



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Bank Announces Completion of Construction

THOMASTON, GEORGIA (September 9, 2009) - United Bank is pleased to announce that renovations to its historical structure and the addition of a four lane drive-thru are now complete. A ribbon cutting ceremony and cookout will be held September 25, 2009 in Thomaston in conjunction with the bank's annual Customer Appreciation Week. With over \$824 million in assets, the bank has achieved significant growth since it was chartered in 1905. United Bank now has 22 offices throughout the state.

United Bank selected its construction partner, Howe Construction, Inc. in the Spring of 2009. Scott Swafford, President of United Bank in Thomaston, stated, "From day one, Howe Construction proved to be a true partner in this project. Their management of the day-to-day scheduling was an integral part of the overall success of the project. Not only were they aware that our customers needed to have access to our facilities and services, but they were also considerate to our employees trying to provide service. Additionally, it was important that Howe Construction use as many local subs as possible and they held true to that request as well. Overall, the experience was enjoyable and the construction project itself was completed as we had hoped and planned."

During construction, the bank remained open and continued to conduct business with normal operations. The updated exterior included relocating and expanding the entrance to a more consumer friendly accessible area of the building. The drive-thru lanes were increased in number and also relocated for improved traffic flow. Significant amounts of asphalt and concrete were removed and replaced with manicured lawns, trees and shrubbery. While these

modifications enhance the overall consumer experience, they also contribute to a more attractive community.

According to Stan Howe, President of Howe Construction, Inc., "Our focus during this project was to maintain the historical integrity of the building while providing improvements that will offer greater convenience to the customers of United Bank."

About United Bank

United Bank has a proud heritage of providing quality customer service and offering innovative, yet sensible financial solutions for its customers. Commitment to quality service goes beyond our customers to a real interest and concern for serving our communities at large.

About Howe Construction, Inc.

Howe Construction, Inc. is a single source construction company, specializing in financial institutions. The services offered include site selection, architecture, engineering, project management, interior design and furniture. Established in 1999, Howe Construction, Inc. is headquartered in Roswell with a satellite location in St. Marys, Georgia.

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