



KIRK'S KORNER

Kirk's View from 30,000 feet



One of the most unusual things I have ever seen in person, usually occurs daily from March to October in San Antonio, Texas. Mexican free-tailed bats by the millions exit Bracken Cave where they rest during the heat of the day and come out at night to feed. These bats are critically important to the surrounding eco-system, as they eat over 100 tons of corn earworm moths, cotton bollworm months, and other flying pests. These bats eat enough insects to equal their body weight nightly. Research in 2022 showed that the bats saved the cotton farmers in south central Texas about \$1.1 million annually.

The cave itself is about 300 feet long and 85 feet high. It has been estimated that in some spots the “guano” is as deep as 60 feet with over 10,000 years of guano deposits. The temperature on the cave floor is about 86 degrees Fahrenheit and the ceiling of the cave is about 94 degrees Fahrenheit when the bats are in the cave. The temperature when the bats are not present is about 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

These bats fly into San Antonio from as far away as 1,000 miles south from Mexico. They come to the cave to raise their young and feed off the flying insects. The trail of bats in the sky at dusk has been estimated to be 30 miles long and 20 miles wide. Bracken Cave has been on the National Geographic Wild channel and has also been on an episode of Dirty Jobs, hosted by Mike Rowe.

Kirk

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Laurie Harris

Our Spotlight is on Laurie Harris. She has been with the bank for 12 years and has a total of 22 years in banking. She is a Lending Assistant at the Northwood branch. Laurie grew up in Northwood where she still lives with her husband Roger who is a farmer. The couple have 2 children and 2 granddaughters. Laurie enjoys spending time with family and friends, taking trips with her husband on their three-wheel motorcycle, and camping. She enjoys cheering for the Iowa Hawkeyes which is her alma mater.



Looking Forward *Upcoming Events*

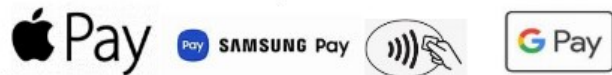
- ◆ **Mother's Day - May 12th**
- ◆ **Band Festival Parade - May 25th**
- ◆ **Memorial Day - May 27th - Bank Closed**
- ◆ **Flag Day - June 14th**
- ◆ **Father's Day - June 16th**
- ◆ **Juneteenth - June 19th - Bank Closed**
- ◆ **First day of Summer - June 20th**
- ◆ **Worth County Fair Hot Dog Feed - June 22nd**
- ◆ **Indian Days Parade in Titonka - June 22nd**



Mobile Wallets *Set Up Today*

Forgot your wallet at home? Don't worry, purchases are still possible using NSB Bank's digital wallet services! The digital wallet is compatible with Apple, Google, and Samsung wallets. Simply link your debit card and use your smartphone to make a purchase. These types of transactions are allowed where contactless pay terminals are utilized.

Be on the lookout for these symbols:



Save the Date *Shred Event 2024*

NSB Bank's annual shred event will be held at the Mason City West Office on Saturday, September 21. More details will follow.

Memorial Day *May 27th - Bank Closed*



Welcome *New Team Members at NSB*

Brent Winter - Thompson
Amanda Olson -West