For Immediate Release
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MARK DEMARCUS NAMED CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AT YADKIN VALLEY
Rick Patterson Assumes Chief Banking Officer Role

ELKIN, NC, August 25, 2011— The Board of Directors of Yadkin Valley Financial Corporation (NASDAQ: YAVY) has appointed Wm. Mark DeMarcus Chief Operating Officer of the Company and of banking unit Yadkin Valley Bank & Trust.

DeMarcus has been with Yadkin Valley since its merger with American Community Bank in 2009; he joined American Community in 2008. From 2009 to September 2010, he served as the Regional President of the American Community Bank division. In September 2010, he was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Banking Officer of the Company. In the Chief Banking Officer role, he managed all customer-contact business lines. Now as Chief Operating Officer, he will retain many of those areas and will also supervise Operations and Information Technology, along with Corporate Affairs.

As part of this transition, J. Rick Patterson, current Regional President of Yadkin Valley's Southern Region, will serve in a dual role, continuing his work as Regional President and also assuming the role of Chief Banking Officer. As Chief Banking Officer, he will oversee all regional banking activities, working closely with two other Regional Presidents, and will report to DeMarcus.

“We are very excited about these two executive management moves as we continue to execute our long-term strategic plan for the Company,” said Joe Towell, President and Chief Executive Officer of Yadkin Valley. “Mark and Rick both have extensive banking backgrounds in our markets which make them highly qualified to take on these expanded roles.”

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About Yadkin Valley Financial Corporation

Yadkin Valley Financial Corporation is the holding company for Yadkin Valley Bank and Trust Company, a full-service community bank providing services in 34 branches throughout its three regions in North Carolina and South Carolina. The Western Region (formerly Yadkin Valley Bank division and High Country Bank division) serves Avery, Watauga, Ashe, Forsyth, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin Counties. The Central Region (formerly Piedmont Bank division and Cardinal State Bank division) serves Durham, Orange, Granville, Iredell and Mecklenburg Counties. The Southern Region (formerly American Community Bank division and the Huntersville and Cornelius branches of the Piedmont division) serves Mecklenburg and Union Counties in North Carolina, and Cherokee and York Counties in South Carolina. The Bank provides mortgage-lending services through its subsidiary, Sidus Financial, LLC, headquartered in Greenville, NC. Securities brokerage services are provided by Main Street Investment Services, Inc., a Bank subsidiary with four offices located in the branch network. Yadkin Valley Financial Corporation’s website is www.yadkinvalleybank.com. Yadkin Valley shares are traded on NASDAQ under the symbol YAVY.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this news release contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities litigation Reform Act of 1995, such as statements relating to future plans and expectations, and are thus prospective. Factors that could cause our results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in our reports (such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K) filed with the SEC and available at the SEC's Internet site (www.sec.gov). All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements concerning Yadkin Valley or any person acting on its behalf is expressly qualified in its entirety by the cautionary statements above. We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statements are made.