



KIRK'S KORNER

Kirk's View from Athens Greece!



Here is the second part of the Greece trip! This leg of my journey started with a boat ride around some of the Greek Islands. Just to illustrate how small the world really is, as we boarded the boat, a side conversation was happening, and I overheard someone mention RAGBRAI. I walked over and I ended up meeting two couples that were from Charles City, Iowa! It truly is a small world.

We left Athens and headed to five of the Greek Islands Mykonos, Patmos, Santorini, Monemvasia, Nafplio and Kusadasi Turkey, the home of handmade silk rugs.

I think my favorite island might have been Santorini where we ran into the Crazy Donkey Brewery! The landscape was amazing; we were floating in about 1300 feet of water and a couple of hundred yards away other boats were floating in about 250 feet of water. The harbor was formed thousands of years ago by a volcano exploding and the "Caldera" was created allowing access to Santorini.



They don't pack mules and donkeys like I used to for pack trips and hunting camp back in the day in Wyoming, but I love a good Donkey! It was a treat to see how the Greeks pack donkeys and, on this island, they only had seven vehicles, a fire truck, mail delivery and five taxis.

Every island had a fortified position above the water and defensive positions to protect the towns and its inhabitants. Between the stunning landscape, friendly locals, and incredible cuisine, this trip was truly unforgettable, and I am eager to visit again. I hope you enjoyed this version of KK! *Kirk*



Employee Spotlight

This issue our spotlight is on Shelley Oliver. She has four decades of experience in the banking industry in September and has been an Operations Support Specialist at our Mason City West location for eight years. She and her husband Mark live in Mason City, they have three daughters and three grandchildren with one more on the way. In her spare time, Shelley loves to read, boat on Clear Lake, attend concerts, and cheer on the Iowa Hawkeyes. Every year Shelley escapes the Iowa cold weather and vacations in Ft. Meyers Beach, Florida.



Shelley Oliver

Looking Forward

February 8th - Super Bowl Sunday

February 14th - Valentine's Day

February 16th - Presidents' Day - Bank Closed

March 8th - Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 17th - St. Patrick's Day

March 20th - First Day of Spring



The NSB Trailer was used by 25 customers in 2025 and traveled 2606 miles this year helping our customers and employees move college students, make household moves and helping non-profit groups.

Tax Season Safety Tips



During this tax season safeguard your information with some of these tips.

- **IRS Impersonation Scams:** The IRS does not initiate contact via email or text regarding bills or refunds.
- **Fake Mail Scams:** Be aware of fraudulent letters with an IRS masthead requesting personal information (driver's license, bank details) for "unclaimed refunds".
- **Smishing (SMS/Text) Scams:** Fraudsters are sending text messages about fake tax refunds or "unusual activity" on accounts. The IRS never initiates contact with taxpayers via text, email, or social media to request personal or financial information.

Reporting: Report scams by forwarding them to phishing@irs.gov.



Chloe Anderson - Teller - Northwood

Becky Viers - Teller - Northwood

Savannah Burt- Teller - West

Alex Helgeson- Teller - Northwood

Madelyn Eden - Teller - Forest City

Tiffany Groh - Teller - Forest City

Jasmin Trunkhill - Teller - Titonka



Given the abundance of hand-made silk rugs I saw in Greece. Did you know that one pod of silk can have up to 1 mile of silk in it. This was discovered by accident when a silk pod from a mulberry tree was dropped in a cup of tea!

Looking Back

Our branches showcased incredible creativity with their Halloween costumes this year and on December 12th, all six of our branches hosted holiday open houses, welcoming customers with festive cider and treats.

