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NEWS RELEASE

August 19, 2015
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPENCER STUDENT RECEIVES COMMUNITY BANKING LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Ryan Crew Recognized for His Academics and Community Involvement

WEST DES MOINES, IA – Ryan Crew, a student from Spencer, 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.

Along with an unbelievable 4.06 GPA, Ryan racked up academic kudos at Spencer High School including 4 years on the Honor Roll. He also received Academic Letters all 4 years, was part of the Talented and Gifted program, and carried advanced placement courses in 5 different subjects. Ryan served on the Student Council and was Class President his sophomore and junior years.

Ryan also managed to keep up with many extra-curricular activities, such as his school's Drama and Speech clubs, Choir where he served as Secretary, and the school band. He participated on the football and golf teams, as well as earning another letter on the swim team. Ryan's church-based and 4-H community activities is also an impressive list.

Requirements for the LOT scholarship include writing an essay detailing the role of community banks. In his essay on the role of community banks. Ryan wrote:

"One of the best things about my local bank is that when I enter its doors I immediately recognize the employees because they are all active in my community. They each make an effort to know me and to make me feel important. My dad decided to start his own retail agronomy business after working in the field for many years. [...] My bank partners with most small businesses in the community in the same way as my father's business because it understands the needs of each. Working together like this makes Iowa small towns work and survive."

Ryan plans to attend Iowa State University in the fall. Ryan was nominated for the LOT Scholarship by Dennis Bauman, Ag/Commercial Lending Compliance Officer at Ackley State Bank in Ackley, 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.