



United Community Bancorp, Inc.



NEWS RELEASE

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**United Community Bancorp, Inc. and Illini Corporation
Announce Unanimous Vote to Merge**

June 8, 2016 - United Community Bancorp, Inc., Chatham, Illinois, and Illini Corporation of Springfield, announced today a unanimous vote by both bank holding companies boards of directors to merge. As part of the execution of the United Community Bancorp merger agreement, the merger agreement between Illini Corporation and Hometown Community Bancorp, Inc. was terminated.

“Several Illini shareholders approached us to submit a bid for Illini so that the bank could remain in local hands rather than selling to an out-of-area acquirer,” said Robert A. Narmont, Chairman and CEO of United Community Bancorp.

UCB submitted a proposal for the acquisition of Illini Corporation in mid-May, and after certain shareholders of Illini Corporation became aware of the proposal the Hometown Community Bancorp merger agreement failed to achieve shareholder approval at Illini's May 18 annual meeting.

With United Community Bancorp, we believe we have reached a better financial arrangement for our shareholders and we will remain locally owned. The merger is a good fit for our customers with the increased branch network in Sangamon and surrounding counties. It will also be a good fit for Farmers State Bank of Camp Point, with the presence UCB has in west central Illinois,” stated Greg Birky, President and CEO of Illini Corporation. Mr. Birky continued, “We appreciate United Community Bank's commitment to remaining a locally owned and operated community bank.”

The UCB/Illini merger, expected to close in the fourth quarter subject to regulatory approvals, includes Illini Bank and Farmers State Bank of Camp Point. Once completed, UCB/Illini will have the largest deposit and asset base in Sangamon County, far exceeding its national and local competitors.

“We look forward to welcoming Illini Corp. customers and employees to UCB,” states Todd Wise, President and CEO of United Community Bank. “This union serves the best interest of all of our customers: Illini customers will have additional opportunities to take advantage of new UCB digital products and services, and customers of all of our banks will be rewarded with a more expansive branch network with a combined 45 branches in West Central Illinois and Northeast Missouri including 16 in Sangamon County,” Wise emphasized.

Headquartered in Chatham, IL, UCB has quickly established itself as Sangamon County's bank of choice. Springfield Journal-Register readers have selected it as Best Bank 6 times since 2010, and in 2016, it was also selected as both Best Locally and Family-Owned Business amongst eight additional

winning and finalist categories. “UCB has a strong and passionate customer-base throughout Central Illinois, which is something we are very proud of,” states Wise. “It is a testament to our dedication to our customers and our continued investment in each of the communities we serve.”

About United Community Bancorp, Inc.

United Community Bancorp, Inc., parent company of United Community Bank, is headquartered in Chatham, Illinois. It is an employee-owned regional bank holding company with roots dating back to 1907, when Farmer’s State Bank was established in Greenfield, IL. In 1973, a local group invested in Farmer's State Bank with the goal of delivering the ultimate in customer service while continuing to welcome other banks in central, southern, and western Illinois into the United Community Bank family. Today, United Community Bancorp, Inc. has grown to an approximately \$1.8 billion dollar institution operating four state-chartered banks with 33 branches in 23 communities. For more information, visit ucbbank.com.

About Illini Corporation

Illini Corporation, headquartered in Springfield, Illinois, is the parent company of Illini Bank and Farmers State Bank of Camp Point with 12 locations serving Sangamon, Christian, Logan, McLean, and Adams Counties. For more information visit illinibank.com.

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