

## Americana Community Bank Officer Earns Diploma from the Graduate School of Banking

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James Swiontek, Senior Lending Officer for Americana Community Bank, and a resident of Jordan, Minn., was recently awarded a diploma during the Graduate School of Banking's (GSB) 64th annual commencement exercises.

Established in 1945, the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, provides advanced bank management education to more than 550 financial service professionals each year. Incorporating topics related to banking, economics and leadership, the curriculum emphasizes managing the strategic issues banking executives and other financial service professionals face.

Four Americana Community Bank employees have graduated from GSB within the past four years, with additional employees currently enrolled and scheduled to graduate in 2009 and 2010.

Instruction at GSB takes place during two-week sessions for three consecutive summers, along with comprehensive study between the summer sessions. Courses are taught by GSB faculty, which comprises of more than 75 economists, government officials and other industry professionals.

"We are proud of James' dedication to GSB and honored to call him a graduate," said Allen Obernolte, President and CEO, Americana Community Bank. "Americana Community Bank is committed to providing our employees with opportunities to continue their education, and GSB provides both knowledge and excellent training to further enhance our employees' skills."

Americana Community Bank is a full-service community bank providing down-to-earth consumer and commercial financial services in Sleepy Eye, Medford, Chanhassen, Maple Grove and Minnetonka, Minn. Chartered in 1881 as The State Bank of Sleepy Eye, Americana Community Bank has actively participated in and supported the communities it serves for more than 125 years.

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