

PRESS RELEASE



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BANTERRA'S SARA FOSSE IS NAMED TO ICBA INDEPENDENT BANKER'S 40 UNDER 40: EMERGING COMMUNITY BANK LEADERS

Marion, IL – [Independent Banker](#) magazine, the award-winning monthly publication of the Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA), launched its annual 40 Under 40: Emerging Community Bank Leaders list. The award recognizes the nation's up-and-coming community bank innovators and influencers who represent the future of the industry. Sara Fosse, Digital Innovation Manager with Banterra Bank is named to the list.

"From CEOs to compliance officers, branch managers, lenders and marketers, this annual award continues to uncover extraordinary talent within the community banking industry," ICBA President and CEO Rebeca Romero Rainey said. "We congratulate Sara Fosse with Banterra Bank on this well-deserved honor. Her deep belief in the community bank business model and passion for supporting her customers and communities, especially in this COVID-19 environment where community bankers continue to step up to serve the needs of customers, should be commended."

The feature story is included in the Independent Banker magazine's June issue and highlights how the 40 Under 40 honorees have overcome challenges and answered calls for innovation. The leaders also share their philosophies on leadership and where they see big opportunities for lending. Chosen from hundreds of entries, candidates were judged on the following criteria: character, leadership, community involvement, and innovation. Bank technology services provider FIS, of Jacksonville, Fla., sponsored this year's program.

"We could not be more pleased with Sara's ongoing performance and her recognition with this ICBA award," said Jeff May, president of Banterra Bank. "The future of banking lies within technology and a younger generation of innovative team members. Sara is one of those team members and she leads Banterra's digital growth efforts which greatly effects our company's overall growth."

"Being named to ICBA Independent Banker's 40 Under 40: Emerging Community Bank Leaders list is such an honor," said Sara Fosse. "As the Digital Innovation Manager for one of the country's top community banks, it is an exciting time to spearhead the development of an internet bank to a national audience. Banterra has always allowed me to be creative and play to my strengths, and I am grateful for the opportunities they have given me. I look forward to being a part our company's continued growth and success through our commitment to collaborate, learn and evolve."

Sara joined Banterra Bank in 2011, working in the loan department with escrow analysis and mortgage underwriting. She accepted the newly created position of Cybersecurity Specialist in 2016. Sara jumped in full force with this new position, researching extensively and attending conferences in order to learn as much as she could regarding digital and information security needs for the bank. She became the Information Security Office for the bank and led efforts to rebuild the Information Security Program. Her performance awarded her the promotion to Digital Innovation Manager which involves various digital products for Banterra including a nationwide internet bank initiative.

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, *Banterra* has \$2 billion in assets and is ranked in the Top Ten Percent of U.S. Charter Banks and Top Five Percent for Illinois Charter Banks by asset size. *Banterra* has more than 40 locations in Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Missouri, as well as a specialty lending division that serves customers nationwide. For more information, call 866-BANTERRA (226-8377) or go to www.banterra.com.

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