



Invested in You.
Washington State Bank

**Fall
2024**

Staff Spotlight



Vicki Hall

Chief Financial Officer

Over the summer, Vicki Hall began working as our new Chief Financial Officer; Proceeding Jim Mostek as he transitioned to our newest President/CEO. Originally from Davenport, Vicki currently resides in Muscatine and will have an office in our Columbus Junction location as well as Washington. Vicki attended the University of Northern Iowa where she obtained her bachelor's degree in accounting and later became a Certified Public Accountant. She brings over 30 years of accounting experience to her new role and has held senior leadership positions for many of them. In her free time, Vicki enjoys spending time with family (daughter, Alyssa and son, Conner), friends, her two dogs, and traveling. Vicki says she is excited to be a part of the WSB team and looks forward to finding ways to participate and contribute to the communities we serve.

Five-Step Guide to Financial Planning

A solid personal financial plan can help you work toward your life goals, whether that's buying a house, saving for your child's education or starting a business. Here are five steps you can take when financially planning for your future.

1. Review your financial situation and typical expenses frequently.

Calculate your typical monthly expenses, like rent, groceries, and subscriptions. Reviewing paychecks, bills, and bank statements can help you get a clear picture. Use a budgeting tool to give you a good idea of your financial outlook for the next few months without the hassle of retracing years of history.

2. Set personal financial goals. Some examples may include homeownership, travel or retirement. Consider creating "buckets" for each goal to allocate what is needed to reach that goal in your preferred time frame for each category. Start by focusing more on short-term goals, like an emergency fund, since you can build toward long-term goals over time.

3. Create a plan that reflects the present and future. Your snapshot of monthly income and expenses should show where your money goes, highlighting fixed costs like rent, and lifestyle expenses like groceries. Adjustments may need to be made to discretionary spending to meet your long-term goals. Also, remember to budget for fun. Depriving yourself entirely can be frustrating, resulting in unplanned spending to boost your mood.

4. Fund your personal goals through saving and investing. A savings account is ideal for short-term goals like travel or an emergency fund, while investing is best for long-term goals like retirement. It's never too early to invest, even if you're just starting out. An easy way to begin is by using an employer-sponsored retirement plan, like a 401(k), especially if your employer offers a match. Contributions are taken directly from your paycheck before taxes, lowering your taxable income.

5. Monitor your progress. It's important to regularly review your personal financial plan, as your goals and circumstances will change over time. Set an annual reminder and take some time each year, or when your circumstances change, to review your expenses, budget, financial accounts, estate planning documents and short- and long-term goals to make sure they're up to date and working for you.

These tips were provided by the Iowa Bankers Association.

Invested in You - Washington, Fairfield, Columbus Junction, Pella

Supporting Our Local County Fairs

At Washington State Bank, we are proud to sponsor our local county fairs, the events they host, all while supporting the youth in our communities. In July, we sponsored a dinner for the local 4-H and FFA members, and their families. Shown on the right are Ryan Shields and Jen Bailey while serving at the dinner.



Homecoming Festivities

Staff in Washington celebrated homecoming week by walking in the parade and then working in the concession stand during the football game! We enjoy supporting our local school districts and extra-curricular activities throughout the year.

Columbus Junction Celebrates 150 Years

The town of Columbus Junction celebrated its Sesquicentennial during the Columbus Day celebration. As in years past, WSB hosted a free photo booth downtown with the help of Hawkeye Photo Booths. Our staff then walked in the parade alongside their giant birthday cake themed float while throwing out frisbees.



Trunk-or-Treat in Fairfield

Our Fairfield crew went "Under the Sea" for their Trunk-or-Treat event at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds! The weather was perfect for an evening of Halloween fun. Shown on the right are, Krista Fulton (and grandson, Odie Spurgeon), Jessica Anderson, and Spencer Peterman.

4 Locations To Serve You!

Washington - 121 S Marion Ave. | Fairfield- 1706 W Burlington Ave.

Columbus Junction- 134 Main St. | Pella - 703 Main St.

(800)-714-2287 washesb.com

