



Fleur de Lis

Sentinel

FIRST QUARTER 2020

FOR REALTORS

Optimism As We Kick Off 2020

by **Jamie Shinabarger**, *President & CEO*

As we launch a new decade and leave one behind, what a contrast from my message a year ago, when I spoke about market volatility and a number of other uncertain economic indicators facing 2019.

After a volatile 2018 Year-End near Bull Market (-20%), in 2019 equities came out of the gate gangbusters with the S&P surging a hefty 28%—representing the best annual gain in 6 years! Despite some headwinds, overall business fundamentals remain ripe for the strength to continue through calendar year 2020.

After four .25% rate increases in 2018, the Federal Reserve did an about-face and cut rates three times for a total of .75% in 2019. Early 2020 indications have the FED remaining on the sidelines with rates remaining steady. This low interest rate environment coupled with favorable business indicators (lower tax rates in the wake of tax reform, low energy costs, strong consumer demand, and a signaled resolution to the Chinese trade war, etc.) have fueled most of the stock market and economic growth. Though expected to slow, economic growth should still register north of 1.5% in 2020. While there is a lot of positive economic data, risks remain. The US currently has an unprecedented \$23 Trillion National Debt that is growing by +\$1 Trillion annually; there is still high household debt, a stressed Agricultural industry, and signs of a slowing global economy. Overall, however, there are solid reasons for optimism as we kick off 2020.

One thing that won't change in the coming year, is Springs Valley's commitment to our customers and our communities. No matter whether you are a local household, small business, farmer, or municipality who calls Springs Valley Bank & Trust "your bank," our relationship-driven staff will remain focused on you to deliver a personalized customer service experience tailored to YOUR preferences. What do I mean by that? Well, if you like to communicate by text we have that option available. If you prefer the in-banking center touch, we have six locations (and growing) to serve you. If you're into digital,

you can deposit a check via your smart phone whether you are out-of-state or just across town. And finally, if you need to have a real, down-to-earth conversation with a knowledgeable Universal Banker, Business Banker, or Financial Advisor about a weighty life decision or something as simple as a replacing your Debit Card (on the spot in less than 30 minutes) we are just a phone call and/or an appointment away.

Our pledge for 2020 is that we continue to champion everything that true community banking stands for: prompt, personal service; local decisioning and "home grown" staff; a good corporate citizen; a trusted partner in good times and bad. At Springs Valley, we are not striving to be the biggest, just the best!

May 2020 be a safe and prosperous year for you and yours!

Jamie Shinabarger



Springs Valley Welcomes Emily Rexing as Mortgage Loan Officer

Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company is pleased to welcome Emily Rexing as Mortgage Loan Officer servicing Gibson and surrounding counties.

"I am excited to welcome Emily to our Springs Valley Team; a relationship that displays Springs Valley's commitment to hire local team members and enhance the financial quality of life in Gibson County," said Craig Buse, SEVP & CLO.

Emily comes to Springs Valley with banking experience. Before a career in banking, she was a Respiratory Therapist for nine years. She was raised in Gibson County and attended Princeton Community High School, graduating in 2006. Emily graduated from University of Southern Indiana with a degree in Respiratory Therapy.

Emily and her husband, Phil are proud parents of four daughters, Cora (6), Virginia (4), Loretta (3), Elouise (1), and are expecting their fifth child, April 2020. They reside in Owensville, Indiana. She is a member of St. James Catholic Church in Haubstadt. Hobbies include gardening, farming (where she often recruited to run the grain cart), and spending time with family.

"As a local to Gibson County, I am dedicated in my career to help individuals and families achieve their dream of home ownership" said Emily. "Joining the Springs Valley team was a natural fit for me and my family." Emily can be reached at 812.664.7975 or erexing@svbt.com. NMLS# 1908381. Her primary office is located at 1501 West Broadway, Princeton, Indiana.



Now Open!

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