

AROUND TOWN

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'A proud tradition continues'

Citizens State Bank honored by Indiana General Assembly on its 125th anniversary!

From a tiny acorn the mighty oak tree grows.

That simple principle provides a perfect analogy when reflecting back on the history of Citizens State Bank. Founded in 1873, the fledgling financial institution planted its roots in Henry County. The hard work of its owners, officers and staff made sure it had room to grow. The confidence customers placed in the bank through good times and bad provided needed nourishment. And now 125 years later, Citizens State Bank occupies a place of preeminence among commercial banks in Henry and Rush Counties.

We're certain that John R. Millikan, the bank's first president, would be plenty proud of that "little acorn" he helped plant years ago.

Citizens State Bank's proud past and promising future have taken center stage this year during its 125th anniversary celebration. "It's our way of saying 'thanks' to those who have made all this possible," said Gary Maddox, vice chairman of the board of directors.

Since the bank's charter bears the date of July 3, 1873, officials plan to make July 3, 1998, a centerpiece of the year long celebration. Everyone will be invited to the main office to enjoy a piece of the huge anniversary cake bearing the bank's logo as well as other refreshments. In addition, each customer that day will receive a specially minted coin commemorating the occasion.

Other plans include a special "125th Anniversary" float which will be part of countless fairs and festivals in Henry and Rush Counties this year beginning with the Memorial Day Parade in New Castle on May 25. A special employee picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 12, and a food drive to



HALLOWED HALLS—Representing Citizens State Bank—Bill Aitchison (left), Skye Maddox and Gary Maddox—stand with State Sen. Beverly Gard in the senate chamber. The trio were in Indianapolis as a special joint resolution congratulating the bank was being approved by the Indiana General Assembly.

benefit the needy is planned for fall. A full-color tabloid about the bank and its long history will be inserted in area newspapers during July, too.

"We sent out a call for volunteers late last year to help plan and execute our anniversary activities," said Sandy Broadstone, marketing director. "The response from our staff was excellent, and as a result, we will be able to certainly make this a year to remember."

A traveling exhibit of Citizens State Bank memorabilia, including photographs, documents, novelty items and more, is being

rotated between the branch offices. Another more extensive collection which includes pictures of all the presidents of the bank, antique coin banks, vintage equipment, and interesting documents is on display at the main office.

Citizens State Bank was also honored by a special resolution passed during the recent session of the Indiana General Assembly. Local representatives—State Rep. Tom Saunders and State Sen. Beverly Gard—sponsored the joint resolution in their respective legislative chambers.