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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Queenstown Bank and ICBA Offer Tips for Soon-to-Be Graduates**

**QUEENSTOWN, Md. (May 29, 2018)** - As college students prepare to graduate and begin their professional careers, the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) and Queenstown Bank want to remind them of the importance of planting seeds for their financial future.

“Graduation is an exciting time for many students transitioning from the classroom to the ‘real world’ and starting to establish their financial independence,” said Kevin B. Cashen, President and CEO at Queenstown Bank. “As your local community bank, we can work with recent graduates to set them up for success by creating a financial plan that incorporates their short and long-term financial goals. Remember, the financial decisions you make now will affect your future for years to come.”

ICBA and Queenstown Bank offer the following tips to help new graduates take control of their finances:

- **Start a budget.** Put your smartphone to good use and learn about our online services available at the bank to help you manage your finances and track your spending remotely.
- **Pay off student loans.** It may be tempting to make the minimum monthly payments, but a more aggressive repayment plan can save you thousands in the long run. Some companies will help you pay off your student debt; make sure to ask about this when negotiating your new job.
- **Plan for retirement.** Automate your savings so that a portion of each paycheck goes directly into a savings account. Take advantage of your employers’ 401(k) plan (and any matching contributions) if offered. If you don’t see it, chances are you won’t miss it so much.
- **Spend responsibly.** Shopping and weekend getaways are a great way to recharge from the work week but can quickly eat away at your budget. Research the products you’d like to buy, along with restaurants and excursions in your price range and plan accordingly so these purchases and activities don’t become a financial hardship.
- **Establish an emergency fund** to cover life’s unexpected events and give you greater peace of mind. Start by putting away \$1,000 (the daily cost of a tall latte in a year) then contribute spare change or a little from each paycheck until you have between three to six months of net pay.

“This stage of a grad’s life is all about empowerment—and financial matters are no different,” said Kevin B. Cashen. “We congratulate this year’s graduating class and wish them a prosperous financial future.”

### **About ICBA**

*The Independent Community Bankers of America®, the nation’s voice for nearly 5,700 community banks of all sizes and charter types, is dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of the community banking industry and its membership through effective advocacy, best-in-class education and high-quality products and services. For more information, visit ICBA’s website at [www.icba.org](http://www.icba.org).*

### **About Community Bank**

*Queenstown Bank of Maryland (“Bank”) is the sole subsidiary of Queenstown Bancorp of Maryland Inc. (“Company”). Founded in 1899, Queenstown Bank is a full-service community bank offering a wide array of personal and commercial banking loan and deposit products. The Bank is active in both the residential and commercial mortgage lending markets and has developed a robust on-line banking suite of products for both individuals and businesses. The Bank has total assets of \$479 million and eight branches located in Queenstown, Easton, Grasonville, Chester, Stevensville, Centreville, Church Hill and Ridgely, Maryland. The Bank is well known for its outstanding customer service and responsiveness to its community. For more information on the Bank, please visit us at [www.queenstownbank.com](http://www.queenstownbank.com) or contact us at 410-827-8881.*