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HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC  
Form 8-K  
February 21, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report February 21, 2003  
(Date of earliest event reported) (February 21, 2003)

HEARTLAND FINANCIAL, USA, INC.  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

0-24724 42-1405748  
(Commission File Number) (I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

1398 Central Avenue, Dubuque, Iowa 52001  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(563) 589-2100  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Item 5. Other Information

On February 21, 2003, Heartland Financial USA, Inc. issued a press release announcing that Heartland and a group of investors intend to file application with the Arizona State Department of Banking to charter a new bank. The press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

(a) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF BUSINESS ACQUIRED.

None.

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(b) PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

None.

(c) EXHIBITS.

99.1 Press Release dated February 21, 2003.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA, INC.

Dated: February 21, 2003

By: /s/ John K. Schmidt

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John K. Schmidt  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer