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**COMMUNITY BANKING WEEK IN ILLINOIS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 25, 2021 (Springfield, IL) . . . The Community Bankers Association of Illinois has scheduled its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual “Illinois Community Banking Week” for April 4-10, 2021, during National Community Banking Month. The purpose of Community Banking Week is to highlight the longstanding tradition of local hometown community banking. We urge consumers, entrepreneurs, farmers, and legislators to learn more about community banks, their role in building stronger communities, and the quality products and services they provide – all with the relationship banking experience that customers can expect from a local financial institution.

“The theme this year is *Growing Stronger Communities*,” said **CBAI Chairman Shawn Davis, president/CEO, CNB Bank & Trust, N.A., Carlinville**. “The Community Bankers Association of Illinois members statewide believe that Community Banking Week is the perfect opportunity to spotlight the importance of community banks. Community banks are committed to helping customers who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis or any economic hardship. They play a vital role in the success of individuals and businesses alike. As community bankers, we are always looking for new ways to help nurture and grow our communities and make a positive impact.”

CBAI is a professional trade association representing nearly 300 Illinois commercial banks and thrifts, and their 850 Illinois bank branches. Its members have nearly \$80 billion in assets and employ approximately 17,000 individuals. CBAI, headquartered in Springfield, was founded in 1974 to exclusively represent and serve the community-banking profession. For more information, visit [www.cbaicom.com](http://www.cbaicom.com).

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