



## **STATELINE UNITED WAY PRESENTS BLACKHAWK BANK WITH SPIRIT OF THE STATELINE AWARD**

**ROCKFORD, IL (February 2 2009)**—During its annual meeting on Thursday, January 29, Stateline United Way presented Blackhawk Bank with the Spirit of the Stateline Award, the highest honor it bestows upon a company. In order to be nominated for the prestigious award, a company must meet three of the 11 award criteria established by United Way. Blackhawk met nine of the standards, a new record for a Spirit of the Stateline Award recipient.

Despite the current economic crisis, in 2008 Blackhawk was able to give Stateline United Way's fundraising campaign a 22 percent increase in employee giving and a 9 percent increase in employee participation. The bank's corporate gift to United Way increased 136 percent. Blackhawk employees regularly volunteer their time to United Way's Day of Caring and ran a Pacesetter campaign. In 2008 Blackhawk Bank employees supported the Stateline United Way through service as Board Vice President and Campaign Chair and memberships in the Campaign Cabinet, the Budget and Agency Review Committee, and by providing a Loaned Executive throughout the campaign.

Terri Burdick, senior vice president, administration and operations at Blackhawk, was present at the meeting to accept the award on the bank's behalf. "I would like to recognize and congratulate Blackhawk's employees for their wonderful accomplishments in giving back to our community," said Burdick.

Burdick was the 2008 recipient of the Thomas Morgan Jones Volunteer Award from Stateline United Way.

Blackhawk operates eight banking centers in Beloit, WI; Roscoe, Machesney Park, Rockford, Belvidere and Capron, IL. A second Rockford banking center is slated to open in the fall of this year. For more information about the bank, log onto [www.blackhawkbank.com](http://www.blackhawkbank.com).

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