

## **NEWS RELEASE**

July 29, 2013

UNION BANK, INC.

Tim Aiken, President / CEO of Union Bank, Inc., announced the closure of the Bank's branch office in Cairo, West Virginia, effective October 31, 2013. As required by law, the Bank mailed a 90-day advance notice to affected customers of the Cairo branch, on July 29, 2013. Mr. Aiken cited several reasons for the closure, including: unprofitability of the office; security concerns; the non-growth of the office since Union Bank's acquisition of it in 2006; that it is one of the smallest full service banking offices (in terms of deposits) operated by bank that is domiciled in West Virginia; and, the recent personal decision by the office's two, and only, long-time employees to leave the bank to pursue other interests.

After the closing, customers of the Cairo branch will be served by the Bank's Harrisville office. All deposit and loan accounts will be transferred to the Harrisville branch effective October 31, 2013. Safe deposit boxes will also be physically moved to the Harrisville office. In addition to the full service banking that is available at the Harrisville office, Cairo office customers have access to the Bank's online banking service, bill pay service, telephone banking and debit cards, all of which allow customers to conduct banking without setting foot in a branch office. Along with the Harrisville office in Ritchie County, Union Bank will continue to offer full service banking at the Bank's Ellenboro and Pennsboro offices. As a courtesy, affected customers will receive a coupon for discounted Bank services that can be used at any Union Bank office in Ritchie County.

Mr. Aiken stated: "We regret that we have arrived at the decision to close the Cairo office. However, recent events combined with the ongoing negative financial trends of the office created a 'perfect storm' of sorts. We had a staff of two terrific long-time employees in that office, who did a great job taking care of our customers and the community. They have made a personal decision to pursue other interests, which we certainly understand. Replacing these employees would be difficult. This, along with other relevant factors, such as security, lack of growth, the small volume of transactions, lack of profitability, and our ability to serve the Cairo office's customers through alternate means, led to the decision by Union Bank's board to close the office. Our Harrisville office staff will provide the excellent customer service to which our Cairo clients are accustomed. As for the building, we intend to pursue various options, including outreach to local government and community groups, to find a use for the building in a manner that is beneficial to the community of Cairo and to Ritchie County".

Customers who have questions about the closure of the Cairo office and the process for moving accounts to the Harrisville office, may contact the Bank's Harrisville office at 643-2974.