

Citizens State Bank gives boost to historic renovation in Lewisville

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When representatives for the town of Lewisville asked Citizens State Bank about a loan to renovate an historic building in their downtown district, they didn't have to use the rumor that Abe Lincoln once slept here as an inducement.

In fact, they couldn't have imagined the lengths to which the bank would go to help with the proposed Lewisville Community Center Project. Period.

"Our approach," recalls Citizens' marketing vice president Sandy Broadstone, "was, 'how about making a contribution instead of a loan?'"

Last week (January 12, 1995) the local bank contributed a sizeable amount—\$5,000—toward the project. The bank also promised to help solicit funds from the general public and provide other support, if needed.

The building, located on the southeast corner of U.S. 40 and Ind. 103, is considered by Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana and the Henry County Historical Society to be the oldest building on the National Road in Henry County. The Lewisville Town Council is trying to obtain state grants to renovate the building for use as a senior citizens center/community center/volunteer library, as well as a place where the town office can be eventually relocated.

Citizens' contribution enabled the



A HELPING HAND—Gary Maddox, vice chairman of Citizens State Bank, presents a \$5,000 check to Jayana Posey, clerk-treasurer of Lewisville, to aid the town in the purchase of the building in the background. Joining the January ceremonies are (from left): Sandy Broadstone, vice president of Citizens; Tom Scharschmidt, owner of the Federal style building; Dick Shafer, assistant vice president and manager of Citizens' Lewisville office; Fred Holycross and Kathy Rogers.

building's owner, Tom Scharschmidt, to hold the building for the town while it wades through the grant application process.

The building is the single remaining Federal style building from the National Road era, circa 1840, in Lewisville. According to Fred Holycross, eastern-regional director of Historic Landmarks, "This building has been identified on our site and structures inventory for quite some time. The Federal style of architecture was the earliest style in this part of Indiana and was adapted from styles used in the mid-Atlantic states."

Citizens State's donation will be specifically used to help the town pay the 10 percent matching funds it will be

required to qualify for a Community Focus Fund grant from the state. In the unlikely event that Lewisville is turned down for a grant, the bank's donation stands as long as the town keeps the building.

While admitting it will take some time to finally complete the project, Ms. Broadstone said the bank's commitment is firm.

"We've still got a long road ahead," she said. "There's about \$20,000 to be raised eventually. But as long as I've been here, the people of Henry County have been good to reach down and help with worthwhile projects. We hope they will be here, too."

"AN HISTORIC STRUCTURE"

"We hope people outside Lewisville can appreciate the value of this historic building & will do their part in fundraising," implored Fred Holycross, eastern-regional director of Historic Landmarks Foundation.

"The fact that our organization and the county historical society plus the National Road Association are backing the project, tells that this is significant locally and regionally."