First State Bancshares, Inc. (Private; Farmington, MO) announces agreement to purchase Bank Star of the LeadBelt (Private; Park Hills, MO)

Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Sandler O'Neill served as financial advisor to First State Bancshares, Inc. in this transaction.

This transaction is Sandler O'Neill's 77th bank or thrift transaction since January 1, 2010.

First State Community Bank, headquartered in Farmington, Missouri, has agreed to purchase Park Hills-based Bank Star of the LeadBelt, pending regulatory approval. Bank Star of the LeadBelt is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BancStar, Inc., headquartered in Festus, Missouri.

The purchase includes branches in Desloge, Festus, Leadwood, and Park Hills, increasing First State Community Bank's regional footprint to 37 locations throughout Missouri.

"The addition of these banks will help us better serve our current customer base and will be a great complement to our existing locations," Greg Allen, CEO and Chairman of First State Community Bank said. "We are very fortunate to be in a position to expand and we're grateful for this opportunity."

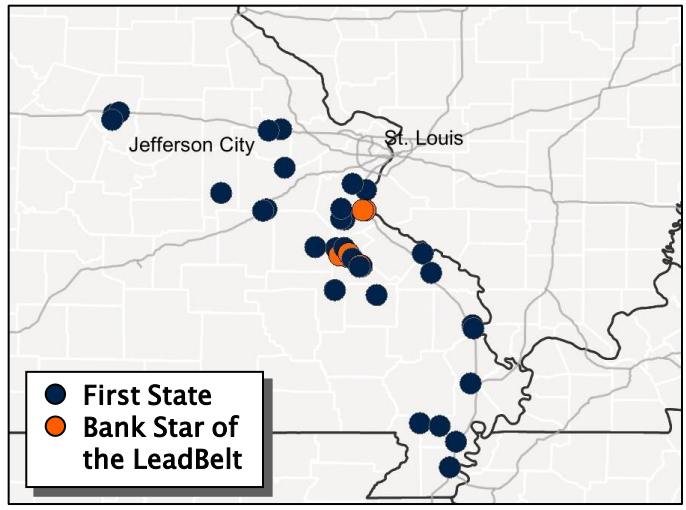
First State Community Bank, founded in 1954, has been growing steadily in recent years. Including the four locations to be acquired from Bank Star of the LeadBelt, the company has added 14 new locations since 2008.

Financial Highlights

(Dollars in millions)	First State	Bank Star of the LeadBelt
Total Assets	$1,301	$116
Total Loans	945	79
Total Deposits	1,079	102
Total Equity	127	10
Tang. Comm. Equity/Tang. Assets	7.63%	8.26%

Note: Financial data as of 6/30/12
Source: SNL Financial

Pro Forma Branch Map



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