



## **F&M DONATES BUILDING TO LAWRENCE COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

*Former Branch Office to Serve as New County Archives*

LEOMA, Tenn., Aug. 30, 2006 – First Farmers & Merchants Bank has donated the building that housed its former Leoma branch to Lawrence County. The county government plans to house its permanent archives in the building.

“While we regret the closure of our Leoma operation, we are very excited about being able to help Lawrence County meet a significant need by donating this valuable real estate,” said Tim Pettus, F&M’s vice chairman and regional president. “This building offers everything needed for the security, preservation and research of our county records.”

Valued at \$226,000, the donated building is located at 2588 Highway 43 South. The donation is currently pending approval by the full Lawrence County Commission.

“Finding this ideal location for our archives has been a goal of mine during my tenure,” said County Executive Ametra Bailey. “I appreciate First Farmers & Merchants Bank’s generous gift to the present and future citizens of Lawrence County.”

All former employees of the Leoma office, which closed during the spring and consolidated its operations at offices in Lawrenceburg and Loretto, were provided jobs at other F&M locations.

Founded in 1909, First Farmers & Merchants Bank (Member FDIC) is one of the largest independent banks in Tennessee, with total assets over \$800 million and an additional \$2.5 billion in assets held by its Trust & Financial Management Department. Headquartered in Columbia, the bank operates 19 offices in a seven-county area that includes Maury, Lawrence, Marshall, Hickman, Dickson, Giles and Williamson counties. It is distinguished by its commitment to traditional, personal banking relationships that incorporate state-of-the-art technology to provide the highest possible level of service.

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