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RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY BANK AND AFFILIATE GALENA STATE BANK PLEDGE \$15,000 TOTAL TO *ROCK THE AIR* SCHOLARSHIP FUND Fund tops \$760,000

Riverside Community Bank announced today that with their affiliate Galena State Bank they were pledging a total of \$15,000 to the *Rock the Air* Scholarship Fund. Galena State Bank's pledge of \$5,000 was announced on January 31, 2011. In addition, Riverside Community Bank will pledge an additional \$10.00 for every checking account opened between now and March 31, 2011.

The pledges bring the *Rock the Air* Scholarship Fund total to \$762,580.

"It's incredible what our community has been able to accomplish by coming together in the past few months," said Steve Ward, President of Riverside Community Bank. "We are a community bank, and we want to keep the momentum going. Bring Embry-Riddle here would mean more opportunities for employment, more young people in the area, more business and more growth for our community and for our region."

Riverside Community Bank is a member of Heartland Financial USA, Inc. Founded in 1981, Heartland Financial USA, Inc. is a \$4.0 billion multibank holding company with independent community banks chartered in the states of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Arizona, Montana, Colorado, and Minnesota, including Riverside Community Bank and Galena State Bank.

Riverside Community Bank has assets of more than \$300 million with four banking centers and approximately 25 ATMs in Road Ranger convenience stores throughout Northern Illinois. The bank offers a wide array of credit services, wealth management, investment services, and deposit accounts, all with a focus on personal service. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

The *Rock the Air* Scholarship Fund was started by Ron Harris and Chris Christiansen, and a group of Sundstrand Retirees. Partnering with the Community Foundation and the Rockford Area Economic Development Council, the goal is \$1 million. This permanently endowed fund is an incentive for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University to locate a residential campus in Rockford. If Embry-Riddle does choose Rockford, proceeds from the scholarship fund will be used each year to bring Midwestern students to the Rockford campus. All pledges will be void if Embry-Riddle does not choose Rockford.

People can go to the Community Foundation's website at www.cfnil.org to make a pledge.

For more information about the *Rock the Air* Scholarship Fund, call Gloria Lundin, Community Foundation President at 815-962-2110 ext. 16. The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois is the area's largest provider of grants and scholarships.

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