



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDEPENDENT BANKERS ANNOUNCE APRIL AS COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH – FINANCIAL CORNERSTONE OF COMMUNITIES IN NEW YORK

AKRON, NY – In conjunction with the Independent Bankers Association of New York State, Inc. (IBANYS), Bank of Akron announces April as Community Banking Month. A member of IBANYS, Bank of Akron would like to thank their customers for their support of the vital role New York independent community banks play in the economic, civic and cultural life of cities and towns throughout New York State.

“Community banks such as Bank of Akron are the economic engine of the communities we are located in,” E. Peter Forrestel, II, President and CEO of Bank of Akron stated. “In addition to serving the financial needs of our customers and our communities, we partner with local charities, fire companies and schools to provide community services, financial literacy, and promote local development.”

"Community banks invest in the families, schools and businesses in every local Main Street Community in the Empire State," said Paul Mello, IBANYS Chairman and President and CEO of Solvay Bank in Solvay, New York. Mello also said, "Community banks are also essential to the very fabric of our local communities."

"Employees of our community banks, live, work, raise families, serve on local charities and school boards together," John Buhmaster, Vice-Chairman of IBANYS and President of 1st National Bank of Scotia stated. "My children are the sixth generation to reside and work in this community. We want it to be a great place for everyone to live and work and the bank takes that mission of service to the community very seriously because we are all neighbors and family."

Independent community banks do what they do in their local communities better than anyone. "They are the financial cornerstone of New York State," said Frank J. Capaldo, President and CEO of IBANYS. IBANYS is the "Voice of Independent Community Banks" in New York State.

Your independent community bank since 1900, Bank of Akron is committed to providing outstanding customer service, making decisions locally and building long-term relationships with our customers. Bank of Akron provides a full range of financial services including residential mortgages, construction loans and home equity lines of credit as well as commercial loans and mortgages. Bank of Akron has five branches located in Akron, Clarence, Clarence Center, and Lancaster and proudly plays an active role in supporting each community it serves.

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AKRON:

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CLARENCE:

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Clarence, NY 14031 Clarence Center, NY 14032
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LANCASTER:

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Lancaster, NY 14086
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