News Release
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ICBA and Siuslaw Bank Go Local During Community Banking Month
April Is Community Banking Month

April is Community Banking Month, and the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) and Siuslaw Bank are encouraging consumers and small business owners to Go Local by banking locally with a community bank. Because community banks put local deposits back to work in the community, and are financial first responders both in good times and in bad, consumers will be reinvesting in their neighborhood and making it a better place to live and work for generations to come.

States, local governments, and community banks recognize Community Banking Month. This year, each of Siuslaw's 10 offices are recognizing four local non-profits as "Customers of the Week," making $25.00 donations to their causes. In addition, Siuslaw is putting on an essay contest for local middle school students on why it's important to save. There is also a piggy bank drawing contest for elementary school students and Food Fridays in all of Siuslaw's offices during the month of April.

"Community banks proudly embody the American spirit of Main Street by lending to local small business owners, helping area families achieve financial stability and enabling their local economy and community to thrive. This isn't a new phenomenon. Many community banks have been around for over a hundred years – Siuslaw is the oldest community bank in Lane County and we are celebrating 49 years of serving the community," says Lonnie Iholts, president and chief executive officer of Siuslaw Bank.

By driving local economies and creating local jobs, community banks—which are small businesses themselves— are an integral part of our nation's financial system. Of the more than 7,000 community banks across the country, nearly 5,000 are ICBA members. Located in small towns, suburbia and big-city neighborhoods, community banks improve the nation's communities by lending to local customers and funding nearly 60 percent of all small businesses under $1 million.

ICBA President and CEO, Camden R. Fine, said that he encourages consumers to make Community Banking Month a reason to find their local community bank. He said consumers can do so by visiting ICBA's Community Bank Locator at www.banklocally.org. "Simply type in your zip code and the app will show you all the community banks in your area. You can even download free ICBA locator apps for your iPhone, Android or Blackberry," he says. To follow the conversation on Community Banking Month, follow the hashtags #iLuvMyCB, #golocal and #banklocal on Twitter.

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