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For Immediate Release
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Star Bank Honored With ‘110 Years in Banking’ Flag Ceremony

Star Bank was honored by Independent Community Bankers of Minnesota (ICBM) for 110 years in Banking on October 15, 2014 with a flag ceremony held at Star Bank’s charter location in Maple Lake, MN. ICBM traditionally presents a U.S. flag, which has long been a symbol of freedom, prosperity, and independence, to its member banks that have reached milestone birthdays of 100 years or more in recognition of their dedication to community banking. Since the program started in 2003, more than 85 banks have been recognized.

Star Bank’s Board of Directors, Star Bank branch managers from ten office locations, and the bank’s ownership group were all on hand to celebrate the historic occasion.

Harry Wahlquist, President & CEO of Star Bank stated, “The history of Star Bank goes back over 110 years ago, to 1904, when a national bank was chartered under the name of The First National Bank of Bertha, in Bertha, Minnesota. We are proud of the heritage and ‘small-town values’ that have remained a part of our culture over the years.”

Andy Wahlquist, Branch Manager of Star Bank in Maple Lake, stated, “We appreciate the thousands of wonderful relationships that have been established with our valued customers, and I speak for our entire team when I say that we are excited about the future and we have an unwavering commitment to excellence as we continue our mission of serving our customers and communities.”

In addition to its Maple Lake office, Star Bank has offices in Annandale, Barrett, Bertha, Eagle Bend, Eden Prairie, Elbow Lake, Graceville, Verndale, and Wheaton, Minnesota. These small community locations are evidence of Star Bank’s emphatic commitment to the critical role that home town banks play in preserving the health and vitality and fostering the growth of rural communities. Currently, Star Bank employs a staff of 74 people, posts approximately \$225 million in assets and has never recorded an operating loss under its present ownership.

ICBM, headquartered in Eagan, represents more than 560 independent community bank locations with assets exceeding \$29 billion and is dedicated to keeping community banks competitive for the benefit of their customers and the communities they serve. The association offers education courses, state legislative representation, member networks for compliance, technology resources, marketing, human resources, CEOs, and liquidity, plus an annual convention, a technology tradeshow, and an array of products and services tailored to the needs of independent community bankers.