



# State Bank of Speer Peoria Banking Center

**MISSION STATEMENT:** We are an independent, full service bank providing services to diverse consumer markets and independent, locally owned businesses in Central Illinois. In providing these services, we will serve our communities while providing shareholder value over the long-term.



Mike  
President / CEO

August 2010

## State Bank of Speer

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Speer IL 61479-0037  
309.249.2141  
888.249.2141 Toll Free  
309.249.2304 Fax  
www.speerbank.com

## Peoria Banking Center

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Peoria IL 61614  
309.691.9345  
309.691.9412 Fax  
www.speerbank.com



You can never appreciate the shade of a tree unless you sweat in the sun.

Author Unknown

Here we are with the month of July nearly gone. The years and months are passing quickly for me. I understand now when my senior citizen friends tell me that they just don't know where the time has gone. That's why we must enjoy and savor every day of life.

Banking is again going to be faced with many changes with the signing of the financial regulation package. You will be pleased to know that effective with the signing of the bill deposits in banks will be insured up to \$250,000.00 permanently; IRA accounts will still be insured separately for \$250,000.00. AND commercial banks will FINALLY be allowed to pay interest on commercial checking accounts. These are two good things that came from the bill as far as I'm concerned. The remainder of the bill creates additional burdens on your bank. Remember the independent community banks had absolutely nothing to do with the financial debacle created by the major Wall Street investment firms, mortgage brokerage firms, and very lax government oversight and regulation.

Our farmers have not complained about the status of the corn and soybeans as they did last year. Presently we could use some good rains, not torrential rainfalls, but a good shower. Weather seems to be going south of us this year. The majority of farmers would prefer a year like this over last year. However, we have to take what we get. Each year is different in some way.

Our economy is recovering or so we are told. It seems that the economic conditions in our surrounding area continue to be stagnant; unemployment remains at an all time high. Not many steady jobs are created in the area of census takers; looks more temporary to me. The housing market has weakened slightly. With interest rates at all time lows, it is an opportune time to buy a home or possibly refinance an existing home loan.

Securing the long term fixed rates is a bit more difficult; however, it should have always been that way. If one doesn't have some liquid cash available, one really should not be investing in a home. It also doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand that one shouldn't be buying a \$400,000.00 home on a \$35,000.00 annual income. That's our federal government though; they wanted everyone to own a home! Our federal regulators are constantly watching to ascertain if we are adhering to the Community Reinvestment Act.

*continued on page 2 Mike*



### Lobby Hours

Mon - Thurs: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Friday: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Saturday: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon

### Driveup Hours

Mon - Thurs: 7:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Friday: 7:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday: 7:30 am - 12:00 noon





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I hope that your summer has been fun and filled with family activities; take time with your family; that's our most precious asset. Those little ones grow up all too fast. Be a part of their lives so they will be a part of your life as years pass.

Have a great summer; stay safe and healthy, and always remember God loves you.

Mike

## Protecting Yourself Against Identity Theft

Identity theft has become a major form of crime in our society and identity thieves are becoming more and more sophisticated.

There are some good ways to protect yourself, and the staff at SBS thought you should be aware of some of these.

1. Make a list of all your credit cards, even those you don't carry. Include account numbers and the names and emergency phone numbers of each issuer. Store this in a secure place that's quickly accessible to you.
2. If possible, don't let your credit card out of your sight when you use it to pay for a store or restaurant purchase.
3. Don't carry your birth certificate or Social Security card in your wallet.
4. Use drive-through ATM's if possible. If you can't, use ATM's inside stores or well-lit, well trafficked areas. Never let anyone see you type in your PIN, and don't write it on your ATM card.
5. Shred pre-approved credit card or loan applications, and those checks your credit card company mails you, before you toss them into the trash.
6. Check your bank statements as soon as you receive them, and order a copy of your credit report at least once a year. Check it over for signs of fraudulent activity. If you use online banking you should check your accounts often for signs of debit card fraud.
7. If you live in a state that uses Social Security numbers on your driver's license, ask for a randomly assigned number.
8. Don't give out your Social Security, credit card or bank account number to anyone who calls you. Give them out only when you have initiated the call.

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9. If you are concerned about a potential scam, call the local police.

Please be sure to call the bank as soon as possible if your debit card is lost or stolen. We will freeze it so no one will be able to use it. We will issue you a replacement card as soon as possible.

## SIX STEPS TO SAFER MOBILE BANKING

1. Never provide personal identification or banking information over your mobile device unless you initiate the contact and you know that you are dealing directly with your bank.
2. Assume any unsolicited text for personal or banking information request is fraudulent. Giving this information places your finances and privacy at risk.
3. Avoid sharing sensitive information such as your password, account number or answers to secret questions. Do not save this information anywhere on your mobile device or phone.
4. Do not set the Web or client-text service to automatically log you in to your bank account. If your phone is lost or stolen, someone will have free access to your money.
5. Set the phone to require a password to power on the handset or awake it from sleep mode.
6. Immediately tell your bank and your mobile operator if you lose your phone.

## RE: Reordering Checks

We have a new check company, Main Street Checks, Inc. When you reorder checks we would like your reorder form, if possible. If you do not have this we need all the information you want printed on your new checks and if you are requesting singles or duplicates. Please verify that the current name, address and phone number that we have on file is up to date.

**Please do not send your current order form to Deluxe or Harland.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Methodist Wellmobile -

Wednesday, August 25 from 8:30 am to

11:30 am at Peoria Banking Center

August 14 - Starting at 6 pm at Windmont Park, Kewanee. Join SBS

TeamSpeerIT @ Relay for Life

November 19 - Moonlight Madness, Wyoming

### Holiday Closings:

September 6 - Labor Day

October 11 - Columbus Day

November 11 - Veteran's Day

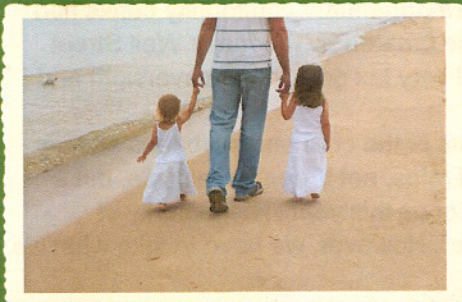
November 25 - Thanksgiving Day

December 25 - Christmas Day

January 1, 2011 - New Year's Day

January 17, 2011 - Martin Luther King Day

February 21, 2011 - Presidents' Day



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Federal Trade Commission

www.ftc.gov

202.326.2222

Illinois Attorney General

www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov

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217.278.3366

Free Credit Report

www.AnnualCreditReport.com

877.322.8228

Internet Crimes

www.isp.state.il.us/icomplaint

888.702.7463