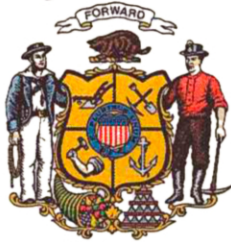


STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; since the founding of the State of Wisconsin, community banks have served their communities as they grew and prospered, and, even today, approximately 40 percent of community banks have been there for more than a century; and

WHEREAS; approximately 270 community banks continue a strong tradition of giving back to their communities through more than 1,500 banking offices throughout Wisconsin, and with more than \$80 billion in assets, community banks know that when money is reinvested locally, it becomes a renewable resource, creating an economic cycle that constantly revitalizes and stimulates communities; and

WHEREAS; community banks contribute to the economic vitality of Wisconsin and play a significant role in economic development, and they provide financially sound and reliable support to new and expanding businesses, assist in the pursuit of new opportunities, technologies, and job growth; and

WHEREAS; community banks are among the most well-capitalized and well-managed financial institutions in the nation, forming the backbone of secure and reliable home mortgage lending, and ensuring that thousands of Wisconsin citizens can acquire and maintain mortgages; and

WHEREAS; community banks are committed to their local communities for the long term, are deeply involved in the needs, causes, and cultures of their individual regions, and are dedicated to the economic well-being of local citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2011 as

COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 29th day of March 2011.

SCOTT WALKER
GOVERNOR



By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State