



# COMMUNITY PARTNERS SB

First Pekin Savings Bank | 532 Court Street & 2121 Sheridan Rd, Pekin, IL 61554 • 309-347-3106 • firstpekingsavings.com

Flora Savings Bank | 128 W Second St, Flora, IL 62839 • 618-662-2177 • florasavings.com

Marion County Savings Bank | 301 W Main St, Salem, IL 62881 • 618-548-3440 • marioncountysavings.com

Marion County Savings Bank with a home office in Salem, IL, is changing its name to better reflect the community banking philosophy it practices. The name will change to Community Partners SB. Larry Clark, President of Marion County Savings Bank, said, "Nothing about the way we operate is changing. The bank will have the same management, same employees, same locations, and same services, but a new name. Changing our name was not an easy decision for us because of Marion County Savings Bank's rich history. The change is really about focusing our message to what we are best at; partnering and caring for our communities." In our effort to reflect the storied history of the combined organizations, Marion County Savings Bank, First Pekin Savings Bank and now Flora Savings Bank will operate as divisions of Community Partners SB. Each bank will retain their current identities and will operate with the same personnel. For FDIC insurance purposes, the three locations will be considered as one.

As a Mutual organization owned by its depositors, Marion County Savings Bank has always had a goal of maintaining the personal touch, and reasonable rates and fees for loans, deposits and other financial services for the markets it serves. It is always "Caring for the Communities" in which it operates. Marion County Savings Bank began as Marion County Building and Loan Association in 1910. It has survived two world wars, multiple other conflicts, the Great Depression, the Great Recession, the historic high interest rates of the early 80s where prime reached 21%, and the historic lows in interest rates experienced in the recent Great Recession. During this time, Independent Financial Institutions in the US declined from over 18,000 in 1977 to below 5,700 currently. This is the smallest number of financial institutions since the advent of FDIC deposit insurance in the 1930s. During this time, approximately 12,300 banks either merged or went out of business. We are proud to be one of the survivors, and thank our customers and members for their support.

In order for the existing bank to survive the increasing regulatory burdens, unprecedented intervention of the Fed moving rates to historical highs and lows during this period, Marion County Savings Bank made the decision a few years ago that it needed to join with other mutual and smaller banks to be able to afford the cost of traditional community bank services, including the most current digital banking services, in our communities. To this end, we welcomed First Federal Savings and Loan Association and Pekin National Bank to the Marion County Savings Bank family. We are now welcoming Flora Savings Bank and hope to be able to join forces with other Banks in the future.

Because of these changes, Marion County Savings Bank considered new names that better reflect its community bank philosophy across multiple communities with similar needs. After looking at a number of alternatives, we selected Community Partners SB as our new name. We plan to continue to maintain the unique qualities of each of the banks that joined us and will be housing the individual bank names under the Community Partners SB name. Marion County Savings bank, First Pekin Savings Bank and Flora Savings Bank will continue to operate with their existing names but as a division of Community Partners SB. The change will reduce the cost of operation and facilitate our ability to keep expenses as low as possible for our members. The same officers and the same staff will continue to operate the locations we serve. Community Banks are vital to our communities and we are proud to serve ours!

Larry H. Clark  
President & CEO