



FARMERS & MERCHANTS  
STATE BANK OF BUSHNELL®

Member  
FDIC

October 2009

## MCP's Unique Take On Recession

In anticipation of the looming economic recession, **Midwest Control Products (MCP)** set a goal at the end of 2008 to try and weather the recession without laying off employees.

Acknowledging that this flew in the face of the traditional approach taken by nearly all companies to downsize rapidly by simply reducing the number of employees and forcing them into the unemployment insurance system, MCP decided to take on this challenge by implementing stringent spending reduction measures combined with a host of alternative work projects that would provide hours of additional work and keep their employees busy and working during the economic down cycle.

The list of alternative work projects included a number of large maintenance projects such as the painting of machinery, tuck pointing of the old Main Street brick buildings, and the painting of the factory ceilings. In addition, they eliminated the use of outside services that took care of cleaning & janitorial tasks and the mowing of the grounds at three sites. **MCP** employees now perform these tasks and have generated additional cost savings for the company.

In the spring of 2009, **MCP** employees planted over 200 trees on two of the **MCP** sites and there is currently a plan to plant between 1,000

& 2,000 more trees this fall.

The most popular project with the **MCP** employees, and the one that has gotten the most attention, has been the **MCP** Vegetable Garden & Farmers Market. **MCP** employees took a 2 acre plot on the grounds at Plant 2 and established a large vegetable garden with the intent of growing produce that could be sold to generate revenue that would offset some of the costs of continuing to employ workers during a time when they would normally be laid off. This has been a reasonably successful venture and **MCP** is considering an expanded project next year, possibly making this an annual summer approach to the typically slow quarter seen this time of year.

The employees of **MCP** are grateful to both the **Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Bushnell** and the **Macomb Farmers Market** for allowing **MCP** to set up stands at their facilities.



### Friends in Motion

Some of the wedding anniversaries recently celebrated include: **Kenneth and Rosalee Lorton** (64 years) of Bushnell, **Richard (Dick) and Bertie Chambers** (57 years) of Bushnell, **Robert (Bob) and Velma Ferguson** (54 years) of Marietta, **Roger and Verna Everly** (53 years) of Bushnell, **Leland and Wilma Worthington** (58 years) of Marietta, **Gene and Sue Cooper** (49 years) of Bushnell, and **John and Sharon Butler** (45 years) of Avon. Congratulations to each and every one of you!

Some birthdays celebrated recently include: **Merideth Filbert** (97) of Bushnell, **Glenn Steelman** (90) of Bushnell, **Phyllis Whittier** (89) of Bushnell, **Margaret Bertolino** (89) of Macomb, **Charlotte Harris** (83) of Lewistown, **Leona Yocum** of Avon, and **Barb Spiker** of Edwards, Colorado. Happy birthday to each of you!

Grills-Gone-Wild BBQ Cook-Off was a success again this year, raising approximately \$5,000 for the Bushnell Park District! The first place BBQ chefs in each division were: Ribs - **Lance Sloan** and **John Cramer**, Poultry - **Charlotte Logsdon** and **Mike McKee**, Brisket - **Derek Watts** and **Mike Brown**, Other - **Steve Ackers** and **Denny King**, and the People's Choice this year was **Shawn Ellis** and **Cris Firoff**!



### 2009 Tax Credits!

Many tax credits are still available for home improvements, and now is the time to take advantage of them for the tax year 2009. Some of the more popular credits are 30% of the cost (up to \$1,500) for insulation, *qualifying* ENERGY STAR windows and skylights, *qualifying* ENERGY STAR exterior doors and storm doors, and ENERGY STAR metal roofs and reflective asphalt shingles.

For those who are building a new home or adding on to their existing home, tax credits are available (30% of the cost up to \$1,500) for *qualifying* central air conditioners, furnaces, geo-thermal heat pumps, and water heaters. Solar water heaters qualify for 30% of the cost, as do residential small wind turbines.

If you don't have enough available funds to take advantage of these upgrades and tax credits, contact the loan department at Farmers & Merchants State Bank to discuss loan options. Call 309-772-2171 today, and ask for **Doug, Patricia, or Andrea**.



**Sunday  
November 1<sup>st</sup>  
2:00 a.m.**



**UPCOMING  
COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Sat. Oct. 3, Nov. 7 & Dec. 5** - VFW  
breakfast, 6:30 am to 10:30 am

**Fri. Oct. 9, Nov. 13 & Dec. 11** - Red  
Cross Apheresis blood drive,  
Bushnell Recreation Center.  
Call 772-9238 for appointment  
scheduling.

**Oct. 30 & 31** - Trick or treating in  
Bushnell for Halloween

**Fri. Nov. 6 & Dec. 4** - Free cholester-  
ol screening and blood pres-  
sure check, F&M Main Bank  
Lobby, 9 am to 10 am

**Sat. Nov. 7** - Dedication of new Vet-  
erans Memorial, 2 pm at VFW  
Park

**Sat. Nov. 21** - City Holiday Craft  
Show at Bushnell Recreation  
Center

**F&M Bank  
Special**

**Home Loan Special**

**\$200 Off Closing  
Costs!**

**Call 309-772-2171**  
for details!

Some Restrictions Apply.  
Subject to Credit Approval.



*Columbus*

**Monday  
October 12<sup>th</sup>  
Columbus Day**  
(Bank Holiday)



**F&M Is Actively Involved!**

Farmers and Merchants State Bank participated in the B-PC FFA Alumni Livestock Auction held during the 2009 Fall Festival. We purchased the Reserve Grand Champion beef from **Matt Norton** (son of **Holly** and **Dave Norton**) of Bushnell, and a pig from **Daniel Williams** (son of **Dan** and **Nancy Williams**) of rural Smithfield.



[www.bushnellbank.com](http://www.bushnellbank.com)