# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

F&M Community BANK

WE MAKE BANKING EASY!*

Preston • Chatfield • Rochester —Since 1911

## FALL 2025


DAN CHRISTIANSON
CEO | Chairman of the Board
Direct | 507.765.6010
DanC@FMcommunity.com

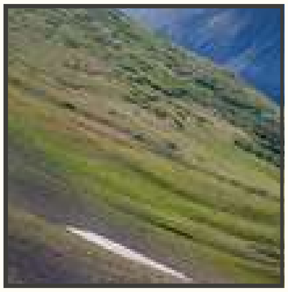

# A Note from Dan

Happy fall! I hope you're enjoying the change of the colors—we live in a great place with so many trees to enjoy in the fall as the weather changes.

I have some bragging to do about my son, Jarad, and my son-in-law, George. Both of those guys are gluttons for punishment, but they both do well in conquering the challenges they take on!

Breck Epic

In August, Jarad rode in the Breck Epic. It's a six day/stage mountain biking race around Breckenridge, CO, that covers over 220 miles of trails with nearly 40,000 feet of elevation gain and is considered by some to be the hardest race of its kind. And most of it is ridden above 10,000 feet—even some above the tree line and over some terrain where the riders have to carry their bikes. Jarad finished first in his Men 30+ age-group and was more than 1 hour and 45 minutes ahead of the second-place finisher. He was also the highest finishing "amateur" which placed him eighth overall. He trains hard and his training paid off! I've included some pictures. In one, if you look hard enough, you'll see Jarad heading down a mountain above the tree line!



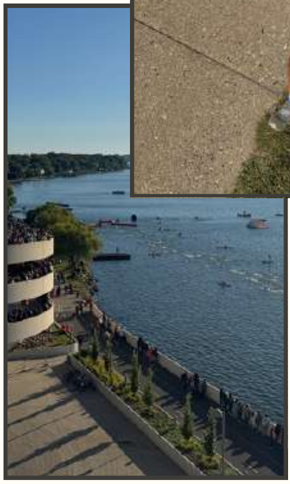
Breck Epic

For his accomplishment, George completed his second Ironman Triathlon. It was held in and around Madison, WI, on September 7th. In an Ironman Triathlon, the competitors first swim 2.4 miles, then they ride bikes for 112 miles, and finish up by running 26.2 miles (a regular marathon) for a total of 140.6 miles! George hit the water around 7:15 AM and finished about 13 hours and 40 minutes later. All while enduring a head cold, too! I've included some photos from the triathlon. You can see the swimmers and the circular ramp they had to go up to get to the transition area to get on their bikes. And the run up the ramp isn't included in the total distance! Gotta give George kudos for all his early morning training—it paid off!

After seeing what those guys accomplished, I think banking is a piece of cake. 😊

Ironman Cheer Squad





Ironman Swimmers

Still Smiling after all that!

George's Support Team

As for banking, 2025 is much improved over the last few years. The bond market with the inverted yield curve over the last few years has been hard on banks. We're finally working our way through that and seeing much improved income results. Like any industry, banking has its ups and downs, and we believe we are trending into an up cycle. There is still plenty of uncertainty out there, but we're working hard to manage our way through it. We appreciate the trust you put in us to safeguard your hard-earned dollars and to partner with you when you need to borrow some money.

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to join the NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) SE Minnesota board of directors. They do great work, and I wanted to do what I can to support their work by getting involved. For me, mental health issues are simply health issues. We need to do what we can to eliminate the stigma associated with mental health and support services for people who are being impacted by mental health issues. One way of doing that is to help raise money for them. I'm not sure when the newsletter is coming out, but I wanted to bring to your attention the NAMIWalks fundraiser on Saturday, September 27th. If you're so inclined, please do what you can to support them. You can do so by using the link namiwalks.org/southeastminnesota. Thanks for giving this your consideration.

Have a great fall!

JIM OELTJENBRUNS
President | COO
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# FISH STORIES

Every August my side of the family gets together at a resort for a week's vacation. I'm not sure of the exact date, but this has been going on for over 40 years. This year we had three of my sisters, my brother and my families at a resort near Richmond, MN. We had five cabins and two travel trailer camp sites this year. In total there were over 40 of us there during the week spanning three generations.

My dad was a farmer, and this was usually his only vacation each year and he loved to fish. So, there were many times my brother and brother-in-law would hear Dad outside our cabins early in the morning asking loud enough for us to hear, "you gonna sleep all day". So, we'd get up and head out fishing and over the years we caught a lot of fish. Each year we had enough for two fish fries for the whole group, usually an ice cream pail and a half of fish fillets, plus a few bags to take home.

Nowadays it's my brother Keith and I usually fishing in one boat and my brother-in-law and his boys and grandkids in his boat. And we're still catching enough for two fish fries. And there's always a few new fish stories every year.

AJs 40-inch Muskie

This year Keith and I were out with his soon to be son-in-law A.J. I heard A.J. stand to set his hook and turned in time to see a huge fish roll about 20' from the boat. This time the net was way too small, and Keith ended up leaning over the side and lifting a 40" muskie into the boat. Funniest part was when he just about fell over the side trying to lift it! We got it landed, took a few pictures, and successfully got it back in the water and swimming away.

Other highlights this year included my nephew Josh landing an even larger muskie at 44" (also successfully released)! This was in his dad's boat and this fish fell through the bottom of the net when they go it in the boat. Close call!

Josh's 44-inch muskie

Declan's 33-inch pike

A couple of my great nephews had firsts this year. Evan caught his first northern and Declan caught a 33" northern right off the dock, that he reached in and picked it out of the water by himself! All nice fish! The picture of Evan here is me teaching him how to spread his arms a little further when people ask "how big a fish was it".

Declan's official measurement

Evan, How big was it?

Now these boys have their own "fish story" to tell.

P.S. In case you were wondering, I did catch one fish during the week! Nothing picture worthy though.

CHERRIE BRINK
Agency Manager | Insurance Agent
Agency | 507.765.3387
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# Insurance Updates

**Crop Insurance Reminder -**
Pasture-Rangeland-Forage (rain) for 2026 crop deadline is **December 1, 2025**

## Makenna Gatzke

*Makenna is our primary personal lines (home and auto) rep. She's been with the agency for a year. Makenna's work anniversary is in early September. She has obtained her Property and Casualty Insurance licenses and we are thrilled to have her on board. Makenna is very competent. She's working at obtaining an appointment with our crop insurance company Rain and Hail as well as her life and health insurance licenses.*

## Kenzie Ristau

*Kenzie is our new administrative support staff person. She is newer, so is currently directing phone calls to whoever is best suited to help. She is doing all sorts of admin keeping us focused on providing excellent service to you. Kenzie is eager to learn and we look forward to having her grow with the agency throughout the years.*

**Your business is greatly appreciated! If there is anything we can do, please reach out to our staff at F & M Insurance Services.**

## Brenda Reicks

*Brenda is still with the insurance agency through the end of the year. She will maintain her insurance licensing to serve as backup in the event Cherrie breaks a hip 😉. After the first of the year, Brenda will maintain an office at F & M Community Bank and will continue to serve as the bank's travel (Summit Club) director.*

As you may have experienced, we work collaboratively to bring you the service you deserve expanding throughout the geographic footprint of F & M. Please let us know if we can help with any of your insurance needs.

## Cherrie Brink

*Cherrie plans to remain here to work primarily with business customers, Life, Health and Crop insurance.*

## Dan Root

*Dan, along with being a Bank VP | Ag lender and Chatfield Branch Manager, is our expert in Livestock Revenue Protection (LRP) insurance, Pasture-Rangeland-Forage (Rain) and along with Cherrie is a resource for your crop insurance.*


SCOTT RUSTAD
Registered Representative
Preston | 507.765.3823
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# DRIVING ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ROAD TO SEE THE CORRS!

My wife, Sharone, and I have always enjoyed attending concerts, and it's not unheard of for use to travel some distance to see our favorite artists. However, this past June was a new adventure for us! We flew across the big pond to Dublin, Ireland to see a popular, sell-out, Irish band called The Corrs.

Sharone and I share a love for the same kind of music – she is a fan of The Corrs too. What started as a concert was quickly turning into a mini vacation. And, as if on cue, our daughter Sierra has suddenly decided she loves The Corrs as well!

Let the planning begin! Since this was only a four-day trip, we had to cram all we could into our time in Ireland. Including, what we thought would be helpful at the time, renting a car and attempting to drive on the "wrong" side of the road.

Upon renting our car, we decided to all sign up to drive the vehicle. It only makes sense to take turns, right? I, of course, took the task of driving first, only to be harshly reminded that everything about driving in Europe is on the "wrong side". Once we managed to exit the busy parking lot, we quickly approached an incredibly busy two-lane roundabout with huge trucks going around in the same mess! Before you know it, semis are blaring their horns at me, and my passengers are holding on and screaming for dear life. I quicky realized this was not a good idea, all while also realizing Sharone and Sierra would not be taking on the driving portion of the trip.

I started to get the hang of driving in the "wrong" lane, only to come to the narrow roads in rural Ireland. These rural highways have speed limits of 80 kph (50 mph) and are much narrower than the gravel roads we are used to. They are also closely bordered by residential retaining walls. Sierra volunteered to copilot and was very willing to let me know when I got too close to the walls. Only once did I have someone let me know I was "number 1", it was at a quiet intersection, so I'm not even sure why!

Amidst the chaos, we were able to visit several tourist sites and have a few drinks at local pubs (I was perfectly happy spending time in the pubs!).

The final day we attended The Corrs' concert at Saint Anne's Park in Dublin, a historical outside venue, with 20,000 other fans – it was all worth it!


Scott D. Rustad
Registered Representative
100 St Anthony Street N
Preston MN 55965
507-765-3823.

## Exciting News for Minnesota Communities:
## **$20 Million Awarded by FHLB Des Moines**

# **F & M Making a Difference** *in Minnesota Communities*

**By receiving this award, F & M Community Bank was able to distribute a total of**

**$180,000**

**to several deserving organizations through the Member Impact Fund.**

F & M COMMUNITY BANK PARTNERED WITH FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF DES MOINES TO AWARD SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH THE MEMBER IMPACT FUND.

### The recipient organizations include:

- Preston Historical Society
- Rochester Area Foundation
- Channel One
- Chatfield Education Foundation
- Preston Area Community Foundation
- Chatfield Food Bank
- Chatfield Center for the Arts

*Recipient organizations were selected based on the needs for grant funding to support capacity-building or working capital necessary to strengthen their ability to serve affordable housing or community development needs including job training, affordable housing, financial literacy, food banks and youth programs.*

## SUPPORTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We are thrilled to announce that the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLB Des Moines) had generously awarded $20 million to 174 financial institution members, including F & M Community Bank. This substantial funding was distributed along with contributions from these institutions to various not-for-profit and government organizations across Minnesota.

This initiative is part of the Member Impact Fund, a matching grant program that enhances the contributions of FHLB Des Moines member financial institutions. By providing crucial financial support for affordable housing and community development projects, this program has made a significant difference in targeted areas within the FHLB Des Moines district.

## MATCHING GRANTS AND IMPACT

A remarkable 798 applications received funding, with FHLB Des Moines matching $3 for every $1 contributed by a member institution. These combined grants empower local organizations to make a tangible impact. Since its inception in 2023, the Member Impact Fund has facilitated over $70 million in grants from FHLB Des Moines, culminating in more than $95 million in combined grants.

*For more details visit www.fhlbdm.com.*

## BY RECIEVING THE

# MEMBER IMPACT AWARD..

### PRESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preston Historical Society will be able to repurpose an old building into a Depot Museum to preserve Preston's historical artifacts and provide a meeting space that will serve the community.

### Channel One

Channel One will be able to distribute additional food throughout the region in southeast Minnesota.

### ROCHESTER AREA FOUNDATION

The Rochester Area Foundation, through its subsidiary First Homes, enhances affordable homeownership using a community land trust model. Additionally, they manage the Coalition for Rochester Area Housing, which helped preserve and create 285 homes in 2025. With the Member Impact Fund award, the Foundation can further support these vital projects.


### CHATFIELD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Chatfield Education Foundation will be able to fund different initiatives to enrich the education experience for Chatfield students.

### PRESTON AREA COMMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Preston Area Community Foundation (an affiliate of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation) will be able to invest in Preston's community by providing funding for recreation, health, athletics, education, historic preservation, and other community needs.

### CHATFIELD CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Chatfield Center for the Arts will be able to provide performances, exhibitions and educational programs. It is a vital component of the cultural landscape in southeastern minnesota.

### CHATFIELD FOOD SHELF

Chatfield food shelf will be able to distribute additional food throughout the region in southeast Minnesota thru their food shelf.


Celebrating Dairy Month
Stuff the Resource Rooms
Rochester Chamber Golf Outings
Chatfield Western Days
Rochester Honkers Outing
Preston Chamber Golf Tournament
Teacher Appreciation Day
Bullfrog Charity Event
Hole in one!
Blood Drive
Jeremiah Program
#InTheCommunity

# THANK YOU FARMERS

THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED FARMERS FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND RESILIENCE DURING THE FALL HARVEST SEASON.

# Autumn Upkeep

## Financing for Your Home

As the leaves change and temperatures drop, it's an ideal time for homeowners to focus on maintaining and enhancing their homes.

## Understanding Home Equity Options

**When it comes to leveraging the value of your home, understanding the differences between home equity loans and lines of credit is crucial.**

Visit our website: www.fmcommunity.com/personal-banking/home-loans

## What's the difference?

Home equity loans provide a lump sum of money, while lines of credit offer flexibility to borrow as needed.


## Benefits of Home Equity Financing:

**Utilize the value built up in your home to fund important projects without the need for high-interest credit options.**

## Uses for Home Equity Financing

1. **Home Renovations**
   **Upgrade or remodel parts of your home for increased value or comfort**

2. **Debt Consolidation**
   **Combine high-interest debts into a single, lower-interest payment.**

3. **Major Purchases**
   **Finance large expenses such as weddings, education or a new vehicle**

4. **Emergency Funds**
   **Access funds in case of unforeseen expenses or emergencies**

# Employee Fall Anniversaries

**1 YEAR**

**Cami Jones**
Teller

**1 YEAR**

**Makenna Gatzke**
Administrative Support
Insurance Consultant
#40968156

**1 YEAR**

**Sam Rustad**
Registered
Representative

**2 YEARS**

**Jordan Steinhoff**
Information Services |
Security Officer

**2 YEARS**

**Jacy Davidson**
Teller

**2 YEARS**

**Mike Murillo**
Teller

**2 YEARS**

**Kaila Case**
Loan Processor

**3 YEARS**

**Brittney Hatch**
Senior Accountant

**6 YEARS**

**Michelle Woodard**
VP | Loan
Operations Manager

WE THANK YOU!

we Thank You!

**10 YEARS**

**Tamsen Leimer**
VP Business &
Mortgage Banking |
Rochester
Branch Manager | Director
of Retail Banking
NMLS #756180

**1 0 YEARS**

**Jim Oeltjenbruns**
President | COO
Senior Lending
Officer

**44 YEARS**

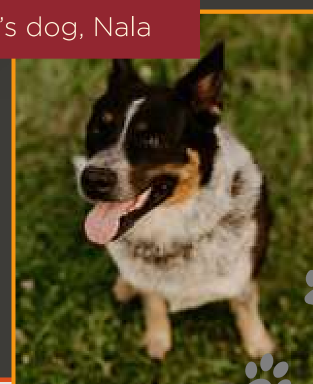
**Tammy Simonson**
Head Teller

Employee Spotlight

# Kenzie Ristau

*Insurance Team Administrative Support | Receptionist*

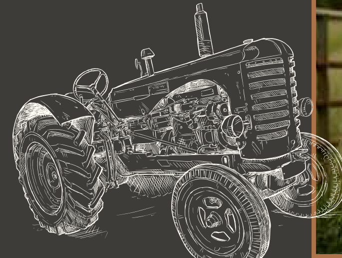
I have lived in Preston MN most of my life and I wouldn't have it any other way. I went to grade school at Fillmore Central and attended University Wisconsin River Falls for college. My husband's name is Brady Ristau. We have a son named Russel who will be one in December. Being a mom is my pride and joy. There is nothing I love more. We also have a dog named Nala, who we rescued five years ago. She is a Blue Heeler/mix. Brady and I help run his family farm; Ristau Family Farms just outside of Preston. In the past I was working with my dad, Brett Broadwater, on our family farm; Roll-N-Valley. So, in my spare time I'm usually helping my dad or my husband.  Some of my hobbies include spending time with friends and family, cooking, reading, running, and helping on the family farms. Some fun facts about me: I love animals and a good sudoku puzzle.


Kenzie's dog, Nala


Kenzie's son, Russel


Kenzie with husband, Brady, and son

Welcome Kenzie!



# Zach Fordahl

*Systems Administrator*

I have been working in IT for around seven years now in various roles. I started as a networking intern at Mayo, working with networking engineers on network related tasks. When that intern ended, I started working for Fastenal as an IT Support analyst. I worked there for around six years where I did various IT networking and computer hardware related jobs. I have a bachelor's degree in computer science from Concordia Saint Paul campus. I have a 15-year-old daughter and an 11-year-old daughter. I live in Stewartville, Mn.

Welcome Zach!

Zach with girlfriend Amanda hiking at Grand Portage State Park


Zach and Amanda at Cascade River State Park in Lutsen, MN on a hiking trip

Zach with his nephew in Alaska


Zach with older sister Bre in Alaska

Zach with Amanda at a cousins wedding in South Dakota

Zach with younger sister Callie in Alaska

# Welcome John!

John's dogs, Scout & Cooper

John with family at Mammoth Falls in Yellowstone - 2025

Courtney and Hailee, John's daughters, enjoying the Twins game with Hailee's husband, Tyler

## John Horntvedt

*Investment Advisor*

I am a Rochester native and graduate of John Marshall High School and Gustavus Adolphus College. I love spending time with my wife and two daughters and am an avid MN sports fan. If I'm not watching sports, you'll find me working on the lawn or on the golf course. I have a passion for helping clients navigate their financial future and pride myself on exceptional client service.

Reach out to me if you'd like to chat!

John with family whitewater rafting on the Yellowstone River - 2025

Hailee & Tyler's Wedding - May 2024

John's dad, Rev. Lester J. Horntvedt celebrating his 90th Birthday, Oct '24

# Welcome Baby boy

Brittney Hatch and husband Joe welcomed a beautiful baby boy!

## Jonathan Joseph

JUNE 26, 2025
6 LBS 8 OZ, 19.5 IN

**Brittney Hatch**
Senior Accountant

*Jonathan*

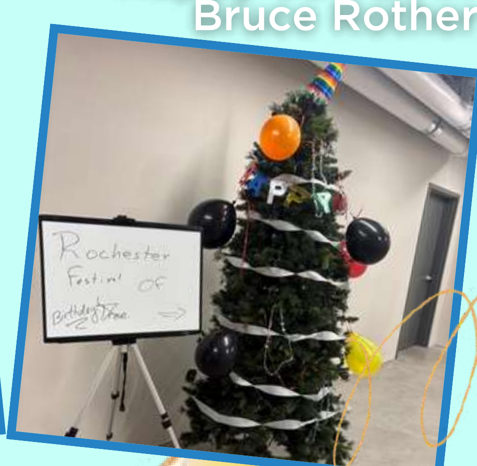
*Jonathan with big sister Amelia*

*Jonathan & Amelia*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## Milestone Birthday

### Happy 60th Birthday Bruce Rother



# SUMMIT CLUB

Come Travel With Us!

Brenda

Ashley

## READY TO JOIN?

**CONTACT US**


BrendaR@FMcommunity.com
507.765.3387

AshleyW@FMcommunity.com
507.765.3823

# Fall 2025 Summit Club News

Fall is fastly approaching, crisp air, leaves falling and more fun to be had with us!

We had a fun summer seeing Grease in Chanhassen, a night out in Lanesboro with drinks and pizza at Sylvan Brewery, seeing Lone Star Spirits at the Commonweal Theatre, Twins game with a big WIN and our big trip on the Seine River!
(Stay tuned to hear all about it!)

**PLEASE JOIN US MAKING SOME FUN MEMORIES!**


**BRENDA REICKS**
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## Summit Club Directors


**ASHLEY WINSLOW**
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Cell | 507.259.3926




Upcoming Day Trip

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL
THE MUSICAL

**The Sidekick Theatre**
WHEN: **Wednesday, December 3rd**
DEADLINE: **Wednesday, November 12th**
COST: **$119/person**
Lunch Included**

DEPART TIMES:
PRESTON F & M - 8:00 AM
FOUNTAIN HISTORICAL - 8:10 AM
CHATFIELD F & M - 8:30 AM
ROCHESTER F & M - 9:15 AM

## GREECE

### Featuring Athens, Mykonos and Santorini
WHEN: **April 13 - 22, 2026**
COST: **$5,699 Per Person twin + $1,779 Single Room Add**
*Pricing includes roundtrip Preston pickup, roundtrip MSP airfare, hotel luggage transfers, 13 meals, gratuities to guilds and drivers*

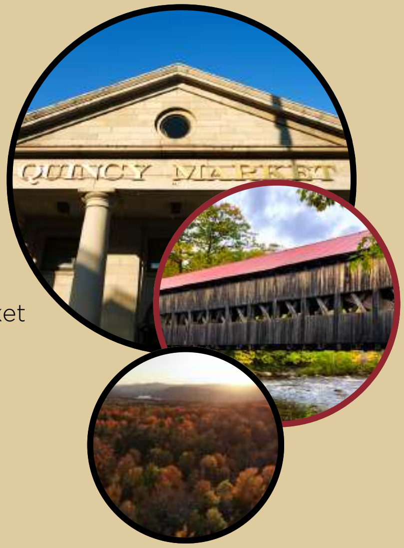
### Tour Highlights
- Panoramic city tour of Athens
- Visit the ancient Parthenon with local guild
- Discover antiquities at the Acropolis Museum
- Visit the ruins of the most famous oracle of the ancient world in Delphi
- High-speed ferries between Athens and the islands of Mykonos & Santorini
- Included orientation tours on the islands of Mykonos and Santorini
- Learn the art of olive oil tasting on Mykonos
- Free day on Santorini for relaxation or independent exporation


## NEW ENGLAND FOLIAGE BRILLIANCE

### Country Inns of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts
WHEN: **September 19-25, 2026**
COST: **$4,297 per person double occupancy**
**Includes Air & Transfers

- Round Trip Air to/from Boston
- 6 Nights New England Inn-style, 2 nights NH, VT, MA
- 6 Breakfasts & 5 Dinners, including 1 Lobster meal


### Special Features
- New England Fall Foliage
- History Boston Freedom Trail & Quincy Market
- White Mountains New Hampshire
- Suar Shack in Vermont
- Quechee Gorge Vermont
- Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream
- Vermont Teddy Bear Factory
- Post revolution Sturbridge Village



# F & M Community Bank:

## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH THE ROCHESTER COMMERCIAL BANK ASSOCIATION


F & M Community Bank is proud to be a member of the Rochester Commercial Bank Association, a collaborative organization that exemplifies the spirit of community support and engagement. This association is made up of 12 local banks, each contributing dues that are collectively distributed to over 75 non-profit organizations across Rochester annually.

Recently, Chris Braendlin, alongside Jose from Associated Bank, had the pleasure of presenting a $1,000 check to the "Friends of the Library." This generous contribution is a testament to our commitment to supporting the invaluable services they provide to the Rochester community.

Through F & M's partnership with the Rochester Commercial Bank Association, we continue to strengthen our community ties and ensure that vital local initiatives receive the support they need to thrive.

### F & M COMMUNITY BANK, N.A.

06/30/2025

| | |
|---|---|
| Cash & Due from Banks | 6,894,582 |
| Securities | 41,617,912 |
| Loans (Net of Loan Loss Allowance) | 146,744,158 |
| Other Assets | 13,743,679 |
| Total Assets | 209,000,332 |
| | |
| Deposits | 179,473,613 |
| Other Liabilities | 14,127,779 |
| Capital | 15,398,939 |
| Total Liabilities and Capital | 209,000,332 |

## Blood Drive

**Thursday, October 16th**
**10 am - 4 pm**
**Preston Community Room**