characteristics of farms according to their type of legal organization. The categories are:

- Farm units operated as a sole proprietorship by a single individual or family.
- Farm units organized as a partnership. Most partnerships have multiple operators, who are often related to each other.
- Farm units organized as a corporation. The Census divides them into family-owned and nonfamily-owned corporations.
- Other farm units, which includes mostly farms held in a trust or an estate.

The vast majority (82%) of Iowa farms are operated by individuals or families. Another 15% are organized as partnerships or family corporations. Only 1% of Iowa farms are nonfamily corporations, while 3% fall into the "other" category.

To read the complete article, visit: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/articles/edwards/EdwApr24.html>

Use Two-factor Authentication to Protect Your Accounts



There probably isn't a day that goes by without you logging in to at least one account — maybe you check your email, post to your social media, pay bills, send money to your friends and family, or buy something online. Your accounts can store a lot of personal and financial information. That's why you protect them with a password. Unfortunately, passwords are vulnerable to cyber-attacks. But there's a simple way to make your accounts more secure: turn on two-factor authentication.

Two factors are better than one

Using only one factor — say, something you know, like a password — to log in to your account is like having one lock on your front door. And not a very secure one.

Using two-factor authentication is like using two locks on your door — and is much more secure. Even if a hacker knows your username and password, they can't log in to your account without the second credential or authentication factor.

The most common methods of authentication

More and more sites and apps are offering two-factor authentication. Some let you choose which authentication method to use. Others only give you one option.

- **One-time passcode via text message or email**

With this type of authentication, you

get a verification passcode by text message or email. It's typically six digits long but can be longer. It's only good for one log in and expires automatically.

Getting a passcode by text message is a common and simple method of authentication that only requires a phone that can get text messages. But it has its drawbacks. Hackers can take over your phone number through a SIM card swap attack and get text messages sent to your number, including those with a verification code, before you realize someone stole your number.

If you get a verification passcode by email, use a strong password and two-factor authentication on your email account. That'll make it harder for someone to hack into your email and steal your one-time passcode.

If getting a verification passcode by text message or email is the only option the account offers, it's better than nothing. But it's safer to use an authenticator app or security key, if they're an option.

- **An authenticator app or security key**

Some accounts let you use an authenticator app on your phone or tablet to verify it's you trying to log in. There are several authenticator apps out there, like Google Authenticator, Microsoft Authenticator, and Duo.

Security keys are physical devices that you use as your second

authentication factor. They come in different shapes and sizes. You can buy one for personal use or you might get one from your employer.

Turning on two-factor authentication

More and more sites and apps are offering two-factor authentication, but it's not usually on by default. To turn it on, go to your account settings, look for two-factor authentication, two-step verification, or multi-factor authentication, and follow the steps.

Start with your most sensitive accounts, like your bank, credit cards, email, social media, tax filing website, and payment apps. Then add it to other accounts, like sites you shop on.

After you set up two-factor authentication, you may have the option to remember the device you're using to log in. If you do, instead of having to give the second credential every time you log in, you may only need to do so in certain situations, like when you log in from another device. Don't remember the device if you're logging in from a public computer, like at a library.

Two-factor authentication can add an extra layer of security that protects you from hackers. And spending a few minutes to turn it on now can save you the hassle — and countless hours — it'll take to recover a hacked account or deal with identity theft.

Mark Your Calendar



If you would like us to publish upcoming community events, be sure to contact us at the bank. We'll include it in our quarterly newsletter.

Lions Club Sweet Corn Supper

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Enjoy best-of-the-season sweet corn and pork chops from **4:30 to 6:30 pm** at Lowden Memorial Park.

\$10.00 at the door and \$6.00 for children 5 to 12 years of age. There are no pre-sales.



Cookie Day at American Trust

Friday, August 9 2024 during banking hours.

It's our way of saying *"Thank you for your business!"*



North Cedar Education Foundation Golf Outing

Saturday, August 17, 2024

Time: 12 Noon tee off

Location: 3/30 Country Club, Lowden, IA

Register: Contact any of the following:

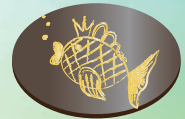
- Chad Mostaert at mostaert@netins.net
- Renee Edler at rirc@netins.net
- Jamie Nabb at jknabb@fbcom.net

All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry Lowden American Legion

Friday, September 6, 2024

Friday, October 4, 2024

Serving from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Only \$18 for adults and \$5.00 for children 5 to 12. Carry-outs are available.



The bank will be closed on these dates:

Monday, September 2 – Labor Day

Monday, October 14 – Columbus Day

How do prepaid cards and debit cards compare to credit cards?

Prepaid cards and debit cards are very different from credit cards. This can be confusing because both types of cards could show a card network logo, such as Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover. When you use a credit card, you're borrowing money, and you must repay it on the payment due date. Paying late generally means paying a late fee, and paying less than the full amount means paying interest charges. On the other hand, with a debit or prepaid card, you are withdrawing money you already have in your account. Unless you overdraw your account, you do not need to repay money or pay fees.

Source: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (www.consumerfinance.gov)




**AMERICAN
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www.atsb-lowden.com

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