

### **IN THE NEWS**

#### Faster Payments Push in Overdrive as Fed Nears Decision

CBAI and ICBA reiterated their call for the Federal Reserve to develop its own real-time payments settlement system. In a **letter** to Fed Chairman Jerome Powell, ICBA President and CEO Rebeca Romero Rainey said the Fed is uniquely positioned to provide equitable access to real-time payments. An ICBA ad, which is also running in Politico and The Hill, calls on policymakers to stop the megabank monopoly on real-time payments. With the Fed nearing its decision, CBAI and ICBA are pulling out all the stops and urge community bankers to call and email policymakers using ICBA's Be Heard grassroots action center. **Contact Your Policymakers** >>

#### Credit Union Abuse Tops Agenda for CBAI Staff Capitol Hill Meetings

CBAI's SVP Federal Governmental Relations, David Schroeder, was in Washington D.C. for his quarterly visit the week of July 15th. Schroeder informed the Illinois Congressional Delegation about important issues for Illinois community banks and also met with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and senior staff of the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA).

Topping the discussion agenda was credit union abuse, particularly the acquisition of tax paying community banks by tax-exempt credit unions. These acquisitions are just the latest example of credit unions straying far from their founding mission of serving individuals of modest means and with a common bond. Schroeder updated the Illinois Congressional Delegation about the status of the Federal Reserve's deliberation on its role in real-time payments. Schroeder also urged for the swift completion of the remaining sections of the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act (S. 2155) and highlighted several pieces of legislation bills which will provide additional regulatory relief for community banks.

Read Article >>



# The Baker Group's Interest Rate Risk and Investment Strategies Seminar

For forty years, The Baker Group has been known for its proven software and products, and for helping clients make sound, strategic decisions. The Baker Group's Interest Rate Risk and Investment Strategies Seminar was developed specifically for managers of financial institutions. Designed to meet current financial challenges, it is an in-depth examination of current topics.

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#### NEWS FROM THE FRONT 07/29/19

Although, the Illinois General Assembly and Congress are off on summer break, there is still action going

on in Springfield and Washington D.C. Governor JB Pritzker signed a CBAI legislative initiative into law and the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations has issued guidance on industrial hemp banking. Several legislators have resigned from the General Assembly over the summer and replacements have been appointed to fill their seats. On the federal side, CBAI wrapped up another round of visits with the Illinois Congressional Delegation in Washington D.C. Credit Union abuse, the Federal Reserve's Role in faster payments, and regulatory relief remain at the top of the legislative agenda. **Read CBAI's NEWS FROM THE FRONT >>** 





#### ICBA: Nonmember Share Plan is More of the Same from NCUA

ICBA told the National Credit Union Administration that its proposal to allow credit unions to hold more nonmember shares is the latest example of the agency pushing the envelope to help the industry it regulates. The NCUA plan would allow federal credit unions to receive public unit and nonmember shares up to 50 percent of their paid-in and unimpaired capital and surplus, less any public unit and nonmember shares. Current rules limit nonmember shares to 20 percent of a credit union's total shares or \$3 million, whichever is greater. In a comment letter, ICBA said the plan would allow credit unions to take even more deposits from outside their membership base, further circumventing field-of-membership rules. The NCUA should concentrate on improving the overall safety and soundness of the credit union industry, ICBA said.

Read Comment Letter >>

#### CBAI's 45th Annual Convention Slated for September 19-21

EXHILARATED. CHARGED-UP. MOTIVATED. REFRESHED. That's how you'll feel after attending CBAI's 45th Annual Convention and Exposition to be held September 19-21, 2019, at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL. This year's convention features hard hitting educational topics, a huge exhibit center, and fun-filled social events. Take a few minutes to look through the pages of the brochure which describes all activities and get registered today!!!

More Information and Registration Here >>

#### **CSBS Opinion: State Regulators Critical to Fintech Oversight**

Charlie Clark, Director of Washington State Department of Financial Institutions, recently testified before a House Financial Services Committee task force as chair of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS) committee to discuss the role of state regulators in fintech oversight. In his testimony, he noted that, while Congress knows state regulators supervise 79% of the nation's banks that are state-chartered, there have been questions about how state regulators license and enforce compliance for fintech companies. He said that's because the current intersection between financial services and technology has accelerated change in the industry.

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# Community BancPac Hosts Downstate Legislative Roundtable and Sporting Clay Shoot

You're invited to join Southern Illinois lawmakers, the CBAI governmental relations team, and fellow community bankers for a legislative roundtable at the World Shooting Complex in Sparta, Illinois, on August 22, 2019. This is an opportunity to meet directly with lawmakers and discuss key issues affecting the community banking profession. Following the meeting, those interested are invited to join us for an afternoon on the sporting clay course. This free events designed to promote networking and relationship building. Shooters of all experience levels are welcome. To reserve your spot or for more information, please contact Jessie Schmidt at **jessicas@cbai.com** or 800-736-2224.





#### Illinois Community Bankers Respond to Farm Crisis Concerns

After ramping up ag lending when times were good, the megabanks are now shrinking their ag portfolios amid current conditions in the farm economy. According to ICBA President and CEO Rebeca Romero Rainey in a recent op-ed article, when the going gets tough, megabanks are once again heading for the exits, while community banks are bolstering their farm lending at this crucial time. Illinois community bankers **Mark Herrmann, ag lender at Havana National Bank,** and **Kevin Beckemeyer, president and CEO at Legence Bank, Eldorado,** provide insight into the current challenges of local farmers and how community banks are responding.

Read More >> Read ICBA Op-Ed >>

#### **USDA Details Trade Support Package**

The USDA last week announced details of the \$16 billion support package for farmers affected by international trade disputes. The assistance will be distributed via the USDA's Market Facilitation, Food Purchase and Distribution, and Agricultural Trade Promotion programs. Signup for the MFP begins Monday and will run through Friday, December 6.

#### **OCC Issues Risk Management Bulletin**

The OCC issued a bulletin on sound fraud risk management principles. The bulletin, which espouses sound corporate governance practices and risk management systems, supplements other OCC and interagency issuances.

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#### **Existing-Home Sales Drop in June**

Existing-home sales decreased 1.7 percent in June as the nation continues to grapple with a housing shortage, the National Association of Realtors said. NAR said supply is not meeting demand for mid- and lower-priced homes, with declines in the South and the West leading the drop. **Read More >>** 





#### CSI: A SAFE Path Forward: Banking the Marijuana Industry

As states continue to legalize medical and recreational marijuana, pressure is mounting on both marijuana-related businesses (MRBs) and financial institutions due to current federal restrictions. While the marijuana industry becomes more legitimate—and more lucrative—its participants' need for traditional banking products and services increases. Conversely, current federal laws make capitalizing on this emerging client base an extremely risky proposition for financial institutions. However, the recently introduced Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act might finally reconcile this conflict by providing safe harbor to those institutions that bank MRBs, and the momentum for its passage is growing. In fact, the attorneys general of 38 U.S. states and territories pushed for it in a letter to Congressional

leaders, in which they highlighted the benefits of regulating "grey market financial activities" like marijuana. Here is where the matter currently stands and what it means for our industry. **Read More >>** 

#### **Results of the 2019 CBAI Compensation Survey Now Available**

The wait is over! The results of the 2019 CBAI Compensation Survey are now available. And, once again, participants received the results for free, thanks to sponsor **IZALE Financial Group**.

CBAI is confident that community bankers will be very pleased with the report, professionally prepared by **BalancedComp**. Pages are linked for ease of navigation. Compensation is indexed by city of participant. And the analysis provided is more complete than ever before. Thanks go out to nearly 200 community bankers who took the time to complete the Survey. Non-participant CBAI members can purchase the results for \$300. Contact Valerie Johnston, CBAI SVP Communications, at **cbaicom@cbai.com** or 800/736-2224.

#### **CBAI LEGAL: Negligence Defenses to Unauthorized Payment of a Check**

Scenarios in which an accountholder's negligence contribute to forgery or other wrongful negotiation of a check provide defenses for the bank against wrongful payment and an obligation to credit the account due to an "unauthorized" transaction.

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VIEW CBAI'S EVENTS CALENDAR HERE

### **NEWS FROM SERVICES**

#### The Baker Group: Baker Market Update

The ongoing, but largely fruitless, trade talks between China and America are resuming but they may have already been Shanghai-ed before they begin. Both sides have been playing down expectations that anything approaching a lasting, long-term agreement will be reached. Domestically for China, the monetary mandarins out of Beijing have hinted that additional governmental stimulus is unlikely. To many observers, that prospect seems even more unlikely. **Read More >>** 

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# NContracts: Are Your Vendors Doing Everything They Promised? Find Out with These Three Types of Vendor Monitoring

Your vendors have promised a lot. More than just providing products and services, they've promised to keep your data safe and their systems backed up. They've promised to carry insurance and follow applicable laws and regulations. While it's obvious when a product or service is delivered – the lawn is cut, or a new sign is delivered – it's much harder to tell if a vendor is following policies and procedures and meeting the less visible obligations. How do you know whether your vendors are actually doing what they say they are doing?

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#### **CBIS: Voluntary Benefits Insights**

As health care costs continue to rise, so has the demand for voluntary benefits. Since community bank employers want to provide complete benefit packages, voluntary benefits have become an ideal solution. Voluntary benefits allow employers to offer benefits that are attractive to employees without added cost to the bank. Employees benefit because they have a variety of insurance options conveniently available in one place, and often with lower premiums than individual policies they would have purchased themselves.

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