

Kendel Ehrlich elected to BankAnnapolis board of directors

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Throughout her husband's administration, former first lady Kendel S. Ehrlich played an active political role.

After the results of the election, she vowed to stay in Annapolis, moving into a new home near Westfield Annapolis mall with her husband, Robert L. Ehrlich Jr., and their two sons, Drew and Joshua.

Last week, Mrs. Ehrlich made an-

other investment in the community.

BankAnnapolis elected her as the newest member of its board of directors Friday.

In an exclusive interview with *The Capital*, Mrs. Ehrlich said she was honored to be part of a bank whose values are focused on the community banking concept.

"This bank is all about being there for the people of the community," she said. "I think people are craving strong community relationships. I think that is really the flavor of this

place."

In her newly created post, Mrs. Ehrlich will help the bank gain new clients, while serving as its ambassador-at-large. As a director, she will provide oversight and direction to bank management.

BankAnnapolis Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Richard Lerner said Mrs. Ehrlich's commitment to public service made her an ideal candidate for the board.

(See EHRlich, Page B2)



Courtesy photo

BankAnnapolis Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Richard Lerner and the rest of the bank board of directors welcomed former first lady Kendel S. Ehrlich to the board last week. As the newest member, she plans to attract new clients and act as the bank's ambassador.

EHRlich

(Continued from Page B1)

"This proved to be a really excellent fit," Mr. Lerner said. "I have rarely encountered someone who is more highly regarded, respected and admired than she is."

Mrs. Ehrlich, who received her juris doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law, is firmly rooted in Annapolis. She has lived here, was married here and spent five years as a public defender in Anne Arundel County.

"I have always loved Annapolis," she said.

Dan Nataf, a political science professor at Anne Arundel Community College, said the appointment of Mrs. Ehrlich to the board will help "open new doors" for the bank.

"It's reasonable to say she does bring visibility to BankAnnapolis just because she is who she is," he said.

Kathleen Murphy, president and chief executive officer for the Maryland Bankers Association in Annapolis, said serving as a bank board member "is a very important job that comes with a lot of responsibility." Board members are selected to oversee an institution and help a bank meet its regulatory obligations.

"The board is responsible for oversight of the bank in terms of fulfilling their strategic objectives," Ms. Murphy said.

Mrs. Ehrlich said she's looking forward to her new position.

"I just think it's a great fit," she said.