



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Tradition at Its Finest

David W. Caffrey, President and Chief Executive Officer of Premier Bank, is pleased to announce the celebration of the bank's 30th Anniversary. "We are very happy to be celebrating our 30th Anniversary this year and would like to extend a warm 'Thanks!' to all who have made our progress possible. In most people's minds, a bank is a building that holds money. In addition to the brick and mortar, the component of a bank that directly affects the strength of the bank is...its people. We pride ourselves on our personalized service and ability to look beyond the numbers and see the people and potential within" says Mr. Caffrey.

Premier Bank dates to 1979 and has a rich tradition of professional service to area residents and local business organizations. Based in Lenexa, Kansas, the bank has grown to become one of the most personable, community-oriented banks in the Kansas City Metropolitan area. With assets totaling \$230 million, Premier Bank serves the financial needs of over 14,000 customers through its five branch locations in Lenexa, Overland Park, Fairway and North Kansas City.

Originally founded as Country Hill Bank, the bank was purchased in 1994 by Donald Sturm of the Sturm Financial Group, Inc. in Denver, Colorado and became Premier Bank. Expansion opportunities under new ownership have included branching into Overland Park, North Kansas City and most recently into the city of Fairway. Mr. Sturm owns locally managed community banks serving Colorado and Wyoming with assets totaling \$2.1 billion which enables Premier Bank to provide the Kansas City community with innovative, high-tech services, but with a human touch.

Marty Cole, Executive Vice President of lending indicated, “As a community bank, we are able to respond quickly to our customers through local decision-making and to tailor products and services to meet their needs. This responsive approach provides us with a competitive advantage over many of the larger financial institutions in the Kansas City Metropolitan area.”

“The bank strives to provide the breadth of products typical of a large institution, with the competent, yet personal service associated with a community bank. Premier Bank offers a variety of products suited to meet customers’ personal and business financial needs,” states Mark Miller, Executive Vice President of operations and product development.

Given its exceptional staff of seasoned professionals, the bank continues to enhance its reputation as an active, community-oriented bank. The staff delivers a level of professional, friendly, and efficient service to its customer that is unmatched in the area and looks forward to continuing its fine tradition of quality service community banking for years to come.

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