

Safe and Secure

Coinciding with the opening of "Public Enemies," a movie partly filmed in Wisconsin chronicling the life of bank robber John Dillinger, several Wisconsin banks and police departments have unveiled the "No Hats, No Hoods, No Sunglasses, No Guns" campaign, a voluntary program designed as a deterrent for bank robbers. The movie portrays Dillinger as more of a folk hero rather than the dangerous criminal he really was. This timing of this campaign was purposely unveiled during the opening week of the movie in order to remind the public that bank robbers are dangerous individuals who put the public and bank employees at risk.

The program is voluntary and involves banks putting up signs and posters asking people to politely remove hats, hoods and sunglasses, while explaining that open firearms are also not allowed. The simple act of removing these items while in a bank will make it much easier to identify and capture anyone committing a crime. People who do not follow these procedures will still be served at these banks, but the employees will be watching them more closely. Public safety is the number one priority for this campaign. It is designed to make banking safer for customers and employees and will further make it easier to identify and apprehend bank robbers.

Fox River State Bank already promotes security at many levels and although we will not be displaying the campaign signs and posters, we will however continue to be cautious and watchful of suspicious behavior. It is always appreciated here at the bank when our customers remove their hats, hoods, and sunglasses and do not bring firearms into the building. Even though we may not be formally participating in the campaign, do know that safety is always a main concern here at FRSB for our employees and for you.



Keith E. Pollek
President & CEO

Introducing our New President

The Fox River State Bank Board of Directors appointed Keith E. Pollek to the position of President and CEO of the bank on September 1, 2009, replacing Jerry Merlet who retired in August. Keith has served in numerous leadership and bank management roles in his career, most recently as President & CEO of Town and Country Bank in Watertown, WI. In addition to 27 years of banking experience, many of which were in commercial banking, and four years in manufacturing management, he holds an MBA in Finance and Banking, has attended several banking schools, and has taught courses for the American Institute of Banking. Keith has been very active in community events and anticipates becoming an integral part of the Burlington community. We would like to welcome Keith and look forward to his leadership as he oversees all bank operations going forward. Stop in sometime to introduce yourself, and help us welcome Keith to the FRSB family.

A Look Back — Year Six

It's hard to believe that six years has passed since we opened our doors and introduced Fox River State Bank to the Burlington area community. Since our inception many changes have taken place within the bank and in the financial services industry in general, with more to come just around the corner.

This last year we implemented many new products and services to keep up with the changing times, some of which you may already be aware of while others were more behind the scene services. Items such as Branch Capture, Customer View, IPS Sendero, Re-Submit It, VA Loans, Business Client Forums, Hispanic Banking Days, enhanced Debit Card Security, the FRSB Silver Fox Senior Club, our new mascot FReSBy the Fox, and a newly revamped FRSB Website, were all adopted to help improve bank efficiency and to build an even better banking experience for our customers.

We recognize that in this fast-paced, changing marketplace in which we do business, it is important to recognize and to celebrate important milestones. Taking great pride in our employees, we'd like to offer our congratulations to Jeff Schmid, SVP Risk Management, who celebrated his 5 year anniversary with FRSB back in April of this year. We are very pleased to acknowledge Jeff for his dedication to our organization.

We'd also like to say a big 'Thank You' to all of you, our customers, for your loyalty over the past six years. In appreciation for your business, FRSB hosted a Customer Appreciation Day on Friday, August 15, serving lunch and cake. Thanks to all of you who attended and we hope to see more of you at our next bank function. Happy Birthday FRSB!

Getting to know... **Jeff Schmid, SVP Risk Management**

You may not see him often in the lobby of the bank, but Jeff Schmid plays an important role in the management of Fox River State Bank, serving as SVP of Risk Management. Jeff joined the bank in March 2004 as Vice President of Operations with more than 19 years of bank experience. In his current management role he is responsible for audit, compliance, security and information technology. Jeff's primary focus for Fox River State Bank is in managing risk and carrying out special projects. He is both a Certified Regulatory Compliance Manager and a Certified Risk Professional. Jeff has also been involved with the Burlington Chocolatefest over the past 14 years selling tickets and running the festival bank. Outside of work and being a volunteer, Jeff enjoys riding motorcycles and playing with his two children, Hannah and Skyler.



2009 Calendar of Events

Oct 31 Spooky City Kick Off Party

Dec 4 Burlington Christmas Parade

A NEW HOME... PLUS MORE

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law by President Obama in February. It includes an \$8,000 first-time homebuyer tax credit which is designed to help revive the real estate market. Below are six important things to know about the credit.

1. 2009 First-time home buyers only: Only first time home buyers, or those who have not owned a principal residence three years prior to buying a new home, who complete the purchase of a principal residence home on or after January 1, 2009, and before December 1, 2009, are eligible for the tax credit.

2. Tax credit amount: The tax credit is equal to 10 percent of the home's purchase price, up to a maximum of \$8,000.

3. Income Limits: The tax credit is subject to income limitations. To qualify for the full credit, single buyers need a modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) of \$75,000 or less and married couples filing a joint return need a MAGI of \$150,000 or less. Those earning more than these thresholds may be eligible for a reduced credit.

4. Recapture of the tax credit: Buyers must own the new home for at least three years and use it as their principal residence in order to qualify for the credit. If they sell the home before then, they will have to return the credit to the government. Certain exceptions apply.

5. A true tax credit: This incentive is a true tax credit. It does not have to be repaid if all the criteria are met. In fact the credit is 'refundable', meaning that qualified buyers can take advantage of the credit even if they don't have a federal tax liability.

6. How to claim the credit: Participating in the program is easy. You claim the tax credit on your federal income tax return by completing IRS Form 5405 to determine the amount. The amount is then filled in on line 67 of the 2009 1040 income tax form.

To obtain more information on the tax credit, call one of our mortgage lenders at 262-767-8600 or check online at www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com. If you are considering the purchase of a new home in order to take advantage of the incentive, be sure to consult with your tax advisor first to determine if you qualify.

The Right Choice

Thinking about buying your first home? Interested in a housing investment opportunity? In a buyers market like we have today there are some wonderful opportunities for those interested in buying or investing in a new home. Along with a huge inventory of homes for sale right now, the current housing market offers a great combination of low housing prices, low mortgage interest rates, and that \$8,000 first-time homebuyer tax credit.

In these tough economic times, the process of acquiring a home can be quite intimidating especially for the first-time homebuyer or investor. To begin with, it's an awfully big investment - potentially, the biggest you'll ever make - and making the wrong choices can be quite costly. So how can you be sure you're making the right choices? Fortunately here at Fox River State Bank we have experienced mortgage lenders who truly care about guiding customers through the mortgage process and helping them make good decisions for their future.

If you have ever wondered if owning your own home, refinancing your current home, or investing in another home was possible, don't wonder anymore. Call to make an appointment or stop in to see Maria Santos. She has moved her office back up to the lobby to better serve you, and with your best interest in mind, she can tailor a specific loan package to suit your individual needs. Becoming pre-qualified will help you to narrow your search efforts and allow you to make a concrete offer as soon as you find the house you like.

Whether you're looking for a place to live or would like to earn additional income, with a little help from us you can end up with a great home for a bargain price or a profitable investment. Don't miss out. Making the right choice, at the right time, can be one of the best and most satisfying decisions of your life.

New Deposit Insurance Limits

The standard FDIC insurance amount of \$250,000 per depositor is now in effect through December 31, 2013. On January 1, 2014, the standard insurance amount will return to \$100,000 per depositor for all account categories except IRAs and other certain retirement accounts, which will remain at \$250,000 per depositor. For more information visit: www.fdic.gov.



FRSB Staff enjoying the
2009 Easter Eggstravaganza



Educating children during
Teach Children to Save Day



Silver Fox Club Members at the
Fireside Dinner Theatre

