

Area banker to receive national banking award

**(KMZA)--An area banker is to be honored by the American Bankers Association.**

**According to a release, the Association will present Leonard Wolfe, president and chief executive officer of United Bank & Trust, based in Marysville, with the "Bruning Award" at its Agricultural Bankers Conference Nov. 5-8 in Oklahoma City.**

**The award is one of the Association's two premier awards presented for significant contributions to agricultural banking.**

**Named after its first recipient, Nebraska banker Frank Bruning, the Bruning Award is now in its 26th year.**

**"I cannot express how proud and honored I am to have received such a prestigious award," Wolfe said. "It's humbling to me that I was even considered for an award like this and to be a recipient, it's such a great honor."**

**Wolfe, a native of Kansas who has more than 40 years of experience in banking, began his career as an agricultural lender and insurance agent.**

**One of his key accomplishments was pushing for the creation of a Kansas law that gives community banks the same tax-exempt status on certain earned interest as farm credit institutions. The legislation also includes a tax exemption for rural housing loans in communities with populations of no more than 2,500.**

**Wolfe lives on a farm north of Frankfort with his wife of 45 years, Beth. They have three children and nine grandchildren.**

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