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NEWS RELEASE

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EMMETSBURG STUDENT RECEIVES COMMUNITY BANKING LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Emily Bonnstetter Recognized for Her Academics and Community Involvement

WEST DES MOINES, IA – Emily Bonnstetter, a student from Cylinder, Iowa, was awarded one of the two Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) \$1,000 Scholarships during the Community Bankers of Iowa's (CBI) awards ceremony. The ceremony was held during CBI's 44th Management Conference and Annual Convention in Okoboji, Iowa, July 15-17, 2015.

Emily is a 2015 graduate of Emmetsburg High School. Apart from achieving a stellar academic record, she earned a community service cord upon her graduation with a full schedule of extra-curricular activities, including student government, school choir and musicals, and participating on the cross country, basketball, track, softball and volleyball teams. Emily is also an active member of her church and has given back over 160 hours of her time in volunteer work to the community. Emily's spare time was spent in such efforts as assisting with church and vocal music programs, volunteering at local fundraisers, washing fire trucks and assisting with the 4th of July fundraiser breakfast for the city of Cylinder—she even picked up trash during RAGBRAI.

Requirements for the LOT Scholarship include writing an essay detailing the role of community banks. As a teller at Iowa Trust & Savings Bank in Emmetsburg, Emily spoke from first-hand experience when she wrote:

"In my hometown, community banks are much more than a place to deposit money and takeout loans. These banks place an undeniable value in membership and togetherness while providing their customers with great care. I am currently employed seasonally at one of our community banks in town, and I have received a taste of what it takes to stay active in our community. These employees place a monumental value in knowing their customers on a first-name basis."

Emily will spend her freshman year at Iowa Lakes Community College in the fall, and afterward plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa. Emily was nominated for the LOT Scholarship by Kyle Auten, Vice President of Business Banking and her mother Sara Bonnstetter, both with Iowa Trust & Savings Bank in Emmetsburg, Iowa.

LOT has been providing two scholarships to deserving high school seniors for 13 years. Previously \$500 each, the scholarships were each increased to \$1,000 for 2015. LOT is a program created by CBI to enhance the growth, leadership, and networking skills of future banking leaders. LOT establishes a network of leaders who serve and strengthen their communities and advocate for the community banking industry.

About CBI

The Community Bankers of Iowa exclusively promotes and defends the common interests of independently owned and locally controlled Iowa community banks whose services are vital to the preservation of economic diversity and rural America. More than 330 independent community banks are located in Iowa, representing more than 1,000 communities across the state and employing over 5,000 Iowans. CBI members have in excess of \$3.2 billion dollars in common sense loans to consumers, small businesses, and the agricultural community. For more information, visit www.cbionline.org.