Six Mile bank to officially open

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

SIX MILE — The Town of Six Mile, which has been without a bank for more than a year, will see that distinction come to an end today.

Town officials said the grand opening of Our Bank, a division of Carolina Premier Bank of Charlotte, N.C., will include grand opening ceremonies from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. tonight, with a program celebrating the concept of rural banking is scheduled for 6 p.m.

A crowd of nearly 400 is expected to be on hand for the program, which will feature an unveiling of the plaque recognizing the founders of the original Bank of Six Mile in 1919 in the same location. The historic bank building has been remodeled in the style of the old bank, with a historic 1919 vault and marble top from the original bank that will coincide with the high-tech concepts of Our Bank, which include a state-of-the-art scan-capable ATM, cash recycler and Prembot, the bank robot.

Six Mile had a bank for 94 years before the previous bank, First Citizens, moved away in April 2013. Town officials, led by council member James Atkinson, worked to secure a new bank for the town. Those efforts came to fruition when John S. Kreighbaum, president and chief executive officer of Carolina Premier Bank, announced plans last fall to open Our Bank in the same building as the former bank.

"We are very excited to be celebrating our official grand opening in the fully refurbished bank building constructed in 1919, when the Bank of Six Mile was chartered," Kreighbaum said.

During the past several months, the building has undergone a refurbishment that includes the placement of windows and flower boxes in each window, a new awning, a permanent sign to replace the banner that is on top of the building, a night drop box and extension of the parking lot to the rear of the building.

Atkinson said he is excited to see the special day finally arrive.

"This is truly a unique and newsworthy event, based on the latest in banking technology being present right here in Six Mile," Atkinson said. "We're hoping for a big turnout of folks from the Six Mile area for food, to learn of the town history and how this event came to pass and to see some of the latest in banking technology trends."

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James Atkinson
Six Mile town council member

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